

Unit 1: Introduction and Basic Concepts of NSS

Concept Notes

The National Service Scheme (NSS) is a public service program launched by the Government of India in 1969, aimed at involving youth in nation-building activities. The primary objective of NSS is to develop the personality of students through community service, making them more responsible, disciplined, and aware citizens.

- **History**: NSS was introduced on 24th September 1969, on the 100th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. It was initially launched in 37 universities involving 40,000 students.

- **Philosophy**: NSS functions based on voluntary participation and the idea of service before self. Its philosophy aligns with Gandhian principles of selfless service to the nation.

- **Aims and Objectives**: The core aim of NSS is to enable students to participate in community service and engage with the welfare of the society, which results in their holistic development.

- **Emblem**: The NSS emblem is based on the "Rath" wheel of Konark's Sun Temple, symbolizing the movement of life.

- **Flag**: The NSS flag has a navy blue background, symbolizing the cosmos, with the emblem in the middle.

- **Song**: "Manavta Ka Jaag Utha Hai Jwala" is the official NSS song, reflecting its core principles.
- **Badge**: The NSS badge is a symbol of pride for participants, representing their commitment to social service.
- **Organizational Structure**: NSS has a structured hierarchy, including university, state, and national-level committees. Key functionaries include Programme Officers, Student Leaders, and Volunteers.
- **Roles and Responsibilities**: Volunteers engage in activities related to health, environment, education, disaster relief, and many others, under the guidance of Programme Officers and functionaries.

One Mark Questions with Answers

1. When was NSS launched?
Ans: NSS was launched on 24th September 1969.
2. What is the full form of NSS?
Ans: NSS stands for National Service Scheme.
3. What does the NSS emblem represent?
Ans: The NSS emblem is based on the 'Rath' wheel of Konark's Sun Temple, symbolizing the movement of life.
4. What is the background color of the NSS flag?
Ans: The background color of the NSS flag is navy blue.
5. Who can participate in NSS?
Ans: Students from schools, colleges, and universities across India can participate in NSS.
6. What does the NSS badge symbolize?
Ans: The NSS badge symbolizes pride and commitment to social service.
7. What is the main philosophy of NSS?
Ans: The main philosophy of NSS is voluntary participation and the idea of 'service before self'.
8. What is the official song of NSS?
Ans: The official song of NSS is 'Manavta Ka Jaag Utha Hai Jwala'.
9. Who was the NSS program launched in honor of?

Ans: The NSS program was launched in honor of Mahatma Gandhi.

10. What is the core objective of NSS?

Ans: The core objective of NSS is to develop students' personalities through community service.

Two Mark Questions with Answers

1. Explain the history behind the launch of NSS.

Ans: NSS was launched on 24th September 1969 to commemorate the 100th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. It was started in 37 universities with the involvement of 40,000 students and was designed to encourage youth to engage in community service.

2. What is the significance of the 'Rath' wheel in the NSS emblem?

Ans: The 'Rath' wheel in the NSS emblem represents the constant movement and progress of life, symbolizing the idea of active participation in community service.

3. List two major objectives of NSS.

Ans: The two major objectives of NSS are to instill the spirit of voluntary service among students and to foster a sense of social responsibility.

4. Describe the role of the Programme Officer in NSS.

Ans: The Programme Officer is responsible for guiding and coordinating NSS activities at the institutional level. They plan and implement various community service programs with the help of student volunteers.

5. What are the key components of the organizational structure of NSS?

Ans: The key components of the NSS organizational structure include Programme Officers, University Coordinators, State NSS Officers, and the National NSS Advisory Committee.

6. Explain the meaning of the NSS badge.

Ans: The NSS badge symbolizes the commitment and dedication of volunteers towards community service and nation-building.

7. What is the significance of the NSS song?

Ans: The NSS song, 'Manavta Ka Jaag Utha Hai Jwala', reflects the principles of the NSS and promotes unity, selflessness, and the spirit of service.

8. What roles do volunteers play in NSS activities?

Ans: Volunteers in NSS participate in a variety of activities, including health awareness, environmental conservation, disaster relief, and educational programs in underprivileged areas.

9. What are the guiding principles behind NSS activities?

Ans: The guiding principles behind NSS activities are voluntary service, empathy, leadership, and the welfare of the community.

10. How does the NSS contribute to youth development?

Ans: NSS contributes to youth development by fostering leadership qualities, enhancing problem-solving skills, promoting social responsibility, and offering opportunities to work on real-life challenges in the community.

Five Mark Questions with Answers

1. Discuss in detail the aims and objectives of the National Service Scheme (NSS).

Ans: The primary aim of the NSS is to develop students' personalities through social service. Its objectives include fostering leadership skills, promoting the spirit of voluntary service, and encouraging the youth to contribute to nation-building. The NSS provides students with practical experiences in community service, helping them grow as socially responsible citizens who are sensitive to societal needs.

2. Explain the organizational structure of NSS and the roles of various functionaries.

Ans: The NSS organizational structure is hierarchical and includes several functionaries at different levels. At the national level, there is the NSS Central Advisory Committee. At the state level, there are State Liaison Officers and State NSS Cells. The university level has Programme Coordinators, while each college has a Programme Officer who manages NSS volunteers. The Programme Officers plan and coordinate community service activities, while the volunteers execute these projects.

3. Describe the significance of the NSS emblem, flag, and badge.

Ans: The NSS emblem is based on the 'Rath' wheel of Konark's Sun Temple, representing life's movement and continuity. The flag of the NSS has a navy blue background, symbolizing the universe, and the emblem in the center signifies the NSS's mission of community service. The NSS badge is worn with pride by volunteers, symbolizing their commitment to the ideals of NSS and their role as responsible citizens.

4. How does the NSS contribute to nation-building?

Ans: The NSS plays a crucial role in nation-building by involving students in various community service activities such as education, health awareness, environmental conservation, and disaster management. By actively participating in these programs, students develop leadership skills, empathy, and a sense of responsibility towards society, thereby contributing to the country's overall development.

5. What is the role of Programme Officers in implementing NSS activities at the college level?

Ans: Programme Officers are key to the success of NSS at the college level. They are responsible for planning and executing all NSS activities, ensuring that volunteers are engaged in meaningful service projects. They also coordinate with other agencies and institutions to organize events such as health camps, literacy programs, and environmental drives. Their role is crucial in shaping the character and social responsibility of students.