



At Student Think Tank for India, we are creating a model in schools and colleges to promote **critical thinking** and **civic engagement**. We are interested in the inquiry and understanding of different perspectives around social, economic, cultural and political issues. Student choice is at the centre of our organic learning process, and we believe that the skill of critical thinking will catalyse **empathy** and **entrepreneurialism** in students.

www.studentthinktankforindia.com
www.facebook.com/studentthinktankforindia

2016-17 Mid-year Update

FROM TWO SCHOOL CLUBS TO EIGHT CLUBS



After an encouraging pilot in 2015-16, we aimed to start eight school clubs across India to provide a consistent extra-curricular experience in civic engagement and critical thinking. We reached that goal by setting up clubs in the following schools across three cities, and doing a workshop at the Sahyadri School(KFI), Pune.

Delhi: Ramjas International School, Muni International School and Delhi Public School, Gurgaon.

Coimbatore: Vivekalaya School, Prakriya International School.

Hyderabad: Delhi Public School, Vidyaranya High School, CHIREC International School.

Each of these school clubs have regular monthly/bi-monthly workshops carried out by our team of Moderators, which has grown over time to a diverse and ambitious group of students and professionals from all over the country. Our workshops have been streamlined into six modules:

Introduction: Observe, Question, Act

Urbanisation and the Environment

Gender

Media Literacy

Corruption

Rural & Urban India

MODERATORS

The role of moderators is central to STTI's school clubs, and we draw our energy from this fantastic group of individuals. Our progress in Hyderabad, Delhi, Coimbatore and Pune has been wholly due to these committed sets of teams distributed across the country.

What does a Moderator do?

- Conduct sessions, with discussions and activities around essential topics (e.g.: gender, food, education etc) or those revolving around current issues.
- Organise operations: work with the school admin or teacher to schedule and organise sessions.
- Outputs: design and help students pursue projects to further their understanding of issues discussed.
- Community building: communicate about sessions, create teams for projects, select club leaders, get feedback on what's working, and suggestions on what to change.

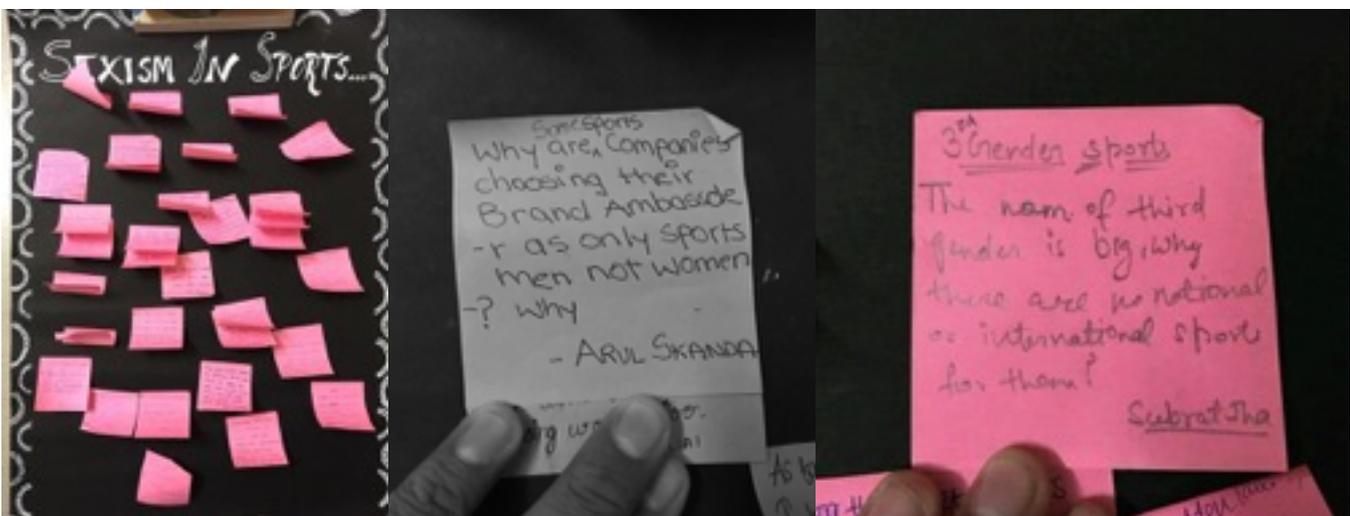
If you know someone who would enjoy this role, please find details to apply on this link: www.studentthinktankforindia.com/moderators



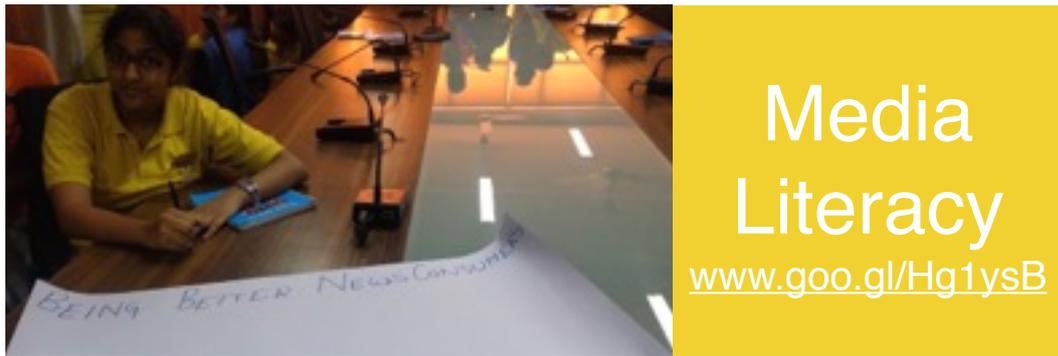
BAATCHEET BOARDS

Our goal is that every high school student in India should have learning experiences that promote critical thinking and civic engagement. Our Baatchheet sessions are one way of doing this, so we are creating a more compact programme called the Baatchheet Boards.

Students from any school in India sign up to form a Baatchheet club. We send them assembly scripts that have content on civic issues. We also send them a chart with a prompt or question that makes them critically think about the issue. Here are some very pertinent thoughts & questions from students of TVS Academy, Hosur on sexism in sports:



Similarly, some reflections of students from Delhi Public School, Gurgaon, on how to be better consumers of media (click on caption to see the video):



GUEST INTERACTIONS

In addition to the sessions with Moderators, STTI clubs have also included discussions with eminent personalities, and workshops with issue-specific organisations.



Parshathy Nath, Senior Editor at The Hindu Metroplus at Vivekalaya School, Coimbatore



Mathangi Swamination, Senior Associate at Waste Venture India at Delhi Public School, Hyderabad



TR Raghunandan, Former Joint Secretary at the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, in a Hangout with STTI
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AXm8Jc2QFkQ>

RECOGNITION

World Bank Global Youth Forum at Washington DC, June 12-15 2016



Aakash Pydi presenting our work at the GYPD Global Youth Forum at World Bank HQ in the presence of education ministers and eminent international NGOs

Shared Value Summit at Gurgaon, November 18, 2016



*As Ashoka Youth Venture alumni, sharing our ideas at the Shared Value Summit 2016.
Video link: <https://goo.gl/3XIBeh>*

Open House session covered in The Hindu Metroplus, Coimbatore



Batcheet with Students: An Opinion piece on Youth ki Awaaz (<https://goo.gl/Soax1Z>)



MOVING AHEAD

As we look ahead, we want to thank all our partnering schools and teachers who have been absolutely supportive and trusting of our ideas and our idealism;

All our mentors, who continue to ask hard questions and guide us in the right path;

The fantastic team of STTI, who make the commitment to contribute in ways big and small;

And finally to our students itself, who make STTI what it is.

STTI Core Team
1st January, 2016