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Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated 28th October, 2011

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Formulation of the Twelfth Five Year Plan(2012-17)-Constitution of Working Group on Adolescents and Youth Development--regarding.

The undersigned is directed to refer to Planning Commission's ORDER No. M-12015/1/2011-HRD, dated 8th April 2011 and to forward 25 copies of the report of the Working Group on Adolescents and Youth Development, duly approved by Secretary (Youth Affairs) for further necessary action please.

(H.M. Kundlia)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
[Tel:- 011-23381644](tel:011-23381644)

To,
Planning Commission
(Shakila T. Shamsu, Joint Advisor/HRD)
Yojna Bhavan, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi--110001

**Report of Working Group on Adolescent and Youth
Development, Deptt. of Youth Affairs, M/o YA&S for
formulation of 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17)**

**Submitted by
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports**

**Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Youth Affairs
October, 2011.**

Chapter – I

INTRODUCTION

1.0. Background:

India has the largest youth population in the world that is poised to increase further in the coming decade. 70% of India's population is below the age of 35 years. This pool of youth population needs to be engaged in the mainstream development of India.

According to the initial figures of the 2011 census, the youth population in the country including adolescents is around **550 million**. This phenomenal rise in the youth population has made India the youngest nation with a demographic dividend appearing to be a reality. It is indeed vital to utilise this demographic dividend and channelize the youth and their creative energies for nation-building.

The UN General Assembly has declared 2011 as the **International Year for Youth with the theme "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding"**. India is a signatory to the Millennium Development Goals and the youth of the country are the major stakeholders in the endeavor to achieve the Millennium Development Goals(MDGs) namely:

1. Eradicating extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieving universal primary education
3. Promoting gender equality and women empowerment
4. Reducing child mortality
5. Improving maternal health
6. Combating HIV/AIDs, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensuring environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

The target date for achieving the MDGs is 2015, which is well within the 12th Five Year Plan.

1.1. Approach and Strategy of the Eleventh Plan:

Youth have been accorded attention since inception of the planning process, but the approach appears to have been sectoral, incremental in nature and often overlapping, rather than anchored on a comprehensive strategy. All these point to the need for a focused strategy in a multi-sectoral, multi-dimensional and integrated manner. It makes a compulsive case for taking bold new steps.

1.2 Approach to the 12th Five Year Plan:

The Approach to the 12th Five Year Plan focuses on inclusive growth. Inclusive growth should result in lower incidence of poverty, broad based and significant improvement in health outcomes, and universal access for children to school, increased access to higher education and improved standards of education, including skill development. It should also be reflected in better opportunities for wage employment and livelihoods, and improvement of basic amenities like water, electricity, road, sanitation and housing. Adolescents and youth constitute a group which accounts for 70 percent of the population and deserves special attention in terms of the reach of relevant schemes in many sectors.

1.3 Working Group

The Planning Commission constituted a Working Group working in the field of Youth and Adolescent development, to report on the Youth and Adolescents Development for the 12th Five Year Plan. The composition and the terms of reference for the Working Group may be seen at **Annexure-I**. The Working Group constituted two sub-groups. One on NYKS, NSS and Scouting and Guiding and the other on Policy Programmes and Institutions. The composition of the two sub-groups may be seen at **Annexure-II and III** respectively. The Working Group report covers the activities under the Schemes of National Service Scheme, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, National Youth Corps, National programme for Youth and Adolescent Development, Youth Hostel, International Cooperation, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development and Scouting and Guiding, The recommendations of the Working Group are given in chapter VII.

Chapter – II

REVIEW OF EXISTING YOUTH POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION

2.0 National Youth Policy 2003:

The National Youth Policy, 2003 reiterates the commitment of the entire nation to the composite and all-round development of the young sons and daughters of India and seeks to establish an All-India perspective to fulfill their legitimate aspirations so that they are all of strong body, mind and heart in successfully accomplishing the challenging tasks of national reconstruction and social changes that lie ahead.

THRUST AREAS:

- a) Youth empowerment:
- b) Gender Justice:
- c) Inter-Sectoral Approach:
- d) Information & Research Network:

2.1 Draft National Youth Policy 2010:

A draft paper on NYP 2010 has been developed by the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development , Sriperumbudur. It aims to reinforce policies and programmes of the current Policy that continue to have relevance; identify gaps keeping in view the changing scenario of the situation of young people in the country and propose new strategic policy and programme interventions to ensure that the process of overall development and growth of young people of the country continues unabated. These new interventions have to take into consideration the challenges posed by increasing globalisation, immense technological advancement during the last decade of ICT revolution and the emergence of India as the global economic power.

A copy of the draft paper is at **Annexure--IV**

Chapter – III
HARMONIZATION OF DIFFERENT AGE-GROUPS OF YOUTH

3.0. Definition

3.1. United Nations' definition of youth

United Nations' definition of youth is people from 15 to 24 years of age

Many countries also draw a line on youth at the age at which a person is given equal treatment under the law – often referred to as the "age of majority". This age is often 18 in many countries, and once a person passes this age, they are considered to be an adult. However, the operational definition and nuances of the term 'youth' often vary from country to country, depending on the specific socio-cultural, institutional, economic and political factors.

[Source: United Nations Division for Social Policy and Development]

3.2. Age group of youth as per National Youth Policy:

The age group of set out in the National Youth Policy 2003 is 13-35 years. However, it needs to be recognised that all young persons within this age-group are unlikely to be a homogeneous group, sharing common concerns and needs and having different roles and responsibilities. It is, therefore, necessary to divide this age-bracket into three sub-groups:

- The first sub-group of 13-18 years should cover adolescents whose needs and areas of concern are substantially different from youth under the following age-groups.
- The second sub-group of 18-25 years includes those youth who are in the process of completing their education and starting , getting a job or looking for a livelihood.
- The third sub-group of 25-30 years comprises young women and men who have completed their education.

The Working Group recommends that 18-30 years of age should be the age criterion for Youth and those between 13 to 18 years should be categorised as Adolescents. Further it is recommended that in the light of the provisions of the Right to Education Act, young persons are to be included in the formal educational system until the age of 14 years. Thereafter, it is anticipated that until the age of 18 years, they would be seeking skill training, vocational education or secondary education. Logically this age group must be the responsibility of Schemes under the School Education Sector and the Child Development Sector. The age for exercising adult franchise is 18 years. Therefore Youth Policy (and the Ministry of Youth Affairs) must focus on youth between 18-30 years.

Chapter – IV
PERFORMANCE OF PROGRAMMES FOR YOUTH AND ADOLESCENT
DEVELOPMENT DURING THE XI FIVE YEAR PLAN 2007-12

4.0 Objectives of the Eleventh Plan on Youth Affairs

- I. Holistic adolescent development through convergence of schemes;
- II. Overall personality development of youth and provision of life skills;
- III. Youth empowerment through restructuring and expansion of youth programmes;
- IV. Greater female participation in youth development programmes;
- V. Special focus on engaging rural youths in nation building activities transcending beyond social, economic, religious, and linguistic boundaries.

4.1 The Schemes and the Performance During the XI Five Year Plan (2007-12).

NYKS and NSS are the two flagship programmes encompassing a major part of its activities in institutional, functional and financial terms(60%). While the NSS caters to the urban youths NYKS is primarily concerned with the development and empowerment of youth in the rural areas. RGNIYD, established in 1993 has been engaged in education, training and research on youth development. The scheme of Youth Hostel aims at promoting youth travel and towards this end it aims to provide boarding and lodging facilities at very subsidized rates. Since 2010-11, the new scheme titled National Youth Corps has been started by amalgamating the two existing schemes of National Service Volunteer Scheme and Rashtriya Sadbhavna Yojna. The scheme is expected to create a space enabling young men and women in the age group of 18-25 to engage in the task of nation building. The National Programme for Youth and Adolescents Development provides a window for performing activities relating to vocational training, development of adolescents, national integration and adventure for which financial assistance is NYKS and other All India Organisations/NGOs. The scheme of Cultural Youth Programmes with Commonwealth countries and youth exchange programme with other countries is an effective institution for promoting exchange of ideas, values and culture among youth and strengthens better relations.

As against the Eleventh Plan outlay of Rs. 1364.00 Crore, the performance in terms of utilization of finances has been as under:

Amount Rs in crore

Sr No	Scheme	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	BE during 11 th Plan

<u>1.Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan</u>							
	Budget Estimate(BE)	68.00	78.00	80.00	92.00	105.00	423.
	Revised Estimate(RE)	39.78	60.68	80.00	94.44		
	Actual(A)	.001	50.37	95.83	91.74	52.00	
<u>2. National Service Scheme</u>							
	Budget Estimate(BE)	54.00	95.00	95.00	85.00	90.00	419
	Revised Estimate(RE)	58.45	63.51	95.00	85.00		
	Actual(A)	50.28	47.31	63.64	74.75	45.73	
<u>3. Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development</u>							
	Budget Estimate(BE)	8.00	9.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	47.00
	Revised Estimate(RE)	8.00	8.00	9.00	10.00		
	Actual(A)	8.00	8.00	8.10	9.00		
<u>4.Youth Hostels</u>							
	Budget Estimate(BE)	2.00	2.00	4.00	5.00	5.00	18.00
	Revised Estimate(RE)	5.35	3.50	4.00	4.15		
	Actual(A)	2.52	1.99	3.41	3.71	0.12	
<u>5. National programme for Youth and Adolescent Development</u>							
	Budget Estimate(BE)	39.00	26.50	24.50	25.00	25.00	140.00
	Revised Estimate(RE)	33.15	26.50	24.50.	27.88		
	Actual(A)	20.69	21.74	22.65	25.12	12.23	
<u>6National Youth Corps(erstwhile National Volunteer Scheme and Rashtriya Sadbhavna Yojana)</u>							
	Budget Estimate(BE)	24.00	25.00	32.00	56.50	58.00	195.50
	Revised Estimate(RE)	15.50	17.58	32.00	56.50		
	Actual(A)	13.00	15.08	26.73	45.98	31.63	
<u>7. 5Exchange of delegation of youth at international Level</u>							
	Budget Estimate(BE)	3.00	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	17.00
	Revised Estimate(RE)	3.00	3.50	3.50	2.75		
	Actual(A)	2.40	2.12	1.85	1.64	1.08	
<u>Promotion of Scouting and Guiding</u>							
	Budget Estimate(BE)	2.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	13.00
	Revised Estimate(RE)	2.00	1.73	3.00	3.00		
	Actual(A)	1.41	1.73	2.43	2.00	0.0	

9.National Youth Centre(introduced in 2011-12 with a BE of Rs 0.50 Crore)

The consolidated figures for the 11th Plan (Rs in Crore)

Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Actual
2007-08	200	165.23	117.51(58.75%)
2008-09	242	185	168.09(69.45%)
2009-10	251	251	224.64(89.24%)

2010-11	280	283.72	253.94(90.69%)
2011-12	300	Not available	Not available

4.2 NEHRU YUVA KENDRA SANGATHAN (NYKS)

The Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) is an autonomous body under the administrative control of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. It is the largest youth based organization in the country, having under its fold more than 8 million rural youth, through a network of about 2.50 lakh village based youth clubs, Sports clubs/Mahila Mandals. The administration and management of the “NYKS vests with a Board of Governors under the Chairpersonship of the Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports. The Director General, who is appointed by the Government of India, is the Chief Executive Officer of the Sangathan with headquarters in New Delhi. The organizational network of NYKS includes 28 Zonal Offices and 501 District Level Offices, which are called Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs).

The objective of the NYKS is to bring about social transformation in the rural areas by promoting and developing among the youth awareness and commitment to the concepts and values of unity amidst diversity, national integration, discipline, self-help, community service, secularism, democracy, a scientific temper, preserving our cultural heritage, promoting functional literacy, and providing avenues to the youth to strive towards excellences in all spheres of activity. These objectives are sought to be attained through a variety of activities and youth development programmes conducted by the Nehru Yuva Kendras. The programmes and activities of NYKS can be categorized in three groups:

4.2.1 Regular Programmes : These programmes are planned centrally by the NYKS and allocated evenly amongst all districts and include programmes for Youth Club Development, Training for Skill Up gradation, Awareness Generation, Cultural Programmes, Work Camps, Seminars & Workshops, Youth Club Contact & Feedback Programme, Celebration of National & International Days/Weeks, Sports Promotion and Adventure Promotion, District Youth Conventions, etc. These activities are conducted by the District level Nehru Yuva Kendras generally through identified Youth Clubs, and are funded through block grants provided to them by MoYAS.

4.2.2. Schemes of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: The NYKS is also the sole implementing agency for a number of schemes of the MoYAS, viz., National Service Volunteers Scheme, Rashtriya Sadbhavana Yojana, National Youth Corps (NYC) and National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD).

4.2.3 Programmes of other Ministries and Agencies: Specific schemes pertaining to Health, Education, Environment, Poverty Alleviation, etc. are also undertaken by NYKS, from time to time, as one of the implementing agencies on behalf of the concerned Ministries/ Departments, including MoYAS. In this role, the NYKS is practically seen as any other NGO. The locations and coverage of such projects are primarily decided by the funding agency, and do not have an even spread. Such schemes, while adding to the overall workload of the skeletal field structure of NYKS, also leads to a situation in which the overall impact, as a NYKS activity, is limited, which is an aspect which will need to be kept in view in the twelfth Plan .

The NYKS is provided with full funding support of the Government of India on meet-the-deficit basis. The financial targets and achievement during the 11th Five Year Plan period are as below:

4.2.4 Financial Targets and Achievements of NYKS in 11th Pan

Year	Budget Estimate	Expenditure
2007-08	73.91	44.03
2008-09	60.36	63.67
2009-10	95.54	99.06
2010-11	91.00	96.79
2011-12	104.00	119.06
Total	424.81	422.61
Plan Outlay		

4.2.5 Physical Targets and Achievements of NYKS in 11th Plan

Year	Block & District levels Sports Tournaments		Training of Youth		Total No. of Beneficiaries involve in the Regular Programmes	
	No. of Programme Organized	Beneficiaries	No. of Programme Organized	Beneficiaries	No. of Programme Organized	Beneficiaries
2007-08	2000	481038	3039	172685	20426	2149294
2008-09	2373	535588	3152	184786	56889	2768826
2009-10	2446	527152	1630	48923	122800	2644737
2010-11	2882	592639	1556	46695	377373	2786627

Review of the implementation of the Scheme of NYKS, and the Programmes undertaken by it, brings out some important aspects which will need to be considered in the context of the Twelfth Five Year Plan. As mentioned earlier, the NYKS is not only one of the major Youth Organizations under the MoYAS, particularly with reference to the rural areas, but also a major purveyor of schemes and programmes, in terms of designing and implementing them. With particular reference to its Regular Programmes, and its role as the sole implementing agency of some of the schemes of MoYAS, the following points/ issues emerged during the deliberations of the Working Group.

- A very large number of activities being conducted by the District Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs) had been conceived in terms of a process by which youth at the grass-roots level would become enthused and activated, and get organized into grassroots youth organizations, but over a period of time they have come to be seen as events/activities /programmes of the NYKS, per se.
- In this process, a logical linkage between such activities and the establishment and development of Youth Clubs and other grass-roots youth organizations, and the progression of such organizations towards taking up activities at their own level and initiative, has not fully materialized, although a large number of youth clubs, sports clubs, mahila mandals, etc. have been established over the years.
- This conceptual and schematic hiatus would need to be bridged, which points towards the need to develop the grass-roots youth organizations into major activity centres, with the NYKS playing the role of guide, facilitator, coordinator and an implementing organization/agency for programmes needing wider mobilization and organization at higher levels.
- There is need for integration in the programmes for the development of youth organizations and

the programmes for the development of youth leadership and volunteers in the above mentioned conceptual and institutional framework. To an extent, this was sought to be done by merging a number of individual schemes, as brought out later, into a single scheme of Financial Assistance to Rural Youth and Sports Clubs, including Evaluation. But, in practical terms, this appears to have been more an exercise for reducing the number of schemes in numerical terms, rather than being rooted in a strategic conceptual framework.

- Notwithstanding the above conceptualization of the role of NYKS, it will be necessary to strengthen it in terms of filling up vacancies at various levels and expansion of its activities, in an appropriate manner, to cover all districts in the country and, simultaneously, rationalizing its organizational set-up with reference to the key role that it is expected to play in the area of youth development.
- While looking at the organizational aspects, an important aspect will also pertain to coordination and synergy with the plans and activities of the State Governments.

4.2.6 Approach for the 12th Five Year Plan(NYKS)

In the above stated background, the approach in the 12th Plan would be to put in place a holistic and comprehensive strategy and to enable the fullest development and realization of the potential of the youth in the country as the single most important segment of the population in the context of future socio-economic development and growth. A crucial determinant underlying the approach and the suggested strategy and programmes is the current demographic scenario in the country, and the need to reap the demographic dividend before the Window of opportunity closes. This would make it necessary to look at issues concerning the youth with a much greater sense of urgency than has been the case in the past and to allocate commensurate resources towards this end. This would have two elements – review of the existing sectoral programmes and schemes, and bringing into them the required specific focus and re-orientation as required, and their expansion to cover the whole country and diverse groups; and, developing and implementing specific programmes and interventions, over and above the sectoral schemes, to empower and enable the youth to become effective and productive participants in the social, economic and political development of the country.

Over the years, and during the 11th Plan, a variety of programmes have been devised to address a number of the youth concerns and requirements articulated earlier in the Report. Based on the review and experience of the 10th Plan, some of these schemes would need to be expanded/strengthened, while others would need to be substantially rationalized/re-oriented, and the gaps, which still remain, would have to be addressed through new initiatives. In the Chapter on Adolescents, who comprise a very substantial segment of the youth, several new initiatives have been proposed. A number of them are focused specifically on adolescents in terms of their needs as persons making a transition from childhood into adulthood and, therefore, a group, which could also be seen as a foundation stock, while others would cut across into the broader area of youth development. Suggestions and recommendations have also been made with reference to the specific elements which need to be brought into various sectoral programmes, including their expansion, which will need to be followed up and monitored in the context of a comprehensive and co-ordinated strategy for youth development in the 12th Plan.

Convergence in approach and synergy in action would be the key element during 12th Plan. Although most activities are funded under their respective schemes and programmes there is a need to converge the activities in the field so as to maximize the benefits for the target group. For example a national integration camp could also have activities related to adventure or vocational training or vice versa. In

fact most of the training camps could have a component on universally accepted values and an integrated approach. In this way the trainee of particular camp could benefit holistically.

4.3 NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME(NSS)

4.3.1 Overview:

National service scheme (NSS) is a centrally sponsored scheme launched with the objective to develop character and personality of student youth in schools and colleges. National Service Scheme (NSS) is a noble experiment in academic expansion. It inculcates the spirit of voluntary work among the students and teachers through sustained community interactions. Over the years, NSS has emerged as India's largest student youth movement in linking with the community

National Service Scheme was launched during the birth centenary celebration of Mahatma Gandhi on 24th September 1969 in 37 Universities involving 40,000 students. Today, NSS has more than 3.2 million student volunteers on its roll spread over 251 Universities covering more than 14,698 colleges/institutes of higher and technical education and 42 (+2) Senior Secondary Councils and Directorate of Vocational Education. At present, the women volunteers make 30% of the total strength. Efforts are on to increase the strength of women volunteers.

Under NSS, the Union and State Governments jointly fund two types of programmes viz. Regular activities and Special Camping Activities. Under regular activities the volunteers render Community work for 120 hours per year for two years. Annually 50% of enrolled volunteers participate in Special Camp of 7 Days duration. Special Camps are organized in adopted villages / areas. Environment, waste land development, literacy, blood donation and construction of durable assets are some of the major areas where NSS has made significant contribution.

NSS is presently the only Centrally Sponsored Programme of the Ministry. The existing funding pattern of the NSS for States in the rest of India is 7:5 between the Centre and the States. In case of States in NE Region including Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and other hilly areas notified by the Planning Commission the expenditure is shared in the ratio of 3:1 between the Centre and the States, In the case of Jammu & Kashmir, Union Territories without Legislature, Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) and Navodaya Vidyalayas (NVs) the entire expenditure is met by the Government of India.

The cost norms for carrying out NSS activities were last approved by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 24th June, 2000. Due to rising inflation, these norms were insufficient for carrying out the programme activities. Taking this into account, the Ministry has successfully moved a proposal with Expenditure Finance Committee and enhanced the cost norms w.e.f. 1.4.2010. The cost norms for the Regular Activities has been enhanced from the existing Rs. 160/- to Rs. 250/- per volunteer per annum and for Special Camping from the existing rates of Rs.300/- to Rs. 450/-per volunteer per annum.

Concerted efforts are being made to improve the programme content of NSS Activities, particularly through Mega Camps and Adventure Camps through which more employment generation/skill development programmes are being conceived and implemented. In an effort to make NSS more attractive to the NSS Volunteers and also to improve their overall personality development, this Department has strengthened the centrally funded camps by introducing the Mega Camps and Adventure Camps for NSS.

Two Mega Camps of 400 students each has been introduced, for a 12 days' duration, which will be held during summer and winter holidays of colleges, in one of the four regions North, East, South and West. The camps are organized with the support of reputed institutions working in the field of Environment, Rural Development and Health or in collaboration with a University/College for the logistic support they can provide. The volunteers undergo a 12 days' camp involving 7 days of camping activities and 5 days of educational visit/local sightseeing. The first mega summer camp was held from 22nd June 2009 to 3rd July, 2009, in RGNIYD. The module of the Camp is decided by the partner institution in consultation with Programme Adviser Cell of NSS. The cultural component of the camp is decided in consultation with SPIC-MACAY. The theme of the Camp is aimed at promoting volunteerism and citizenship. The areas of involvement focus on health, environment and rural development.

Adventure activities play a very important role in the development of important attributes and values related to personality development and character building among the youth. Rajiv Gandhi Adventure Scheme has been launched on 26th June, 2009 for promoting adventure activities amongst students. Under the Scheme, special adventure camps are planned on a yearly basis for 2000 NSS Volunteers with at least 50% of the volunteers being girl students. The camps are conducted all over the country from Himalayan Region in the North to Kunnoor and Tekkadi in South India and to the desert sands of Rajasthan.. Each adventure camp is of 10 days duration (excluding journey time). The desert trekking camp involves treks and camel rides in the rolling sand dunes of mystical and colourful Rajathan.

Trekking among the unique flora and fauna of the Sahyadri Ranges in western and southern India, high-altitude snow trekking in Himalayas and Special Adventure programmes in North Eastern States, is unique by their very nature. The Scheme envisages giving exposure to youth of different parts of the country to the flavour, ambience, culture and history of another part, to which the participants could otherwise have no exposure. The goal is also to make the youth aware of the rich diversity of India.

Till date 2250 NSS volunteers have benefited by the Mega Camps, and about 5900 volunteers by the Adventure Camps.

Every year Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports organizes five Pre-Republic Day Parade Camps in five regions viz. Eastern, Western, Northern, Southern and Central region, for participating in the national programme of 'Republic Day Parade'. A team consisting of NSS Programme Adviser, Head of the concerned Regional Centre, representatives of the Ministry and local concerned Resource Person visit the camps and selects the candidates for Final Republic Day Parade Camp which is organized at New Delhi every year. Every year, on the basis of selection from the Pre-Republic Day Camps, a contingent of NSS Volunteers participates in the Republic Day Parade at Rajpath on 26th January. The participation in Republic Day Parade on 26th January is considered as a matter of great pride for the student youth. It is also treated as recognition of the selfless community service rendered by the NSS volunteers throughout the country. This year, the month-long camp was organized at Jamia Millia Islamia, where 200 NSS volunteers and 15 Programme Officers and NSS Officials from all over the country participated. The programmes of the month-long camp have been standardized. A 17 day orientation programme for 200 NSS volunteers of Republic Day Parade is organized on various vital topics. i.e., Life Skills, Personality and Leadership development, Volunteerism, Career Guidance, Right to Information and Social Harmony and National unity. Academic sessions are organised in the R.D. Camp in collaboration with knowledge partners viz. Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, TERI, SPICMACY. These sessions comprises of lectures by eminent personalities. It provides an opportunity to the volunteers to think globally. The R.D.Camp brings a MINI INDIA to the nation's capital from 1st-31st January every year. It provides ample opportunities to the NSS volunteers not only to interact among themselves but also to learn and know the tradition, custom, culture, language of one state to another. These volunteers, after a month long together stay in the camp, become able to present them in the better way and constitute of bond of patriotism, national integration, brotherhood, communal harmony which is the ultimate goal of the camp.

In 1993-94, during the Silver Jubilee year of NSS, the IGNSS Awards were instituted to give recognition to selfless service rendered by the NSS volunteers, Programme Officers and the Programme Coordinators. This award was earlier conferred to – (i) Best University (Programme Coordinator), (ii) 6 best Programme Officers and 6 units and (iii) 16 Best NSS volunteers. From 2010 onwards, the number of awards and the prize money has been enhanced as under:

Category	No. of Awards	Value of each Award
University/+2 Council (State Level)	1	Rs. 2,00,000/-
Programme Officer	10	Rs. 20,000/-
NSS Unit	10	Rs. 70,000/- (For NSS Programme Development)
NSS Volunteers	30	Rs. 15,000/-

4.3.2 Review of Performance during the 11th Five year plan

The mandate of NSS for the 11th Five Year Plan Period was to enroll 55 lakhs volunteers. However, the enrolment remained at 32 lakhs only. This was mainly because of the financial constraints and secondly due to the inertia on the part of the States to expand the Scheme. The Scheme of NSS being a centrally sponsored scheme requires due participation from State Govts. also. The main observation drawn on the scheme is, that exception work is performed in those States where the State Govts. are forthcoming and it has been lagging behind where the State Government are not taking the initiative. It is expected from the State Governments that they not only contribute their share in time but also ensure the required mechanism in place, viz. the selection of State Liaison Officers, filling up of various posts of Co-ordinators in Universities to facilitate the proper distribution of funds amongst participating colleges and settlement of accounts. It may be seen that the scheme has been pre-dominantly enrolling student volunteers in not more than 5-6 states. It is required that in the next coming Plan Period efforts should be made to interact with such State like Bihar, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Chattisgarh and all the North Eastern States so that the volunteers strength is increased in these States. On the part of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, this issue was being highlighted in all the meetings of the State Minister's of Youth and Sports. However, not much progress has been made in this direction. The additional enrolment will be primarily in the Hindi belt and particularly in the North Eastern States. To further strengthen the Scheme, the Government of India is actively launching the new initiatives where expenditure is fully borne by it. The Selection of SLOs has been taken up particularly in North Eastern States which has been completed. It is hoped that in the coming years, more States will be forthcoming to promote this Scheme.

4.3.3 Targets and Achievement during the 11th Plan

The physical targets & achievements of NSS activities for the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12 are as given under:

Year	Enrolment		Special Camps		Adopted villages	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
2007-08	2665894	2612351	14902	18281	14694	22389
2008-09	3112752	3082744	18051	22112	18217	25308
2009-10	3128270	2987186	13737	32517	12951	21646
2010-11	3196846	3157503	22697	22545	22439	27129
2011-12	3196846	yet to receive	22697	yet to receive	22439	yet to receive

4.3.4 Financial Targets and Achievements during 11 Plan

The financial targets & achievements of NSS activities for the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12 are as given under:

Total Allocation In 11th Five Year Plan – **Rs. 425 Crores**

Year	Plan	
	Allocation of budget	Expenditure incurred
2007-08	53.50	50.89
2008-09	62.99	55.79
2009-10	95.00	65.69
2010-11	85.00	78.99
2011-12	90.00	48.84 (till now)
Total	386.49	300.20**

****** *As the EFC Note was approved on 22.3.2009, the revised norms could be implemented only w.e.f. 1.4.2010 and hence the full budgetary allocation could not be utilized.*

4.4. RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT(RGNIYD)

4.4.1 Background

Institute are needed to carry out the school, capacity building etc. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India has established Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) as an autonomous institution to function as a national level resource centre, think tank and training institute for youth development in the country in 1993. RGNIYD is an apex research and training institute dedicated to Youth Development in the country. Through its eight divisions, the Institute undertakes various training, extensions and action research programmes. The Academic division of the Institute has five Schools and offer five M.A. Programmes is in the Annexure B with an objective to convert the youth work into a profession and to develop the capacities of youngsters to realise their full potential.

The mandate of RGNIYD is :

- (a) Function as a resource agency and think-tank for youth programmes, policies and implementation strategies;
- (b) Develop multi-faceted programmes for youth keeping in view social harmony and national unity as the ultimate objective;
- (c) Grow and develop as a facilitator and nodal agency for youth training, youth work, and youth development in the country for rural as well as urban youth;
- (d) Function as an Institute of advanced study in the field of youth and to develop such professional excellence as may be required for the purpose;
- (e) Develop its programmes aimed at instilling a sense of national pride, awareness of national goals and internalization of national values among the youth workers;
- (f) Develop new ideas and innovative programmes for motivating and creating a committed cadre of youth workers and functionaries;
- (g) Provide Institutional training for the personnel working in the field of youth;
- (h) Promote and conduct action and user based applied research and evaluation studies in youth development and through this provide necessary thrust to youth programmes on systematic and scientific lines;
- (i) Provide appropriate youth extension projects and services which can function as link its programmes and functions to the promotion of National Youth Policy.
- (j) Function as Centre for Information, Publication and Documentation pertaining to

youth Development;

4.4.2. Physical Infrastructure:

Acquired Land: RGNIYD has 43 acres of land.

Hostel Block: There are 85 rooms in the Hostel Block.

Computer Lab: RGNIYD has a computer lab with the capacity of 36 computers with broadband internet connectivity.

Video Conferencing: RGNIYD has the facility for video conferencing with any destination, where NIC has established the facility for video conferencing. The video conferencing hall has been equipped with multi-language translation facility also.

Community Radio Station (Ilanthalir)

The Community Radio Station(CRS) named Ilanthalir (meaning *tender leaves in Tamil*) is an unique initiative of the RGNIYD that serves as an effective conduit between the community and the institute. It operates at the frequency of 107.2 MHZ covering around 20 KM radius. Students belonging to around 150 schools in Sriperumbudur block and a part of Thiruvallur district produce its programmes. The CRS is for the adolescents of the adolescents and by the adolescents. The activities of CRS has been extended to the Anganwadies, out of school adolescents through Self Help Groups and Youth Clubs

RGNIYD Library

The library of the RGNIYD has good facilities and a vast collection of books on youth issues.

- (a) Installed Library Automation Package.
- (b) The Library has 11,163 books relating to youth as well as other areas.
- (c) The number of international and national journals is over100.

Auditorium

The auditorium with 500 seating capacity was constructed in 2007 with state-of-the-art facilities. Eminent personalities like Smt Pratibhadevi Singh Patil, President of India and Dr A.P.J.Abdul Kalam, and Former President of India addressed the students, staff and the public in this very auditorium.

Green Campus

The campus is an open green campus with large number of trees and water harvesting structures. There are a number of play grounds and all our efforts made to keep it green and environment friendly.

4.4.3. Executive Council:

The RGNIYD policy and management is determined by a 15-member Executive Council. The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports; Government of India is the President of the Council. There are two Vice-Presidents - The Secretary to the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports and a Non -Official Expert in the Youth Development. The Director is the Chief Executive, responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Institute.

4.4.4. Performance of RGNIYD during 11th Five Year Plan:

RGNIYD is a Deemed University and premier Institute engaged in capacity-building, research, action research, documentation and dissemination activities for the development of the youth of our country. It undertakes activities to promote social harmony and national unity, participation of youth in local governance and encourages youth exchange visits within the country and with other countries to facilitate sharing of knowledge, strategy and approach to youth issues. It also offers pioneering programmes at Post Graduation level promoting professionalism in youth work.

RGNIYD received Rs 40 crores grant from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India during 11th Five Year Plan.

Divisions, Schools and Academic Programmes in RGNIYD

Sr. No.	Division	School	Academic Programme
1	Training, Orientation and Extension(TOE)	Youth Studies and Extension	M.A Youth Empowerment

2	Research, Evaluation, Documentation and Dissemination(READ)	Counseling	M.A Career Counseling
3	International Centre for Excellence in Youth Development (ICEYD)	Gender Studies	M.A Gender Studies
4	Panchayati Raj Institutions and Youth Affairs(PRIYA)	Governance and Public Policy	M.A Local Governance
5	Social Harmony and National Unity (SHANU)	Life Skill Education and Social Harmony	M.A.Life Skill Education

Students Profile

Year	Students category				NYKS	National Character (States / UT)	International Student	Total
	M	F	SC	ST				
2008 – 2010 Batch	33	12	12	8	--	10	--	45
2009 – 2011 Batch	37	25	10	4	29	16	01	62
2010 – 2012 Batch	50	25	8	17	20	18	--	75
2011-2013 Batch	41	28	1	15	16	15	---	69 (as on 03.10.2011)

Programme Performance:

- Student's Participation in International Youth Programmes
- Internship Programmes
- *2nd SAARC Youth Camp – 2008*
- *RGNIYD Foundation Day ,1 September 2007*
- *Korean Youth Delegation*
- *Japanese Delegation Visit*
- *Chinese Youth Delegation*
- *20th Ship for World Youth Program*
- *Core Committee on Youth Development Index*
- *Inter-State Youth Exchange & Home Stay Programme for the Youth*
- *22nd Ship for World Youth Programme (SWY 22)*
- *NSS Mega Summer Camp*
- *Indian Youth Science Congress and Social Science Congress*
- *Ilanthalir Community Radio Station*
- *RGNIYD Foundation Day Celebrations 2010*
- *Youth Development Report – India 2010*
- *Exchange programme of young elected members of Local Government Institutions*

from North-eastern States.

- *Inauguration of RGNIYD’ “Eminent Speaker Series”*
- *2nd International Conference on Life Skills Education*
- *Development of National Youth Policy 2010*
- Conferences and Seminars :
- Research :
- RGNIYD Publications :
- Training Programmes Conducted :
- Extension Activities :
- RGNIYD and Industry Society Collaboration (*Traditional Employability Skill Training Project*)

4.4.5 Constitution of Mentor Group for converting RGNIYD into National Institute of Importance:

RGNIYD functions as a vital resource center coordinating training, orientation, research, and extension and outreach initiatives for Central Government and National Level youth organizations. Later in 2003, National Youth Commission constituted by Government of India has recommended to convert the Institute into a National Youth University. Planning Commission of India in its 11th Plan document also recommended upgrading RGNIYD into a Deemed University. As such during 2008, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India has declared RGNIYD as a Deemed to be University.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports constituted a Mentor Group with terms of reference to convert the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development at Sriperumbudur into an Institute of National Importance by an Act of Parliament (Vide Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports order No. F 15-3/2011-Policy dated 28th March 2011).

4.4.6. Recommendations of the Mentor Group:

- **The Mentor Group after discussions and deliberations formulated their recommendations. Some salient recommendations are as follows:**

- Preamble, Vision, Mission of the proposed National Institute of Importance.
- Administrative Structure, Governing Structure of the proposed National Institute of Importance.
- The proposed Institute will have four divisions namely Policy and Action Research, Capacity Building and Development, Academic and International Cooperation and Coordination.
- *A Flagship Post Graduate Programme in M A Youth Development with specializations.* The course content would be in accordance with the modern trends in employment sector and future needs of youth development.
- The proposed Institute of National Importance will have an *Executive Council*, which will be the highest decision making body, an *Academic Council* chaired by the Director of the Institute for guiding teaching, training, research and other activities of the institute and a *Finance Committee* under the chairmanship of the Director for effective financial management of the Institute.
- The proposed Institute of National Importance will aim to accommodate 600 students in its campus once it becomes a full-fledged Institute. There will be *200 students from Post Graduate courses, 200 students from Certificate and Diploma programmes, 50 Research Scholars and 150 Trainees of training programmes. There will be 181 positions including 55 academic staff supported by 38 technical staff, 7 library staff, 3 dispensary staff and 78 administrative staff.* To meet the requirements of the proposed Institute other than the existing infrastructure, an additional built up area of 63600 sq.mt is proposed.
- Non-recurring budget allotment required for the 12th plan period for the Institute is Rs. 224.31 crore, and the recurring cost proposed is Rs. 224.91 crore.
- The proposed Institute of National Importance will be set up with a *Corpus Fund of Rs 100 crore*

In the above background it is proposed to convert RGNIYD into an Institution of National Importance with focus on research, academic, policy and training for youth development in the country and it is the only one institute of its kind in the country.

Four Divisions

- *Policy and Action Research Division*
- *Capacity Building and Development Division*

- *Academic Division*
- *International Co-operation and Co-ordination Division*

Nine Centres

- *Centre for Policy and Action Research*
- *Centre for Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Analysis*
- *National Youth Resource Centre*
- *Centre for Capacity Building*
- *Centre for Inclusive Development*
- *Centre for Youth and Peace Building*
- *Centre for Outreach*
- *Centre for International Co-operation and Collaboration*
- *Centre for Co-ordination, networking and advocacy*

Eight Departments

- *Bureau of Youth Statistics and Analysis*
- *Department of Documentation and Publication*
- *Department of Training and Orientation*
- *Department of Livelihood Development*
- *Department of Tribal and North-East Youth Development*
- *Department for Socially, Economically disadvantaged Youth*
- *Department for Differently abled Youth*
- *Academic Department of Youth Development*

4.5 YOUTH HOSTELS

4.5.1 Background

Aimed at promoting youth Travel, the Youth Hostel Movement is seen as having the greatest potential for promoting National Integration and brotherhood among the countrymen. The scheme is seen as having huge potential for development in India in the context of progressively improving standards of living and enhanced personal mobility of the youth in the country. Despite upward revision of rents, the Youth hostels continue to provide decent dormitory type budget accommodation and are described as Home away from Home. Youth Hostels ensure strict

discipline and are therefore preferred as best option by the educational institutions/parents as the best option for overnight stay on excursions etc. Besides this the nominal tariff for stay and food is an added attraction for preferring Youth Hostels. However, unfortunately the present state of Youth Hostels in the country is not satisfactory to cater to the huge potential demand for the youth travel. So far the scheme has been a joint effort by the Central Government and the State Government in that the land for the construction of the Youth Hostel is provided by the State Government and the construction cost is borne by the Central Government. The Youth Hostel are administered by the Central Government and all related policies are framed by the Central Government, however, locally the Youth Hostel is run through a committee headed by the District Magistrate. In a recent development, the Hostel Warden, now re designated as Hostel Manager, have been selected from amongst retired Armed Forces Officers/JCOs from the local areas. As against a target of Youth Hostel in 200 districts, by the end of 11th Five Year Plan, presently, there are 81 youth hostels and four more are in various stages of construction. Out of 81 Youth Hostels, 12 Hostels have been transferred to NYKS, Sports Authority of India(SAI) and the concerned State Government for optimum use for youth and sports development.

Besides promoting youth travel Youth Hostel can also be developed as a major centre for youth activities. This will also require higher level of management capabilities in terms of ensuring the quality of services and adherence to regulations and guidelines, including the five international standards of welcome, hygiene, security, privacy and comfort in accommodation. Add to it the net connectivity and accessibility in the present day scenario. While the administration of the youth hostels has to remain in the realms of the Government, the day to day operations have to be evolved to make the hostels self sustainable in public private partnership/franchising mode, for which also models will need to be developed.

Efforts are also required to be made during the 12th Plan to bring more synergy between scheme of Youth Hostel and other youth development schemes such as National Integration, promotion of Adventure and various programmes of NYKS and NSS and to develop it as major centres of youth activities.

4.5.2The salient features, bottlenecks and potential growth areas of the institution of Youth Hostels are as under:

- The movement of Youth Hostelling started in India in the year 1945 before our Independence

with Mysore Youth Hostel (much before starting of NSS, NYK). The Government of India has been extending support to Youth Hostel Movement since 1966. The Youth Hostels Scheme was formulated as per the guidelines prescribed in the manual of the International Youth Hostel Federation. Youth Hostels Scheme has been functioning as a joint venture between the Central and the State Governments. While the Central Government bears the cost of construction, the State Governments provide fully developed land free of cost, with water, electricity and approach road. After construction the Hostels Management Committee are authorized to run the youth hostel. The Youth Hostels are looked after by a Warden and the Assistant.

- Youth Hostels are:
 - Non-religious, non-political and non-commercial unit without discrimination to race, color, sex, caste, creed, or social background.
 - Overnight charges are kept to the minimum so that the youth with limited means can avail the stay facility.
 - As the travel industry booming up in India, youth student will be accommodated in safe and hygiene with nominal cost.
 - It promotes youth travel and youth activity programme like
 - National Integration camp
 - Training and Development programmes for youth
 - Awareness classes conducting
 - Youth exchange programmes
 - To conduct cultural event
 - Group accommodation
 - Adventure camp
- Among the 80 Youth Hostels 12 were handed over to NSS/ NYK/ State Government concerned, for some other purpose than hostelling. Now, only 68 Youth Hostels were available for travelers. Among 68, in terms of performance is mixed.
- The Planning Commission has allocated only Rs.12 crores during the 11th Five Year Plan for the completion of ongoing projects of Youth Hostels and has desired to discontinue the scheme thereafter.
- Youth Hostel tariff revised (Letter No. F. No. 2-14/ 2010- YH/ Policies Dt. 25th May 2010) as

the non A/C bed charge for students Rs.80/- and general Rs. 120/- and there is no concession for youth travelers, need to be addressed.

- Promotion activity with the co-operation of State tourism and Education Department to be worked out.
- The Sub Group felt as migration for education/livelihood is common, Youth Hostel becomes a necessity, as it brings youth together. Youth Hostel will certainly play a positive role in youth travelling and bring them together and will bring camaraderie and friendship and finally appreciation of culture, nature and other national endowments.
- The responsibility of maintenance of the hostel building to be redesigned, as the work carried out by the local PWD/ CPWD not meeting the standard / quality/ time frame and also not cost effective to carry out the maintenance work/ repair work.
- Hostel managers to be empowered with the financial sealing from the hostel fund for carrying out the minor repair work and Annual Maintenance Work.
- The **Hostel Management Committee** structured by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports vide F 2- 17/ 2010-YH/ Policies Dt: 16th June 2010, the details are:

For State Capital Youth Hostels

(i)	Secretary of the Department of Youth Affairs of the concerned State UT Government.	Chairman
(ii)	Deputy Commissioner/ District Magistrate of the concerned District.	Member
(iii)	Representative of PWD at the level of Executive Engineer/ Assistant Engineer.	Member
(iv)	District Youth Coordinator, Nehru Yuva Kendra of the concerned District.	Member
(v)	Manager of the Youth Hostel	Member Secretary

For Non-State Capital Youth Hostels

(i)	Deputy Commissioner/ District Magistrate of the concerned District.	Chairman
(ii)	Representative of PWD at the level of Executive Engineer/ Assistant Engineer.	Member

(iii)	Representative of the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports of the State Government.	Member
(iv)	District Youth Coordinator, Nehru Yuva Kendra of the concerned District.	Member
(v)	Manager of the Youth Hostel	Member Secretary

- Standing instruction to be issued to NYK, NSS, Scouts, NCC, all State tourism department, Schools/ colleges, Education department regarding Youth Hostel, and its resources and for effective use for the youth.
- The training program for the managers to be organized as most of them are new to this industry.
- And also all the staffs to be trained in phased manner related to their work area.
 - Like all receptionist to be trained for hospitality
 - All security/ watchman to be trained for firefighting/ security.
 - Sanitary workers to be trained on hygiene/ housekeeping.
- Staff working in Youth Hostel are on the basis of temporary/ daily rated/ consolidated/ honorarium etc., (as no clear pattern available).Required uniform pattern for staffing and salary.
- To encourage the staff, the incentive pattern on revenue collection may be worked out and order may be issued centrally, without passing the responsibility to Hostel Management Committee.
- Constant Guidelines/ instruction to be issued centrally to all the Youth Hostel.
- One time communication to be made to the entire State Government department concerned to support Youth Hostel at their region.
- All Youth Hostel to be linked with the dedicated network and website.
- Promotion activity to be done on major railway station and bus station for Youth Hostel.
- During the past the myth in the travelers mind, like to stay in the Youth Hostel are permitted only those who have “the Youth Hostel Association membership card” , “ the hostel is only for students” and “ not for travelers” etc., to be eradicated by making wide publicity and promotion activities.
- The focus and progress of Youth Hostel is not up to the mark, because

- Low financial allocation.
- Administration problem/ mismanagement.
- Less effectiveness of Hostel Management Committee.
- Low salary structure
- Poor job security and involvement of workers.
- Lack of State Government support.
- Lack of popularity and promotion activity.
- Lack of tourist turn out and revenue collection.
- Lack of team work (Zone/ Region/ State/ National).
- In sufficient staffing.
- Short of uniform guidelines/ instruction etc.,

In view of the above problems and low financial support made to this institution (in the 11th Five Year Plan merely 18 crore budget estimation made for 80 Youth Hostel), the institution has not been able to meet the objectives.

4.6. NATIONAL PROGRAMME for YOUTH and ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT

The scheme titled National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) had been formulated by merger of four 100% central sector grants-in-aid schemes of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports during 10th Plan, namely, Promotion of Youth Activities & Training, Promotion of National Integration, Promotion of Adventure and Development and Empowerment of Adolescents, with a view to reduce multiplicity of schemes with similar objectives, ensuring uniformity in funding pattern and implementation mechanism, avoiding delays in availability of funds to the field level and institutional participation of State Governments in project formulation and its implementation. While there will be synergy and convergence in operational mechanism and programme delivery, there will be clear distinction with regard to the financial parameters of each of the components under the scheme. While some procedural changes were made in the schemes during the last year of 10th Five Year Plan in 2006-07, it was felt that the schemes need to be substantially restructured in order to make it more meaningful in terms of content, impact and outcomes. The schemes were reviewed in the context of 11th Five Year Plan by the Working Group constituted by the Planning Commission for formulation of the 11th Five Year Plan. The Working Group has recommended that the restructured scheme should be more focused in terms of emerging needs and requirements as also with reference to the capabilities of implementing organization, programme content and methodology of training. Following these and in

the context of zero-based budgeting during 11th Five Year Plan all the four schemes have been merged into a single umbrella scheme.

The revised umbrella scheme was operated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports as a 100% central sector scheme during 11th Five Year Plan and need to be concluded.

4.6.1 Objectives of NPYAD:

Short term objectives: -

- Provide opportunity for holistic development of youth including adolescents for realization of their fullest potential;
- Develop leadership qualities and personality development of youth and to channelize their energy towards socio-economic development and growth of the nation;
- Promote national integration, strengthen secular and eclectic outlook through creative expressions by youth;
- Foster the spirit of adventure, risk taking, teamwork, the capacity of ready and vital response to challenging situations and of endurance among youth;
- Acknowledge adolescents as a distinct sub-group among youth and address their distinct needs and at the same time provide positive stimulation and congenial environment for their all-round development; and
- To encourage research and publication and to promote technical resource support including development of information and database on issues concerning youth and adolescents.

Long-term objectives:

- Engage and channelize the energy of youth in a positive manner for nation building;
- Develop amongst youth a sense of pride in nationally accepted values like democracy, socialism, and secularism;
- Promote activities and programmes, which foster social harmony and national unity among youth;
- Promote spirit of national integration, unity in diversity, pride in India among the

youth of different parts of the country and to induce a sense of social harmony amongst the youth;

- To motivate the youth to act as focal point for dissemination of knowledge in the rural area and involve them in nation building process;
- To stimulate action for development and empowerment of adolescents, particularly from the economically and socially neglected/backward sections of society;
- To build and develop an environment which recognizes the specific needs and promise of the adolescents in the country and provide adolescent friendly services.

4.6.2. Programme Beneficiaries:

The Youth and Adolescents for the purpose of the scheme would be as defined in the extant National Youth Policy. In other words, the expression ‘youth’ would cover persons belonging to the age group of 13 to 35 years and ‘adolescent’ would cover persons in the age group of 10-19 years under the scheme. The targeted beneficiaries of the programmes include members of the youth clubs affiliated to the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, National Service Scheme, and State Government Youth Organisations, Bharat Scouts & Guides or student youth in Schools, Colleges and Universities. Adolescents and Youth from other established youth organisations or NGOs would be considered provided they are the registered members of such organisations. Preference to be given to the youth with special abilities and youth belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, minorities and weaker sections, migrants etc .

Gender budgeting: - In selection of beneficiary women will have a distinct priority and care should be taken to include at least 1/3rd beneficiaries from women.

4.6.3. Programme Area and Components:

Programme Component:- The umbrella scheme will comprise of the following broad programme areas and their components: -

Sl. No.	Name of the Programme Area	Programme Component
----------------	-----------------------------------	----------------------------

(a)	Youth Development and Youth Exchange Promotion Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Youth Leadership and Personality Development Training ii National Integration Camp iii. Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme iv Multi-Cultural Activities v. National Youth Festival vi. State Youth Festival vii. National Youth Awards
(b)	Promotion of Adventure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Promotion of adventure at basic and intermediate level in India ii. Promotion of adventure at advance level including expeditions in India ii Grants to Recognized Institutions iv Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards
c)	Development and Empowerment of Adolescents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Life Skills Education ii. Counseling iii. Career Guidance iv. Residential Camps
(d)	Technical and Resource Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Providing Environment friendly Building ii. Research & Studies on youth issues iii. Seminars, Conferences, Exhibitions and Workshops on youth or adolescent issues, national integration and adventure iv. Documentation & Publication <p>The programme will be handled exclusively by RGNIYD</p>

4.6.4. Performance of NPYAD during 11th Five Year Plan:

The scheme of National Programme for Youth and Adolescents Development (NPYAD) was launched in the financial year (FY 2008-2009). Under the scheme financial assistance provided to Government Organization, State governments and also to Non-Governmental organizations to implement projects under the following components.

Youth Leadership and Personality Development: This component of the NPYAD attempts to develop leadership qualities, national character, comradeship and personality development especially amongst rural youth. The program is to motivate the youth to act as focal point for dissemination of

knowledge in the rural area and involve them in nation building. This residential program is for duration of one month. Under the scheme of NPYAD, a financial assistance up to Rs.3.00 lakhs can be extended for an Youth Leadership and Personality Development (YLPD) for 30 youth.

Promotion of National Integration: The national integration camps of the duration of 7 – 14 days are organized for adolescents and youth with a view to instill the spirit of national integration, through camp activities viz., cultural programmes, group discussions, debates, lectures etc on the theme of national integration and communal harmony. Normally the National Integration camps are attended by 150 participants out of whom 25% would be drawn from five states representing separate linguistic/cultural diversity. Financial assistance to the tune of Rs.4.30 lakhs is extended if the camp is organized at the state capital for other places, the grants will be limited to Rs.3.54 lakhs for inter-state youth exchange program .Multi-cultural activities are also the components of promotion of national integration. The maximum financial assistance for these programs are 2.93 lakhs and Rs.3.00 lakhs respectively.

Promotion of Adventure: The objective of the adventure activities are to create and foster amongst the youth a spirit of risk-taking, cooperative team works etc. Under this scheme the financial assistance is extended to basic/intermediate and advance level adventure activities in India, for training, workshops etc. assistance is also extended to recognized institutions to promote adventure.

Development and Empowerment of Adolescents: Under this component, financial assistance is extended for Life Skill Education, Counseling Career Guidance and Second Chance Camps. Camps of one week's duration (residential or otherwise) are organized for adolescents under the Life Skill Education component. The project officer/counselor extends advice to the adolescent under various thinking skills social skills and negotiating skills. The maximum financial assistance extended is Rs.65, 000/- for residential camps and Rs.23,000/- for non-residential camps, Under "counseling" seminars and workshops for parents and teachers, organization of "out reach programs" in schools etc are included. The maximum assistance for such counseling is limited to Rs.1.73 lakhs. Establishing career guidance centers, organizing career melas and career literature generation and dissemination etc. forms part of the Career Guidance sub-component of NPYAD Scheme. Financial assistance for the program varies from Rs.2.14 lakhs to 2.34 lakhs. Second chance camps are organized for the school drop-outs. The duration of the program is four months and financial assistance not exceeding Rs.4.56 lakhs could be extended for a program under this component.

4.6.5. Details of Budget Allocation and Actual Expenditure during the 11th Five Year Plan from the year 2007-08 to 2011-12 up to 13.09.2011

Financial and Physical Statement

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Promotion of National Integration			Promotion of Adventure			National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development		
	BE	RE	Actual Expd.	BE	RE	Actual Expd.	BE	RE	Actual Expd.
2007-08	1300.00	1090.00	1127.00	350.00	400.00	305.32	--		1432.32
2008-09	The four schemes have been merged into one umbrella scheme National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development being operative w.e.f.1.4.2008.						2670.00	2670.00	2393.00
2009-10							2450.00	2450.00	2269.00
2010-11							2500.00	2768.00	2638.00
2011-12 (upto 13.9.2011)							2500.00	--	1225.00

4.6.6 Physical Achievements during the 11th Five Year Plan from the year 2007-08 to 2011-12 up till date

Year	Promotion of National Integration (No. of Programmes)	Promotion of Adventure (No. of Programmes)	National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (No. of Programmes)
2007-08	452	92	544
2008-09	The four schemes have been merged into one umbrella scheme National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development being operative w.e.f.1.4.2008.		2233
2009-10			1547
2010-11			1570
2011-12 (up to 13.9.2011)			847

4.70 OTHER SCHEMES

4.7.1. National Service Volunteers

The primary objective of NSV scheme was to provide opportunities to those graduate students below 25 years of age who feel motivated to serve the community for a year or two. Each volunteer is paid an honorarium of Rs.2500/- p.m. NSVs were given proper training to work as volunteers. Deployment details during the 11th Five Year Plan period are as given below :

S. N	Year	Total NSVs Deployment	Total expenditure incurred during the scheme(Rs. in crore)
1	2007-08	4951	.45
2	2008-09	6732	13.27
3.	2009-10	6094	16.65

4.7.2 Rashtriya Sadbhawana Yojana (RSY)

Rashtriya Sadbhawana Yojana (RSY) was aimed to encouraging leadership among the rural youth. Under the scheme, 10-20 volunteers in each of 501 NYKs were enrolled as Nehru Yuva Sathee. These Sathees were nominated by the best Youth Clubs and Youth Development Centres in the concerned block and district respectively. They were entitled to receive monthly honorarium of Rs. 1000/- each. The parameter on which the clubs were evaluated were sent to all registered clubs affiliated with NYKS for participation in the scheme. Selected sathees were given training. These trained volunteers evolve as a great strength to their peer group in their endeavour to empower youth. Besides, they were also engaged in youth mobilization and awareness programmes of NYKS. During the 11th five year plan, NYS enrolled were as follows :

S. N	Year	Total NYSs Deployment	Total expenditure during the scheme (Rs. in crore)
1	2007-08	5155	4.35
2	2008-09	5465	6.00
3.	2009-10	5730	5.94

4.7.3 NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS (NYC)

The Government has launched a new Scheme “National Youth Corps” during the financial year 2010-11 to tap the potential of the youth and channeling their energy towards nation building. This is in

pursuance of the President's Address to both Houses of Parliament in June 2009 and also the Prime Minister's announcement in October 2009 for Jammu & Kashmir. The Scheme envisages enrollment of 20,000 volunteers, of which 8,000 are to be deployed in Jammu and Kashmir and 12,000 volunteers in other States.

The Ministry had been implementing two youth volunteer schemes simultaneously, viz., National Service Volunteer Scheme (NSV) and Rashtriya Sadbhawana Yojana (RSY), in which young boys and girls were enrolled as volunteers on fulltime basis for participating in youth development activities. The job assignments under the schemes experienced duplication at times, resulting in functional overlapping. A new scheme, called "National Youth Corps" (NYC) has been launched, amalgamating the existing two volunteer schemes namely National Service Volunteer (NSV) and Rashtriya Sadbhawana Yojana (RSY).

4.7.3.1 Objectives

- To set up a group of disciplined and dedicated youth who have the inclination and spirit to engage in the task of nation building.
- To facilitate the realization of inclusive growth (both social and economic).
- To act as points for dissemination of information, basic knowledge in the community.
- To act as group modulators and peer group educators.
- To act as role models for the younger people specially towards enhancement of public ethics, probity and dignity of labour.

The NYC Scheme enables young men and women in the age group of 18-25 years to serve up to two years on a full time basis up to March 2012 for which they receive an honorarium of Rs 2500/- per month. Representation from the weaker sections of the society and gender balance is encouraged.

During the year 2010-11, and 2011-12, 7700 volunteers are at the disposal of the State Government of J&K who for deployment by them under various State agencies such as Shrine Board, Lake Development Authority, Panchayats and for Social Sector programmes such as women literacy, disaster management, traffic management etc., J&K Volunteers will also be provided modular employment skill (MES) training with the help of Ministry of Labour, Directorate General of Employment and Training (DGET) during the second year of their engagement. In addition 300 volunteers were deployed at the disposal of NYKs in the State of J&K.

4.7.3.2 Deployment of National Youth Corps Volunteers in last two years is as under :

Sl. NO.	Year	No. of National Youth Corps Volunteers	Total Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)
1	2010-11	18808	45.98
2	2011-12	18808	58.00

During the year 2010-11 and 2011-12, a total of 12300 volunteers under the NYC Scheme were allocated to NYKs for deployment in different Kendras across the country. NYKs made allocation of the volunteers at the rate of 2 volunteers per block. Some volunteers were also deployed in the districts where there is no Kendra of NYKs. Ministry of Finance has recently approved opening of 123 new Kendras in the districts not covered by NYKs at present. The Kendras in the new districts will become functional from the financial year 2012-13. Accordingly, from the next fiscal year, there would be additional requirement of volunteers for deployment in these new Kendras. Further as NYKS is expected to be engaged in more of convergence activities as well as different projects/Special Programmes of different Ministries/Departments of Government of India being undertaken by NYKS more NYC would also need to be deployed for these activities being implemented by NYKS.

NYC volunteers are the backbone of NYKS. They are the actual field functionaries who assist in the implementation of programme and activities of NYKS. It is through them that the youth even in the remotest areas may get awareness/benefit of the on going schemes of the Government. The present allocation of two volunteers per block is not sufficient for effective implementation of the programmes and conduct of activities. Ideally the number of NYCs per block should be 4. However keeping in view the special circumstances in the North – Eastern States and 83 Districts affected by Naxalite violence these areas may have 10 NYCs per block. In addition more volunteers will be required for the 123 more districts where NYCs is expected to come up with new Kendras in the coming months. As such the total requirement of NYCs works out to 43,000.

Keeping in view the present rate of inflation in price index, it is also proposed to increase the monthly honorarium from the present Rs.2500/- to Rs 3500/-. An additional Rs 1500/- per month is proposed to be given to the NYC to cover the mobility and connectivity expenses as the NYCs

are required to travel frequently. It is also proposed to provide to provide training to NYCs in two phases which will include 15 days of Induction Training and 5 days of Refresher training. Keeping the above in view the requirement of funds for the Scheme of National Youth Corps will be as under:

4.7.3.3 TOTAL FUND REQUIREMENT FOR NYC SCHEME FOR THE PERIOD OF 2012-2017

S. N.	Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	Total	301.15	331.25	364.40	400.84	440.92

Grand Total : (301.15 + 331.25+364.40+400.84+440.92) = 1838.58

4.80 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

India has a number of international obligations as a member of the United Nations, Commonwealth and other international groupings and other bilateral and multilateral agreements which have 'Youth' as one of the thematic areas of action and cooperation. There is need for effective and visible discharge of such obligation and efforts to promote youth participation from India in various relevant Youth Programmes and Youth Exchange Programmes.

The commonwealth Youth Programme(CYP) Asia Regional Centre is located in Chandigarh, India and is one of the four centres established to respond to youth development for 8 member countries of the commonwealth viz., Brunei Darussalam, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Maldives, Singapore and Sri Lanka which together has a population of 1.4 billion. In their 2002 Columbo Declaration, Commonwealth Heads of Government made clear their determination to "address poverty reduction by tapping the skills, knowledge and energy of a highly motivated younger generation." CYP Asia Regional Centre currently runs programmes taken from the new 'Plan of action for Youth Empowerment 2006-15' an overarching implementation agenda that provides a blue print for youth development. It is relevant for India to be a valued partners in the process. The areas development are:

- (a) Youth Enterprise and Sustainable Livelihood(YESL)
- (b) Governance, Development and Youth Networks(GDYN)
- (c) Youth Work Education and Training(YWET)

The Department endeavours to create an international perspective in collaboration with other countries and international agencies/organizations on various youth issues. The Department should continue to collaborate with CYP Asia Regional Centre, Chandigarh in organizing events concerning youth in Commonwealth countries in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Under the programme of Youth Exchange, visit of youth delegations with friendly countries are organised on reciprocal basis for promoting exchange of ideas, values and culture amongst youth of different countries and also to develop international understanding. The exchange of 100 member youth delegation with China and 20 member youth delegation with South Korea has been a regular feature, under a bilateral agreement, during the 11th Five year Plan. During 2011, as part of India-China Year of Exchange, the Department organised a visit of 500 member representative youth delegation to China comprising members from as varied fields as Elected Panchayat representatives to IT experts. A reciprocal 500 member Chinese youth delegation is due to visit the country during Feb-March 2012 Besides these Youth Exchange Programmes and related MoUs with other friendly countries like Afghanistan, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, etc are in the process. The Department should continue these youth exchanges and strive to have more of such bilateral agreements with friendly countries.

4.90 SCOUTING AND GUIDING

India is a founder member of the Asia-Pacific Region of the World Organisation of Scouts Movement and World Association of Girls Guides and Scouts having a membership of 210 countries. In terms of volunteer strength India ranked third behind USA and Indonesia. In India the Bharat Scouts and Guides run the movement. Movement is primarily run through the educational Institutions which provide the student volunteers. Movement is aimed at developing the character of young boys and girls and inculcate in them a spirit of patriotism, social service and communal harmony. Bharat Scouts and guides targeted children and young people in the age group of 5-25 years and as on dated had a strength of 4.5 million. There are 3 stages of Membership Viz.

Stage I 5-10 years: 82% of the total strength with an annual fee of Rs.2 per student

Stage II 11-16 years: 20 Lakh volunteers with an annual fee of Rs.6/ per student

Stage III 17-25 years: 71,000 students with an annual fee of Rs.12/ per student.

Bharat Scouts and Guides is meant for students who have the ability to pay and fund their uniforms and activities. In some of the States, the programme is being aided care of by the education system.

However, there existed a vast student community lying untouched who could not pay and become members of the Scouting Movement.

The sub-group on the issue was of the view that the Ministry should not fund those activities of Bharat Scouts and Guides which are being run by the organisation through fund raising, participation fee and contribution from participants. **The sub-group recommended that the Bharat Scouts and Guides Movement may be merged in the existing scheme of NPYAD and may be funded under that scheme.** It has also been recommended by the sub-group that an Impact study be done of the activities of Bharat Scouts and Guides under the Central Scheme of Scouting and Guiding by an independent institution.

CHAPTER V

PROPOSED SCHEME-WISE FINANCIAL PROJECTION FOR THE 12TH FIVE YEAR PLAN

5.1 NEHRU YUVA KENDRA SANGATHAN

PROGRAMMES FOR THE TWELVETH FIVE YEAR PLAN

The Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan will continue to remain at the spearhead of the youth development related initiatives of the Ministry during the 12th Plan, and will also be suitably strengthened to enable it to discharge its mandate effectively. However, it is proposed to bring in a paradigm shift in the manner of its functioning and implementation of the various schemes being executed through the NYKS. The thrust of the NYKS in the 12th Five Year Plan will be on a consolidating, expanding and energizing the youth club movement with a view to actively engaging the rural youth in various social, economic and community activities through their own organizations, with the NYKS and NYKs directly focusing on identified core activities. From this point of view, the Regular Programmes of NYKS have been divided into five Sub-Groups namely, Youth Development Programmes, Skill Development Programmes, Sports Promotion Programmes, Programmes for preservation of Cultural Heritage, Social Harmony & Peace and other categories of programmes to be undertaken at village, cluster, block, district, state and national levels.

In so far as the youth clubs are concerned, although there would be an effort to increase their numbers from the present level of around 2.5 lakh, it is proposed not to keep any specific targets in this regard and adopt a flexible approach. Clubs which have not been registered so far, but are active, could be progressively converted in to duly registered institutions. The principle focus would be on further encouraging the clubs which are already active to move up the ladder and become active and self-sustaining/self-reliant. The approach would be to develop an a la carte menu of activities which can be taken up by the Youth Clubs themselves at the village and cluster level, and to lend a helping hand through specifically designed activities to the clubs which are not yet found to be active in their areas. In addition, efforts would be made by NYKS for networking of the Youth Clubs at the Cluster, Block and District levels in an appropriate manner.

The core activities to be undertaken by the NYKS/NYKs are briefly elaborated here as under :

1. An innovative new scheme titled **Mentor Youth Clubs** has been introduced under which 02 Mentor Youth Clubs will be set up in each block of the 501 NYK districts. A total number of 10,000 Youth Clubs will be selected and assisted with seed money of Rs. 10,000/- to function as MY Youth Club. The Goals of the Scheme are to develop a strong and dependable network of self supporting/self reliant Youth Clubs with particular reference to 01 lakh functional/active Youth Clubs, to work for making the non functional/inactive Youth Clubs active with particular reference to 1.5 lakh inactive Youth Clubs and bring them at par with rest of the 01 lakh functional/active Youth Clubs and to form new Youth Clubs in 3.40 lakh uncovered villages of the country and provide them constant guidance and support. The NYKS will work in a focused manner, with the assistance of the Mentor Youth Clubs (MYC) and National Youth Corps (NYC) Volunteers to activate them at the village level through different types of programmes and activities. Keeping in view the proposed strategy, it is expected that all uncovered villages will have a club by the end of the 12th Five Year Plan.
2. In the area of Skill Development & Livelihood Generation, a number of innovative entrepreneurship and employment oriented training programmes have been introduced by NYKS such as **Youth Employability Skill (YES) Project** for 59 Districts of North Eastern States, **Skill Up gradation Training Programme (SUTP)** for women in 200 Border/Tribal/Backward Districts and **Skill Development Training Programme (SDTP)** under NCVT Scheme for additional 100 districts of the country. The major focus of the YES project is to train the youth to gain employable skills. The endeavor is to enhance their employability by running a variety of employable skill based training courses with the support of National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). The project is being implemented by the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and partner training agencies of NSDC. During 12th Plan period, it is projected to provide training to 15000 youths under YES project, 3,30,000 women beneficiaries under SUTP and 50,000 youths under SDTP programme. There is a proposal to expand the existing base of these Skill Development Programmes with special reference to J&K, Naxal Infested areas and other troubled districts of the country.
3. **Youth Club Exchange Programme (YCEP)** has been mooted out by NYKS to promote inter club understanding and mutual cooperation amongst all Youth Clubs functioning across the country. The opportunity will be made available to the members of the Youth Clubs to sensitize and inspire them for adopting new technology and ideas, appreciate the living conditions of people of host Youth Club villages, their day to day life, customs and traditions as well as motivate them to work for the progress and development of their own villages and keep distance from anti social and anti national elements /groups operating in local area. The YCEP will have 100% coverage of all 623 districts during the 12th plan period.
4. **Work Camps** as a part of their Regular Programmes, are expected, under the changed strategy, to be undertaken by the Youth Clubs themselves in collaboration with the Gram Panchayats, a focused initiative would be taken by the NYKS/NYKs for organizing such camps in the mode of 'Shramdan Shivirs' and volunteerism, and focused on specific themes. A major area to be taken up through such camps/Shramdan Shivirs would be to create viable community assets/infrastructure at the village level. The NYKS would coordinate with the concerned Ministries who already have programmes in respect of this activity with a view to creating a

major impact in this sphere during the 12th Five Year Plan.

5. Since, there has been intrinsic relationship between the youth and the sports & games, it is a constant endeavor on the part of NYKS to popularize and encourage rural/traditional games and sports among Youth Clubs established by NYKS. In this direction, a new programme titled **“Promotion of Inter Youth Club Sports Activities”** has been proposed for implementation during 12th plan period under which Inter Youth Club Sports Meets will be organized across the country. The programme aims to foster spirit of discipline, self – help, cooperation, friendship and above all a true healthy life style among Youth Club members.
6. As usual, Preservation of Cultural Heritage, Social Harmony & Peace will remain a major focus area for NYKS. To achieve the stated objectives, a variety of programmes including **Folk Cultural Festivals and Art & Craft Exhibitions, Celebration of Days & Weeks of National and International importance, Awards & incentives to youths and Youth Clubs, Youth Conventions, Workshops & Seminars**, etc. have been proposed to be undertaken in all the 623 districts of the country.

In addition to the Regular Programmes, the NYKS will also undertake the following MoYAS sponsored programmes and schemes:

- I. Inter-State Youth Exchange Programmes, mainly in the form of youth exchanges with reference to Jammu & Kashmir and the North Eastern States would be continued. In addition, Mega National Intergration Camps (NICs)/programmes will also be organized and, wherever necessary and feasible, these could centre around specific events/occasions, etc.
- II. The State level Camps would be mainly left to the State Governements for which assistance would be provided under the Scheme of National Integration and, in which, the NYKS would provide the requisite support and assistance by way of mobilization of the youth from the district and sub-districts levels in coordination with the concerned State Government authorities.
- III. At the district level and below, a flexible strategy is proposed, where under, camps could be organized at the Block/District levels in districts where there are a large number of active youth clubs, and at a regional/inter-kendra level for a number of district who do not have a large number of active youth clubs.
- IV. For the above activities, NYKS would be provided an earmarked quantum of funds under the Scheme of National Integration. Parallely, State Governements and other organizations and institutions, including NGOs would continue to be provided assistance for specific proposals under the scheme.
- V. Another major area of focused activity by NYKS/NYKs, which would continue in the 12th Plan, relates to the Youth Leadership and Personality Development (YLPD) training Programmes. Post experience has shown, that many of the trained youth leaders, in the later stages of life, have successfully assumed leadership responsibilities in democratic institutions from the village Panchayat to the Parliament level, apart from engaging themselves in various types of social and community development initiatives through the NGO/CBO route and as individuals. The YLPD training programme will focus on topics pertaining to the needs and situation of the rural community, modules on personality development, leadership & motivation, effective communications, life skills, team building, and value based education, developing linkages with Panchayati Raj Institutions of the rural youth, the YLPD training programme will also bring the present youth leaders of the district together and share their experiences and exchange ideas with the next generation leaders. This will also enable them to organize youth groups through various activates and preparing the rural youth to take up a pro-active role in the field of social

leadership, and participate effectively in the development and grassroots governance processes. During the 12th Five Year Plan, it is proposed to organize Youth Leadership Training Programmes for one lakh rural youth every day.

- VI. Another new initiatives conceived during the 11th Plan pertains to the Panchayat Yuva Khel Abhiyan (PYKA), an important underlying aim of which is to actively involve the youth in the rural areas in organize games and sports activities, seen as a major ingredient of youth development. While the new scheme being proposed in this regard would be anchored on the Sports side in the Ministry because of its linkages with issues pertaining to Talent Search and Nurturing, Rural Sports competitions and tournaments, and higher level professional training and grooming, etc. the NYKS, through the Youth Clubs would be actively involved in organization of competition and non-competition sports activities at the village level, spotting of talent etc., for which appropriate capacity building will also be required in collaboration with the States Sports Departments and the Sports Authority of India. NYKS will submit a project proposal for organizing various level sports & games for rural youths under the PYKKA scheme. .
- VII. Another major area of focus of the NYKS/NYKs will pertain to vocational training. Presently, the NYKS has been undertaking vocational training programmes as one of the various implementing agencies under the Scheme of Financial Assistance for Promotion of Youth Activities and Training. The activities to be undertaken in this regard will be re-oriented taking into account and emerging needs as has been brought out elsewhere in this report. The focus of the NYKS would be on building awareness about the facilities and mechanism which exist under different schemes for providing vocational skills and training, linking the rural youth with institutions engaged in the provision of such training and related guidance and counseling, and promoting a culture of self-employment among the rural youth, including the organization, in coordination with other connected institutions and agencies, of programmes directly related to building skills and competencies among the rural youth, particularly those who may have dropped out the school system or are unable to enter the systems of higher level professional and vocational skills aimed at the expanding job markets.
- VIII. In order to enable NYKS to perform the above functions in a meaningful manner, with the required impact, the fullest involvement of the National Youth Corps (NYC) Volunteers under the NYC scheme, would be required, and would need a major capacity building initiative for the latter as well as for the functionaries of the NYKS. In addition, the vacant field level positions under the NYKS will have to be filled in a time bound manner, and the presence of NYKs extended to all 623 districts in the country from the present level of 501 districts. As far as the latter is concerned, it is proposed to adopt a phased approach, linked to the number and level of activity of youth clubs in each district. Since a number of districts have actually been established by sub-division of earlier existing districts, under the phased approach, the jurisdiction of the existing Kendras could be seen in terms of the original districts as they existed before the creation of the new ones.

5.1.1 Some additional Proposals for consideration under Non-Plan

5.1.2 Establishment of Regional Youth Centers (RYCs), Yuva Utthan evam Vikas Kendras (YUVK) at five places

It is proposed to establish Regional Youth Centers at Bangalore (Karnataka), Gandhinagar (Gujarat), Bhubaneswar (Orissa), Chandigarh and Guwahati (Assam). The proposed RYCs will be established on the land allotted by the respective State Govts. The RYCs will work as a regional centre of excellence in the field of Youth Work undertaken by NYKS in consonance with the varying socio-economic-

cultural and political situations of youths living in different states/zones and make it a regional hub of youth activities.

The each RYC will be equipped with sufficient number of office rooms, training/classrooms, library, auditorium, Hostel and adequate open space for Indoor and outdoor youth activities. RYCs will also have the facility of Video Conferencing which will be helpful for effective planning and close monitoring of NYKS affairs and its programmes & schemes. The top management can address the field NYKS officials all over the country at once. Total requirement of funds for establishment of 5 RYCs would be of Rs. 251 Crores during 12th Five Year Plan.

5.1.3 Information Technology (IT)

As per the recommendation in Holistic Management Study of NYKS conducted by IIM Ahmadabad proper management of information system of NYKS can play a very significant role in enhancing organizational effectiveness. With the availability of Information Communication Technology (ICT), operations at NYKS can also be cost effective and more agile in responding to the emergent situations.

From this point of view, NYKS proposes to introduce Enterprise Resource Planning Application which is a software to achieve professional excellence and innovation. Leveraging this software's integrated organization-specific functionality, we can work towards achieving the NYKS's objectives in a professional way that is needed today. ERP may deliver the powerful functionality, global orientation, and flexible enhancement package options to gain a sustainable, competitive advantage and position of our organization for continuous development and application of a very effective e-Governance system in NYKS. For this purpose, Rs. 60 Crores is proposed during 12th Plan Period.

5.1.4 Construction of NYKs Office Buildings

Since, most of the District NYKs and Zonal Offices are being run from rented premises, an initiative was taken up by NYKS during recent years to obtain land allotments for construction of field level Office Buildings of NYKS. There is an encouraging trend towards allotment of lands by the respective State Govts. Across the country and the initiative taken by local officers needs to be supported from the national level by providing necessary funds for construction of field level office building of NYKs wherever the land is allotted. For this purpose, a budget of Rs. 30 Crores is proposed during 12th five year plan.

5.1.5 Modernization of NYKS Hqrs

In order to keep pace with developing situation and for largest interest of the growing youth population and ensuring better youth services the process of office modernization and automation have been proposed for NYKS Hqrs in Delhi, this will include the procurement of latest fax machines, photocopy machines, compact record maintaining shelves, furniture and fixtures etc. For modernization of NYKS Hqrs., Rs. 10 Crs. Is proposed to be allocated during 12th Five Year Plan.

5.1.6 NATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE

Delhi administration, during the year 1984 allotted a piece of land measuring 10.95 acres to the Nehru Yuva Kendra Alipur, Delhi. A small building was constructed on this land long back which is at present in a very dilapidated condition. However the major portion of this land is still unoccupied. As its

location is on National Highway-1, the value of this land at present is more than 120 crores. The audit has however raised objection for not fully utilizing the land. The under utilization of land at Alipur and also functioning of NYKS HQ on rented premises was always in the mind of NYKS. The Board of Governors in its meeting held on 27.07.1994 resolved to construct NYKS office and residential complex at Alipur. Several proposals were prepared in the intervening period but it could not be taken to its logical end. The Board of Governors of NYKS again in its meeting of 02.02.2010 decided to prepare a concept paper/Master Plan for the development of Alipur complex, which will comprise of office block, Hostel and facilities relating to Youth activities

As per the decision of the Board of Governors, NYKS has prepared a draft concept paper /Master Plan for Alipur complex through M/s Mishra & Associates architects: Engineers: Town Planners:Interior Designers & Valuers. The total project cost has been estimated at Rs 516.17. The project is to be completed in five years in five phases with the requirement of funds as under:

Sl No.	Year	Funds required(Rs in crore)	Remarks
1.	2012-13	74.79	Project Development cost
2.	2013-14	100	Construction cost
3.	2014-15	141	Construction cost
4.	2015-16	100.38	Construction cost
5.	2016-17	100	Construction cost

5.1.7 The financial projection for the 12th Five Year Plan will be as follows:

Under the Scheme of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan

Year	Financial Target (Rs. In crores)
2012-13	419.34
2013-14	386.48
2014-15	454.77
2015-16	444.18
2016-17	477.58
Total	2182.35

5.1.8 Justification for the Budget Proposals for the 12th Plan period

There has been a strong rational for enhancement of the budget from 525 Crs for 11th Plan period to 21820 Crs. For 12th Plan period. The given financial projections/ budget proposals for 12th Plan period has been made by NYKS by taking into consideration the following factors:

- I. Recent introduction of some New Schemes & Programmes such as YES Project, Mentor Youth Club, Youth Club Exchange Programme (YCEP), Skill Development Training Programme under NCVT, Inter Youth Club Sports Meet/Festival, etc. and their projected coverage/physical targets.
- II. Proportionate increase in the budget compare to 11th Plan period due to resultant price index effect towards the increased cost of programme implementation i.r.o. boarding & lodging expenses, TA & DA, hiring charges of training related infrastructure, training aids & appliances, resource material, etc. and organizational expenses as well.
- III. The projected enhancement of the Regular Programme coverage from 501 Districts to 623

Districts.

- IV. Emphasis on improved and effective monitoring & supervision of proposed programmes & activities with focus on their quality implementation.
- V. Operation of vacant posts of DYC and ACT i.e.186 and 54 respectively.
- VI. Pay and allowances of newly created posts of DYC and ACT in 123 districts.
- VII. Payment of enhanced salary as a result of ACP and MACP to DYC and ACTs which is pending due to court case.

5.2 NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

5.2.1 Physical Targets for the 12th Five Year Plan

The year-wise physical targets envisaged for the 12th Plan are as given under:

Year	Enrolment	Special Camping	Adopted villages
2012-13	35.5 lakhs	23,500	23,500
2013-14	39.5 lakhs	24,600	24,600
2014-15	42.5 lakhs	25,500	25,500
2015-16	46.5 lakhs	26,100	26,100
2016-17	50.5 lakhs	27,000	27,000

5.2.2 Proposed Financial Projections for the 12th Five Year Plan

During the 12th Five Year Plan, it is proposed to enhance the volunteer strength in the Hindi belt and NE Region by at least 10% p.a. In the last year (2016-17), an overview on the enhanced volunteer strength will be taken, The financial targets envisaged for the years 2012-13 to 2016-17 are as given under:

Year	Allocation of budget (Rs.in crores)
2012-13	120.00
2013-14	120.00
2014-15	120.00
2015-16	120.00
2016-17	120.00
Total	600.00

5.3 RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

In the light of the recommendations of the Mentor Group it is proposed **to convert RGNIYD into an Institution of National Importance** with focus on research, academic, policy and training for youth development in the country and it is the only one institute of its kind in the country. The institute will have the following structure:

Four Divisions

- *Policy and Action Research Division*
- *Capacity Building and Development Division*
- *Academic Division*
- *International Co-operation and Co-ordination Division*

Nine Centres

- *Centre for Policy and Action Research*
- *Centre for Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Analysis*
- *National Youth Resource Centre*
- *Centre for Capacity Building*
- *Centre for Inclusive Development*
- *Centre for Youth and Peace Building*
- *Centre for Outreach*
- *Centre for International Co-operation and Collaboration*
- *Centre for Co-ordination, networking and advocacy*

Eight Departments

- *Bureau of Youth Statistics and Analysis*
- *Department of Documentation and Publication*
- *Department of Training and Orientation*
- *Department of Livelihood Development*
- *Department of Tribal and North-East Youth Development*
- *Department for Socially, Economically disadvantaged Youth*
- *Department for Differently abled Youth*
- *Academic Department of Youth Development*

5.3.1 Plan Outlay Proposed. *The expected recurring and non-recurring expenditure is as follows:*

Year	Recurring (Rs. in crores)	Non-Recurring (Rs. in crores)	Total (Rs. in crores)
2012 – 13	36.82	148.00*	184.82
2013 – 14	40.51	48.00	88.51
2014 – 15	44.59	48.00	92.59
2015 – 16	49.04	48.00	97.04
2016 – 17	53.95	32.31	86.26
TOTAL	224.91	324.31	549.22

*includes Rs. 100 crores corpus fund.

5.40 YOUTH HOSTELS

5.4.1 Financial Projections for the 12th Five Year Plan

In the 12th plan the youth hostel being government asset would focus that the youth hostel need to be strengthened, management improved and decentralized approach to be followed. Each Youth hostel should be youth resource centre and bubbling with activities.

In a multi cultural country, youth hostels have a role to play of unity. The Financial Projections for the 12th Five year Plan under the scheme will be as under:

Year	Financial Targets (Rs. In crores)
2012-13	5.25
2013-14	5.25
2014-15	6.30
2015-16	6.30
2016-17	7.40
Total	30.50

5.50 NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR YOUTH AND ADOLESCENTS DEVELOPMENT

Keeping in view the objectives of the 11th Plan with respect to the Adolescents Development and the need for promotion of Adventure activities in the 12th Plan, it is proposed to modify the existing scheme and rename it as Programme for Youth Development(PYD). Special emphasis will be laid on

the development of female adolescents during the 12th Plan. However keeping in view the inflationary trends, it is proposed to enhance the cost norms for various activities under the Programme. Similarly, the grants given to the State Governments, for holding the National Youth Festival is proposed to be increased from the present Rs. 2.0 Crore to Rs. 5.0 Crore and the grants for State level Youth Festival are proposed to be increased from the present Rs.10 Lakhs to Rs.25 Lakhs.

5.5.1 Proposed Financial Projection for the XII Five Year Plan under the Scheme of PYD

Year	Financial Target(Rs. in crores)
2012-13	46.25
2013-14	54.56
2014-15	63.67
2015-16	71.08
2016-17	73.21
Total	308.77

5.6 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

It is proposed that the existing youth exchange programme may continue and the Department may make efforts to enter into similar Youth Exchange Programmes with other friendly countries

Based on the activities proposed during the 12th Plan the Financial projection are as under:

Year	Financial Targets (Rs. In crores)
2012-13	5.20
2013-14	5.30
2014-15	6.0
2015-16	6.50
2016-17	7.0
Total	30.0

5.7 NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS(NYC)

NYC volunteers are the backbone of NYKS. They are the actual field functionaries who assist in the implementation of programme and activities of NYKS. It is through them that the youth even in the remotest areas may get awareness/benefit of the on going schemes of the Government. The present allocation of two volunteers per block is not sufficient for effective implementation of the programmes and conduct of activities. Ideally the number of NYCs per block should be 4. However keeping in view the special circumstances in the North – Eastern States and 83 Districts affected by Naxalite violence these areas may have 10 NYCs per block. In addition more volunteers will be required for the 123 more districts where NYCs is expected to come up with new Kendras in the coming months. As such the total requirement of NYCs works out to 43,000.

Keeping in view the present rate of inflation in price index, it is also proposed to increase the monthly honorarium from the present Rs.2500/- to Rs 3500/-. An additional Rs 1500/- per month is proposed to be given to the NYC to cover the mobility and connectivity expenses as the NYCs are required to travel frequently. It is also proposed to provide to provide training to NYCs in two phases which will include 15 days of Induction Training and 5 days of Refresher training. Keeping the above in view the requirement of funds for the Scheme of National Youth Corps will be as under:

5.71 TOTAL FUND REQUIREMENT FOR NYC SCHEME FOR THE PERIOD OF 2012-2017

S. N.	Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	Total	301.15	331.25	364.40	400.84	440.92

Grand Total : (301.15 + 331.25+364.40+400.84+440.92) = 1838.58

5.80 BHARAT SCOUTS AND GUIDES

The Sub- Group was of the view that Bharat Scouts and Guides may be funded under the the existing Scheme of NPYAD, at par with other All India Organisation.

5.9 PROPOSED TOTAL FINANCIAL OUTLAY FOR THE 12TH FIVE YEAR PLAN

Based on the elaborations and projections in the foregoing paragraphs, the total Plan Outlay for the 12th Five Year plan is proposed at Rs. 5540.42 crores. The scheme-wise and year-wise proposed outlay are given in the tabular statement below:

Amount in Rs. Crore

Sl No.	Name of the Scheme	12 th Plan Outlay	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan	2182.35	419.34	386.48	454.77	444.18	477.58
2.	National Service Scheme	600.0	120	120	120	120	120
3.	Youth Hostel	30.50	5.25	5.25	6.30	6.30	7.40
4.	National Youth Corps	1838.58	301.15	331.27	364.40	400.84	440.92
5.	International Cooperation	30.0	5.20	5.30	6.0	6.50	7.0
	New Scheme						
6.	Rajiv Gandhi Institute of National Importance.	549.22	184.82	88.51	92.59	97.04	86.26
7.	(a) Youth Development and Youth Exchange Promotion Activity (b) Development and Empowerment of Adolescents (c) Promotion of Adventure .	308.77	46.25	54.56	63.67	71.08	73.21

Chapter – VI

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

1) Model Youth Development District Programme:

Even though National Youth Policy has chalked out various strategies for mainstreaming the unrepresented sections of youth in India, a common understanding of what is meant by 'youth mainstreaming' in different circumstances and contexts does not exist. Mainstreaming of youth needs incorporation of the voices of young people into decision making processes and implies major changes in the attitude of both youth and adults, in policies and social structures.

Mainstreaming youth (it means the adolescent and young adults between 13 and 30 years of age) can be understood as “ a programme strategy or an action scheme that encourages youth to express their opinions, to become involved and to be part of the decision-making process at different levels of given society. Youth participation can take place at all levels, from community life to the national level.

In the districts (643) of India - backward and Extremism affected, what probably worrying is that the Naxals are targeting the youth from poor families to get their recruits and there is no dearth of poor in the backward districts of our country. In the backward regions of our country the main concerns are education, health care and poverty eradication. These are factors hindering the mainstreaming of youth in these regions. Young people should not only be an important target group of poverty reduction or development strategies but should also be actively involved in the elaboration, implementation, monitoring and re-directing strategies affecting their concerns(e.g. Education, Employment opportunities etc). This will, in turn, create a feeling of ownership in the minds of youth and reduces the affinity towards anti- national elements, making them not to fall prey to the evil designs of Fundamentalism, Communalism and Sectarianism.

The campaign is a strategy to build a vibrant youth movement at the grassroots to make the people who are in periphery to move over to governance to claim their rights and their due share in development. There is no comprehensive youth development programmes at the State / District level for the holistic development of the youth and **on pilot basis, one district identified from each State /**

Union Territories – Total 35 Nos. The youth action plan to be developed along the youth policy lines involving all the stakeholders’ particularly academic institutions, local government institutions, development departments, NGOs etc. This may help in replicating by other district authorities.

Objectives

To achieve the above the following are the imperatives. The objectives of National youth Policy are to be made action oriented and practical. The above exercise has to be made by adapting a basic principle of perceiving youth as citizens and participants of development process and not as supplicants or beneficiaries or petitioners.

Action Plan

The Intended stakeholders of National Youth Policy still are in the periphery and they are not brought to the center stage to utilize the opportunities provided by various sectors of development. The challenge before us is to fill the gap between those who are in mainstream and those who are not.

To make a start, backward District (Districts covered under BRGF) is identified for this exercise. Given the demographic profile of electorate, where some 68% of electorate is young men and women (18 – 35 years), their involvement is vital for achieving our goal. They form a vast reservoir of energy and their attitudes and pursuit are vital for the success of the democracy.

Agencies to be Involved (Stakeholders)

- District Administration
- Social Welfare Department
- Education Department (School education and Higher education/SSA)
- Youth Affairs & Sports Department
- Rural Development Department
- Panchayati Raj Department
- Health Department
- Department of Women and Child Development
- Department of Labour & Training
- Employment Directorate

- Social Entrepreneurs
- Non-Governmental Organizations- working in the field of Youth Development
- District Industrial Centers (DIC)
- Khadi & Village Industries
- Self Help Group Federations(Block Level and Panchayat level Federations)
- All other selected related Departments / Government of India
- Credible NGOs
- Religious Bodies
- NSS Functionaries
- All Youth Bodies namely NCC, Red Cross, Bharat Scouts & Guides
- International NGOs
- UN Organizations
- Banking Institutions
- Krishi Vigyan Kendras
- District Institute of Educational Training
- NYK District Youth Coordinator will play a key role
- RGNIYD will also assist in finalizing Youth Plans/Training/Capacity Building and Monitoring.
- Any other relevant Agency

Budget Proposal: Rs 87.5 crores (@Rs 0.5 crores per district per year x 5 years x 35 districts – One district in each State and UTs)

2) State Youth Policy:

Each state should enunciate its own State Youth Policy and also develop additional programmes to respond to the specific needs of the youth of the respective state.

The National Youth Council may be chaired by the Prime Minister. Similarly, the State Youth Council may be chaired by the Chief Minister of the state to coordinate between various departments working

for the development of Youths.

3) Youth Development Index

The programmes may be evaluated on the basis of 'Youth Development Index' developed by the RGNIYD.

4) National Youth Forum

- National Youth Forum may be set up to provide a formal and ongoing platform to young people from different states and regions, to deliberate on their emerging needs and areas of concerns. The Forum may be constituted of the following:
 - Young members of Parliament, representing all parties
 - Representatives of young members of state assemblies (two members from each state)
 - Young achievers in different fields (sports, social entrepreneurship, business, etc.)
 - Representatives of differently-able youth, young media professionals.

5) Youth Volunteerism

Setting up of National Youth Volunteer Network :There is a need to coalesce the energy and potential of the large volunteer force (more than 2.6 million) that is working with various youth-related agencies – NSS, , NYKS, Bharat Scouts and Guides, Youth Red Cross, NCC, etc.

6) Skill Development

Youth who are in the NEET category (Not in Education, Employment and Training) are to be given special attention. Their training needs have to be identified and a comprehensive plan with special emphasis on skill development needs to be drawn to bring them into the mainstream.

Youth participation in the Local Government Institutions (LGI) is a major indicator of their

empathy levels. Hence it should be properly documented and indicators are to be developed to measure the effectiveness of the participation.

7) Need for Youth Development Department at State / UT level

In most of the States there is no Youth Development Department except NSS, NYKS activities, which are supported by Government of India. Hence the youth are not having any specific programmes other than the above organizations programmes. There is an urgent need to start Youth Development Departments by all the State Governments and Union Territories to operationalise the Youth Policies and Programmes at the State and District level and even at LGI level. It is found that either the Sports or Education Ministries / Department look after youth development leading to its neglect. (UP is the only state which has youth officials at block level)

8) MPLAD / MLA Funds for Youth Development Programmes

Specific guidelines may be issued by the Central and State Governments to utilize MPLAD / MLALAD funds for youth development. It may be suggested that a reasonable portion of the funds may be spent on youth development.

9) Youth Migration

Migration is now a fact of life. Youth belonging to all strata migrate to far flung places in search of greener pastures, Education /livelihood. In the process they are exposed to certain risks. Hence it is imperative that the post migration period has to be more favorable and pleasant to the young migrants so that they can contribute more to wealth/asset creation. The rights and entitlements of the migrants and immigrants have to be protected. The issues of the Migrant Youth particularly for education and livelihood are to be addressed as they face lot of challenges, they are exploited, lack of documents, etc. Even at the international level their need to be free movement of youth in order to harvest the benefit of globalization.

10) Gender Gap Building

Gender inequity in all forms and all areas of life persists in India. Hence the needs of adolescent

girls and young women in regard to their entitlements like education, health, housing, skill development, entertainment/recreation and employment have to be ensured. The situation in backward districts has to be ameliorated. There is a great gender youth gap in all social sectors in the field of education, health, housing, skill and employability, recreation needs to be addressed, this has to be started at the grass root level at Panchayat, District and State levels.

11) Youth Survival Skills & Role in Disaster Management:

Road as well as other accidents takes a heavy toll of the youth. The rate of suicides is also alarming. Hence the youth have to be trained in survival skills, disaster management and first aid etc. They can also be brought under a comprehensive insurance cover. Voluntary organizations, spiritual and religious bodies can be engaged to inculcate in the youth values which in turn would augment their participation in nation building.

Indian youth are the most vulnerable and borne to death and disability as they are not equipped and lack survival skills. Credible NGOs / CBOs / Religious organizations role in Youth Development is to be identified and be involved at district level for providing values, skills and nation building at the local level.

12) Youth Scholarship:

There are many districts which happened to be backward and tribal districts are affected by naxalism and other disturbances. The youth from these districts are not able to get adequate and quality good education as educational institutions are not working in these areas. These children are at risk and their future is at stake and block. In this context it will be better that the students from this non congenial / disadvantaged districts are to be encouraged to go to other states for their education and exposure for which financial support to be given for the essentially deserving students. (Students who are economically disadvantaged). RGNIYD has initiated this process from 2010-12 of adopting students from these districts through the district collectors and is yielding good results..

100 youth may be given scholarship @Rs.50,000/- per student per year from the naxal affected districts, which works out to Rs.5,00,00,000 per year and for 12th Five year plan, the total amount of youth scholarship will be Rs 25 crores.

CHAPTER-VII

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND PROPOSED FINANCIAL OUTLAYS

7.1. PROPOSED FINANCIAL OUTLAY FOR THE 12TH FIVE YEAR PLAN

Based on the elaborations and projections in the foregoing paragraphs, the total Plan Outlay for the 12th Five Year plan is proposed at Rs. 5540.42 crores. The scheme-wise and year-wise proposed outlay are given in the tabular statement below:

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7.	(a) Youth Development and Youth Exchange Promotion Activity (b) Promotion of Adventure .	308.77	46.25	54.56	63.67	71.08	73.21

7.2 RECOMMENDATIONS ON POLICY AND SCHEME-WISE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR 12TH FIVE YEAR PLAN(2012-17)

The Working Group after deliberating on the suggestions of the two sub-groups makes the following recommendations:

7.2.1 POLICY

i) Harmonisation of age groups for Youth

- 18-30 years of age should be the age criterion for Youth and those between 13 to 18 years should be categorised as Adolescents.
- young persons in the age group of 13- 18years must be the responsibility of Schemes under the School Education Sector and the Child Development Sector.
- The age for exercising adult franchise is 18 years. Therefore Youth Policy (and the Ministry of Youth Affairs) must focus on youth between 18-30 years.

ii) State wise Youth Policy:

- All States should also have a State Youth Policy to cater for. State or region-specific needs and concerns of young people and a Department of Youth Affairs to have focus on programme and activities for youth who are within the age-group of 18 to 30 years.

7.2.2 NEHRU YUVA KENDRA SANGATHAN(NYKS)

- Youth Clubs under NYKS should be the hub of all activity in rural areas.
- Youth Clubs to be resurrected and strengthened specially in troubled areas such as border areas, J&K and in areas affected by Left Wing Extremism(LWE).
- Youth Club Exchange Programme (YCEP) to be one of the major activities for NYKS
- A multi faceted **National Youth Centre** at Alipur New Delhi, at an estimated cost of 516.05 crore must be constructed and activated.

7.2.3 NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

- To rationalize and change the pattern of assistance to States.
- To increase the number of volunteers and improve the regional spread.
- To carry out a review of its activities that count for credit hours.
- Innovations and special initiatives: (i) Going beyond Tree Plantation, Blood donation and

Shramdaan—Community Outreach and sustainable development

- (ii) Mega Camps
- (iii) Republic Day Camps
- (iv) Adventure Camps

7.2.4 RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- The institution should be developed to act as a Centre of Excellence in the field of multi-sectoral action research along with its focus on youth development. The proposal for developing RGNIYD into an Institute of National Importance must be incorporated in the 12th Five Year Plan and fully provisioned

7.2.5 YOUTH HOSTEL

- The administration of Youth Hostel should be clearly defined and strengthened.
- . NYK, NSS, Scouts, NCC, all State tourism department, Schools/ colleges, Education department should be encouraged to promote Youth Hostel and make optimum use of its resources.
- All Youth Hostel to be linked with a dedicated network and website.
- All Youth Hostels to provide monthly returns on the occupancy and other activities conducted in the Youth Hostel during the last month

7.2.6 NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS

- Scheme must be treated as National Service for all persons between the age of 18-30 years and given due recognition
- Expand the NYC Scheme to cover NE States and LWE districts on the J&K pattern
- Recruitment of volunteers who are school dropouts at 10 +2 level
- Providing Skill development training to be the major focus under the Scheme in the last six months of tenure of two years.
- Remuneration under the Scheme be enhanced from the present Rs.2500/- to Rs 3500/- per month, with an additional Rs 1500/- per month be given to cover the mobility and connectivity expenses.

7.2.7 Youth Development Programme(Formerly NPYAD):

- The Programme may be renamed as Youth Development Programme(YDP) and redesigned to have the following components

(i) Youth Development and Youth Exchange Programme

(ii) Promotion of Adventure Sports (non competitive)

- There is need to enhance the cost norms for various programmes, including grants to states for National Youth Festival from Rs 2 Crore to Rs.5 Crore and for State Youth Festival from rs.10 lakhs to Rs.25 lakhs.
- Adolescent Development Component may be strengthened. This Component may be transferred to Department of Child Development.

7.2.8 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- The Programme may be renamed as **Youth Exchange and International Cooperation** and include collaboration with CYP Asia Regional Centre, Chandigarh, Multilateral and Bilateral Cooperation agreements must be activated and outreach strengthened with youth of other countries..

7.2.9 SCOUTING AND GUIDING

- The activities of Bharat Scouts and Guides are centered around institutions/schools. Since the programme is centered around students, it may be transferred to Department of School Education.

Annexure – I

**Order for Constitution and Composition & Term and Reference for the Working Group
on Adolescent and Youth Development, Deptt. of Youth Affairs, M/o YA&S for
formulation of 12th Plan.**

Annexure – II & III :

Composition and Terms of Reference of two Sub Working Groups of Working Group on Adolescent and Youth Development, Deptt. of Youth Affairs, M/o YA&S for formulation of 12th Plan.

Annexure - IV

(Second Draft, NYP.2010)

**National Youth Policy 2010
(NYP 2010)**

RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

(DEEMED UNIVERSITY u/s 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)

SRIPERUMBUDUR – 602 105.

Contents

Part – A

1. Preamble
2. Rationale for the Policy
3. Overreaching principles
4. Definition of Youth
5. Goal and objectives
6. Target groups
7. Thrust areas
8. Policy implementation and coordination mechanism
9. Monitoring and evaluation
10. Review of the National Youth Policy

Draft

National Youth Policy 2010 (NYP 2010)

1. Preamble

1.1 It is evident that the future of India is intimately connected with that of the young people. It is in this context that Government of India is formulating youth policy that responds effectively to the changing conditions of the young people in the 21st Century. This policy aims to put young people at the centre of country's growth and development.

1.2 The NYP 2010 is a step forward from the earlier Policy formulated in 1988 and, later, in 2003. It reaffirms commitment of the nation to the rights and holistic development of the young people of the country. This document aims to reinforce existing policies and programmes of the current Policy that continue to have relevance; and propose new strategic policy and programme interventions, keeping in view the changing scenario in the country due to globalisation, rapid technological advancement during the last two decades, and the emergence of India as a global economic power.

1.3 The Central and the state governments, in partnership with other stakeholders of the society – voluntary organisations, civil society groups and the corporate sector – should ensure that equal opportunities are extended to young people for their overall development, growth and empowerment where they are productively engaged in activities aimed towards national development.

1.4 It is important that the society should give due consideration to their needs, views, and aspirations and accord them appropriate representation to enable them to make meaningful contribution in different policy and decision-making forum, from local (Gram Panchayat) to the national level. They should be extended wide-ranging opportunities for constructive participation in the larger arena of community life and in political, social and development processes of the country. Young people should be assured that they are key constituent of the community and are equal stakeholders in its welfare.

1.5 Though India is being recognised as an emerging world economic power, young people need to be actively associated - through their groups and organisations - with the efforts to further improve social parameters of growth and development, such as, education opportunities; health facilities, lowering of the rate

of infant mortality; child and maternal care; social justice; status of women in the society; and transparency and accountability in public life.

- 1.6 The NYP 2010 will also help in creating a bond between young people, on the one hand, and the community, on the other. There will be greater acceptability of the young people in the community and as a result, it will be able to make optimum use of their potential, energy, and enthusiasm. On their part, young people will get enhanced understanding of the constraints and problems of the community. The NYP 2010 visualises to develop responsible citizenship among the youth based on the values enshrined in the constitution.

2. Rationale for the Policy

“A significant feature of our changing society is the transformation taking place in the country’s demographic profile. As a people, we are growing younger. Youth in India constitute a sizable, vibrant and resourceful segment of our society who are fired with the desire to scale greater heights. Children and youth are our hope for tomorrow. There can be no greater cause, no better investment, no greater priority for development consensus than bringing the needs, rights and expectations of the youth to the centre-stage of development concern. It is our duty to rekindle the imagination of our youth so that the nation surges ahead with added strength and vigour”. (Her Excellency the President of India’s address to the nation on the eve of 60th anniversary of India’s Independence – 15 August 2007)

9. The period from 12 August 2010 to 12 August 2011 has been declared by the United Nations as the International Year of Youth. It is, therefore, appropriate that India should celebrate the Year by up-dating the National Youth Policy, thus renewing its pledge to the overall development of youth of the country. This comprehensive National Youth Policy will provide direction to youth-focused interventions by the Central and state governments and the voluntary sector beyond 2010, empowering young people for affirmative and positive action and transforming their life.
10. Recognising the need for an integrated and collaborative approach to youth development programmes in the country, it is necessary that a comprehensive and distinct framework is made available all youth-related ministries, departments, agencies and voluntary organisations to translate their policies into workable action plans. It is hoped that the suggested course of action will ensure full and effective implementation of policies, and all key stakeholders, youth related ministries, state-sponsored youth development agencies, voluntary organisations, and the corporate sector will carry out their roles and responsibilities with full earnestness and zeal. It is imperative that the Ministry of Human Resource Development especially the Department of

Education plays a prominent role in realizing the objectives of the Youth Policy.

11. The NYP 2010 seeks to ensure that youth needs and concerns are mainstreamed into overall national development policies, underscoring the need for the wholesome development of the young people and optimum utilisation of their potential for national development.
12. The NYP 2010 emphasises the need for developing suitable mechanism, criteria and indicators by the Central and state governments for measuring the progress of the implementation of the policies, especially with regard to the impact of the programmes on the overall development of young people and their contribution to the country, at large. This will ensure greater accountability of these agencies and continuous improvement of programme initiatives.

3. Overarching principles of NYP 2010

- National Youth Policy is in conformity with the overall national goals, policies, plans, and social and cultural ethos.
- Youth development programmes should be fully integrated into the mainstream of policies and programmes of all youth-related initiatives of various ministries of Central and state governments.
- Youth development policies and programmes are to encompass all aspects of the life of young people and respond to their physical, psychological, social, economic and spiritual needs.
- It must be recognised that youth is not a homogeneous group and there are numerous differentials based on their habitat, environment in which they live, socio-economic status of the families they belong to, and their own lifestyle.
- Young people should be considered as objects as well as subjects of the youth development programmes. They are important resource of the country and should be nurtured to become active partners in the national development processes. At the same time, they should also be the beneficiaries of the programmes and services sponsored by state agencies and voluntary organisations, aimed at addressing their needs and concerns.
- Youth development programmes should reach out to all sections of the youth population and be accessible to them. These should be free from all

forms of discrimination – based on gender, caste, ethnicity, language, or physical or mental condition – in the spirit of the Constitution of India.

- Sustainable development should be the underpinning factor in all youth-related initiatives.
- The Policy should help create an environment in which young people are not vulnerable to anti-social and anti-national forces and elements in the country. Their capacity to fight against all forms of exploitation, discrimination should be fortified.
- It should also establish and/or strengthen appropriate forums and mechanisms for effective participation of youth in development processes
- It should encourage youth, especially those with rural background to engage in development processes that affect their community by enhancing their voice and active participation.

4. Definition of youth

- I. The National Youth Policy document of 2003, the NYP 2010 aims to cover all youth in the country within the age-bracket of 13 to 30 years. However, it needs to be recognised that all young persons within this age-group are unlikely to be a homogeneous group, sharing common concerns and needs and having different roles and responsibilities. It is, therefore, necessary to divide this broad age-bracket into three sub-groups:
 1. The first sub-group of 13-18 years should cover adolescents whose needs and areas of concern are substantially different from youth under the other age-groups.
 2. The second group of 19-25 years includes those youth who are in the process of completing their education and getting into a career.
 3. The third group of 26-30 years comprises of young women and men most of whom have completed their education, including professional, and are, more or less, settled in their job and in their personal life.

5. Goal and objectives of National Youth Policy 2010

e) Goal

1. The National Youth Policy aims at initiating a range of interventions in the form of programme, services, opportunities and appropriate support mechanism to suitably empower young people, enabling them to actively engage in the process of their own growth and development and contribute meaningfully to national development.

f) Objectives of the National Youth Policy

- a) Strengthen a culture of patriotism among young people and help them to become responsible citizens of the country who care for their families and communities in which they live.
- b) Instil a sense of national unity and social cohesion in the young people while recognising and respecting the diversities – in religion, language, culture, ethnicity, lifestyle and habitat – in the country. They should be groomed to become promoters of peace and harmony in the community in which they live
- c) Foster in young people not only an abiding commitment and adherence to the values enshrined in our Constitution but also develop them as key promoters of these values in all sections of the society. They should play a significant role in advancing appropriate standards and values of ethical conduct in individual and social life.
- d) Through a sustained programme of education and training, and appropriate support services, help young people become economically self-reliant and productive units of the country, either by taking up employment or by setting up their own business enterprises.
- e) Empower youth to take up the challenge of eliminating all forms of social and economic discrimination and exploitation; counter forces that threaten to undermine national harmony; and launch a crusade against unhealthy social practices and evils and uphold human rights to all sections of the society.
- f) Through a programme of training and education, guide them in a manner that they become active partners in promoting sustainable development, contributing productively to national and local initiatives in maintaining harmonious balance between ecological and environment considerations, on the one hand, and developmental needs, on the other.
- g) Facilitate access to all sections of youth to basic nutrition and health especially related to reproductive and sexual health information and facilities and services including access to mental health services. Also promote a healthy lifestyle, free of substance abuse and other unhealthy addictions, and dissuade from

engaging in harmful sexual practices.

- h) Enhance the availability of facilities in sports and constructive recreation for all sections of youth with special focus on differently-abled youth and young women.
- i) Facilitate the enhanced participation of youth in the process of decision making and development at all level.
- j) Instil and nurture a spirit of volunteerism among the youth; develop their competencies in various areas of social development; and extend opportunities to enable them to contribute productively to the welfare of their communities. Also, encourage voluntary sector to develop programmes that promote youth volunteering and support recruitment and training of youth for social action in the community.
- k) Through a wide range of initiatives, including educational and training opportunities, instil in young women and men a culture of scientific thinking, critical analysis, and rational attitude in their day-to-day life; and make them sensitive to the needs and concerns of socially and economically disadvantaged sections of the society.
- l) Help youth to develop an international perspective on issues of global significance and work for promoting international understanding and a just and non-discriminatory global order.
- m) Through affirmative action and measures, extend support to priority groups – young women, socially and economically disadvantaged youth, and youth living with physical, sensory and intellectual impairments and ensure that they become part of mainstream development process.
- n) Encourage youth to actively engage in monitoring and evaluation process of development work undertaken by government and non-government agencies and institutions including the PRI.

6. Target groups

- **Student youth**

- The existing system of education, particularly at the secondary school level creates a lot of stress among students. The emphasis is on achievements or academic performance rather than on promoting learning and education. The adolescents are constantly reminded of the expectations of the parents and the teachers and, as a result, they go through a period of anxiety and tension. As they go up the ladder there are fewer opportunities for higher education or professional courses. This generates an environment of intense competition among students and those who are not able to make the grades are left in a high state of frustration and mental conflict. Some of them who are unable to cope with this situation may take recourse to unhealthy practices, such as, substance abuse, crime and other anti-social activities.

- The quality of education is another important area of concern. The students have also to contend with frequent absence of teachers from schools and colleges, a matter of further disquiet for them. Courses are not completed on time, leading to a state of uncertainty among them. Also, most of these institutions use teaching methods that are traditional. Methodology of teaching, availability of high quality materials for teaching, training of teachers etc need special attention.

- Peer pressure plays a significant role in the lives of young people, especially adolescents. Positive peer pressure may exhort students for higher academic performance or towards excellence in other fields, such as, sports and art and craft. On the other hand in the negative form, the influences can be in a number of ways including substance abuse, engaging in misconduct or even anti-social activities and unhealthy sexual activity.

6.1.1 Urban youth in slums; migrant youth

- a) This is a large category of youth that comprises of different sections, including migrants and those living in slums. While there are some basic needs and concerns that are common across these sections, each of these sub-groups also has a distinguishing set of interests and problems that should be addressed to make NYP 2010 inclusive.

- b) As the family bonds get loosened, resulting in lack of guidance and support, young people may find themselves at crossroads of life. This vulnerability is exploited by unscrupulous groups and elements of the society to fulfil their own agenda. This has disastrous effects on the life of young people. Youth crime, even among the teenagers is a matter of deep concern in metros and cities; young people are generally in the forefront of street agitations and protests that often result in violence. Frustration and emotional turmoil can land them in situations where they can even come in conflict with law

- c) Lack of employment opportunities in their home states compel a large

number of young people to move to metros and big cities in search of means of livelihood. This is another vulnerable section of youth population. They are exploited by employers because of fear of losing their means of livelihood; are in constant danger to their life due to rise of regionalism and anger against youth from some states. They are also exposed to HIV/AIDS and this poses serious health threat to their families back home.

- d) Youth living in slums do not even have normal civic amenities. They do not have access to educational facilities and are forced to take up small-time and low-wages jobs. Thus they live in a constant state of frustration and turmoil, rendering them vulnerable to the designs of anti-social or criminal elements. Restricted mobility for girls severely limits their employment options and they are compelled to accept low-paying jobs in their vicinity.

6.1.2 Rural youth

- Rural youth are sometimes referred to as less fortunate cousins of urban youth. They have poor access to information, educational and career opportunities, and training facilities. They find it difficult to compete with urban youth in terms of opportunities for jobs and higher education because of tough competition. Even quality of school education is poor because of lack of proper infrastructure and other necessary facilities.
- They are discriminated and deprived as compared to their urban counterparts and feel removed from the mainstream of growth and development. Poor connectivity of rural communities reinforces this view.
- They are ill informed about state policies and schemes that could benefit them as only filtered information reaches them. Even the state officials are unresponsive and show scant regard to their needs and concerns. They have often to run around, and even bribe officials, to get their legitimate or legal entitlements. The result is that the benefits of a number of state-sponsored schemes meant to improve their economic and physical conditions do not reach them.
- They are deprived as compared to urban youth due to low connectivity and the facilities available to urban youth
- There is no place where they can meet socially. They also have poor facilities for sports and games.

6.1.3 Tribal youth

- Young people belonging to tribal communities are finding themselves at cross-road of life. These communities have lost their identity due to outside influence and mixing with groups from other states. It is necessary to get them into the mainstream of present-day life of the country.
- Traditionally, tribal communities depended on forest-based livelihood opportunities and saw a period of flourish of herbal medicines but these options are no more available to them due to disappearance of forests, by the acts of mafia groups in connivance with state officials. Though several packages and interventions have been developed by the state agencies but, unfortunately, they are not in line with the needs of the local population and their potential, interest, and experience.
- The legal entitlements are not given to the tribal and that had led to frustration and anger among tribal youth. The state authorities are viewed as perpetrators of injustice, depriving them of their rights and entitlements. In some situations, this resentment against the society gets translated into violent agitations and armed struggle. Due to extreme frustration and stress some young people may take to unhealthy practices, such as substance abuse, crime, etc.

6.1.4 Youth at risk – substance abuse, human trafficking, working in hazardous occupations, bonded labour

- Young people working in hazardous occupations and in unhealthy conditions run grievous risk to their health and life as they are easy prey to a wide range of diseases and physical disabilities.
- Human trafficking – at national and international levels - is assuming serious proportion in the country. Among the most targeted groups are the young girls, even teenagers. They are generally from poor families or tribal regions of the country and get easily lured by offers of jobs or better life in other parts of the country or abroad. In some cases, they are abducted. Later, they are sold to brothels or individuals who keep them for their sexual pleasures and/or household work. Human trafficking has another form. Young people are lured by agents who supply labour force to companies abroad. Once they are out of the country, they are exploited, paid low wages for long hours of work and are even subjected to physical abuse and ill-treatment.
- Substance abuse among young people is on the increase. That could be due to peer pressure or stress and frustration. They are not fully aware of full implications of this abuse to their health, indeed to their life. Drug mafia and cartels target young people in cities and towns and once they are hooked, it is easy market for them.

- Although ‘bonded labour’ has been abolished by law but remnants of this socially unacceptable and inhuman practice are still there, especially in remote areas where the reach of the law is not effective. These young people, either belonging to families that are expected to serve their masters or as individuals, are exploited by these ‘masters’ – long hours of work with little means of sustenance.

6.1.5 Youth in violent conflicts – participants or victims

- (k) Due to a number of factors, chiefly economic, young people are drawn to armed conflicts or violent activities and align with organisations and groups that spearhead these disruptive activities. Young people with little means of subsistence may be easily lured by the promise of proper meals, shelter and clothing by these organisations. Several categories of young people appear to be particularly at risk: unemployed university graduates; young people who have migrated from rural to urban areas; tribal youth; young people who have been victims of discrimination or injustices perpetrated by local people or officials. These young people have few opportunities for positive engagement and, therefore, represent a ready pool of recruits for extremist groups or those who have violent anti-national agendas.
- (l) Regardless whether they are participants in violent conflicts or their victims, young people are, undoubtedly, the worst sufferers. Their very future gets severely compromised. Even when they desire to return to normal life after realising that they had wrongly got themselves inducted into conflict, the state authorities or even the society does not offer them an opportunity. As a result, they continue to be a part of these violent conflicts against their wish. In the aftermath of such conflicts, in many cases, youth and adolescents are forced to take on adult roles and responsibilities long before they reach that stage of life.

6.1.6 Out-of-school or drop-outs from formal educational mainstream

- a) Due to social and economic circumstances, adolescents or young people may be forced to abandon their studies midway. A sizable section of the school or college drop-outs have the desire to continue their studies and also have the necessary ability and potential to perform well but they are compelled to discontinue. As a result, they either have nothing to do and engage in unproductive or even unsocial activities or are compelled to take odd jobs to support their

families. In both cases, they lose out on opportunities to shape their future. Their social and economic development is compromised. The situation is worse for young girls. In many families, their education is not the priority and often they have to give way to their male siblings, regardless of their interest and capability.

6.1.7 Groups that suffer from social or moral stigma - transgender, gays and lesbians: those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB)

- a) Transgender have for long been the butt of ridicule and derision of the society. They have virtually lived a life of complete segregation from the mainstream.
- b) The gays and the lesbians have never been accepted in the society as same-gender sex has always been treated as perverted and immoral behaviour. The result of these deeply embedded stereotypes and biases has been that gays and lesbians were reluctant to express their sexual preferences openly. However, in recent time, there have been some changes and these groups are coming out in the open through special events and campaigns. There is some degree of acceptance of these groups though, by and large, the prejudice remains.
- c) There is also lack of acceptance of the young people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and TB. They face isolation though for different reasons. People are disinclined to socially interact with HIV+ people because of a general misconception that the disease can be contracted even through casual physical contacts. They face social rejection which has a negative implications for their pursuit for education, employment etc.

6.1.8 Youth in institutional care, orphanages, correctional homes and prisons

- These young people land in the rehabilitation and correctional institutions as they have either come in conflict with law in the past or there is no one to look after them. If the purpose of putting these children and youth in institutions is to educate and guide them in the process of their transition to the community, the facilities and environmental conditions need to be complementary. However, the quality of care and guidance these institutions provide and the manner in which they function, are far removed from this objective. A particularly troubling problem for them is the availability and retention of qualified, caring, and competent staff. The reasons for lack of trained and dedicated staff are: low salaries, the highly demanding nature of job, and little opportunity for advancement. As a result, these institutions are either not in a position to recruit appropriately qualified staff or there is high turnover.

- The external environment is not very receptive to these young residents and their needs. They have limited opportunities for higher education. And to make the matters worse for them, a number of cases of physical and sexual abuse of children, especially of young girls, keep coming to light.

6.2 Priority groups

6.2.1 Young women

- a) The problems and issues related Indian women and their vulnerability are too well known. It is recognised that the problems are deep-rooted in the society and will require enormous efforts to weed them out of our society. The high female infant mortality rates, the practice of female foeticide, neglect of female children with regard to access to health services, nutrition and education and the sexual abuse of girls are some of the critical issues that need to be urgently addressed.
- b) Even at the workplace, young women face sexual abuse and harassment from their male colleagues and superiors. And in the family, many face discrimination and unequal treatment. Parents restrict their movement outside home and as a result, they are not able to take full advantage of educational and work opportunities.
- c) The security of young women is assuming the proportion of concern as they are constantly in danger of being stalked and harassed by anti-social elements.

6.2.2 Youth belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged communities and groups

- This is a group that calls for special programmes on a priority basis. Due to the status of the families they belong to, they are often left out of the mainstream. Because of their lack of information on their entitlements, they are not even able to access the benefits that should legitimately accrue to them. They need to be empowered through special measures and affirmative action to bring them out of their present state of economic and social backwardness and help them come on terms with the other sections of the society. All the efforts should focus on helping them achieve better socio-economic and healthy lives.

6.2.3 Differently-abled youth

- a) They feel pushed to the margins of the society even within their families because of their physical or mental state. Whenever they are cared for, it is out of sympathy rather than for their well-being or to bring them into the mainstream and make them self-reliant. There is discrimination in the family between these youth and others. There is also a lack of provisions for education, healthcare, etc. as a result, they feel marginalized. Other young people and teachers are not sensitive to their special needs. Even the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs of the United Nations) make no mention of this important section of the society. Vocational skills and support for their development, their appropriate rehabilitation and bringing them into the mainstream should be the priority of the state and the voluntary sector working in the field of youth.
- b) Although there are provisions for job reservation for the differently-abled youth, including blind and those with visual or hearing impairments, but the number of jobs reserved for them are not enough to take care of the needs of this group. Another problem that they face relates to their mobility.

7. Thrust areas*

7.1 Promotion of national values, social harmony and national unity

- i) India is a country of diversities in terms of ethnicity, religion, language, caste, and culture. These differential elements, sometimes, serve as basis for tensions and even conflicts among these diverse groups or communities. These differences can be further accentuated by a perception of some groups that they are being discriminated against; they do not have equitable access to resources of the State; they are not getting their legitimate dues; or they lack opportunities for participation in political and economic processes.
- ii) Some regions, states and tribal communities have the feeling of alienation, partly due to lack of infrastructure and connectivity, and partly because they do not feel that the economic benefits of the country are reaching them.
- iii) One of the deepest social divides in India is on the basis of caste. While the Constitution of India guarantees equal rights to people from different castes, the ground realities are different. Those belonging to lower castes still face some forms of discrimination in different aspects of political, social and economic life.
- iv) There are a lot of forces in the country that have the agenda of

dividing the people on the basis of religion, caste, language, and ethnicity. They need to be effectively countered.

Policy interventions

- (1) Initiate affirmative and positive action to ensure that our cherished national values are regularly fostered in all young people, especially among members of the large youth volunteer force working under the aegis of leading youth development agencies of the country.
- (2) Take appropriate initiatives to prepare young people as crusaders of these values that are crucial not only for national harmony but also for instilling a sense of national identity in them. While macro-level action can set out broad policies and directions, it needs to be recognised that local level action can bring in better and more enduring results. Youth clubs and the large volunteer force available with the youth development agencies can play a pivotal role in this endeavour.

7.2 Empowering youth through employment and entrepreneurship opportunities

- a) The enormity of the problem of unemployment is well known. And young people are the most affected group. Prolonged period of unemployment and under-employment not only bring economic miseries but can also be socially and mentally debilitating for a young person. It can also affect the family ties. It is, therefore, necessary that urgent, productive measures are put in place that help address the problem of unemployment and under employment among youth, acting as complementary to other similar efforts of state agencies.
- b) Empowering young people will really mean providing them opportunities to enhance their capabilities through a programme of education and training, including skill development. This will enable them to make choices so that they can become more productive; and offer them the option of engaging in business enterprises.

Policy intervention

- As part of 'Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Mission', the following initiatives may be put in place. The Ministry of Youth Affairs, Government

of India should be the nodal agency for coordinating these efforts.

- To help young people enhance their employability for full-time or part-time jobs, they should be provided access to training and education facilities in areas that are consistent with the new emerging possibilities of gainful employment. India is now a growing economic power and with a general boom in the economy and the emergence of new economic activities, especially in the service sector, young people have enormous prospects for new productive pursuits in their career. Training programmes should be accordingly designed and implemented.
- To promote entrepreneurship among young women and men, set up a network of training institutions or agencies providing technical and/or entrepreneurship training; financial institutions; voluntary organisations engaged in youth entrepreneurship programmes; and corporate sector to prepare young people for taking up small business enterprises and related activities. There is a need for strengthening coordination among these agencies for optimal utilisation of resources.
- In the employment and entrepreneurship programme for the young people, special attention will be paid to marginalised youth; those belonging to areas/communities where the full benefits of economic development in the country have not reached the people; and young women.

7.3 Education – formal, non-formal and continuing learning

- In many states in rural areas, the educational facilities, including infrastructure, need further improvement. Attention is needed in Government and the private sector that can play a dominant role in the field. The dropout rate, especially among young girls is challenging and that need to be addressed.
- Education is becoming costly even for lower middle-class families. The entry of private sector in school education and in providing professional courses has pushed the cost of school as well as higher education as some entrepreneurs find this to be an easy way to make quick profits.
- In most of the government schools the accountability of the teachers and other administrative staff is lacking. There are malpractices all around and the ultimate victims are the children who would like to learn and excel.
- The Right to Education is now a reality but there are still many

problems that tend to derail this important mission. Many state governments are unwilling to share the costs.

- Some of the schools do not have basic infrastructure like strong school building, class rooms, chalk boards, proper benches to sit and listen to their teacher effectively, drinking water, play grounds for recreation and other recreation facilities, toilet facilities, cleanliness of the school surroundings, etc.
- Proper opportunities and facilities for higher education are not uniformly available in different states in the country. As a result, many young people, especially from rural areas or small towns, have to find proper educational facilities in cities or bigger towns. These young people have their own set of problems ranging from accommodation to harassment of young female students.
- As India vies for a status of world power, we need good infrastructure and best talents in all schools and universities of India. These resources should not remain limited to handful institutions of higher learning, including the IIT's or IIM's.

Policy intervention

- There is an urgent need for greater uniformity in the educational system and standards across the country.
- Developing educational opportunities and ensuring that the benefits reach the deserving and the needy will be deemed to be a collaborative mission of the government and the civil society. The corporate sector should take up the challenge as part of its social responsibility. Efforts to strengthen this approach will be initiated.
- Education, above the secondary level, should have a high degree of vocationalisation, consistent with the existing requirements to enhance the employability of youth.

7.4 Health and healthy lifestyle

- As youth constitute more than 50 per cent of our population, their physical, mental and spiritual health will, to a large extent, determine the current and future vitality of our communities, indeed, of our country. Youth health issues, therefore, are clearly of critical concern for both young people themselves and for the society and should be high on the agenda of any comprehensive youth

development programme.

- Young women and men are steadily emerging as one of the most vulnerable groups for the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Increasing drug abuse and susceptibility to TB and other communicable diseases among the young people are also a cause of concern. A substantial segment of youth population constitutes of school drop-outs. These young people are sexually active and are often exposed to negative peer pressure and risk environment especially when they migrate for work and have to be away from their families for long periods. Young girls are at a greater risk due to lack of knowledge about sex, poor access to counselling services, inability to negotiate safer sex, and lack of female focussed preventive methods.
- Regular consumption of unhealthy diet (rich in salt, sugar and trans-fat) has become common among young women and men. Need for regular physical activity for prevention and control of obesity and other lifestyle diseases is also of prime concern for young women and men in the country.

Policy interventions

- Develop education and training materials that integrate information and skill-based approach with one that stimulates action by the young people to bring about appropriate changes in their behaviour and actions. The materials prepared for the purpose will be culturally sensitive and take into account the lifestyle of the young people living in different social settings and belonging to different strata of society.
- Establish on-going functional linkages with specialised agencies –government and non-government and international organisations - dealing with health issues and seek their support in terms of resources, training and educational materials, and services of experts.
- Consolidate data and information about behaviour and situations that place the young people, including adolescents, at risk of HIV/AIDS and STD infection and the reasons for such behaviours. The data should help in better understanding of barriers young people face, especially young women, to developing safe sexual behaviours and identifying skills the young people need if they have to adopt safe behaviours.
- Build up the capacity of community-based organisations so that they become key instruments in education and action at the local level (grass root level), creating awareness about the HIV virus and its social and health-related implications.

- Promote strategies that seek to involve young people actively in programmes that are directed at improving the health and environment of the community in which they live.
- Develop programmes addressing special health needs and concerns of the differently-abled young people and migrants.
- Through School Health Services and other similar programmes annual health check-ups may be conducted to monitor the health of these adolescents periodically.

7.5 Sports and recreation facilities

- The importance of sports and recreational activities for the health and physical well-being of the young people cannot be overemphasised. These activities are also a key element of human resource development. They make a positive impact on youth; improve productivity; foster social harmony; promote self-discipline and team spirit and enhance national image.
- While for some young persons, sports and other forms of arts and entertainment, such as music, drama, arts and crafts may become rewarding career, for others, these activities may provide wholesome recreation and opportunities for healthy social interaction. By engaging in such mentally and physically stimulating interests, young people may be dissuaded from getting involved in harmful or anti-social pursuits.
- India has earned a place in sports through its recent performances in the Commonwealth and the Asian Games, but to improve its position and move ahead, it must progress in all matters relating to sports and recreation – training facilities, equipment for the athletes and sportspersons, infrastructure for sports and other recreational activities. Sports and recreational activities should be integrated with youth development programmes.

Policy interventions

- Ensure training and basic coaching facilities for rural youth in various sports and recreational activities
- Promote traditional sports, folk arts and local cultural activities

7.6 Promoting gender justice and equality

- The problems and issues related to Indian women and their vulnerability are too well known. It is recognised that the problems are deep-rooted in the society and will require enormous efforts to weed them out of our society. The high female infant mortality rates; the practice of female foeticide; neglect of female children with regard to access to health services, nutrition and education; violence in the family and outside it; and sexual abuse of girls are some of the critical issues that need to be urgently addressed. Data compiled by women's groups show that a rape occurs every 30 minutes; every 42 minutes a case of sexual harassment takes place; and every 93 minutes, a woman is killed.
- Because of their accessibility and direct communication with the communities, young people are, perhaps, in a uniquely advantageous position to play a very crucial role in educating local communities on the problems and concerns of young women, including adolescent girls, and empowering them for action.

Policy interventions

- Set up a functional and vibrant network of state-sponsored youth development agencies, voluntary organisations, and civil society groups that are engaged in activities focusing on gender justice and equality, both at the national and local levels. It needs to be acknowledged that action at the local level where the problem is rooted is crucial.
- Another aspect of this approach is that as part of the family, young people themselves can be instrumental in shaping attitudes and fostering values that will eliminate all forms of discrimination against women.
- Youth clubs and the youth volunteer force will be engaged in intensive educational programme – through massive campaigns, media interventions, and use of traditional arts – to focus on issues and problems related to the growing up of a girl child and of young women, such as, female foeticide, domestic violence, care of young mothers, and education of girl child.
- Mainstream gender concerns in all youth development activities and the functioning of the agencies to bring about qualitative change in the attitude towards women, in general, and young women, in particular.

7.7 Participation in community service

- Youth volunteering is an effective strategy for building responsible and self-confident youth and strong communities. Through volunteering, young people not only help the community in realising its full potential and addressing its problems, but they also emerge with:
 - A strong sense of civic responsibility;
 - Social and interactive skills;
 - Professional skills in new areas of their work;
 - Greater sensitivity to the needs and concerns of the community, especially of those belonging to socially and economically depressed sections of the society
 - Enhanced self-esteem and self-confidence;
 - Stronger commitment and dedication to national development;
 - and A sense of purpose and a desire to reach their goals;
 - Positive and affirmative behaviour and attitudes.

Policy interventions

- a) Promote youth volunteerism through a set of initiatives and incentives that will help them take to voluntary service empower youth clubs, through a programme of training, counselling and guidance, to make them effective instrument of social change and active partner in the economic development of the community, thus enhancing the level of their social and economic inclusion.
- b) Take necessary steps to ensure that the experiences provided to the youth volunteers has value beyond the period of volunteerism and they are assisted in developing traits and competencies that will help them confront challenges of life with self-belief and in an effective manner.
- c) Undertake a comprehensive review of the existing programme the Ministry through which young people are engaged in community service and bring about such changes that will make this participation an enriching and stimulating experience for the volunteers and create an impact in the life of the communities.
- d) Community service and social entrepreneurship will be adopted as a major programme of all state-sponsored youth development agencies. A set of incentives will be evolved to strengthen the programme further.

7.8 Preparing adolescents for facing challenges of life

- a) Adolescents as a distinct group within the overall youth population, has assumed considerable significance for policy makers, planners and professionals the world over. State development agencies, voluntary organisations and even international agencies are developing special programmes for this significant group. In the NYP document 2003, youth belonging to the age bracket of 13-19 years were accepted as a separate constituency for the purposes of planning programmes and activities, due to their distinct needs and concerns
- b) The significance of adolescence as a crucial 'formative period' is being increasingly acknowledged. There is a realisation that if we have to prepare young people as productive human capital, the foundation has to be laid during this phase of life cycle. Habits and behaviour picked up during adolescence (risk taking behaviour, substance abuse, eating habits, conflict resolution) have lifelong impact. It is an adolescent who graduates to become the youth of tomorrow and an adult later in life.
- c) Therefore, the society, as a whole, and the family and the educational institutions, in particular, have a special responsibility to ensure that these young people are supported and guided in their path to growth and development, regardless of the setting in which they live and social and economic status of their families.

Policy interventions

- a) Given the complex and inter-sectoral nature of needs and problems that are associated with adolescence, it is important to recognise that no one ministry or department can be expected to provide the whole range of programmes and services for this group. It is, therefore, important that the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports should coordinate efforts to ensure that the problems and concerns of this group are fully addressed.
- b) In the case of educational and awareness programmes aimed at the adolescents, parents will be associated more actively through schools and other available forums. They can be made important instruments for fostering values in their children that will bring about desired changes in their behaviour and actions, leading to a healthy lifestyle.

7.9 Social justice and action against unhealthy social practices

- a) Despite a relentless campaign against it, through education and legal sanctions, the scourge of dowry refuses to leave us. It is one of those social practices which no educated Indian would own up with pride, although many of us still adhere to this much deplorable practice. Dowry continues to be given and taken. Even among the educated sections of society, dowry continues to form an essential part of the negotiations that take place in an arranged marriage. Dowry deaths of newly married brides are still regularly in the news.

- b) Similarly, despite legal provisions prescribing minimum age for marriage for both boys and girls, the practice of child marriage continues. Law is defied with impunity and even brazenness. Social and health implications of early marriage and teenage pregnancies have not stirred the minds of people, especially in the rural areas.

- c) No aspect of Indian history has excited more controversy than India's history of social relations. Caste continues to be an important category leading to grave social and economic inequities. In recent years, social relations governed by caste considerations have taken an ugly turn with 'honour killings' of young people who have married out of their caste against the wishes of their families and other elders in the community. Caste panchayats also create problems.

- d) Other unhealthy social practices that deserve to be addressed through concerted action by youth organizations are: domestic violence; bonded labour; and ritual sacrifice for invoking the blessings of gods and goddesses.

Policy intervention

- a) The task of rooting out long-embedded unhealthy social practices from the community requires concerted local action through a sustained programme of education of the community people and dialogue with leaders and elders. The role of voluntary organisations working in the community and officials of various related departments is also crucial.

7.10. Issues related to environment, its conservation and preservation

- a) As recognised by the United Nations Conference on Environment and

Development, the involvement of youth in environment and development decision-making is critical to the implementation of policies of sustainable development and realising the environmental related goal of the MDG. Young people should be involved in designing and implementing appropriate environmental policies.

- b) Around the world, the confluence of improved information technology, access to education, and the rise of civic organisations have led to an increased awareness by youth and their communities as to their potential contribution through voluntary action. In India, a number of voluntary organisations (Chipko movement, Narmada Bachavo Antholoan etc) have come up during the last two decades that are emphasising the crucial role young people can play in environment-related programmes; and in working with communities in creating greater awareness about environment issues

Policy interventions

- a) The Ministry of Youth Affairs will work closely with the Ministry of Environment and Forests, international organisations, and voluntary organisations for the implementation of environment-related programmes and projects with enhanced involvement of young women and men. These agencies have access to a wide-range of resources, including information on environment issues, expertise in the field, and funds.
- b) Set up a network of specialised agencies for developing appropriate educational and awareness programmes on disaster management and on judicious use and management of all resources including water.
- c) Associate with local-level self-government agencies, community-based groups, and voluntary organisations for concerted action and convergence of efforts and resources at the local level.

7.11 Youth and local governance, including support to state-sponsored programmes and schemes

- a) It is important that youth are encouraged to take interest in decision-making activities at the local level and that opportunities are created to ensure their active participation in civic matters. For the continuing health of our robust democracy, youth engagement in representative bodies at the local level operating in rural or urban areas is important. They can bring in a perspective that will look not only at present but at future as well.

- b) Participation of young people will also mean that there is greater accountability of the local governing bodies to the people. Young people should get productively engaged, preferably through youth groups or organisations, directly or indirectly in assessing the performance of the service provider or programme-implementing agencies. Individual voices may not carry the message strongly to these agencies but if the feedback is supported by the majority of the beneficiaries, there will be positive results.
- c) Participation of young people and interventions on behalf of the community will integrate youth with their communities and establish a bond. Youth need to be involved in monitoring the programmes at village / Panchayat level, which will improve the quality and bring down misuse and corruption.

Policy intervention

- a) Participation of youth in local governance will be institutionalised by reserving a suitable number of membership positions for them in the local panchayats and municipal bodies.

8. Policy implementation and coordinating mechanism

8.1 Key strategies for the implementation

- a) The NYP 2010 sets out broad parameters for policies and for planning programmes for the youth across the country. This document is based on the inputs provided by a cross section of experts, youth specialists, Central and state government officials, senior representative of voluntary organisations and above all by young people (For details of the consultation process involved in preparing this document please see Appendix A). However, in our country, there are numerous variables that impact the life of young women and men and as a result, there may be some state or region-specific needs and concerns of young people that are not adequately reflected in this document. It is, therefore, suggested that, keeping the overall national perspective set out in this document in view, each state should enunciate its own State Youth Policy. Accordingly, the states may also develop additional programmes to respond to the specific needs of the youth of the respective state, preferably before 2011.
- b) Many Central Ministries, such as, Ministries of Human Resource Development, Rural Development, Women's Welfare, Environment, Health, Labour, and Industry, have significant components of their policies and programmes that are relevant to young people. Keeping this in view, inter-sectoral

approach is imperative for dealing with youth-related issues. In view of this, the NYP 2010, consistent with the suggestion made in earlier Policy documents, advocates the establishment of a strong coordinating mechanism at the Centre and state levels. In view of the importance of youth to the country's growth and development, the National Coordinating Committee may be chaired by the Prime Minister or a senior member of the Union Cabinet. Similarly, the State Coordinating Committee may be chaired by the Chief Minister of the state or a senior member of the cabinet. This will ensure that these Committees are vested with necessary authority and power to streamline policy and programme intervention of different ministries and departments and make optimum utilisation of their resources. For monitoring the implementation of the programmes under the Policy 2010, these Coordinating Committees (national and state levels) may also set up special Task Force for each of the thrust areas. This task force may set out criteria and draw up a list of indicators for measuring the progress at the national, state, district and panchayat levels in the implementation of programmes under respective thrust area. Relevant data may be collected from different implementing agencies and collated to prepare annual reports – indicating the progress, identifying gaps in the programmes, and recommending further action. The 'Youth Development Index' developed by the RGNIYD may become the basis for working out the criteria and indicators for the monitoring and evaluation of the programmes.

- c) There is a need for convergence of efforts and resources of the state-sponsored youth-related agencies, voluntary sector engaged in social development activities, international agencies, and the corporate world for the promotion of youth development programme in India. This calls for the establishment of a functional mechanism for coordinating these efforts as part of an on-going, productive, and valuable partnership at the central and state levels. However, networking with voluntary organisations and collaboration with them has to be at the micro as well as macro levels and on a sustained basis and not just for a project or a programme. This will help democratise youth development and make it broad-based by bringing in more agencies as partners and stakeholders.
- d) National Youth Forum may be set up to provide a formal and on-going platform to young people from different states and regions, to deliberate on their emerging needs and areas of concerns. This Forum will also provide the Central government with an active mechanism to consult youth and get their perspective on matters and issues of national importance. The Forum may be constituted of the following:
- Young members of Parliament, representing all parties
 - Representatives of young members of state assemblies (two members from each state)
 - Young achievers in different fields (sports, social entrepreneurship, business, etc.)
 - Representatives of differently-abled youth, young media professionals.
 - Elected Representatives of Panchayats and Urban local bodies.

There should be gender balance in this Forum.

- e) Keeping in view the large percentage of youth population in the country, at least five per cent of the National Plan Budget (Youth Component Plan) should be earmarked for youth activities in the country, including programmes organised by state-sponsored agencies. This allocation should percolate down to the panchayat and municipal levels so that local youth are also benefited by these initiatives.
- f) For every group of 10 rural youth clubs, a Youth Development Centre (YDC) will be established. The centre will source information on youth-related issues and programmes and disseminate it to the rural clubs or young people living in the area covered by it. It will also provide general guidance to the young people with regards to the educational and employment opportunities in the area. It will also serve as a meeting place for these rural youth clubs. One of these 10 rural clubs with proper infrastructural facilities and a history of at least five years' of working actively in the village could be upgraded to undertake this project. Necessary funding could be provided to this centre. Similarly for every block, there will be a Youth Information and Resource Centre (YIRC). This centre will have the connectivity to internet. This will source relevant materials from the internet and other resources, collate these materials and provide these to the YDCs in the block. Young people will also be able to use the facility of internet at some nominal costs. A volunteer belonging to the National Volunteer Corps (NYC), with appropriate educational qualifications and computing skills may be employed on an on-going basis
- g) Greater cooperation among the youth clubs and people's institutions, such as, panchayats and other community-based organisations will be promoted for more concerted action at the local level. It needs to be acknowledged that action at the local level is key to youth development programme and young people's energy and zeal should be fully utilised for the purpose. Empowering the people at that level and making them accountable are crucial for optimum results.
- h) For each thrust area, all state (Government) -sponsored youth development agencies will prepare an annual time-bound, outcome-oriented plan of action. This will facilitate effective monitoring and objective evaluation of the programmes, indeed of the NYP 2010.
- i) On the lines of National Commission for Women (NCW), National Youth Commission should be set up.

8.2 Setting up of National Youth Volunteer Network

- a) There is a need to coalesce the energy and potential of the large volunteer force (more than 2.6 million) that is working with various youth-related agencies – NSS, NYKS, Bharat Scouts and Guides, Youth Red Cross, NCC, Voluntary Organizations and other such agencies. Though the nature of activities in these volunteers are engaged may differ, depending on the objectives and philosophy of their parent agency, they have a common constituency – the communities. It is, therefore, possible to identify similar features that can facilitate bringing them together as part of a nationwide network and create a viable and formidable work force that will channel the enthusiasm and talents of the young people for constructive and meaningful pursuits.
- b) Notwithstanding that these volunteers are available to their parent agency for a limited period, it is necessary to develop a programme that will groom and nurture them into a potent para-professional workforce aiming to empower the community and help in the delivery of youth development programmes to young people and the community. The volunteers should have the option of choosing a particular area of work – working with community-based groups; youth health including HIV/AIDS; environment and disaster management; community awareness; arts and culture; etc. - for more active engagement. It is, therefore, important that the Government (centre, state, UT) should give special attention to recruitment, training and deployment of the volunteers.
- c) Another key component of this network will be to ensure that the service period of the volunteers contributes to their growth and development and makes them confident and responsible person ready to face the challenges of life, outside the world of their parent agency. The ideal of 'personality development through volunteer service' should be the guiding principle of this network. The training of these volunteers will, therefore, include modules that will help realise this objective. Even their placements should be organised in a manner that it has the elements of on-the-job training. If these objectives are to be realised it will be necessary to put in place a dynamic system of monitoring and evaluation.
- d) The NYKS has already in place a training system for volunteers belonging to National Volunteer Corps (NVC), spread over three phases. Phase III that has some elements of the training outlined above but the modules need to be further strengthened. However, the NSS need to undertake a thorough review of its training programmes aimed at the student volunteers.
- e) Another aspect of the work of the NSS relates to the volunteers from the +2 stage in the schools. About two-third of the total volunteer force of the NSS is drawn from this level. There is, therefore, a need to examine what set-up is available for the training of these volunteers, their effective deployment in constructive activities, and the manner in which their activities are monitored. At present, the NSS programme in the schools does not have a formal, uniform structure and monitoring mechanism. The Ministry and other appropriate

authorities managing school education should address the issues and put into place an appropriate system that will oversee the NSS programmes in the schools.

8.3 Role of the RGNIYD

- There is a need to provide a sound professional base to the functioning of the NYKS, NCC, NSS and NGOs working with youth and strengthen the various management processes. The RGNIYD has a major role in helping the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports realise this goal.
- The RGNIYD should extend professional support to enhance the capacity of the youth development agencies, especially NYKS, NSS, NCC and NGOs for effective implementation of programmes and services envisaged in the Policy. This will include:
 - Organising short-term and long-term training programmes for senior and middle-level functionaries of youth organisations that do not have their in-house training facilities;
 - Providing documentation and allied materials on youth-related issues;
 - Developing models of good practice in programme areas;
 - Extending consultancy services;
 - Assisting these agencies in developing more responsive programme initiatives for the young women and men;
- Set up a Resource Centre on information related to youth. This resource centre should bring together quantitative as well as qualitative data on all aspects of the life of Indian youth, youth-related issues and matters, and on the organisations engaged in youth development activities. This could be done by designing and carrying out research projects on youth-related issues. These data will help the Ministry and other agencies, state-sponsored or voluntary, in determining various policy and programme options; and

- Establish and nurture a network of youth-related agencies for enhanced agency-agency interaction and collaboration for furthering youth development programmes under the National Youth Policy 2010.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

- a) The NYP 2010 sets out a comprehensive Plan of Action, indicating programmes and activities that may be undertaken under each of the 11 thrust areas. It is likely that the some of these programmes are already been implemented by the state-sponsored youth development agencies, such as, NYKS, NSS, and the RGNIYD. It is suggested that after a process of analysis and assessment, the programmes that are found to be useful in keeping with their objectives should be further strengthened or extended. Other programmes proposed under the NYP may be implemented in phases over the next few years as this document is designed to look beyond 2010.
- b) For effective monitoring and evaluation of each of the programmes, the implementing agency may draw up a set of criteria and prepare necessary tools and instruments for the purpose. Accordingly, 'action taken' reports may be prepared for future planning and reference.

10. Review of the National Youth Policy set out

The NYP 2010 may be reviewed in 2016.

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Plan of Action

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Plan of Action

The following are the suggested programmes which the implementing agencies, especially the state-sponsored ones can organise in fulfilment of the objectives of the NYP 2010. This in by no means an exhaustive list and these agencies may wish to develop other initiatives in pursuance of the policy interventions mentioned in the Policy Document. The programme are listed under the respective 'Thrust Areas'.

1. Promotion of National Values, social harmony and national unity

- a) The *panchayats* with the help of village youth clubs will work towards setting up Nyaya Panchayat (Community Court) so that the village disputes are settled through the local and community leaders and they do not land in police stations and courts as this has the potential of vitiating the social environment in the community.
- b) Youth clubs will draw up a plan for celebration of all religious festivals and important national events and days and ensure wider participation of all sections of the community. Where feasible, 'community kitchen' may also be organised on such occasions.
- c) The NYKS and the NSS will take steps to identify 'Yuva Mitra' who have made significant contribution to the cause of national integration and social harmony and give them public recognition. These young people should act as 'ambassadors' for promoting national values and social harmony. They will be able to convey their message more forcefully and create an impact on all sections of the community.
- d) The youth-related organisations/agencies working with the support of the Ministry will ensure that the values related to social harmony, social justice, pride in the nation, and national unity are mainstreamed into all its programmes and functioning and appropriate message is transmitted not only to young people but to the larger community as well. It will also promote special programmes for the socially and economically marginalised sections of the society.
- e) The NYKS will strengthen its '*sadbhavna programme*' that aims to foster values of communal harmony and respect for all religions and ethnic groups. In collaboration with local panchayats, youth club will take steps to form '*sadbhavna committee*' that oversees the implementation of these initiatives.

- f) Regardless of the theme of the training programmes, all youth-related training of the front-line organisations, such as, NYKS, NSS, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, including that of the volunteers, will have a significant component related to the promotion of these values. The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development will be entrusted with the task of developing appropriate modules and materials for the purpose.
- g) In consultation with special agencies that have been set up to oversee development work in the North-east region of the country, organise special programmes for the youth of the area to bring them into the mainstream of national life. A culture of integration will replace the culture of alienation.
- h) The NYKS and the NSS will establish linkages with youth/student wings of the political parties and seek their support in strengthening these values in their members. These parties will be persuaded to avoid using young people for their street agitations and protests that have the undertones of regional, language, or caste politics.
- i) All volunteers working with various youth organisations will be encouraged to adopt these values in their day-to-day conduct and actions.
- j) Provide a forum to the organisations and social activists who are engaged in promoting these values, at appropriate levels, to facilitate presentation of different perspectives and viewpoints on issues related to social harmony and national unity and build consensus as part of community action.
- k) Sports activities will be used to bring into focus social issues like caste, social justice, and gender equity.
- l) In order to make an impact at the local level, national integration camps will be decentralised to a suitable level. To reinforce this message, a concerted attempt will be made to reach out to the local communities through traditional media.
- m) The NYKS and the NSS will be associated with organising 'Citizenship Training Camps' where the emphasis is on the rights and responsibilities of the young people consistent with the overall national goals, values and agenda. The RGNIYD may help by developing suitable training modules and materials.
- n) In consultation with appropriate authorities, special modules on educating the students on the diversities of the country in a positive way will be included in the school curriculum.

2. Empowering youth through employment and entrepreneurship opportunities

- a) While NYK will be established as the nodal agency for promoting youth employment and entrepreneurship programme, in each district, efforts will be directed to set up a 'youth employment and entrepreneurship consortium' that brings together partner agencies, such as, DRDA, District Industries Centres, NABARD, voluntary organisations specialising in entrepreneurship programmes, banks and financial institutions, business firms, and institutions providing technical and/or entrepreneurship training. This formal mechanism will help provide the necessary impetus to the programme at the district-level through convergence of resources and efforts of these agencies.
- b) With the assistance of local agencies, carry out a survey of skills and competencies required by the employing units in the district and in collaboration with other partner agencies, arrange for technical training, consistent with the existing requirements of the employing agencies.
- c) Arrange for the placements of the trained young people with the employing agencies through a formal agreement thus completing the process of training and deployment.
- d) For those young people who wish to set up their own small business enterprises, arrange for training in enterprise management and set up a mechanism with other suitable agencies for providing support services to these young entrepreneurs on a regular basis, in areas, such as, information access, preparation of business plan, liaison with banks and financial institutions, networking with other entrepreneurs, and marketing.
- e) Establish Self-help Groups, with emphasis on those that promote membership of young women and youth from underprivileged section and ensure they remain active and functional. It will be helpful to liaise with voluntary organisations already working in this area.
- f) It will be the endeavour of the youth development agencies to promote the setting up of business units that are based on indigenous resources. Special survey will be conducted to identify new areas for promoting entrepreneurship among youth in the North-east region of the country, consistent with its environment and culture. The proposed increased emphasis of the Central Government on promoting agriculture and agriculture-related enterprises offers unique opportunities for rural youth to take up appropriate projects in this crucial area of Indian economy.
- g) Identify traditional vocations and skills in the rural areas that are relevant in the present-day world and have the potential of opening up new

employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for young people.

- h) The scheme of SEWAKS that assists young people in setting up service centres in trades and vocations that are relevant to rural communities and urban residential colonies will be further strengthened and extended to more areas. In addition to the technical trades, SEWAK will offer services in other areas such as, security, gardening, and driving. Necessary training will be arranged through established agencies.
- i) Set up Regional Centres of Excellence for advanced training in selected trades and services.
- j) Extend assistance and support in the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme of the Government of India while ensuring that the scheme is not misused and the benefits accrue to the needy.
- k) Explore the possibility of setting up ancillary units that could benefit youth of the district. This, of course, will require co-ordinated action between the Ministry of Youth Affairs, other appropriate Central ministries, and the corporate sector.
- l) In collaboration with voluntary organisations, the RGNIYD will seek to set up extension projects that help in developing models of good practice in youth entrepreneurship. The materials prepared from these experiences will be documented and disseminated to all relevant agencies.
- m) Special educational and training programmes for the differently-abled young women and men on career counselling; vocational training; and up-gradation of their present skills.

3. Education – formal, non formal and continuing learning

- a) The Central and the state governments may take early steps to sort out the funding problem of the implementation of Right to Education Act so that full benefits could reach the real beneficiaries.
- b) The government should consider providing substantial incentives to private sector for starting low cost schools. They must, however, assure proper infrastructure and quality education. The business houses should undertake this project as part of their social responsibility.

- c) Education, above the secondary level should have a high degree of vocational orientation to enable the young women and men to acquire such skills that would enhance their employability or equip them set up their own enterprises.
- d) There is a need for introducing uniformity in standards and quality in education throughout the country, especially from senior secondary level onwards because this is the stage when young people start preparing for their career.
- e) Unlike the urban schools and colleges, the schools in rural areas do not have proper infrastructure or facilities. Quality of teaching staff in these schools too needs to be considerably improved. These are the areas that require government intervention. Children should be encouraged to excel in extra curricular activities like sports, out door activities, handicrafts, etc.
- f) Value based education should be made compulsory in all schools, private or government. Similarly, all schools should have a mandatory component of Life Skills and Psycho-Social Competencies in their curriculum for senior students.
- g) Appropriate reforms should be introduced in school education and examination systems so that young girls and boys are not subjected to avoidable stress.
- h) The system of Open Universities may be extended to provide enhanced opportunities to youth who missed out on the formal system of education to upgrade their educational qualifications or skills and make themselves more employable. However, the system of accreditation should be uniformly implemented in the country.
- i) The Department of Education should create enclaves of high-level performance in previously disadvantaged communities as a mechanism of inculcating a culture of excellence in the youth of these communities. Educational facilities should create new pathways for youth and children belonging to these communities.
- j) Encourage Village Education Committees to promote 100 per cent education in rural areas and there should be proper rewards and incentives for achieving this target. The NYKS youth clubs should act as 'watch dogs' for achieving universal education at the village level.
- k) Make people aware of educational schemes, such as, 'Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan' and 'Sakshar Bharat Mission'. People should also be informed

of the Right to Education mission of the government.

- l) Parent-teacher meeting should be institutionalised and made more meaningful and productive than what they are at present.
- m) Special opportunities for the differently-abled youth for higher education and for pursuing professional courses.
- n) Organising orientation and training programs for the teachers on value based education.

4. Health and healthy lifestyle

General health issues

- a) In view of escalating health problems impacting the life of young people, youth development agencies will work with appropriate ministries and departments, voluntary organisations and international agencies to bring about a consensus and provide necessary inputs for working towards formulating a 'National Youth Health Mission' - a statement of political commitment, intent and action.
- b) Year-long focused and comprehensive theme-based campaign may be launched on a specific health-related theme – HIV/AIDS; substance abuse; smoking; hard drinking; sanitation and hygiene; and nutrition - involving young people and the community through the vast network of youth volunteers available with the NYKS, NSS, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, and Youth Red Cross. The health aspects like nutrition, age at marriage, delay in first pregnancy, maternal mortality in young mothers etc. will also be given priority. This rolling plan of single-issue campaign will provide a wider stimulus for debate and action and foundation for longer-term projects
- c) In collaboration with voluntary organisations and appropriate government departments, special programmes will be initiated by the NYKS and the NSS to encourage young people to adopt a 'healthy lifestyle', with emphasis on physical fitness, through their active involvement in a range of sports activities practice of 'yoga' and by addressing other health issues, such as, smoking, substance abuse, personal hygiene, diet and nutrition. The role of sports will be emphasised as a medium for promoting healthy lifestyle and not just as an activity for recreation or developing skills in a particular sport or game.

- d) Youth clubs will work closely with the *panchayats* for allocation of special funds for promoting traditional rural sports - with special provision for sports activities for children between the age group of 10-16 years - and improving sports facilities in the village, including the maintenance of the playgrounds.
- e) Working through the nationally-reputed Yoga agencies, the NYKS-sponsored youth clubs and the NSS units will draw up a plan for sustained campaign to popularise the practice of yoga through published literature and audio-visual materials.
- f) Establish functional linkages with NGOs that provide counselling and other related services and facilities for those who have become victims of substance abuse or hard drinking and wish to come out of their addictions and get rehabilitated in the mainstream of life.
- g) On the basis of suitable criteria, efforts will be initiated in selected districts to set up 'youth health task force' – comprising of volunteers of the NVC, and selected youth leaders, specially trained in this area. The task force will deal with health-related problems such as, HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, substance abuse, and health problems arising out of emerging lifestyle of young people. The task force will coordinate with the Ministry of Health and family Welfare for promotion of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardio-vascular diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) among young women and men. This 'task force' will mobilise young people in the community through youth clubs and other community-based organisations and promote health programmes such as, training in life skills, counselling, planning and implementing awareness campaigns, and establishing support groups in the community. It will engage actively with appropriate government and non-government agencies working in the field of youth and community health, and draw support – in terms of funding, information and educational materials, and services of experts - from international agencies.
- h) Extend technical support to 'youth for youth health camps', campaigns, and festivals for transmitting messages for behaviour and attitude changes with regard to health-related issues and for a healthy lifestyle (every year about 17000 youth camps are organised in the country in community settings)
- i) Improved access to the differently-abled youth to special medical facilities, services, and resources.

HIV/AIDS

- a) Set up Youth Friendly Information Centres (YFIC) that will provide information, skills and services to married and unmarried young people for reducing the risk factor in an understanding, supportive and friendly environment consistent with the lifestyle of young people. These Centres can be located in NYK-sponsored Youth Development Centres (YDCs), at the NSS regional centres, in educational institutions, and at workplaces with a large youth workforce.
- b) The vast network of youth volunteers available with the NYKS, the NSS and Scouts and Guides will be mobilised for peer education and counselling. With some basic training and support based on the guidelines of National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO), these volunteers can be actively engaged in organising activities ranging from informal conversations to organised group sessions, and can take place in communities, youth clubs, schools, colleges, and work places. Special attention will be given to programme for the empowerment of young women with regard to safe sex.
- c) Extend support and partnership to AIDS education through University Talk AIDS, Village Talk AIDS of the Ministry of Youth Affairs to cover colleges, villages and communities adopted by them and extend technical support to adolescent education programme in the schools.
- d) Mainstream HIV/AIDS issues into policy initiatives, programmes and action plans of all state-sponsored youth organisations.
- e) Promote social marketing of condoms through youth clubs and the YDCs,
- f) Involve media and entertainment industry, including EDUSAT and education website, for addressing youth health and HIV education issues.
- g) Engage athletes, sports icons, and young people living with HIV, in youth focused awareness campaigns
- h) Improve/establish greater linkages for referrals and follow-ups between health services and VCTCs, STI services, and youth-friendly information services

5. Sports and recreational facilities

- a) There will be a minimum of one sports club in every development block, with a playground and basic facilities for the youth to play and spend their leisure hours in physical fitness activities. The services of a coach capable of providing basic training in different sports will be made available to

youth.

- b) Ensure regular supply of basic sports material to every rural youth club.
- c) Organise rural sports contests, sports rallies meet and competition in cultural activities at village and block levels.
- d) Promote opportunities for participation of young women in sports and recreational activities
- e) Government will provide funds to selected schools to create sports facilities, such as playground, that will be open to use by local youth as well.
- f) Sports, recreational, arts and cultural activities for the differently-abled youth from the block to the national level. Special competitions may be organised for this group.

6. Promoting gender justice and equality

- a) The NYKS and the NSS will ensure that gender concerns are mainstreamed in their planning and budgeting and the way they function including staff recruitment.
- b) The state-sponsored youth development agencies will be in the forefront in emphasising the rights of young women to a life of dignity, free from sexual harassment, violence, and other disgraceful acts of the males. These agencies will provide a forum to young women to give expression to their views and grievances.
- c) Through NSS units in schools and colleges, promote gender-sensitive activities.
- d) Schools will be persuaded to use parent-teacher meetings in schools for sensitising parents to the needs and concerns of the girl-child and organise special discussion sessions to educate them against gender-based discrimination among the siblings.
- e) Promote campaigns, such as, 'Bell Bajao', against domestic violence targeting young women.

- f) Extend cheap or free legal services to women in marital or other cases of harassment and violence.
- g) Youth club members will be encouraged to examine their own beliefs and values with regard to the position of women in the community and instil appropriate attitudes.
- h) Youth clubs will carry out local surveys to get authentic data on girls who are in the school-going age and compare these figures with the enrolment of girls in schools and the rate of drop-outs among them to find out the extent of the problem.
- i) Arrange for special educational facilities for girls who had to drop out of the school for financial or social reasons.
- j) With assistance of the *panchayat* and local leaders, work with families to persuade them to send their daughters to schools and ensure that they do not drop out.
- k) Take affirmative action to enhance the number of girl children in '*anganwadis*'.
- l) Publicly honour those families who have only girl children but have steered away from the general tendency of preference for male child.
- m) With assistance of the *panchayat*, maintain a data bank of pregnancies in the local community as means to discourage the practice of female foeticide.
- n) Make the community aware of the government-sponsored schemes to promote the education of girl child and ensure that the families get the full benefits of these schemes.
- o) Arrange for special facilities for school-going girls as an incentive to attend school regularly.
- p) Coordinate activities of youth organizations, supported by the Ministry and working in this area.

7. Participation in community service

- a) In collaboration with voluntary organisations, the NYKS and NSS will take steps to institutionalise youth volunteer service, both in rural and urban areas.
- b) Young professionals – doctors, nurses, teachers, computer specialists, engineers, etc - will be persuaded to offer volunteer services in their chosen area of specialisation to community-based projects and programmes. A roster could be prepared by the NYKS and the NSS for organising their schedule with neighbourhood communities.
- c) With active involvement and support from the Ministry and the RGNIYD, bring out a yearly publication on outstandingly innovative programmes carried out by different NSS units and volunteers of the NVC across the country. This publication will showcase the exciting and stimulating experiences of the volunteers and serve as promotional as well as information materials. This publication will also provide a forum for highlighting issues that are central to youth development work in the country.
- d) The NYKS and the NSS will coordinate their efforts in setting up a special Cell for monitoring the activities of their volunteers and evaluating the impact the volunteer service had on their social behaviour and attitudes, consistent with the objectives of voluntary service. With assistance from the RGNIYD, these experiences will be documented for dissemination to youth clubs and the NSS units.
- e) The Ministry of Youth Affairs, in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the corporate sector will develop a scheme of recognising excellence in the work of youth volunteers by extending appropriate incentives in terms of educational and employment opportunities.
- f) The NYKS and the NSS will work together to organise a ‘Youth Volunteer Week’ every year throughout the country. This period will be used to promote the spirit of volunteerism among young women and men through a wide range of activities, including field projects, exhibitions, competitions, and discussion forum. While some activities may reflect broad national perspective, others will be relevant to local situation. In order to mobilise community resources, voluntary organisations and community-based bodies may be associated with the event.
- g) Community service programme will be extended to professional colleges and institutions.

- h) Take affirmative action for improving gender balance in the recruitment of the NSS volunteers and in the NVC, and in the appointment of the staff of NYKS and the programme officers for the NSS units in colleges.
- i) Establish a network with voluntary organisations to explore the possibility of the deployment of the NVC volunteers as full-time functionaries with them after they complete their term with the NYKS.
- j) With assistance from the RGNIYD, review the training programme for the NVC volunteers and introduce specialisation in chosen area/s of interest, such as, HIV/AIDS, counselling, community service, communal harmony, gender justice, and youth entrepreneurship. This will not only heighten their interest in the work but also prepare them for productive employment after they complete their term with the NYKS.

8. Preparing adolescents for facing challenges of life

- a) A comprehensive programme on developing life competencies will be promoted in schools, especially for students of +2 stage. It will go beyond the health-related areas and aim for holistic development of the adolescents. The following key areas will be included in the programme:
 - Inter-personal communication
 - Establishing positive and productive relationships
 - Self-awareness and building a desire for self-growth
 - Developing self-confidence and self-esteem
 - Setting goals for life and working for their achievement
 - Living life in a positive and affirmative way
 - Management of stress
- b) Every school will be advised to introduce counselling services to help the students in academics-related or social/emotional problems. For this purpose, two or three teachers will be given training in basic counselling competencies.
- c) The NYKS and the NSS will work together to reach out to adolescents, especially those studying in the +2 stage of school education. In collaboration with the RGNIYD, special educational materials will be developed on health issues that are of prime concern to adolescents, such as, problems of growing up, reproductive health, nutrition, and HIV/AIDS. This educational intervention will also help in curbing myths and misconceptions during pubescent. Where feasible, 'school health clubs' will be promoted

- d) The NSS will take initiative in encouraging schools to organise special discussion sessions for parents on key issues impacting the life of adolescents. This will help develop a linkage with the parents whose understanding of the problems that their children confront as part of the growing up and their concerns is crucial for the growth and development of the adolescents. NYKS-sponsored youth clubs will take up similar programme for schools located in rural areas.
- e) It is recommended that all schools should include a substantive element of Life Skills and psycho-social competencies and Family Life Education in the curriculum of classes IX to XII.
- f) Special sessions will be organised for senior students who are on the threshold of leaving school to enter another phase of their life. The aim is to provide them comprehensive information and guidance on the courses they can choose if they wish to pursue higher education; and on planning their career.
- g) While some schools have been very innovative in introducing new teaching methods, a lot needs to be done in other schools, especially those run by the government bodies. It will be the endeavour of the Ministry of Youth Affairs to work with appropriate institutions and educational bodies to encourage these schools to adopt more participatory approach in teaching. The Ministry will seek the cooperation of the Ministry of Human Resource Development in this endeavour.
- h) Special attention needs to be paid to provide basic facilities at the schools, especially those functioning in rural areas. A recent study indicated that many young girls are forced to drop out of schools because of lack of separate wash-room facilities for them. It is also important to create conducive environment in co-educational schools for young girls.
- i) For creating awareness on various adolescents' issues, the schools will be urged to promote 'peer education' approach.
- j) The Ministry of Youth Affairs will work with other ministries and departments to provide funds and services of specially trained teachers to schools that have significant number of differently-abled students.

9. Social justice and action against unhealthy social practices

- a) The NYKS and the NSS will undertake a programme of education to sensitise youth club members and volunteers on the scourge of dowry and early marriage. They will be familiarised with legal consequences of taking/giving dowry or

making unusual demands from the girl's family. These young women and men will be exhorted to take a pledge not to take/give dowry or indulge in wasteful expenditure at the time of their marriage. They will also be encouraged to promote this message in their families.

- b) Educate young girls and boys on health-related implications of early marriage e.g. early pregnancies, problems of young mothers, and special nutrition needs. They will also be familiarised with other implications of marrying before legally permissible age.
- c) Seek the assistance and support of *panchayats* and local bodies in urban areas for active engagement of the families and community as a whole for eradication of these social evils.
- d) Youth club should publicly honour the couples (and their families) who marry without dowry and after reaching the legally permissible age.
- e) The NYKS and the NSS will coordinate their efforts in these areas with other voluntary organisations working in this field.
- f) Through an active support mechanism, extend necessary support - in the form of police protection, counselling services and legal aid - to victims of domestic violence; young brides who are being harassed by their in-laws for non—fulfilment of dowry demands; and young couples who have married rising above the social or religious barriers and are now facing the wrath of their families and/or community elders.

10. Issues related to environment, its conservation and preservation

(Environment protection and preservation include sustainable use and management of natural resources, such as, water, air, wildlife, and earth deposits. As a number of natural disasters result from unplanned degradation of forests and vegetation, it is important that young people should also be associated with the prevention and management of natural disasters)

- a) The NYKS and the NSS will work closely with voluntary organisations and other international bodies that have access to a wide range of information on environment issues. This information will be collated and developed into appropriately designed documents, leaflets, pamphlets, and fliers for building awareness in the community. Electronic and print media will also be involved in this task of promoting social learning on environment-related matters.

- b) The participation of youth in environment-related policy-making and implementing agencies at the national and state-levels will be institutionalised. The Ministry of Environment and Forests will be requested to consider having an advisory body that has substantial youth representation.
- c) Environment education will form part of school curriculum. The RGNIYD will be associated with preparing suitable modules and materials for the purpose.
- d) The NYKS and the NSS will work closely with appropriate departments at district level and with local bodies to reverse land degradation and ensure soil conservation.
- e) Tree plantation and nurturing campaigns will become a regular feature with the NYKS and the NSS.
- f) Rural youth clubs (of the NYKS) and the NSS units will jointly launch a sustained programme for educating the people on the current water situation in the country, in general, and more specifically in the local community, including the steady depletion of underground water table. The programme will emphasise the need for maintaining water balance.
- g) Identify traditional ways of water conservation and with the assistance of *panchayats* and appropriate government departments, take steps to revive them.
- h) With assistance of the local bodies and community-based groups take suitable measures to prevent the encroachment of water bodies in the rural areas for farming or for residential purposes. Steps will also be taken to draw up a plan to repair water bodies that have fallen into disuse and maintain them.
- i) Initiate projects to ensure that rain water is not allowed to flow out of the village and is conserved for use in households and for irrigation. The traditional catch-phrase 'village water for village use and water in the fields for irrigation and farming' should be made part of community life.
- j) Promote judicious use of water through a community-wide educational campaign and ensure the support of the people through youth clubs.
- k) With the help of the *panchayat* and the community, formulate guidelines for disposal of household waste.
- l) Encourage participatory irrigation management through local bodies ensuring

that the canals and irrigation facilities are not exploited by unscrupulous individuals for personal gains, ignoring the interest of others in the community.

- m) Involve the community in the management of forest and foliage in the village areas as means of conserving the level of underground water.
- n) With the assistance of appropriate departments, encourage the villagers to adopt those crops and agricultural practices that require less water.
- o) Initiate a time-bound comprehensive programme of awareness building about natural disasters in selected number of disaster-prone districts across the country – facing regular cyclonic storms and floods or falling within the seismic zone with high degree of risk for earthquakes. The training will include information and knowledge on various facets of disasters.
- p) In collaboration with specialised agencies and the RGNIYD, prepare training curriculum and materials for the training of the NYKS volunteers, youth club members and other potential volunteers from the local community on disaster management. While a larger number of youth volunteers can be trained in ‘soft skills’ that focus on disaster preparedness and organising the community for action, a core group will be trained in ‘hard skills’ developing in them the ability to extend active support to relief, rescue and rehabilitation work undertaken by specialised agencies.
- q) Strengthen the community-based organisations, including *panchayats*, to enable them to launch organised and concerted action in the event of a natural calamity.
- r) Establish a network of local agencies that have the necessary wherewithal to meet the challenges of the natural calamities.

11. Youth and local governance, including support to state sponsored programmes and schemes

- a) One way of enhancing participation of young people in local governance is to associate them with the programme of voters’ education and in other matters related to the conduct of elections. Political participation of the young women and men is fundamental to participation in local governance. The Election Commission of India may be requested to assist in this initiative.
- b) There will be an ongoing programme of education and training for the youth groups so that youth remain fully updated on the functioning of the local

governance units and agencies, including the manner in which the plans are formulated; resources are allocated and disbursed; projects are implemented; beneficiaries and communities are accessed and associated with the projects; and the programmes/projects are monitored and evaluated.

- c) To enhance the efficacy of their participation, the state-sponsored youth development agencies, including the NYKS, the NSS and the RGNIYD will collaborate to develop a programme of capacity-building of youth groups in different programme-areas for which the local bodies are responsible. This will enhance the credibility of the young people who wish to be associated with the process of local governance.
- d) Youth involvement will be optimised in programme-areas and issues that are closest to young people and crucial to the development of the community, such as, education, health facilities, transport, infrastructure, water and sanitation, and environment. These areas will receive priority attention of youth groups.
- e) With support from the Ministry of Youth Affairs, the NYKS and the NSS will establish contacts with the elected representatives of the local bodies, State Assembly or Parliament, especially young members, to ensure that the views and suggestions of the youth are heard properly and given the necessary credence by these elected bodies. This will help build the level of trust required for effective participation of young people in local governance.
- f) The concerns and needs of young people will be mainstreamed into programmes and projects organised at the local government level.
- g) In consultation with the local leaders and officials of state departments, the NYKS and the NSS will identify community-related issues and problems that need to be highlighted before these governing bodies for prompt and effective response. Advocacy role on behalf of the community is crucial for establishing and nurturing bonds with the community.
- h) The Right to Information Act offers plenty of opportunities to the young people to influence governance and accountability at the local level and ensure that the people of the community get what is their due and not what the officials are willing to give. It will, therefore, be the endeavour of the NYKS to prepare youth clubs for playing the role of 'Youth Social Watch Groups'. Its task will be to enhance accountability of the officials and political representatives at the local level. A pilot project may be started in selected districts in the first year of the NYP 2010 and the experience may be used for extending it to other areas.
- i) Through their large force of volunteers, the NYKS and the NSS will be in the forefront in supporting the implementation of projects and programmes

sponsored by the Central or state governments. Where required, the NYKS will assist the officials in identifying beneficiaries for specific welfare schemes, ensuring that the needy and the deserving are not left out of the scheme.

- j) Develop an action plan for enhancing functional linkages between the NYKS youth clubs, on the one hand, and the ***panchayats*** and community-based groups, on the other. This will enable them to exercise their influence in the process of governance and democratic functioning at the local level.

12. The Regional Centre of Excellence proposed to be established by the Ministry will carry out the training, extension and coordination of youth related activities with the involvement of the NSS, the NYK, State Governments and the RGNIYD.

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1. Youth Development Index

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

Executive Summary

Youth form an integral part of any society and are an essential part of the development process. India is a 'young' nation. As per Census of India 2001, the size of youth population in the country is 422.3 million, with 219 million males and 203 million females comprising of above 41 percent of the total Indian population. Youth population in the age group 15-34 years is expected to increase over the coming years as per the population projections. Between the last and the forthcoming 2011 census, the youth population is expected to increase by 77 million while during 2011-21 the number would increase by 34 million.

The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development [RGNIYD] invited the Tata Institute of Social Sciences to construct a Youth Development Index [YDI] for India "to enable assessment of the status of the Youth in the country, facilitate comparisons between the States and Union Territories and also be able to identify the gaps which need policy intervention". This project is the first attempt in the country to develop such an index for youth.

The creation of a youth development index is expected to contribute in three ways. One, it would help to recognize youth as a population category that requires separate consideration. For instance, despite the existence of a national youth policy for the past 20 years, in many quarters youth as a significant category did not get recognition. Second, development of a summary index would help to make comparison possible across geographical areas and categories, as human development index has done in comparing the development situation across regions, nations and localities. Third, the proposed index, apart from measuring the achievement made (in comparison with other societies and in comparison with the past), would help in advocacy activities related to youth development in general and of specific categories in particular.

Though the youth development index would provide a basic idea of the relative level in a particular society or a category of youth within a society, a comprehensive understanding of youth development could be achieved only if the index is studied along with information on so many other facets of youth development that cannot be captured by a summary index. Subjective perceptions on the selected indicators, non- hierarchical variables such as identity and culture, nature of familial relationships, aspects where adequate national data is not available cannot be easily included in a summary index.

Objectives

1. Construct Youth Development Index which can be used across the country by the State, academia, and other organizations/institutions in civil society, to ascertain the status of youth vis-à-vis the systemic dimensions which influence their growth and empowerment.
2. Understand and analyse the status of youth in the country vis-à-vis the objectives of the National Youth Policy (NYP).
3. Obtain perceptions of youth about the factors that facilitate/impinge on their growth and empowerment.
4. Provide policy makers with a tool and data to formulate programmes for youth.

Principles for Construction of YDI

The Youth development index aims at substantial contribution to the situational analysis of development of youth across the sections of society. In order to build a comprehensive index, the following principles are considered.

1. The YDI would be 'youth centered'.
2. Youth are not a homogenous group and differences across the categories mentioned below would be studied.
 - *Location: urban, rural , tribal*

- *Terrain : hills, plains*
- *Shelter : those with shelter, homeless*
- *Economic class : upper, middle and lower*
- *Gender : male, female,*
- *Sexual orientations*
- *Role :student, non-student; employed , unemployed*

Among the categories mentioned above, there is a large proportion of youth who are socially marginalized.

Some of these groups are mentioned as priority target groups in the National Youth Policy [2003]. These are rural and tribal youth; out of school youth; adolescents particularly female youth; youth with disability, and youth under specially difficult circumstances like victims of trafficking, orphans and street children.

1. Youth are shaped by all their experiences from birth.
2. The dimensions of the YDI would consider and include two facets of 'youth'.
3. A group that has specific life goals and tasks related to their stage of growth. e.g., education, identity, work, family (Youth Development)
4. A group that can be mobilized for social and cultural change e.g., participation in societal issues (Youth for Development).
5. The YDI aims to obtain objective data [e.g., access to systems and services, status in each dimension] and subjective interpretations [e.g., factors facilitating/ blocking access and participation] by the youth.
6. The themes are derived from the major documents which have addressed the issues related to youth, globally in the Indian context.
7. The YDI is based on the HDI model, but certain themes would be added considering the youth's specific characteristics and Rights. It would be a standardized tool to measure certain critical areas of youth development. It is not intended to study and evaluate all aspects of youth development.

Methodology

The process of construction of the index involved deliberations with youth themselves and related stakeholders in five regional consultations, and then unfolded across various stages, each adding on to understanding of youth in India and making the indicators of development progressively more incisive. As a result of these consultations, five domains of the YDI were finalized. These domains are – Health, Education, Employment, Amenities and Participation. Data available under each of the domain were compared across years and across the different States in order to look for variation. Since there were several indicators within each domain, comparing variation in data helped to filter out those indicators that showed meaningful variability. Therefore this exercise further sharpened the indicators within each domain. However, we had to remove the domain of participation in constructing YDI from secondary data due to lack of information. But this dimension was included later for the eleven selected states for which data was available from primary research. Hence there were two Youth Development Indexes constructed:

- 1. Youth Development Index (based on dimensions health, education, work and amenities) computed for 29 states**
- 2. Youth Development Index (based on dimensions health, education, work, amenities and participation) computed for 10 states**

It was decided to consider the gender dimension as well as a correction for sex ratio in the youth population, while computing the youth development index.

The next step was to identify and collate national data on the selected indicators. For this, analysis of NSS and NFHS primary data was carried out. This data was subjected to Principal Component Analysis to examine the communalities and thus to determine which indicators could be finally selected for the index construction. In order to further validate the inclusion of indicators, Analytical Hierarchical Process was used.

Selected Indicators

Health:

- % Assisted/Institutional delivery (represents access)
- Life expectancy at age 15 (represents outcome)
- % youth- Non-Anemic (represents outcome)
- Body Mass Index (represents outcome)

Education:

- Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER secondary +GER tertiary) (represents access)
- Level of education attained (literate, primary, secondary, tertiary, vocational) (represents outcome)

Work:

- Work participation rate (represents outcome)
- Available days of work in a year per youth (represents access)

Amenities

Basic Amenities

- Access to safe water
- Type of house
- Access to electricity
- Toilet facility

Youth Amenities

- Information
- Communication
- Technology

Participation

- Percentage of youth aged 18 and above who have enrolled as a voter
- Percentage of those voted in the last election among those enrolled as a voter
- While the chosen dimensions were given equal weights in the YDI, differential weights were given to sub indexes within a dimension and to indicators within sub-dimensions.

The sub-indexes are:

YHI_f = Youth Health Index for Female

YHI_m = Youth Health Index for Male

YEI_f = Youth Education Index for Female

YEI_m = Youth Education Index for Male

YWI_f = Youth Work Index for Female

YWI_m = Youth Work Index for Male

YAI_f = Youth Amenities Index for Female

YAI_m = Youth Amenities Index for Male

YPI_f = Youth Participation Index for Female

YPI_m = Youth Participation Index for Male

And

YDI_f = Youth Development Index for Female

YDI_m = Youth Development Index for Male

YDI = Youth Development Index

Considering four (health, education, work and amenities) dimensions based on secondary data, the YDI for males was calculated as follows:

$$YDI_m = 1 - \frac{\sqrt{(1 - YHI_m)^2 + (1 - YEI_m)^2 + (1 - YWI_m)^2 + (1 - YAI_m)^2}}{\sqrt{4}}$$

In the same way YDI was computed for females.

The dimension of participation was obtained through primary research. Thus, considering the five (health, education, work, amenities and participation) dimensions, the YDI for males and females were computed as

$$YDI_m = 1 - \frac{\sqrt{(1-YHI_m)^2 + (1-YEI_m)^2 + (1-YWI_m)^2 + (1-YAI_m)^2 + (1-YPI_m)^2}}{\sqrt{5}}$$

YDI = Youth Development Index

= (Proportion of Female * YDI_f) + (Proportion of Male * YDI_m)

$$YDI = P_f * YDI_f + P_m * YDI_m$$

YGDI = Youth Gender Development Index

$$YGDI = \left(P_f * (YDI_f)^{-1} + P_m * (YDI_m)^{-1} \right)^{-1}$$

YGDISR = Youth Gender Development Index adjusted for Sex-ratio

= Sex-ratio Correction Factor * YGDI

$$\begin{aligned} YGDI_{SR} &= \gamma * YGDI \\ &= \frac{\min(P_f, P_m)}{0.5} * \left(P_f * (YDI_f)^{-1} + P_m * (YDI_m)^{-1} \right)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Firstly, the YDI was computed with the four dimensions of health, education, work, and amenities. This index was then adjusted initially for gender disparity (Youth Gender Development Index) and sex ratio (Youth Gender Development Index Adjusted for Sex ratio). Subsequently, the YDI was calculated including the fifth dimension of participation for the eleven states from where primary data was collected. This was also adjusted for the gender disparity

and sex ratio. In both the cases, the YDI was initially computed separately for males and females.

The Youth Development Index

The youth development index for India is 0.453. Himachal Pradesh ranks first in the youth development index with a value 0.590 closely followed by Goa (0.588) and Delhi (0.587). Twenty one states have YDI value greater than the national average. Bihar ranks the lowest (0.383) among the 29 states for which YDI was calculated; this state ranked the lowest for HDI (2004-05) also with a value of 0.441 Some of the North Indian states fair poorly in all spheres of youth development; especially notable is the situation in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Kerala which ranks first in the HDI since 1981 gets a lower rank (4th) in YDI. In the HDI calculation, Kerala had the highest rank since social indicators had a greater weight in the computation of HDI. However, it has been found that when HDI is calculated by including economic and growth related indicators, its position was 9th in 2005 (Kerala Human Development Report 2005). This is validated by the YDI as this index also included a work index which incorporated measures of work status and access to work.

However, when the dimension of participation is included, among the 11 states for which a revised YDI was calculated, Kerala ranks first with a value of 0.611. The YDI value for the 11 states together is 0.482 as compared to the earlier value of 0.453.

The Gender Dimension

When calculated separately for males and females, the youth development index is much lower for females as compared to males in all the states. At the national level, the value for females is lower by 0.13 points. Though it is a predictable outcome, this is a matter of concern, as the status of female youth continues to remain low despite the various efforts made by the government and civil society to enhance their position in the society. Across the states the

largest difference in male and female YDI is observed in Delhi (0.20 points) and Bihar (0.19 points) and the lowest difference was observed in the north-eastern state of Meghalaya followed by Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh.

It is interesting to see that Kerala which is known for the prevalence of matrilineal system of inheritance and for progressive social development, the value of female YDI is lower by 0.14 points as compared to males. Some of the states that are known for gender bias, the difference between male and female YDI is more striking. Delhi, which is 3rd in the overall YDI, ranks first in the YDI for males but ranks only 10th in the YDI for females. There is no difference in the ranking of YDI for males and YDI for females for Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. Meghalaya is the only state that has a higher rank for the YDI females (4th rank) as compared to males (17th rank).

The youth gender development index for India is 0.444 as compared to the value of 0.453 of the YDI without adjusting for gender disparity in youth development. There is a reduction in the value of YDI when corrected for gender disparity in youth development, bringing down the national YDI value from 0.453 to 0.444. When corrected for the differences in the proportion of males and females in the youth population, the value of the index comes down further to 0.426. This situation can be observed for all the states. However, the ranking of the states in terms of youth development does not change.

When the participation dimension was included, the revised YDI adjusted for gender disparity in youth development, the value becomes 0.474 and when corrected for sex ratio, the value is 0.454.

Youth Health Index

At the national level the Youth Health Index value is at 0.580, with the index of males and females being 0.612 and 0.545 respectively. Kerala (0.749) ranks the highest in health index

closely followed by Goa (0.728) and Delhi (0.691). The lowest ranking states are Jharkhand (0.515) followed by Assam (0.518) and Bihar (0.523). The difference between the highest and lowest value is 0.234. Eleven states have a health index below national average. The relationship between Health Index and YDI shows a linear relationship meaning that an improvement in health index contributes linearly to an increase in the youth development index.

Youth Education Index

India's youth education index is 0.413. There is considerable difference between males and females in the value of education index. The gender gap is the highest in Bihar (0.17) followed by Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan (0.16 each). The least gap is found in Kerala (0.01) and Mizoram (0.01). The highest ranking states are Himachal Pradesh with a value of 0.611 (having a very high enrolment rate of 131) followed by Delhi (0.603) and Kerala (0.575). The lowest ranking states are Bihar (0.298), Jharkhand (0.315), and Rajasthan (0.325). The difference between the highest and lowest ranking states is 0.313. Twelve states have an educational index value that is below the national average. The education index also generally shows a linear correlation with the YDI. However in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Meghalaya it is seen that the YDI is high, and the Education Index is low. These states have performed better in the other dimensions of the YDI.

Youth Work Index

The Youth Work Development Index in India is 0.636. Meghalaya ranks the highest in work index (0.804), Chattisgarh (0.754) followed by Andhra Pradesh (0.747). The lowest work index is Tripura (0.486) followed by Jammu and Kashmir (0.519). The range of variation in work index is 0.235. Sixteen states have a work index that is below the national average. The outliers in this case are Delhi and Kerala, two developed states having a very low work index. There is a negative correlation between education index and work index as one may expect. States having high education index tends to have a low work index as many of those in the youth age group is still in the educational system thus not working. When calculated separately for males and

females, the youth work index is 0.868 for males and 0.384 for females, indicating a wide gender gap in employment.

Youth Amenities Index

The amenities index considered here integrates indicators related to basic amenities and those modern amenities that are more relevant to youth. In India, the youth amenities index is 0.381. This low value is the result of a combination of high value (0.65) for basic amenities (consisting of water, toilet facilities, electricity, and housing) with a very low value (0.19) for youth relevant modern amenities (information, communication and technology). The greater values found for basic amenities index are not surprising as the primary focus of the government developmental efforts has been in providing the basic facilities. Even in this respect, there are regions that are still denied of basic amenities like electricity, drinking water and toilet facilities. However, since this is an attempt to construct a youth development index, it was necessary to include facilities which are considered important for youth development. The dimensions of communication, information and technology are considered in the National Youth Policy as key sectors for youth development. Since both basic and youth amenities are largely household based facilities, the gender differences are minimal. When youth amenities index is calculated for males and females separately, the values for the national level are 0.389 for males and 0.373 for females. In terms of youth amenities index, the highest ranking state is Delhi (0.611) followed by Goa (0.580) and Kerala (0.518). The lowest ranking state is Bihar (0.272). Other states having a low amenity index are Orissa, Jharkhand and Chattisgarh. Eleven states are below the national average of 0.381. The range of variation in amenity index is 0.339 which is high. As in the case of health index, the relationship of amenities index with YDI is linear.

Except Assam, Bihar and Jharkhand, all the states have an amenities index value greater than 0.5. Regarding housing types, the states in the southern region, and those in the north-west region have a greater proportion of pucca houses. Though it is believed that access of safe water is believed to be low, the data shows that 89 percent of youth have access to safe drinking water. Even some of the states which have very low values for other indicators have reported high level of access to safe water. Access to electricity varies widely across states. The

variation in access to electricity and housing index are much higher as compared to that in access to water.

Youth Participation Index

The participation index computed using data from 11 states is 0.622. While there are inter-state variations, the level of participation is high in all of the states except Delhi which has a value of 0.488.

Conclusion

A Youth Development Index with a value of 0.453 is low; it is important to note that this value gives the level of development of 41 percent of the total population of the country. When gender disparities in youth development index are considered, the value is reduced further. This indicates that the youth population requires greater focused attention from policy makers and programme planners and concerted efforts in order to attain gender equity among youth. Among the five dimensions of the YDI, India as a whole has relatively low value for the education index and youth modern amenities index, with some states showing a dismal performance.

The health index value, derived from a set of outcome and access related indicators gives a value of 0.580 that can be considered above average. But keeping in mind that in general youth are considered to be the healthiest section in the population, this value indicates the issues related to both nutritional status and access to services. Also, the male-female difference in the health outcome index is considerable for some of the states and so is the difference in access.

The factor which is of great concern is the low Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), which indicates poor access, and wastage at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of education. India still has a long way to go in achieving the targets of VISION 2020 in terms of producing a youth

force which is ready for the challenges of a globalised world. The country needs to now move beyond the parameters of literacy and primary education as yardsticks of educational achievement for youth. For this, mere expansion of colleges and universities will not achieve the required results unless there is value addition in terms of quality and relevance.

The youth work index in India is 0.636 with considerable inter-state variations. It needs to be mentioned here that work participation among youth is not very high in states that are developed educationally while the rate is high in less developed states. It is necessary to increase work participation among youth, especially female youth, for ensuring appropriate utilization of the demographic window of opportunities

The youth amenities index which is a combination of basic amenities and more youth specific amenities has a value of 0.38; this resulted from a relatively high value of 0.65 for the basic amenities and a very low value of 0.19 for youth specific amenities. The sub-dimensions considered for youth specific amenities were information, communication and technology. Given the current understanding that improvement in access related to these dimensions is crucial in development of a nation, special attention needs to be given to these aspects.

The theme of 'Citizenship' is emphasized in the National Youth Policy, UNWAPY, and the WDR. UNWAPY describes this as 'the full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision making'. The Right to Participation from childhood is emphasized in the Convention for the Rights of the Child, and this Right is integral to any democratic society. It is important for citizens, especially youth to have a say in matters that affect their life.

The value of participation index, computed using enrollment as a voter and voting behavior was 0.622. While the state of enrollment leaves much to be desired (the enrollment value is 0.503), the voting behavior appears to be high (0.80). This situation can be enhanced further with appropriate interventions to increase youth participation in various dimensions of development.

Thus, the Youth Development Index thus helps us to provide an opportunity to comprehensively assess the situation of youth and the differentials. Though the YDI was computed based on available data for the period 2004-05 or 2005-06, it can be safely assumed that the situation of youth development in India largely remains unchanged since then.