

## **CHAPTER-II**

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

A literature review is a “critical analysis of a segment of a published body of knowledge through summary, classification, and comparison of prior research studies, reviews of literature, and theoretical articles” (University of Wisconsin Writing Center).

Several research studies have been conducted on NSS, though the studies available have been reviewed in this chapter. As N.S.S has been in operation with Regular and Special Camps for the last 46 years since 1969-70, the Importance of NSS is pointed out by so many experts in the various seminars and training programmes related to NSS and other activities. There are the annual reports which are published regularly which convey information about NSS activities. Apart from it research articles are published in academic and research journals. In this chapter publications related to the present study are briefly reviewed and analyzed.

NSS is known generally to a student when he/she comes out from 10 + 2 study that is the first year in college life. Here they meet NSS for the first time; NSS is introduced to them as a service to the community to be worked under Programme Officer. They join NSS on their own and for the first time work in college and in society with other students and not with their own parents, so naturally responsibility of work is directly thrust on them. To merge oneself to work in the college campus without hesitation definitely helps to mould their personality. As an extra-curricular activity during the span of college life NSS has very different aim and motto to develop a student in all respects and make him / her responsible to handle community problems individually.

**In a research report M. S. Gore** stated that the NSS programme could be served as laboratories for the understanding of social and economic problems of the area and sectors covering the daily contacts of the students. The NSS programmes had created awareness among the students about the economic problems of the community and developed a sense of involvement in the process of the economic growth of the country. The NSS programmes should be problem oriented so that the students can understand the problems better and try to find out how they can contribute their

efforts and knowledge to the solution of those problems.

The researcher has highlighted the socio-economic aspects of the youth and the community. The assessment of the condition is done to bring empowerment towards more sustainable enhancement of the community. The ways and means are elaborated to reduce the present economic vises from the community. The study has been a starting point to understand and fulfill the objectives of the NSS.

**S. K. Huble** in a research study indicated that a tremendous communication gap existed between the urban and rural communities and between the educated and illiterate population. This could be bridged by NSS college students and it could become the major instrument in mass education.

The research is of the view community participation NSS volunteers can act as mediator to bridge the gap of communication between rural and urban community. NSS at large can act as a resource to community for bringing change in terms of making community literate, assisting them to give exposure to come on a platform to discuss and plan the betterment of the society.

**An evaluation study was conducted by TISS Mumbai (1986-87)** shows that a vast majority of volunteers perceive NSS experience as contributing to their personality development besides helping them to understand and to serve the community and a constructive opportunity for use of leisure time.

The study reveals that participation in community activities and offering service to community helps a lot to the NSS volunteers for the development of personality. It also helps them to understand the community problems and it is perceived by NSS volunteers that by offering service to the community they use their leisure time in constructive way.

The study from Kerala State by **Prof. P. K. Mohammad** and **Prof. I. V. Soman** finds that NSS students have more seriousness in social problems than non NSS students. Unemployment, poverty, education problem, and corruption were the main social problems taken into consideration. It is also found that leadership skill is not developed as it was expected. Only ¼ of students come forward as a leader.

The researcher came to the conclusion with very positive outcomes of NSS in terms of Youth Development. It is seen that those who participate in NSS activities seems to develop more seriousness to the existing social problems. It is also found that student volunteers develop leadership skills as an outcome of community participation.

Prof. **K. G. Saiyidain** (1960) studied national service by students implemented in several countries of the world and submitted a report under the title “**National Service for the Youth**” to the Government of India with a number of recommendations as to what could be done in India to develop a feasible scheme of social service to be introduced on a voluntary basis and extended as widely as possible with a provision for rich and varied programmes of activities. It was also recommended that social service camps should be open to students as well as non-students within the prescribed age groups for better interrelationship.

The report submitted with few recommendations that Government of India should come up with a new scheme for youth wherein community based voluntary social service should be imparted which can contribute to the youth development. It also recommended that the scheme should have a wide range of programmes which can be offered to youth for enhancing their inter relationship skills.

**Prof. T Ramchandara** in his research article ‘**NSS for youth and role of voluntary organisation**’ published in **Indian Journal of Social Work**, Vol, 22 was of the opinion that youth possess idealism, enthusiasm and energy, which should be fully utilized in work campus. Through participation in community service, youth can become aware of his social responsibilities, which will create in him a desire and longing to have a constructive attitude towards the day to day problems of the villagers and will also simultaneously help him in the formation of character.

A programme of this nature has to be launched with a great tempo and carried through efficiently, so that results can be watched and assessed, pitfalls set right and achievements pursued with a dynamic characteristic of youth.

The present study elaborates and appreciates the activities of NSS. The activities bring cohesion with society and the youth. The study identifies the youth potential and assists in channelizing the potential for the greater societal development. The study focuses on the development and enhancement of the youth through sensitive outlook towards the social problems and its solutions. Youth becoming responsible to undertake the social responsibility, the sensitivity towards social problems enhances the capacity to deal with the problems of the society.

**Prof. L. Munshi** in his research article ‘**National Service Scheme; should be compulsory or voluntary**’ says that in a country like ours where the vast areas are to be covered medical relief and communication, there is nothing wrong in making these sere: compulsory for the students to a limited period. It is not only the nation as a whole, which will be benefited, but the participants themselves will also be greatly benefited. This kind of social service will make them acquainted with the people and the practical problems to be faced in life and will greatly benefit them in their careers.

The study focus on the volunteerism and mandatories of NSS, the findings of the study support that there is no harm in making it a mandatory practice. Because while making NSS mandatory it has brought greater service to the society through medical relief services to the community. It has benefited the volunteers at a large level to shape them as good civilians. While making youth competent and sensitive to social issues ultimately the Nation is developed. The NSS ultimately brings good of an individual and through individual makes nation virtuous.

The Education Commission headed by **Dr. D.S. Kothari** (1964-66) recommended that students at all stages of education should be associated with some form of social service. This was taken into account by the State Education Minister during their conference in April 1967 and they recommended that at the university stage, students could be permitted to join the National Cadet Corps (NCC) which was already in existence on a voluntary basis and an alternative to this could be offered to them in the form of a new programme called the National Service Scheme (NSS). Promising sportsmen, however, should be exempted from both and allowed to join another scheme called the National Sports Organization (NSO), in view of the need to give priority to the development of sports and athletics.

The report reveals the importance of the social service among the students. The report also reveals that the youth should be physically fit and mentally sound. The uprightness would bring greater glory to the nation. Hence, the recommendations of the reports revealed the importance of the training in sports and social service. By doing all that national integration would be brought in focus.

**The Vice Chancellors' Conference** (September, 1969) welcomed this recommendation and suggested that a special committee of Vice Chancellors could be set up to examine this question in detail. In the statement of national policy on education of the Government of India, it was laid down that work experience and national service should be an integral part of education. In May, 1969, a conference of the students' representatives of the universities and institutions of higher learning convened by the Ministry of Education and the University Grants Commission also unanimously declared that national service could be a powerful instrument for national integration. It could be used to introduce urban students to rural life. Projects of permanent value could also be undertaken as a symbol of the contribution of the student community to the progress and upliftment of the nation.

**K. K. Banerjee** (1971) in his research report "**NSS & Professional Course Students**" showed that the success of the NSS depended on well-defined objectives and their implementation. From the beginning, emphasis had been laid down on the theme that it is a two-way scheme. First was a direct service related to the improvement of the existing situation, and second was on challenging problems connected with human relationship and their service. Social service programmes, from the agriculture and engineering sides must focus on projects and some activities like use of farm implements, soil testing, use of fertilizers, plant protection, soil conservation, aid in rural electrification etc.

"Volunteers develop themselves through NSS in which development of personality is an important aspect", says **Bharath H. Desai** in his thesis on '**A social Psychological study of the effectiveness of the National Service Scheme in developing some aspects of the student personality**' (University of Pune 1982). The social responsibility, an understanding of social problems, attitude towards the positive constructive work and altruism are the basic important things. The researcher came to above conclusion that critical attitude towards social work and

positive approach is to be developed. On the basis of his experience Dr. Desai further states that it depends on what group you face. If it is advanced / advantaged, the personality development makes not much difference but if it is from low, the difference is noticeable.

The thesis presents the view that NSS definitely contributes in development of personality of college youth. Short term projects could create more attachment to work. This study also suggests that NSS should be given full-time justice with fulltime Programme Officer to look into it. It should be given an importance of degree in the field of social work, as since long such departments are running individually like Red-Cross, Earn and Learn etc.

About training of the Programme Officer, Dr. Desai further states in his thesis that the matter to be taken into consideration is to what extent the Programme Officer is sensitive. Sensitive about facing social problems, facing the society, this is apparently non-cooperative while understanding villager's basic problems.

In a study “**Non-Formal Education for Rural Women**” (1985) **Gurmeet Hans** mentioned that the students and teachers could play a very significant role in the non-formal education. NSS volunteers as educated youth could carry out relevant information or knowledge to the masses. However, it must be recognized that women as adult learners have a wealth of experience. In recognition of women’s ability, roles, and skills, they may be asked to take the place of the teacher in non-formal education whenever possible.

**R. R. Singh** conducted **an evaluation of the NSS** (1986-87) covering eight states and union territories of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and Union Territories of Chandigarh and Delhi. His evaluation pointed out that NSS had played a dominant role in the development of students’ personality and community. It had utilized the leisure time of students for social service not only to help the community but also to provide an opportunity to work in the community.

**Dr. M. C. Nanavathy** (1993) in an article '**Integration of Human Resource Development Programme with Community Development: Social Work Intervention in the Global Programme of Development**'. published **Indian Journal of Social Work**, LIV (2), 241-250 said that The government of India should establish training and orientation centers to plan, supervise and evaluate NSS activities and to train and orient the POs in the philosophy of the scheme. It has been observed that social work educators and teachers are preferred as programme coordinators at the university level and as POs at the college level. This conventional association between the scheme and the subject should be broken and the scheme should be coordinated with other disciplines also. Their experience in teaching, training the students in community work and action research should be taken into account during their appointments as programme coordinators, training coordinators, lecturer cum community organizers and POs. Inter disciplinary approach will help in realizing the goal advocated by Frumkin and Lloyd (1995) that the relationship among practice social work and community should be rekindled to promote social change. There is need for enablers to stimulate the human resource development.

**Dr. P. Sanjeev Dixit** in his thesis on '**National Service Scheme in Andhra Pradesh – an appraisal of the programme and the performance of the key functionaries**' says that, if the coordination between Principal Programme Officer and Volunteer is good then NSS can be successful. He came to this conclusion by analyzing factors behind successful and unsuccessful Programme Officers on some parameters. He ultimately suggests in his research work that 'Training' is an essential factor for the successful Programme Officer. Work situation demonstration, projects, and field visits, mini camps could be helpful according to his investigation to get proper insight into the programme.

**Rekha Dutt** in a report '**NSS Camping Programme for Youth**' showed that Special Camping was an integral part of the NSS programmes. It had a special appeal as it provides unique opportunities to students to participate in meaningful outdoor programmes and use their energy and idealism for community work and in nation building. The camp provides an opportunity to live and work together harmoniously with groups of students drawn from different areas and belonging to different castes and social, religious and language groups. It provides an experience

in mutual adjustment and adaptation to new, changing, and challenging situations. It helps in developing among students' qualities like character, courage, and confidence, decision making, democratic attitudes, resourcefulness objectivity, and leadership.

In 1996-1997 Department of Youth Affairs and Sports entrusted the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA, New Delhi) the task of making the evaluation study of NSS Programme. The major findings were about ideas, structure, grants and functions performed at various levels.

The NSS comes under the Union Department of Youth Affairs and Sports and implemented through the institutions coming under University Grants Commission which is an autonomous body in the Department of Education under Ministry of Human Resource Development. The NSS at plus Two level is implemented by the education departments of the respective state. Wherever it is operational while the grants and guidelines emanate from the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, the functionaries at the implementation level i.e. Co-ordinators, Programme Officers and Volunteers are directly governed by the rules and regulations issued from the UGC and the State Governments. The study found the inter-departmental coordination missing at all levels.

The NSS is sandwiched between volunteerism and bureaucratism. It is an organization but runs under volunteerism. So when the question arises about grants co-ordination between the apex organization and NSS Regional Centre should be smooth in relation. Of course, State Liaison Cell is there for timely release of grants.

The study of the Indian Institute Public Administration shows that National Service Scheme State Liaison Cells do not serve their useful purpose. The performance of State Liaison Cell is reviewed for the sake of their existence. A Field project observed that sometimes programmes are curtailed. If this is to be stopped, the formula of one unit one village locality - one programme activity over a period of time may be adopted. And finally it is suggested that NSS should be known as 'National Youth Service Scheme'



**Dr. M. B. Dilshad** has raised some different aspects regarding lack of work procedure in his thesis '**NSS in Karnataka**' (Karnataka University, Dharwar 1997). It is seen that many times there is a lack of co-ordination, a lack of communication regarding functions to be performed in camps.

The release of funds is a big problem, because nothing can be done further without funds. In some cases Programme Officers are not properly trained. Especially Dr. Dilshad in his thesis makes a case for the proper selection of right kind of volunteers, and coordination between Programme Officers and administration and the researcher has shown that both volunteers and Programme Officers required perfect training.

**Dr. Suresh H.S.** submitted his Ph. D. thesis to SRTM University, Nanded in 2002 on '**Role of NSS Programme Officers in Effective Implementation of NSS Problems and Perspectives**'. The research study was undertaken with the twin objectives of understanding and analyzing the profile of NSS Programme Officers and the perceptions they hold in their own role in the fulfillment of the objective of NSS. The study validates the hypothesis of NSS that there is positive relationship between the role expectations of NSS and role perceptions of the Programme Officers. The researcher has studied the profile of 275 respondents to show that the interdisciplinary approach, the youthful age group, the increasing involvement of female Programme Officers are positive indications of the present and the future working of NSS as a service organization. The problems which have remained the same are the inadequacy of grants and the lack of training. The removal of bottlenecks at various levels in the implementation is equally desirable. The incongruity between volunteerism and bureaucratism should be abolished. It is concluded that NSS is a noble experiment to bridge the gap between precept and practice. It is imperative that NSS training imparts some marketable skills and imparts a sense of obligation to serve the society the indomitable youthful spirit the uncompromising stand on ideals and values and the limitless energy of the young volunteers of NSS hold great promise for the future. NSS can empower youth to empower the nation.

In a research study for his doctoral thesis **Dr. Dhananjay Lokhande** (2006) has attempted to study **the impact of NSS programmes on the NSS Student Volunteer and Community at large with particular reference to the NSS activities in University of Pune** jurisdiction of Pune, Ahmednagar and Nasik districts. The

researcher found that the impact of NSS activities on the NSS student Volunteer was a considerable upward rise in self-confidence, communication skills, social commitment, problem solving skills in personal and public life and positive approach. The student Volunteers felt a sense of satisfaction due to the personal involvement in the task of nation building projects. The members of community admitted the impact of NSS activities through the greater awareness of hazards of health and environment, better social behaviour and knowledge of the sources of, income generation. The researcher has made different suggestions, to improve the activities of the social service organization namely NSS. He recommends that NSS be made a regular full time permanent academic programme for the involvement of the collegiate youth in constructive Community Welfare activities.

In a research article published in **Indian Journal of Youth Affairs** (2008, Vol.12) **Ms. Saigita Chitturu** mentioned that harnessing youth for National Service is a very old idea. In the present system of education manual work finds scarcely any place and this has important consequences for national development. It was, therefore, proposed that some manual work should be encouraged as a daily routine at some stage during the course of education. In India ever since independence the idea to engage youth in some form in the National Service cropped up. Youth falling within the age group of 15-35 years constitutes nearly 40% of the total population of India. This group which is the most vibrant, dynamic and vital segment of the country's population constitutes potentially its most valuable human resource. To optimally tap their constructive and creative energies, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports pursues the twin objectives of all round development of individual's personality and nation - building, i.e. developing the personality of youth and involving them in various nation-building activities. The Ministry has many youth organizations namely N.S.S, N.C.C, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Youth Hostels, and National Youth Project.

**Alok Chantia** (2008) published a research article title **Awareness Regarding Activities of National Service Scheme: An Appraisal**, He conducted study on NSS volunteers of Sri Jai Narain Post Graduate College, Lucknow. He conducted research to inquire the awareness level of volunteers regarding aims and objectives of NSS and its extension activities.

He found that,

- Most of the students are aware of aim and objectives of N.S.S.
- Maximum respondents joined NSS with the feeling of rendering country service
- It seems that only emphasis is upon the plantation for the conservation of environment and other activities in this regard are being neglected.
- No work is being done for improving reproductive health and child health.
- Nothing has been done for women's literacy, NLM and MPFL.
- The study reveals that respondent volunteers are aware of some of the activities of N.S.S. but not of all.

More and more students should be motivated to take up N.S.S. as it can mould the students into conscientious enablers to expedite the development process and energize the functioning of society. The chief concern of the N.S.S. should be to identify the youth as a social construct in order to redefine and relocate their position in the society. The authorities concerned should work together for popularizing N.S.S. programmes so that the energy and vigor of the youth may be utilized for building a strong and healthy nation.

**Tata Institute of Social Sciences conducted an evaluation study of NSS in India, (2008-09)** it revealed that The students gained significantly through their involvement in NSS programmes in the form of personality development - personality skills like confidence and communication increased because of working in the community. Students acknowledged that the NSS had positive impact on them by nurturing their skills in relating to and communication with the people. This effect was pronounced in Chandigarh and Maharashtra, as compared to the other states which showed least impact. Placement agencies and communities preferred to continue allowing NSS volunteers to work with them.

NSS was considered important to the stakeholders – student volunteers and community - because it developed the personality of the students, it also supported development in the communities. A special theme for the camping was “Healthy Youth for Healthy India”, the effect of the campaign on the communities indicated that in majority of the states focus of work was on health related issues; such

programmes did well in imparting knowledge and awareness amongst the women on health and sanitation issues.

As far as the volunteers are concerned the change is significant in a small proportion of them, and others carry positive benefits of volunteering to guide them in life. The value of volunteerism is not stressed in all colleges but the learnings from some of the colleges are worthy of reflection. The privilege of access to college education and opportunity for accumulation of information and knowledge that the youth have, are shown to impose certain obligations on them to serve the society. A sense of responsibility is instilled amongst the youth by the processes of value education some of the colleges impart. Many volunteers have gone on to work with several campaigns in the country which are seen as tangible outcomes of a value based volunteerism instilled by NSS programme at the college level. This learning and experience of volunteerism can be strengthened in the redesigned NSS Scheme.

The study suggested some further change.

- a) The Income group should be taken into consideration while selecting the volunteers. Higher Income-group needs more exposure.
- b) Women Programme Officers should be increased, which will be helpful for participation of girl's volunteers. At present only 6% Women Programme Officers are in force.
- c) Orientation of students is a must, because students should be capable of analyzing the things between. The perfect time and perfect orientation can make NSS work a valuable educational experience.
- c) To know the importance of National Days or celebration of festivals, these events should be celebrated in villages and not in colleges.
- d) Most disgusting observation was about knowledge of NSS objectives. 77 % of Programme Officers were oriented and their knowledge was poor, which shows the lack of training.

**‘Developing life skills in undergraduate learners through National Service Scheme’** studied by **U. Vashishtha and S. Mishra**. They studied about 150 students from 13 state universities of Uttar Pradesh who attended a 7 day special Model

national integration camp. After the camp the students were asked to fill the questionnaire about their perception of the camp in their life skill development process. Findings were very encouraging as exhibited from the responses given by students, that such camps as a part of NSS activities do play a prominent role in developing various life skills in undergraduate learners.

**K. Y. Ingale** and **D. D. Pawar** in a research article says that says that students' participation in NSS based extracurricular activities influences their achievement in Mathematical Sciences and this of course shows that generally students non participation in any of these activities account for the students' poor achievement. They further says that students need to be aware of the NSS based extracurricular activities available to them and the effect that each specific activity has on their academic performance. Not every student will benefit from or be impaired in the same manner that studies revealed concerning extracurricular activities.

**Prof. M. A. Sudhir** and **R.A. Rasi** in a research article '**Population aging: service of youth**' published in **Help age India-research and development journal**, says that The National Service Scheme (NSS) should act as a catalyst to offer service to the elderly through special camps, orientation programmes and moral education. NSS volunteers generally work in villages, slums and voluntary agencies to complete 120 hours of regular activities during an academic year. As per the National Service Scheme, a volunteer is expected to remain in constant touch with the community and 70 hours of community service is allotted for a volunteer in an academic year. The youth volunteer of NSS could be used to offer services to the needy elderly. Inculcating the syllabus related to different problems in old age with NSS volunteer services may enable the students develop a better understanding of the population ageing.

**B. C. Swain** in an article '**A study on implementation of National Service**' published in The Ravenshaw Journal of Educational Studies said that almost all the Programme Officers and volunteers stated that the problems in the organization of NSS activities include: finance, non-cooperation of Principals, students were not attracted towards NSS, local community were not cooperative, problem of cooking food for NSS volunteers and no proper guidance to students for carrying out different NSS activities.

The Programme Officers and Volunteers gave different suggestions for the successful organization of NSS activities in the institutions. The major ones include: more finance for NSS programme, weightage should be given to NSS volunteers during admission to different courses, adequate training for resource persons, co-operation, appointment of district co-ordinator for NSS, regular interaction of Programme Officers with volunteers, motivation to freshers, dress code for NSS volunteers and quality food.

The supervision of NSS programme was done by different officers such as Programme Co-coordinator, NSS; Principal; and State Liaison Officer.

In an article **Youth and Civic Engagement in India: A Case Study of National Service Scheme of India** published by **Dr. Vijay Laxmi Pandit** Intellectual Resonance, DCAC Journal of interdisciplinary Studies says, participation in various activities of the NSS helped respondents in many ways such as acquiring the skills and capabilities, understanding the community problems being faced by them and the possible solutions. In his research he found that respondents like to continue with the voluntary work to help their community. He suggested that youth from diverse background should be motivated to join the NSS. Further he says NSS is one of programmes that aim at helping the youth, to acquire necessary skills and capabilities so that they can play an important role in the reconstruction of the society. The NSS inculcates the value of “giving back” to the community, in the youth. By working in the community, they develop a variety of skills and gain new perspectives. It enables them to develop leadership skills, self-esteem and positive attachment to their communities. This will go a long way in enabling them to realize their full potential. The rewards of a youth empowerment approach, like the NSS, are significant. It is essential to invest in youth empowerment as they are leaders of tomorrow and if opportunities are made available to put their natural abilities through creative and productive channels, they can go a long way to create a vast reservoir of wealth for the next generation.

Based on the above it is concluded here that it is agreed by almost all the practitioners and research scholars that engaging youth in community development work is a good approach to channelize the energies of youth in constructive work. This effort can lead to the development of students, community and ultimately the nation. Different

views found on the execution of the NSS programmes, Impact of NSS on Student volunteers, and it's Administration. Many of the researchers found that NSS could be served as a means for the students to understand social and economic problems of the community. It also helps students in terms of personality development, leadership, to understand and to serve the community, to develop more seriousness in social problems, self-confidence, communication skills, social commitment, idealism, problem solving skills and many others. It is also stated that NSS contribute a lot to community in terms of mass education, health awareness, Environmental consciousness, better social behavior, etc. It is also found that NSS is facing many problems in terms training and orientation to NSS volunteers and Programme Officers, leadership skill of the students is not developed as it was expected, Lack of coordination between Principal, Programme Officers and Volunteers, lack of awareness regarding roles to be performed, problems of funding and release of grant, Limited activities conducted in community, etc. It is suggested that NSS programmes should be problem Oriented, it should be made compulsory to the students for limited time, full time Programme Officers be appointed, POs should be sensitized to community problems, Trainings should be provided at all levels, more students should be motivated to join NSS, more finance for NSS programme, weightage should be given to NSS volunteers during admission to different courses, etc.

As stated many research studies have been conducted in different regions of the nation by scholars and practitioners. They covered areas like impact of NSS on Volunteers and community, Need of orientation and training, appointment of Programme Officers, funding, administrative processes, problems faced and so on. The present study is conducted to analyze NSS in Gujarat particularly implementation of NSS Programmes in different Universities.