

1. Karnataka: Restoration of Ancient Stepwells (Kalyanis)

The NSS Unit of Seshadripuram First Grade College, Yelahanka, Bengaluru, undertook a large-scale heritage conservation and environmental awareness initiative focused on the revival and restoration of ancient stepwells (Kalyanis) across Karnataka.

- **Volunteer Engagement & Scope:** More than 500 NSS volunteers contributed over 5,000 hours of voluntary service. The activity involved mass mobilization for cleaning, restoration, and awareness generation related to water conservation and cultural heritage preservation.
- **Impact:** The volunteers successfully restored nine ancient stepwells, some over 700 years old, which were previously neglected and filled with debris, plastic waste, and invasive vegetation. The project strengthened community participation, revived cultural pride, improved water conservation awareness, and empowered youth with environmental stewardship skills. The restored sites are now actively maintained by local communities, ensuring the initiative's sustainability.

Name of State:	Karnataka
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1. Details of national volunteer conferences, events and mass-mobilisation activities held i.r.o. NSS .

1. A large-scale heritage conservation and environmental awareness initiative was undertaken by the NSS Unit of Seshadripuram First Grade College, Yelahanka, Bengaluru. The programme focused on the revival and restoration of ancient stepwells (Kalyanis) across different districts of Karnataka. The activity involved mass mobilisation of NSS volunteers for cleaning, restoration, awareness generation, and community participation related to water conservation, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, and preservation of cultural heritage.

2. Success stories reflecting impactful volunteerism i.r.o. NSS

1. The NSS Unit of Seshadripuram First Grade College successfully restored **nine ancient stepwells (Kalyanis)**, some over **700 years old**, which were neglected due to debris, plastic waste, and invasive vegetation. More than **500 NSS volunteers** contributed over **5,000 hours of voluntary service**.
The initiative revived historically significant sites such as Ramanna Bhavi, Anjaneya Swami Kalyani, Chennakeshava Temple Kalyani, and Shamana Bhavi. The project strengthened community participation, improved water conservation awareness, revived cultural pride, and empowered youth with leadership and environmental stewardship skills. The restored stepwells are now actively maintained by local communities, making the initiative sustainable and replicable.

2. The Mega Blood Donation camp successfully collected **835 units of blood**, significantly supporting healthcare needs. It enhanced awareness on voluntary blood donation and promoted compassion, social responsibility, and humanitarian values. NSS volunteers gained practical experience in coordination and donor management, strengthening leadership and teamwork. The initiative contributed to SDG 3 by promoting good health, saving lives, and supporting community well-being.
3. The visit to Karunya Ashrama Old Age Home proved to be a meaningful and impactful experience for both the elderly residents and the NSS volunteers. By interacting with the inmates, volunteers gained first-hand understanding of the physical, emotional, and social challenges faced by senior citizens. The programme helped inculcate compassion, responsibility, and respect for elders among the volunteers, reinforcing the core values of the NSS motto, *"Not Me, But You."* The presence and encouragement of **Karunya Ashrama Chairman, NSS Programme Officer** and faculty members further motivated the volunteers and strengthened the spirit of service and social commitment.
4. The observance of World AIDS Day witnessed large-scale participation with **112+ awareness activities** conducted across the state and **more than 11,500 NSS volunteers** actively involved. Through creative outreach methods such as street plays, rallies, and poster presentations, the volunteers effectively spread awareness on the prevention of AIDS. The initiative strengthened community understanding, reduced stigma, and enhanced the role of NSS volunteers as health ambassadors, reflecting the motto *"Not Me, But You."*
5. As part of the initiative, NSS volunteers planted **more than 500 seeds across 8 acres of forest land**, with each volunteer contributing approximately **100 seeds**. The activity aimed at **reforestation, ecosystem restoration, and sustainable forestry**. The programme enhanced environmental responsibility among youth and contributed to long-term ecological sustainability. The NSS unit also proposed to continue plantation of more seeds and saplings in the coming days.

3. Photographs of volunteer activities/programmes (high-resolution, with captions and source credit) i.r.o. NSS.

1. Restoration of Kalyanis'



NSS volunteers cleaning and restoring the 700-year-old Ramanna Bhavi stepwell in Karnataka.



NSS volunteers removing debris and plastic waste from Anjaneya Swami Kalyani



Group photograph of NSS volunteers after completion of stepwell restoration activities.

2. Mega Blood Donation Camp



Blood donation by students and faculty at REVA University

3. Visit to Karunya Ashrama Old Age Home



NSS volunteers of Patil Degree College for Women serving food to inmates at Karunya Ashrama Old Age Home.



Interaction session between NSS volunteers and elderly residents of the old age home

Group photograph of NSS volunteers with faculty members and Karunya Ashrama authorities.

4. HIV Awareness Programme





NSS volunteers performing street plays and Nukkad Natakas on World AIDS Day



5. Seeds sowing





NSS volunteers planting seeds at Hulukudi Betta as part of environmental conservation drive