

NATIONAL INTEGRATION CAMP – 2025

The **National Integration Camp (NIC)** is a flagship program under the **National Service Scheme (NSS)**, promotes youth development, cultural exchange, and national unity. By uniting NSS volunteers from various states and backgrounds, these camps promote a sense of fraternity and patriotism while giving them the opportunity to truly experience "Unity in Diversity."

The NIC, which took place at **Shree Sadgurudham, Barumal, Dharampur, Valsad, Gujarat**, from **27th June to 3rd July, 2025**, was a week-long immersive experience that brought together NSS volunteers from across the country. The camp, which featured participants from different regions, gave them a chance to celebrate India's rich cultural legacy, exchange regional viewpoints, and work together on social awareness initiatives that align with the NSS's basic principles.

Volunteers participated in a variety of planned events during the camp, including yoga classes, academic talks, workshops, community outings, literary events, fine arts contests, and cultural programs. Every day was planned to ensure the volunteers' overall development by striking a balance between teamwork, creativity, learning, and physical fitness. Participants gained knowledge pertinent to their responsibilities as responsible citizens from expert-led sessions on subjects like environmental sustainability, cyber security, self-defense, and personal growth.

Apart from the educational aspects, volunteers were able to visit places of spiritual and cultural significance, which helped volunteers understand ground realities, traditions, and the importance of service in rural and tribal settings.

Additionally, the camp provided a stage for state-based teams to showcase their distinctive art forms, folk dances, and traditional attire during daily cultural programs. In addition to providing entertainment, these shows fostered understanding, respect, and an appreciation of India's cultural diversity.

The NIC Camp was more than just an event—it was a celebration of **unity in diversity**, a platform for **youth empowerment**, and a reminder of the power of **service and solidarity** in shaping a better future for the nation



DAY – 1

The National Integration Camp began on **27th June, 2025** with a great enthusiasm and participation by the volunteers from all states. The day started off with a Yoga session.

The camp started with a workshop session by **Shri Dipesh Shah** from the **Career Management Workshop**. It was an interactive session where the volunteers from various states interacted with each other and participated in various activities that encouraged cross-cultural interaction, team building, and communication. The session created a lively and inclusive atmosphere, setting the tone for the rest of the camp. This was followed by lunch and then a session by **Shri Amit Mehta** from **MAA Foundation**.

Various **literary activities** such as **Poetry Recitation**, **Essay Writing**, and a **Quiz** were conducted to encourage creativity, critical thinking, and healthy intellectual competition among the volunteers. Through these activities, participants were able to communicate with one another, express their opinions, and articulate ideas on social issues.

This was followed by a vibrant **Cultural Program** presented by students from **Kadi Sarva Vishwavidyalaya, Gujarat University**, and **Parul University**, showcasing the diverse cultures and rich artistic traditions of **Gujarat**. The performances included energetic displays of **Garba** and **Dandiya Raas**, two of the most iconic folk dance forms of the state. Dressed in colorful traditional attire, the students performed rhythmic, coordinated movements to the beat of **traditional Gujarati music**, creating a lively and joyous atmosphere. The dynamic footwork and swirling formations captivated the audience, engaging them throughout the performance. Beyond entertainment, the cultural event highlighted Gujarat's deep-rooted heritage and celebrated the spirit of unity in diversity, as students from different universities and regions came together to honor their shared culture through dance, music, and camaraderie.

The day concluded with **dinner**, after which a **Program Officers' (PO) meeting** was held to review the day's activities and plan for the following sessions.





DAY – 2

The second day of the NIC , held on **28th June,2025** began with a Yoga session promoting physical fitness and mental well-being.

An Elocution competition with the theme "**My Bharat 2047**" gave participants a chance to share their ideas about the future of the country. The **inaugural ceremony**, which marked the official start of the camp's daily sessions, came next. Volunteers from across the country came together in a display of national unity and cultural pride. The volunteers proudly represented their distinct regional identities while dressed in the **traditional state attire**, giving the event a vibrant, joyous, and welcoming atmosphere. The ceremony included formal addresses by dignitaries, a warm welcome to all participants, and a ceremonial declaration of the camp's objectives and expectations. Following the inauguration, a session was conducted by **Shri Kamal Kumar, Regional Director, Ahmedabad**, who addressed the volunteers on the significance of national service and youth engagement. This was followed by an interactive session organized by **Skill India**, where volunteers enthusiastically participated in creative activities such as street drama, advertisement creation, and dance performances, showcasing their talents and teamwork.

In the evening, a vibrant **Cultural Program** was presented by the **troops of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Karnataka**, offering a spectacular display of the rich heritage, traditions, and artistic talents of their respective regions.

The team from **Madhya Pradesh** captivated the audience with performances of **Matki Dance** and **Jawara**, traditional folk dances that reflect the agrarian culture and joyous celebrations of the state. Volunteers from **Maharashtra** showcased the energetic and rhythmic **Lavani**, known for its powerful footwork and expressive storytelling, often performed to the beats of traditional dholki drums. Meanwhile, the team from **Karnataka** presented the graceful and colorful dance performance with vibrant costumes, representing devotion and valour.

The cultural evening was not only entertaining but also educational, allowing volunteers to appreciate the unique essence of each state's artistic identity. The performances reflected the true spirit of national integration, celebrating unity through diversity. The event was followed by **dinner**, and the day concluded with a **brief PO meeting** to review the day's events and plan for the next.







DAY – 3

The day three of the National Integration Camp, **29th June, 2025** was a blend of cultural exploration, spiritual reflection, and social awareness. Volunteers continued to show active participation and enthusiasm throughout the day's diverse activities.

As part of the day's activities volunteers visited locations with cultural, educational, and spiritual significance as part of the day's events. These included **Wilson Hill, Shri Swaminarayan Vidyapeeth, a Science Explorium, the Lady Wilson Museum the Shreemad Rajchandra Ashram, and the Shri Swaminarayan Temple.** The volunteers had the chance to learn about local customs, engage with local communities, consider spiritual principles, and establish a connection with the natural world during these visits. These experiences not only deepened their understanding of the region's heritage but also strengthened their appreciation for diversity, knowledge, and holistic well-being.

In the evening, a lively and colorful **Cultural Program** was presented by students from **Junagadh Agricultural University, Sankalchand Patel University, Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University (HNGU), Veer Narmad South Gujarat University (VNSGU),** and institutions from **Surat.** The performances beautifully captured the **diverse folk traditions and regional identities of Gujarat,** leaving the audience both entertained and inspired.

The students showcased a range of **Gujarati folk dances** such as **Garba** and **Dandiya Raas,** performed in traditional attire with coordinated circular movements and rhythmic claps. These dances, rooted in devotion and celebration, brought festive energy to the stage. There were also **folk songs and musical acts** reflecting the rural life and cultural richness of Saurashtra, North Gujarat, and South Gujarat regions.

The entire program served as a cultural journey through the heart of Gujarat, allowing volunteers from across India to experience the vibrant spirit and unity of the host state. The evening concluded with **dinner,** followed by a **brief PO meeting** to wrap up the day's proceedings and prepare for the next.







DAY – 4

The fourth day of the NIC camp, held on **30th June, 2025** began with a Yoga session promoting physical fitness and mental well-being.

The day's academic activities commenced with an informative session by **Mr. Chintan Pathak** on the topic of **Cyber Security**. The session covered important aspects of digital safety and responsible online behaviour, raising awareness among volunteers about the emerging cyber threats.

Following the session, a **Drama and Theatre Art Workshop** was conducted, during which the volunteers were introduced to the **basics of Garba**, a traditional dance form of Gujarat. The session was energetic and interactive, allowing participants to experience the cultural essence of the host state. This was followed by a **multi-state cultural exchange activity**, where volunteers from various regions showcased their own traditional dance forms and cultural elements. The workshop created a lively atmosphere of **unity in diversity**, fostering mutual respect, learning, and celebration of India's rich cultural heritage.

Later in the day, a vibrant **Cultural Program** was conducted by the teams from **Telangana, Odisha, Noble University**, and **Kamdhenu University**, where participants showcased their talents through a variety of performances representing the **rich cultural heritage of their respective regions**.

The team from **Telangana** performed the energetic and devotional **Bonalu dance**, a traditional folk dance offered in reverence to the Goddess Mahankali. Dressed in colorful traditional attire and carrying **decorated pots** on their heads, the performers captivated the audience with their rhythmic movements and powerful expressions. They also presented **folk songs** and the melodious **Bathukamma song**, celebrating the floral festival that symbolizes the spirit and strength of women in Telangana.

Meanwhile, the team from **Odisha** displayed the grace of their region through **folk music** and traditional dance sequences, reflecting the cultural richness of eastern India. The teams from **Noble University** and **Kamdhenu University** contributed with their own unique regional performances, and traditional dance forms that highlighted the diverse artistic expressions from Gujarat.

The evening served as a beautiful confluence of cultures, showcasing the **unity in diversity** that defines our nation. The event was followed by **dinner**, and a **brief PO meeting** to conclude the day.





DAY – 5

The fifth day of the NIC , held on **1st July 2025**, was creatively engaging and educational, offering volunteers a mix of fine arts, self-development, and social awareness activities.

The day began with a Yoga session. The first half of the day featured a **Fine Art segment**, where volunteers took part in **Warli Painting, Self-Defence training, Singing, Hairstyle Making, and Mono Acting**. These activities helped volunteers explore their creative talents and build confidence through self-expression and practical skills.

After lunch, a motivational session by **Krimil Hariya**, an NSS State Awardee was held. He inspired the volunteers with his journey, sharing meaningful experiences of commitment, service, and leadership.

Later in the afternoon, a session on Environment and Sustainability was conducted by **Dr. Alay Desai**, International Management Guru which focused on environmental responsibility and sustainable living practices.

In the evening, a **Cultural Program** was conducted by the teams from **Pondicherry, Rajasthan, and Sikkim**, showcasing the vibrant traditions and artistic talents of their regions.

The team from **Pondicherry** performed folk dances reflecting the region's blend of Tamil and French cultural influences. The **Rajasthan team** energized the audience with traditional folk dances like Ghoomar, known for its graceful spins and colorful attire. The **Sikkim team** presented rhythmic group dances inspired by local customs and Himalayan traditions, highlighting the serene and festive spirit of the Northeast.

The performances reflected the diversity and unity among the participants and were thoroughly enjoyed by all. The day concluded with dinner and a **brief PO meeting** to reflect on the day's events and prepare for the next.







DAY - 6

The sixth day of the NIC , held on **2nd July, 2025**, focused on creative expression, and meaningful group discussions, making it a day of thoughtful engagement and collaborative spirit.

The day began with a Yoga session, followed by morning refreshments. The first activity of the day included **Slogan Writing, Card Making, and Poster Making**, which allowed volunteers to creatively convey powerful messages on social and environmental issues prevailing in the society through their work which was followed by a **Workshop by Manishaben Panwala**.

After lunch, a Group Discussion session was conducted, offering a platform for volunteers to share their thoughts, exchange ideas, and discuss key takeaways from the camp experience.

In the second half of the day, participants enthusiastically took part in **Diya Decoration and One Minute Activities**, which served as creative outlets and helped promote team bonding, spontaneity, and fun interaction among the volunteers. These activities allowed participants to showcase their artistic flair while also encouraging light-hearted competition and collaboration.

The day also featured a **Feedback Session**, where both volunteers and Program Officers shared their reflections on the camp's progress, discussed learnings, and offered valuable suggestions for future improvements.

In the evening, volunteers prepared for the **Cultural Program**, which was held after dinner. The teams from **West Bengal, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh** presented a captivating series of performances showcasing traditional dances, folk songs, and regional art forms unique to their states. The **West Bengal team** enthralled the audience with their soulful folk songs and elegant dance forms deeply rooted in Bengali tradition. Their performance beautifully conveyed the poetic and artistic heritage of the region, blending music and movement in a graceful celebration of Bengal's cultural identity. Following them, the **Uttarakhand team** brought the spirit of the majestic Himalayas to life through lively performances. Clad in colorful traditional attire, the performers displayed rhythmic footwork and expressive storytelling, reflecting the everyday life, festivals, and natural beauty of the hill state. The team of **Himachal Pradesh** performed representing the joyous expressions, the dance encapsulated the celebratory essence of Himachal's rural communities and their age-old customs.

The day concluded with a **brief PO meeting**, wrapping up the day's events and setting the agenda for the final leg of the camp.





DAY - 7

The final day of the NIC camp, held on **3rd July 2025**, was marked with gratitude and heartfelt farewells.

The day began with a refreshing Yoga session, followed by morning refreshments. The main highlight of the day was the **Closing Ceremony**, where volunteers, Program Officers, and organizers came together to celebrate the successful completion of the camp. During this ceremony, participants eagerly shared their experiences, lessons learned, and memorable moments from the week. The Program Officers took the opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate the dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work demonstrated by all the volunteers, highlighting the positive impact of their collective efforts.

After the ceremony, everyone gathered for a final lunch, followed by warm goodbyes during the see-off as volunteers departed with memories, learnings, and new friendships to carry forward.