



Financial Arrangement and Role of National Service Scheme

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FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT AND ROLE OF NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME ABSTRACT
National Service Scheme, popularity known as NSS, was launched in Gandhiji's Birth Centenary Year on September 24, 1969 (the Union Education Minister Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao) in 37 Universities involving 40,000 students with primary focus or the development of Personality of students through community service.

Abstract

National Service Scheme, popularity known as NSS, was launched in Gandhiji's Birth Centenary Year on September 24, 1969 (the Union Education Minister Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao) in 37 Universities involving 40,000 students with primary focus or the development of Personality of students through community service. Today, NSS is having 2.10 lakhs NSS volunteers on the roll spread over 176 universities and 22 Senior Secondary Councils through out the country. From its inception till date more than 2 crore students have joined in NSS as volunteers. For the year 2004-05 it has a target to enroll 22-23 lakhs students as volunteers and to conduct 21000 special camps on Youth for Swatchhata with special emphasis on mass campaigns for cleanliness drive. Besides, it has also plan to adopt 21,000 villages for literacy and other development activities.

Key Words

Finance, Youth Development, Regional Community, NSS Programmes, Volunteers.

NSS Regional Centre, Kolkata covers that states of West Bengal and Sikkim including all universities & +2 council. During the year 2003-04 there were 13 universities & +2 council in the state of West Bengal and involved 58400 students as NSS volunteers. During the year 2003-04 it has also a target to involve 584 special camp and to adopt 584 villages / slums under National Service Scheme in West Bengal.

The expenditure of NSS is shared in between Central and state 7:5 ratio except in case of North-Eastern Zone, Jammu Kashmir and Territories. Central Government meets the entire expenditure on administration, training, monitoring evaluation,

publication and state level lessening on NSS. The existing pattern of expenditure on NSS Regular activities and Special Camping Programme is respectively Rs. 200/- and Rs. 40/- per volunteer.

The first installment of Central share on grant for Special Camping Programme is released by the Central Govt. of the State Govt. in January preceding the financial year in which the camps are to be organized. The State Govt. would release the grant to the respective universities, +2 council along with their matching share by 15th March by the preceding year. The Universities/+2 council will ensure that the funds are released to the colleges/ +2 H.S. schools by the 15th of April of the Financial year in which the camps are to be organized. There should be no deduction in the Special Camping grants at any level. The colleges and H.S. Schools are expected to complete the special camping Programme during vacation/ prolonged holidays. Before commencement of the camp the college and H.S. School are to send intimation to the NSS Regional Centre, State Govt. and concerned universities / H.S. Councils and training Centre well in advance for camp visit. Special Camping Programme grants is released @ 300.00/ 400.00 per volunteer for 50 volunteers to conduct the camp in the adopted villages for a period of 10 days. The sanctioned amount is to be utilized for arrangement of food and accommodation, travel, project and activities planned in the camp.

The Programme Officer will act as camp Director at the camp site. The Programme Officer and the volunteers are also to stay physically in the camp for entire duration. The accounts of the camp are to maintain properly by a team of volunteers assigned the job to handle the accounts. The volunteers are to be guided by the programme officer. As soon as the camp in over the accounts of the camp are to be submitted to the Programme Coordination of the concerned universities / +2 Councils. The camp report is also to be sent to NSS Regional Centre, State Govt. Training Centre and the concerned Universities/ H.S. Councils.

The programme Coordinators of the universities / +2 Councils will send a Certificate to the State Govt. Concerned and NSS Regional Centre by 30th April every year that the entire grant has been released to the Institution by the stipulated time.

The 2nd installment of the grant will be released to the State Govt. only on receipt of :

- A) Accounts in respect of grants sanctioned up to last year. For example 2nd installment of 2009-10 would be released on receipt of certificate from the state govt. that all camping grants sanctioned up to 2009-10 (including the grants sanctioned in 2008-09, for 2009-10) has been released to the universities and colleges and accounts settled in respect of grants sanctioned up to 2008-09.
- B) Actual enrolment of students under NSS giving details of Institutions and Universities (No. of students enrolled, No. of adopted villages, No. of Institution covered, No. of SC/ST students, No. of Male and Female students.)

The central govt. released grants to the state govt. during January or February of the preceding year in which the activities are to take place. The state govt. putting its own share, releases grants to the universities, +2 councils. The universities and +2 councils retain an amount of Rs. 25/- per head per volunteer to meet the coordination expenses of the NSS cell and released first installment of Rs. 135.00 / 175.00 per volunteer for 100 volunteers of the Unit to the college or +2 school. It is expected that the first installment of the Regular activities grants should be available to the programme officer by 30th June, so that immediately after reopening of the Institution, the fund can be utilized for NSS programme.

The 2nd installment of the Regular activities grants would be released by the Central Govt. to State Govt. on receipt of the following :

- A) A certificate or utilization of funds (Central and State share) by the universities and Institutions, also a report of balance amount available at the state level and reason for non release of funds.

- B) Accounts in respect of grant sanctioned up to the last 2 years before the year in which 2nd installment is to release. In fact the 2nd installment of grant is released on the basis of actual enrollment, list of institutions, enrolment details of Male and Female, SC/ST at the institution level up to 30th September.

Financial arrangement

NSS regular activities : @ 160.00 / 200.00 per volunteer for 100 volunteers 16000.00 / 20000.00.

Universities + 2 council level : @ 25.00 per volunteer per annum will be deducted to meet the expenses or honorarium of part time coordination. part time staff, contingencies, training, meeting, publication and short-term programme on special camping theme for programme officers etc.

College/ +2 level : An amount of Rs. 135.00 / 175.00 shall be available towards the administrative expenses and programme development expenses at the institution level. Out of Rs. 135.00/ 175.00, roughly and amount of Rs. 55.00/65.00 per volunteer shall be spent on administrative expenses, such as out of pocket allowance @ 400/- per month to the Programme officer, clerical assistances, purchase of stationary and office supply etc.

Roughly and amount of Rs. 80.00/110.00 is available for the programme development. This amount should be used for refreshment to the volunteers, transportation and 20 hours orientation training for NSS volunteers and participation in Orientation/ Refresher Courses. The Orientation training for the NSS volunteers shall be done on the following manner.

- i) **General Orientation** : 2 hours
- ii) **Special Orientation** : 8 hours
- iii) **Programmes skill learning** : 10 hours. Out of the regular activities grants, each NSS volunteer should be provided with a batch and one work dairy at the time of his/her enrolment as NSS volunteer.

Accounts are liable for inspection and audit, it is therefore, advised that proper care should be taken to maintain proper records of expenditure in the camp. It will be befitting if the accounts are transparent. The records and accounts will be produced before the officials of the NSS regional centre, state NSS cell and concerned universities and also officials of Accountant General or local fund authorities for Inspection and audit whenever demanded.

Conclusion

The National Service Scheme (NSS) tries to bridge the glut between the content and method of education one hand and tries to meet the needs and aspirations of the community, especially its weaker sections, on the others.

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