CHAPTER IV

NSS ACTIVITIES IN NORTH EAST INDIA
The North-East India, a composite unit of seven States and a constitution of heterogeneous ethnic groups of both plains and hills, tribals and non-tribals, languages, dialects, cultures, religions, rituals, valleys and plains, rich with natural resources and exotic beauty occupies a unique position in the Indian Union. Realising the beauty and cultural diversity of North-East, one can easily term this region as the Cinderella, heaven or paradise of the country. The North-East India is located in the extreme north-east corner of the Indian Republic bounded with the frontiers of the foreign countries like China, Burma, Bhutan and Bangladesh from three sides. Geographically it lies between $22^\circ$ and $29'$ north latitude, and $89^0 46'$ and $97^0 05'$ East longitude. The North East covers an area of 38,863 sq.km. with 9,133 thousand population and amongst them 56.35 covers an area of 255083 sq. km.
The region is linked with the rest of the country by rail and road communication through a narrow (chicken neck) Siliguri neck of 14 kilometres between Nepal and Bangladesh.²

**ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME IN NORTH-EAST INDIA**

The National Service Scheme was also introduced in the North-Eastern part of India along with the rest of the country in the year 1969-70. The present allocation with actual enrolment of NSS volunteers normal and the special camping programmes, adoption of villages and slums with financial involvement of this entire region is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>ALLOCATION</th>
<th>ENROLMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Assam</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Manipur</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Meghalaya</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>7,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Mizoram</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>17,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Nagaland</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Tripura</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPECIAL CAMPING PROGRAMME**: In the North-East region the Universities and the State Liaison Office NSS Cell have organised 196 special Camping Programmes in the States involving 13011 students both male and female up to January, 2001. Under the special camping programme, the various NSS units had adopted 770 villages and slums during the year 2000-2001.

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A brief history of the States of the Region and the NSS activities rendered by the NSS volunteers and financial involvement are discussed state-wise in details:

**ASSAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>78,438 sq. km</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>2,66,38,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>13,787,799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>12,850,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy rate</td>
<td>64.28[^3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>71.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>56.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Dispur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Language</td>
<td>Assamese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members of Parliament</td>
<td>7 ( Rajya Sabha )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 (Lok Sabha) India 2002, p-830,837.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[^3]: Govt. of India, Census Report, 1999
| Government  | :  | Congress I |
| Governor    | :  | Lt.Gen.(Retd.) Ajai Singh |
| Chief Minister | :  | Tarun Gogoi |
| Principal religion | :  | Hinduism (68.25%) |
| Principal Occupation of the people of Assam | :  | Cultivation |
| People living under poverty line | :  | 56.23% |

### A BRIEF HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF ASSAM

Assam is the anglicized form of the name of the premier state of North-East India, a region very strategically situated close to India’s international borders with as many as four countries-China, Myanmar, Bhutan and Bangladesh. The term Assam, or Asom is interpreted by some scholars as a formation of Sanskrit derivation, which means peerless or unparalleled. But the widely accepted opinion of the academic circles today is that the term has come from the original name of the Ahoms, who ruled the land for about six hundred years prior to its annexation by the British. The races like Austric, Mongolian, Dravidian and Aryan that came to this land long-ago contributed a lot to its composite culture. Thus, Assam has a rich legacy of culture and civilization.

Assam was known by various names in different historical periods. In ancient times Assam was known as Pragjyotisha (the city of Eastern Light). The name Pragjyotisha was frequently mentioned in the great epics-the Ramayana, the Mahabharata and also in the principal Puranas. In classical sanskrit literature both Pragjyotisha and Kamarupa were used. In the fifth century A.D for the first time Kamarupa was mentioned in the Allahabad pillar inscription of Samudra Gupta. In ancient period and even in the mediaval period Kamarupa was known as the land of magic.

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5. Girin Phukan (ed), Political dynamics of north East India, South Asian Publication, N.D, p.13
6. Janasanyog, Assam 2000 - a hand book, Published by the DI & PR, Assam, Dispur, Guwahati, p..1
and witchcraft as the famous Shakti peeth or the Tantric shrine Kamakhya was in Kamarupa and Tantricism was practised in Kamarupa. The land Kamrup was associated with the temple Kamakhya, so people used to say 'Kamrup-Kamakhya' an inseperable term.  

The modern designation "Assam" is of recent origin. There is no satisfactory explanation of the word Assam in history or any other literature. The word 'Assam' or Asam meaning 'undefeated' or 'victorious' was originally applied by the Ahoms in their language (a Shan tribe from northern Burma) who conquered the land in thirteenth century and ruled till the advent of the British i.e. 1826. Actually, the written history of Assam was begun from the days of the Ahoms as they used to keep records of their day to day events in their chronicles which they called Buranjis (Bu = ignorant person; ranji = store house or granary i.e. a store house of knowledge that teaches the ignorant) which has survived and is used as an Assamese translation of the word history or Itihas in Sanskrit.

Before the British occupation there were occasions when the whole of India, or at least most of the portions of today's India were under the suzerainty of a single power. Though repeated Muslim invasions to the North-East of India took place to annex it with their country every time the kings of Assam had defeated them and stopped the Muslim penetration into the region. The North-East India viz Assam, Nepal and Bhutan had never come under or formed a part of any Indian Empire at any time. The geographical position, topography, terrain and climate kept the people of these regions in different atmosphere from that of the rest of the country. The region maintained the status of independence which was something special to this part of the country.

7. Dr. Bani Kanta Kakati, The Mother Goddess Kamakhya, , Publication Board Assam, Gauhati, p. 1
8. S. Barkataki, Assam at a glance, Bani Prakash, Guwahati , p. 6
Because of its long isolation from the main stream Assam was less known to the outside people of the country. And without having proper knowledge of this region the people of the rest of the country kept some misconceptions about the region and the people. Before the advent of the British the modern history and literature of this region was not much known to the people of other parts of India. For the history of this region, the people of the rest of the country had to read the exagerated, twisted or almost fictitious records of the muslim historians who accompanied the Muslim invaders badly defeated, and pushed back. While Mirjumla invaded Assam in seventeenth century, a Muslim historian accompanying Mirjumla wrote as follows:

"Assam is a wild and dreadful country abounding in danger. Its roads are frightful like the path leading to the nook of death." "The inhabitants resemble men in nothing beyond this that they walk erect on two feet. They are reputed to be expert magicians. In short, every army that entered the limits of this country made its exit from the realm of life; every caravan that set foot on this land deposited its baggages of residence in the halting place of death." We may compare the above mentioned record of the Muslim historian with that of the famous Chinese scholar who had visited Assam in the seventh century A.D. and said about the land of Assam and the people. The Chinese scholar Hiuen Tsang said, "The climate is soft and temperate. The manners of the people are simple and honest." "The men are of small stature and their complexion dark yellow. Their language differs a little from that of mid-India. Their nature is very impetuous and wild, their memories are retentive and they are earnest in study." "The king is fond of learning and the people are so like-wise in imitation of him. Men of high talent from distant regions, seeking after office, visit his dominions."9

9. Dr. Bani Kanta Kakati, Ibid., p. 2
In recent times Mahatma Gandhi had also a very misconception about the land and the people of Assam. He said in his Home Rule pleading, "We must regard the Kols, the Bheels, the Santhais and the Assamese as our brothers." He bracketed the Assamese with the backward aboriginal tribes. In 1921 when Mahatma Gandhi first visited Assam he felt sorry for his earlier comment about Assam and he amended it re-writing in the Young India in 1921, "I cannot recall anything superior to the lavishness with which nature has decorated the great stream, the Brahmaputra, on whose banks I am writing these notes. "I understand that some Government Officials have made use of a slip I have committed in my booklet Hind Swaraj in which I have bracketed the Assamese with the Pindarees and other wild tribes. I have made ample amends to the people. It was certainly on my part grave injustice done to the great Assamese people who are every whit as civilized as any other people of India. And, of course, I fell in love with the women of Assam.... They are, like women all-over India, shy, modest, with extremely refined and open faces."

Assam, as a State of Indian territory came to limelight and drew the attention of the people of India when Gandhiji's national movement was started in 1920 and Gandhiji's first visit to the state in 1921. Since independence, as a frontier State of India, Assam became an important State. In the words of the Iron Man of India Sardar Patel, "The Assamese have to play the important role of gatekeepers of the border."

But it is very unfortunate to note that, still today, we have come across some well known elite people in different parts of the country who do not know about Assam and Assamese culture as found in their comments showing pitiable ignorance like

that of the Muslim historian who gave baseless information about the history of the land. On Assam like the Muslim historians who had given some baseless information without knowing the depth of the history of the land. On the other hand Assam is famous for tea (55% of world tea is produced in Assam), oil, ply wood, one-horned rhinoceros of kaziranga and the natural resources, the famous shakti shrine of Kamakhya, the famous student movement lasted for six years at a stretch against the illegal foreign nationals. Now-a-days, Assam is again come to the forefront of the news items in the country as the students under the same banner of the 'All Assam Students Union' launched agitation to scrupt the illegal IMDT Act which protects the illegal foreigners. With the initiative of the Central government under the Prime Ministership of Atal Bihari Bajpayee the Cabinet Meeting had already passed the uninamous decision to scrupt the said law. If the law is being withdrawn Assam and the adjoining other states will be free from one vital problem for which the insurgency was cropped up in Assam.

GENERAL INFORMATION OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM OF ASSAM

The treaty of Yandaboo signed in between the British and the Burmese in 1826, was an-epoch making event and the turning point of the history of the North-Eastern part of India, unitedly known as Assam. The independent Assam became a part of the British Indian Empire. The modern education system was also begun in Assam just after the arrival of the British. Of course, the contributions made by the Christian Missionaries towards the education in Assam can't be ruled out. Their immense contribution will always remain afresh in the memory of the people of Assam.
The Higher Education of Assam was started with the establishment of the Cotton College in the heart of Gauhati (now Guwahati) in the year 1901. The Cotton College is regarded as the nerve-centre of higher education of the entire North-Eastern region. Other than the Cotton College there were a very few institutions of higher education in this entire region. The British Government took initiative for the growth of higher education in the region and established the Department of Education in 1905. It is a fact, that the real expansion of education took place after India attained independence in 1947. In 1947-48 there were 7,574 primary schools, 742 middle schools, 191 high schools and only seven grant-in-aid (G-I-A) colleges in Assam. After the independence the first and the only University was established in 1948 at Jalukbari seven km away from the city of Gauhati (now Guwahati) and it was named the Gauhati University. Now, Assam alone has five Universities including the two Central Universities i.e. the Assam University in the Barrak Valley and the Tezpur University at Na Pam in the vicinity of the historic town Tezpur in the Assam Valley. In the year 1992, these two Universities were set up under the provision of the 'Assam Accord' signed between the government of India and the All Assam Students' Union (AASU) in the year 1985. The same year also an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) was established in Guwahati and that too under the provisions of the Assam Accord. According to the Assam Government's statistical report (Assam 2000 - A Handbook 3) these five universities have a total enrolment of 6161 students. Up to 1995-96 besides these five Universities the state was found to have 245 colleges and 67 junior colleges having the enrolment of 3,28,988 all together, 540 higher secondary schools, 3440 high schools, 7237 middle schools, 30,140 primary schools and 482 pre-primary schools, apart from an unspecified number of nursery and preparatory schools all over the state till 2002. Besides the general education up to Higher Secondary the state has an
Institution of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) set up at Guwahati in 1992 under the provisions of the Assam Accord. The state has six medical institutions, which include three medical colleges, one Ayurvedic college and one Homeopathic college and one Dental college, Pharmacy and Nursing college with the enrolment of about 2300 students in them all. For promoting of art, music and technical education, the Assam Government has also set up one Music college and a college of Art in Guwahati. The state has three Engineering colleges with an enrolment of 3246 students, and eight Polytechnic institutions in addition to 32 Technical, Industrial and Art and Crafts schools in the State. Similarly there are 22 Teachers’ Training colleges in the State at present.

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME ACTIVITIES IN ASSAM

In Assam, the National Service Scheme was first introduced in Gauhati University in the year 1970-71 with 11 colleges and 550 student volunteers. At that time an unit consisted with 50 student volunteers and up to 1976-77 this strength was prevailed.11 Now, NSS Programme is implemented by four Universities in this region. The Gauhati and the Dibrugarh Universities are State Universities and the Assam University at Silchar is a Central University. The other one is a professional one i.e. Assam Agricultural University existed at Jorhat in Upper Assam. NSS programmes and activities according to the Universities are discussed below:

NSS under Gauhati University: The Gauhati University is the premier Higher Educational institution of Assam. The University was set up in 1948. Prior to the establishment of this University the Higher Education of Assam was conducted by the Calcutta University and the people of Assam had to go to Calcutta (now kolkata).

particularly to take higher degree. In Gauhati University National Service Scheme was also introduced in 1969-70 along with the most selected Universities of the country. At the very beginning 11 Colleges with an enrolment of 550 NSS volunteers showed the path for the future growth of the scheme. At the very beginning an Unit consisted of only 50 volunteers and this system prevailed up to 1976-77. Now, as per record (NSS Programme Officers’ Bulletin, Gauhati University 1989-90) the University has 91 Units under its affiliated Colleges. In addition to the University Coordinator for NSS, there was an NSS Forum of the Programme Officers to look into the NSS activities. The Forum has primarily been placing various demands before the Vice-Chancellor and the NSS part-time Coordinator, for the releasing of NSS funds and for necessary aid and advice for further improvement of the Scheme. Since the very beginning till 1977-78 the NSS student volunteers did very well field activities. The University Coordinators, College Principals, Programme Officers and the Student Volunteers were highly enthusiastic and they did the wonderful activities as far as possible for the greater interest of the society. The NSS Regional Centre and the State Government’s Authority in charge of NSS at that time were also much more cooperative than to-day and paid much attention towards the student volunteers scheme. They tried to release the share of grants in advanced by the Central Government and the State Government to the University which usually amalgamated the entire amount with the University accounts and created problem in scarcity of funds for NSS Programmes. This was overcome by a five-members Committee along with the then Honorary Director of student’s welfare Gauhati University in consultation with the Vice-Chancellor Prof. J.M.Chaudhury. As a consequence, under the banner of the Gauhati University, more than five National Integration Camps (NIC) were successfully conducted and the college Units participated in the NI Camps organised in different parts of the
country and carried rewards and special appreciations to the University and the State. Some student volunteers like Indra Koch of Mangaldoi college got the privilege to visit Japan in Youth Exchange Programmes (Masayuki Agata Japan letter to Indra Koch). Also some students and Programme Officers for their NSS background got lucrative jobs both in the Central and State Governments in today's competitive era and some got promotion from simple lecturership to the high post like the ‘Director of Student’s Welfare’ of a University or in other Institutions. (discussed in details in the chapter No. V) and someone got the inspiration to establish their own business, Agricultural farm, Diary, Poultry, Piggery farms and some established themselves as Social and Political leaders. For example, Mr. Paniram Rabha (sitting MLA of ruling Congress I party of Assam) a dedicated NSS volunteer of Barama college, in Nalbari district of lower Assam.

Under the Gauhati University, the NSS Unit of Mangaldoi college - the premier higher educational Institution of Darrang district did a tremendous work by changing the direction of the Mongaldoi river to protect the college, Mongaldoi town and the vast inhabited area from every year’s erosion. Undoubtedly, the work deserved the greatest credit in the history of NSS for all the times. But the work did not get the proper exposure except the appreciation certificate issued by the Vishwa Bharati University of Calcutta. This I found in my investigation and I had the privilege to attend the lecture on 23rd August 2002 in connection with the ‘Golden Jubilee Series’ lecturer of Mongaldoi College. The NSS Seminar was dedicated in the memory of the late Principal Abdul Mojid who masterminded the idea of digging the College Canal and to change the direction of the Mongaldol River to protect the college as well as the adjacent area. The Resource Person of the Seminar was Prof. Rajen Barua (now retired) the then NSS Programme Officer, who took the challenge to divert the di-
rection of the river. Prof. Barua was also one of the Key persons and a member of the first NSS Programme Officer’s Forums in 1978-79 to strengthened the NSS in Gauhati University.

The popular topic of the Seminar was 'College Canal : A Source of Development of the Mangaldoi town'.

Mangaldoi- the district headquarter of Darrang district is well connected with Guwahati, the capital of Assam and the gateway of the North-East by 52 National High Way. Road-communication from Guwahati and other important places to Mangaldoi is very good. It is worth mentioning that Mangaldoi has been historically famous since the freedom movement of India. Pathorughat, a village about 15 kms. west from Mangaldoi was noted for bell-metal works. In December 1894 the people of Pathorughat came out from the houses and made a huge demonstration before the Deputy Commissioner to protest against the huge enhancement of land.
revenue and the local rate which was imposed by the British Government. Instead of redressing to the grievances of the people, the British Officer ordered armed police to open fire in which a large number of villagers were killed. The popular revolt was at the climax of a 'no-tax' agitation launched by the peasants of Mangaldoi who registered their patriotic feelings against the mighty British government and their unjustified policy. Inspired by such events of history the students as well as the people of this place developed the character to fight for the right cause. Once again their independent spirit and courage became manifest when the College authority as well as the local people repeatedly applied and requested the Government of Assam and the Mangaldoi district administration to protect the College which is the only institution of higher learning of the area from the imminent erosion of the Mangaldoi river. But the Government as well as the district administration did not pay heed to their requests. Considering it as a challenge to them the then Principal of Mangaldoi College called the NSS Programme Officer Prof. Rajen Barua, lecturer in the dept. of Political Science and asked him to prepare a plan to dig up a canal and divert the present direction of the river Mangaldoi, which flows in a sharp bend just behind the Mangaldoi College (as shown in the sketch map) to the river Noa. Prof. Barua whom the Principal uses to call 'Commander' for his enthusiastic command to the students called a meeting of the NSS students as well as the like minded people of the area and prepared a plan to dig up a canal of 3,500 feet straight to river Bega and to the river Brahmaputra. The digging work of the canal began in November 1977 with the NSS Special Camp Grant of Rs. 30,000. (Rs. 21,000 from spl. camp grants and 9,000 from Normal grants which was received during 1977 to 1982) 12

12. Rajen Barua, NSS reports, Mangaldai college 1977-1982
Every year just after the rainy season, the NSS volunteers (later on the local people also joined) used to dig the canal and in this way after 5 years the NSS volunteers had completed the impossible canal work and diverted the direction of the Mangaldoi river. This wonderful canal work, though primarily intended to save the College from the Mangaldoi river had not only saved the College, it saved the National High Way No. 52, the present Mangaldoi town and as a result of the canal Mangaldoi Jail, S.P.Office, Mangaldoi court, DRDA Office, Telephone Exchange, ASTC Bus Station, Public Bus Station, Fire station, Mangaldoi Girls' College, Mangaldoi Law college, NERIM, Maharshi Vidyalaya Sericulture Farm, Monitori Village and the vast Gerimari Chapari (as shown in the sketch). Now two beautiful towns the Prafulla and the Jaya Nagar are coming up here. In the above mentioned seminar the Old NSS volunteers, the teachers, the well wishers and the local people specially the fisher men who helped the students in the canal digging work also participated. In the seminar some invitees and the local people highly appreciated and expressed their full confidence upon the NSS Student volunteers and instead of requesting the State Government they publicly requested the college authority to utilise the service of the NSS Student Volunteers as in the successful canal digging work in an effort to divert the present National High way from the front of the College to the extreme east towards the back of the college to save the college from the untoward accidents and the intolerable noisy situations of the excessive vehicles run through the National High Way No. 52.

Like the Mangaldoi College, at the same time in the Tangla college, in the present Darrang district and the Dodhnoi College, in the district of Goalpara had also done commandable NSS works which earned good reputation and a new life to the NSS.

movement in Assam. The NSS volunteers of Tangla college had constructed a road from Tangla college to the present private bus station nearby the rly. station is a pride of NSS work as the whole earthen road constructed by the NSS volunteers was subsequently takeover by the Govt. of Assam and became a pitch road which is still known to every body as the ‘NSS’ road (in the road signboard also the road is named as NSS road). The Dodhnoi college constructed a community hall of bamboo and thatch material. A high level team of the Vishwa Bharati University also visited the site and praised the NSS work and they sent a Certificate of Appreciation to the Coordinator of the Gauhati University.

Besides these three Colleges of Gauhati University (which has permanent NSS assets) large number of Colleges like KRB Girls', Radha-Govinda Baruah (NSS volunteer award winner for 1994-95), Arya Vidyapeeth (NSS national Volunteers Award winner for 1998-99), Handiqui Girl's, Cotton Govt. college, Pub-Kamrup, D.K, D.K Girls' Mirza Chhyagaon college in Kamrup district, Ratnapith Dhubri district, B.H Howly, Barpeta district, Abhoyapuri, Bongaigaon district, T.H.B Sonitpur district, Jagiroad college, Morigaon college in Morigaon district, Nagaon college, A.D.P college, Kaliabor college, in the district of Nagaon and and and North Bank in Lakhimpur district in the Dibrugarh University, Cachar college, G.C college, women college in silchar, Karimganj college in Karimganj, R.S college in Karimganj in Barrak Valley of Assam which is formerly in Gauhati University and now in Assam University and a large No. of Colleges have done special and regular programmes, organized NIC camps and joined in the NIC camps outside the State and received remarkable appreciation certificate in general performance, disciplines and cultural category.

In Assam, from the very inception of NSS in Gauhati University, the University has organised five NIC camps in the colleges like Cotton college, D.K college, B.H.College, Pub-Kamrup college and Ratnapith college respectively.
NSS Grants released by the Govt. of India to the Govt. of Assam during the period 1980-81 to 1993-94 and the modes of releasing of the both Central and state Share (matching share) @ 7:5 ratio as given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C.S received by GOA</th>
<th>C.S released by GOA</th>
<th>C.S.yet to release by GOA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rs. 1,23,01,416/-</td>
<td>Rs. 86,83,768/-</td>
<td>Rs. 36,17,648/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.S. against C.S @ 7:5</th>
<th>S.S.released</th>
<th>S.S. yet to release</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rs.80,98,728/-</td>
<td>Rs. 63,23,250/-</td>
<td>Rs. 17,75,478/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Government of Assam has not yet released the already drawn Central Share of Rs. 36,17,648/- and state matching grants of Rs. 17,75,487/- i.e. the total amount will be of Rs. 53,93,126/-. The Government of Assam is neither willing to give the State matching shared grant nor willing to release the balance Central Share for which the NSS activities of the State have suffered stagnancy badly causing lost of faith of student volunteers and the programme officers as well as the institutions.

NSS financial position of Assam of both regular & special Camping Programmes of last five years are as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S N.</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>REGULAR PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>SPECIAL PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C.S.</td>
<td>S.S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>1999-00</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
During the period 1997-98 to 2001-2002 the Govt of Assam did not spent a single paisa for NSS programmes. In this period, the Govt. of India also did not release any fund for NSS in Assam as the Govt. of Assam has already drawn a sum of Rs.36,17,648 lacs and yet to release the same with its matching share of Rs. 17,75,478/- i.e a total of Rs. 53,93,126/- lacs.

Suggestions of the Assam's NSS Programme Officers to improve the present NSS situation in the state. The suggestions are:

a) Government should release NSS funds regularly and in time.

b) The Universities and the Regional Centre of this region should arrange more volunteers training camps.

c) Government should give priority to NSS certificate holders in employment, contracts etc.

d) NSS volunteers need to orient towards the concept of NSS. Otherwise voluntary and nation building task may turn to opportunity seeking task.

e) All kinds of necessary information about NSS and its progress should be intimated to the units immediately.

f) Proper co-ordination among the Regional Office, State Government, University Co-ordinator and to the Units and the cordial relation among them should be given top priority (which is totally lacking today in Assam).

g) The State Government should release the state matching grant meant for NSS timely and in budget it should be incorporated.
ARUNACHAL PRADESH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>83,743 sq km</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>1,091,11714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>573,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>517,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy rate</td>
<td>54.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>64.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>44.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Despite of English and Hindi there are 19 local languages are prevalent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Tribal people</td>
<td>69.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Itanagar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>BJP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governor</td>
<td>Arvind Dave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Minister</td>
<td>Gegong Apang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members of Parliament</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajya Sabha</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lok Sabha</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Principal Occupation of the people of Arunachal Pradesh: Cultivation

People living under poverty level: 56.23% 15

Most respected historical person: Mr. Deying Ering, one of the Ministers in the Ministry of Pt. Jawaharial Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India. It was Mr. Ering on who's initiative the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA) was formed.

Arunachal Pradesh, the erstwhile North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA) shares international boundaries with Bhutan, Tibet, China and Myanmar to the west, north-east, north and east respectively, and the state boundaries with Assam and Nagaland. The terrain consists of sub-mountain and mountainous ranges, sloping down to the plains of Assam, divided into valleys by the rivers Kameng, Subansiri, Siang, Lohit and Tirap 16

In practical, there is no written history in Arunachal Pradesh except some oral literature and a number of historical ruins found mainly in the foothills. Subsequent explorations and excavations have identified the ruins as dating approximately from the early Christian era. The historical evidence indicates that not only was the area well known, but the people living here had close relations with the rest of the country.

The modern history, in Arunachal Pradesh, had begun with the inception of British rule in Assam.

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15. Girin Phukan (ed), Political Dynamics of North-East India, South Asian Publication, N.D. p.13
Before 1962 the area was popularly known as the North East Frontier Agency (NEFA), and was constitutionally a part of Assam. Because of its strategic importance, however, it was administered by the Ministry of External Affairs until 1965 and subsequently by the Ministry of Home Affairs, through the Governor of Assam. In 1972 it was constituted as a Union Territory and renamed as Arunachal Pradesh. On 20 February 1987, it became the 24th state of the Indian Union.

**HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

In Arunachal Pradesh there is a State University i.e. Arunachal Pradesh University situated at the top of Rono Hills. The University has 7 affiliated Colleges and all of them are Government colleges.

National Service Scheme was started in Arunachal Pradesh in the year 1977. The Scheme is directly controlled and monitored by the Dy. Director of Higher Education cum-State Liaison Officer NSS, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar. The University has no business with NSS. All the 7 colleges of Arunachal Pradesh have the NSS Schemes. Besides these colleges the National Service Scheme has been introduced in the Higher Secondary Schools also. The state has less Higher Secondary Schools in total and in 2002-2003 new five units have been introduced in the Higher Secondary Schools in addition to that in the North-East Regional Institute of Science & Technology (NERIST). In 1977 with only one unit in the J.N.College, Pachighat and the humble beginning of NSS was made in Arunachal Pradesh. At present the NSS activities have been extended to 23 institutions in the State with an enrolment of 2775 volunteers. Like the other NSS volunteers the NSS student volunteers of Arunachal Pradesh are also actively participating in various activities such as social service, blood donation camp, awareness campaign, awareness campaign against HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, awareness camp on Health
Education and Social Services conducted in adopted villages, organized World Population Day, awareness campaign on small family norms, Van Mohotsav and Traffic Rules awareness programmes etc. construction of Anganbadi Kendra, construction and maintenance of village streets, drains, roads etc. with full spirit and enthusiasm.

The financial support to the programme is shared by the Central and the State Government in the ratio of 3:1.

In Arunachal Pradesh the NSS units are receiving the grants regularly for implementation of programmes, but not in proper time (NSS reports collected from Dy. Director Higher Education- Cum NSS State Liaison Officer, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar). And that is why NSS programmes very often clashed with the academic calender and it never got the due importance of the students, the guardians as well as of the society:

The main problem of proper conducting the NSS Programmes in the State is late release of NSS funds as it was said by the Dy. Director of Higher Education Cum in-Charge of NSS in the State. For the speedy implementation and future improvement of NSS programmes in Arunachal Pradesh, the Programme Officers with their practical experience have pointed out the followings and appealed the NSS concerned authorities for consideration and necessary action. The points can be summed up as under:

a) Release of NSS grants in time and at the beginning of the academic session otherwise the programmes will clash with the academic activities;

b) NSS should be compulsory from 11th standards;

C) As far as possible more and more teachers with NSS should be encouraged for training in NSS;

d) The quality and value of NSS Certificate should be raised higher.
MAIN YOUTH PROBLEMS OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH: The lack of work culture and unemployment is the main youth problems among the youths in Arunachal Pradesh as by said said by the educated unemployed youths, social workers and the employees of State’s secretariat of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.  

The most respected and today’s historical figure of Arunachal Pradesh is Mr. Deying Ering one of the ministers in the council of ministers of Pt. J.L. Nehru. On Mr. Ering’s initiative the NEFA (North East Frontier Agency) was formed.

The following are the NSS grants released by the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh during the years of 1998-99 to 2002-2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>REGULAR ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>SPECIAL CAMPAIGN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*C.S.</td>
<td>*S.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>87,500</td>
<td>62,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-00</td>
<td>91,000</td>
<td>65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>68,250</td>
<td>22,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>68,250</td>
<td>22,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>3,12,188</td>
<td>1,04,063</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Arunachal Pradesh both Central and the State Govt’s spent an amount of Rs. 19,49,862/- lacs during the period of 1998-99 to 2002-2003 for both Regular and Special NSS Programmes. During this period Govt.’s of Indias shares was Rs. 13,74,988/-lacs (Rs. 6,27,188 for regular and Rs. 7,47,800 for special camp)and the State Govt’s share was Rs. 5,74,874/-lacs (Rs.2,77,063/- for regular and Rs. 2,97,811/- for special camping programme)  

17. December 3-4, 2002, Interviews were taken at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>MIZORAM</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Area</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Males</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Females</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy rate</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Males</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Females</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Principal Language</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Principal Religion</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percentage of Tribal People</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Districts</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Government</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Governor</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chief Minister</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Members of Parliament</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Member of Rajya Sabha</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Member of Loksabha</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Highest respected personality-maker of Modern Mizoram, the father of Mizos</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>( in Mizo HNAM PA ) is</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main Youth Problem</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main youth Organization</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Principal Occupation</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20. A.P.Joshi, et al., Religious Demography of India, Centre for Policy Studies, Chennai,03, p.126
A BRIEF HISTORY: The lovely mountainous region which we call Mizoram today, got its full fledged State hood from Union Territory status in 1987 and became the 23rd State of Indian Republic, was a part of Assam till 1972. The British rulers of Assam annexed the Northern part of the Lushai Hills and incorporated with Assam while the southern half remained under Bengal. In 1898 both the north and south parts were amalgamated and formed a new district called Lushai Hills District and placed it under the Chief Commissionership of Assam. With the implementation of the North-Eastern Reorganization Act in 1972, Mizoram became a Union territory and as a sequel to the signing of the historic memorandum of settlement between the Government of India and the Mizo National Front in 1986, it was granted statehood on 20th February 1987. Sandwitched between Myanmar in the east and the south and Bangladesh in the west, Mizoram occupies an area of great strategic importance in the north-eastern corner of India. Rich with natural beauty, Mizoram has flora and fauna and endless variety of landscape with the zig-zag way to Mizoram easily attracts and gives the refreshment to the people who travelled to Mizoram via Silchar on roadway.

The origin of the word 'Mizo' and how it came into being is not known. The study revealed that the Mizos came under the influence of the Christian Missionaries in the 19th century and the missionaries converted them to Christianity and now most of the Mizos are Christian. Prior to the coming of the Christian Missionaries to Mizoram the Mizos had no language and script of their own. The missionaries introduced the Roman Scripts for Mizo Language and started it for formal education too.

In Mizoram National Service Scheme was introduced in the year 1988. Since the very inception, National Service Scheme has been doing exemplary service to the State as well as for the Society. Today, in Mizoram a total number of 41 institutions (24 Colleges, 16 higher Secondary Schools and 1 Technical institutions) have been implementing the various programmes of the National Service Scheme. Mizoram acquires a very good name in national level in general and in North-East India in particular for its spirit of implementation and performance of NSS programmes. The State Government is very much sympathetic towards the Scheme. The State has its full fledged National Service Scheme's Cell. For timely releasing of both Central and the State Shares relating to the NSS fund the State enjoys top priority in the north-east region. Since the very introduction of Indira Gandhi National Award for NSS Mizoram bagged three NSS Units and two NSS Programme Officers Awards besides the best contingent Award for the year 2001 by the Mangalore University and the Certificate of appreciation by the Department of Youth & Sports, Government of Mizoram and a lot of such appreciations and certificates obtained in past years. The NSS Units of Mizoram have been vigorously implementing the tree plantation, construction of village link roads, repairing of old roads, digging and cleaning of ponds, programmes on safe drinking water, disposal of waste, construction of public urinals on the road sides and rest sheds for the pedestrians, AIDS awareness programmes, programmes of Pulse polio immunization, blood donation, help to the poor and a lot of locally arranged programmes besides the regular and village adoption programmes. In my spot study programme in the whole north-east India only in Aizawl the capital city of Mizoram I found some sign boards of NSS which give the message of life style education, anti drugs and AIDS
awareness besides the public urinals and the rest sheds for the paddlers and bus commuters. The NSS activities of Mizoram at a glance have been given below:

Establishment of the State NSS Cell : October, 1988
Alloted Strength (Government of India) : 17,000 volunteers
Actual enrolment
  Male : 10,024 volunteers
  Female : 7,402 volunteers
No. of Institution with NSS in the State : 41
  1) College : 24
  2) Higher Secondary schools : 16
  3) Technical Institution : 1

ACTIVITIES

Since the very establishment of NSS in Mizoram the list of activities will be a very big one if we try to incorporate each and every work done by the NSS Units of the State. That is why an attempt has been made to present the select ones since its establishment and the activities rendered during the period of 2000-2001 in details.

No. of Special Camp Organised : 75 as per report of
Regional Office, Guwahati.

No. of Volunteers participated (students & non-students) : 6,409
No. of Trees Planted : 5160 saplings
No. of Blood Donation Camp : 24
No. of Blood Donors : 739
No. of Units of Blood Donated : 739

No. of Awareness Campaign on
Drug abuse, AIDS, Social Evils : 24

No. of Awareness Campaign on
Literacy, Sanitation and Public Health : 32
No. of environment Awareness campaign : 26
No. of student Career Awareness Campaign : 8
Construction of jeepable Roads : 2
No. of Road repaired : 9 km
Construction of Steps & Footpaths : 6 km
Construction of minor irrigation : 10 metres
Construction of public water tank/point : 21

No. of public Urinal shed constructed : 72
No. of park benches constructed : 24
No. of Public bus Waiting shed constructed : 15
No. of Mini-Market shed constructed : 3
Construction of Library building : 1
Construction of timber Bridges : 2
Repair and Renovation of NSS assets : 31
No. of Seminar organized on Cleanliness : 2
No. of cleanliness Drives : 53
No. of Awareness campaign on Fire protection : 2
No. of activities at plantation area : 20
No. of Competation organized on Essay & Elocution : 3
No. of Family Health & Child Care campaign : 5
No. of Monument Preservation Campaign : 1

Participation of National, Regional & State Level Programmes :
No. of Integration camp : 3
Youth Festival : 1
Pre-Republic Day camp : 
Republic Day camp : 1
No of Volunteers participation
   1) Male : 12
   2) Female : 19
   3) Programme Officers : 6
Collection of donation for earthquake
Victim of Gujarat : 60,702
No. of meeting of NSS Programme Officers And Offices of Sports directorate : 1
No. of seminar and meeting of NSS Programme Officer : 1
No. of participants : 68
No. of NSS Programme Officers' participation At TOC, TORC : 46
No. of Participation of NSS functionaries at Coordination meeting, Regional workshop, Child Development : 12
No. of NSS Units received the NSS Indira Gandhi National Award :
No. of Programme Officers received the NSS Programme Officers National Award :
   1) Prof. Dr. P. Rinawma of hrangbana College - 1995-96
   2) Prof. Lalhmingthanga.

Statement of NSS grants released by the government of India and the Government of Mizoram as state Govts matching shares during the years of 1997-98 to 2001-2002.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>REGULAR CAMPING PROG</th>
<th>SPECIAL CAMPING PROG.</th>
<th>BOTH (C.S+S.S ) SPENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*C.S</td>
<td>*S.S</td>
<td>C.S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. 1997-98</td>
<td>10,50,000</td>
<td>7,50,000</td>
<td>8,75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. 1998-99</td>
<td>10,50,000</td>
<td>7,50,000</td>
<td>8,75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 1999-00</td>
<td>11,20,000</td>
<td>8,00,000</td>
<td>9,33,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 2000-01</td>
<td>25,50,000</td>
<td>8,50,000</td>
<td>25,50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. 2001-02</td>
<td>9,75,858</td>
<td>8,25,949</td>
<td>9,97,804</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Mizoram both the Govt. of India and the State Govt. have spent an amount of Rs.2,53,96,665/- crores for NSS regular and special camping programmes during the years of 1997-98 to 2001-2002. The unspent money during the same period is Rs.-39,95,000/- lacs.  

Programme Oficers suggestions for improvement and better functioning of NSS in Mizoram in particular and the whole North-East in general. Suggestions are as below:

a) Frequent organization of regional integration (NERIC), national integration (NIC) camps for youth exchange and better interaction and programme should be arranged to visit each local unit by themselves for better relationship among themselves.

b) More financial assistance should be provided by the both Central and the State Governments as the NE States are backwards in comparision to the other states of the country.

c) Timely release of funds.

d) NSS should be included in the educational curriculum as a compulsory subject.

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MEGHALAYA

Area: 22,429 sq km
Population: 3,473,909
Males: 2,306,069
Females: 1,167,840
Literacy Rate: 63.31%
Males: 66.14%
Females: 60.41%
Percentage of Tribal People: 80.58%
Principal Religion: Christianity
Language: Khasi, Garo and English
Government: Coalition
Governor: Ved Marwa
Chief Minister: D.D. Lapang
Members of Parliament: 3
Rajya Sabha: 1
Lok Sabha: 2
People living below poverty line: 56.23%

The word 'Meghalaya' is a Sanskrit word and its literal meaning is abode of cloud. So far the history is concerned, Meghalaya has no separate identity or history of its own till 1970. At that time this beautiful second Kashmir or heaven of North-East India whatever the people said, was a integral part of Assam. Yielding to public pressure the Government of India and the Government of Assam were compelled to make Meghalaya an autonomous State within Assam on 2nd April 1970. And within the period of less than two years again Meghalaya was granted full Statehood on 2nd January 1972 and became an integral State of Indian territory. Geographically Meghalaya was bounded on the north and east by Assam and on the south and west by Bangladesh. The main inhabitant and communities of Meghalaya are the Khasis, the Jaintias and the Garos. The Khasi and the Jaintia hills which formed the central and eastern parts of Meghalaya are an imposing plateau with rolling grassland, hills and river valleys. The southern face of the plateau is marked by deep gorges and abrupt slopes, at the foot of which, a narrow strip of plain runs along the international border with Bangladesh.

When Meghalaya was in Assam the hillmen organised their own administrative system. The head of the state which was ruled by Siems. The Siems were gallant and patriotic. They were very conscious about the British penetration in their areas. They thought their aged old customs and the traditions of the 'ancient regime' would be destroyed by the Britishers. Along with the brave Assamese Ahom prince of upper Assam the khasi Siem of Nongkhla U. Teerot Singh with the influence of great khasi patriot U. Mon Bhut and Mansing with a large Khasi youth resisted the British in their areas.

ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME IN MEGHALAYA

In Meghalaya, at present 24 college and one postgraduate NSS units of North East Hill University (NEHU) are implementing the NSS programmes. The NSS activities of the state are tree plantation, poster campaign, HIV/AIDS awareness campaign, anti-drugs and pulse polio campaign, literacy campaign etc. In the adopted villages according to the needs of the locality the NSS programmes are implementing.

Following are the Positions of NSS Grants released by the Govt. of India and the state Govt. for Regular and Special programmes for the years of 1997-98 to 2001-2002.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEARS</th>
<th>REGULAR CAMPING</th>
<th>SPECIAL CAMPING PROGRAM</th>
<th>TOTAL SPENT DURING THE YEAR (Both C.S+S.S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C.S.*</td>
<td>S.S*</td>
<td>C.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. 1997-98</td>
<td>3,92,000</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>3,26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. 1998-99</td>
<td>2,90,000</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>2,45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 1999-2000</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 2000-2001</td>
<td>4,20,000</td>
<td>1,00,000</td>
<td>3,50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. 2001-2002</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The govt. of Meghalaya during the years 1997-98 to 2001-2002 have spent an amount of Rs. 21,23,000/- lacs for regular and special NSS programmes and an amount of Rs. 5,10,000/- lacs remain unspent.

*C.S means Central Share and S.S means State's matching Share*  

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27. NSS Regional Centre, N.E, Annual Report, 2002, Guwahati, Assam.
NSS Programme officers of Meghalaya suggest some measures to be taken by the NSS concerned authorities for the better functioning and improvement of NSS programmes in the State. Their presumptions can be summed up as under:

a) More and regular funds should be provided to the units;
b) Expansion of NSS to the rural areas should be made.
c) More programmes should be implemented among the local masses and in the ground root level;
d) For national integrity NSS units in camping programmes should introduce a "prayer and give slogan" of 'Bonde Mataram';
e) Incentive for Programme Officers must be enhanced. Special status and perks should also be provided.
f) NSS volunteers should properly be employed in suitable jobs like the NCC 'C' Certificate holder who are considered for S.S.B units and in some other employment areas.

**MANIPUR**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Area</strong></td>
<td>22,327 sq km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
<td>2,388,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td>1,207,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td>1,181,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literacy Rate</strong></td>
<td>68.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td>77.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td>59.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Principal Language : Manipuri
Principal Religion : Hinduism
Percentage of Tribal People:
Capital : Imphal
Government : Congress I
Governor : Ved Marwah
Chief Minister : Ibobi Singh
Members of Parliament : 3
Rajya Sabha : 1
Lok Sabha : 2
People living below poverty line : 56.23%
(Density of population (1991) : 82 persons per sq.km.

A BRIEF HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY: The literal meaning of Manipur is ‘City or the Land of Gems’. Due to the lack of proper recorded history, historian find much difficulties to compose a real history of the land. From the days of the Mahabharata, the name of Manipur has been found in the Puranas, chronicles and in various old articles. In Mahabharata there was a mentioned that Pandava hero Arjuna came to Manipur and married the Princes Chitrangada. In Manipur, Thangal General and Bir Trikendrajit, the greatest heroes of the people of Manipur fought against the British rule in the land. As we came to know from the available sources, Manipur had 7 principalities. In 33 A.D, king Pakhangba ascended the throne of one of the principalities and by dint of his relentless efforts he was able to found a long dynasty which ruled Manipur till 1891; and in the same year Manipur came under the British ruled. In 15th October 1949 Manipur was merged with the Indian state as part ‘C’ State. Again this system was replaced by a
Territorial Council of 30 elected and two nominated members. In 1962 under the Union Territory Act, Manipur was granted a Legislative Assembly of 30 incombens elected and two nominated members by the Indian Government in 1963. The status of the administrators was raised from Chief Commissionership to the status of the Lieutenant Government with effect from 19 December 1969. Manipur attained the full-fledged statehood on 21 January 1972. A Legislative Assembly consisting of 60 elected members was established. Geographically, Manipur is one of the smallest states of India. The state is located at the extreme eastern corner of the country. It lies in between 23°47'N and 25°41'N Latitudes and 93°6' E and 94°48' E Longitudes with an average elevation of 750 metres above the sea level (Encyclopaedia of North East India, Vol. 3, P.1). For administrative purposes Manipur is divided into two tracts - the hills comprising of five districts and the plains with four districts. It is bounded by Myanmar on the east, Nagaland on the north, Assam and Mizoram on the west and Myanmar and Mizoram on the south.  

Culturally Manipur is highly rich and developed. The Classical Dance of Manipur is recognized by the world. The Government of Manipur has adopted a separate Cultural Policy which is the first in any Indian States (The North East Sun 1-15 Oct. 2002).

Manipur is known as the mother land for Polo - the sophisticated game of the aristocratic people of the world. Manipur represents India in Archery in the Olympic Games and earned reputation to the country.

Manipur is also world famous for *Brow Antlered Deer* (local name - *Sangai*), *Purple Moorhen*, *Scientific name*-*Porphyrio P., Poliocephalus and* (local name *Umu*) and the *Lilum Mac Cieni* - *Scientific name* (local name *Seroi Lily*) are the rare species which are found only in Monipur in the world. (Notification of the State Zoo and leaflet of tourism of Manipur)

**NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME'S ACTIVITIES IN MANIPUR**

In Manipur National Service Scheme has been started in 1973 in only 10 Colleges with a total number of 1000 NSS student volunteers. Now, in Manipur there are 80 NSS Units with a total number of 8,000 NSS volunteers. In the national level, Manipur has bagged three Prestigious NSS Indira Gandhi National Awards for NSS Unit as well as Programmer Officer in the first batch of the inception of the national Award (1993-94).

NSS grants released by the Govt. of India with the Manipur Govt's state matching shares have been showing below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Regular Camping Prog.</th>
<th>Special Camping Prog.</th>
<th>Both (C.S+S.S) Spent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>C.S</em></td>
<td><em>S.S</em></td>
<td>C.S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. 1997-98</td>
<td>3,57,000</td>
<td>2,55,000</td>
<td>2,97,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. 1998-99</td>
<td>4,97,200</td>
<td>3,55,143</td>
<td>2,14,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 1999-00</td>
<td>5,25,000</td>
<td>3,04,500</td>
<td>4,37,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 2000-01</td>
<td>12,00,000</td>
<td>4,00,000</td>
<td>12,00,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. 2001-02</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Govt. of Manipur during the period 1997-98 to 2001-2002 has spent Rs. 74,63,843/- lacs of both C.S +S.S matching grants for NSS Regular and Special Programmes.

*C.S means Central Share and *S.S means State’s matching Shares for Centre - state join NSS Programmes.

Manipur’s NSS Programme Officers suggestions for further improvements of NSS activities in the state are as under:

a) Cultural exchange Programmes should be organized once in every year

b) NIC (National Integration Camps) should be organized frequently

c) Regular and timely release of funds and there is a need to enhance funds allotment in NE states.

d) Need moral education training to both NSS Programme Officers and NSS volunteers.

**NAGALAND**

Total area : 16,579 sq km

Population : 19,88,636

Male : 1,041,686

Female : 946,950

30. NSS Regional Centre N.E, Op. Cit., Guwahati, Assam
Capital : Kohima
Principal Language : English (official), Angami, Ao, Konyak, Lotha, Sangtam, Sema, and Chakhesan
Religion : Christianity
Governor : O.P. Sharmah
Government : Coalition
Chief Minister : Neiphiu Rio
High Court : Guwahati High Court.
Percentage of tribal people : 83.94%
Literacy Rate : 67.11%
   Male : 71.77
   Female : 61.92
Members of Parliament : 3
   Rajya Sabha : 1
   Lok Sabha : 2
Major tribes : Kanyak, Lotha, Phom, Pochury, Chang, Khiamniungan, Kuki, Yimchungrezeling.

BRIEF HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY : Regarding the origin of the Nagas have various theories. The Nagas are indigenous people from time immemorial. They had their own self-governance system. They had never come under nor had been subjugated by any foreign ruler even the mighty Ahoms of Assam could not bring them under their rule. As per the treaty of Yandaboo (24th Feb. 1826), Assam came under the British rule and as a part of Assam.

Nagaland was also included. Quite sometimes past, the Nagas were not refined and they engaged in head hunting games. The American Christian Missionaries
were the first foreign people to come to this area for preaching the Christianity and they were fully responsible for making the Nagas refined and gave them modern education through the medium of English. The British appeared in Nagaland in the mids of 19th century but even then, the Nagas did not obey the British rule and they always tried to keep them isolate and liberate from the British. In 1957 the Government of India made Nagaland a centrally administered area within Assam. But the Naga leaders like Phizo did not recognize the Government of India's rule and as a result a huge number of demonstrations and unrest began. The Government of India renamed the Naga Hills as Nagaland and in 1961 it was given the status of state and in 1963 Nagaland State Hood was formally declared but even then the Naga legendary figure Phizo was not satisfied and he never compromised on the issue of the idea of Independent Nagaland and he did not talk to the Central government until his death in London. The idea of independence is the root cause of the insurgency of Nagaland. Among the new states of India insurgency first began in Nagaland. Nagaland is situated in the extreme north-east of the country, and bounded by Arunachal pradesh in the north, Assam in west, Manipur in south and Myanmar in the east.

In Nagaland most respected and historical personalities were Rani (Queen) Gaidalu and the A.Z.Phizo – the un compromising dreamer of modern independent Nagaland.

MAIN PROBLEMS: Insurgency, Unemployment, Immigration and Transportation.

Most respected and commandable non-Governmental Body: Naga HOHO

The education system of Nagaland is divided into three categories Higher, Middle, and Primay. In Nagaland there is one Central University, 40 colleges, 236 Schools, 418 Middle Schools, 1399 Primary schools, 2 Poly technic institutions and 5 ITIs (Industrial Training Institute).
The Nagaland National Service Scheme was launched in the year 1982 and now a total number of 12 higher educational institutions (Nagaland University and 11 colleges) have been introducing NSS amongst the students. And since then National Service Scheme was vigorously implemented in the State. The NSS volunteers have been implementing various programmes of the schemes namely tree plantation, cleaning, white washing of the college buildings, making of flower gardens and thatch and bamboo rest shed in the foreground of the Campuses, clearing of the blocked roads and rescue of marooned people after a heavy wind and frequent landslides in the rainy seasons which is very much common in the hill states, make temporary bamboo and wooden bridges for the communication of the interior village people, launched literary campaign and adopted villages and offered them Life style Education as much as possible. The Nagaland NSS volunteers carried out the special programmes launched by the Government of India from time to time such as AIDS awareness and pulse polio programmes. But it is very unfortunate to note that showing the financial constraint the Government of Nagaland did not release its state's share and as a result the NSS programmes are not implemented satisfactorily.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. N.</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>REGULAR CAMPING PROG.</th>
<th>SPECIAL CAMPING PROG.</th>
<th>BOTH (C.S+S.S) GRANTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C.S*</td>
<td>S.S*</td>
<td>C.S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>1,86,620</td>
<td>1,33,000</td>
<td>1,75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>1,40,000</td>
<td>1,00,000</td>
<td>1,75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>1999-00</td>
<td>1,54,000</td>
<td>1,10,000</td>
<td>1,28,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>1,57,500</td>
<td>1,50,000</td>
<td>1,31,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From 1997-98 to 2001-2002 the govt. of Nagaland has spent (C.S+S.S) Rs. 23,39,694/- Lacs for NSS regular and special camping programmes in the State. Total unspent rupees for the same period is Rs. 2,82,333/- lacs.

Suggestions from Nagaland NSS Programme Officers for improvement of NSS in the State. Suggestions are as under:

a) The Government should enhance the amount of grants and release it in time and on a regular basis;

b) Programme Officers should be given proper honorarium;

c) State level training for the NSS programme Officers should be more convenient than at regional or national level;

d) Higher NSS authorities should visit the state NSS units compulsory;

e) During the special camping programmes higher authority should visit and supervise the camps;

f) TA/DA to the NSS Programme Officers who go for Refresher or Orientation training should be cleared by the respective training Centres

NSS programme officers suggestions, Nagaland.

TRIPURA

Area : 10,491.69 sq km

Population : 31,91,168

Male : 16,36,138

Female : 15,55,030

Capital : Agartala

32. Govt. of India, Ibid, 2001
In Tripura, most respected historical figure is

King Bir Bikrom Kishore Manikya.

Main Problems : Insurgency, Unemployment and Communication

A BRIEF HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY : The original and acceptable meaning of the word 'Tripura' is not clearly known. In this context, at least three popular theories are found. According to these popular sayings somebody says that the name Tripura came from the gallant ancient king Tripur, somebody said that it came from the Goddess Tripurasundari and another section has claimed that the name Tripura Came from the ancient Tribe 'Tuipra'. Whatever the origin it may be, but it is sure that Tripura has a glorious past and its name has been found from the time of Mahabharata-the great epic of the Hindus. The founder of the Tripura kingdom was 'Druhu' the son of the great Chandra dynasty's king Jajati of Mahabharata.

From the geneology of the Tripuri Kings, Tripura was ruled by 178 independent Tribal rulers from king Druhu to the last king Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya till 1949. In Rajmala-the geneology of the kings there is a reference that the Tripuri kings were known as 'Fa' meaning father and later on they took the title 'Manikya' which is still prevalent even today.

In references it is found that in 14th century the kings of Bengal helped the Tripura kings. The kings of Tripura had to faced several frequent Mughal invasions and defeated them. In Tripura, in the real sense of the term modern era began only in the 19th century when king Maharaja Birchandra Kishore Manikya Bahadur modeled his administrative set-up on the British India pattern and brought in various reforms. King Birchandra’s successors ruled over Tripura till 15 October 1949 when it merged with Indian Union. Initially the Government has given the status of ‘C’ category and with the re-organization of States in 1956, it became a Centrally administered territory. In 1972 Tripura got the status of full-fledged State hood in Indian Republic. Tripura is strategically situated between the river valleys of Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Enriched almost on three sides by Bangladesh, it is linked with Assam and Mizoram in the north-east. Culturally highly developed Tripura is the meeting ground of Bengali and indigeneous tribal culture and has produced the ever-green personalities like Sachin Dev Barman and Rahul Dev Barman - the giants of Hindi film world as singer and music director.

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME ACTIVITIES IN TRIPURA

For sometimes back in the entire North-east region, Tripura was in the 2nd position next to Mizoram in NSS activities. So far, the NSS student volunteers bagged 6 NSS National Awards i.e. Indira Gandhi Award from the state of Tripura.

In Tripura NSS was launched in the year 1975. Now there are 109 NSS Units which is the highest in entire North-East India and also highest in number of H.S. Schools involved in NSS activities.

In Tripura, according to the state Coordinator, Programme Officers and the student volunteers of National Service Scheme are very much active. The State NSS Cell, according to him utilised the every paisa sanctioned by both the Central and the State Governments. In NSS programmes construction of earth roads and repaire of break roads, cleaning of ponds and the drinking water tanks, planted trees in the institutional campuses and on the important sites, works in hospitals, launch door to door campaigns for pulse polio immunization, awareness campaigns on AIDS and Drug Abuse in the campuses and outside of the campus, adopted villages and as per the needs the NSS volunteers give them life style education on nutritions, safe drinking water, training on leadership, building of community halls, white washing of village schools, education on environment enrichment, conservation of wild species and protect them from the illegal poachers, special awareness campaign to the house wives against the intoxicating materials of their husbands, brothers and the family members also make aware them how alcohl or such things ruin their families both from economically and socially.

In Tripura there is no fund crisis both in Central and State shares. But the Liaison Officer, State NSS Cell and the programme officers are in opinion that the funds are not released in time. As a result, the NSS programmes cannot be carried out in time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. N.</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>REGULAR CAMPING PROG.</th>
<th>SPECIAL CAMPING PROG.</th>
<th>BOTH (C.S+S.S) GRANTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C.S*</td>
<td>S.S*</td>
<td>C.S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>5,60,000</td>
<td>4,00,000</td>
<td>4,60,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>7,00,000</td>
<td>3,26,000</td>
<td>5,83,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>1999-00</td>
<td>7,70,000</td>
<td>4,04,500</td>
<td>6,42,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>18,00,000</td>
<td>5,13,000</td>
<td>18,00,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>9,85,958</td>
<td>7,15,000</td>
<td>9,97,804</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Govt. of Tripura during 1997-98 to 2001-2002 (C.S+S.S) spent Rs. 1,19,66,596 Crores for NSS regular and special camping programmes in the state. Total unspent of the said period is Rs. 31,16,238/- lacs.

C.S* means Central Share and S.S* means State’s matching share for Centre state joint NSS programmes.

NSS Programme Officers of Tripura would like to offer the following suggestions for the improvement of NSS in the state are as follows:

a) To raise financial grants;

b) To provide scope to the best NSS volunteers in national Programmes from the state.

c) Special project programme should be undertaken specially for the backward, poor and against social injustice.

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d) The interested students from class VIII should bring under NSS programme for actual improvement and implementation of the programmes. Then they will get time to understand and will certainly be inspired about it.

e) As the Prog. Officer is the Key personnel of the scheme and the total improvement solely depends upon him and that is why some incentives or facilities should be provided to them as leave, promotion or attractive tour etc.

f) Some special programmes or trainings on natural disaster are needed for the volunteers and the Programme Officers so that, they can face them and find solutions to control the situation during natural calamities.

g) Joint programmes such as NIC, cultural, youth exchange to establish good relations among the youths of India in general and North-Eastern region in particular in particular are highly important.

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THE TABLE SHOWS THE FINACIAL POSITION FOR DISBURSEMENT OF CENTRAL AND STATE SHARE

37. NSS Programme Officer’s Suggestions, Tripura 2002