

National Service Scheme

September 25, 2020

National Service Scheme (NSS) was **launched during 1969**, the birth centenary year of Mahatma Gandhi, in 37 universities involving 40000 students. NSS is an extension dimension to the higher education system to **orient the student youth to community service** while they are studying in educational institutions.

Objectives of NSS

- To understand the community in which they work
- To understand themselves in relation to their community
- To identify the needs and problems of the community and involve them in the problem solving process
- To develop among themselves a sense of social and civic responsibility
- To utilise their knowledge in finding practical solution to individual and community problems
- To develop competence required for group-living and sharing of responsibilities
- To gain skills in mobilising community participation
- To acquire leadership qualities and democratic attitude
- To develop capacity to meet emergencies and natural disasters
- To practice national integration and social harmony

Motto and Symbol

. The motto or watchword of the National Service Scheme is **“NOT ME BUT YOU”**.

. The NSS symbol is based on the **“Rath” wheel of the Konark Sun Temple** situated in Odisha.

. The navy blue colour indicates the cosmos of which the NSS is a tiny part, ready to contribute its share for the welfare

of mankind.

. The red colour in the badge indicates that the NSS volunteers are full of blood i.e. lively, active, energetic and full of high spirit.

. The giant wheels of the Sun Temple portray the cycle of creation, preservation and release, and signify the movement in life across time and space.

More About NSS

- NSS is a **voluntary scheme**. NSS scheme starts from 11th Standard onwards.
- The **students from foreign countries** studying in Indian universities can also join NSS so that they may share the experiences of national reconstruction and community work.
- **NCC cadets will not be allowed to join NSS**. Similarly NSS volunteers will not participate in NCC or any other youth organisation as long as they are in NSS.
- An NSS volunteer needs to devote a total of 240 hours social service in two years duration. Every year, a NSS volunteer has to devote 20 hrs. of orientation and 100 hrs. of community service.