

PREFACE

Youth is a very important phase of life. Youth age is full of potential and energy, if molded appropriately it can contribute a lot to the society and self but at the same time if we fail to channelize the potential of youth positively it may lead to grave problems. Therefore, it should be taken care that the energies of youth are channelized into right way.

While talking of India as a nation we have larger population of youth in our nation compared to any other country of the world. The energy of youth population can be utilized for the societal development. But at the same time we as a nation are facing many challenges that specifically relates to youth. Un-employment, improper higher education, youth unrest, corruption, negative political scenario etc... directly relates to youth where as many other problems of our nation leads to youth unrest. Instead of such challenges the National Government knows the importance of youth and youth development and thus many initiatives have been taken up and promoted by the government for the youth.

One of the oldest and largest youth development programmes of Government of India is National Service Scheme. It offers Youth Development through community participation. The scheme is implemented in educational institutes to cover all youth of Nation. Community development programmes are carried by student volunteers under the guidance of Programme officers.

It is perceived over the period that through NSS activities the youth of the nation are channelized for better community development. The programme propagates to enhance the youth with their personality, attitudes, attributes, volunteerism and their

overall perspectives towards humanity. The programme is full-fledged implemented all over the nation in the universities and +2 institutions. In spite the good practice and follow up there has been several challenges and lacunas prevailing in the planning, execution and evaluation.

This research is an effort to study and analyze the impact of the intervention of National Service Scheme (NSS) for youth development.

This research is not complete itself in terms of analyzing National Service scheme but this is an effort to gain new insights in the given area. National Service Scheme and its administration is studied here. It includes planning, execution, evaluation, and problems, etc... The opinion of volunteers and programme officers are collected in this research.

This research is an effort to contribute to the area of study in terms of improvement in execution so that desired outcomes can be achieved.

Rajesh M. Patel