## **National Service Scheme**

The National Service Scheme at Lady Shri Ram College for Women strives to espouse social conscientiousness amongst youth. Notwithstanding the obstacles presented by the pandemic, the team endeavoured to revive offline activities during the 2022-23 tenure. In observance of the 8th annual International Yoga Day, we organised a 5-day yoga workshop, led by the esteemed Yogacharya Kajal Chaudhary, integrating both in-person and virtual sessions, to emphasize the significance of worldwide well-being. Consequently, Kargil Vijay Diwas was celebrated through an online session by Colonel V.N. Thapar, the father of Captain Vijayant Thapar, a Kargil martyr and recipient of the Vir Chakra. Colonel Thapar shared readings from the biography titled "Vijayant at Kargil, The Life of a Kargil War Hero," allowing the audience to glimpse the life of this great hero whose valor far surpassed the number of years he lived. In a bid to instil a sense of patriotism among the underprivileged strata of society, NSS volunteers undertook the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign, organizing community visits and a series of events including activities such as impromptu quizzes, engaging discussions, and performances including plays, with active participation from children.

The Swachhta Pakhwada Campaign, a nationwide initiative to promote the significance of cleanliness and sanitation, elicited an array of events, including cleanliness drive, pledgetaking, documentary screenings, a waste management quiz, and a poster-making competition. We also revived our three annual festivals- Kala, Noor and Nexus in the physical setting which received riveting response from the student body.

The NSS annual art festival, Kala, took place on 15<sup>th</sup> September, offering a platform for children from beneficiary NGOs to showcase their creativity. The theme for Kala 2023 was "*Kudrat aur Kala*," celebrating nature's breathtaking power and the artistic expression of children. Events such as sponge painting, storytelling, and newspaper pen stand making engaged the children. The Dramatics Society presented a production on sustainability, which was well received by all.

On 21st October, we organized NOOR- the Diwali Mela of NSS-LSR. After a hiatus of three years, this annual cultural fest returned as an offline event, garnering fervent participation from the college community. Themed "NOORARAMBH: New beginnings in the post-pandemic world", the fest offered a platform to local vendors to set up stalls, while LSR students received subsidized rates for showcasing their talents and products, providing a marketplace to test and foster their budding ventures.

Nexus, the annual youth convention organized by NSS-LSR, was held on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February under the theme of "Discourse on Disability: Building an Inclusive tomorrow" to lead social change vis-à-vis the challenges of disability. The convention included informative panel discussions on the socio-political construct of disability and the role of assistive technology in building an inclusive world. Esteemed speakers such as Dr. Renu Addlakha, Ms. Maitreyi Mishra, and Mrs. Malini Dhiran graced the event. Volunteer training sessions on disability sensitization and inclusion were conducted in collaboration with an NGO, The Sarvodaya Collective and REACH: The Equal Opportunity Cell of LSR.

Additionally, we collaborated with 'Young India Foundation' to register 100+ unregistered voters for the SVEEP program under the Election Commission of India. Moreover, to commemorate our everlasting love for our furry friends, we organised the 'Pawfect Valentine Week'. All 27 projects under NSS-LSR remained active and conducted insightful sessions.