

NSS: The Introduction

It was Gandhiji, the Father of the Nation who introduced the idea of *service to the nation* by the youths through practice at the student level keeping in view their social responsibility. After independence, UGC, headed by Dr. Radhakrishnan recommended to incorporate social service at academic institutions on a voluntary basis to develop healthy relationships between teachers and students as well as between the community and the institutions. Accordingly, in 1958, the Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru directed the Ministry of Education to formalize & introduce National Service Scheme (NSS) as complementary to Education into the academic institutions. So National Service Scheme (NSS) is a social education, awareness and amelioration program involving young people in the betterment of socio-economic conditions and working towards environment protection. The program had its formal inception in Gandhiji's Birth Centenary year, 1969, under an initiative by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India when it was introduced at 37 universities with 40,000 students enrolled as volunteers. From 1984, 24th September is celebrated as NSS day all over India.

The Aim

Basic aim is the personality development of the students through community service i.e. to inculcate the spirit of service in students and redirect their attention to the weaker or underprivileged sections of society.

The Motto

To establish the concept of ***Not Me, but You*** in the society through selfless service, democratic living, appreciation for others' ideas and consideration for fellow human-being showing ***Empathy*** in place of sympathy. Some of the characteristic NSS activities are Shramdaan, blood donation camps, tree plantation, disaster management, national integration camps etc. Special camping program may include Adult Education, Hospital and Orphanage Activity, Anti Superstition Activity, Nutrition and General Health Awareness activity in rural and urban areas.

Administrative Structure

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is the nodal ministry for NSS and has the administrative responsibilities for the Policy Making, Implementation and Evaluation of NSS programs. They have set up NSS regional centres in the country to maintain liaison with the state governments, universities, 2 councils (TOC/ TORC) and the institutions. Now to run successfully one NSS unit, the institute must form one advisory committee as per the guide line which might consist of the Principal as the chairperson, the Program Officer as the Member Secretary and few other senior faculty members as Members of the committee. The role of Program Officer is of immense importance as organizer, as educator, as coordinator, as supervisor as well as an administrator.

NSS Units & their activities

Few relevant points about the NSS units are as follows:

- ✓ Program Officer has to be trained within 1 yr. after formation of the unit. In West Bengal, training is provided by Narendrapur Ramkrishna Mission periodically.

- ✓ 1 NSS unit may consist of 100 student volunteers within (18-25) years of ages, who after 2 years of active participation will be eligible to get NSS certificate from the central authority.
 - ✓ Each year's program must include 120 hours of work schedule and its successful implementation which consists of
 - i) Orientation Program: 20 Hours
 - ii) Campus Work: 30 Hours
 - iii) Community Service: 70 Hours
 - ✓ Campus work may include Blood Donation activity, Tree Plantation activity, Pulse Polio program, Awareness programs like Child Marriage, Gender Issues, Dowry issues, Anti Smoking campaign, Fitness Awareness program, Water Literacy program, Rain water harvesting, Environmental Awareness, Traffic awareness, Employment and Livelihood generation etc
 - ✓ Additionally, few special programs may be organized and few special days may be observed as given below:
 - i) Special Programs: Science Talent Search Competition, Career Orientation Program, Mental Counseling of the students before Examination, Alternative Energy Awareness Program, Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, Cancer Awareness Program specially breast cancer awareness camp which is very common among women all over the world.
 - ii) Special Day celebrations, such as:
 - a) World environment Day
 - b) International Women's Day
 - c) University Foundation Day
 - d) Institute Foundation Day
 - e) National Unity Day
 - f) National Education Day
 - g) National Science Day
 - h) International Yoga Day etc
- Additionally, Aranya Saptaha (Forest Week), Youth Week may also be celebrated
- ✓ Community Services can be done in an adopted village or urban slum area where tuberculosis, AIDs awareness programs, Arsenic mitigation & social mobilization program, Adult Education & Computer Literacy program, Anti Superstition Program may be taken up. Additionally, wasteland development, Nutrition camp, Mother- Children health care program can be organized too.

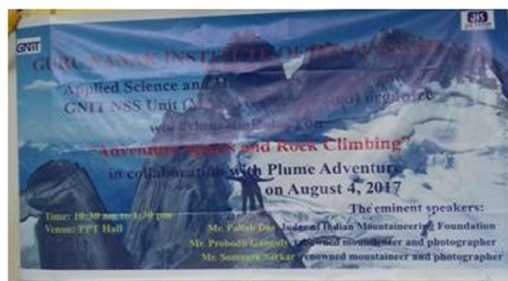
Self Financing Units (SFUs)

MAKAUT has taken the initiative to start NSS SFUs, initially at some of its selected institutions. GURU NANAK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (GNIT) has got the opportunity to work as one of the SFUs under NSS. Here required financial assistance has to be arranged by the institute itself at present. But there may be the possibilities of getting Government Financial help in future.

Various Activities during the year 2017-18

Awareness of Rock Climbing

Under NSS unit GNIT faculty members and students have participating in "Rock Climbing" in collaboration with **Plume Adventure (Registered NGO)**. After completion of "Rock Climbing Course 2017" (at Bero Hill, Purulia from **27th December, 2017 to 1st January 2018**) faculty members encouraged their students in "nature study and adventure sports". Total **35 no** of students were participated from B.Tech 1st year, under NSS unit of GNIT.



Students have participated in "Rock Climbing" in collaboration with **Plume Adventure (Registered NGO)**

Awareness Program on Water Treatment & Purification

Total 322 no of students from B.Tech first year and 2nd year of Guru Nanak Institute of Technology were participated in a planned visit to Panihati Water Treatment Plant in Sodepur on **27.02.2018** in collaboration with NSS unit, GNIT. The purpose of the visit was to acquaint our students with industrial environment and to get hands on knowledge of water treatment plant components and provide awareness to general people.

The workforce of Panihati Water Treatment Plant gave a technical demonstration to all the students about the entire process of water treatment plant. The students learnt the complete procedure from extraction of surface water from Ganges, purification through Potash Alum (to reduce the PH of water) and Chlorine, disinfection for tertiary treatment to reduce pathogens, eradicating micro-organisms which can pose a risk to human health, Centrifugal Machinery and the process of sedimentation to the final step of sand and gravel filtration.

The students acquired crucial information and practical knowledge about the physio-chemical treatment of water and components used in treatment plant.



Attending an Awareness Program on Water Treatment & Purification to aware local people at Sodepur

Donating Blood for Cancer Patients

Blood donation camps were also organized, in which total **62 no of students** have participated and donate blood. The NSS Unit, in collaboration with Barasat Govt. Hospital, WB organized a camp on **3rd February 2018** in the college premises in collaboration with. 52 units of blood were donated by the students, faculty and staff members of GNIT.



Blood Donation Camp organized on campus

Food distribution on Republic Day

The Republic Day this year was celebrated through distributing sweets and goods to old and under privileged people who lives in the nearby area. The **18 no of employees and 25 no of students** gathered outside the Institute gate. The program started with National Flag hoisting and singing of National Anthem. The Principal shared his valuable words and motivated the students and employees towards their contribution in the society. Then students are sub-divided into 5 groups and go for the railway station, B.T road, Swadeshi Bhawan, HB Town more etc places and distribute the goods collected. The program held on the eve of Republic day **26th January, 2018**.





Glimpses of goods distribution to the needy by GNIT employees and students on Republic Day

Student's performance at Kolkata International Book fair

To promote cultural and Linguistic harmony among students are motivated to visit and participate in different programs organized by local or state Govt. Authority. **75 no of students** from GNIT have participated actively in cultural program named **"Help is life! Live long"** organized at Kolkata International Book fair on **7th February 2018**. The tranquil music and rhythmic steps hypnotized the audience in magnanimous length. Appreciation and participation of the audience was showered from all quarters. Everybody enjoyed the cultural function and exceedingly praised the students of GNIT for their professional and entertaining presentation, acculturating the global audience. Participation in such events promotes cultural inclusivity among the students.



Students are participating on cultural program named "Help is life! Live long" organized at Kolkata International Book fair

Ganga Action Plan project: rally for awareness about “Keep clean the surface water of River Ganges”

The NSS unit, GNIT have taken the **initiation to bring the treated surface water to the college campus** in order to reduce the use of ground water from the water treatment plant (under Ganga Action Plan project), Sodepur. In this regard, we the NSS unit, GNIT have talked to the Chairman and Sanitation Inspector of Panihati Municipality. As per their suggestion we have made application to the Chairman of Panihati Municipality for supplying the treated surface water (under Ganga Action Plan project) to entire Guru Nanak College campus. On the basis of our application the engineer from the municipality visited our college campus for necessary action

and water is made available from Ganga Action Plan by GNIT NSS Unit (SFU). **Total 364 no of B.Tech 1st and 2nd year students** were participated in a rally for awareness about “Keep clean the surface water of River Ganges” under Ganga Action plan.



Students and Staffs are participated in awareness rally named “Keep clean the surface water of River Ganges” under Ganga Action plan.

Tree plantation

Total **56 no of students**, 1st year B.Tech under NSS units of GNIT were involved in the Tree plantation program on **7th June of 2017**. Saplings were planted inside the college campus. Dr. Sucharita Bhattacharya and whole NSS unit of GNIT were participated.



Tree plantation program on Grounds of GNIT and outside the GNIT premises

Children's Day Celebration : Distribution of colour pencils, drawing pencil, drawing book and also food packets to those under-privilege students and poor students

On the eve of Children's Day **(14th Nov, 2017)**, Applied Science & Humanities Dept (ASHU) @ Guru Nanak Institute of Technology @ NSS-GNIT join hands with various Charitable Society to stand by our fellow countrymen and the sweet & innocent children, using urban discard as a tool to alleviate poverty and enhance the dignity of the underprivileged in the world, addressing the basic but neglected issues and involving them in evolving their own solutions with dignity and urban material as motivation. The ASHU endeavour led by Prof. (Dr.) Santanu Kumar Sen, Principal, GNIT, Dr. Sucharita Chakraborty, Dr. Sucharita Bhattacharyya, Dr. Sreyasree Basu, Dr. Mainak Debnath and other faculty members, Staff members and the **63 no of B.Tech 1st year students** visited **one school for under-privilege in nearby slum** area named **"Indira Nagar Primary School"** and **distributed colour pencils, drawing pencil, drawing book and also food packets to those under-privilege students and poor students.** The basic aim is the holistic development of the GNIT-ians through community service i.e. to inculcate the spirit of service in students and redirect their attention to the weaker and underprivileged sections of society and to build and maintain a connection of empathy, dignity and value for our fellow brothers and sisters.





Distribution of colour pencils, drawing pencil, drawing book and also food packets to under-privilege students and poor students of Indira Nagar Primary School

Cleaning of college surrounding area

Initiation to clean up the college surrounding area

An initiation was taken to clean up the GNIT College surrounding area in collaboration with Panihati Municipality. In this regard, we have talked with the Sanitation Inspector of the local municipality and he assured us to help in every possible way. To materialize our initiation towards the cleaning of college surrounding area, we met with the Sanitation Inspector again as well as with the Chairman of Panihati Municipality with an application stating our proposal to clean up the college surrounding area. They agreed with us and assured that they would take the initiation in cleaning the area.



Meeting with Chairman and Sanitation Inspector of Panihati Municipality

Brief Report on Swacchata Pakhwada Drive, 2017

In close agreement with the initiative of MHRD, Dept. of Higher Education, Govt of India and AICTE, Guru Nanak Institute of Technology (GNIT), Sodepur, Kol-114 has participated wholeheartedly and celebrated the Swacchata Pakhwada, 2017 through various activities in the month of September. The complete program was planned by the GNIT NSS Unit with the convener, Dr. Sucharita Bhattacharyya and Program Officer, Dr. Mainak Debnath as per the suggestion of the college Principal Prof. (Dr.) Santanu Kumar Sen.

- **Essay competition:** An essay competition (within 500 words) was organised by GNIT NSS unit (Self Financing Unit, nominated by affiliating Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

University of Technology, under Govt. of W.B.) on "What can I do for clean India?" for the students. Last date of submission was 11.9.17. Remarkable response came on behalf of students, best three essays were given token prizes on 15.9.17.



Prize distribution of essay competition

- **Cleaning and Beautification:** Cleaning and beautification of the GNIT front gate adjacent area (public road & area) was initiated by the GNIT NSS unit in collaboration with local class A Panihati Municipality. Based on the college application to the Chairman of Panihati Municipality, the Sanitation Inspector came for detail inspection of the area along with the CIC on 28.8.17 and met the principal seeking formal permission and discussing the possible processes and maintenance formalities before starting the actual work of cleaning and beautification of that place. They talked to the local Toto pullers and tea & food stall owners for their cooperation in 1st week of September and started spraying of mosquito repellent inside the college building on 8.9.17, as the locality is a highly dengue-prone area. They have promised to complete main cleaning work outside the GNIT campus along with the fencing and municipality awareness boards for beautification before Durga Puja.



Area of nuisance outside the campus



Municipality SI & CIC along with the Convener, NSS Unit



Meeting with the Principal, Campus Supervisor, and NSS volunteers





NSS Prog. Officer with Municipality personnel



Mosquito repellent spray inside the college

- **Clean your own place:** A cleaning activity was taken up by all the faculty and staff members of GNIT and cleaned their own places on 5.9.17, the Teachers' Day itself.

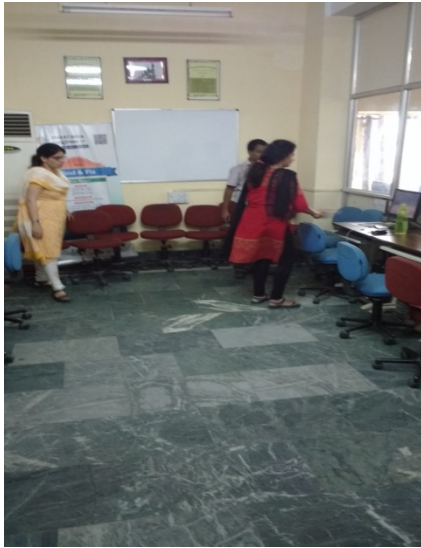




Teachers are very busy and active on Teachers' Day



Administrative Office and Library also participated in the cleaning activity



Now it is clean all over, including teachers' cubicle

- **Cleaning of the classrooms:** The students have also taken part actively in cleaning their own classrooms and different laboratories as a part of the Swacchata program and also in their NSS activities.





Boys and Girls are working together to make their own class room clean



At the end, satisfaction is reflected in their Happy Faces

Blood Donation Camp

The NSS Unit, GNIT along with MCA Dept. organized a Blood Donation Camp in the college premises in collaboration with Calcutta National Medical College and Hospital, WB. 50 units of blood were donated by the students, faculty and staff members of GNIT.



Blood Donation Camp organized by NSS Unit along with MCA Department

Celebration of Dipabali with inmates of Old age home

On the eve Dipabali Festivities, GNIT employees, NSS (SFU) student members led by the Director and Principal, GNIT visited two Old-age Homes at Sodepur and met with the inmates and distributed sweets and fruits to all members of both the homes during second half of 18th October 2017.

The GNIT team returned with blissful peace in mind seeing the glimpse of joy and happiness in the faces of the inmates.



NSS Unit, GNIT visited the old age home and distributed fruits and sweets among the inmates

Poster Preparation and display

Just like the other years, 1st year B.Tech students have also taken part in the preparation and display of posters. This year the topic of the poster preparation was **‘Women Empowerment’**. The students prepared the posters on the said topic and presented their posters beautifully.



Poster Display by the students on Women Empowerment

Donation of Money and Clothes

Like every year, students of 1st year B.Tech have donated money to Bharat Sevasram Sangha and Ramkrishna Mission, Barrackpore from their pocket money as a part of their NSS activities. They also have donated their old clothes to Ramkrishna Mission Barrackpore.



Donation of money to Bharat Sevasram Sangha and Ramkrishna Mission, Barrackpore by the students



Donation of clothes: students are arranging the packets of their old clothes to the van

Bioplastics: An approach to make the world plastic free

On **World Environment Day, 5th June 2018**, GNIT NSS unit shared with all GNITians, the preliminary information of innovation and interest to educate ourselves on Bio Plastic and possibility of its use replacing common plastics to make our environment clean and healthy.

The world population is growing, living, working, increasingly conglomerating along the coasts, and standing on the front row of the greatest, most unprecedented, plastic waste tide ever faced; **each year 200 million tons** of plastic are used on the planet.



It is **contaminating** and **non-biodegradable** (it can take more than 1000 years to decompose). Does it make any sense to continue using packaging that can take centuries to disappear to pack products that only last days or months?

A healthy planet is essential for a prosperous and peaceful future. We all have

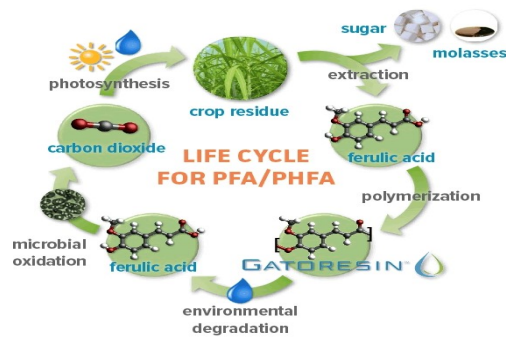
a role to play in protecting our only home, but it can be difficult to know what to do or where to start from.

Don't make our home polluted

That's why this World Environment Day has just one request: **Beat Plastic Pollution**. To move ahead with this goal **Bioplastics** can be an essential solution. **Bioplastics** are **biodegradable** materials that come from **renewable sources** and can be used to reduce the problem of contaminating plastic waste that is suffocating the planet and contaminating the environment. These are 100% degradable, equally



Bioplastics



resistant and versatile, already used in agriculture, textile industry, medicine and, over all, in the container and packaging market. These are polyesters produced by fermenting raw vegetable materials with a series of bacterial strains. For example, **PHAs** (**polyhydroxyalkanoate** is extracted from bacteria such as pseudomonas) can be used for injection molding to build automobile parts and for many other uses. Bioplastics have several advantages, such as,

- **Reduction** of Carbon footprint
- **Non consumption** of **non-renewable** raw materials
- **Reduction** of **non-biodegradable** wastes that contaminates the environment
- **Absence** of **additives** that are harmful to health, such as phthalates or bisphenol A

No change in the **flavor** or **scent** of the food content