

: SUCCESS STORY:

- A. ***Sarothi***-The Time Bank
- B. Mission **VRKSH** (*Vital Reforestation and Keen Sustainability Hub*) (Plantation of Medicinal & fruit bearing plant)

: LIST OF SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:

- A. Skill Development Programme on Spinning & Utilization of Eri Silk for economic upliftment of rural women
- B. Skill Development Programme on Natural dye based eri silk entrepreneurship
- C. Let Us Go to School

: BEST PRACTICES:

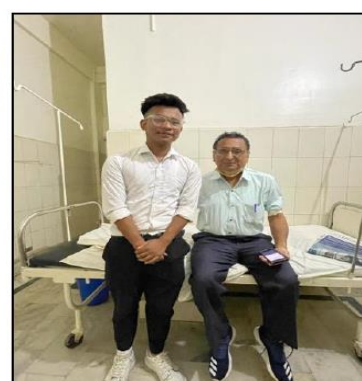
Name of Best Practice	Type of Activity
<i>TeamLife</i>	Emergency Blood Donor Group
Mission VRKSH	Planation of Medicinal and Fruit Bearing plant
Cracker Free Diwali and Herbal Holi	Promotion of eco friendly practice for a pollution free life
Mobile Library	Promotion of reading habit among people

A. Title of the activity: ***Sarothi – The Time Bank***

Objective: to provide mental support to isolated and abandoned elderly members of the society through spending time with them.

"***Sarothi – The Time Bank***" with a noble purpose- to support isolated and abandoned elderly individuals of the society was launched by the NSS unit in collaboration with IQAC and Students' Union of the college . This innovative initiative operates as a barter system, where student members can deposit and withdraw their time as needed. It is aligned with the objective of NEP 2020 where students can earn credit points through community engagement and “Sarothi” will help the students as a tool for the same. Led by a dedicated board of directors chaired by the Principal, the Time Bank ensures inclusivity, benefiting students, alumni, teachers, retired faculty, guest educators, and non-teaching staff above 60 years. The local MLA Sjt. Rupak Sarma, highly

praised the initiative and he donated a portal oxygen concentrator to Sarothi and assured to provide an ambulance in future reinforcing its role in fostering compassion and support within the college fraternity and beyond.



B. Title of the activity: Mission VRKSH (Vital Reforestation and Keen Sustainability Hub) (Plantation of Medicinal & fruit bearing plant)

Objective: To promote the planting of medicinal and fruit-bearing plants in adopted village and neighbouring villages and public places, educating and engaging the community, especially the youth, in understanding the importance of these plants and their natural surroundings

The NSS unit of Nowgong College (Autonomous) has embarked on a transformative initiative to foster environmental sustainability and community health by **Mission VRKSH**-promoting the planting of medicinal and fruit-bearing plants in adopted villages and public places. Spanning from 2021 to 2026, this ambitious project aims to plant 5,000 such plants, emphasizing their crucial role in supporting local biodiversity and ecosystem services. The project goes beyond planting; it involves educating and engaging the community, especially the youth, in understanding the importance of these plants. Through workshops and hands-on activities, the NSS unit fosters a deep connection between the villagers and their natural surroundings, encouraging long-term stewardship. Strategic site selection and the planting of diverse species ensure that the initiative is well-suited to the local climate and soil conditions, while ongoing community involvement in maintenance guarantees the plants' sustained growth and impact. By 2026, this initiative aims not only to achieve its planting target but also to cultivate a community that values and actively participates in environmental conservation, creating a lasting legacy of ecological and societal benefits.



LIST OF SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

ERI CULTURE BASED INNOVATIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Title of the activity: Skill Development Programme on Spinning & Utilization of Eri Silk for economic upliftment of rural women

Objective: To enhance the skills and socio-economic development of rural women through innovative eri culture-based entrepreneurship

The NSS Unit in collaboration with Department of Zoology has undertaken Skill Development Programme on Spinning & Utilization of Eri Silk for economic upliftment of rural women under the leadership of Dr. Bhuban Ch. Chutia, Programme Officer, NSS Unit of Nowgong College (Autonomous). Since 2013, under his leadership, the NSS unit of the college continuously organized a series of impactful training programs/workshops/hand-on-trainings focusing on scientific eri rearing practices, natural dyeing techniques, motorized spinning, and the preparation of diversified eri silk products for the rural eri artisans and NSS volunteers. Through this initiative, NSS unit demonstrated a strong commitment to community development, fostering sustainable practices and improving the livelihoods of those engaged in eri silk production. Noteworthy to mention that NSS Unit of the college distributed motorized spinning machine among rural farmer's group supported by the DST STI Hub, Department of Zoology of Nowgong College (Autonomous).

Title of the activity: Skill Development Programme on Natural dye based eri silk entrepreneurship

Objective: a. To uplift and empower of the ST community in adopted village and neighbouring villages through Natural Dye based innovative Entrepreneurship.

b. To train NSS volunteers to disseminate the technology to rural people through various outreach activities

Department of Zoology, Nowgong College (Autonomous) in collaboration with the NSS unit, undertaken a significant initiative to empower ST women in adopted village and other villages of Nagaon district. The program focused on training these women in the art of using natural dyes to color eri silk and on operating spinning machines to enhance production. This hands-on training not only preserved traditional dyeing techniques but also equipped the women with modern skills to boost their economic independence. By fostering these valuable competencies, the college's efforts have significantly contributed to the economic upliftment and empowerment of the ST community in the region. NSS volunteers were also trained in preparation and

application of natural dye for their skill enhancement and with an aim to disseminate the technology to a rural people through various outreach activities. NSS volunteers were also briefed about the entrepreneurship potentiality of natural dye and dye based eri silk industry.

GLIMPSES OF THE ACTIVITIES

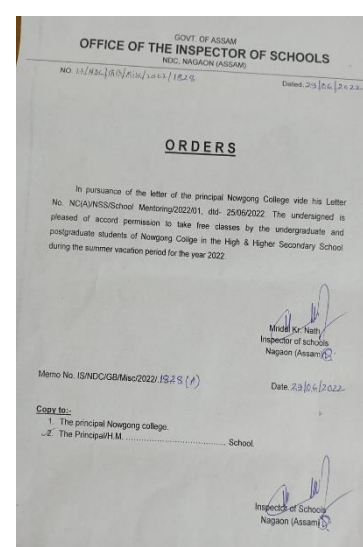




Title of the activity: Let us go to school

Objective: To enhance NSS volunteers teaching, communication and leadership abilities.

On June 30, 2022, Nowgong College Autonomous, in collaboration with its NSS unit, launched "Let us go to School," an initiative aimed at enhancing students' teaching skills. This program effectively utilizes holiday periods, providing students with valuable opportunities to actively engage as educators. By taking on teaching roles, students benefit from improved conceptual understanding, enhanced communication fluency, and the acquisition of diverse teaching techniques. The success of the initiative is evidenced through assessments conducted via written and oral examinations, demonstrating its positive impact on skill development. Despite challenges related to its seasonal implementation during winter and summer vacations, "Let us go to School" stands as a commendable effort by Nowgong College Autonomous and its NSS unit to enrich educational experiences and promote teaching excellence among students.



BEST PRACTICES

1. *TeamLife: An Emergency Blood donor Group*

Objective: *To ensure supply of blood in critical time.*

The NSS unit of Nowgong College plays a crucial role in promoting blood donation through regular camps and the establishment of "**TeamLife**," an emergency blood donor group. This initiative ensures a reliable supply of blood for emergencies, with at least 10 dedicated volunteers ready to donate every month. Their efforts not only support the college community but also contribute significantly to addressing critical health needs beyond campus borders. By fostering a culture of altruism and preparedness, the NSS unit exemplifies commitment to humanitarian service and community welfare.



2. **Mission VRKSH (Vital Reforestation and Keen Sustainability Hub)**

Objective: **Biodiversity conservation through indigenous plants.**

The NSS unit of Nowgong College has embarked on a significant initiative with the VRKSH campaign, dedicated to conserving and promoting indigenous medicinal and fruit-bearing plants. Spanning from 2021 to 2026, this campaign aims to plant and distribute 5000 plants. Beyond their ecological benefits, fruit-bearing plants foster habitats essential for diverse wildlife, thereby promoting environmental sustainability. This proactive effort not only enhances biodiversity but also instills a sense of environmental stewardship among students and the broader community.



3. Cracker Free Diwali and Herbal Holi

Objective: to aware the ill impacts of cracker and chemicals and promotion of ecofriendly practices.

In response to the environmental impact of Diwali fireworks, Nowgong College's NSS unit initiated an anti-cracker awareness campaign in 2017. Faculty, staff, and students pledged to celebrate a safe, pollution-free Diwali by abstaining from crackers and promoting this message widely. They organized a human chain with over a thousand participants on campus under the slogan "Say No to Crackers." Additionally, a herbal Holi campaign replaced chemical colorants with natural alternatives like turmeric and flower petals to raise awareness about their harmful effects. These initiatives reflect their commitment to environmental conservation and community responsibility



4. Mobile Library

Objective: to encourage and cultivate a habit of book reading.

The NSS unit of Nowgong College took a significant step towards promoting a reading culture by inaugurating a mobile library. This initiative aimed to make books more accessible to people, especially those who may not have easy access to conventional libraries. The mobile library was equipped with a diverse collection of books covering various genres, ranging from literature and fiction to academic and reference materials. The primary objective of this initiative was to encourage and cultivate a habit of reading among the community. The mobile library would visit different neighborhoods, villages, and public spaces, allowing residents to borrow books free of charge. This not only provided intellectual enrichment but also promoted literacy and lifelong learning among people of all ages.

