

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

National Service Scheme is a community service programme sponsored by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. This scheme promotes national solidarity. It would be possible to awaken the villagers and slum dwellers to their responsibilities and develop the confidence, to tackle their common problems with energy, enthusiasm and in a co-operative spirit, based on mutual aid and self-reliance. The role of students is limited as activists, enablers, catalytic agents or liaison with wider communities and as programme aids.

Objectives of NSS

The Over-all objective of the National Service Scheme is Service to the community, while studying, in an educational institution, It is sought to arouse the social conscience of students and provide them with the opportunity to work with the people around the educational campuses creatively, and constructively, and to put the education they received to concrete social use.

The motto of NSS

The motto of the National Service Scheme is NOT ME BUT you. This expresses the essence of democratic living and upholds the need to appreciate the other man's point of view first and to show consideration for fellow human beings. It also underlines that the welfare of an individual is ultimately dependent on the welfare of society as a whole. Therefore the aim of the NSS is to demonstrate this motto in its day to day programme.

Code of conduct for NSS students

- 1 All volunteers should work under the guidance of a group leader nominated by the Programme Officer.
- 2 They should make themselves worthy of confidence and co-operation of the group/community leadership.
- 3 Since practice comes before precept, volunteers should in spite of confidence in local people and with their co-operation by themselves setting an example and thus smoothen the way for discussion and local acceptance of suggestions from the volunteers. Personal contact with the people is necessary for the success of any NSS programme.
- 4 Volunteers should scrupulously avoid entering into any discussion of controversial nature with the local people, particularly on caste, creed, community, religion and politics.
- 5 They should keep day to day record of their activities/experience in the enclosed pages of the diary and submit to the Programme Officer for periodic guidance.
- 6 It is obligatory on the part of the every volunteer to wear the NSS badge while on work.
- 7 The other two essential conditions are unstinted co-operation and strict maintenance of team spirit.
- 8 Simple, unostentatious dress is the sine qua non of a volunteer's life.
- 9 9. Disciplined, devoted hand & sincere work is expected from the volunteers.

Aims & Objectives

The more specific objectives of the National service Scheme are to arouse in the students social conscience and to provide him/her with opportunity.

- 1 To work with an among the people.
- 2 To enlarge in creative and constructive social action, and inculcate in them a sense of dignity of labour.
- 3 To engage his/her knowledge of himself/herself and the community through a confrontation with reality of social life.
- 4 To put his/her scholarship to practical use in mitigating at least some of the problems
- 5 To gain skill in the exercise of democratic leadership.
- 6 To gain skills in programme development to enable him/her for self-employment.
- 7 To bridge the gulf between the educated and the uneducated masses; and
- 8 To promote the will to serve the weaker section of the community

Terms of NSS

A Student enrolled in NSS is expected to put in at least 120 hours of social service in an academic year and shall be entitled to get a certificate from the University / College / institution on completion of 2 years term i.e., 240 hours.

Orientation

It is suggested that out of 120 hours of social service which each student is expected to put in during the academic year, at least 20 hours be used in the first year for orientation programme in the following manner:

General Orientation	2 hours
Specific	8 hours
Programme skill learning	10 hours
Total	20 hours

The orientation programme will have to be developed and organized by a team of teachers in collaboration with knowledgeable persons in the field i.e., local development authorities, voluntary organizations and social workers, etc.

Adoption of Village (s)/slum (s)

In order to ensure continuity of work vis-a-vis sustained action, re-evaluation and follow up-works, each NSS Unit may adopt village (s)/Slums(s). This could be done in consultation with the local development authorities. The area should, however, be within the easy reach of the students (5-8 Km from the University / College / Institution.)

(A) LAND REFORMS

- 1 Survey and evaluation of land reforms.
- 2 Assistance in preparation of village land records.
- 3 Identification of demarcation of Village common and forest lands.
- 4 Working with people explaining and teaching term about improved agricultural practices.
- 5 Allotment of houses or plots to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.
- 6 Soil testing, soil health care and soil conservation.
- 7 Work for the promotion and strengthening of co-operation societies in villages/slums.
- 8 Assistance and guidance in poultry farming, animal husbandry, care of animal health, etc.

(B) NON FORMAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION

- 1 Education survey.
- 2 Adult education.
- 3 Pre-school education programmes.
- 4 Programmes for the education of school dropouts.
- 5 Construction of in expensive school buildings including balwadis and adult education centres.
- 6 School feeding programmes, school libraries and book banks.
- 7 Participatory cultural and recreational programmes for the community including use of media for instruction and recreation programmes of singing, dancing, etc.
- 8 Organization of youth clubs, rural and indigenous sports.
- 9 Programming including discussions and propagation on eradication of social evils like casteism, communalism, corruption, adulteration, hoarding , profiteering ,untouchability drug-addiction(including educational work on prohibition) etc.

(C) BETTER ENVIRONMENT

- 1 Planning for better environment.
- 2 Disposal of garbages, composting, sanitation work etc.
- 3 Construction of roads, village streets, drains, etc. so as to keep the environments clean.
- 4 Provision of drinking water supply.
- 5 Construction of sanitary latrines, urinals, etc
- 6 Cleaning of village ponds and wells.
- 7 Rodent control and pest management.
- 8 Popularization and setting up of gobar gas plant.
- 9 Construction of houses for homeless people in low cost.
- 10 Hospital service, nursing and cleaning of hospitals etc.
- 11 Preservation and up keep of monuments and creating consciousness about the preservation of cultural heritage among the community.

(D) AFFORESTATION AND TREE PLANTATION

- 1 Prevention of soil erosion and work for soil conservation.
- 2 Plantation of trees their preservation and upkeep.
- 3 Creating of Grow More Trees consciousness among the community.
- 4 Weed control
- 5 Establishment and nurturing of nurseries and gardents.

(E) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 1 Work with co-operative societies in villages to streamline their functioning.
- 2 Assistance to the co-operative societies and processing those proposals for bank.
- 3 Soil testing and soil health care loans.
- 4 Assistance in the repair of agricultural machinery, starting of small-scale industries and cottage industries.
- 5 Organization of co-operative store and banks in villages. Small saving drive.
- 6 Sticking, dress-making, embroidery and needle work. Food preservation for ladies.
- 7 Work in welare organizations of women.
- 8 Comprehensive programmes of educating women and making them aware of their rights both constitutional and legal.
- 9 Creating consciousness among women that they too contribute to economic and social well-being of the community.
- 10 Creating awareness among women that there is no occupation or vocation which is to open to them provided they acquire the requisite skills.

(F) FAMILY AND CHILD CARE

- 1 Programme of mass-immunization.
- 2 Working with people in nutrition programmes.
- 3 Provision of safe and clean drinking water supply.
- 4 Integrated child development programmes.
- 5 Health education and preliminary healthcare work including medico-social surveys, detecting cases of malaria and bringing medical aid to the suffering, etc. and blood donation.
- 6 Work in hospitals e.g. serving as ward visitors to cheer up the patients, help the patients to be more comfortable, recreation programmes for the patients, providing occupational or hobby activities for long term patients, outdoor-patients-guidance-service including guiding visitors in hospital procedures, letter- writing and reading in patients, follow up help to patients discharged from hospitals through visits to their homes and places of wok, assistance in running of dispensaries, etc.
- 7 Work in the organization of child welfare.
- 8 Work in institutions for the physically handicapped and the mentally retarded.
- 9 Work in Cheshire houses, orphanages, houses for the aged, etc.

(G) OTHER PROGRAMMES

- 1 Construction of schools and community centers, compound walls etc.
- 2 Construction of minor irrigation projects.
- 3 Digging of tanks, ponds and wells etc.
- 4 Organization of cottage industries, craft centers, fisheries, daily farming, etc.
- 5 Social service during festivals and meals.
- 6 First-aid and fire-fighting, cattle care.
- 7 Programmes for work during emergencies.

Assisting the authorities distributing of rations, medicines, clothes, etc.

Assistance to the health authorities in inoculation and immunization, supply of medicines, etc..

Work with the local people in reconstruction of their huts, cleaning of wells, buildings and roads etc.

Assistance to and working with local authorities in actual relief and rescue work.

Collection of donations, clothes and other materials and sending the same to the affected areas.

This is only an illustrative list of the type of activities that can be undertaken, under the programme, it would be open to each N.S.S. Unit to undertake one or more of these programmes or any other activity which may see desirable to them according which may be desirable to them according to local needs and resources. The N.S.S. unit should aim at the integrated development of the area selected for their operation, which could be a village or an urban slum. It has also to be ensured that at least a part of the programme does involve manual work by the volunteers. These programmes may be taken in the camps also;

(a) Educational goals are

- 1 To give students a sense of participation in national development.
- 2 To promote students concern of fellow citizens and understanding of conditions in which majority of the citizens are living.
- 3 To narrow down the gaps between rural and urban people, the rich, middle and lower classes in the student community.
- 4 To put students in situations in which their knowledge of subjects learnt through books and teaching aids in class rooms, could be depended.
- 5 To help students discover themselves and facilitate selection if careers and settings for future work according to their aptitude.
- 6 To provide work experience as might be helpful to students in finding avenues of employment.
- 7 To be a leader of the society and social worker.
- 8 To provide experience in group with a view to promote in better realization of importance of team work.
- 9 To create conditions in which students will work together constructively learn to be tolerant and to function as a team.
- 10 To help students to have healthier and richer experiences.

(b) Service goals are

- 1 Survey and evaluation of land reforms.
- 2 To undertaken and execute programmes to meet community needs.
- 3 To establish and maintain supplementary services to meet community needs.
- 4 To develop programmes of welfare significance.
- 5 To build infrastructure for economic and social development.
- 6 To promote productivity in fields and factories through significant supplementary work.
- 7 To strengthen social solidarity, national integration etc.