



NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BOMBAY



2013 -2014

Annual Report

National Service Scheme IIT Bombay

NSS IIT Bombay working as a part of public service in the institute caters to various social issues. The aim is to inculcate social welfare thoughts among students and their sensitization at the same time trying to address and solve issues.

The body is divided in four departments addressing various issues, viz.

1. Educational Outreach

Aiming to provide equal opportunities to under privileged students in the area of education. We collaborate with various NGO's and help to provide them support for these volunteers

2. Events

Trying to promote social awareness about various issues in institute through various activities such as cloth donation, paper bag making, blog writing and so on

3. Green Campus Initiative

The greenery of our campus has always provided peace and solitude to all students making our campus stands out from rest of Mumbai. With the aim to keep our institute greener with the demand of more infrastructure we do plantation, maintaining our own nursery

4. Vikas

Vikas stands for sustainable living and its activities promote awareness and sensitize students about environment and biodiversity

Along with activities specific to various department some common activities are designed for all departments together

Orientation Ceremony

The year began with orientation of students about what NSS IIT Bombay is and what all activities it does under the four departments. Our faculty advisors Prof. Jothiprakash and Prof. A. B. Rao motivated the freshmen about the reason for being in NSS and the pleasure in working for the society. After this students were divided into various departments by their priority and interest.



Past year students of NSS introduced themselves and shared their experience of being in NSS and what they can look forward to learn being a part of NSS

Common activities

Apart from having various activities specific to departments there were other activities to promote common sense of belonging among various departments. And also to inculcate common vision and goal of NSS.

1. Field Trip to Yusuf Meharalli Centre

In an effort to sensitize students about various issues in society, a field trip was organized to Yusuf Meharali centre, Borivalli. Students were involved in a lot of activities there. The activities ranged from Shramdaan, visit to various small scale industries to books with workshops and clothes donation. The trip came out to be a very successful event in motivating students towards social issues.

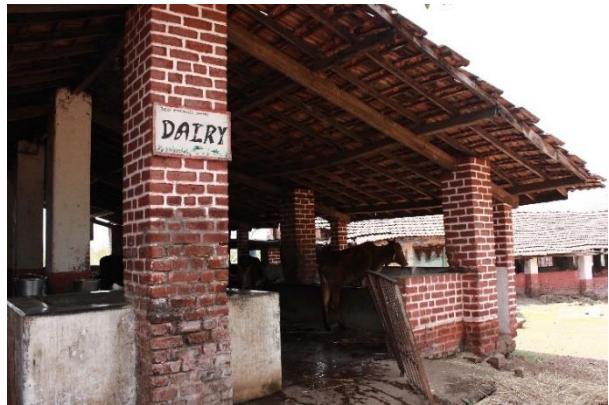


Students helping out in weeding and clearing land



Sapling Plantation and donation





Visits to small scale industries and workshops





Books and Clothes donation to tribal girl's hostel

Disability awareness workshops

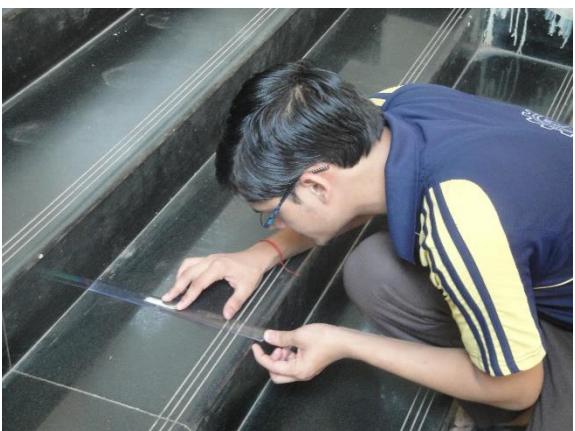
With the aim of promoting awareness we had workshops organized by NGO Trinayani. It received prompt response not only from our students but also from people across the campus and Alumni of IIT Bombay. The workshops had awareness about sign language, disability etiquettes.



Disability workshop

Disability access Audit

As a follow up to disability awareness workshop and finding out how accessible is our institute to differently able people, we kicked off with disability access audit of our campus. Started with auditing of Main Building used by maximum number of people and then covering SOM and electrical engineering department.



Interactive talks

We had interactive talks with Anil Rajvanshi, Director NARI in association with GRA, Group for rural activities. The talk enlightened about sustainable ways of technological advancements.



Anil Rajvanshi, Director NARI

The second talk was by Ashok Kalbag, alumnus IIT Bombay, from Vigyan Ashram. The talk revolved about revolutionizing Education system and how to reach expansion of education to people in less developed area.



Talk by Ashok Kalbag

“I am kalam” Documentary screening

We have a documentary screening of I am Kalam Documentary by SMILE Foundation, which works for the betterment of children. The documentary revolves around a small child who came out of his circumstances to achieve his goal of life. The documentary was then followed by a discussion.



Educational Outreach

“A child without education is like a bird without wings”.

Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world. To provide such priceless asset to those who lack it is the basic motivation of the Educational outreach wing of NSS. Educational outreach works with an aim of providing opportunities of learning and education to those students who are deprived of them. In this department we send volunteers to N.G.O's based on educational sector to not only teach the students at the N.G.O but also helping the N.G.O in conducting their activities. This term we had 5 N.G.O's associated with us .

They are:

1. Cell for human values
2. Abhyasika
3. Aasha
4. Vidya
5. LCCW

A brief description of these N.G.O's and the work done by our volunteers at these N.G.O's follows:

CELL FOR HUMAN VALUES:

The Cell For Human Values at IIT Bombay started a Computer Literacy Programme inside the campus in the year 2011. The centre provides basic knowledge of computers to the students there, absolutely free of cost. The course covers topics like Typing, MS Word, MS Excel, Tally, Use of internet search engines and anything else the student wants to learn. There are three teachers who come every weekday to teach the students.

The NSS Volunteers sent here teach basic computer skills to the students. They are also involved in chart making or making of a presentation which help the teachers to better illustrate the workings of a computer. Some of the students also help the teachers learn new software like Scratch, Photoshop, Tally etc. , which can be then transferred to the students in the future.

Work done this year:

- The volunteers made charts – Part of a Computer, Famous Computer Scientists, Functions of MS Word
- Some also taught Tally to the students and the teachers
- Taught the students during the regular slots

Expectations for next year;

Many students who come to the centre want to learn to speak English properly. So our aim should be to provide them with Spoken English Tutorials.



Abhyasika:

Abhyasika is a student initiative at IIT BOMBAY where volunteers from the institute teach the students who are from the nearby phulenagar slum by taking free tuitions. Students varying from 4th to 12th standard comes to the place rented by the volunteers and classes take places in batches of 4-5 students of same or different class with a teacher allotted for each subject for a particular They teach all the subjects in the curriculum with more emphasis on Maths,Science and English.

Abhyasika also has another center inside the campus where the students who study at the campus school and also the kids of laborers inside the campus are taught.

A total of 15 NSS Volunteers went to these two centers to teach the students and help them in their studies.



Aasha:

Asha for Education is a secular organization dedicated to change in India by focusing on basic education in the belief that education is a critical requisite for socio-economic change.

In keeping with this focus, its volunteers are involved with and support projects that are secular and have an education-related component to them.

There are 66 chapters of Aasha worldwide: 46 in the US, 12 in India, and 7 in Europe and 1 in Canada. Currently 11 students from IIT Bombay volunteer at Aasha. The number of hours devoted by each volunteer is 3 hours per week. IIT volunteers teach students from classes 5th to 10th. Other than teaching basic curriculum, volunteers involve in teaching creative things such as chart making, spoken English etc. Volunteers also conduct science experiments as per the students' needs and interest. Volunteers also involve in teaching learning softwares such as Net Logo and Scratch.



Vidya:

With the vision to be “a significant force of change for India’s less privileged” the organisation was built up to educate and empower the less privileged through integrated methods and to initiate and implement progressive social change. Due to dedication and sincerity of the teams the name VIDYA has grown to touch the lives of poorest communities of Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore and has been synonymous with stories of incredible transformation and wide spectrum of programmes speaking about their mission.

VIDYA’s approach to Education has been to offer holistic all round development by covering pre-schools, primary schools from classes Nursery to V and a secondary school from classes VI to X. National Service Scheme, IIT Bombay is proud to be a part of this noble mission of VIDYA. The students of IIT Bombay as the part of their curriculum go to the centre near the campus to teach the students there. Everyone is happy being given this opportunity to educate the underprivileged kids and make them stand on their own feet. We promise to endeavour the organisation and participate in bringing a huge impact over the society.

LCCW:

Called as center of logic and reasoning, this N.G.O which is run my Prof.Amitabh gupta, Alumnus of IIT Bombay provides free education to students from poor background with the incentive of teaching them and logic and reasoning at the initial stages of their education.

We had 27 volunteers from NSS going to this N.G.O to take classes and help the students to improve in their studies.

Events

Events department organizes various activities of service throughout the two semesters. The aim is to provide a firsthand experience to students in understanding social problems and to come up with feasible and innovative solutions.

Activities of Events

Blog writing

We started the semester with understanding the problems our society faces today. In this activity students were asked to write blogs on social issues which they could connect themselves with.

Some of the topics that students wrote blogs on were:

- Smoking and alcoholism at IITB
- Wastage of water resources at IITB
- Biggest Challenges of India
- Falling rupee and economic crisis
- Biggest challenges facing India
- Increasing violence against women
- Equal distribution of wealth - myth or reality
- Regionalism at IITB
- Vote bank politics - is there an alternative?
- Food security bill

Anti-plastic awareness drive

The aim of the activity was to spread awareness among people about the ill effects of using plastic especially plastic made carry bags. NSS students were initially taught to make bags of newspaper and then they went to various NGOs around the campus to teach kids to make paper bags at the same time, spread awareness among the children.

Paper bag making session





Paper bag making session in NGO Aasha



Session in campus school

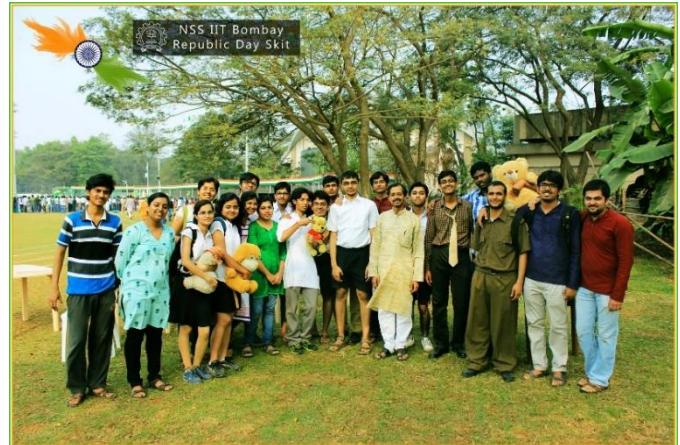
Cloth collection campaign

Every year we organize cloth collection campaign in campus. This includes hostels as well as residential area. This year we organized the campaign in all the hostels in the first semester and in the residential area (hill side, lake side and central area) in the second semester. A record 3,000 kgs of clothes were collected by the freshmen majority of which were donated to a Ghatkopar based NGO Manav Jeevan Seva Sansthan. The event received appreciation from various faculty members. A part of the clothes were also donated to Yousuf Mehralli Center on our field trip there.



Republic Day Skit

Every year NSS students perform a skit on a social issue as part of the Republic day celebration in SAC main grounds. This year we performed a skit on ‘Child Sex Abuse’. The students did a wonderful job in a carrying out the play in a mature manner. The headmistress of Kendriya Vidyalay and Campus school appreciated our effort.



Skit on ‘Child Sex Abuse’

Scientific toy making

In this activity, our students made toys out of day to day materials and trash items and we went to various NGOs and schools to explain kids the scientific concept behind those experiments. The aim was to awaken interest and curiosity in kids towards science and make them understand that science is not confined to mere textbooks and exams. The demonstration sessions were held in NGO Aasha, NGO Vidya , Phulenagar Slum and Abhyasika center in NSS room.



Scientific toy demonstration session in NGO Aasha

Green Campus

Vanamahotsav Sapling plantation: The first activity was participation in Vanamahotsav 2013 by the institute, for which around 400 plants were provided by Green Campus, NSS IIT Bombay. Students enthusiastically took part in plantation of trees at hill side. Overall event was extremely well received.



Vanamahotsav at Hill Side

Plantation - As the name suggests, the department stands for the greenery in the campus. Sessions were conducted every Saturday between 9:30am and 12:30 pm. During the other regular sessions, around 1000 saplings were picked up from various departments and were transferred into plastic bags, so as to provide a better environment for their survival. Majority of them being Mango and Avenue saplings. They were regularly watered. Around 14 sessions were conducted throughout the semester at the Main nursery beside the convocation hall. Each session was of around 1.5 to 2 hours of duration.

Due to the space crisis in the nursery, a few of the students were let to work for the cloth collection campaign. A new place was allotted for the students of green campus to work at by the end of the semester but due to time constraints, we could not start working in the new place.



Nursery of about 1000 saplings collect and cared by NSS IIT Bombay

Transplantation – This activity refers to the Transferring of grown up plants into bigger bags. The saplings that were transferred into plastic bags during the academic years 2011-12, 2012-13 have been transferred into bigger plastic bags or used cement bags, based on their size. Around 300 saplings that have grown to around 4-6 feet high were transferred into new bags and are being taken care of by us through regular watering.



Transplantation carried out of saplings

Vikas

Activities of Vikas are centered about Sustainability and Environment. The aim is to understand the issue in all its facets and in the journey, try our hand on few measures and initiatives that would bring a positive impact on our surroundings and on ourselves. We work with one dream in mind- To make IIT Bombay campus Green, to reduce our net ecological impact and carbon footprint.

Vision:

1. To become Sustainable, to meet our present demands without compromising for the future generations
2. To become Self-Sufficient, to manage our resources well and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.
3. To ensure a green and healthy environment for people living within the IITB campus

Mission:

1. To identify various environmental problems around us and address them through the most effective solutions
2. To aware, mobilize and sensitize people toward environmental issues
3. To encourage people to practice sustainable lifestyle through various means

Activities of Vikas

1. One Sided Paper Collection:

We observe in our daily life people waste a lot of papers and in turn a valuable natural resource. Most of these papers are used or printed on one side only, which majorly contributes to wastage.

To tackle this problem, NSS Vikas take up an important initiative to reuse potentially wasted paper in the institute. It involved collecting one-side printed or blank papers from across offices and departments. Few decorated drop-boxes had been put in high output places like Academic office and department offices. Papers were also collected from Hostel Xerox shops, another place where potentially huge paper is wasted. These collected one sided papers were used for making notebook which are donated to underprivileged children.



Boxes making session



Boxes kept in various departments and notebooks made from the same

2. Documentary Screening:

To sensitize students towards environmental and social issues we have many insightful documentary screening session throughout the year. It covers the burning issues like Global warming, Climate change, Role of human being in environment, untouchability etc.

These screening often followed by intense discussion.

3. Green talk

This initiative consist talk with an interactive session related to sustainability by expert faculties from IIT Bombay. It is an initiative to know about how to promote sustainability in modern world in our everyday lives. A lecture series for the same.

Session 1- With professor SD Jog: How to live in a sustainable way with Gandhian Philosophy with use of minimum resources in modern world



Session 2- Prof. Jitendra Shah from TREE labs shred his views about the how as an engineer we can use science and technology for use in sustainable growth and gve us insight in what role we can play.



4. Debate/ Discussion sessions

In an ideation session we had a qualitative debate related to "nuclear power yes or no?" The two houses each had a mentor and debate on the recent griming issue. It had a very good response and students got insight about both the faces of nuclear power and possibly change in views for the same. Several group discussion sessions were conducted which gave insight and more knowledge about the topics.



5. Biodiversity Mapping

IIT Bombay is a place with rich Biodiversity in terms of wide variety of flora and fauna. With an aim to create awareness about its rich biodiversity we started the project displaying about a few rare and interesting species across the campus.

In this initiative we put up boards containing interesting information regarding important bird species on bus stop poles across campus.



6. Sustainability walk-

We come across lot of inefficiencies and unnecessary wastage of resources around us in daily life. Lights in room, fans in lounges and much more. If such waste is to be cut, then people have to first see and then change it. So we organized a photo walk, where students were sent to different places and asked to take pictures of those observations and set them right. Students also interacted with hostel residents on various sustainability issues and capture their views, so as to understand it to the ground realities.



Few of unsustainable practices in institute

7. Lend your voice

'Lend Your Voice' is an initiative by Abhyuday 2014-the social fest of IITB aimed to record books in the audio format for visually impaired people.

Infrastructural initiatives undertaken

- NSS room painting was carried out and a name plate for the door was fixed for easy identification
- An application for an additional fan and switch board has been submitted to the Electrical Maintenance Unit (EMU) but no response has been received so far
- An application for a camera and an a projector has been submitted to the Dean SA which has been approved

Media and publicity initiatives

- A Facebook page dedicated to NSS IIT Bombay has been formed to keep people aware of NSS and its initiatives
- A revamping of NSS IIT Bombay website (<http://gymkhana.iitb.ac.in/~nss/>) is being carried out and it would be up by the start of next semester

Team NSS 2013-14

Faculty Advisor

Prof. A. B. Rao and Prof. V. Jothi Prakash

Overall Co-coordinators - Rajiv Meshram, Subhash Meena

Department Head Educational outreach – Kranthi Kumar , Harsh Ankur

Department Head Events – Shreyas Mangalgi

Department Head Green Campus – Abhiram Taradi

Department Head Vikas – Sudhanshu Singh, Mayur Kathawte

Activity Associates

Abhilash Molkeri PVeerendra Singh

Akshay Jain Paridhi Agrawal

Chinmayee Panigrahi Kumar Ishu

Ankur Kaushik Akshay Dhotekar

Parthasarathi Panda Piyush Pimparkar

Swaroop Katta Harsha vardhan Buggala

Makarandu Manda Devi Prasanth Kavala

Gurpreet Singh Hora Amit Kumar Saini

Shiva kumar kotaru Jannu Sudhakar