NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

NAR BAHADUR BHANDARI GOVERNMENT COLLEGE TADONG, GANGTOK

NSS with the idea of involving students in the task of national service which dates back to the times of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation with the central theme that they should always keep before them, their social responsibility which he tried to impress upon his student audience time and again is still relevant and alive. The first duty of the students should be, not to treat their period of study as one of the opportunities for indulgence in intellectual luxury, but for preparing themselves for final dedication in the service of those who provided the sinews of the nation with the national goods and services essential to society. Advising them to form a living contact with the community in whose midst their institution is located, he suggested that instead of undertaking academic research about economic and social disability, the students should do "something positive so that the life of the villagers might be raised to a higher material and moral level".

With the motto "Not Me But You" NSS is a part of our College involving students in as many activities as possible to fulfill the aims and objectives of NSS.

The main objectives of National Service Scheme (NSS) are:

- i. to understand the community in which they work
- ii. to understand themselves in relation to their community
- iii. to identify the needs and problems of the community and involve them in problem-solving
- iv. to develop among themselves a sense of social and civic responsibility
- v. to utilize their knowledge in finding practical solutions to individual and community problems
- vi. to develop competence required for group-living and sharing of responsibilities
- vii. to gain skills in mobilizing community participation
- viii. to acquire leadership qualities and democratic attitudes
- ix. to develop capacity to meet emergencies and natural disasters and
- x. to practice national integration and social harmony

Since the introduction of NSS in the College we have three Units consisting of 100 volunteers in each Unit. The volunteers actively participate in all the activities enthusiastically and dedication ranging from cleanliness to participation in various competition and social services. Some of the remarkable activities organized or participated by NSS which saw a huge number of students participation are:

i. Youth Parliament (District, State and National Level)

- ii. Swatchhta Pakhwada Programme
- iii. NSS Organic Vegetable Farming
- iv. Cleanliness Drive Programmes: Swatch Sikkim, Swatch Bharat
- v. Plantation Drives
- vi. NSS Special Camps (Village Adoption)
- vii. Blood Donation Camps
- viii. Workshop on 'Zero Waste & Role of Youth Volunteers for its Management'
- ix. Sensitization on 'Zero Waste Management Programme'
- x. Workshop on 'Orientation on Health & Hygiene'
- xi. Participation in 'International Student Exchange Programme'
- xii. Participation in 'State Disaster Risk Reduction Day'
- xiii. Participation in 'Special State Level Inter Institutional Committee'
- xiv. Participation in 'Special Lecture on Disaster Risk Reduction'

Besides these programmes NSS volunteers are always active volunteers in any programmes organized by the College. The cardinal principle of NSS programmes is that it is organised by the students themselves and both students and teachers through their combined participation in social services get a sense of involvement in the tasks of national development. Besides, the students particularly, obtain work experience which helps them to find avenues of self-employment or employment in any organisation at the end of their university career. Students, teachers, guardians, persons in authority in government, universities and colleges/schools and the people in general now realize the need and significance of NSS. It has aroused among the student youth an awareness of the realities of life, a better understanding and appreciation of the problems of the people.

NSS is thus a concrete attempt in making campus relevant to the needs of the community. Community service rendered by students has covered several aspects like adoption of villages & Urban slums for intensive development work, carrying out the medico-social surveys, setting up of medical centres, programmes of mass immunization, sanitation drives, adult education programmes for the weaker sections of the community, blood donation, helping patients in hospitals, helping inmates of orphanages and the physically handicapped etc. The NSS students have also done useful work in organizing campaigns for eradication of social evils, and popularization of the nationally accepted objectives like nationalism, democracy, secularism, social harmony and development of scientific temper.