

## **IMPORTANT NSS ACTIVITIES IN UTTAR PRADESH**

### **1. Voter Awareness Campaign.**

Inspired by the Election Commission of India and the Chief Election Officer of Uttar Pradesh, during the Assembly Elections, 2012 of Uttar Pradesh, NSS volunteers and Programme Officers of various institutions organized Voter Awareness Campaign in their respective adopted areas. 1,20,000 NSS volunteers enrolled themselves in the campaign and motivated 20,00,000 people in the campaign. On the whole, 2,60,000 NSS volunteers from the entire state successfully made more than 1,00,00,000 people aware of the significance of voting through organisation of rallies, poster competitions, slogans and street plays. As a result of this campaign, the voting percentage was enhanced to 60% from 46% in the earlier election. In 70 blocks, NSS Programme Officers acted as Voter Awareness Supervisors and they are now the member Secretaries of District Voter Awareness Committees in the state. In all colleges of the state YUVA ( Youth United for Voter Awareness ) Clubs are established and students are made aware of the right to franchise.

In recognition and appreciation of the commendable services rendered by NSS in the Voter Awareness Campaign, the Election commission of India presented an Appreciation Certificate to National Service Scheme on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2012.

The Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh presented awards to 12 Programme Officers and NSS volunteers who won prizes in various competitions; on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2013.

### **2. Bapu Bazar by NSS Volunteers.**

Under the auspices of NSS of Vir Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University, Jaunpur, the Volunteers organise Bapu Bazars in different blocks. Under this, the volunteers collect cloths, books, utensils and toys in one of the colleges where stalls of various colleges are raised and these collected materials are sold at a nominal price of Rs.10/, Rs.5/ and Rs.2/. A nominal price is charged so as not to hurt the self respect of the poor people. So far, 17 Bapu Bazars have been organized in various blocks. The sales proceeds of Rs. 1,00,000/ has been collected and deposited in Bapu Swabhiman Sahit Sahayata Kosh.

### **3. Gomti River Cleanliness Campaign**

The NSS units of Lucknow University organized a 10 day Gomti River Cleanliness Campaign from 31<sup>st</sup> July to 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2012. This covered 15 k.m. area from one end to another end of Lucknow

city covering Sahid Smarqak, Deverha Ghat, Chat Puja Ghat, Lucknow Mela Maidan, Pipra Ghats, Shani Devata Ghat and Mankameshvar Ghat. The enthusiasm of the volunteers was so high that they worked during rain in muddy areas on closed holidays and during holy festivals of Raksha Bandhan and Roza. 5,000 volunteers from 24 colleges of Lucknow University participated in this campaign and removed polythene and other pollutants from the holy river. During the campaign, various dignitaries from the state government like Shri Ambika Chowdhary, Hon'ble Minister of Revenue and Justice Verma of the High Court inspired the volunteers by their visits.

#### 4. Services in Kumbha Mela

NSS volunteers of 20 units of Allahabad University organised a series of Special Camps and offered voluntary services to the devotees during the Kumbh Mela in Allahabad. The volunteers provided services to the aged devotees in taking holy dip in the river in the ghat, helping the sick and the injured devotees and tracing the missing people and helping them to reunite with their group through public address system and person to person contact. It is pertinent here to mention that on 10.02.2013, during the Mouni Amavasya, 100 NSS volunteers of Christian college controlled the crowd for more than 16 hours standing in water.