

On the occasion of 150th birth anniversary year of Mahatma Gandhi, ERNET India under the guidance of Ministry of Electronics and IT, Govt. Of India conducted a session on “**Voluntary Community Services**” for 10th to 12th students and DIET staffs on 29th Aug, 2019 during 12:35 pm to 01:30 pm.

Session was presented by **Mr. Saadan Hussain**, from Sri Venkateswara College, Delhi awarded with \*Verbal Commendation\* in the World in United Nations Conference held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in January,2019. Mr. Saadan mesmerized the audience with great communication skills and knowledge on the topic. Session was conducted using the Smart Virtual Classroom Infrastructure from DIET Gurugram and was attended by over 200 schools across 7 States (Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh). Mr. Saadan also interacted with schools and students to know about their experience in voluntary community service and how would they further engage in it.

Session targeted on what is Voluntary Community Service and how the teachers and the students can contribute to the community. Indian students are still new to the concept with less than 1.5% of the population contributing to voluntary activities, but in Western countries large number of students actively contribute voluntarily.

Some of the ways where students and teachers can actively contribute towards society:-

- Caring for animals, conservation, rescue, veterinary medical assistance.
- Teaching people about healthcare, healthy living.
- Volunteering to teach and educate a local community, children and adults alike.
- Creating social awareness and helping underprivileged individuals and families in crisis.
- Working with community services that build living shelters for the underprivileged, arrange soup kitchens for the homeless, provide assistance to the aged, and more.

There are 3 types of Voluntary community service

- 1) **Direct Service** – face to face where the student or teacher directly impacts individuals who receive the service. Like tutoring other students, helping in homeless shelter, conducting classes for youth
- 2) **Indirect Service**- Working on broad issues, environmental projects, or community development–projects that have clear benefits to the community or environment, but not necessarily to individually identified people with whom the students/teachers are working like plantation, restoring ecosystem,
- 3) **Advocacy Service**- Educating others about topics of public interest–projects that aim to create awareness and action on some issue that impacts the community. Like Planning and putting on public forums, conducting public information campaigns.

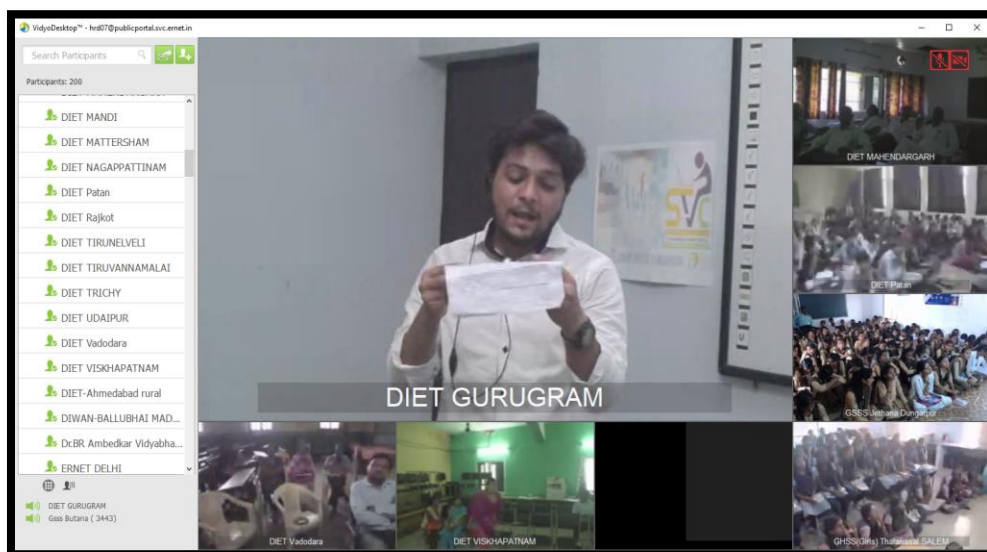
Few of the Images from the session are enclosed below:-



**No of Schools  
Joined:  
200**

**No of Students  
benefited:  
4000**

**Feedback:**  
Very Good and  
more such  
sessions should  
be conducted.



During the Session it was also encouraged that similar classes to promote voluntary community service should also be run from Individual DIET's in their local language during the week, so that the Idea of voluntary community service is well conveyed and understood by the students and teachers.

Please see below the date wise session conducted in continuation from various DIET's across **4 states on Voluntary Community Service.**

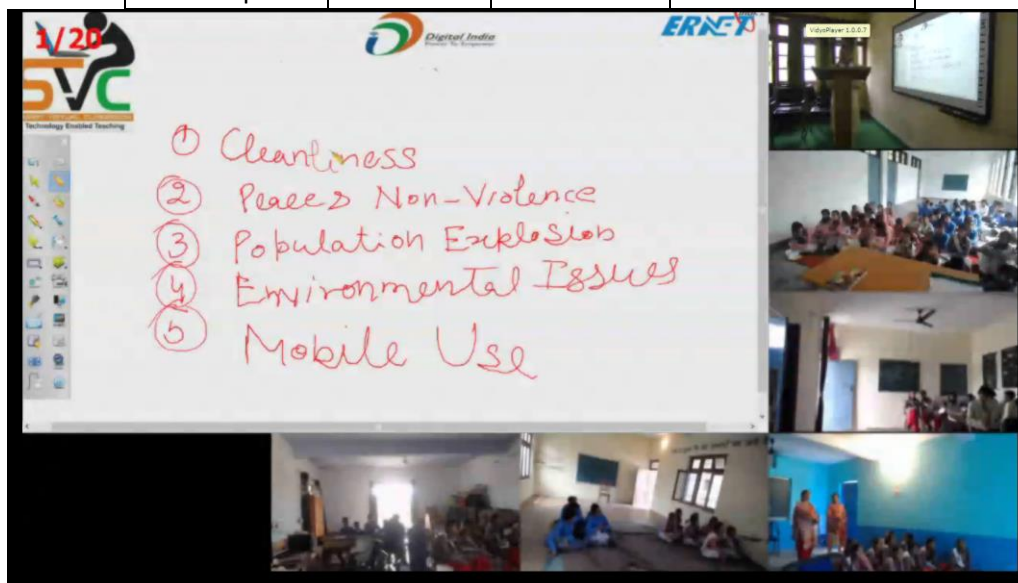
**Gujarat**

Presenter Diet	Date	Participant Schools	Students benefited
Rajkot	30.08.2019	8	160



### Himachal Pradesh

Presenter Diet	Date	Participant Schools	Students benefited
Hamirpur	30.08.2019	10	200

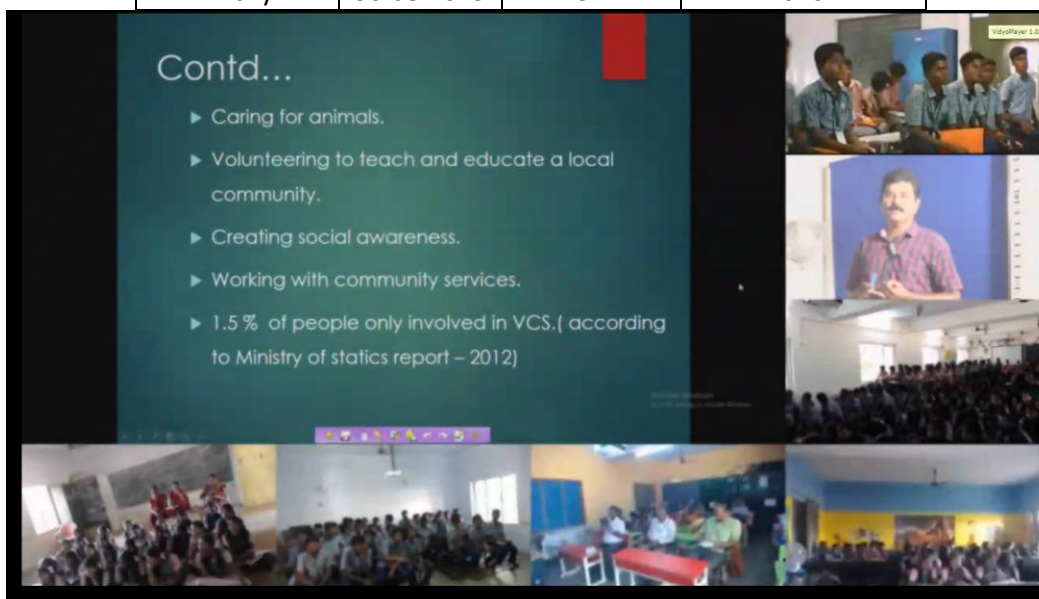


### Tamil Nadu

Presenter Diet	Date	Participant Schools	Students benefited
Erode	30.08.2019	30	600



Presenter Diet	Date	Participant Schools	Students benefited
Trichy	30.08.2019	32	640



### Tripura

Presenter Diet	Date	Participant Schools	Students benefited
Kakraban	30.08.2019	9	180



### 1) DIRECT SERVICE

Students are in direct contact with the people/agency they are helping. Activities include tutoring, visiting the elderly, serving food to the homeless, and providing childcare during school community functions.

