

Brief History Of NSS

Ever since independence there has been growing awareness of the desirability of involving students in national service. The First Education Commission (1950) recommended the introduction of national service by students on a voluntary basis. Subsequently on the basis of suggestion made by the then Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, a committee was appointed under the chairmanship of Dr. C D Deshmukh to prepare a scheme for compulsory national service by students prior to their admission for degree courses. Prof. K. G Saiyidain who undertook a study of national service by youth in several countries, recommended that national service may be introduced on voluntary basis. A similar recommendation was made by the Education Commission appointed under the chairmanship of Dr. D. S. Kothari.

In April, 1967, the conference of state Education Ministers recommended that at the University stage, students could be permitted to join the National Cadet Corps which was already in existence on a voluntary basis and an alternative to this could be offered to them in the form of a new programme called National Service Scheme(NSS). Promising sportsmen, however, should be exempted from both and allowed to join another scheme called the National Sports Organisation (NSO), in view of the need to give priority to the development of sports and athletics.

The conference of Vice-Chancellors in September 1967 welcomed this recommendation and suggested that a special committee of Vice-Chancellors should be set up to examine this question in detail. The details were soon worked out and the planning Commission sanctioned an outlay of Rs. 5 Crore for developing the NSS during the 4th Five Year Plan as a pilot project in selected institutions and universities. In pursuance of these recommendations, the ministry of Education introduced the National Service Scheme during 1969-70. The choice of the timing of its introduction was remarkably auspicious as 1969 was the birth centenary year of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of nation to whom social service was almost a religion.

Logo of NSS



The NSS Symbol is emposed on NSS Badge. NSS volunteers wear it while undertaking various community programmes of community service. There are 24 wheels in the "Rath" of Sun Temple of Konark which portary the cycle of creation, preservation and release and signify the movement in life across time and space. The wheel signifies the progressive cycle of life. It stands for continuity as well as change and implies on the part of the NSS for continuous striving forward for social transformation and upliftment. Each wheel has eight bars, which represents eight pahars of a day. Hence the badge reminds the wearer to be in readiness for service of the nation round the clock, i.e. 24 hours or 8 pahars. The red colour in the badge indicates that the NSS volunteers are full of blood, i.e. lively active and spirited. The NAVY BLUE colour indicates the cosmos of which the NSS is a tiny part ready to contribute its share for the welfare of the mankind.

Motto of NSS

The motto or watchword of the National Service Scheme is 'NOT ME BUT YOU', this express the essence of democratic living and upholds the need for selfless service and appreciation of the other man's point of view and also to show consideration for fellow human beings.

It underlines that the welfare of an individual is ultimately dependent on the welfare of society as a whole. Therefore it should be the aim of the NSS to demonstrate this motto in its day-to-day programme

Ministry of youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India
(Secretary, Joint Secretary)



Programme Adviser's Cell (Programme Adviser)



NSS Regional Centre
Assistant Programme
Adviser/Youth Officer

State Government
Dept. of Higher Education
(Principal Secretary)

ETI for NSS
(Training Wing headed
by Co-ordinator)



NSS State Liaison Cell
Headed by State Liaison Officer



University/ Directorate
(Programme Co-ordinators)



Affiliated Colleges/Institutions
(Principals)



Programme Officers

Chronology of NSS origin

1. Radhakrishnan Commission on Higher Education 1948
2. Central Advisory Board of Education 1950
3. The draft First Five Year Plan 1952
4. The University Grants Commission headed by Dr.Radhakrishnan 1956
5. Education Ministers' conference 1959
6. Dr. C. D. Deshmuk commission 1959
7. Prof. K. G. Saiyidian commission 1960 (National Service for the Youth)
8. The Education Commission headed by Dr. D. S. Kothari 1964-66
9. State Education Ministers' Conference in April 1967
10. The Vice Chancellors' conference 1967
11. Meeting of Student representatives 1969 May
12. Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao launched the NSS Programme on September 24, 1969
13. Regional Seminars;
 1. 16-19th Jan 1970 (Delhi School of Social Work)
 2. 15-17th Feb 1970 (Tata Institute of Social Sciences)
 3. 06-08th March 1970(IIT Kharagpur)

Duties of NSS volunteer

1. To understand the community in which NSS volunteers work.
2. To understand themselves in relation to their community.
3. To identify the needs and problems of the community and involve them in problem solving process.
4. To develop among themselves a sense of social and civic responsibility.
5. To utilize their knowledge in finding practical solution to individual and community problems.
6. To develop competence required for group living and sharing of responsibilities.
7. To gain skills in mobilizing community participation.
8. To acquire leadership qualities and democratic attitude.
9. To develop capacity to meet emergencies and natural disasters.
10. To practice national integration and social harmony.

Code of conduct

1. All volunteers shall work under the guidance of a group leader nominated by the programme officer.
2. They shall make themselves worthy of the confidence and cooperation of group/community leadership.
3. They shall scrupulously avoid entering into any controversial issues.
4. They shall keep day to day record of their activities /experience in the enclosing pages of the diary and submit to the Group Leader/ Programme Officer for periodic guidance.
5. It is obligatory on the part of every volunteer to wear the NSS BADGE while on work.

Enrollment of New Volunteers

1. This enrollment only for screening process
2. Carefully fill the application form
3. All fields are Mandatory
4. For all doubts contact Programm Officers and Volunteer Secretaries