

Department of Social Work: NSS & UBA

*Report for
the month
of
September
2022*

Celebration of NSS Day 2022

NSS DAY 2022 celebrations began with a series of special activities as stated below:

- (i) International Literacy Day on 8th September;
 - (ii) Green Clean Campaign with special focus on *'Ill- effects of plastics'* on 14th, 21st and 28th September;
 - (iii) Adda session on *'Relationship comes with responsibility'* on 19th and 22nd September and
 - (iv) NSS Day celebration with residents of Calcutta Muslim Orphanage for Girls on 24th September.
- Around 258 NSS volunteers participated in the different events.**

A brief description of the events

i. International Literacy Day

On 8th September 2022, around 34 NSS volunteers visited 2 KMC schools under Ward 63, namely Bal Shiksha Sadan and Sri Gandhi Vidya Mandir. The volunteers distributed stationaries items and chocolates to about 70 children and explained the need and importance of continuing school education with the help of charts and posters prepared by them.

During a quick round of reflection after the programme, Ahana Banerjee of Political Science reflected, *"The stark difference between my school and theirs is what struck me the most! Their classes are being held in a garage and yet they have a smile on their faces and are eager to learn. I feel it's my duty to do my bit to ensure they continue their education"*. Rishav Chatterjee, a Commerce student shared, *"It was indeed a great exposure for me, as I got to see how some municipality schools function with paucity of resources and I will surely strive to do whatever little I can to make these children literate"*.



NSS Volunteers through posters explaining the importance of education to the children



Distributing stationaries



Gleeful children after receiving the stationaries



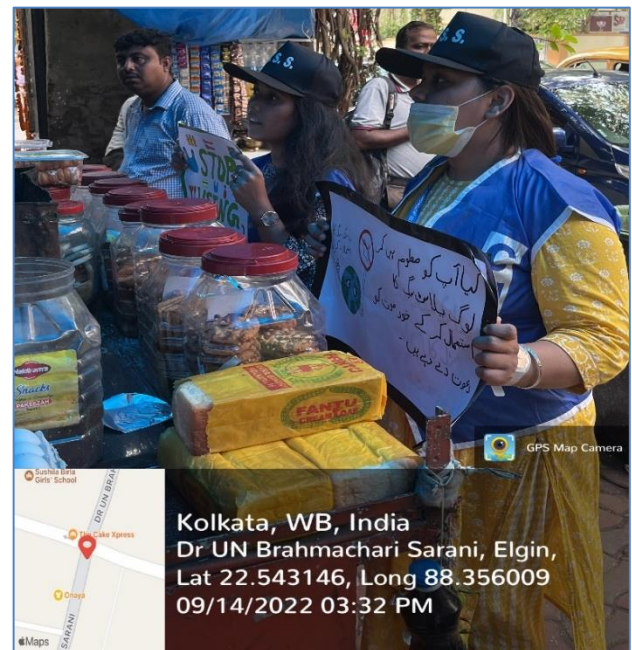
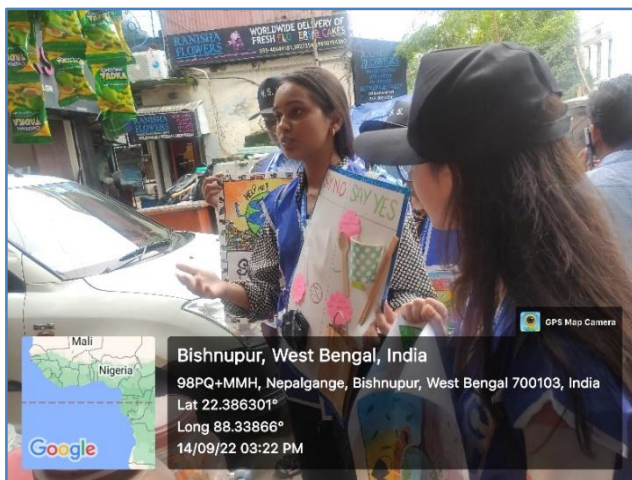
Group picture at Bal Shiksha Sadan



Volunteers with the teachers of SGVM

ii. **Green Clean Campaign with special focus on ‘Ill effects of plastics’**

On 14th, 21st and 28th September 2022, Green Clean Campaign with special focus on ‘Ill effects of plastics’ was organised in two slots – 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Around 130 NSS volunteers participated in this campaign. They prepared posters on the ill effects of plastics and created awareness amongst shopkeepers, consumers and commuters on Park Street and Theatre road. It was a learning experience for the volunteers, as Shreya Das of Sociology shared, **“I was taken aback when a shopkeeper challenged me and said that I as a consumer was the root cause of this problem, as we consumers don’t carry bags from home and demand the shopkeeper to provide us the same, who then hands us single use plastics! As I reflected on what he just told me, I realised that each one of us have a responsibility to stop using plastics. Henceforth, I will be a responsible consumer!”** Through the Green Clean Campaign, the NSS volunteers not only created awareness about a serious issue but also realised their responsibility in safeguarding and nurturing the environment.



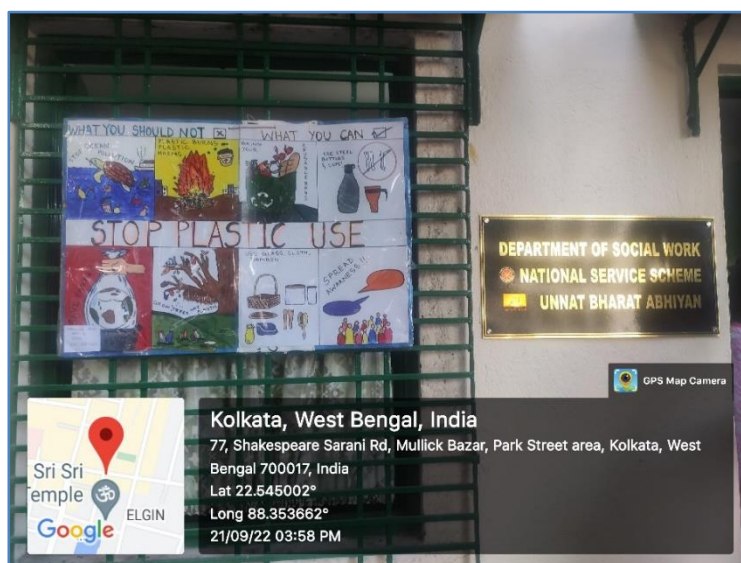
Volunteers taking turns to create awareness about the ill-effects of plastics



Volunteers creating awareness amongst consumers and shopkeepers alike



The green brigade on green clean campaign



‘Say No To Plastics’

iii. Adda Sessions on ‘Relationship comes with Responsibility’

On 19th and 22nd September 2022, Adda sessions on ‘Relationship comes with responsibility’ were organised for the College students. A total of 56 students participated in these sessions. The objectives of these sessions were as follows:

- a. That the youth today understand that all relationships come with responsibilities
- b. That relationships need to be nurtured for it to grow
- c. That relationships cannot be taken for granted
- d. That all human beings have a relationship with nature and therefore it needs to be handled with responsibility.
- e. That Trust and Forgiveness is essential for a long lasting relationship

The students in small groups expressed their views on the topic and presented the same to all the participants. It was interesting to note that the students were proactively involved in the discussion and everyone unanimously agreed that one needs to take responsibility in whatever relationship they were in. Some highlighted the adverse effects on Nature because of lack of responsibility. Some others spoke about relationships with animals as well and the need to take responsibility. Digital relationships, its pros and cons were discussed in details. It was observed that the young students realized that most of the time relationships were taken for granted and not much importance was given to the responsibility part of it. Hence, the session concluded with a pledge by the participants that they would be more sensitive to all their relationships, be it at home or outside.



Group discussion and presentation underway



Volunteers on 19th September 2022



Group picture on 22nd September 2022

iv. NSS Day celebration with residents of Calcutta Muslim Orphanage for Girls

On 24th September 2022, 18 NSS volunteers (only girls) celebrated NSS Day with 171 girls of Calcutta Muslim Orphanage for Girls. The Programme Officer introduced the CMO girls to NSS and the significance of NSS DAY. The NSS volunteers began with a session on menstrual hygiene for the students of classes V to XII. The session was divided into 3 parts. In the first part, with posters and charts the volunteers explained to the girls the menstrual cycle. In the second part, they explained the DOs and DON'Ts while menstruating and the third part focussed on the superstitions.

The session was extremely informative and the girls of the orphanage were happy to go through this session as they did not have any other opportunity to discuss these issues freely. They had a lot of queries and clarifications which they asked the NSS volunteers. This was followed by cultural performances by the CMO students as well as by the NSS volunteers. The programme concluded with vote of thanks to the CMO administration for allowing the NSS volunteers to celebrate NSS Day in a meaningful way. The CMO staff expressed gratitude to St. Xavier's College for conducting such an important session and invited the volunteers to visit the CMO often and motivate the girls. Refreshments were distributed to all present.

Ma'am Uzma Alam, in-charge of the girl's section of CMO shared, ***"It was a wonderful programme and our girls benefitted from the session. The girls enjoyed the cultural programme a lot. We hope the students of St. Xavier's College would visit our girls more often and motivate them to study well."*** Md. Anwar, the Education Convenor of CMO who was very impressed with the programme said, ***"It is my humble request to St. Xavier's College to organise a day tour of the College for our high school girls, so that they feel motivated to pursue higher education."*** For the NSS volunteers it was a memorable experience. Parthana Pearl Pradhan of English department reflected, ***"This is the first time, I came across such vibrant group of girls, they were full of life, eager to interact with us not bothering about their hardships and challenges. I am thankful to NSS for providing me this opportunity through which I was able to bring smiles on so many faces."***



Opening prayer by CMO girls



Explaining the significance of NSS Day



NSS Volunteers taking session on menstrual hygiene



CMO girls engrossed in the session



Dance performance by CMO girls



Cultural performance by NSS volunteers



Group dance by NSS volunteers



CMO girls enjoying the performances



Vote of thanks by CMO resident and NSS volunteer



Distribution of refreshment packets

National Service Scheme – Unit II (Rural campus)

The NSS volunteers celebrated NSS day on 29th September as they had exams on 24th September. The Unit organised a training on First Aid for school students of Jhanjra High School, Balarampur Manmath Nath Vidya Mandir High School and St. Paul's High School. Around 100 students of classes VIII to XII attended this training along with 5 teachers and 20 NSS volunteers. Ms. Laboni Panja, a nurse of Falta Rural Hospital, West Bengal was the resource speaker for this training. During the session, Ms. Panja explained the importance of first aid and how it must be administered. She prepared a first aid box, which the schools were encouraged to prepare and keep in their respective schools. At the end of the session, all the three schools received a certificate for completing the training.



Session underway
