**EXECUTIVE SUMMERY**

The research is an attempt to study the potential of National Service Scheme in channelizing the youth energy. It incorporates the journey of NSS, these forty-three years transforming the lives of millions of students and people across the country. This report attempts to elicit the formation of NSS, its emergence and successfully trodden path. The major milestones in the history of NSS, the objective behind unveiling such a project for the youth, the journey of NSS so far, the various highly successful NSS projects from various parts of India and a few suggestions regarding how NSS initiatives can be made more effective have been included. The project deals with one of the highly relevant issues regarding the youth of our country. NSS is of immense importance to the country as it has opened up the avenues of social service to many. It has introduced our students to many stark realities of life which they would not have otherwise come across. No one can overlook the significant role NSS has played so far and which it still plays in inculcating civic responsibility and promoting nation building. Moreover in India the proportion of people in the age-group 15-24 years has increased tremendously over time. It adds more pressure to the need to channelize our youth in the right direction and this further portrays the significance of National Service Scheme.

The project report has been successful in coming up with certain recommendations for enhancing NSS activities. These include initiatives like a National NSS Annual Report, NSS Web portal for universities, Training for selected volunteers, Incentives for NSS volunteers like extra credit in PSC tests, Volunteer exchange programmes, collaboration with NGOs and Single NSS theme for all universities in a year so as to ensure follow up activities. The project has been an opportunity to formulate practical solutions to make the initiatives of NSS more effective and to bring youth to the scene of national service. Many unexplored avenues of social service were looked upon and the research was helpful in understanding the strengths and weaknesses of NSS as compared to other such initiatives across the world. I believe that the project has helped me to devise methodologies for making the endeavours of NSS even more successful and meaningful. NSS is indeed capable of transforming the lives of millions of Indians and it need to be utilized for the good of all.