In the year 1969, The National Service Scheme (NSS) was launched in 37 Universities in India and Sambalpur University was one among them. Journey of NSS in Sambalpur University was initiated with 400 volunteers. At present, the volunteer's strength is 12300, out of which 8000 are male volunteers and 4300 are female volunteers. There are 246 units spreading in 137 colleges within the jurisdiction of Sambalpur University.

**Structure of NSS under Sambalpur University**

Each NSS unit consists of 50 NSS volunteers and it is supervised by one Programme Officer (PO). The college level NSS activity is monitored by College Level NSS Advisory Committee. The College Level NSS Advisory Committee is responsible for all the NSS activities at the college/unit level. Each unit is having an adopted village.

In order to monitor the activities at the unit level, District Programme Officer (DPO) has been appointed. At the University level, there is ‘University Level NSS Advisory Committee’ and ‘NSS Bureau’ to plan and implement NSS programmes. The Bureau functions under the Vice Chancellor of the University. The Programme Coordinator, NSS is the main executive functionary in charge of NSS Bureau. The NSS Bureau make necessary liaison with the NSS Regional Centre, State Liaison Officer (SLO) and Empanelled Training Institute, OUAT, BBSR for effective implementation of NSS activities.

**NSS Regular Activities:**

True to the ethos of NSS, Sambalpur University is taking up lot of communities related activities to link the campus with the community.
Strategically, regular activities at college level are centered around creation of awareness against social evils, economics exploitation, educating people on rights and duties of a citizen, constitutional and governmental provision for the welfare of the people etc.. Volunteers are also involved in popularizing scientific values among people in the adopted villages. The volunteers are trained in such areas and are inspired to innovations and creativeness. The labour is being put to create assets both for the college and community. They have been engaged in various governmental programmes along with government functionaries, such as Pulse Polio, AIDS and Health Awareness, Literacy etc.

Blood Donation camps were organized by different colleges to spread awareness among youth as well as community

Special Camping Programme

Special camping programmes are integral part of NSS which provide unique opportunities to the volunteers for group living, collective experience sharing and direct interaction with the community. Proposals of Special Camping Programme are being scrutinized and orientations on formulation of action plan for the adopted village during Special Camping period are being made. These Special Camps are organized during Winter Vacation, Summer and Pooja Vacation. The theme of the special camp for 2012-13 was (Right to Education) “Gyanalok”.

The NSS Cell has undertaken number of programs during the year 2012-13 where in 246 Units of 138 colleges were actively involved in the programs like eradication of illiteracy, awareness among the villagers to bring back the school drop out again to the track of education. As many as 1572 drop out cases have been identified, out of which 254 drop out cases have been brought back to the main stream. There are 24 adopted villages wherein dropout number is ‘NIL’ because of the monitoring of NSS volunteers.
**Other Camps:**

Three days District wise Orientation Programme of Volunteers of 11 districts were organized at B.P. Auditorium, Jyoti Vihar, Sambalpur University from 28.05.2012 to 12.06.2012. in 3 phases. About 360 volunteers from the colleges of Angul, Boudh, Bolangir, Subarnapur & Deogarh districts & Kalahandi, Nuapada, Sambalpur & Jharsuguda, Sundargarh & Bargarh districts were participated for the Orientation Training Programme. During the camp, volunteers participated in construction of a check dam (72” feet) and restoration of pond near Guest House of Sambalpur University under the project of watershed programme for the interest of the general public.

During the Inter College camps at P.S. Degree College, Gaisilat, B.G. Degree College, Kesaibahal, Neelashaila Mahavidyala, Rourkela and Siddhartha, College, Binka, volunteers performs street plays on various current social issues at different villages adjacent to colleges. Issues such as dowry prohibition, eradication of illiteracy, Right to Information, environment protection, sanitation, etc., volunteers propagate through street plays.
Besides that, different NSS Units conducted rally and awareness programme on Voters’ Rights and utility of participatory democracy.

NSS volunteers are also participating in different cultural programmes / events. Time to time, volunteers are also participating in Republic Day Camp as well as other National Integration Camps. For the year 2012 -13, 115 nos. of volunteers represented Sambalpur University in different national camps.

Initiatives are also been taken at various natural picnic spot to contain environmental pollution.
Under watershed project the volunteers of B.P. Degree College, Boden, Dist – Nuapada has imitated certain steps to construct a check dam in their adopted village Suklibhatta. In order to complete the said construction, the college has proposed to conduct an Inter College Camp.

At different point of times, NSS volunteers are organizing and participating in different national day celebrations, such as, Youth Week, Van Mohatsava Week, Law Day, etc..

**PLANNING FOR THE YEAR 2013-14:**

Besides our regular NSS activities, thrust areas would be spreading Blood Donation and Plantation. It is planned that in each Districts within the Sambalpur University Jurisdiction, there would be minimum one model village where there would be zero drop out Students and 100% sanitation.