

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1259
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015
NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME
Udhayakumar Shri M.

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

- (a) Whether the Government proposes to reconsider the process of de-linking of National Service Scheme (NSS) operation from funding for the institutions since it causes financial burdens to the student community;
- (b) If so, the reasons therefore;
- (c) the total number of Self-Financing Unit (SFUs) set up in the country and the total number of applications/requests received by the Government to set up SFUs of NSS so far and along with the action taken thereon;
- (d) the total number of volunteers registered in these SFUs of NSS; and;
- (e) the funds spent by the SFUs during the last two years and the current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) and (b): No, Madam. At present, there is no such proposal under consideration for de-linking of National Service Scheme (NSS) operation from funding for the institutions under consideration by the Government. The average expenditure on NSS youth per annum is Rs.475/- Some of the colleges/schools do charge one time registration fee of about Rs.20/- per youth. This is a meagre amount and not a burden on students.

NSS has remained immensely popular among the student youth. However, it is not possible to fund all the institutions due to budgetary limitations. As per experience NSS continues smoothly to function with or without funds from the Government.

There are many elite and private institutions, which are self-sufficient in funding and do not require financial assistance from Government of India but would like to avail the opportunity of NSS for their students. By allowing them to open NSS units on self-financing basis, the limited budget of NSS is better utilized for other deserving and needy institutions. This twin approach provides benefits of NSS to maximum student youths of the country. In the background, SFUs were set up.

c) At present 2545 Self-Financing Units (SFUs) have been set up in the country. A total of 1038 applications have been received during the year 2014-15 for setting up of new SFUs.

d) A total of 2,34,036 volunteers were registered during the year 2014-15 under SFUs of NSS

e) SFUs on an average incur expenditure of Rs.47,500/- per unit (100 volunteers) per year for the regular and special camping programme.