



MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE

NATIONAL SERVICE WITH NATIONAL PRIDE



What is National Service Programme of Trinidad and Tobago? NSP-TT

The National Service Programme of Trinidad and Tobago (NSP-TT) is a pioneering initiative by the Ministry of Youth Development and National Service (MYDNS), under the guidance of the Honourable Minister Foster Cummings. This initiative promotes youth development, civic participation, and a sense of national pride. NSP-TT is structured to offer opportunities to gain marketable skills, enhance personal and social well-being, and exemplify responsible citizenship. Participants may either be registered members of an authorised national service programme or volunteers, contributing to the betterment of their community and country.

Overview of NSP-TT

The NSP-TT initiative was officially launched on July 30, 2024, at the Southern Academy for the Performing Arts (SAPA) in San Fernando. The programme design was overseen by a dedicated 12-member Advisory Committee, established in October 2021, which included experts from various fields committed to the development and implementation of this transformative programme.

Key Component and Goal of NSP-TT

The NSP-TT is a comprehensive initiative aimed at fostering the development of responsible, informed, and engaged citizens.

National Service Curriculum - Key Components

The NSP-TT encompasses several foundational components, each targeting different aspects of development:

Leadership Development:

Enhancing leadership skills and critical thinking to prepare youth for community and national leadership roles.

Civic Engagement:

Encouraging active participation in civic life, including volunteering and community service, to improve the quality of life in communities.

Cultural Diversity and Awareness:

Promoting understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity to foster a more inclusive society.

Environmental Stewardship:

Focused on sustainability and environmental conservation to instill a sense of responsibility towards the environment.

Health and Wellness:

Emphasise the importance of physical, emotional, and mental health, promoting overall well-being.

Career Exploration and Readiness:

Provide opportunities for youth to explore various career paths and gain the skills needed for employment and entrepreneurship.

Health and Family Life:

Education on maintaining healthy family relationships and personal well-being.

Citizenship:

Instill values of good citizenship and encouraging participation in national service.

Data/Digital Literacy Skills:

Enhance digital literacy to prepare youth for

the demands of the modern digital world.

Personal Development:

Personal growth, including life skills and self-improvement.

Global Citizenship:

Encourage globally thinking to understand one's role in the international community.

Disaster Preparedness:

Training and education on how to respond to and manage disasters effectively.

The NSP-TT is designed with specific goals to ensure the holistic development of Trinbagonians:

Develop Responsible and Informed Citizens:

Foster National Pride and Cultural Awareness:

Prepare Youth for Leadership Roles:

Promote Environmental Sustainability and Public Health:

Increase Awareness of Physical, Emotional, and Mental Health:

Support Lifelong Learning and Professional Development:

Programmes under NSP-TT

NSP-TT offers a variety of structured programmes aimed at benefiting local communities and the nation as a whole, with each thoughtfully developed to meet needs and promote collaboration across generations. The current programmes include:

- Military-Led Academic Training (MiLAT)
- Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
- Military-Oriented Youth Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-Oriented Training (MYPART)
- National Mentorship Programme – 40 Under 40
- Art Music and Media Production and Life Skills for Youth (AMPLIFY)
- Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP)
- Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme (RAPP)

The National Service Programmes offered by MYDNS aim to empower youth by equipping them with certifications through various Industrial Apprenticeship Programmes (IAP). These programmes include:

- The Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition Programme (PLAR)
- Drilling Rig Operations Programme (D.R.O.P.)
- Industrial Mechanical Apprenticeship Programme (I-MAP)
- Crane Operation Programme (HOIST)
- Plumbing Skills Training Programme (PIPE)
- Introductory Linesman, Line Clearer Training Programme (FUSE)



The NSP-TT launch celebrated various organizations and individuals for their significant roles in youth development and nation building service, with prominent awardees including:

- Hunters Search and Rescue Team
- The House of Angostura
- Atlantic
- Digicel Foundation
- National Gas Company (NGC)
- Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)
- Massy
- Shell
- Unit Trust Corporation
- Heritage Petroleum
- British Petroleum TT
- Prominent individuals such as Austin "Super Blue" Lyons, Dominic Kalipersad, Dr. Rita Pemberton, David Rudder, Jereem Richards, Nicholas Pooran, Ephraim Serrette, Penelope Spencer, Earl Lovelace, Lord Nelson, and Zalayhar Hassanali



The Honourable Foster Cummings presents an award to former First Lady Mrs Zalayhar Hassanali for her service to Trinidad and Tobago.

NSP-TT Launch Highlights

Minister of Youth Development and National Service (MYDNS) Foster Cummings in his feature address emphasized the crucial role of parents in shaping the next generation to sustainably contribute to the development of Trinidad and Tobago. "Parenting is a serious, serious responsibility. It requires your time, your energy, and most of all, your good and decent behaviour," he said. "If we want a crime-free society, then parents have to lead by example". This powerful message resonated throughout the auditorium, inspiring the young attendees to take charge of their futures.

expressed enthusiasm and optimism about the programmes initiated by MYDNS. "I am excited about the fact of all these programmes that have been initiated by MYDNS" Sampson said. "Take control of your future. You are the future. Make the most of these opportunities and don't let it go to waste."

Dr. Ruby Alleyne, Chair of the National Service Report Committee, delivered a call to action. "National service can be a powerful antidote to the tide of negativity that currently threatens us as a society," she asserted. "It can harness all our resources to contribute to building up our country instead of tearing it down"

Minister of National Security, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds, emphasized the transformative potential of the NSP-TT. "These programmes, as offered by the Ministry of Youth Development and National Service (MYDNS), are without doubt a reflection of the society's commitment to our own future," he stated. "I have no doubt in my mind that they are delivering great value to you and Trinidad and Tobago"

Mrs. Gachelle Gilkes-Edwards, Manager, National Service - MYDNS, provided contact for the programme's significance, all citizens "The National Service portfolio of programmes are structured opportunities for the citizens to understand their rights and responsibilities of being Trinbagonian! For individuals and organisations to appreciate that they are beneficiaries of the service gone before and also the donors of the service for those to come.

Assemblyman Joel Sampson, Secretary for Community Development and Sport - Tobago House of Assembly (THA),



The Honourable Foster Cummings accompanied by the Permanent Secretary MYDNS – Mr Narine Charran congratulates National Service Awardee Mr. Dominic Kalipersad for his significant contributions to our nation

Implementation of NSP-TT Programme

The NSP-TT programme has been carefully crafted to align with the national vision through the collaborative efforts of various Ministries, Divisions, Agencies, NGOs, Youth Organizations, and professional associations. The National Service Curriculum is designed to provide participants with the vital skills, knowledge, and values necessary to become active, involved, and responsible citizens in the local and global village.

Inclusive and Comprehensive Approach

NSP-TT adopts a holistic and inclusive approach that engages all citizens including youth, retired professionals, volunteers, and organisations. This comprehensive approach harnesses the collective wisdom and passion thereby creating a supportive atmosphere for human capital development and national growth. **Vision for the Future**

The launch of the National Service Programme (NSP-TT) marks a significant milestone in Trinidad and Tobago's commitment to empowering its youth and fostering national growth and pride. Aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and Trinidad and Tobago's Vision 2030 National Development Strategy, NSP-TT is poised to significantly contribute to the country's socio-economic advancement. By emphasizing skill development, community involvement, and national pride, NSP-TT is set to play a crucial role for the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

