

## **CHAPTER – 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

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## **1.1 Introduction:**

The National Service Scheme, popularly known as the NSS, is a major activity intended to engage the volunteers of colleges and universities in community services on a voluntary basis. It was launched in 1969 on the birth centenary of Mahatma Gandhi, who conceived the idea of involving youth in constructive service [1].

National Service Scheme is one of the schemes in the educational programmes which develop the person fully responsible citizen. Volunteers are involved in the scheme gather under one roof with the same goals and objectives [2.]Initially the scheme was started with objective to converting the energies of the youth into the rural development. However the experience revealed that this scheme also motivates the students for their personality development [3].The NSS experience sensitizes the teacher and the students to social reality [4]. The young people are the most effective agents for the social change they play an important role in the development of the country. National Service Scheme is given an opportunity to the youth to participate in the development of the nation [5]. The Association between the NSS and the social work is helps to effective development of the society. NSS serves as a fulcrum by linking the higher education to social perspective [6].

The Indian student community is without direction and the ideology and it requires credible youth moment [7].NSS is useful for to create the sense about the social development in the student youth [8].It also fulfils the criteria that education and training are the key to youth development[9].

The Scheme is implemented through variety of activities that require the student understands of the community and their

involvement in the development. The objective of the NSS is that student enables to understand the needs of the community and the nature of the social consciousness. The volunteers are provided the opportunities to develop their leadership qualities, skills, and awareness about national integration [10].

The general trend points to disinvestment or downsizing of public expenditure in crucial sector and a gradual decrease of social safety nets to avoid this drawback NSS was one of useful scheme in India. NSS is committed for the self development of the students, people's participation in it and the collective organization collaborate with the scheme [11].

The human right is the very important aspect in the educational system by promoting harmonious relations, peace and understanding. NSS adopted the all strategies and approach suggested in the manual on the women's development and gender justice in 1994 [12]. The NSS is the important activity for creating the process of the gender sensitization in the community. NSS is also calls for a collective, interactive and the evolutionary approach in regard to gender issues & social justice [13]. The character of the scheme, with high aim of high social returns in the form of human resource development, is participatory [14].

Fieldwork has always been the core components of the social work education [15]. NSS is facilities the professionalization and internalization of professional skills [16]. NSS is given opportunities to the students for the social work in the adopted villages through the community service and promote them capacity building in the individuals, groups & the community in the adopted villages or rural areas [17].

The university extension services like National service Scheme is encouraging the innovations in the agricultural and creating the awareness about the Health, Population, Environment, Education, Social & the Natural resources[18].

NSS is the one of the social service in India used to impart the good values to the students. NSS is helped to impart the values like caring, understanding, warmth, kindness, friendliness, cleanliness, soft speech, courteousness, forgiveness, respectfulness etc. It is the group activity which helps the student to impart co-operation, tolerance, teamwork, imagination, creativity, responsibilities and leadership. NSS is a tool to reign in several negative & harmful tendencies among the students & spread positive values and attitudes [19]. The extension activities are mainly carried out through NSS & these activities are created a social awareness about the environment, health and the natural resources in the community [20]. It is an ideal value based programme for the youth. It is helped to reducing the distance between the academic institutions and communities. It is helps the students to become mentally and physically more active so that they can become a responsible citizen in the country and society which helps for the nation [21].

NSS is organizing activities based on moral and social education like involvement of students in community life through NSS special camp and other activities [22]. National Service Scheme is helped for initiated and contributed to achieve the vision of Mahatma Gandhi for transferring the village as an ideal village [23]. NSS is establish a meaningful linkage between the campus and the community. It includes the spirit of voluntary work among the students and teachers through sustained community interaction. NSS

is a good medium to develop personality among the college students [24].

Youth represent most vibrant section of our society. They play a pivotal role in Socio-economic changes and development of the society. A nation can progress well only when the energies of the youth are channelized properly for the Nation building. It is impressive that youth play a major role in the National development [25].

In India the youth form nearly one third of the total population. Youth is a period of transformation when immaturity is replaced by maturity. Therefore it is essential to give proper recognition to their achievements in various activities & further opportunities for innovative ideas. Freedom should be given to them for self expression, comradeship, community life and national service so that they can contribute well with full involvement [26].

Mahatma Gandhi believed that instead of undertaking academic research about economic and social disability the student do “Something positive that the life of villagers might be raised to higher material and moral level”. Ever since community development has been prime objective of NSS. NSS through it student volunteers aims to identify the needs and problems of the community and involve themselves in the problem solving process. The NSS regular activities and the special camps are mainly designed to serve this objective. As a part of NSS regular activities which spans over a year, youth adopt a particular area (village or slum) in the vicinity of their institute and undertake various development activities [27].

## 1.2 National Service Scheme :

### The Motto

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

### NSS Symbol



**Figure 1.1: NSS Symbol**

The symbol of the National Service Scheme is based on the ‘Rath’ wheel of the Konark Sun Temple situated in Orissa. These giant wheels of the Sun Temple represent the cycle of creation, preservation, release, and signify the movement in life across time and space. Similarly NSS symbol which is a wheel with eight spokes. These spokes are represents 24 hours which means that the NSS organization and the volunteers are ready for service for all the 24 hours, round the clock. The NSS symbol is used everywhere, in all NSS activities. It also appears on the badge which the NSS volunteers are used in the NSS activities or Programmes [28].

## **NSS Day**

NSS was officially launched on 24<sup>th</sup> September 1969, on the birth centenary year of the Father of the Nation. Therefore, 24<sup>th</sup> September is celebrated every year as NSS Day with organizing various activities [28].

## **NSS Song**

During Silver Jubilee Year the NSS theme song has been composed. All NSS volunteers are expected to learn the theme along and sing the song during NSS programmes and celebrations. The theme song cassette is available [28].

### **1.2.1 Objectives of NSS**

The overall aim of National Service Scheme as envisaged earlier, is to give an extension dimension to the higher education system and orient the student youth to community service while they are studying in educational institution. The reason for the formulation of this objective is the general realization that the college and +2 level students have a tendency to get alienated from the village/slum masses which constitute the majority of the population of the country.

The educated youth should be the main part of the administration in future & they are found to be unaware of the problems of the village/slum community. So for the development of the society it is need to create the awareness about the issues of community in the youth through the NSS.

Also the objective of NSS is that create the social conscience in the students, and to provide them an opportunity to work with the people in the villages and slums. It is felt that their interaction with

the common villagers or community persons will expose them to the realities of life and bring about a change in their social perception.

### **1.2.2 Specific Objectives:**

The specific objectives of NSS were arousing the student's social conscience and to provide with an opportunity to work with community. Some objectives of the NSS about the student's development are given below.

- To understand the community in which students are work.
- To understand themselves in relation to their community;
- To identify the needs and problems of the community and involve youth in problem solving process.
- To develop among themselves a sense of social and civic responsibility
- Utilize knowledge of youth in finding practical solution to individual and Community problems
- To develop competence required for group living and sharing of responsibilities
- Gain skills in mobilizing community participation
- Acquire leadership qualities and democratic attitude
- To develop capacity to meet emergencies and natural disasters
- Practice national integration and social harmony.

### **1.3 Background & History of NSS**

Mahatma Gandhi tried for the best utilization of the youth for the social development, rural reconstruction and the nation's progress. He thought that students should be conscious of their social responsibilities. Every student of the country should be aware of how to develop the social, moral and cultural life of economically backward people of rural area. After the attainment of independence



this concept changed and material wealth and physical power got more importance than moral values.

After Independence, Government appointed Education Commission under the Chairmanship Dr. Radhakrishnan to change educational system of the British time. This committee suggested that introduce the NSS in the academic institutions on the voluntary basis with a view to develop healthy relation between the students and the teachers & establish the constructive linkage between the student, teachers & community. NSS will be useful to develop relation between volunteer and teacher through interacting work of society and universities[29].

In 1952 government of India adopted the five year plan. The objective of the plan was involving the students in the social development through social & labor service. This plan stressed on the need for the social & labor service for the students. First five year plan indicated the need of social & labor service for the youth to build up the disciplined citizens. This plan suggested that initially this scheme introduced on the voluntary basis. So various educational institutions were follows the suggestions made on the first five year plan. They organize the number of schemes such as labor & social service camps for the youth which helps for the reconstruction of country & the rural development [30].

In 1958 India's Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru suggested to involve youth of degree colleges in the community, social services & engage them in certain social services so that they are useful in the nation development process.

In 1959 a committee was formed under the Chairmanship of Dr. C.D. Deshmukh. This committee suggested that national service should be provide more lively awareness among the educated youth of purposes & the process of the Nation's reconstruction efforts specially in rural areas & create awareness among them about the social service. One of the recommendations of this committee was that student render one year compulsory in national service before they entered in university. Admission should be given in the degree level if the youth satisfy the condition of the completion of one year of social service or student was must completed the one year in social service before award the degree [31].

In 1966 Dr. D.S.Kothari Commission had recommended that students all stages of education should be associated with some form of social service. All university stages students were from all educational branches to interlink with social work for the community development. This suggestion taken account by the state Education Minister during the conference in April 1967 and the recommended that students could permitted to join in NCC and alternative to this could offered a new programme called as National Service Scheme(NSS).It was suggested that every student choose either the N.S.S. or NCC in his college life.

The Education Commission (1964-66) recommended that give an opportunity for the youth to participate in variety of programmes which are related to social services, be made available to the NSS students.NSS would also helps them for understanding of the complexities of social environment around them. This proposal of involving the students in the nation-building programme was

accepted by the State Education Ministers in the Ministers in the Conference in April 1967.

The Conference of Vice-Chancellors in September 1967 accepted these recommendations about the National service and suggested that form a special committee of VC's for study on the proposal. Professor K.G.Saiyidain, former educational adviser to the government of India was one of the members of this committee [32].

In 1960 Dr.K.G.Saiyidain deputed by the Government of India for the special assignment to study the youth development and youth service in the other countries and examine the facts of national service. Also to examine what light their experience could throw on the Indian scheme of national service for the youth. He was visited a number of European countries for the study of youth services run by them. Professor Saiyidain came to the conclusion that this scheme was must be as a part of the effort to achieve the wider objective of bringing education into closer and more vital relationship with community life. In most countries there was a gap between education and social change. Also there was a gap between educational content and methods, the demands and urges of national life. In India at the time of British regime there was a gap between education and life, which had for long been a feature of our system. Therefore, educationists had been concerned, during the last couple of decades, about the need to bridge this gap. National service implement in the schools & colleges in smoothly manner which did not create tension among the young college students.

As noted above, Prof K.G.Saiyidain studied the national service by the students implemented in the several countries of the world and submitted his report under the tile “ National Service for the

Youth” to government of India with some number of recommendations.

Professor Saiyidain's conclusions and recommendations, which formed the basis for the formulation of the NSS, were as follows:

- The idea of introducing NSS in India has a high educational justification & it was valuable for the youth & society.
- It is not necessary to introduce the NSS on a compulsory for the students and universal basis. It should be adopted by the student on a voluntary basis.
- If the idea of compulsion is contemplated, then the approach should be to make all youth liable to such a service.
- The NSS Camps should be open to academic students as well as non-academic students.
- The National service scheme should be started innovative manner so that the community person & students are aware the social issues.
- NSS would be useful to create a certain sense in the minds of youth about village community.
- The educationists are involved and control the direction of the policy and programmes.
- The work camp programmes should make truly educative and appealing to youth.
- There should be no restriction on the camps which could be adapted to differing needs.
- The selection of the right kind of projects is important to the success of the scheme.

With considering all these recommendations suggested by the Professor Saiyidain the Education Minister of India Dr. V. K. Rao was

introduced the scheme on 24th September 1969 on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi Birth Centenary initially in 37 universities [33].

## **1.4 Administrative Structure of NSS**

### **1.4.1 National Level**

The organizational structure of NSS is consisting five levels like National Level, Regional Level, State Level, University Level and College Level.

In the Ministry of Human resources Development, the department of Youth Affairs and Sports, New Delhi is the Nodal department for NSS. The administrative responsibility has been given to this department for making the policies, planning, implementation & evaluation of NSS. The Administration & Implementation of the NSS is take care under the Joint Secretary.

### **1.4.2 Regional Level**

There are 15 Regional Centers in various regions of the country. Each regional centre is working under the Deputy Programme Advisor. The role of regional centre is that to maintain the liaison with the State Government, Universities, TORC (Training and Orientation Centre), and Orientation & Research Centers for effective implementation of NSS programme. TORC and TOC are established throughout India to provide orientation of NSS PO's and other functionaries.

### **1.4.3 State level**

At State Level, there is a State NSS Cell worked under the State Liaison Officer (SLO). State level NSS cell is established at capital of the state. The NSS cell at state level is set up in the State Secretariat of Higher Education. The role of SLO is to coordinate with the universities of a State. The State level NSS cell is monitoring the

programme and coordinating with other development organizations. This cell is also releases the grants about NSS and allocates the NSS strength to respective universities in the state.

TORC and TOC centers are provide orientation, training, consultation, research, evaluation and publication to NSS in Maharashtra. There are two such centers TORC in Maharashtra Tata Institute of Social Science, Mumbai and Centre for Studies in Rural Development, Ahmednagar.

#### **1.4.4 University Level:**

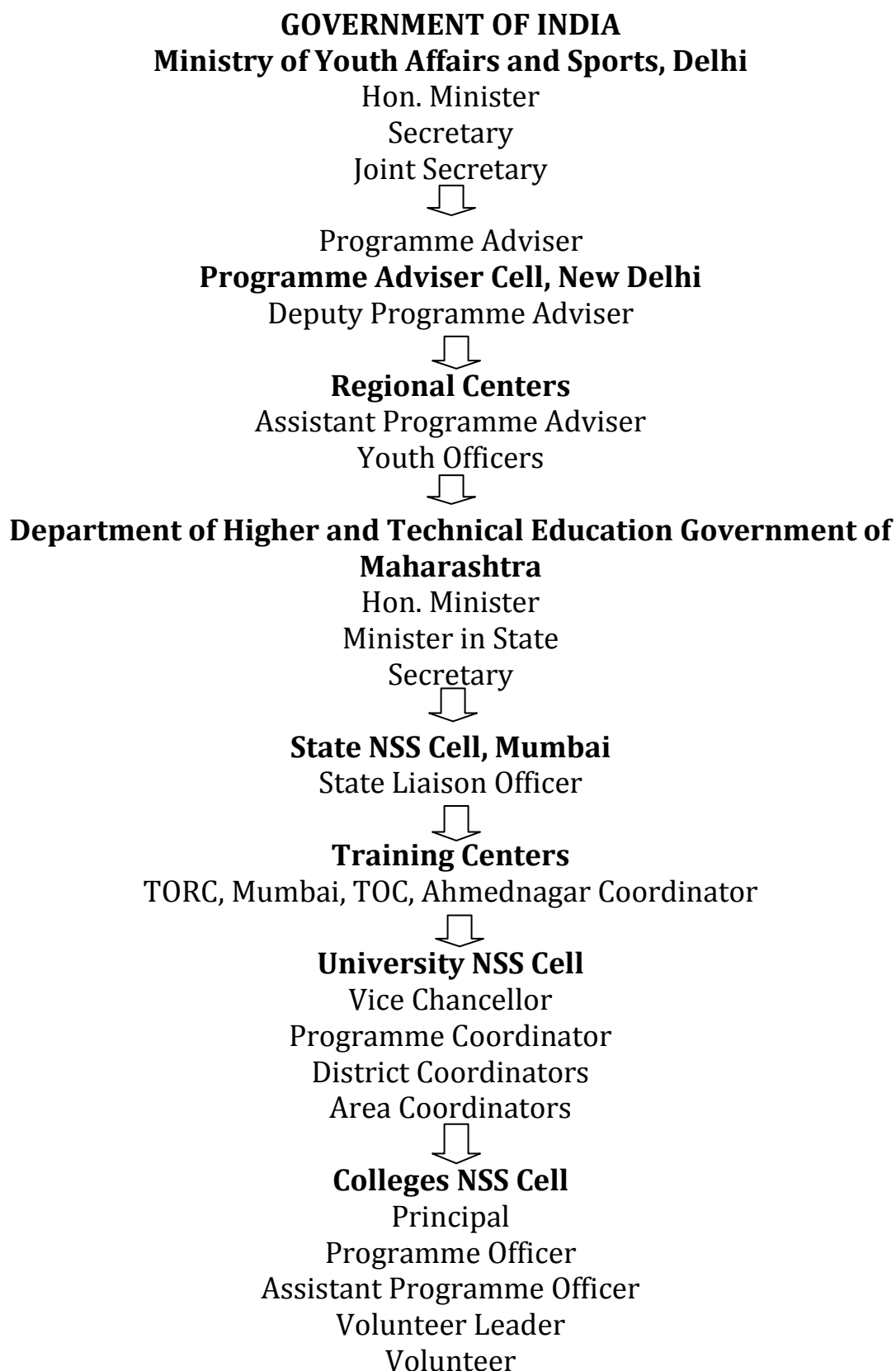
Every University has a NSS cell to monitor, supervise and coordinate NSS programmes implemented by the colleges under the university area. This cell is working under the higher authority Honorable Vice-Chancellor. The Programme coordinator is the in-charge of the NSS cell at the university level.

The role of the programme coordinator is that executes all administrative and policy directives of the government as well as State and university advisory committee. Programme coordinators are assist, guide & help to implement the NSS regular activities, camping programmes and various activities at the different college level as well as the university level.

#### **1.4.5 College Level**

At the college level an advisory committee constituted under the Chairmanship of the college principal. The Programme Officer has responsibility about the NSS programmes at the college level. The roles of the PO's are to help the student volunteers in the planning & implementing the various NSS activities & innovative programmes. He has to coordinate the various internal & external sources available while implementing the programmes.

## **Administrative Structure of NSS Functionaries:**



## **1.5 National Service Scheme (NSS) activities**

The aim of National service scheme is that involving academic community in social service activities and personality development of students through community service.

The activities of National Service Scheme are broadly classified in to the two categories like regular activities & special camping activities or programme.

### **1.5.1 Regular activity:**

Under Regular activities, students are expected to work as NSS volunteers for consecutive two years; he will devote 120 hours per year. The regular activities include constructive work in adopted villages and slums, blood donation, adult and non-formal education, health, nutrition, family welfare, AIDS awareness campaigns, tree plantation and improvement of campuses etc.

The 120 hours spend by the volunteers in the NSS regular activities are classified in the following way.

- Orientation - 20 hrs.
- Shramdan (Tree Plantation, Constructive work etc) - 40 hrs.
- Environment Awareness - 20 hrs.
- Health Programme - 20 hrs
- Drive against Social Evils - 20 hrs.

In this period, NSS volunteers have to work in their adopted villages or slums so that they can understand the problems or issues of the community which helps for development of the society.

The NSS regular activities in which the volunteers participate in the entire sample are as follows:

- Disaster Management program
- Blood Donation Camps



- International youth Day, Teachers Day (Maharashtra)
- Ganapati Immersion
- Celebration of NSS Day
- International Non Violence Day
- Celebration of Gandhi Jayanti
- World AIDS Day
- State Republic Day
- Pulse Polio Drive
- Leadership Camp Training
- Tree Plantation Drives
- Awareness through Street play
- National youth festival
- Women Empowerment
- National Integration
- Cleanliness campaigning
- Rain Water Harvesting
- Indradhanush
- Youth Exchange Program
- Niramal Gram Sawachhta Abhiyan management
- Youth for Disaster
- Water Literacy
- Health & hygiene
- Youth For Cleanliness/Total Sanitation
- Education & Recreation
- HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign
- Red Ribbon Club
- Nutrition and Awareness of Various Diseases
- Environment Enrichment & conservation campaign
- Gender justice & Women Empowerment
- National Integration & Communal Harmony
- Nutrition and Awareness of Various Diseases
- Children's Day- Health camp

### **1.5.2 Special Camping Programme**

Under Special Camping programme, an eight days camp is conducted every year in the adopted villages/adopted area on specific themes. Every college participating in NSS is expected to hold a Youth for Rural Reconstruction Camp.

The main objectives of NSS are to identify the requirements of the community and to encourage the youth to satisfy these requirements and to prepare the volunteers for their future role as sensitized, but self confident community persons.

NSS Volunteers are always ready to accept the challenges for solving the community problems. The NSS channelized its volunteer force to make all possible support to help the affected people in Maharashtra.

As per the instruction given by Programme Adviser and State Liaison Officer fifty percent of total Volunteers enrolled should participate in the camp every year. NSS volunteers worked in adopted village and carried out a lot of constructively developmental work like tree plantation, Road repairing, Toilets and pits for waste materials, health awareness programmes like immunization of pulse polio, Awareness about AIDS etc.

Special Camping forms an integral part of the National Service scheme. Special camping programmes are benefitted to the youth because it provides unique opportunities to the students for group-living, collective experience sharing and constant interaction with the community.

#### **1.6 Role of College Principal, NSS PO, NSS Volunteers.**

Principal of college, Programme Officer of NSS (PO) and the Volunteers are playing important role. The role of each of the above is significant. So it is necessary to take a look on the role and duties of College Principal, NSS Po and the Volunteers in National Service Scheme (NSS). The researcher has in this section discussed in detail the role of the college Principal, NSS Po and the NASS Volunteers.

### **1.6.1 Role of College Principal**

The role of college principal is very important for the National Service Scheme. At the college level he is constitute the advisory committee for executing the National Service Scheme activities. The principal's attitude must be positive towards the National service Scheme. The responsibility of the principal is to select an appropriate NSS Programme Officer for the NSS unit in the college level & also make the coordination between the advisory committee and PO.

He should guide the NSS PO, Advisory Committee, lectures and the students about the NSS activities and Programmes. The Principal should be a person who has the leadership qualities and should involve all the staff and most of the students in the programme. Every 3 months Principal should arrange the meeting of NSS for the proper channelized the NSS activities. He should assign responsible tasks to others for their proper involvement in the NSS.

NSS Programme Officer cannot handle all the work alone so the Principal should provide clerk, peons, and administrative services. He should allow sending the PO's for the NSS training camp.

The positive attitude of Principals is beneficial for the college level NSS unit. He makes the coordination between the college staff, students & the community.

### **1.6.2 Role of the Programme Officer**

Programme Officer is responsible for success of NSS activities at the college level. He is most important person in the college level who will be the medium between the students and society. The attitude of Programme Officer should be positive to implement the NSS activities. The Programme officer makes the coordination between the students and the society.

The Programme Officers is to motivate student youth to understand the values and philosophy of NSS. The overall functions of Programme Officers are to help the students to plan, implement, and evaluate the activities of NSS and give proper guidance and directions to the student volunteers.

He has plays many roles for the success NSS activities like Coordinator, Educator, Administrator, Supervisor, Organizer and as Public Relation Officer.

### **1.6.3 Role of NSS volunteers**

A NSS Volunteer is a student in the college who was enrolled his name in the National service Scheme. The roles of the NSS volunteers are very important according to the National Service Scheme because they are main beneficiary of the programme. The NSS volunteers are must be actively participate in the NSS activities. The volunteers are making the coordination between the PO's and the students in the colleges. They are helps the advisory committee of the college for proper executing the NSS activities.

The NSS volunteers are performing the role of mediator between the education system and the community which is helpful for the nation building.

They are developing their qualities of leadership, skills to become an organizer, and an administrator and to attain the multi-faceted development of his personality as a whole.

## **1.7 The overall Current Scenario of NSS**

National Service Scheme is working under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports Government of India. NSS was launched in the Gandhiji's Birth Century Year 1969, in 37 Universities involving the 40,000 students with the primary focus on the development of personality of the students through community service. Today NSS has more than 3.2 Million student volunteers on its roll spread over 298 universities and 42(+2) senior secondary councils and Directorate of Vocational Education all over the country. From its inspection more than 3.75 crores students from Universities, Colleges and Institutions of higher learning have benefitted from the NSS activities, as student volunteers [34].

## **1.8 Current Scenario of NSS in SRTMU Nanded.**

SRTMU Nanded has been participating in the scheme right from its establishment of University. This University covers the four districts like Nanded, Hingoli, Parbhani & Latur of the Marathwada region in Maharashtra in Central part of India.

The NSS has been implemented in 115 affiliated colleges with 193 units. The NSS Open Unit had been started from 1997-98 at Nanded to utilizing the service of the senior citizens for the development of the people in slums and adopted villages

The Department of NSS University is executing the innovative activities & actively participated in the NSS activities. University was awarded State Level Best University NSS Award in the year 2009-10 and Best NSS Programme Coordinator Award to Dr .D .D. Pawar.

The strength of NSS Students are enrollments in the scheme under the SRTMU Nanded from 2009-10 [35].

**Table No. 1.1**

**Strength of NSS Volunteers form 2009-10 in the SRTMU Nanded**

Year	Unit	Allocation	Actual Enrolment		Total
			Boys	Girls	
2009-10	188	14000	8925	5075	14000
2010-11	188	14000	9050	4950	14000
2011-12	188	14000	9200	4800	14000
2012-13	188	14000	8995	5005	14000
2013-14	188	14000	8681	5319	14000
2014-15	193	14250	8748	5502	14250

*Source: [www.srtmun.ac.in](http://www.srtmun.ac.in)*

### **1.9 Need of the study.**

The study of 'Impact of NSS activities on Community Development' will be useful for the government of India and State government to formulate an effective plan and policies of NSS.

The National Service Scheme has a strong and effective programme media in the higher education system. It is providing the community education through student's involvement in the various activities. NSS provide the knowledge and information to student volunteers through various activities with active involvement and participation of the people from various communities. NSS activities are helps to creating the healthy relationship of the student with community for the social development & consciousness. Many innovative programmes implemented by the NSS which provided plenty opportunities to student volunteers and community people to build valuable & constructive nation.

It was therefore thought essential to study the NSS activities and see what extent these activities have brought about positive impact on the improvement and advancement of the student's potential and community achievement.

The large numbers of volunteers, colleges and the universities are participating in the NSS activities so that it is essential to evaluate the impact of NSS activities on the college Principals, Programme Officers, Students & Community persons. It was essential to check the impact of NSS activities on the community development.

The NSS plays a vital role in social mobilization and the national reconstruction by arranging the student youth in direct service to community.

The personality of the student volunteers is also developed during the NSS activities therefore the present study give the importance to find the Impact of NSS activities on the Community Development.

Thus, in this chapter the researcher has given a brief introduction to the subject matter under study. The researcher has taken a short review of National Service Scheme and given the Background & History of NSS, Administrative Structure of NSS, National levels, State level, University level, College level, NSS activities(Regular & Camping). The Role of College Principal, NSS PO, NSS volunteers is discussed. The overall current Scenario of NSS and Current Scenario of NSS in SRTMU Nanded is stated. Also the researcher has stated the Need of the study.

