

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.

PRAGATI - “Help Thy Neighbour”: Blanket Distribution Program among the Needy people

PRAGATI - the Student driven ISR Club of GNIT organized a blanket distribution program at Dum Dum Junction Railway Station for the needy and the poor people on the 26th of December, 2020. Winter is harsh for the homeless, leaving them utterly at the mercy of bleak and cold winds. So, PRAGATI decided to make their winter a bit warmer by distributing blankets under the supervision of Suman Kar, Alumni of ECE were able to distribute blankets to 50 people. The happiness and smiles that glowed on their faces was the biggest reward for the participating students. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this year, and the economic hardships for the homeless during the lockdown, this initiative was an even greater challenge for PRAGATI . All members and students were actively engaged in organizing the endeavour. Contributors included Smita Kundu and Adrita Roy (2nd year ECE); Ritam Ghosh (2nd year CSE), Suravi Ghosal and Alima Chakroborty (1st year CSE) along with Suman Kar, who actively distributed the blankets and PRAGATI funded the entire endeavour. Total 44 No of B.Tech students were participated in this event.



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Donation of Computer Systems as a part of Community Outreach Program

On behalf of the GNIT NSS Unit (SFU), Prof.(Dr.) Santanu Kumar Sen, Principal, GNIT, took the endeavour to allocate of 8 Computer Systems to the **Office of Commissioner of Police, Barrackpore Commissionerate for Community Outreach Program** along with improving Police functioning on **15-08-2020**. A letter of appreciation was handed over to Dr. Indrajit Bose by the Commissioner of Police, Shri Manoj Kumar Verma, IPS, in person. 4 no of Teachers from ASHU dept along with **12 No of B.Tech 1st year students** were involved in this event under NSS unit of GNIT.



Staffs of NSS unit, GNIT and students are involved for donating 8 no of Computer Systems to the Office of Commissioner of Police, Barrackpore Commissionerate for helping military students

“Plastic free - Clean India” Campaign

NSS Unit (SFU) @GNIT participated in ‘Clean India Campaign’ during 25th -30th October, 2020. The activity, initiated by Programme Coordinator, MAKAUT, WB, witnessed enthusiastic participation by the student volunteers of GNIT NSS Unit (SFU). More than 50 volunteers participated in the campaign against single-use plastics. They actively collected single-use plastics in their respective areas and discarded them. They also made awareness posters against single-use plastics. Total 56 No of students were participated from B.Tech 1st Year under the guidance of Dr. Indrajit Bose.



GNIT staffs and Students are performing Environment cleanliness drive under NSS units



GNIT staffs and Students are performing Environment cleanliness drive under NSS units by collecting wastes and properly placed it into nearest Bin.

Celebration of World Earth Day -“Not Me, but You”- Engagement with the Society for inculcating positive actualization of ISR

Reflecting the motto of NSS - ***“Not Me, but You”***, the NSS unit of GNIT oriented the students with patterns of engagement with the Society for inculcating positive actualization of **ISR**.

Through active participation, the students were taught about their relationship with the community in which they work; and how the activities are aimed at developing social and civic responsibilities among the students.

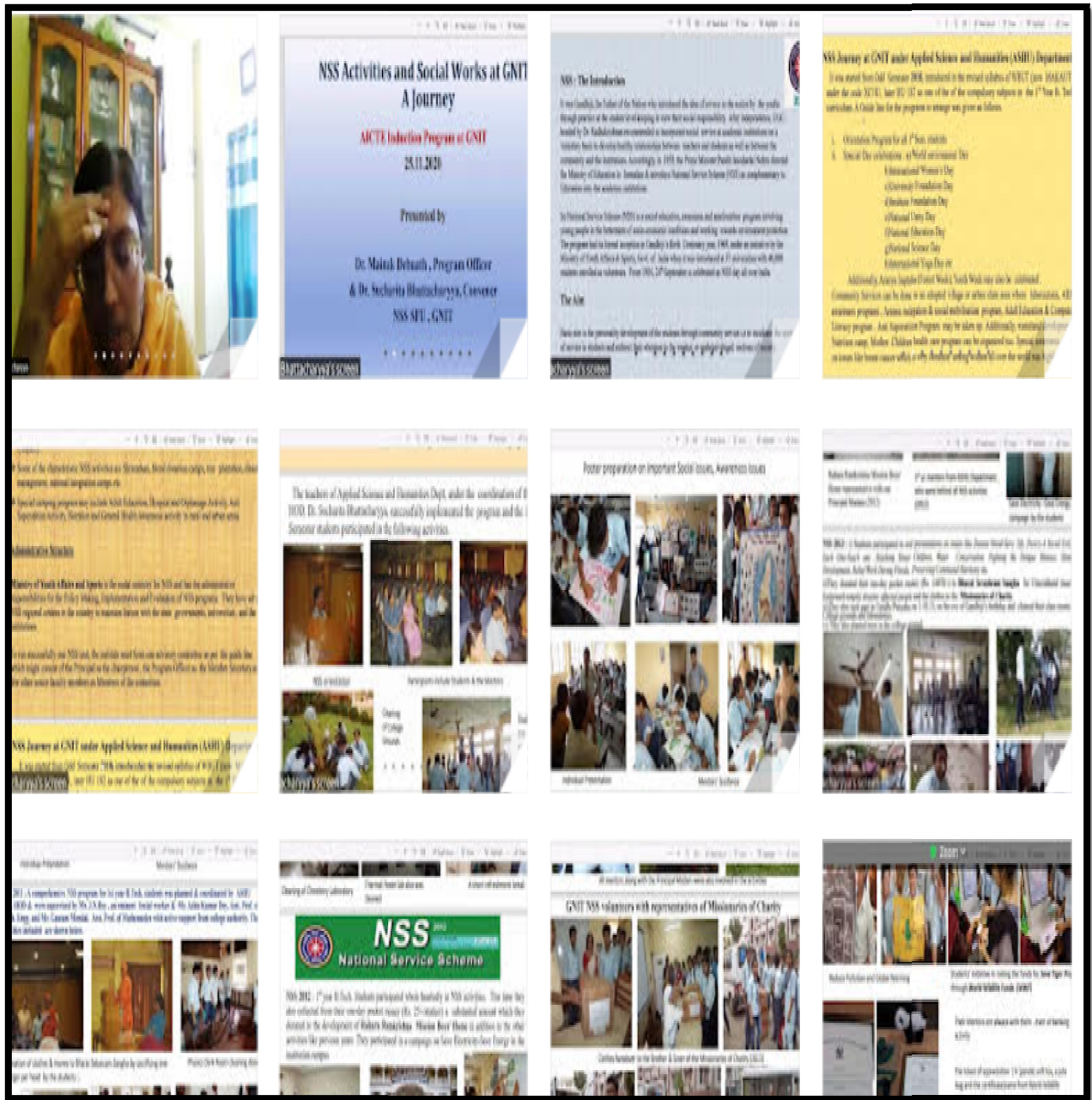
The programme highlighted the **Workshops and Seminars** organised by the **NSS Wing**. The entrants were familiarised with the special drives carried out by the **NSS volunteers, faculties and staff** of GNIT.

The students learnt how institution and community relationship can be established by the various pursuits like donating orphanages and old homes for spreading happiness among the less privileged.

The NSS unit of GNIT engages in meaningful campaigns like “**Save Water, Save Life**”, “**Save World Tiger**”, and so on. The students very enthusiastically design ingenious posters on topics like ‘**wild life protection**’, ‘**women empowerment**’, and so on. The team also raises funds for helping protect wildlife.

Besides poster designing and spreading awareness, the team also organises essay writing competitions on topics like **National Education Policy**, and so on.

The NSS unit organises an **Awareness Programmes** on ‘**Swachhata**’ and engages in cleanliness drives. They have also worked towards helping people affected by floods. The programme also showed the motivating video clips of industry visit of the team to **Water Treatment Plant**. The **NSS Team** actively organised a **photography competition**, to celebrate Earth Day, 2020. They constantly strive to spread happiness and help the **volunteers** acquire leadership qualities and work on their democratic attitude; practice integrity and most importantly instil in them the importance of selfless service. Total **58 No of B.Tech 1st year students** were participated this online event on **22nd April 2021**.



Celebration of World Earth Day with various awareness events organized by NSS team, GNIT

Donation of Food and Clothes for local poor people

Social Outreach program to Celebrate Deepavali after Durga Puja GNIT students and employees celebrated the happy occasions of Deepavali by distributing foods and cloths to the poor people in the local area on **14th November 2020** . Total **22 No of student** participants have involved in this event.



Glimpses of food and cloth distribution on the eve of Durga Puja and Diwali

Tree Plantation ceremony on World Earth Day

A tree plantation drive was taken by the institute maintaining the COVID protocols where saplings are planted in the college campus to promote awareness to the environment on World Environment day. This year the Theme was “Time for Nature”. On the eve of World Earth Day **4 no of students** along with GNIT staffs have participated on this event held on **22nd April, 2021**. The Principal

shared his views on how nature is an inevitable part in our daily life and how we should emphasize on providing better infrastructure to support life on Earth.



Tree Plantation ceremony on World Earth Day

Rally on Swachhata camps, money and cloth Donation

Every year rallies on Swachhata camps, money and cloth donation to various organizations are arranged to promote social awareness. Though this year due to pandemic situation these programs were held in very limited numbers and with proper precaution. **15 no of Students** visited especially able children care homes and distributed essentials in local orphanage unit named **“Sangbedan”, Shyambazar, Kolkata**. They shared their experience in the pandemic and the students also demonstrated how we should protect ourselves. GNIT Students and Alumni's initiative extended their hands on to 51 specially Gifted Children on the auspicious occasion of Bengali New year **(15th April, 2021)**.



GNIT students at 'Sangbedan', a home for differently abled children, in Shyambazaar

Celebration of "WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY"

Department of Applied Science and Humanities @GNIT, organised an **Online Event** – “Recreate, Re- Imagine, Restore”, on **June 5th, 2021**, as a continuation of **World Environment Day Celebration (Phase II)**.

The **Welcome Address** was given by **Dr Sucharita Chakrabarti, HOD, ASHU, GNIT**.

Each student of **B. Tech. 1st year, Guru Nanak Institute of Technology**, participated enthusiastically by **planting saplings** and by participating in the online event.

In the event “**Best out of Waste**”, the students **recreated** beautiful household décor items from **coconut shells** and **pistachio shells**; **moulded glass** and **bowls** from **newspaper pulp**; created **origami** by using newspapers. Students also crafted beautiful **plant pots** out of used **cans of soft drinks**; **lampshades**, **multipurpose holders** by rolling **newspapers**; and so on.

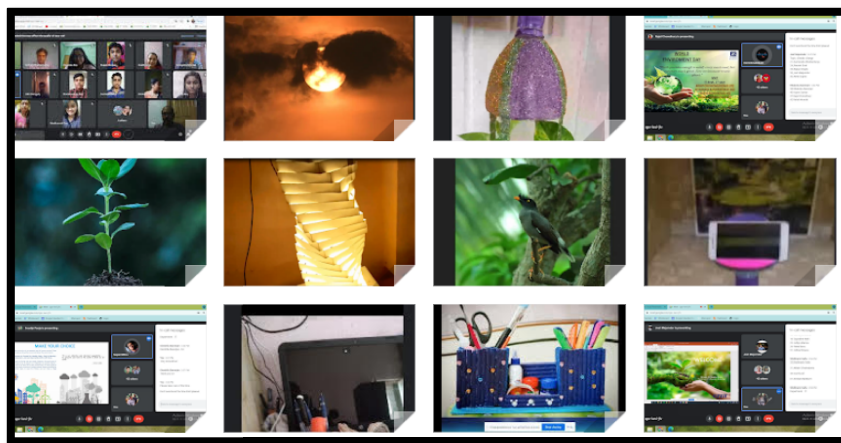
Dr Indrajit Bhattacharyya, Asst. Professor, GNIT; Dr Sucharita Chakrabarti, HOD, ASHU, GNIT; and Mr. Goutam Mandal, Asst. Professor, GNIT, coordinated the session.

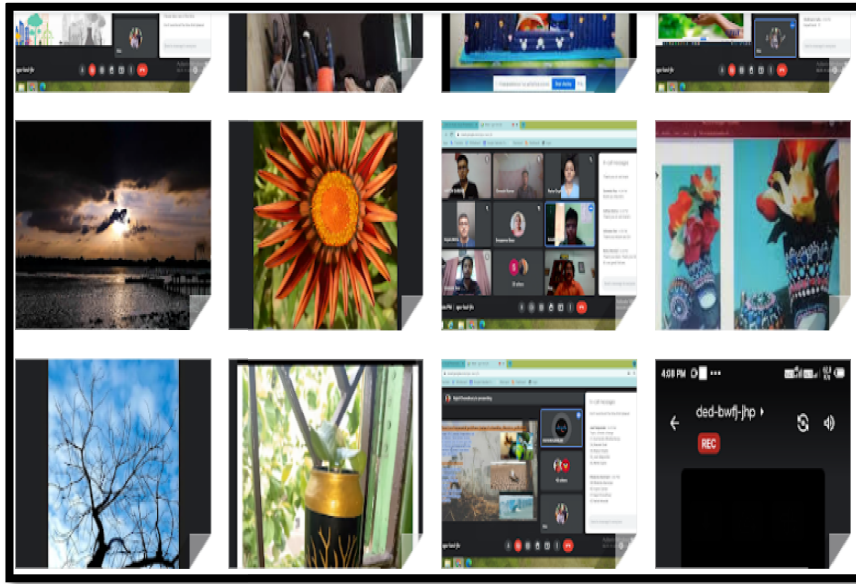
In the category of **“Picture Perfect”**, the students displayed breath-taking pictures of Mother Nature and her creations, captured aesthetically on their cameras. They shot a wide gamut of various **landscapes, hills and vales, waterbodies, vibrant and unique flora and fauna**; and so on.

Dr Mainak Debnath, Asst. Professor, GNIT, Mr. Sushanta Auddy and Dr Sucharita Bhattacharyya, Associate Professor, GNIT, coordinated the session.

The event also had a category of **Audio-Visual Presentation – “NurturingNature”**. Students presented their thoughts and explorations on topics ranging from **environmental hazards, climate change, global warming and the need and strategies for ecological conservation**. The presentations showcased creativity, innovative thinking and even incorporated several novel audio-visual effects, and all served for **consciousness raising in redressing the ecological balance**.

Dr Indrajit Bose, Asst. Professor, GNIT; Dr Sreyasree Basu, Asst. Professor, GNIT; and Dr Soma Mukherjee, Asst. Professor, GNIT; interacted (in online mode) with **total 93 no of 1st year student** participants from all streams, **coordinated** and assessed the event.





GNIT staffs and students are celebrating “WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY”

Celebration of International Women’s Day, 2021

International Women’s Day 2021 was celebrated by the Women’s Grievance Redressal Cell (WGRC), GNIT on **8th March 2021** in the virtual platform. The program was inaugurated with the auspicious Lamp Lighting Ceremony and Welcome Video. The welcome address was delivered by the Dr. Sucharita Bhattacharyya, Convener, WGRC. Prof. (Dr.) Santanu Kumar Sen, Principal, GNIT conveyed his Special Message to the august gathering by his illuminating and motivational speech followed by Dr. Adish Kumar Chakraborty’s (Registrar, GNIT) message. The occasion witnessed the official Release of the 1st Edition of the WGRC Newsletter entitled ‘**SARBAJAYA**’ done by the Principal, the e-version of which was beautifully designed by the WGRC student members led by Ms. Shilpita Hajra (3rd Year, AEIE) and Ms. Sayani Sengupta (3rd Year, IT). The Result of the Essay competition on the topic ‘**Women in Action during Covid 19 Pandemic**’ was declared by the Principal along with the Prize Money for the Winners. After the melodious Tagore’s musical presentation by Ms. Sumedha Bhattacharya (2nd Year, ECE), a speech competition on the title ‘**A challenged world is an alert world for women**’ was conducted among the student participants. A good number of students participated and delivered their speech very nicely and enthusiastically which were evaluated by a panel of judges comprising of senior faculty members of the institute, Dr. Sucharita Chakrabarti, Dr. Soma Mukherjee, Ms. Suparna Karmakar and Mr. Susovan Dutta. **Total 104 no of students** from B.Tech were participated on that event.



**All GNIT staffs and students are celebrating International Women's Day, 2021
Food Distribution to Old age home in the period of Pandemic Outbreak of
COVID19**

On behalf of Gurunanak Institute of Technology- Staff's, Teachers and NSS SFU student members were visited "**Gobinda Kumar Home**" Old-age Homes at Sodepur on **02-03-2021** and met with the inmates and distributed Dry fruits and foods. Total **11 No of B.Tech students** were participated. GNIT staff's and students (NSS unit) were contributed huge amount of Dry fruits to all members of "**Ramkrishna Bridha Ashram**"-A old-age home, Panihati, Sodepur on **03-3-21**.





Distribution of Educational kit, hand sanitizer to Sabar girl students of Belpahari, Jhargram

Faculty, staff members and students are also involved in distribution of Educational kit, hand sanitizer (made by GNIT Chemistry section), mask, chocolates and sweets among the **Sabar girl students from Belpahari, Jhargram at Satyabharati orphange in Nabagram, Hooghly**. Dr.SreyasreeBasu, Asst. Professor, ASHU Dept., took the initiative of the program and Dr.Indrajit Bhattacharyya, Asst. Professor, ASHU Dept., Dr.Debasree Saha, Asst. Professor, EE Dept., Mr. Chandan Kumar Bhattacharyya, JTA, ASHU Dept. were also involved. Total **12 no of B.Tech students** were participated alongwith NSS team of GNIT on **1st February 2021**.



Our NSS staffs and students distributes Educational kit, own made hand sanitizer to Sabar girl students of Belpahari, Jhargram