The present research investigation is conducted covering all aspects of NSS in North-Eastern States of the country. The main areas of investigation included background information, objectives, policies, programmes, financial position, staffing pattern, contribution in social welfare and social development and the problems of NSS in this region. The study work has been divided into nine chapters. In the introductory chapter an attempt has been made to trace the origin, development and evolution of the spontaneous voluntary services from religious charitable institutions; and the later disciplined growth of a different youth voluntary services in England in the nineteenth century—-organisations comprehensive enough to cover health, efficiency, interest and aptitudes of the youths. In course of time, specially after the 2nd World War voluntary organisations (NGOs) were formed in every nook and corner of the world. To make a part of students' voluntary service in academic institutions specially in the higher education National Service Scheme (NSS) was introduced in India in 1969.

In the second chapter detailed discussion was made on the background of the National Service Scheme in India. After the independence, the Indian policy makers thought that the education left by the British as their legacy was totally insufficient, immoral, individualistic and careerist. Taking the references of ancient Indian education, Gandhiji's philosophy on education, Nehru's vision and relentless effort to involve the students to build a new India Nehru favoured introduction of some sort of students' social service in the undergraduate level. Following reports of Indian Education Commission headed by Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan
and after a long debate and discussions among the Student representatives and the top academicians of the country since 1958 to 1969 the Department of Education Govt. of India finally introduced National Service Scheme in India in 1969.

In the ‘Administrative Structure’ an attempt has been made to show how in a democratic way from the Govt. of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Programme Advisor's Cell (NSS), the directions and grants are transmitted to the State Governments, Universities, +2 Councils and how the Universities and the +2 councils transmit the same to its grassroot levels. The chapter also deals in details with the composition, powers, functions and relations among the State Liaison Officer Cells, Universities Coordinator Offices, College and School Units and their Advisory Bodies. The Regional Centre is posted with information to supervise and guide the Scheme.

The fourth chapter deals with the geography, history and the vital statistical information of the region in particular and the states in general. In this chapter state-wise NSS activities with special emphasis on the grants sanctioned by the Government of India and the state Governments as ‘Central and State’ shares are discussed in details.

In the fifth chapter of this study the incentives and the introduction of the Indira Gandhi NSS National Award since 1993–94 to 1999-2000 have been discussed. In this chapter an attempt has also been made to locate the ex NSS volunteers of this region who got services because of their NSS background. Along with these leaders the Indira Gandhi national NSS award winner programme officers and the student volunteers are interviewed and the interviews are incorporated.

The introduction of AIDS education in the form of Universities Talk AIDS (UTA) in NSS has been given due importance in the sixth chapter of the study. The origin of
AIDS, the present position of it in the world and India in general and the North East region in particular has been discussed in details. In preparation of this chapter besides the AIDS affected male, female, child and deaths; the AIDS in highly affected Manipur among the North Eastern States and the preventive measures including the awareness campaigns amongst the NSS and the non NSS student community are discussed.

In the seventh chapter the historical background of terrorism and insurgency in the world and India has been discussed in general and in the North-East in particular. The North-East insurgency is the oldest insurgency in the country. The root cause of this insurgency and how it spread throughout the region for the last fifty years has been discussed. In this chapter an attempt has also been made to analyse how the opportunist so-called self-styled people's leaders in the name of freedom earn crores and crores of rupees by killing, terrorising and kidnapping the innocent people. As a result of their easy money making business the developmental works of this region had suffered setback. Through NSS some lights have been thrown to minimise it by adoption of a well-thought long term plan.

In the last chapter a sincere attempt has been made to examine the whole NSS scheme in this region and tried to show its impact on the student community and society. The problems faced by the NSS in this region are dealt in details. The publicity both by the electronic and the print media, the speeches of the Presidents and the Prime Ministers are also taken into special consideration.

The summary, findings and suggestions of the research work are based on the primary data collected from the field survey conducted for the purpose of the study. However, due help from the secondary data available in the form of official
documents such as annual reports, brochures, folders, books, journals was also taken. Further, the observations made by the researcher during the course of his study has widely helped him in generalising the results.

NSS activities of North-East India are mainly confined to the field of primitive conventional methods such as construction of waiting sheds and road-side urinals, campus cleaning, ponds’ cleanings and village-linked road or bye-lane construction or repairing, tree plantations etc. but these are very insignificant in nature in today’s fast changing world and also these activities alone are not the actual conception of NSS which Mahatma Gandhi - the father of the Nation and the architect of modern India Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru dreamt. A big difference is noticed between the social services rendered by the educational institutions and those of other institutions. NSS has a specific aims and objectives. Its method is scientific and has a big responsibility towards the nation. That is why NSS was formed in India by the Department of Education Govt. of India. But today, except in one or two States of this region NSS has neither reached its coveted goals nor entered in to the minds of students and the public in the real sense of the term. The reasons are numerous- such as ; 1. lack of interest and proper coordination (from Regional Centre-State Government-University to the unit level) 2. Paucity, late release and non release of funds, 3. Corruption and partiality 4. poor publicity and 5. Lack of proper evaluation etc.

For preparation of this research work the researcher visited all the States of this region and contacted all NSS concerned authorities for collection of materials. In spite of the researcher’s best effort to get the response only two out of seven State’s NSS concerned officers responded and talked when the researcher visited their offices. Several officer avoided the researcher. Perhaps they did not want
to disclose the real situation. The researcher also noticed another serious problem of non availability or missing of old documents or records. Except a very few rare cases, the NSS officials from State Govt, University to the Institutional level hardly kept the records in a systematic order. The officials it was alleged that after the expiry of their term used to take away all records from offices and treated them personal property. The researcher have collected some official records from an ex. officer’s home. The States where there is no separate NSS Cell, the In-Charge officials are totally disinterested and thought it as an appendix. In these States non-availability or missing of records is a common phenomena. It creates a lot of difficulty to the researchers to trace the records. Because of this problem the researcher had to face much difficulty in collecting data. The available financial expenditure or fund released by the States as shown in the chapter II in the name of NSS is a huge one and it is our public money. But in practice there is nothing visible evidence in the actual working fields of utilization of the huge NSS amount. The researcher’s experiences of field investigation can be summed up as follows

To begin with Mizoram the NSS State Liaison Office Cell, Aizawl, Govt. of Mizoram, headed by Liaison Officer Mr. Lalhmingthanga can be termed as ‘excellent’ among all the seven states. He was enthusiastic enough to show the NSS programmes implemented by his office. He was of the opinion that all NSS units and the institutional authorities within his jurisdiction were very cooperative and every body is concerned with the programmes (in practical field the reports, photographs which collected earlier by the researcher are found OK during the visit to the state). In the capital city and on the road side towards Assam there were many public urinals, drinking watertanks, rest camps for the commuters, construction and repaired kutcha roads and the plantations done by the NSS student volunteers were found. These visible materials themselves became an object of publicity. This office also regularly published the NSS reports.
Materials have been collected from the State Liaison officers of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Manipur. In Tripura, Mr. Bimal Roy, the Liaison Officer NSS supplied a format of a certificate of NSS and a report of NSS festival 2002 when the researcher visited his office.

But with regard to the institutions and the state capitals as mentioned earlier (except Mizoram) there is no evidence that these states have such a huge student voluntary organization like NSS. Except a few State NSS Cells most of the Offices have no proper NSS sign boards even in the Universities and the institutions. In Manipur the researcher had found only one sign board which was in the University hospital. The colleges the researcher visited there did not give any proof whatsoever that these institutions have any NSS scheme—no flower garden, no plantation or nothing else. The Central Agricultural University of Manipur has a vast flower garden maintained by University itself in spite of an NSS Unit in the University. Most of the colleges of Imphal city such as D.M. college of Arts, D.M college of Science, D.M college of Commerce and G.P.Women’s college and the remote village Kakching college, Kakching in Manipur which the researcher visited have no mark on NSS in these colleges.

In Tripura the M. B. B College (1947) is the famous college. The President of India Dr. A. P. J. Abul Kalam paid his first visit to that Indian state college after assuming the office of the Presidentship. The said college was found to have maintained a very good flower garden in two divisions in the vast fore ground of the college. If at least a part of the garden would have been maintained by the NSS with a small sign board vouchsafing that the garden is maintained by the NSS, it would have been well and good.
The condition of the Women college (1964) of Agartala is also the same. The researcher did not find any NSS activities within the vast college campus. But the Principal was not like that of the M.B.B college (who—the Principal of M.B.B college did not allow the researcher to meet any one of the two NSS Programme officers on the pretext of the President's visit. The researcher has visited the college at 10 O'Clock in the morning and the President has to visit the college at 5 O'Clock in the afternoon. The researcher showed his Identity Card and research guides Certificate and requested him to allow to visit the college in the very next day. But he categorically refused and asked to visit after seven days which was absolutely impossible for the researcher. She immediately called the student leaders (Students' Union Body) and asked them to extend all possible cooperation with the researcher to take the spot interview of the NSS and non-NSS students.

The case of Assam at the present day is also same. Only a handful of colleges are found to have possessed a separate NSS office with a sign board and a little concerned about NSS.

The conditions of the adopted villages/and slums are in very bad condition. No one can imagine that the village was once adopted by the NSS. Even the villagers also did not know the very word 'NSS'. In the hills it is very difficult to visit the adopted villages. In the plains some units grossly violate the basic principles of the NSS and instead of a 10 days' Special Camps they used to organise it for three or four days (one cannot prove it by their reports and photographs that the camp is concluded earlier). Most of the colleges have been found diverting the NSS funds to other heads and like an annual picnic day in which they spent a lump sum amount of money in the name of NSS and sent a small news item to the press and submit it to the Regional Centre.
In 70's and 80's the NSS activities in Assam were of very high standard. The Mongaldoi and the Tangla College did the best work under Gauhati University. The Mongaldoi college’s College Canal was constructed within five years with only an amount of Rs. 30,000 (Thirty thousand only) and the Tangla college constructed a one and a half km long college road from Tangla Rly. station to Tangla college which is noticed with the *neglectedly lying iron signboard* on the college road. The Sibsagar and the Gargaon college ( Dibrugarh University ) under the Programme officers of Prof. Purandar Gogoi and Prof Numal Borgohain did splendid works. The NSS unit of Sibsagar college built one house for lecturer Nitya Gogoi, an economi­cally weak retired professor in the department of philosophy of the college. Prof. Numal Borgohain of Gargaon college in a personal interview told the researcher a very interesting story of NSS during his tenure of NSS programme officership. Under his supervision of the NSS, the students had built a kutcha road of 1.5 km. from Dhodar Ali to Gabharu Pahar in fifteen days’ hard work and with public dona­tions of food and requirements. But they did not hang any sign board that the road was built by the NSS unit of Gargaon college. Within a very short span of time corrupt officials of the Mohkuma Parishad prepared a mischievous plan and esti­mate by secretly surveying the road constructed by the NSS student volunteers and sanctioned a good amount of Govt. money and submitted the report that the work was done by the Mohkuma Parishad itself. When the news came to Prof. Borgohain the officials begged apology and requested him not to complain to the D.C or higher authority.

In the state capitals of the North-East there are many AIDS awareness posters and sign boards, literacy sign boards, family welfare sign boards etc, but not a single one is owned by NSS.
So far as the impact of NSS is concerned, except Mizoram, in other states of this region the impact of NSS on the public mind is almost nil. When NSS is doing something the people think it to be a social service as usually done by the educational institutions from time immemorial. The non-NSS students pursuing higher education also knew nothing except the word 'NSS'. Even most of the NSS volunteers do nothing about the scheme. A good number of the principals of the region are totally disinterested in the scheme and did not consider it worth doing. That is why they always create troubles specially in releasing the fund. The parents and the guardians are not at all aware of the scheme. But the public as well as the entire student community know ‘NCC’ very well. For the Universities Talk AIDS (UTA), an attempt has been made to compare the awareness on AIDS among NSS and non-NSS general students. In some cases in Manipur and Tripura non-NSS students’ performance is better than that of the NSS student volunteers. The fault is not with the students or public. The units headed by the programme officers and the authority concerned are mainly responsible for this.

For success of a people oriented scheme in this age of cut-throat competition and Information & Technology we must not stick to the conventional works as mentioned earlier. These are not very durable and permanent works and the people are inclined to forget and bother least about these. Almost all units used to plant trees from the beginning of the scheme. If the units would have properly implemented the scheme, then till today we must have series of green tree gardens in all educational institutions with NSS name plates. The same problem happens in the case of UTA or AIDS education too. UTA trained students must have some extra knowledge in comparison to the general students as NSS is giving AIDS education with a very good training manual. The condition of village/slum adoption programme
of NSS is also same. Generally the volunteers adopt a village / slum area in a special camp and certainly did some developmental works and a link between the educational institutions and the village/slums is established. But it is observed that the very day the NSS student volunteers leave the village/slum they never care to look back again. In the hills it is very difficult to visit the adopted villages. In the plains some units grossly violate the basic principles of the NSS and instead of a 10 days' Special Camps they used to organise it for three or four days (one cannot prove it by their reports and photographs that the camp is concluded earlier). Most of the colleges have been found diverting the NSS funds to other heads and like an annual picnic day in which they spent a lump sum amount of money in the name of NSS and sent a small news item to the press and submit it to the Regional Centre. The ten days' relation is finished for ever. The NSS units never adopt the same village or slum area for the second time. But they may offer logistic supports, advices, new ideas etc. in a regular basis and the leaders of the adopted village/slums must be invited into college meetings and functions. If we continue our relations and besides these above mentioned activities the scheme had to undertake some sort of new innovative time-matching programmes to link the community with the campus, to make true faithful future leaders and above all, to attract and convince the mass students and the public towards the scheme to popularize it and only then we will succeed in the scheme and the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi, the vision of Pandit Nehru and the dreams of one billion people of this great country will be fulfilled.

The NSS Programmes or the Scheme would have been considered the most important students voluntary service if the concerned policy formulators and the implementing agencies did consider the following things based on the experience of the researcher. They are as follows:
1. The Govt. of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports should specially insist on the Programme Adviser's Cell to include the new schemes like disaster management, anti terrorist campaign, campaign against communal riots and feelings, campaign against fanaticism of religion, strict vigilance against human sacrifices like Sati Dah Pratha (self-immolation) etc. besides the conventional schemes. The Sati Dah Pratha was abolished by Lord William Bentinck (1828-1835 A.D.) in Dec. 4, 1829 by a regulation, declared it illegal and punishable. The Indian reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Ishwar Chandra Vidya Sagar had also fought this fiendish offence. But it is still in existence in many parts of India. As for example, a young educated Rajpoot widow Roop Kanwar, wife of Mall Singh had been forced to go 'Sati' in presence of the villagers a few years ago at Deorala in Rajasthan on September 4, in broad daylight. Reports say that the ill-fated widow did try thrice to flee for life but the barbarous villagers forcefully threw her back into the fire. In the name of religion various superstitious acts like Child sacrifice, animal sacrifice etc. are done in different parts of the country. Only recently, one Tamil Minister along with his followers buried a living child in a village forest. This being published widely by electronic media and newspapers; public anger mounted high and political and public pressure compelled the Minister to quit office. Numerous cases of child sacrifices are found in different parts of the country which appeared in the daily newspapers and TV bulletins.

Another example to cite, a hair rising incident of child killing was recently published in the press. The story is as follows: On 13th June 03 on the eve of

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Ambubasi Mala one Satya Mazumdar hailed from Jamunamukh tried to 
sacrifice a 14th month old girl Taramai Devi in Kamakhya temple peeth. But 
he was caught red-handed. In Hoogli district’s Khanyan of West Bengal a 
nine year old Santhal girl was tied the marriage knot with a street dog in 
presence of a large gathering of guests to protect the family from danger as 
believed by the Santhal Community, reports the District Officials. Crusade 
against such superstitions of the society should be included in the scheme 
of the NSS.

2. To gain mass public support towards the NSS, the authorities should take 
some special steps in public related matters and should organize protest 
movements on terrorist attacks, Kidnappings, or all kinds of violence and 
anti social activities such as murder, all types of injustice towards women, 
children, the day to day rampant corruption in all spheres of life besides the 
daily events of brides murder for dowry, abnormal rise of rape and women 
murders because of sex and sexual harassment etc. In this connection one 
recent hair rising widely protested incident can be mentioned. On 13th July/ 
02, a family from Tripura came to Assam on a family tour and in the night 
the family had to take shelter in the ‘Net Work Travel Agency’, located at 
Paltanbazar in the heart of the Guwahati city. As they arrived much late they 
thought to stay the night at the rest room of the said agency. At mid night 
when the ill fated family slept after a long travel from Tripura, four persons – 
the night Chowkidar, the driver, the Conductor and the handy man of the 
bus took the eight-year old girl from the midst of her parents and raped and 
murdered and dumped her in the latrine of the agency. The very next day

3. Dhirendra Nath Bezbarua (ed). The Sentinel, 17th June /03, Sentinel Press (p) Ltd., Guwahati, 
Assam.
when the incident was published in the news papers and broad cast in the electronic media, the people from all quarters severely condemned the barbaric act. The educational institutions brought out huge protest processions in the roads and demanded the arrest of the culprits and to hang them publicly. One woman Organization called Guwahati Bandh in protest against the brutal murder of Miss Bornali Dev-the ill fated little girl. The Bondh was spontaneous and total and the protest was registered as unprecedented. Taking the same case the major Opposition political party-the Asom Ganaparishad of Assam again called Guwahati Bandh on 3rd August and in spite of the ruling Congress Government's repeated warnings against the bandh called by the Opposition the bandh was successful and total (Doordarshan News 3rd Aug. , the Assam Tribune and the Sentinel 4th Aug./02). But being the students' voluntary organization the NSS could have come at the fore front and protested vigorously. But it is very unfortunate to note that not a single protest voice from any of the NSS Units of this region had been seen on the roads or in the news papers. If a voluntary scheme whose aim is to prepare leaders and human resource for the future development of the country is silent in such type of big anti-social problem, then how the scheme could go to the people? The protest rally or the agitational programme definitely highlight one programme or scheme with the help of the media but two goals are achieved thereby – (1) the publicity and (2) the awareness. Otherwise in this super competitive scientific, Information & Technology age in a conventional manner NSS or any other organization could not survive or reach their coveted goals.

3. In India, the achievements of the Government, problems faced by the country and the future plan and programmes are highlighted by the National
speeches of the Presidents and the Prime Ministers of the country. The speeches reflect the true deeds or achievements of the country and people highly honour these. A Central Government undertaking scheme or project needs special mention of important scheme or project in their speeches. The Programme Adviser's Cell should keep themselves alert to include the NSS achievements in the President and the Prime Minister's speeches specially on 15th Aug.-Independence Day and on the 26 January-Republic Day. If it is done, then the scheme will get the national importance as well as the publicity from the top most level of the Govt. The guardians and the public will also come voluntarily along with their students.

4. To keep the NSS volunteers lively and alert if the authority concerned organize region-wise essay, debate, drama, poster etc. on HIV/AIDS, Preservation of wild life, on abolition of Jhum cultivation in the hill States or impact of Jhum cultivation on environment and society, on terrorist activities or insurgency in North-East India and its impact on the common people, on youths development of work culture and all kinds of Bandhs called by the political and non-political organizations including the banned outfits, women empowerment in NE region, youths' against zehad dowry system, against State corruptions, Communal riots, for communal harmony, against Drugs addiction and for National integration etc. and on such hundreds of modern topics NSS can reach the hearts of the common people. And special seminars on these topics can be organized and also on the Indian reputed leaders like Vinda Karat-women social activist and General Secy. of All India Democratic Women Association (AIDWA), Asgar Ali Engineer -writer and famous social leader, Kiran Vedi - Director General of Police, former supremo
of the Tihar jail, a great social reformer and social activist, Arundhati Roy - world renowned social leader and recipient of the famous Bucker Prize, Megha Patkar - famous women leader and social activist specially known for the Narmada Bachchow Andolen, Chipko movement leader Sunderlal Bahugana, renowned historians like Prof. Romila Thapar, Irfan Habib and Bipan Chandra and Mr. Rajendra Singh - a social activist of Tarun Bharat Sangh (TBS) of Malwar, Rajasthan - the winner of the Magsaysay award for 2001 for his commitment to uplift the downtrodden people of Malwa and his incomparable service for water management etc and the long list of such leaders including the local social leaders can definitely enrich the scheme on the said topics.

5. NSS should organize special programmes to protect and preserve the historical or archaeological monuments (which is not included in the list of the Archeological Survey of India's list) nearby the institutions and special seminar can be held on the monuments, their history and the importance of those monuments should be highlighted and if possible they should be made tourists' spots to attract the visitors and for the maintainance a minimum fee can be charged from the visitors and besides this the NSS should include other programmes to glorify the historical figures, renowned leaders, Freedom Fighters of their own States such as Moniram Dewan of Assam, U. Tirot Singh of Meghalaya, Thangal General and Bir Tikendrajit of Manipur, Laldenga of Mizoram, Bir Bikrom Singh of Tripura and Rani Gaidalu of Nagaland etc. etc.
6. In the rural areas, development plans, employment oriented schemes, self-help schemes, various financial schemes initiated by the Govt. of India should be undertaken and in these schemes the NSS veteran Programme Officers and Volunteers should be included as active members. If it is done then there is no chance of discrimination and the scheme will at least reach the people instead of being confined to the file.

7. The distribution of grants, volunteers' orientation course and the NIC camps conducted by the Universities should be free and fair and the units of every nook and corner must get the chance to avail it. Considering the proper communication and other advantages the Universities, State Govts. always distribute grants, hold orientation and NIC camps mostly in urban colleges and because of this partiality the semi urban and rural college units have lost faith and interest in NSS authority as well as the scheme.

8. There should be decrease in red-tapism in the timely sanctioning of programmes and release of funds. Any discontinuity of funds not only affects the developmental works but as a consequence causes embarrassment to and loss of credibility of the interested public to the voluntary scheme like NSS in question.

9. In India prior to NSS the NCC (National Cadet Corps) and NSO (National Sports Organisation) existed in the educational institutions. In comparison to these organizations the publicity of NSS is very weak from the side of the Govt. of India, the State Governments and the University as well as the
Units too. In this case one NCC example is sufficient to assess the whole matter. Every year in the last week of November the Govt. of India’s Ministry of Defence gives a wide publicity (a full page advertisement in the national dailies, specially in the last page) highlighting the NCC, its benefits and employment scopes. The Presidents, the Prime Minister, the Defence Minister, the Defence Secy. offer their best wishes in message forms and the various selected successful photographs (the Hindu, 24th Nov.02). But in case of NSS neither Centrally ‘NSS Day’ is observed with the national dignitaries with their messages or greetings nor programme highlights are advertised from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Govt. of India. The Government i.e. the parent body should treat equally as the purpose is same.

10. The Govt. of India should actively consider to abolish the word ‘scheme’ and should re-coin the National Service Scheme as ‘National Service Organisation’ and instead of subordinate status it should be given full-fledged independent status like Nehru Yuva Kendra or NCC. Because the word scheme some times confuses the students with National Savings Scheme. On the other hand Scheme is for a specific period only and it has no permanent value. NSS was primarily implemented on purely experimental basis. Now the scheme has already crossed a long thirty three years period and the experiment is already over and it should be given independent status for its better future.

11. Besides the centrally formulated programmes the Regional Centre, State, University and the Units should be given free hand to prepare need based local proposal for NSS.
12. In case of selection or appointment of NSS programme Officers—the key persons of the Scheme there should be specific hard and fast rule that he/she must have the social service background and after completion of the term he/she should be either relieved from programme officership or on the basis of the previous performance may be given a second or final chance.

13. Time to time a Central Survey team should visit and do the on-the-spot investigation and the weak Units may be offered a second chance to improve failing which they may be abolished. The good units should be given more fund to conduct the scheme extensively.

14. The Government of India should strictly direct the State Governments to set up State NSS Cell and the direction should also incorporate that in no case Government can divert the fund meant for NSS.

15. The performances of the Asstt. Prog. Advisers’ and the Youth Officers of the regional Centres should also be checked and they should be engaged to strictly monitor the State, Universities and the college/School Units instead of only doing the despatching works in a routine way. Their cooperation and behaviour is the key to success of the scheme.

16. The Youth Officers or APAs in the regional Centres should be very cooperative and cordial in behaviour. As they have to deal with the three categories of lecturers i.e Lecturer, Sr. Lecturer and Selection Grade lecturer. As per the UGC pay scale and rank their status is a bit high and almost equal with the Indian Administrative Services and that is why they always want good behavior as they deserve in their teaching job. They never tolerate any kind or rude behavior or bossism.
17. Keeping the view of the job scarcity in this competitive era, some posts should be reserved for the outstanding NSS volunteers and in the educational institutions (technical and general) some specific quota for NSS volunteers should be introduced in admission.

18. In order to give incentives to the NSS Programme Officers and to get the maximum devotion, service and utility from them there should be scope for their promotion and the pocket money should be enhanced at par with that of the NCC Officers and Gazetted rank should also be provided to them. The NSS authorities or concerned institutions should fix their programmes in such a manner that they never hamper the normal academic routine.

19. The principals of the colleges and schools are also to be given some sort of NSS training. Sometimes the principal’s disinterest or his ignorance jeopardizes the NSS programme.

20. The present criteria of selecting the NSS Indira Gandhi National Awards for University Coordinators, Programme Officers and volunteers should be reviewed and instead of self applying, on the basis of the best performance (without informing the candidate) the regional Centers, State Governments and Universities should recommend the top most candidate for the national award and put it forward to the Ministry for final decision. In the present criteria some anomalies are pointed out by the awardees themselves. The national awardees must get the privileges like all other national awardees who get the job opportunity, promotion, concession in travelling and some sorts of Govt. quotas in different fields.
21. The NSS regional Centre should open a publicity wing and through this wing the good works of NSS of the region should be focussed and the problems faced by the NSS should be publicly expressed through press conference etc. In this case the North East regional Centre, Guwahati is required to be very much highly active as the NSS scheme of Assam is almost dead and this is because of the non release of the fund by the Govt. of Assam since 1997-98. The Govt. of Assam has diverted more than 36,17,648/- lakhs of Central share and its matching share of rupees 17,75,487/-. The total amount of non-released fund is Rs. 53,93,125 lakhs is lying unutilized with the Government of Assam. But the regional Centre is doing nothing positive to get the fund released.

22. There should be some hard and fast rule for the concerned authority to follow to keep all necessary records year-wise systematically in a project report manner and after completion of an officer's term the same should be bound and should be preserved in Regional Centre, Govt. NSS Liaison Cell or concerned offices, University and at the source itself.

23. The University Grants Commission (UGC) should recognize NSS as one of the elements of the components of the extension education. The refresher and the orientation courses of the NSS should also be recognized and treated like the refresher and orientation course conducted by the UGC Academic Staff College and the programme officers of NSS should get the same academic and monetary benefits and ranks.