



**Shri Vile Parle Kelvani Mandal's
Dwarkadas J. Sanghvi College of Engineering**



**National Service Scheme Unit
2014-15**

TREE PLANTATION DRIVE

Date: 5th July, 2014

Realizing the importance of nature's bounty and grace, it was our time to express the gratitude towards it. Understanding our camaraderie with the nature, the NSS unit was all set to revive the plants and revive life. The NSS volunteers aimed at planting samplings as a contribution to the environment on 5th July, 2014 at DAV school, Airoli in Navi Mumbai, with the help of Vanashakti, a non-profit environmental NGO based in Mumbai.

The event started early in the morning when everyone assembled at the Dadar station. From there, a train was taken to Airoli. The NSS members, with the help of Vanashakti, learnt the techniques of ploughing and successfully setting a plant to grow. The aim of planting Indian species, mainly, was due to its wide use and high strength.

The volunteers willingly took great interest in the intricate details of tree plantation. The event went on till 10:30 am with the volunteers successfully planting as many as 70 saplings. The event gave a sense of satisfaction to the members of NSS because of their appreciable contribution towards the environment.

The event was also based on the self-realization--TREE PLANTATION is a win-win situation, it is not just beneficial for this generation, but also for the further generations to come!



DJSCoE NSS Runs For A Cause, Spreads HIV awareness!

Volunteers from the National Service Scheme of DJ Sanghvi organized an HIV awareness campaign this time through an inspiring street play and an eye-catching Run. The event was held at the Bhavan's College Grounds, Andheri. The NSS volunteers began their run carrying posters that spread awareness regarding the prevention of HIV and shouting slogans to put an end to this deadly malaise. It received a lot of appreciation from the onlookers as well the well designed banners caught a lot of attention.



The awareness run was followed by an HIV prevention street play highlighting the negligence of the common man with regards to hygiene. It also aimed at banishing the social taboo that HIV spreads through physical contact like handshaking or hugging an HIV infected person. It received a lot of appreciation by the viewers with some recording the act while others taking pictures of the cleverly made

posters.

The awareness campaign was indeed one of the more successful events of DJ NSS as it not only helped in spreading HIV prevention techniques but also helped in clearing some pre-conceived notions regarding the disease. Another feather in the cap for DJ NSS volunteers!



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National Service Scheme Unit
2014-15

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

Date: 30th January, 2015

The highly anticipated Dwarkadas J Sanghvi College Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan kicked off on 30th January, being the "National Cleanliness Day" and how! Organized by the National Service Scheme and inaugurated by our respected Principal, Dr. Hari Vasudevan and Vice Principal, Mr. Ashish Daptardar, the awareness cum cleanliness campaign was made possible with assistance from honorable MLA Mr. Parag Alavani and with help from the workers of the BMC.



More than 100 student volunteers turned up, breaking all estimates. Volunteers armed with brooms, disposable bags and cleverly made posters, shouting an inspiring Swachh Bharat anthem began their 2km cleanliness cum awareness journey from DJ Sanghvi to Mithibai College and Irla Road. A series of events that transpired next were a sight to behold! The volunteers set out cleaning the streets, raising slogans and recording responses of people ranging from street hawkers to shop owners to policemen to people littering the road and even the BMC sweepers. An interesting set of replies were collected. People on the roads were visibly impressed with even a few shop owners and residents taking pictures of the White Army sweeping the streets. The catchy Hindi slogans were soon on the lips of the onlookers too!

A traffic constable was more optimistic about Swachh Bharat. He said, "Anything in our country these days loses steam in a short time. But this initiative by Modi ji has even got the youth involved so this noble cause will go on for years to come."



The broom has become quite a brand icon of the Swachh Bharat, when a seven year old kid remarked to his father, "Dekho Papa, yaaha Swachh Bharat kar rahe hai." We can proudly say that this event has changed the concept of "Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan" to an extent. It exemplified that it isn't a "clean your area for a day"

movement but it also involves inspiring people around you to maintain that cleanliness over and over again everyday!

After all "Bringing Change Together" is what "Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan" all about!



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National Service Scheme Unit
2014-15

FUND RAISING EVENT

Date: 10th August, 2014

Raksha Bandhan is a manifestation of a sister's immense love towards her brothers and how it is reciprocated rightfully by the brothers swearing to protect her for a lifetime.



While everyone else celebrated it with their blood relatives, we decided to do things a little unconventionally. The NSS Unit of DJSCE planned to be a watchful protector of the special kids of Punarva School, who like a sweet sister not only presented us a desk full of rakhis, but actually manufactured it showing us their prodigious craftsmanship. While this was already beyond commendable, they didn't stop there.

The efforts taken by the students of Punarva School were rewarded by one and all from DJSCE.



People came in large numbers over the five days, not as contributors or donators, but as genuinely interested customers. Thanks to the huge success of this event, we collected Rs 15,000 from this drive. We are looking forward towards having more such initiatives.

VOLUNTEERING FOR A CHANGE -TEACH FOR INDIA

Nelson Mandela said - Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.



Through this event, people of different areas and age groups were taught basics of technology, mathematics and English. Seminars were conducted for the volunteers to make them realize the importance of education and how important it is for our country to educate every one.

Every citizen of India matters. Every child can and must attain an excellent education. Students got acquainted to MS Word, MS Excel and we also helped them to step into the Internet world.

Education is for all. Helpers and canteen staff were also taught Basic English.

TRANSFORMING INDIANS TO TRANSFORM INDIA

Seminars were organized with the help of Chinmaya Mission. Transforming Indians to Transform India is an attempt by Chinmaya Mission to transform that core of the country with the vision.

During the seminar, a quiz was organized followed by introduction to the levels of transformation. There are 7 levels of transformation- Physical, Emotional, Intellectual, Spiritual, Cultural, Patriotic and Universal. Participants go through all the levels through interactive workshops. Video clips were shown followed by various examples taken from movies so that all the participants to easily relate to all of them.

Each of the participants was provided a book, 'Transforming Indians to Transform India- An interaction through 7 stories'.

We seek a united and truly educated India.

We need a corruption-free and efficient India.

Everyone thinks about what they need from India.

Have we ever thought what India needs from us?

If I need a new India, India needs a new me.

India is what we the people make it.



**Shri Vile Parle Kelvani Mandal's
Dwarkadas J. Sanghvi College of Engineering**



**National Service Scheme Unit
2014-15**

Color Coding

Date: 14th-17th January, 2015

If you knew there were a secret engine component that could make your car run faster and more efficiently and it was reasonably priced, how long would it take you to get it installed? No time at all, right? Well, there is a not-so-secret component that can improve your work performance and it's easy to use. What is it? Color Coding!

Keeping this innovative idea in mind, the NSS unit of D.J. Sanghvi College of Engineering took the responsibility upon itself to color code the entire college.

Why Color Coding?

Color enhances function of a workspace when it has purpose. Often during the lectures, we wish to switch on one fan and not the others. Result, it is a trial and error method with a lot of time wasted. The purpose of color coding is to communicate without speaking. These types of visual communications help us convey a message clearly and without misunderstanding. Verbal communications leave a lot of room for interpretation, whereas visual communications remove the emotion and interpretation that commonly result in errors. Communicating this information using color standards helps us make decisions quickly and more efficiently.

The goal is not to be colorful but color-purposeful. The NSS members worked together to ensure the fulfillment of this goal. Since people recognize color much faster than they can read text, using color as a sort of label is another opportunity for improving efficiency with color. There were about 15 NSS members who were assigned this job. Charts of different colors were used. The charts were cut in prominent shapes such as square and circle and were taped on the fan. A strip of the same color was stuck on the corresponding switch.

This work was carried by the NSS members with utmost decorum after the lectures were over and there was no disturbance caused in any lecture.

Let's go the Color Coding way!

Adding even a little color coding to your world is sure to improve not only function at work but is likely to improve your view. So save time and reduce the stress caused by misfiled information by using a color code in your filing system.



**Shri Vile Parle Kelvani Mandal's
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**National Service Scheme Unit
2014-15**

Deeds of Kindness

Date: 4th -14th February, 2015

Ever wondered what difference it could make by just donating rather than throwing away? If no, then just listen to the deeds of kindness which the volunteers of NSS unit at the Dwarkadas J Sanghvi College of engineering did.



As the name of the event says, it meant the same, but what it did yield to the ones participating in it was beyond expressing in just words. The volunteers aimed at collecting the discarded clothes, toys, stationery, books of the students as well as staff of the college. The volunteers set up four boxes, collecting the above mentioned four entities in four separate boxes.

Publicity for the same event was done in every classroom of the college. The event lasted for more than a week starting on 4th February, 2015 this event continued up to 14th February, 2015.

The students, faculty every one extended their support and engaged themselves in deeds of kindness, the NSS Unit received ample quantity of books, toys, stationery and clothes. The NSS Unit will donate these collections to the ones in need. The volunteers will sort the collections in to respective groups and then it will be used to fulfill dream of a child in desperate need, one who cannot fulfil his basic need. The volunteers, in fact every student, proud of their deed wouldn't get more happy to see the smile their deed would bring on the face of innocent. "What wisdom can you find that is greater than kindness?"

DJSCoE NSS Cultural and Self Defence Program

March 16, 2015.

In the wake of growing crimes against children inculcating a basic knowledge of self-defence and self-awareness has been the need of the hour. Thus, volunteers at DJ NSS took an small initiative to teach children basic self-defense techniques and instilling a sense of awareness in among the young minds.

The two hour event was conducted at Dikshit Road Public School in Vile Parle (E). Close to 100 children from standard 1st to 4th turned up. To get acquainted with the children a cultural and dance program was organized. The children sang and danced to the music and where taught an entire dance. Next up came the self awareness skit which highlighted the danger of speaking to strangers and methods by which they can remain safe in such situations.

The self defense event began with a volunteer who taught the children basic punches and kicks. Each move was practiced over and over until it was perfected by all. Next, the children were taught simple groping techniques and escape moves as well some on-leg and face-punching.



The volunteers took utmost care that each student was perfect with it. The event concluded with a student demonstrating all the moves against a volunteer on stage.

The event received appreciation from the school staff and a lot of excitement and enthusiasm from the children. Another successful event by DJ NSS thus came to an end.

Computer Education in school

The event Tech for the Young was a four day event from 17 March to 20 March. The objective of the event was to teach students MS Office and basic Math and English. We conducted our event at the Nariyalwadi Municipal School, Santacruz (W). Both the divisions of Standard 7th were taught during the event. For that we had two sessions, one from 8.30am to [10.30am](#) and another from 3.30pm to 5.30pm for the two respective divisions. On 17th March, Day 1 of the event, volunteers taught the students English grammar. Math quizzes were also made to solve by the students. On 18th March, Day 2, children were taught Math concepts they were weak at. Addition, Subtraction & Multiplication was taught. On 19th March, Day 3, volunteers brought their laptops and students were taught MS Word and MS Excel. On the last day, 20th March, students were acquainted with the Internet basics. Volunteers made them familiar with the working of websites, e-mailing and other such internet fundamentals. They were taught to make an E-mail Account. Many of the students got their first email ids and sent their first email. A quick revision of whatever taught throughout the event was also done. We distributed chocolates on the last day and bade the children goodbye.

Water Purifier

Drip, Drip..., what do you think, I am filling a glass of water? I could be, but at present I am watching the amount of water we have left on this planet to survive and visualizing our race craving for water when it wouldn't be sufficient.

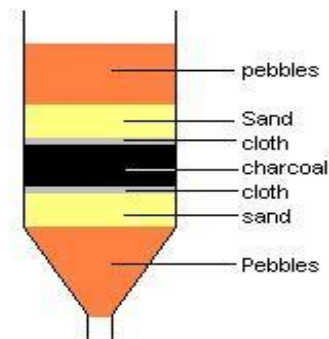
Do you know that only 3% of water on earth which is fresh drinking water?

Accounting another percentage, our blue planet is dominated with salt water. Reviewing on the number of people in the world, 3% of water isn't going to be sufficient enough for even some years. The only way out of this massive problem is to build out a solution which could sustain the race. But now the question is to fetch out a solution. Could it be a water purifier? Can we purifier the water enough for drinking?

Water Purifier is easy to build. It requires about two hours for implementing it and after it is build, it can be used again to purifier. The elements required to purify the water are the basic things which we encounter every day.

The basic elements are sand, charcoal, granules or pebbles, cloth, and a bottle. The elements is ready available mostly everywhere. The bottle needs to be kept upside down. The order in which the materials should be placed is pebbles, sand, cloth, charcoal, cloth, sand, and pebbles again. The sand and pebbles is used to filter out the particules and dirt out of the dirty water. The cloth is used as a separator so that all the materials do not mix in. The main element is the charcoal which gets a big portion of the chemicals out of the water. After this process of filtering, one can boil this filtered water for safe drinking.

Thus, if we are out in a place where there is a scarcity of drinking water, one can always safe a life with this water purifier process. It is time effective, requires minimum cost, and anyone can implement it. Here is the picture which will help you build it and so maybe, we will add some few decades extra in our lifespan!





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National Service Scheme Unit
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ORPHANAGE VISIT

Date: 15th August, 2014

With the motive of sharing love, filled with fun and learning amongst the orphans of our dear city, NSS organized a visit to the Andheri YMCA orphanage. On 15th August, 2014, our 68th Independence Day witnessed a large number of students from D.J Sanghvi College volunteering willingly in this venture of service.

As asked, everyone reported at 2 p.m. outside the premises wearing something white as that was the dress code. After a while, they were taken to the orphanage dormitory, followed by introductions to and by the children. The activity commenced by giving the children worksheets to solve. It comprised of basic mind and word exercises such as spot differences, connect numbers, form a map of India and a lot more.



After that a few volunteers enacted a small play. The moral “cheating is wrong” received a very happy response from the children. This was followed by a small tea and snacks break which was much needed for the kids as well as the volunteers. The day ended with a small origami workshop. The children were taught by our volunteers, who demonstrated techniques of making a paper rocket.

The whole experience was a very enjoyable yet educational for the children who always seemed enthusiastic for every activity. Our photographers captured, not only every memory of this visit, but also the happy smiles of these children onto their cameras. The overall mission of this visit was successfully achieved with lots of good will and blessings in return.



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**National Service Scheme Unit
2014-15**

Organic Waste Collection

Date: 29th August-8th September, 2014

To be able to choose the most appropriate and eco-sensitive solution, it is important that we understand the environmental impacts of Ganesh Chaturthi.

Apart from the idol, there are several accessories used during the worship, which is collectively referred to as the 'Nirmalaya'. These include various biodegradable substances such as garlands, incense, camphor etc. Realizing the importance of the organic waste, as an environmental conservation measure, the NSS unit of DJSCOE conducted the Organic Waste Collection during Ganeshotsav, 2014.

The event was carried out for an entire week, where the volunteers collected flowers, garlands and various other biodegradable products from the Ganpati Pandals in nearby Juhu and Vile Parle area. Four large bins were placed in the college campus to store this 'Nirmalaya'.

After the completion of the waste collection, the biodegradable wastes were handed over to 'Green Yatra' and NGO based in Mira Road for the preparation of the Organic Manure. Thus the NSS drive, besides helping clean up the Ganpati Pandals, also contributed in environmental conservation.





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National Service Scheme Unit
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Beach Clean-up Drive

Date:-5th September, 2014

With the ten-day long festival of Ganesh Chaturthi coming to end with Ganpati Visarjan, the level of pollution has considerably increased. Juhu beach is one such prominent stretch in the city that becomes extremely polluted after the immersion of Ganesh idols.

For the past few years, civic authorities of the city have been requesting the devotees to dump Ganesh's idols, made of toxic and non-soluble material, in dustbins kept specifically for the purpose so that it could be easily disposed off later but in vain.



Most of the debris comprises of flowers, plastic bags, garlands and sweet offerings made of the Hindu god by hundreds of devotees. The event was organized on the 5th of September at Juhu Beach. In spite of heavy rains and reporting time as 6am, there was active participation by all the members. The volunteers participating in the initiative were provided with gloves for protection and garbage bags for collection of wastes. The members started cleaning the

allotted piece of land. Within an hour, all the members filled the garbage bags and even some extra bags with waste. All the wastes were then dumped at a common place and then segregated into dry and organic wastes respectively. After sometime, people from the BMC's cleaning department came and collected all the wastes in their trucks and took it for proper disposal. The idols of Lord Ganesha were separated from the garbage and kept away separately. At the end the amount of garbage retrieved from the little portion of the beach was amazing. The event ended within 2 hours and allotted patch of land was cleared completely. This event saw the highest turnout of around 100 NSS members with a large amount of participation by the Second Year students. This event aimed to highlight the fact that the common man is also responsible for keeping the environment clean and pollution-free, and not just the BMC.



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National Service Scheme Unit
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Newspaper Collection Drive

Date:-28th September, 2014

A good idea is one in which others come first and you come second. Such was the enthusiasm shown by the students of D.J. Sanghvi at the Newspaper Collection Drive organized on 28th September, 2014. The volunteers dispersed all throughout Mumbai in various areas including Malad, Andheri, Vile Parle and Grant Road determined to raise funds for the welfare activities of NSS.



The volunteers put their communication skills to the best use and went from door to door telling people about the drive and convincing them to give away old newspapers, books, magazines. Most of the people were very supportive of the idea, with many giving all that they had to support the cause. By telling them about the noble initiative and convincing them to be a part of it, the volunteers managed to collect an astounding

4017kgs of newspaper across Mumbai.

The Newspaper Collection Drive served a great purpose as it encompassed both collecting and creating awareness for a good cause. All the areas showed a great success with Malad being the major contributor. The money collected from this event will mainly be used in setting up of a medical camp as per the approval of the University of Mumbai where medical services will be provided to the less fortunate. Thus, with enthusiastic volunteers and their generous participation, this event was a complete success!



Shri Vile Parle Kelvani Mandal's
Dwarkadas J. Sanghvi College of Engineering



National Service Scheme Unit
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Blood Donation Drive

Date: 25th February, 2015

N.S.S Volunteers organize blood donation drive to fulfil need of blood

25th Feb, 2015, this college, the Dwarkadas J. Sanghvi College of Engineering held its biggest possible event, the blood donation drive. With the mahatma Gandhi Seva Mandir hospital blood bank situated in Bandra, this units volunteer extended full-fledged support to collect the maximum no of blood bottles.



"Give Finite Blood save infinite lives" was the motto of these hard working volunteers who aspired to collect blood for the ones in sheer need. Starting as early as 8AM in the morning this good work was carried on up to 5 pm in the evening.

Dividing the work to ensure the smoothness of the process, these volunteers took utmost care for the comfort and hygiene of the donors, be it assisting the doctors, taking care of the proud donors, giving them light refreshment, managing the large crowd that urged to donate to publicizing in the vicinity, the coordination and will to work of these volunteers overtook every obstacle and made this event a huge success.



The list of donors not only included the students and faculty but also the principal, vice principal and registrar of the college. A whooping 937 registrations were counted and 535 bottles of blood bags were successfully collected. The Mahatma Gandhi Seva Mandir Blood Bank was Happy and proud of the work carried out by these volunteers. Now they could supply blood to needy in time, an innocent life

would not be wasted due to blood deficiency, thanks to the N.S.S Unit of this college. “You have not donated blood, you have saved lives” said one of the doctor working at MGSM Blood bank.



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NSS Camp Report

20th – 26th December, 2014

DWARKADAS J. SANGHVI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

NSS UNIT

DJSCOE NSS Volunteers give two small villages many reasons to smile.

Day 1: The NSS unit of Dwarkadas J. Sanghvi College of Engineering organized a seven day camp to one of Maharashtra's remote villages, Sonawale and Mulgaon in Badlapur (Thane district) both of these being located on Badlapur-Murbad Road via the Barvi dam from 20th-26th December, 2014. It was the energetic will and an un-questionable co-ordination among the students of third and second year that made every event a triumph.



This invigorating journey started off with thrill, chill and a huge bag of excitement packed by each of the 120 NSS members of various departments. The journey began with the NSS members meeting at three stations, CST, Dadar and Ghatkopar at 7 am. After a 3-hour long journey by local train and then the State Transport bus, we reached our place of stay, Swanand Yog Ashram. After room allotment, a succulent lunch and an hour's rest, the volunteers were divided into two groups and assigned the very first task wherein they had to publicize to the locals about the medical camp that was going to be held in the two villages, Sonawale and Mulgaon, the next day. The NSS members went door-to-door to publicize about the medical camp being set up in the village. The Marathi speaking locals willingly co-operated, and in a short time the NSS volunteers covered both the villages, making sure each and every villager was aware about the medical camp and its location.

The day ended with **Shramdaan**, where the volunteers transported rocks outside the field to ease the work of the villagers a little. This ended the first day; working, helping, caring, and truly being a human.

Day 2: The next day was the most important and the signature event of the NSS, the Medical Camp. The medical camp was conducted in both the villages simultaneously. The camp was setup by 10:30 AM in a local municipal primary school in Sonawale and in the temple hall in Mulgaon. One technician and two specialist doctors from Mumbai were employed

at each camp site to take up tests and prescribe appropriate preventive measures. Thanks to the excellent work of the publicity team, there was a big line of locals waiting to get them checked.



A number of tests like the Body Mass Index (BMI), hemoglobin level, blood sugar level, blood group and blood pressure ensured that at least the elementary health checking was done. The doctor also prescribed medicines to villagers for other ailments. The NSS members helped the technicians and the doctor by measuring height, weight and also by keeping the villagers entertained through means of interaction. The volunteers recorded the results of the tests on the medical forms. The medical camp went on up to 3pm with a large number of villagers coming forward for the tests. The team effort paid off as a whopping 113 and 110 locals turned up at Sonawale and Mulgaon respectively to undertake the medical tests, thus beating the previous years' count overall.

Day 3: After the immensely successful medical camp, spirits were high among the NSS members. The day started with the morning workout followed by the beginning of "Shram-daan" a word which bought tense faces in the beginning, but joy and laughter in the end. The day started with the morning workout followed by the Shram-daan.

On this day, a group of 25 members were sent to a nearby mini dam, a part of which was broken and needed immediate repairs. This is the main source of water for the Ashram. As a temporary solution, the authorities had piled up brick-filled gunny bags across the wall. The task was to remove them and the accompanying stone till the reservoir bank. A humongous task that required excellent teamwork and man-management which the NSS members were up for! A chain was formed along the slope of the wall. In an excellent display of teamwork, close to 120 gunny bags were transferred within an hour.

Next came the huge pieces of stone underneath, some of which required at least three people to carry. At the other end, rock and gravel were dug out and dumped far off. There were quite a few minor injuries in spite of which the task was completed ahead of schedule and was well appreciated by the Ashram authorities.

"This might not be a significant contribution towards repairing it, but I'm assured I have a small hand in providing water to the Ashram" says Roshan Pande, an active NSS member.



The Shram-daan was followed by a school visit at Sonawale and Mulgaon. At Mulgaon, Never had any one realized that bringing smile on the faces of others could bring you mental happiness. This is what everyone realized after the sports day competition for students was arranged from 4th to 7th standard and art and craft competition for students from 1st to 3rd standard at Mulgaon. Our volunteers taught the little kids origami. The kids loved the simple paper helicopter they made without the place being littered. The various sports events held were like a sunrise in the children's regular routine.



The volunteers decorated the classrooms of Zila Parishad school, Mulgaon to make them more attractive. Alphabets, different fruits, weighing scale, body parts, different shapes and different informational things were painted. Drawing competition was organized for the school children which observed active participation. Prize distribution was done. The volunteers interacted with the children in the school after the drawing competition. Various fun games were organized for them.

After the school visit, **Nav Chetna**, an initiative of the Art of Living was organized. It is a dynamic program which has been designed by Poojya Sri Sri Ravi Shankar for the socially, economically, physically or emotionally challenged sections of the society, whether they be urban or rural. Over two million people all over the world have benefitted from this workshop- building their lives and the communities in the process. The workshop provides tools that improve over-all health, wellness and increase enthusiasm and mental focus.

This day ended with a rise of many hopes, hopes of a bright future of the children, hopes of making their lives better, hopes of making their education little interesting.

Day 4: Usually the day began with the customary warm-ups, but today was something different. The campers were informed of a trek the last night but had no idea of what would transpire! The journey began at 6am sharp from the ashram to Khandoba Mandir, Mulgaon. A chilly morning, as one of our campers pointed out, 10°C. Braving the chilly early morning weather, the campers started the trek, the way to the temple which was on top of a hill was laden with numerous steps. Some enthusiastic members counted the number of steps, with claims ranging from 476-500 steps. The hard work surely paid off, the view from above was a sweeter gift than anyone could have asked for. Immediately cameras popped out of pockets to capture this amazing spectacle of nature.



In words of an enthusiastic NSS member, Sagar Parekh. "The view from above was truly exhilarating, it was serene and calm, it made us forget the ache in our legs"

After some well deserved rest and a sumptuous lunch, the NSS members headed towards their daily Shram-daan a word that stayed true to its purpose throughout the camp. The task was digging 2 feet deep squares throughout the Ashram backyard which would be used for tree plantation and erecting poles to construct a shed for community purposes. The task began with 10 groups of three each handed a plough. The shortage of sickles was solved with 4 people going around the groups. The ashram in-charge periodically checked the squares giving advice on how to dig more efficiently. In the meantime five minute Glucon-D breaks were the most awaited. An hour of perseverance paid off when the Ashram in-charge gave an affirmative to the near perfect 2 feet deep squares.

Another activity conducted was organized by the seniors of the camp with the help of temple authorities. It involved leveling an uneven field, by transferring the earth from one place to another and removing big stones that came in the way. With shovels and wheelbarrows handed, the NSS members started work in full swing. It took around 3 hours for the field to be leveled completely after which the unit headed back to the ashram.

Day 5: The following day promised to be an exciting one for the NSS members as they had series of exciting Street Plays coming up. A light breakfast followed the warm-ups after which the members grouped together for Shram-daan. The

girls picked up the weeds in the farm while the task for the boys involved forming human chain and transferring rocks from the Ashram backyard to repair a nearby dam. Rocks were put in pans by the students at the beginning of the 300m chain. Our Principal and Vice Principal made a surprise visit giving the members extra energy which cannot be supplied by energy drinks. This gave our camp a whole new level of importance.



Lunch concluded by around 2pm. With just 2 hours remaining for the street play. The topics were Women Empowerment, Alcohol and its societal harms and Education which are synonymous with village problems. The volunteers set off for Aanganvadi, Sonawale where they went around the village beating drums publicizing about the plays. Within half an hour, a huge crowd gathered and played keen attention to what was being conveyed as they even waited for a second round. Ovations followed after each act. We could sense that it had struck a chord with the villagers, women especially cheered after the empowerment message. One elderly man joyfully explained how he quit drinking a few years back. The street play was an immense success as it struck a chord with kids, women and elders alike. Photographs clicked with the happy crowd will always remain a highlight of this camp.

Day 6: This day gave the volunteers one of the most heart touching memories. It was Christmas and celebrating it in Adhar was overwhelming. Starting with the day, we did our workout, and headed to do 'Shramdaan', field work. Field work involved dam making. The aim of this event was to renovate the broken dam so that water collection could be done and that water could be used by the villagers. 30 students were working at the dam. 4 students ploughed using spades, 2 lines were made, and mud was collected at one end and small stones at the other. Large stones were thrown down.

At Adhar, a pioneer organization providing life-long residential care for mentally challenged adults, the volunteers were shown a documentary to understand what it was for the people living there. The people living there were special in some way. Despite their age, they all had innocent faces, charming smiles and attractive gestures due to which each one of us could easily connect to them. The campus had various sections: A male dormitory, a female dormitory, a workshop area, dining area, shelter for cows, a biogas plant, a small hospital, an auditorium for special occasions.

Then, a dance program was organized in the auditorium where the volunteers danced to the tunes of '*It's the time to disco*' and other Bollywood hit numbers. They taught us motivation does not require big names but happy souls. As it was Christmas, Santa Claus had to arrive, he gave chocolates to everyone.



A visit to Adhar moved the volunteers emotionally and made them believe that there are people who care for others and work for the betterment of others.

Day 7: The last day of the camp was scheduled to have the last Shram-daan, followed by a meet. The Shram-daan involved dam making. The students helped in repairing the broken so the water collection could be done and the water could be used by the villagers. There were 35 students working at the dam. 30 students were working at the dam. 4 students ploughed using spades, 2 lines were made, and the mud was collected at one end and small stones at the other. Large stones were thrown down. Contributing a little for the betterment of the village felt very good for one and all. The other task involved rock shifting which was done by the volunteers with great enthusiasm.

Following the field work, we had the last meeting. A meeting filled with lots of appreciation. 12 best campers were announced. Team work, hard work, patience, support and guidance could finally lead us to a successful camp.



Beginning the day from workouts and jogging, cleaning the dining hall, wake up calls at 5:30 AM, preparing for street plays, dance and posters in just few hours, contributing in the field work for the betterment of the village; everything was a totally different and exciting experience. These experiences helped us to be a better, responsible citizen.

Join hands and let us work for the society because this country is not only yours or mine, it is ours.