

5.2.6 Criterion: Special Initiatives / Innovative Practices – Adoption of Villages

Special Initiative: Adoption of Villages under NSS :

As part of our commitment to community engagement, social responsibility, and experiential learning, the institution has undertaken a significant **special initiative through the National Service Scheme (NSS)** by adopting nearby rural villages for holistic development and student sensitization.

During the **academic session 2023–24, Dummi (Dumi) Village**, located in **Shimla Rural Tehsil, Mashobra Block, District Shimla, Himachal Pradesh**, was formally adopted. The initiative aimed at understanding grassroots realities and promoting sustainable rural development through active student participation.

Building upon this initiative, in the **academic session 2024–25**, the institution further expanded its outreach by adopting **Sipur Village**, also situated in **Mashobra Block, District Shimla**. A **seven-day NSS special camp** was successfully organized from **30th January to 5th February 2025** in the adopted village.

The camp included a range of impactful activities such as:

- **Cleanliness and sanitation drives** to promote hygiene and environmental awareness
- **Village-level surveys** to assess socio-economic conditions and local needs
- **Awareness programmes on rural development policies and government welfare schemes**
- **Free health check-up camp**, addressing healthcare needs, particularly significant as such an initiative was conducted after a long gap since the 1980s
- **Disaster Management Awareness and Training Workshop**, conducted **for the first time in the village**, aimed at enhancing community preparedness and resilience

This initiative not only contributed to the socio-economic and health awareness of the adopted villages but also provided students with hands-on exposure to rural life, leadership development, teamwork, and civic responsibility.

The **Adoption of Villages under NSS** stands as a **notable best practice and special initiative**, reflecting the institution's dedication to inclusive development, community partnership, and alignment with Criterion vision of socially responsive higher education.

Documents Enclosed as Documentary Evidence



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