

Programmes and Activities of National Service Scheme: A Study on B. Borooah College

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1. Introduction

Today, education is not bound only within the four walls of classroom. It aims at all-round development of the individual. As such educational institutes and government has taken several initiatives to fulfill it. In order to achieve physical, intellectual or social development, government has launched various schemes. The education Commission (headed by Pratalya Ravi from 1964-66) recommended that students at every stage of education should be associated with same form of social service. This was taken into account by the state education ministers during their April, 1967 conference. They recommended that university students could join the National Cadet Corps (NCC) which was already in existence on a voluntary basis or the new National Service Scheme. Promising athletes, however should be exempted from both and allowed to join another scheme: the National Sports organization (NSO). In September 1969, Vice Chancellor's conference welcomed this recommendation and suggested that a special committee of vice-Chancellors could examine the question in detail. In a government statement of National Policy on education, it was stated that work experience and national service should be an integral part of education. Quelling to the needs and importance of such organization the investigator tries to make a study on the programmes and activities of National Service scheme (NSS) in B. Borooah College.

2. History of national service scheme (NSS)

The National Service Scheme (NSS) is an Indian government sponsored public service program conducted by the Department of Youth Affairs and sports of the govt. of India. Popularly known as NSS, the scheme was launched in Gandhiji's birth centenary year, 1969. Aimed at developing student's personality through community service, NSS is a voluntary association of young people in colleges and universities. After independence the university grants commission, headed the introduction of voluntary national service in academic institutions. This idea was again considered by the central advisory Board of Education (CABE) at its meeting in January, 1950, after examining the idea and the experience of other countries in this field, the board recommended that students and teachers should devote time to voluntary manual work. In the draft first five- year plan adopted by the government in 1952, the need for social and lab our service by Indian students for one year was stressed. In 1958, Jawaharlal Nehru, in a letter to the chief ministers, considered the idea of social service as a pre-requisite for graduation. He directed the Ministry of Education to formulate a suitable scheme for the introduction of national service into academic institutions.

3. Drafting of scheme

In 1959, a draft outline of National Service Scheme was placed before a conference of state education ministers. The conference agreed on the urgent need for a workable scheme for national service, and suggested the appointment of a committee to work out details of the proposed pilot project. The National Service Committee was appointed under the chairmanship of C.D Deshmukh on August, 1959 to make concrete suggestions in this direction. The commotion recommended the introduction of national service for a period of nine months to a year, however, the recommendation was not accepted because of its financial implementations and difficulties in implementation. In 1960, the government appointed K.G Saiyidain to study how national service by students was implemented in other countries. He submitted his report, "National Service for the Youth," to the government with recommendations to develop a feasible scheme of social service by Indian students.

4. Launch of National Service Scheme (NSS)

In May, 1969, a conference of student representatives (of universities and institution of higher education) convened by the Ministry of Education and the University Grants Commission also unanimously agreed that a national service scheme could be an instrument for national integration. The details were worked out and the Planning Commission sanctioned an outlay of Rs.5 crores for the National service scheme during the fourth five- year plan, stipulating that the national service scheme be a pilot project in selected institutions and universities. On 24th September, then-Union Education Minister V.K.R.V Rao launched the national service scheme at 37 universities in all states and universities in the country.

5. National Service Scheme Programmes and Activities

National service scheme has two types of programmes Regular activities and special camping programmes. Students unrolled as national service scheme (NSS) volunteers are expected to work in the scheme for a period of two years and also participate in special camping programme of 10 days duration.

6. Activities of National Service Scheme's programmes/ activities

- i. Making education more relevant to the present situation to meet the felt needs of the community and supplement the education of the university/ college students by bringing them face to face with the rural situation.
- ii. Encouraging students and non students to work together along with the adults in rural areas.

- iii. Emphasizing dignity of labour self help and the need for combining physical work with intellectual pursuits.
- iv. Encouraging youth to participate enthusiastically in the process of national development and promote national integration through corporate living and co-operative action.
- v. Developing qualities of leadership by discovering the latent potentialities among the campus, both students as well as local youth (rural and urban) with a view to involve them more intimately in the development programme and also ensuring proper maintenance of the assets created during the camps.

7. Brief profile of B.Borooh college

B.Borooh College was established in the year 1943 in the name of Bholanath Borooh, a dayen of Assamese business and a close associate of Sahiyarathi Lakshminath Bezbaruah Bharat Ratna Gopinath Bordoloi, the first chief Minister of Assam, was the founder Principal and the first president of the college governing body. The college grew under the shadow of the Second World War and as a part of the nationalistic struggle against foreign rule. The British Administrators had ordered the discontinuation of study of those students of cotton college who had joined the freedom movement Bordoloi, along with some nationalist and educationists of Assam, decided to establish a college at Gauhati classes started from 13th of September 1943, with 15 students in the premises of Kamrup Academy Higher Secondary School in the evenings so as to enable poor students to pursue their higher studies even as they earned their livelihood during the day. Till the establishment of Gauhati University in 1948, B. Borooh College was affiliated to Calcutta University. The college had illustrious persons like Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi and Charismatic parliamentarian Hem Barua as its principal Hem Barua was succeeded by Surendra Mohan Das, Dr. Pramod Chandra Bhattacharya, Prasanna Kumar Sarma, Dulal Chandra Borthakur, H. C. Deka, Dr. Rekha Deka and Dr. Dinesh Baishya, Dilip Kr. Choudhury, Bonti Choudhury, Dr. Suynil Pawan Baruah, Mrs. Madhurima Das Deka and Dr. Bhabani Kanta Sarma served as Principals in charge at different periods. The present principal of the college is Dr. Satyendra Nath Barman.

The college shifted to its present day permanent campus in 1962. It is also the year when day classes started. The college entered a new phase in its history in 1964, when under graduate course in science was introduced in 2003, the college celebrated Diamond Jubli that witnessed the joyous participation of the whole college community, including a number of alumni. The next year, in 2004 a peer team from NAAC visited the college for assessment and awarded the college B++ grade. Tragedy struck B. Borooh College on 3rd March, 2005 when a devastating fire reduced a major part of the college building to ashes. But like the phoenix, it re-emerged and it was able to carry out all activities as if no disaster had struck and when the new session began in June, 2005 things were as if nothing had happened. This was possible due to numerous well wishers and the relentless service of all those involved with the college. Last year, in September, the college completed seventy glorious years of service to the cause of quality higher education. For all round development of

the students the college provides various programmes and activities like Women's forum-a forum of the female teachers and employees of the college, career counseling cell which functions under the IQAC, provides career guidance and counseling to students, NCC- both the army wing and the naval wing of the NCC are very active, Entrepreneurship Development Cell- constituted to provide exposure to the students in entrepreneurship, NSS- develops social ethics, human values like sincerity, honesty, discipline, loyalty, freedom, individuality, dignity of labourhood, etc. This study is especially emphasizes on programmes and activities conducted by the National Service Scheme in the College.

8. Objective of the study

- i) To study participation of National Service Scheme (NSS), volunteers in different activities.
- ii) To study the nature of activities conducted by National Service Scheme.
- iii) To study whether there exist gender difference in participating in different activities.

9. Significance of the study

Considering all round development as the soul aim of education various educationist and education commissions of India has taken several initiatives to fulfill it. Several social organizations like National Cadet Corps, National Service Scheme etc are the results of these initiatives. These organizations conduct various programmes and activities for all round development of the students Owing to the needs and importance of the programmes and activities conducted by NSS in B Borooh College, the investigator makes an effort to highlight the programmes conducted by National Service Scheme from the year 2014-2016 in B. Borooh College the investigator finds the study relevant as it is important to make the students aware about the programmes and activities conducted by National Service Scheme. This programme may be helpful for the students in developing a positive attitude for social consciousness to render service for the upliftment of the weaker sections such programmes and activities help in all round development of the students. The study is said to be significant because of the reason that it can promote a sense of social awareness which lead to develop true sense of democratic citizenship.

10. De-Limitations of the study

- i. The study de-limits only National Service Scheme of B. Borooh College.
- ii. The study is limited only from 2014-2016 academic sessions.
- iii. The area of study is limited to B. Borooh College only; other institutions are exempted from the study.

11. Review of the related literature

1. Friedman Milton (1912) stated that "What kind of society isn't structured on greed? The problem of social organization is how to set up an arrangement under which greed will do the least harm capitalism is that kind of a system."
2. Freud (1968) remarks "As rationalization increases the irrational grows in intensity."

3. Rodwey Watter (1972) stated that at the level of the individual, development has the implications of increased skills and capacity, freedom, creativity, self discipline, responsibility and material well-being.
4. Coser (1977) remarks that affective action is based on the emotional state of the person rather than in the rational weighing of means and ends.
5. Estes (1997) points out that community development focusses on self help and voluntary co-operation among members or residents of the disadvantaged communities or sectors of society.
6. Selman Robert (1980) stated that we have no choice but to try to learn how our children become socially wise to provide opportunities for them to do so, and to try to understand through both educational and naturalistic research.
7. Cree (2003) stated that it is almost impossible to find a simple definition of social work with which everyone is likely to agree.
8. All Et Farley (2006) points out, community organization is the inter-group approach geared toward tackling social pathologies and increasing understanding of community needs and helping to address them.
9. Fienman M. G. (2010) in a study of the role of social organization in the society remarks that all human beings are social being who mostly choose to live in groups.
10. Rwomire Apollo (2011) remarks that without a general agreement on what constitutes social work, it is difficult to definitively delineate what the role and functions of social work are or should be.

create explanations that a valid beyond a particular time and place, either by direct comparison to other historical events, theory building, or reference to the present day in this study the investigator used the descriptive method.

The investigator also used case study method in which programmes and activities of National Service Scheme unit has been discussed.

Source of data collection:

In a research process, data collection is essentially an important part.

In this study, the investigator collected the necessary required information from the secondary sources like official records, books, publications, reports, journals and online resources.

Tools used:

In order to carry out a sound research investigation, selection of appropriate tools or techniques which are used for collection of cretin kind of evidences or information which will provide data that the researcher requires for his/her study is very important.

In this study interview schedule has been used to collect necessary information interviews are a qualitative method of research often used to obtain the interviewees perceptions and attitudes to the issues. In this study, an interview session was organized between the investigator and the programme officer to collect the necessary information's required for the particular study.

14. Analysis

List of programmes and activities organised by B. Borooah College National Service Scheme (NSS) unit and also by other departments

1. B. Borooah College NSS Unit celebrated 'International Day against drug abuse and illicit trafficking' on 26th June, 2014 by organizing a rally to sensitise the students and common masses against drug abuse and illicit trafficking. All the 100 volunteers participated in the rally.
2. Seven days NSS special camp was organized from 12-07-2014 to 18-07-2014 on the theme "Nature: At your service" at Panjabari, Batahghuli. Forty NSS volunteers participated in the camp. During the period cleanliness drive, tree plantation, interaction programme, street play and an open meeting was held.
3. Youth seminar was held on 5th-6th January, 2005 in which 10 volunteers were selected to participate. Its main objective was to provide sustainable solution for access to safe water and promoting innovation and collaboration.
4. Four volunteers were selected to participate in "National Integration Camp" at Guwahati sponsored by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India held at Arya Vidyapeeth College, Guwahati commenced from 3rd to 9th January, 2015. The camp gave importance on 'Saccha Bharat Abhijan', role of youth to promote National Integration and social

12. Methodology

Methodology is used to give a clear and vivid idea on what the investigator is carrying out in his/her research work. It refers to a procedure, technique or a way of doing something in accordance with a definite plan to carry out research investigation effectively, a sound methodology with effective procedure is very important the present study is designed to obtain detailed information concerned with the programmes and activities conducted by National Service Scheme from the year 2014-2016 in B. Borooah College.

13. Research Method

Research method is a broad term while method of data collection and data analysis represent the core of research methods, we have to address a range of additional elements within the scope of our research.

Types of research method

Research methods are broadly classified into three major types:

- i) **Observational Method:-** Observational research is a group of different research methods where researchers try to observe a phenomenon without interfering too much.
- ii) **Descriptive method:-** Descriptive research method describes situations.
- iii) **Historical research method:-** It is a method of social science that examines historical events in order to

harmony measures of school dropouts, wildlife protection etc.

5. Eight volunteers participated on XIX National Youth Festival, 2015 organised at Guwahati from 8-12 January, 2015. A youth awareness programme under the title 'Suvissar' was held for the development of right type of reasoning particularly meant for the youth.
6. Ten volunteers participated in a youth seminar organized by the Energy and Resource Institute under the theme "Sustainable Solutions for Access to safe water: promoting. Innovation and collaboration." Out of the ten participants, three were selected to participate in YUVA (Youth Unite for Voluntary Action) Meet 2015 held at New Delhi, on 2nd and 3rd February, 2015. In this meet 173 youth participated from 66 colleges in India and 8 other nations (Indonesia, Malaysia, Korea, Canada, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Swaziland, Thailand) All the expenditure was taken by TERI: The Energy and Resource Institute and was financially aided by the Government.
7. One volunteer was selected to participate in National service Mega Camp, 2015 held at Majuli and Dibrugarh University from 19th January to 30th January, 2015 organised by NSS regional centre, Guwahati and Dibrugarh.
8. B.Borooah College NSS Unit celebrated first 'Constitution Day' on 26th November, 2015 in which all the members of the unit actively participated.
9. 12th South Asian Games, 2016 was held from 6th Feb.-16th Feb, 2016. 50 volunteers participated in it and the different activities in which they gave extensive service are accreditation, accommodation, refreshment, hospitality, transportation services and at the closing day they were rewarded with a certificate and also per day remuneration.
10. The Department of electronic and communication, government of India organized a workshop on Digital India in Gauhati University on 3rd March, 2016 in which 14 volunteers participated. Its main objective was to inform the citizens about the various e-services available to them.

B. Borooah College NSS unit also actively organized some of the regular activities, among which three of them are mentioned below:

- a) The volunteers donated blood whenever necessary; volunteers donated more than 30 unit's blood to serve as a community based activity, not only the in-house members of the college but also other members of the society.
- b) The NSS unit under the guidance of the programme officer- Mr. Satyabrat Baruah organized a cleanliness drive programme- Swacch Bharat Abhijan.
- c) A flood relief camp was organized on 9th and 10th Sept., 2015 in which majority of teachers and students donated clothes, food items and utensils.

15. Analysis

An important step in the research process is analysis. Analysis and interpretation of data includes the objective

material of the researcher's possessions and his/ her significant reactions and desires to derive the inherent meaning from the data's in their relation to the problem.

The data collected have been analyzed and tabulated as the following-

Analysis of first observation

The first objective is to study about the participation of NSS volunteers in different activities. The NSS unit of B. Borooah College in the year 2014-2016 has organized the following activities and programmes of action.

- a) B. Borooah College NSS Unit celebrated 'International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking' on 26th June, 2014 by organizing a rally to sensitive the students and common masses against drug abuse and illicit trafficking. All the 100 volunteers participated in the rally.
- b) B. Borooah College NSS unit celebrated first 'Constitution Day' on 26th November, 2015, all the members of the unit actively participated in it.
- c) The volunteers donated blood whenever necessary; volunteers donated more than 30 units blood to serve as a community based activities, not only the inhouse members of the college but also in-house members of the college but also other members of the society.
- d) The NSS unit under the guidance of the programme officer Mr. Satyabrata Baruah organized a cleanliness drive programme- Swacch Bharat Abhijan.
- e) A flood relief camp was organized on 9th and 10th Sept., 2015 in which majority of teachers and students donated clothes, food items and utensils.

The programmes and activates organized by other departments, but participated by B. Borooah College NSS unit are mentioned below.

Activities In 2014

In 2014, the active volunteers of B. Borooah College NSS unit were selected to participate in the 'NSS Special Camp' on the theme nature at your service, youth seminar with the objective to provide solution for access to save water.

Activities In 2015

On January 2015, 'National Integration Camp' was held which gave importance on 'Saccha Bharat Abhijan, role of youth to promote National Integration etc., a youth festival was organized at Guwahati and along with it an awareness programme under the title 'Survivor' was held on Feb. 2015, Yuva meet was held at New Delhi in which all the finances were aided by government, National Service Scheme Mega Camp was held at Majuli and Dibrugarh University.

Activities In 2016

The 12th South Asian Games, 2016 was held, at Guwahati and Shillong from 6th-16th Feb. where 50 volunteers of NSS Unit of B. Borooah College were selected and they gave extensive services to different activities like accreditation, accommodation, refreshment, hospitality, transpiration etc. On March, 2016 14 volunteers participated in a workshop on

Digital India, organized by Department of electronic and communication, government of India held in Guwahati University with the objective of informing the citizens about the various E-services available to them. In the year 2016 till the month of march only these activities and programmes of action have been organized by other departments but the volunteers actively participated in them. The NSS unit of B. Borooah College aspires to organize further programmes and campaign for the promotion of the good of the society and expects the participation of the volunteers of B. Borooah College NSS Unit. In days to come All the 100 active volunteers of B. Borooah College NSS unit every now and then in small members participated in the above mentioned activities with eager, enthusiasm and high spirit.

Analysis of second objective

The second objective is to study the nature of activities conducted by NSS. The nature of activities conducted by National service Scheme is mainly social. The NSS unit time and again has conducted activities and programmes mainly for public awareness and welfare of the society. Apart from cleanliness drive, tree plantation, interaction programmes, street plays, open meeting etc, the volunteers of the unit donates blood whenever necessary and till date more than 30 units of bloods has been donated by the volunteers to serve the community and as a responsible and dutiful member of it. Under the guidance of Mr. Satyabrata Baruah, the unit organizes 'Sacch Bharat Abhijan' in the college campus and other places of the city. In 2015 the volunteers of the unit had organized a flood relief camp and collected clothes, eatables, medicines, utensils etc. for the flood affected areas of Assam.

Analysis of third objective

The third objective is to study whether there exist gender differences in participating in different activities. It has been observed from the data collected about the organization of various activities by the NSS unit of B. Borooah College and participation of volunteers, there exist no gender difference in terms of participation in these activities. Both male and female volunteers of NSS unit of B. Borooah College equally and actively participate in the various activities organized for the sake of the promotion of the good and well being of the society and community at large.

16. Major findings of the study

The researcher has observed the following findings from the study:

- i. The NSS unit since time of its formation has been working for the good cause of the community and society at large.

- ii. At present there are all together 100 volunteers involved in the unit, which consist of both male and female volunteers.
- iii. The NSS unit of B. Borooah college regularly organizes various activities and programmes such as tree plantation, cleanliness drive, interaction programme, open meeting etc in which all the volunteers take active participation and involvement.
- iv. All the volunteer of the unit work in co-operation and co-collaboration for the smooth functioning of the unit as well as of the execution of their plans and activities.
- v. From time to time the unit organizes various awareness programmes among the common masses about the prevalent issues and problems of the society.
- vi. The volunteers of the unit also participate in the various programmes, camps and seminars organized at the National level.
- vii. In terms of participation and involvement in various activities no gender difference among the volunteers of B. Borooah College has been found.
- viii. Though the unit tries to work for the society including all its aspects- cultural, economical, social and political, the nature of the activities conducted by the unit mostly incline towards the social aspects of the society.
- ix. The NSS unit of B. Borooah College including all its active members aspires to carry on their selfless and unbiased work and activities dedicated to the good cause of the society in the years to come.

17. Recommendations:

Some of the recommendations for B. Borooah college National Service Scheme group are as follows:

- i) Programmes and activities conducted by should be highlighted more through electronic and printed media.
- ii) The government should increase the fund for the unit.
- iii) The teachers of the college should encourage the students to be volunteers.

18. Conclusion

The B. Borooah college National service unit is a group formed for implementation and good cause of the society with the motto "Not me but you" The unit consist of 100 volunteers in number. This unit of the college from time of its formation has been organizing various programmes and activities for the purpose of serving the society, with active participation of all its volunteers. In the near future the National Service Scheme units of B. Borooah College hope and aspires to accomplish all its plans and programmes dedicated to the welfare of the community and the society at large.

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