

Sub.: Guidelines for opening Self Financing Units of NSS in educational institutions.

Sir/Madam,

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports is implementing the centrally sponsored scheme of National Service Scheme (NSS), which aims at the personality and character development of students in schools and colleges. Although NSS has remained immensely popular among student youth it has not been possible to cover even 15% of students in the country in the last 38 years of its inception due to budgetary constraints.

Acceding to the requests for introduction of new NSS units in schools and colleges without any financial assistance from the Government of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, F. No. 6-9/2007.YS.III dated 7th June 2010, allowed opening of new NSS units on self-financing basis in addition to the present system of Government funded units.

The State Liaison Officer & O.S.D., NSS, Higher & Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra has discussed a proposal to initiate the NSS Self Finance Unit in the Colleges in the State of Maharashtra in the NSS Programme Co-ordinators meeting. Accordingly, the State Liaison Officer & O.S.D., NSS, Higher & Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra send a circular No. **'kklu fu.kZ; Øekad & ladh.kZ&2010@¼132@2010½@lkh'k&7 fnukad 09 fMlsacj] 2010** to all Universities of Maharashtra with guideline to start NSS Self Finance Unit in the Colleges affiliated to respective Universities. As the guideline provided by the State Liaison Officer & O.S.D., NSS, Higher & Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra the Management Council of University of Mumbai has accepted the above resolution for implementation. Accordingly the Registrar, University of Mumbai has issued a circular No. **?k-e-@4@2012&2013** dated **10 ,fizy 2012** to Colleges for collecting Rs. 10/- per student from all the students enrolled in College affiliated to University of Mumbai, as Fees for NSS Self Finance Unit and the amount collected in the fees of students under NSS Self Finance be forwarded to 'The Finance & Accounts Officer, University of Mumbai', at Finance & Accounts Office, Fort Campus, Fort, Mumbai – 400 032.

The amount collected under this head will be utilise for starting NSS Unit in the Colleges affiliated to University, requesting the new NSS Unit.

College / Institution having existing NSS unit(s) on fully funded basis may also set up new NSS units on self-financing basis. However, they should keep the all records / documents separately. The respective College must appoint NSS Programme Officer to look after the activities through the year, Even the submission of enrolment list of the students, requisition of grants, various reports, list of students completing 120 hrs., documents in respect of 10 marks as an incentive to NSS Volunteers successfully completed 120 hrs., audited statement of Regular & Special Camp activities, etc.

In order to expand the volunteer base of NSS, it has been decided to simplify the 'Procedure for Application'. The proposal for opening new NSS SFUs should be signed by the Principal/ Head of the institution. The institution seeking to open NSS SFU should submit their proposal along with the photocopy of the Affiliation letter, to the NSS Programme Co-ordinator. A copy of the same may be sent to Regional Centre and State Liaison Officer; for their information.

The NSS Programme Co-ordinator will obtain the necessary approval from the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, and convey such approval/disapproval to the concerned institutions.

As indicated in Ministry's letter of even number dated 10th October, 2007, the SFUs will for all practical purposes, be considered at par with regular NSS Units except that the funding for the 'Regular Activity' and 'Special Camping'.

The Ministry/NSS Programme Adviser Cell will be responsible for imparting training, orientation of the key NSS officials of the SFU through its, Empanelled Training Institute (ETI), Ahmedmagar as in the case of fully funded NSS units. These SFUs will also be eligible to participate in all national and international programmes of NSS i.e., Republic Day Camp, students exchange programmes and other special as well as sponsored programmes of the NSS along with fully funded units, the incentive of 10 marks, as per the University Ordinance, NSS District / Zone / University / State & National level awards.

It is requested that proactive action may be taken for covering more and more institutions and wide publicity may be given through notices, electronic/print media, convening special meetings with potential institutions, etc. to avail this new window of opportunity for student volunteers.

The SFUs will for all practical purposes operate as the regular NSS Units except that the funding for the 'Regular Activity' and 'Special Camping'. All the provisions of the NSS manual shall be binding on the NSS Unit on self-financing basis. The initial period of affiliation of the NSS SFU will be 5 (five) years, which can be extended depending on the performance of the units.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

- A prescribed proforma for submission of the proposal is annexed. However it is expected that the proposal will be self contained and will include:-
 - The organizational/management committee details of the Institute including courses offered, no. of students in each class (boys/girls), recognition/affiliation status etc.
 - An operational plan for functioning of NSS including number of Units proposed.
 - Identification of key personnel (Programme Officers/Programme Coordinator etc.).
 - Infrastructure available for NSS operations.
 - Source and scale of funding for NSS activities/programmes.
 - Past experience of the institution in Social work.
 - Statutory details and certificates of recognition/registration if any, with photo copy.
 - Contact details of the Principal/Head of the institution.
- The proposal for opening new NSS SFUs should be signed by the Principal/Head of the institution.
- Institution having existing NSS unit(s) on fully funded basis may also set up new NSS units on self-financing basis.
- The proposal for opening new NSS SFUs should be signed by the Principal/Head of the institution. The institution seeking to open NSS SFU should submit their proposal to the concerned NSS Programme Coordinator.. A copy of the same may be sent to NSS Regional Centre and State Liaison Officer; for their information.
- The NSS Regional Centres will obtain the necessary approval from the Programme Adviser and convey such approval/disapproval to the concerned institutions.

INCENTIVES TO NSS SFU

- The SFU shall be eligible at par with other NSS units for participation in all the state / national level programmes conducted by NSS.
- The SFU shall be eligible to participate in the Republic Day Parade Camps of NSS including the pre RD Camps, Adventure Programme, Mega Camps, Youth Festival, Award etc.
- The SFU will also be eligible to conduct national level programmes of NSS sponsored by other national as well as international/multilateral organizations.
- Volunteers from NSS SFUs will be eligible to participate in all national/ international youth exchange programmes conducted by the Ministry/NSS Hqrs.,.
- The SFUs through their respective NSS Regional Centre and NSS Hqrs. Can avail financial assistance aid under the schemes of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

- The students under SFU will be eligible for incentive of marks as per the University Ordinance.

INTRODUCTION OF NSS- NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

1.1. Background: The National Service Scheme (NSS), a voluntary and value based student youth programme is one of the major youth schemes being operated in the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. It was launched during the birth centenary celebration of Mahatma Gandhi on 24th September 1969 in 37 universities involving 40,000 students in pursuance of one of the recommendations of the Education Commission, 1964-65. NSS, presently (2009-2010) has 32.5 lakh volunteers, in 205 Universities, 14698 Colleges, 1196 Technical Institution, 8174 (+2) Schools and 42 (+2) Senior Secondary Boards/Councils and Directorates of Vocational Education. During its 41 years of fruitful existence more than 3.63 crore students have so far benefited from this largest student-volunteership programme in the world.

1.2. Aims & Objectives: The aims and objectives of the NSS are: (i) to render service to the community while studying in an educational institution; (ii) to arouse the social conscience among students; (iii) to provide them with an opportunity to work creatively and constructively with the community around the educational campus; and (iv) to put the education they receive to concrete social use; and specifically, (i) to work with and among the people; (ii) to engage in creative and constructive social action; (iii) to enhance knowledge of oneself and the community through a face to face with reality; (iv) to use the knowledge gained in the class room in a practical way for mitigating at least some of the social problems; and (v) to gain skills in programme development to be able to be self-employed. The goals are to achieve improvement in personality, leadership potential, national outlook and a sense of civic responsibility.

1.3. Motto: The motto of the NSS is 'NOT ME BUT YOU'. This expresses the essence of democratic living and upholds the need to appreciate the other man's point of view first and to show consideration for fellow human beings. It also underlines that the welfare of the individual is ultimately dependent on the welfare of society as a whole. NSS attempts to establish meaningful linkages between "Campus and Community", "College and Village" and "Knowledge and Action".

1.4. Programmes: The basic unit of NSS consists of 50 or 100 volunteers at school/college level headed by a Programme Officer (usually a lecturer). At the University level, the NSS is looked after by Programme Coordinators (Full-time or Part-time Readers). The State Liaison Cell at the State Secretariat is fully responsible for the implementation of the scheme including timely release of grants to the NSS institutions. The NSS has two types of programmes, viz., (a) Regular activities and (b) Special Camping programmes. Under the "Regular Activities", students are expected to work as volunteers for a continuous period of two years, rendering community service for a minimum of 120 hours per annum. The activities under Regular Programme include improvement of campuses, tree plantation, constructive work in adopted villages and slums; work in welfare institutions, blood donation, adult and non-formal education, health, nutrition, family welfare, AIDS awareness campaign etc. Under Special Camping Programme, a camp of 07 days' duration is conducted every year in the adopted area on a specific theme like "Youth Against Famine", "Youth Against Dirt and Disease", "Youth for Development", "Youth for Mass Literacy", etc. New dimensions have been added in recent years by integrating AIDS Awareness Campaign for student youth under "Universities Talk AIDS/Student Talk AIDS" Programme and "Watershed Management and Wasteland Development Programmes" into the NSS Programme. The theme for the Special Camping Programme for the years 2006-2007 to 2008-2009 was "Healthy Youth for Healthy India". The Special Camping theme for the year 2009-10 is spread over five core areas given below:

1. Environment including preservation of natural resources and conservation of cultural/historical heritage;
2. Health, public sanitation and personal hygiene;
3. Rural development including project identification, programme formation, implementation and evaluation;
4. Education and literacy including legal awareness; and
5. Emergency interventions including trauma care, initial counselling and data Collection

