

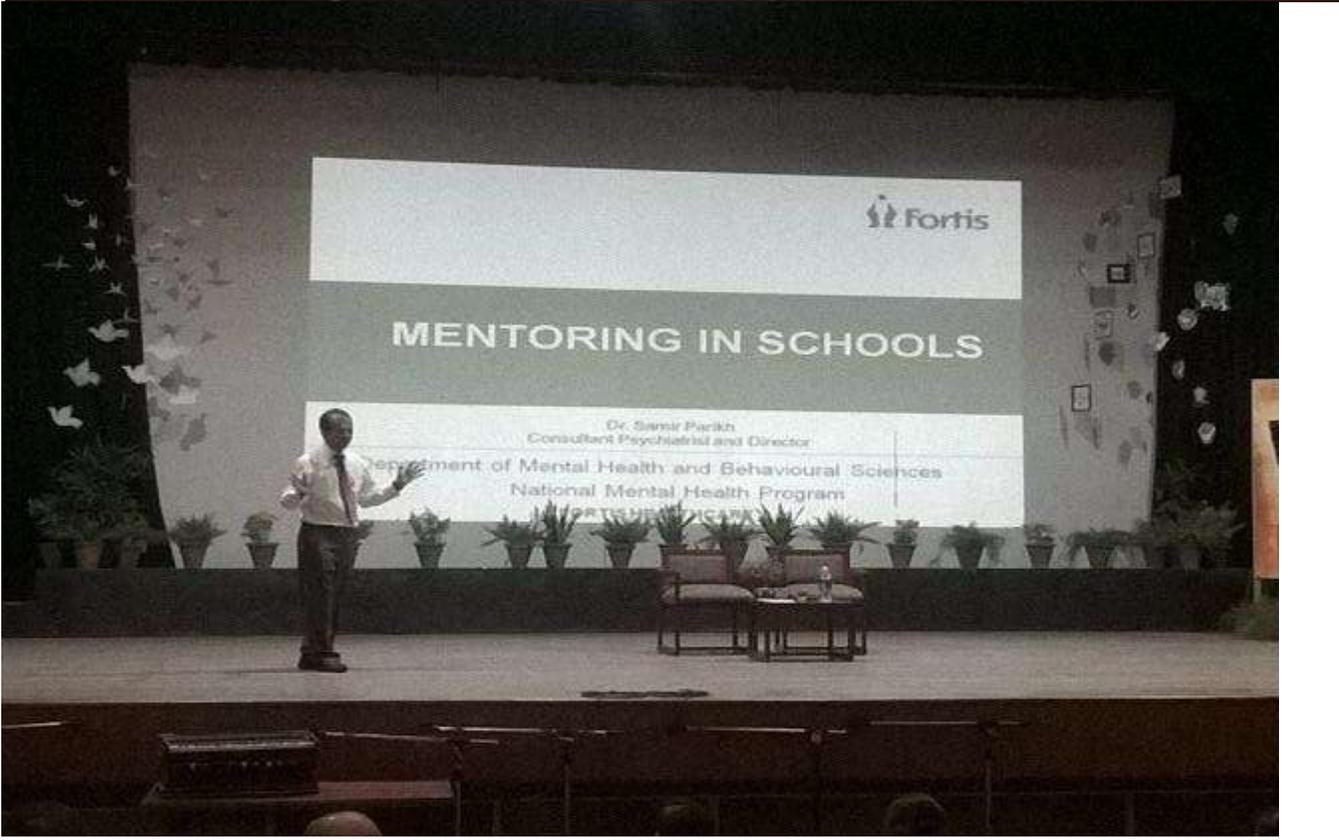
Workshop conducted by Dr Samir Parikh on 'Mentoring'

Dr Parikh is the Director and Senior Consultant in the Department of Mental Health and Behavioural sciences, National Health Program at Fortis Delhi. He took time out to address middle school and senior school teachers of Sanskriti on 7th May and speak about the role the teachers can play in mentoring students.

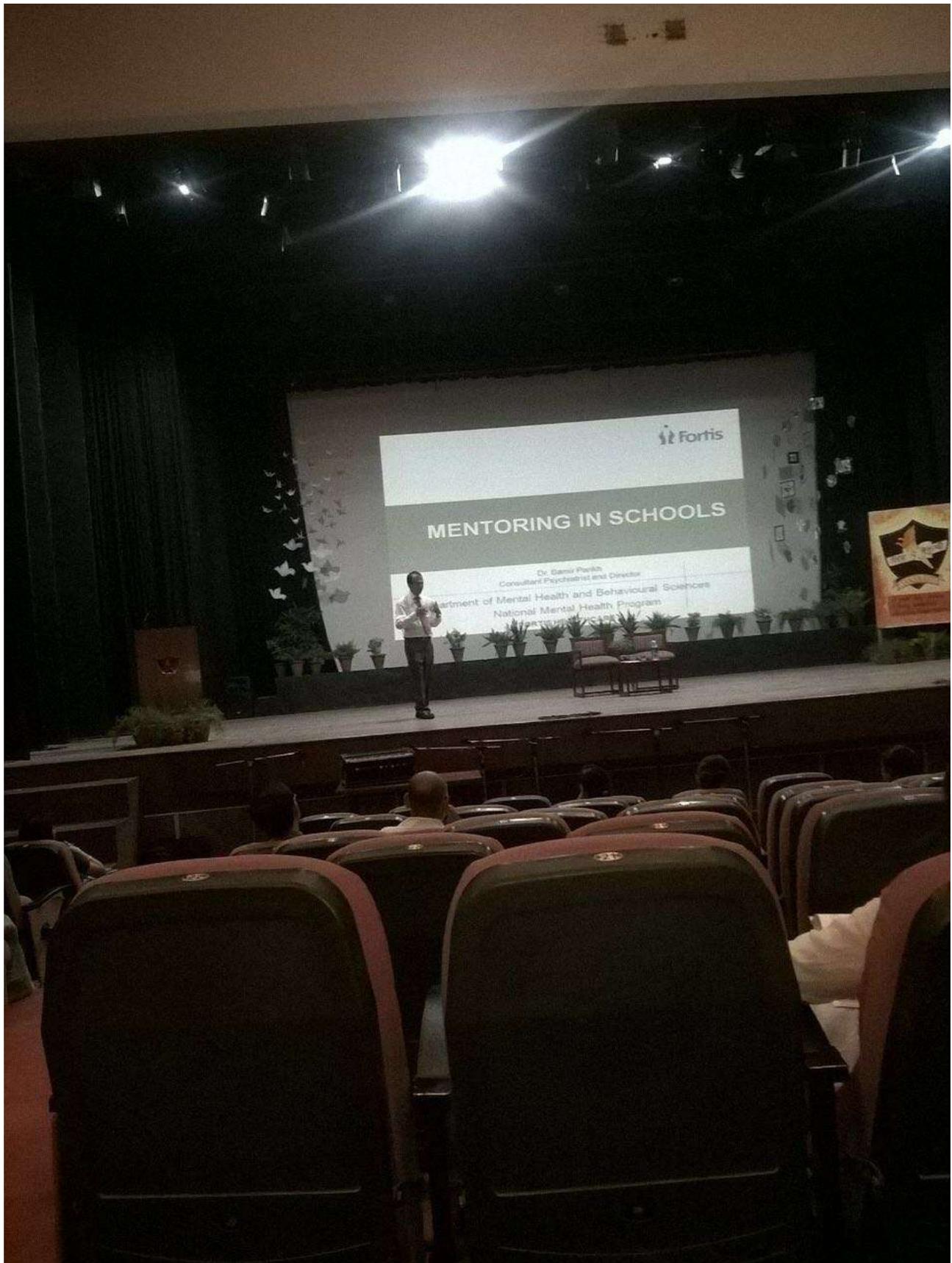
Dr Parikh, with his years of experience and tremendous ability of communication, highlighted the fact that the current trend of over emphasizing marks and percentages as an indication of success requires a hard relook. It has been established now that other than marks, the person's ability to communicate, relate, serve, empathize, motivate, support ,all play an important role in shaping his life and achievements. He also mentioned that rote learning and data cramming should give way to cognitive learning and application of the acquired knowledge.

He was quick to point out that the classroom is also a glimpse of the Society though not a fully representative one, and the time spent here shapes the individual in more ways than we can fathom. In such a situation proper mentoring of a child can play a huge role in his development. And teachers, he said are uniquely placed to discharge this function since, they are the only people who work for the child with complete selflessness. This is remarkable, though not appreciated as it should be, that the teachers work with a child for years, help him/ her become a unique person and never ever expect anything in return, not even a thank you. Such selfless service imparts a special meaning when the teachers take up the role of a mentor. They become more effective than parents, family, peers, experts and consultants. While Dr Parikh had some very important points to make, it was also felt that the way he explained them, full of wit and humour, endeared him to everyone present. People were unanimous that this was one of the best presentations they have had in recent times.









Fortis

MENTORING IN SCHOOLS

Dr. Sameer Parikh
Consultant Psychiatrist and Director
Department of Mental Health and Behavioural Sciences
National Mental Health Program
Mumbai, India

