

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 2019-20

Donation to help build community Libraries for underprivileged Children

The reading culture is on the wane and the students of GNIT contributed to a meaningful initiative by the Community Library Project (TCLP), New Delhi, to help build community libraries for underprivileged children. This project provides free reading materials and textbooks for slum children and other underprivileged children living in urban areas. Students of GNIT contributed through a donation drive, and thereby aided the reading initiative fostered by TCLP. Total **148 no of students** have participated on this event under guidance of our GNIT NSS unit on the month of **August, 2019**.



“Once Upon a Time”-A Reading and Storytelling Session for Progress at TCLP, to which GNIT students contributed

Tree Plantation & Distribution of Saplings

Total **59 no of B.Tech students** are participated in this Tree Plantation on the outside of college premises & Saplings Distribution to the local people of Sodepur. The program has well organized by our NSS Departments of GNIT under the guidance of Dr. Sucharita Chakraborty on **3rd August 2019**.



GNIT staffs and students are participated in Tree Plantation

GNIT Walks for Environment on 17th Foundation Day

The 17th Foundation Day of Guru Nanak Institute of Technology on **16th August 2019** was celebrated in a quite different way focusing on widespread of social works and responsibility among our existing students and particularly the 1st year students. This year, we have organized Rally on "Walk for Save Water" consisting of **156 students**, faculty and staff members for 4.0 KM in Sodepur main road.



Rally on "Walk for Save Water" on the eve of The 17th Foundation Day of Guru Nanak Institute of Technology on 16th August 2019

Organizing "Industry Academia meet cum Exhibition on Waste Management" for Rural People

Organizing "Industry Academia meet cum Exhibition on Waste Management" for rural people in collaboration with **MGNCRE (Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural education** and **Ministry of Human Resource development (MHRD)**, Govt. of India on 7-8th November,2019.

IAM WM @ MGNCRE, MHRD, Govt. of India @ JISU-GNIT-GNIPST-GNIHM-GNIDSR-NIT-DSCS @ JIS Group (7-8 November, 2019)

Guru Nanak Institute of Technology @ JIS Group led by **Prof. Santanu Kumar Sen, Principal, GNIT** in collaboration with **GNIPST, GNIHM, GNIDSR, NIT, DSCS** organized the **Industry Academia Meet cum Exhibition on Waste Management** under the guidance of **Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education, MHRD, Government of India**, to strive and promote resilient India through **Higher Education** interventions.

The **2 Days engagement** offered to the participants' seamless Industry interaction, Internship, Project opportunities, New Product showcasing and launch and the Scope for Social Entrepreneurship. The students utilized this platform to interact and meet decision makers, policy makers, and the stalwarts from the Industry and Academia.

The inauguration was graced by **Mr. Simarpreet Singh**, Director, JIS Group; **Prof. Santanu Kumar Sen**, Principal, GNIT; **Prof. Dr. B.C. Mal**, VC, JIS University; **Dr. Arpan Mitra**, President, Bengal National Chamber of Commerce & Industries; **Prof. Abhijit Sen Gupta**, Director, GNIPST, **Dr. M Kanjilal**, Principal NIT, **Dr. Omprakash Sharma**, Principal, DSCS, **Dr. Jayanta Bhattachaya**, Principal, GNIDSR, **Prof Xavier Gomes**, Principal, GNIHM and many other delegates from **MGNCRE** including **Prof. D K Chakraborty**. **Total 364 No of students** were participated in this event.



Organizing "Industry Academia meet cum Exhibition on Waste Management" for Rural People

Cloth Donation Drive

As part of the **NSS Drive of Applied Science and Humanities Department @ Guru Nanak Institute of Technology**, the students of GNIT led by **Dr. Indrajit Bose, Mr. Goutam Mondal** and **Mr. Sourav Majumdar** visited Goonj located in 9 Paschim Chowbaga, Arupota, P.C.Chandra Park/ Opposite Trump Tower, near Science city to **donate clothes**. Goonj facilitated GNIT-ians with an interactive presentation on the activities of Goonj and how the student community can come forward and stand by our fellow citizens. The students also visited the Goonj Warehouse and packing unit and interacted with people working for the betterment of Society at large. **Total 84 No of B.Tech 1st year Students** were involved in this Event held on **14th Nov, 2019**.



Students of GNIT led by Dr. Indrajit Bose, Mr. Goutam Mondal and Mr. Sourav Majumdar (NSS Unit, GNIT) visited Goonj located in 9 Paschim Chowbaga, Arupota, P.C.Chandra Park/ Opposite Trump Tower, near Science city to donate clothes.

Dewali celebration with the inmates of old age home and school students

We were on a special drive as part of our NSS activities to get close with humanity and share our feelings with the brothers and sisters of our society on the eve of Diwali to earn the love of the innocent souls and pray for happiness for all.

Prof. (Dr.) Santanu Kr Sen, Principal, GNIT along with Dr. Sucharita Bhattacharya, Dr. Mainak Debnath, Dr. Barnali Kundu, Ms. Somalina Choudhury, the team of technical assistants and our proactive students visited the Old Age homes and school like previous years to acquaint the students and empower them with altruism – to become responsible citizens of India encompassing all.

The little souls of the school shared an intimate moment with GNIT-ians as we loved them. The Elders blessed us and hugged us and we stood by their emotions which spontaneously overflowed.



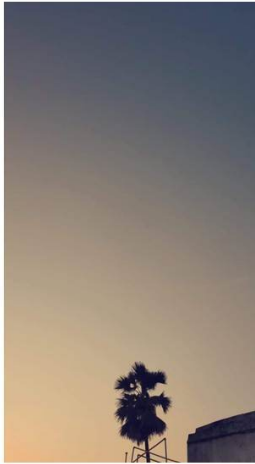
Dewali celebration with the inmates of old age home and under privileged children of local slum area school

Earth Day Celebration

As informed by Dr. Indrajit Bose, senior professor of Applied Science & Humanities (ASHU) Department, in the morning, we came to know about World Earth Day (22nd of April). To mark Earth Day celebration, ASHU Department arranged a Nature Photography Competition "*THROUGH THE LENS*" on 22nd of April, 2020 (as we could not gather in the college due to COVID-19 pandemic). Students of B.Tech 1st year took part in the photography competition. All the photographs were judged by Mr. Anupam Mukherjee, well known Nature Photographer.



Winner



1st Runner up



2nd Runner up

Glimpse of winning photographs of the Nature Photography competition “THROUGH THE LENS”

Distribution of self-made masks and food grains, sugar, vegetables and other necessities during Covid-19 Pandemic

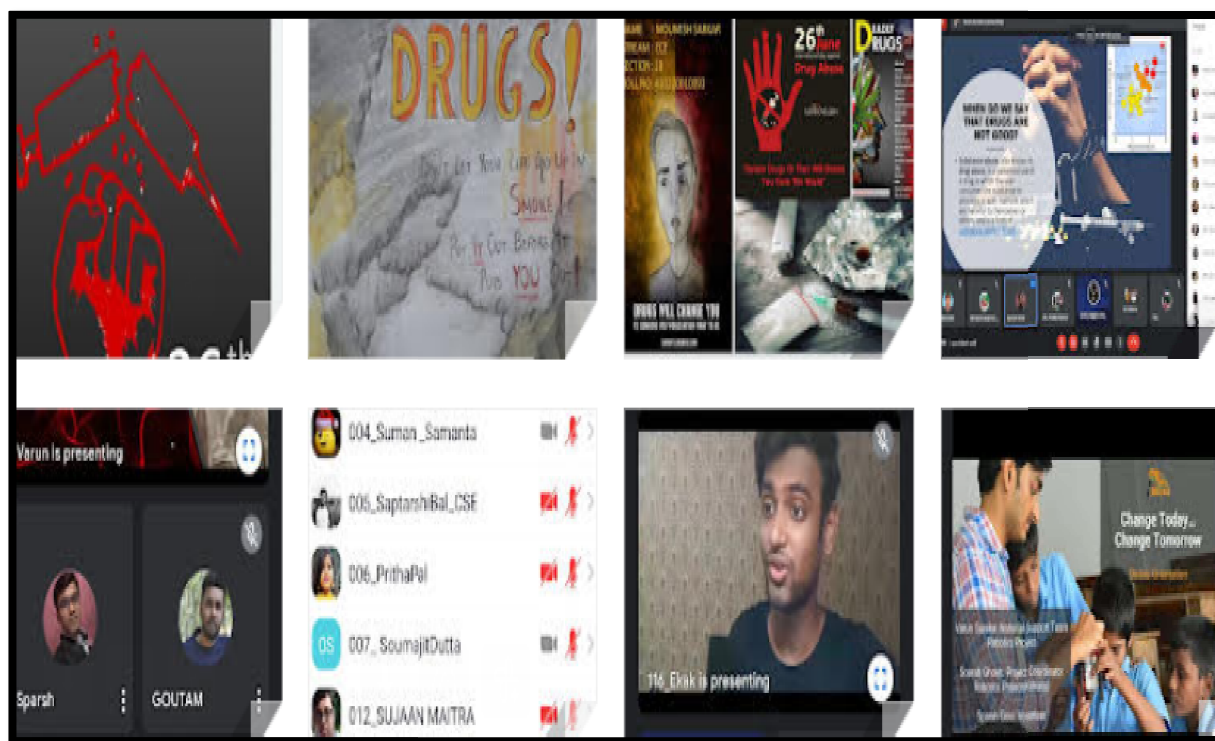
Daily wage-earners and the needy had been severely affected by the lockdown, with their jobs and livelihoods at stake. Voluntary care-givers took a lead role on behalf of the institute. Initiative of Mr Ashok Ghosh, Technical Assistant of the institute from ASHU Dept, participated in donation drives distributing rice, dal, other essential food grains and masks to the distressed people living in the Lalbagan - Kumartuli area between **8th and 15th April, 2020** is praise worthy. Mr. Ghosh has also donated Rs. 1000/- to the PM Cares Relief Fund. Dr. Sucharita Bhattacharyya, Convener, GNIT NSS Unit (SFU) donated Rs. 2000/- personally to Rohan Mukherjee, a student of BCA final year of Narula Institute of Technology, suffering from cancer. She also donated Rs. 2000/- to a sweeper who suffered in Covid-19. **22 no's of Student** volunteers from B.Tech, 1st year under NSS unit, GNIT had participated and proactive and supportive for the common people and people below the poverty lines who lost their jobs & faced all odds in their daily livelihoods in COVID 19 pandemic. They distributed self-made masks and food grains, sugar, vegetables and other necessities (during first wave of COVID-19, **April-May, 2020**).



GNIT staffs and students are involved for Distributing self-made masks, food grains, sugar, vegetables and other necessities during Covid-19 Pandemic to poor people of Lalbagan – Kumartuli

Celebration of International Anti-Drug Day

On 26th June, 2020, Gurunanak Institute of Technology, through the NSS Unit, celebrated International Day against Drug Abuse via online platform Google Meet. Students from all departments participated in two events in particular- The poster competition and online presentation. The students participated in making intuitive posters about the issue that is certainly very relatable to people of that particular age-group. Despite being surrounded in a counter culture that encourages dilettante behaviour like drug abuse, our students are flowering into conscientious individuals, as is shown in the posters that they created. **Total Student participants were 102** from B.Tech of all streams.



Celebration of International Anti-Drug Day by participating an awareness programme by our NSS staffs and B.Tech first year students

Awareness Program on Cyclone Amphan

The Super Cyclone Amphan has affected the lives of millions of people in eastern India. Every individual is battling their own battle against the cyclone. In this fight against the natural disaster, the **ASHU department of GNIT, through its students has distributed food packets, rice and Dal to affected peoples in Cyclone.** The students, under the guidance of their mentors have collected all essential foods from their own resources and distributes to helpless peoples for Amphan. All these have been done as part of the departmental NSS initiative. **On 20th May 2020 total 73 no of B.Tech Students** were participated in this drive.



GNIT Staffs & students has distributed food packets, rice and Dal to affected peoples in Cyclone

Mask & Home Made Hand Sanitizer Preparation and Distribution (In Lock down Time Period, 2020)

Reaching out a helping hand even during the Pandemic situation:

Due to the outbreak of Covid-19, GNIT NSS unit couldn't work out as a whole team but the student volunteers, faculty and staff members were involved individually or in small groups in stretching their helping hand towards the needy people according to their capability.

- Faculty and staff members of Chemistry Section were involved in preparation of WHO recommended Hand sanitizer whereas the members ASHU Department were engaged in preparation of face masks for distribution among local people during first wave of Covid 19 pandemic in the locality **(20.03.2020). 15 no of students** volunteers were involved for distributing mask and sanitizer bottles into the local area of sodepur.





Mask & Home Made Hand Sanitizer prepared by our Teachers and students are distributed to local poor people at Sodepur .