

# **NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME**

**UNIT NO: 53**

## **ST.JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, MOOLAMATTOM**

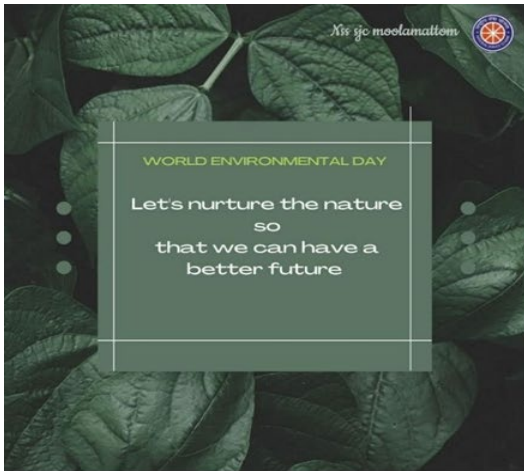
National Service Scheme is a Central-sector Scheme of Government of India, implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Launched during 1969, the birth centenary year of the Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, and NSS seeks to give an extended dimension to the education system to orientate the young students to selfless service towards community work. The scheme primarily aims for personality development of students through social service.

Participation in National Service Scheme is a transformative experience that goes beyond academic learning. It provides a platform for students to develop a holistic understanding of society by engaging in hands-on projects and interacting with diverse communities. NSS not only equips participants with practical skills but also nurtures qualities such as teamwork, leadership, and empathy. The impact of NSS extends far beyond the immediate communities served, as the program cultivates a generation of socially conscious individuals who are committed to making a positive difference in the world. Overall, the National Service Scheme serves as a powerful catalyst for personal and societal development, emphasizing the crucial role of youth in building a harmonious and responsible society.



Activities conducted as part of Environment Conservation

- Glimpses from “Plant A Tree Challenge”



**The Staff members actively participating in “Plant A Tree Challenge”**





## Millet Cultivation Initiative

Date: 25/08/2023 – 31/08/2023

Venue: Kolapra Higher Secondary School



The NSS camp-named “Thanimayilekku” (meaning “journey to the roots”) was inaugurated on 25/08/2023 in a function which involved college officials including principal and the two NSS programme officers and many other dignitaries from the local governing bodies. The theme of the camp is to go to the roots in terms of one’s tradition food options. Since we are celebrating millet year as per the suggestion of the central government, we decided to have a camp in which the focus is on sharing the knowledge about the traditional crop items and to initiate



the sequence of millet cultivation which we are planning in the coming year.

Since this year we have our theme as millet year we have decided to honour **Padmashri awardee Shri Cheruvayal Raman** who preserved 64 varieties of selected rice breeds. Padmashri Cheruvayal Raman came to our camp on 26/082023 and have interacted with our students. He shared his experience in preserving the rarest rice breeds in Wayanad. He also advised the students on



how to preserve the nature and have communicated that there is need to go to the roots in terms of agricultural and life practices. Towards the end of the talk our NSS Volunteers along with students of Kolapra Government Highers Secondary School had planted seeds of two of the millets namely “Ragi and Thina”. Padmashri Cheruvayal Raman also joined the volunteers in sowing the seeds at the school premises. The event was covered by Malayala Manorama, the leading newspaper in Kerala.



xt session was handled by SHIJU K GEORGE. St Joseph’s Higher Secondary school Karimanoor. Who shared its personal experience through series of stories his usage of words was vibrant and simple. By the end of the class sweets were distributed has the token of love from PP CHANDRAN SIR DISTRICT PANCHAYAT MEMBER IDUKKI the day ended with cultural

programme conducted with group 4 and instruction was given by program officer’s, followed by dinner.



We had Sremedhanam (volunteering) everyday so that our Volunteers do some work for specific things to be solved. The major works they undertook was cleaning the Higher Secondary

and High School premises. On the third day the volunteers have also undertook to go and clean the premises of the Kudayathoor Blind School. Mr. Jyothis S, a Higher Secondary School Teacher, Vellathooval HSS had also given a session on going to the roots or

traditional ways of living. He had also discussed the issue of generation gap between the Instagram generation and their parents. The session prompted many of our volunteers to raise their voice and went about having an active discussion in the afternoon. We had an unexpected visitor in the form of Santhosh P N (Regional Director, NSS, Kerala & Lakshadweep) .



**On the 4<sup>th</sup> Day, (28/08/2023)** the volunteers started with the routines and went about doing their volunteering work by cleaning the remaining portion of the HSS premises to be cleaned.



There was another session by Ms. Arya Boss on how to be confident. She had also interacted with the NSS volunteers and stressed on the need to be thinking out of the box for real life solutions. It was also quite inspiring for the lady volunteers.

The most unexpected session of the camp was given by the host, who is the NSS Programme officer of the Kolapra Gov. HSS Mr. Shainoj OV. He being an expert in theatre arts and also an NSS Programme officer, he introduced the students to the philosophy of NSS via a dramatic way in which he emphasised the importance of being alert; being alert to one's surroundings, being alert to situations, being alert to one's society and its dynamics. He also asserted the importance of being sensitive to the issues that the neighbouring community is facing. His session not only encouraged the students to be responsible towards social issues, but also demonstrated the power of such a young group and its ability to do things in quick time by certain dramatic demonstrations/group dynamisms. He also encouraged the students to do another session of millet sawing at a different location other than the one which they did along with Shri. Cheruvayal Raman. He also persuaded the students to help a couple of families to build their home which is at a very poor state. And the students took up that challenge to go ahead with the identification and construction of the house of the needy which was also a plan that has been in discussion in the NSS unit under the leadership of Dr. Robin John and Ms. Christy Joseph, the NSS Programme officers. Later that night, Mahatma Gandhi University NSS program Co-ordinator Dr. Sivadasan also visited he camp on the same day and explained various projects to the volunteers that NSS has taken up. He had also

emphasized the importance of helping the needy in society and shared his vision about the house construction projects that NSS has taken up during this academic year.



The next day the students celebrated Onam our state festival in colours with traditional food items prepared by the students. The students planted another set of millet cultivation which bloomed three days. They have also did another session of cleaning the remaining portion of the premises of HSS campus.





On the 7<sup>th</sup> day after cleaning the rooms and utilities the camp adjourned with a photo taken at one of the monuments at Kolapra HSS which is an Anchal Box (old form of postal service during the Kings reign).



## Relief to the Society

We have served to our neighboring communities especially in the times of distress such as Land slide and flood. An example of the news coverage is given below,

