

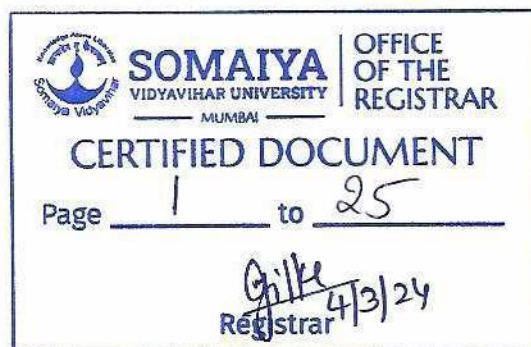
CRITERION VII

Institutional Values and Best Practices

7.2 Best Practices

Best Practice 1: Activities done under “Community Engagement: “Going beyond the boundaries”

Programs- organised in academic year 2021-22



Metric No: 7.2

Describe two Best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per the NAAC format provided in the Manual.

Activities done under “Community Engagement: "Going beyond the boundaries”

Programs- organised in academic year 2021-22

Programs- organised in academic year 2021-22

K J Somaiya College of Engineering

BEST PRACTICE 1 :

1. Title of the Practice: Community Engagement: “Going Beyond Boundaries”

2. Objectives of the Practice

- The main objectives of these processes are to establish systematic approach to imbibe the people skills through extension and community services beyond the boundaries of the academics.
- To teach the students about initiative and leadership qualities through group activities.
- To sow the seeds of social change in the young minds.
- To develop the value of empathy
- To create new perspectives on important social issue
- To help students to learn how to observe, analyze, interpret and face various situations in their everyday life
- Engaging the community with sustained campaign
- Involving the staff and students of the University to become a part of solutions to issues faced by the society

3.The Context

- **Parvaah**, the esteemed social initiative of K. J. Somaiya College of Engineering (KJSCE), stands as a beacon of comprehensive societal betterment. Imbued with a mission that transcends boundaries, Parvaah ardently engages in diverse endeavors to uplift communities on multifaceted fronts.
- **Yoga Day:** International Yoga Day, observed on June 21, promotes physical and mental well-being through yoga practice worldwide
- **Tree plantation drive:** Tree plantation drive aims to combat deforestation and enhance the environment by planting trees, fostering sustainability, and preserving biodiversity.
- **Material collection drive:** A sustainability-focused material collection drive gathers reusable items, reducing waste, promoting eco-consciousness, and contributing to a greener future while aiding those in need.

- **River and beach clean-up:** Clean-up initiatives strive to restore aquatic ecosystems, remove pollution, and raise awareness about water conservation, ensuring a healthier environment for all living beings that depend on rivers and sea.
- **Secret Santa:** An event for underprivileged children spreads joy by providing surprise gifts, warmth, and a sense of inclusion during the holiday season, creating cherished memories.
- **Diwali Orphanage visit:** Engaging with NGOs through art and craft sessions nurtures creativity, empowers individuals, and spreads positivity, leaving a lasting impact on personal growth and community connection.

4.The Practice

- **Yoga day:** 21st June 2022, On the occasion of International Yoga Day, Team Parvaah celebrated Yoga day in college as well in the presence of students and faculty members. In the activity, volunteers from Diya Foundation taught various Yogasanas to the attendees. They also talked about the importance of yoga in our day today life and how yoga helps in improving our health. Not only had this but they also talked about the theoretical and spiritual background of Yoga.



- **Tree plantation drive:** Team Parvaah volunteered in a Tree Plantation Drive on 3rd July 2022 at Titwala. For this, Parvaah collaborated with Diya Foundation, which conducts various social activities. The Social outreach saw Students and faculty members engage in activities such as sapling plantations and exploring the wonder of nature.
- **Material collection drive:** Team Parvaah has organized a Material Collection Drive from 22nd to 28th Feb. The Bin was set up at the ground floor of the B Building of KJSCE. The bin was divided into two parts- one for paper and one for plastic. The main motive of this event was to let every student in college know about our goals towards sustainability and try to make them a part of it. The waste was collected over the period of 5 days and then sent for further processing.



- **River cleanup drive:** On 5th February 2022, Team Parvaah volunteered in the event of Mithi River Clean Up near Mahim locality in Mumbai from 8:30 am to 10:30 am. The main aim of the event was to clean the shore of Mithi River to help the ecosystem of the river grow. The volunteers collected the waste from the shore of Mithi River and also helped BMC workers to carry and put the collected waste in the trucks. The Mithi River also plays a vital role in the Mumbai Floods in the monsoon season. The collected waste was then sent to the Deonar Dumping Ground of the BMC.



- **Beach cleanup drive:** The members of KJSCE Students’ Council visited the Juhu Beach, for the Beach Cleanup Drive under the social initiative, Parvaah. The motive behind the event was to raise awareness about the Marine debris and Marine pollution.
- **Secret Santa:** Team Parvaah organized a Secret Santa Event for the kids of Banjara Basti Locality in Ghatkopar (E) on December 26th, 2021. The team reached the location at 10.00 am. The main motive of the event was to spread happiness amongst the children and also to teach them something. In order to teach them something, we tried to bring our agenda into picture by teaching the kids to make bags from the waste paper and explained to them the importance of recycling as well. After paper bags were made, volunteers of Robin Hood Army and Parvaah distributed gifts, chocolates and food packets to children. Team Parvaah collaborated with Robin Hood Army for this event in which Santa distributed gifts in the form of food packets, chocolates and merchandise to the children of the locality.



- **Diwali Orphanage visit:** KJSCE student Council members arranged a recreational visit to Gully Classes Foundation in Ghatkopar on 29th October 2021 from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. various art and craft activities like making paper lanterns were conducted by the council members. The two and half hour visit also included various games for children which will surely add up to their academic knowledge. Also, children from the Gully Classes Foundation showed their various talents like dancing, singing, etc. Volunteers arranged refreshment for children after the activities. Team also assisted NGO volunteers in conducting academic activities for children.



5. Evidence of Success

- **Yoga day:** On the 21st June 2022, international Yoga day, about 30 faculty and students participated in the activity, creating awareness about health awareness by practicing yoga.
- **Tree plantation drive:** Parvaah Team members fit nests for the birds on the big trees in the vicinity. The team volunteered in the event, which had a total goal of planting 200 saplings.
- **Material collection drive:** Through this event, Parvaah team tried to encourage and create awareness among all the students of the college and everyone else to collect as much waste as they can and send it for recycling. On 22nd February, 2022 Team Parvaah gave a presentation regarding the work done till date in Symposium 2022 (A college level event).
- **River cleanup drive:** The event was conducted in collaboration with Beach Please India. Beach Please India is the NGO founded by Mr. Malhar Kalambe, an environmentalist acclaimed from UN and GOI. The NGO has carried out more than 200 clean up drives to Mithi River and also creates awareness about the same.

- **Beach cleanup drive:** The members volunteered in the Cleanup Drive organized by 'Beach Warriors India' from 8:00 am to 10:00 am on Sunday 10/10/2021.
- **Secret Santa:** Parvaah team in association with Robin Hood Army taught the kids to make bags from the waste paper and explained to them the importance of recycling.
- **Diwali Orphanage visit:** Parvaah team members carried out art and craft activities like making paper lanterns. The two and half hour visit also included various games for children which will surely add up to their academic knowledge.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- **Yoga day:** International Yoga day is single day activity, but nurture Yoga in daily life similar event needs to be created more often.
- **Tree plantation drive:** After tree plantation, to take care of the sampling and their growth, more visits can be organized.





- **Material collection drive:** Collected sample include variety of plastics, of varied thickness in gsm, required specialized attention for segregation and its disposal.
- **River cleanup drive:** Due to Covid – 19 regulations, it was difficult to arrange more volunteers for this drive.
- **Beach cleanup drive:** Due to Covid – 19 regulations, it was difficult to arrange more volunteers for this drive.





Fig – Waste collected by volunteers

- Secret Santa: Due to Covid – 19 regulations, it was difficult to arrange more volunteers for this drive for variety of tasks.

K J Somaiya Institute of Management Plantation Drive:



1. **Objective:** To spread awareness with a tinge of nostalgia and promote greenery
2. **Context:** This took place in Maitreyi Garden to commemorate the passing out of Batch of 2021-23
3. **Practices:** On the occasion of World Plantation Day, The Student Council took the initiative to organize a tree plantation drive at the Nakshatra Garden, Somaiya Vidyavihar University. The drive aimed at planting the “Katesavar” tree, a 10-foot plant dedicated to the 2021-2023 batch of MBA. The tree consists of a QR Code on the tag, which contains pictures and videos of all the highlights that happened during the said year. The initiative will be carried out every year for all the coming batches, thus cherishing their memories. The plantation drive was successfully completed with the help of volunteers from the Student Council and MBA Students from the batch of 2021-23. The Student Council extends its sincere gratitude to Avinash Sir and Meena Ma’am from the Horticulture Department for gracing the initiative with their presence and support. Last but not least, a special mention to Team Bhoomi for facilitating the initiative with their expertise.
4. **Problems/Resources:** NA

S K Somaiya College

1. Title of the Practice: Visit to Orphanage

2. Objectives of the Practice:

- To nurture active citizenship and empower learners to be advocates for community issues, contributing to a more participatory and democratic society.
- To empower learners to recognize and respond to societal challenges actively, providing practical assistance and support.
- To foster self-awareness, critical thinking, and a deeper appreciation for the impact of their actions, leading to continuous personal growth and improvement.

3. The Context

Students are presented with various opportunities to actively participate in creating positive impact for the society. Through various activities they are made to understand and reflect on the needs and problems of the society. As they step outside the confines of the campus, students will discover a world of possibilities, making a difference not only in their academic pursuits but also in the lives of those they touch through their actions and compassion.

4. The Practice Visit to Orphanage:

The most awaited and very first CSR activity of 2021-22 of S K Somaiya College, Somaiya Vidyavihar University was held on 26th of January, 2022. The main motto for the Activity was to create awareness about the Constitution of our country amongst the youth and the children and The event was helmed by President Dev Chamadia along with the entire Cultural Forum Team; under the guidance of Dr. Shruti Chavarkar, Mrs. Bharti Makhijani, Mr. Amey Bal, CA. Sandeep Gupta, Mr. Sagar Singh and Dr. Rakhee Yadav. The major event began with our National Anthem, which was followed by distribution of food, clothes and books amongst the children later they end up the activity after a friendly drawing competition amongst the children and quiz.

5. Evidence of Success



6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Getting approvals from the various authorities, handling logistics and transportation and ensuring safety of all the participants were some of the challenges encountered which were successfully managed. Safety kits, equipment and transportation were required to conduct all these activities.

K J Somaiya College of Education

1. Title of the Practice

Education	Passport to Future under ASBB
Environment	Tree Plantation by ASBB Beach Cleaning by Afroz Shah Foundation ECHO project by World Wide Fund for Nature-India

2. Objectives of the Practice

Education: ASBB- Passport to the Future:

- The "Passport to Future" initiative by the ASBB Trust aims to provide a holistic education for underprivileged children, transcending traditional classroom boundaries.
- Empower student volunteers by providing them with an opportunity to make a positive impact on their community, develop leadership skills, and facilitate lasting relationships between student volunteers and underprivileged students, enabling ongoing support, mentorship, and guidance.
- Cultivate a philanthropic mindset among student volunteers by encouraging them to give back to the community and realize the transformative power of their actions.
- Teaching sessions for underprivileged students aims to provide a platform for physical, emotional, and creative growth, while also fostering a sense of connection, empowerment, and social responsibility among both student volunteers and participants.

Team Spreading Smiles of Joy (TSS)

- Engaging with students from different financial backgrounds sensitizes educators to the needs of the underprivileged.
- This experience prompts a heightened awareness of societal inequalities and the educator's role in addressing them.
- Provide underprivileged students with access to creative and enriching activities like dance, which might otherwise be unavailable due to resource constraints.
- Enhance the physical well-being of underprivileged students by encouraging them to engage in physical activity through dance. Additionally, offer a platform for emotional expression and stress relief.
- Promote social interaction and communication skills between underprivileged students and our students.

Environment

Beach Clean-up: Versova Beach, Restoration of Mithi River at Filter Pada under Afroz Shah Foundation.

- Educate our students about the detrimental impact of single-use plastic on the environment, wildlife, and human health.
- Highlight the urgency of reducing plastic consumption to mitigate these negative effects.
- Facilitate discussions and workshops to brainstorm effective ways to minimize plastic usage in daily life.
- Share innovative alternatives to single-use plastic items and encourage participants to adopt these alternatives.
- Provide insights into proper waste disposal methods, particularly for plastics, to prevent pollution and encourage responsible waste management.
- Educate students about the recycling process and the importance of separating recyclables from non-recyclables.
- Foster a deeper understanding of sustainable lifestyle choices beyond just plastic reduction, including energy conservation, water usage, and eco-friendly purchasing.

- Encourage participants to commit to making long-term changes in their habits to reduce their overall environmental footprint.
- Inspire a sense of personal responsibility for the environment, emphasizing that each individual can contribute positively to a healthier planet.
- Engage participants in discussions about the interconnectedness of environmental issues and the role they can play in creating a more sustainable future.
- Offer hands-on experiences, such as participating in beach cleaning drives and river restoration projects, to provide students with tangible exposure to environmental challenges and solutions.
- Demonstrate how experiential learning can lead to a greater understanding of real-world issues and drive meaningful change.
- Share success stories of collective efforts, like the Afroz Shah Foundation's projects, to illustrate how teamwork and collaboration can bring about significant positive transformations.
- Encourage students to actively engage in group activities, fostering a sense of unity and the belief that their actions can contribute to a better environment.

ASBB: Tree Plantation Drive

- Instil in students a deeper understanding of the importance of trees in maintaining ecological balance, improving air quality, preventing soil erosion, and supporting biodiversity.
- Encourage students to adopt sustainable practices by actively participating in tree planting, fostering a sense of responsibility for the environment.
- Provide students with practical, hands-on learning experiences outside the classroom, enhancing their understanding of nature and ecosystems through direct involvement.
- Engage students in community-oriented activities, helping them develop a sense of belonging and responsibility toward the local environment and society.
- Cultivate an emotional connection with nature by involving students in the process of nurturing and caring for newly planted trees, fostering a lifelong appreciation for the environment.
- Encourage students to work together in groups to plan, execute, and reflect on the tree plantation drive, promoting teamwork, leadership skills, and effective communication.

- Collaborate with local environmental organizations, governmental agencies, and experts to provide students with comprehensive knowledge about tree species, planting techniques, and environmental preservation.
- Promote the idea that individual actions, such as tree planting, can collectively contribute to positive changes in the environment, nurturing a sense of responsible citizenship.

WWF- Project Title - Mṛttikā Śītakaṁ: The Earthen Refrigerator

- **Interactive Learning and Engagement:** The project intends to engage participants actively by employing various interactive methods such as questionnaire sessions, quiz sessions, and group discussions. Through these techniques, participants are encouraged to explore different facets of the theme, facilitating a deeper comprehension of the project's context and goals.
- **Guidance and Direction:** The sessions organized by WWF are aimed at guiding and directing the youth towards effective participation in the ECHO project. By offering clear instructions on what is expected from participants and how they can contribute, the project empowers young individuals to align their efforts with the project's vision.
- **Inspiration for Green Innovation:** An integral objective of the project is to inspire participants to think innovatively and propose sustainable solutions. Following the sessions, participants are encouraged to brainstorm ideas that align with the project's theme, leading to the identification of innovative concepts with the potential for positive environmental impact.
- **Development of Practical Initiatives:** The project aspires to foster the development of practical initiatives that align with the theme. The participants' exploration of various ideas culminated in the concept of a sustainable fridge, reflecting their commitment to addressing real-world challenges through tangible solutions.
- **Economic Accessibility and Eco-Friendly Design:** A central aim of the sustainable fridge innovation is to create an affordable and eco-friendly product. By targeting people below the poverty line, the project aims to bridge accessibility gaps and provide a sustainable solution that benefits marginalized communities.
- **Validation and Collaboration with WWF:** The objective of aligning with WWF's suggestions and receiving validation from the organization underscores the importance of collaborative efforts. The project seeks to leverage the expertise of

WWF to refine and enhance the sustainable fridge initiative, ensuring its alignment with broader environmental goals.

- **Motivation and Excitement for Implementation:** The project seeks to inspire participants through WWF's support and guidance, fostering motivation and excitement for the successful implementation of their innovative solution. By channeling this enthusiasm, the project aims to empower participants to become agents of change in promoting sustainability and addressing environmental challenges.

3. The Context

- The "Passport to Future" initiative bridges educational inequalities, promoting holistic growth and critical thinking. However, limited resources and access pose challenges to ensuring equal opportunities for underprivileged children.
- The context of organizing online dance sessions for underprivileged students is rooted in the desire to bridge educational and recreational disparities while fostering a sense of inclusivity and empowerment. In many underprivileged communities, limited access to extracurricular activities, including artistic pursuits like dance, can hinder holistic development and deprive students of opportunities for self-expression, skill-building, and personal growth.
- Environmental efforts encompass beach cleanups, river restorations, and tree planting. Pollution awareness is heightened, but systemic change requires consistent community involvement and policy support.
- Blood donation camps enhance healthcare awareness, yet misconceptions and logistical hurdles hinder full participation.
- These initiatives embody commitment, but surmounting challenges mandate persistent collaboration, education, and policy advocacy to create lasting, positive impact. The project aims to raise awareness and enhance understanding about pressing environmental issues, promoting informed decision-making and responsible actions among individuals, communities, and stakeholders.

4. The Practice

The Afroz Shah Foundation's environmental initiatives signify a collective effort for a greener planet. Their beach cleanups, river restorations display a multi-tiered approach to environmental conservation. The use of sustainable menstruation products adds a layer of

inclusivity and awareness about eco-friendly choices. The unique aspect is the active involvement of students, instilling a sense of responsibility for the environment from an early age, which is particularly significant given India's population and ecological challenges.

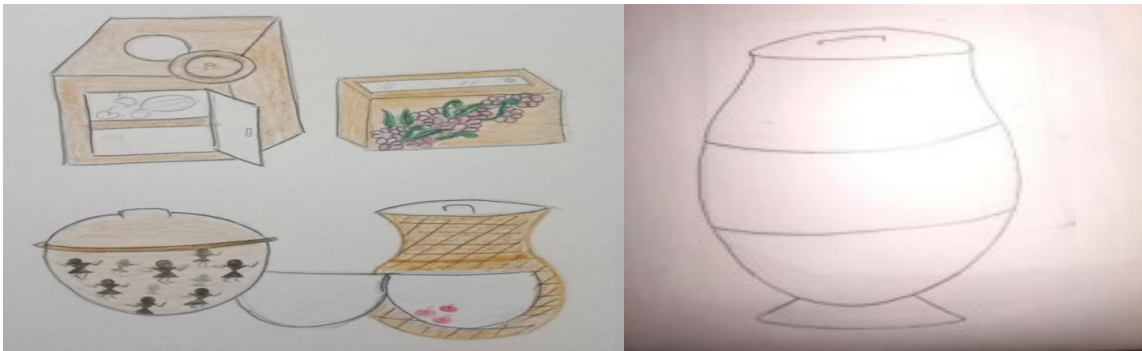
The ASBB Trust's tree plantation drive in Gujarat stands out as an extension of its commitment to environmental responsibility. By expanding to new regions, they exemplify their adaptability and dedication to spreading awareness across diverse communities, marking their practice's uniqueness.

5. Evidence of Success

ECHO project by World Wide Fund for Nature-India



7 Days Experiment by Project Team Member (FYB.Ed. student)

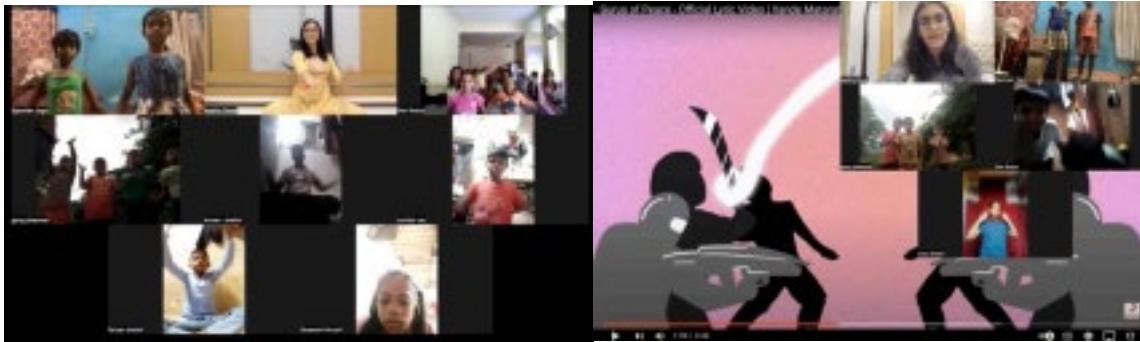


Design created by team members of project(FYB.Ed. students)

Beach Cleaning activity under Afroz Shah Foundation



Team Spreading Smiles of Joy (TSS)



Online Dance session conducted by our student

Tree Plantation activity under ASBB:



6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- In the realm of education, achieving equal access involves addressing disparities in infrastructure and providing specialized training for effective interactive teaching methods.
- In the realm of environmental initiatives, challenges encompass mobilizing volunteers, managing waste disposal, and ensuring sustainable maintenance efforts. Planting trees necessitates securing funds, garnering community support, and identifying suitable locations.
- In the context of blood donation and hygiene practices, there is a requirement for medical assistance, awareness campaigns, and easily accessible products.

- Meeting the demands of these endeavors involves securing necessary resources including funding, engaging the community, forming collaborations, and prioritizing education.

7. Experiences and Feedback from Students

Feedback on:

ECHO Project under WWF:

When selected team members came to know about WWF - Echo Workshop they wanted to create something that would be pocket friendly as well as eco-friendly. After a lot of discussion, they came up with the idea of “**Mritika Sitakam**” which already do exist but is expensive. So, they decided to design a model and give it a new look that is cost effective and aesthetic. They researched and analyzed where their model could be used effectively. I have learnt that children are privileged not when they have financial backup but when they have a good way of learning and gaining knowledge.

Teaching Sessions for underprivileged students

"Teaching sessions for underprivileged students have been an eye-opening experience. It's heartwarming to witness their eagerness to learn and their genuine appreciation for the opportunity. The interactive approach has helped them engage better, and I can see their confidence growing with each session. It's fulfilling to be a part of their educational journey and contribute to their brighter future."

Many testimonials mention the sense of camaraderie and teamwork fostered through community work. Collaborating with others to achieve a common goal cultivates a sense of unity and shared purpose. This sentiment underscores the power of collective effort in driving positive change within communities.

K J Somaiya Institute of Dharma Studies

Department Name: K J Somaiya Institute of Dharma Studies	Academic Year: 2021-2022
Title of the Event	Jetavan – Outreach Programme
Type of the Event (Webinar/Seminar / Conference /FDP / Workshop /Training / Guest Lecture)	Community Engagement (Giving back to the society)

Level of Organization (Local/State National /International/ Intercollegiate /Intracollegiate)	State
Collaborators if any	Venerable Dhammadipa, a Buddhist monk and Godavari Biorefineries Ltd.
Date of the event	20th November 2021
Venue	Jetavan, Sakarwadi
Name of the Resource Person \ Guest	Venerable Dhammadipa
Objective of the Event	Jetavan was created with the sense of social responsibility. The place where Jetavan is built is the rural region of Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra. From last six years, we are successfully conducting various activities at Jetavan which have helped local communities in many ways.
Report (Not more than 500 words)	<p>The Practice – Jetavan is an outreach programme of KJSIDS located near Shirdi. Jetavan is the space for non-sectarian spiritual practice and wellness. We conduct several activities at Jetavan where academicians engage with social communities. Following activities are conducted at Jetavan – Yoga, Pranayama and meditation sessions, interaction sessions on social and religious topics, workshops, retreats, helping local communities by giving them various earning opportunities using their skills, etc. Jetavan is constructed with a unique architectural design and with environment-friendly material. This place is made available to all the institutes under Somaiya Vidyavihar. Some institutes use this place for residential programmes, such as faculty training, workshops, discussions, etc.</p> <p>Event 1 - We have an on-going project at Jetavan, where women make paper bags from old newspaper and waste fabric. Rajashri tai, the leader of the group, did a demonstration for our students and everyone was overwhelmed by the amazing design.</p> <p>Event 2 - On 20th November 2021, practice of yoga and pranayamas followed by metta bhavana and walking meditation was conducted by Mr Amrit, student of KJSIDS. On 20th November 2021, members of the community joined us for a wonderful activity devised by two of our students. The Puggalapannatti, an Abhi dhamma text that describes the different types of persons, including the Arya Sangha, was demonstrated by means of the traditional game of snakes and ladders.</p>
Expected Outcome	From last six years, we are successfully conducting various activities at Jetavan which have helped local communities in many ways.

Documents Attached



