

Report on Actizen's Collective Programme for NSS students from 2023 to 2025

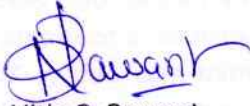
Desh Apnayan Sahayog Foundation is an organization formed in 2015 by its founder, Shree Vallabh Bhansali. The organization works towards creating Actizens and envisions to create a democracy 2.0. Where young children and youth become alert, informed and active. The programme that runs in govt and aided high schools as well as higher secondaries is called the "Actizens club" the students do a set of activities which help them understand citizenship education. The organization wanted to work with the NSS students across Goa, and signed an MOU November 2023 with the Goa university to work with NSS students from colleges in Goa who has the NSS cell in them installed. Dr. Nitin Sawant, state co ordinator for NSS has helped through out to ensure the youth are directed well and get exposure.

There were 10 colleges which showed interest who then became a part of the programme and participated in the first batch of students from colleges. The Programme Officers were contacted and asked to look out for group of 5 students who would be interested in a action based project as there was an orientation that would follow to make sure students understand the steps, concept to take on the projects under guidance from Programme officers and team members from Desh Apnayan. The PO's along with selected students attended the orientation where 10 colleges became part of the orientation along 15 groups, 4 colleges had 2 groups and rest 6 colleges 1 group each.

The Action Based Project was to be carried group wise and one group had to be consisting of 5 members and one students being the group leader. They had to survey any local village area for a simple vici issue which would make them feel they need to try to highlight the issue positively in front of the local authorities. The motive is not to protest, retaliate or rebel with the local government but rather to work along side with the government. The students at once started to bring up various issues which they thought needed attention. They all were guided through online google meets once a week and regular follow up call on phone to them to check if all are in the same line. The project time was to be a month. They were told to make sure they are polite and very calm when they approach the Local panchayat or municipality. There were various issues were taken up like spitting in public spaces like bus stands, Lack of transportation in remote villages, lack of water supply in remove Village in North Goa, etc. All were asked to make their letter to the local panchayat or municipality to inward the letter. Many project make very informative primary research, signature campaigns. There were 9 groups which went for the jury round held online and 4 groups were awarded as best projects. These projects were concluded in the month of March 2024.

This academic year 2024 to 2025 two physical orientations were held one at the Goa University for North Goa colleges and one VVM's Kare college law for south Goa colleges at the Next batch of the Actizens Collective started in the month of October 2024, where all 35 colleges were contacted out which 10 were interested as other colleges had some or the other programmes where they gave commitment. This time also many colleges nominated themselves but most students were part of multiple programme so they couldn't complete but 9 projects completed their topics from 5 colleges. The students were given more than 1 month to complete their work.

All students had taken one unique project that included, fish waste management , lack of buses in remote villages , flower composting, reviving water wells etc. Jury round was held on the 5th mar 2025 where all 9 projects were invited along with their Programme officers, they had prepared a ppt and presented at the Goa university . All students were given participation certificates.



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Photos of the NSS Annual Awards Ceremony (2023-2025) of Desh Apnayan Sahayog Foundation and Actizen with NSS Coordinator from Goa University Dr. Nitin Sawant.



