GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS)

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 679 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2021

National Service Scheme

679. SHRI B.Y. RAGHAVENDRA: SHRI VIJAY KUMAR DUBEY: SHRI ANURAG SHARMA: SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that National Service Scheme (NSS) is playing a key role in empowering the youth of the country and if so, the details thereof along with the initiatives taken by the Government to encourage NSS students;

(b) the total number of students who are enrolled under the NSS in the State of Uttar Pradesh, Tripura and Karnatka at present;

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of students under NSS and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of funds allocated/spent under NSS during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to encourage all educational institutions to include NSS in their activities/curriculum?

ANSWER THE MINISTER FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS [SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR]

(a) Yes, National Service Scheme (NSS) is playing a key role in empowering the youth of the country. National Service Scheme (NSS) was introduced in 1969 with the primary objective of developing the personality and character of the student youth through voluntary community service. 'Education through Service' is the purpose of the NSS. The ideological orientation of the NSS is inspired by the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi. Very appropriately, the motto of NSS is "NOT ME, BUT YOU" in Hindi "स्वयं से पहले आप". An NSS volunteer places the 'community' before 'self'. At Present, NSS has about 40 lakh volunteers on its rolls spread over 479 Universities, 51 +2 Councils covering 17,676 colleges and 12,087 schools. The achievements of NSS are in the form of development of personality and character of the student volunteers. NSS has made significant contribution to mass literacy, health, family welfare & nutrition, environment conservation, social service programme, women empowerment, relief and rehabilitation during natural calamities etc.

As a means to encourage the NSS Volunteers to recognise their outstanding contributions towards community service, the Ministry confers the NSS Awards every year in the following 3 categories with a view to further promote NSS across the country:-

S.	Category	No. of	Value of Award		
No		Awards			
1.	University/ +2 Council	02	First Award: Rs.5,00,000/- (for NSS Programme Development) with a Trophy to the University/ +2 Council. A Certificate and a Silver Medal to the Programme Coordinator.		
			Second Award: Rs.3,00,000 lakh (for NSS Programme Development) with a Trophy to the University/ +2 Council. A Certificate and a Silver Medal to the Programme Coordinator.		
2.	NSS Units and their Programme Officers	10 + 10	Rs.2,00,000/- to each NSS Unit (For NSS Programme Development), with a Trophy. Rs. 1,50,000/- to each Programme Officer with a Certificate and a Silver Medal.		
3.	NSS Volunteers	30	Rs. 1,00,000/- to each Volunteer, with a Certificate and a Silver Medal.		

(b) The total number of students who are enrolled under the NSS in the State of Uttar Pradesh, Tripura and Karnataka at present for which the NSS Grants are being released to the respective States are as follows:

S.	Name of State	No. of NSS Volunteers
No.		enrolled
1.	Uttar Pradesh	307600
2.	Tripura	32600
3.	Karnataka	278200

(c) There is a long pending demand from different States/UTs Government for creation of additional NSS units in their institutions which would lead to increase in the number of NSS Volunteers. Due to budget constraints, it has not been possible for the Department to agree to creation of additional NSS units. At present, the Department has enrolled 36 lakh volunteers under NSS for which the NSS Grants is being released to all the States/UTs for conducting NSS programmes. Apart from this, 4000 Self Financing Units (1 unit= 100 volunteer) are working with the different educational institutions in the country towards the community service under NSS.

(d) The amount of funds released to the States/UTs Government for organizing the NSS activities during the each of the last three years and current years are as follows;

S. N.	Name of State	Fund released in 2018-19 (in Rs.)	Fund released in 2019-20 (in Rs.)	Fund released in 2020-21 (in Rs.)
1.	Uttar Pradesh	651956	109582500	9513698
2.	Tripura	13936500	13936500	13936500
3.	Karnataka	76980476	99034169	00

During current year, proposal for release of funds to these States are under consideration and would be done shortly.

e) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports had organized sensitization workshop with all the stake holders i.e State NSS Officers, Programme Coordinators, Association of Indian Universities, University Grants Commission to formulate the template of NSS as a credit based elective subject. Based on the proposal of the Ministry, an advisory was issued by the University Grants Commission (UGC) to all the Vice Chancellors of Universities to start NSS as an elective subject in all the educational institutions.

* * * * * *