



Ministry of
**Electronics &
Information Technology**
Government of India



Digital India
Power To Empower



National e-Governance Division

PRESS NOTE

Digital India Ask Our Experts

- **Episode 51** inspires students to lead, serve, and contribute to nation-building through the **National Service Scheme (NSS)**
- **Highlights the scheme's motto - 'Not Me But You' – placing selfless service at the heart of volunteering**

New Delhi: “The National Service Scheme (NSS) is enabling young people to transform community service into opportunities for leadership, skill development and nation-building”, said Shri Ramesh Verma, Director, NSS Division, in the latest episode of Digital India Ask Our Experts, a Digital India initiative of the National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), conducted on August 6, 2026.

Watch the episode on https://www.youtube.com/live/aNW0Ok2M8GQ?si=P_kUPoPEJKchO7cG



Highlighting the philosophy behind NSS, Shri Verma said the scheme's motto, “Not Me But You,” places selfless service at the heart of volunteering. The objective is not merely to earn certificates or recognition, but to encourage students to contribute meaningfully to their communities and develop into responsible citizens.

Over the years, NSS has evolved to respond to emerging social and national priorities. The scheme now encourages young volunteers to participate in initiatives addressing climate change, environmental

protection, digital literacy and public health. Initiatives such as *Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam*, along with campaigns related to drug-free India and TB eradication, provide students opportunities to engage with issues that directly affect society.

The discussion also highlighted how NSS volunteering can help students develop skills that extend beyond the classroom. Leadership, confidence, teamwork, communication and crisis management are among the capabilities that students can build through active participation. Shri Verma noted that students can contribute through diverse talents, including photography and video editing, demonstrating that volunteering offers space for different interests and abilities.

Emphasising the growing role of technology in youth engagement, Shri Verma said NSS has been integrated with the MY Bharat portal, enabling volunteers to participate in both physical community service and digital activities. This provides young people with additional avenues to contribute while connecting volunteering with the wider digital ecosystem.

The episode also highlighted the inclusive nature of NSS. Students aged 15 – 29 across schools, colleges and universities can participate in the scheme. Students who are already members of other clubs or student groups can also join NSS, giving them the flexibility to combine different interests and activities.

Discussing opportunities for volunteers to participate in prestigious events such as the Republic Day Parade, Shri Verma explained that selection is based on a volunteer's spirit of service, consistency and active participation. The emphasis, therefore, remains on sustained engagement rather than last-minute preparation.

The discussion also touched upon the NSS certificate, which formally recognises a volunteer's contribution. However, Shri Verma reiterated that the true value of NSS lies in cultivating a spirit of selfless service, with volunteers encouraged to focus on making a difference rather than pursuing external rewards.

The latest Ask Our Experts episode offers students an insight into how volunteering can become a pathway to personal growth, leadership and meaningful participation in nation-building. By combining community engagement with contemporary challenges and digital opportunities, NSS continues to create avenues for young people to contribute to society while developing skills for the future.

The Digital India Ask Our Experts is a live interactive programme streamed on Digital India's YouTube channel. For more information on upcoming episodes and Digital India initiatives, visit www.digitalindia.gov.in and www.negd.gov.in.