

NATIONAL CADET CORPS

Introduction

National Cadet Corps is a **Tri-Services Organization**, comprising the **Army, Navy and Air Force**, engaged in grooming the youth of the country into disciplined and patriotic citizens. During the independence movement, the leaders of our nation had realised the need to create a national level youth organisation, to train and groom young boys as responsible citizens and future leaders of our great country in all walks of life, including the defence forces. Consequently, a committee was set up in **1946** on the directives of the first Prime Minister, **Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru**, to consider the establishment of a nationwide Cadet Corps. The recommendations of the committee paved the way for the National Cadet Corps, which was born on **15th July, 1948 under the NCC Act XXXI of 1948** under the Ministry of Defence

NCC started in a small way with **32,500** Senior and 1, 35, 000 Junior cadets. It has grown exponentially since then and the authorized cadet strength has now reached 13 lakhs. Today, NCC in India is the **LARGEST UNIFORMED VOLUNTARY STUDENTS ORGANIZATION IN THE WORLD**. While this figure by itself is quite substantial, it covers only approximately **3.5%** of the eligible student population of our country. These 13 lakh cadets are spread all over India through a network of **774 NCC Units** covering **4,816 Colleges** and **8, 029 Schools (a total of 12845 educational institutions)**

While elementary military training is given to school, college students are trained as potential officers for the Armed Forces. NCC curriculum was extended to include community development as a part of the NCC syllabus at the behest of **Late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru**, who took a keen interest in the growth of the NCC.

The **Chinese Aggression of 1962**, led to the nation-wide demand for making NCC compulsory. Consequently in **1963**, NCC training was made compulsory for all able bodied boys in the age group of **16 to 25** years, in the first three years in college. However, the lack of infrastructure, inadequate staff to train the cadets and lack of

equipment and weapons, made it difficult for the NCC organisation to implement its expanded role.

Aim of NCC

The aims of NCC as approved by Ministry Of Defence in Mar 2001 are as under:-

- *To develop character, comradeship, discipline, leadership, secular outlook, spirit of adventure, sportsmanship and ideals of selfless service among the youth of the country.*
 - *To create a human resource of organized, trained and motivated youth, to provide leadership in all walks of life and always be available for the service of the nation.*
- (c) *To provide a suitable environment to motivate the youth to take up a career in the Armed Forces.*

Organisation

NCC is headed by an officer of the rank of Lieutenant General who is the Director General of the NCC. Two other officers of the rank of Major General, five Brigadier level officers and other civil officials assist him. The Headquarters is located in Delhi. There are 17 Directorates¹ located in the state capitals headed by an officer of the rank of a Major General / Brigadier from the three Services. Each Directorate has up to 14 Group Headquarters under it. Each group is headed by an officer of the rank of Brig /Colonel or equivalent known as Group Commander. Each NCC Group Headquarters control 8-10 units (Battalions/Naval Units/ Air Squadrons) commanded by Colonel/Lt. Colonel or equivalent. Each Battalion consists of companies which are commanded by the Associate NCC Officers (ANOs) of the rank of Lieutenant to Major. In all, there are 17 directorates and 91 Group Headquarters in the country who exercise control over (total 774 NCC units). There are two training establishments namely Officers Training Academy, Kamptee (Maharashtra) and Women Officers Training Academy, Gwalior (UP).

Organisation in Kerala

NCC in Kerala is headed by the Dy Director General of NCC, Brigadier G Subramanian at Trivandrum. There are 5 NCC Groups located in Trivandrum, Kollam, Kottayam, Ernakulam and Calicut. There are a total of 37 NCC units and approximately **75000 cadets in Kerala from around 1000 educational institutions.**

Training

Training forms the backbone of the NCC. This gives not only the shape and form to the corps but controls all the sensitive and vital nerves of the organisation. A tremendous amount has been achieved by NCC through its well regulated system of intensive training which includes Basic, Advance and Specialised training, with major stress being laid on training camps. The training in the NCC is conducted through a three-tier system of training staff, consisting of Regular Officers, Whole Time Officers, Whole Time Lady Officers, Associate NCC Officers (ANOs), Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs), Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) and their equivalents from the Navy and the Air Force as Permanent Instructor Staff, Girl Cadet Instructors (GCIs), Civil Gliding Instructors (CGIs), Ship Modelling Instructors (SMIs) and Aero Modelling Instructors (AMIs).

This training is mostly carried out in schools and colleges . In addition, depending upon the type of service i.e, Army,Navy/ Air Force, basic knowledge of that service is imparted to the cadets like gliding , powered flying for Air Wing cadets and boat pulling, sailing for Naval Wing cadets. These activities comprise approximately 50% of the entire syllabus. The basic training consists of drill and weapon training.

Camp Training

The following types of camps are conducted :-

(i) Leadership Camps . These camps are conducted on All India basis to bring out the leadership qualities in cadets. There are four Advance Leadership Camps (ALC) and three Basic Leadership Camps.

(ii) All India Trekking Camps. These camps are organised with an aim to inculcate spirit of adventure, exploration and inquisitiveness, develop stamina, endurance, self-confidence, team spirit and esprit-de-corps, develop love for nature, flora and fauna,

develop concern for preservation of wildlife and ecological balance. to understand the vastness and diversity of our Country and to promote national integration by making Cadets from various NCC Dtes to live together and familiarise with one another.

(iii) Thal/Vayu/Nau Sainik Camps. Selected boys/ girls cadets from all directorates participate in these highly prestigious camps held once in an year. These camps focus on the physical/tactical/military potential of the cadets.

(iv) Rock Climbing Camps. Eight rock climbing camps are held each year to expose the cadets to the basics of elementary rock climbing and to inculcate spirit of adventure amongst cadets. Four of these camps are held at Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh and other four camps at Nanyardam near Trivandrum in Kerala.

(v) National Integration Camps (NIC) .These camps are conducted on All India basis and help bridge the cultural gap among various States of India. In addition, There are five special NICs conducted at Leh, Nagrota (J&K), Chakabama (NCR), Lakshadweep and Port Blair.

(vi) Republic Day Camp (RDC). NCC Republic Day Camp is the culmination of all NCC Training activities. RDC is held at Garrison Parade Ground, Delhi Cantt from 01 to 29 Jan. 1850 selected NCC Cadets from all States & Union Territories attend the Camp. The Camp is inaugurated by the Vice President of India and culminates with Prime Minister's Rally on 27 Jan.

(vii) Annual Training Camps. Apart from the above, each NCC unit conducts 2 to 3 Annual Training Camps (ATCs) in an year (approximately 200 such camps all over India).

Attachment Training

NCC cadets are given an opportunity to live and work in regular service units in the form of Attachment Training. Allocation of 20,000 vacancies for attachment to various Army Command Head Quarters is done by the Army Head Quarters. The attachment training is for approximately 15 days. This includes 560 SW cadets attached with various centres/Depots where lady officers are posted. In addition 1000 Senior Wing Girl cadets are attached with various Military Hospitals every year. Besides this, cadets are given an opportunity to visit Indian Military Academy, Dehradun and Officers' Training Academy, Chennai and similarly with Naval/ Air Force institutions.

Community Development Programmes

Cadets are given opportunity to understand and work in the fields of Disaster Management, Anti Leprosy drives, Anti dowry drives, Tree Plantation, Environment Protection, Anti-Narcotics, Old Age Homes, Organ Donation, Blood Donation, Anti-

corruption, Adult Education, Aids Awareness, Cancer Awareness, Palliative Care etc.

Youth Exchange Programmes

NCC has Youth Exchange Programmes with Singapore, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Naval Cruises on board Indian Naval Warships.

Ex NCC Cadets : Roll of Honour

Gandhiji and Chacha Nehru were Cadets in their younger days (in Ambulance Corps). Some of the other well-known ex NCC cadets are Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Morarji Desai, Sushma Swaraj, Tarun Gogoi (CM of Assam), Gulam Nabi Azad, YS Rajasekhar Reddy (ex CM of AP), Jaswant Singh, Kiran Bedi, Budh Deb Battacharya (ex CM of W.Bengal), MM Pallam Raju (Cabinet Minister), MS Gill (Ex CEC), Dr Raman Singh (CM of Chattisgarh), Dr Naresh Trehan, Jaya Bachhan, Marshal of the Air Arjan Singh, Generals Deepak Kapoor, VK Singh, TN Raina, Air Chief Marshals PV Naik, SK Sareen, Krishna Swami, Admiral Nirmal Verma, Lt Gen SK Sinha, Lt Gen MM Jacob, Subrata Roy of Sahara Parivar, Rajya Vardhan Singh Rathore, Anjali Bhagawat, MA Baby and Late TM Jacobthe list is endless....

Incentives to NCC Cadets

Annual Sahara Scholarship

An annual Sahara scholarship scheme of Rs. 1 Crore to be given out as scholarships per annum to NCC cadets, has been instituted by the Sahara Group.

1.JD and JW	Rs. 6,000/- each (Total 368 in an year)
2.SD and SW	Rs. 12,000/- each (Total 368 in an year)
3.Professional	Rs.30,000/- each (Total 66 in an year)

Scholarship from Cadets Welfare Society

The Society grants 500 scholarships of Rs 5,000/- each to NCC Cadets who excel in academics. The vacancies are allotted to all states based on the enrolled strength of each state.

Grace Marks

NCC cadets who complete the specified training are awarded grace marks while seeking admission for higher studies. Percentage of grace marks depends on the number and types of camps attended by the cadets.

Vacancies Reserved For NCC Cadets in Armed Forces / Govt jobs

Priorities are given for recruitments in Indian Army/ Navy/ Air Force and other Para Military Forces. Even private companies like Sahara and Reliance give priorities for NCC cadets. Many state govts also give preferences to the NCC applicants for the state govt jobs.

SUMMARY OF BENEFITS TO NCC CADETS

1. Develop qualities like social service, team spirit, leadership, discipline and self-confidence.
2. Since NCC camps are held at different places in the country, cadets get opportunity to visit important historical and industrial places and social centers. Due to this, students widen their horizon and develop ambition to do creative work.
3. NCC cadets are taught civil defence and self defence. Due to this, cadets develop national spirit and confidence.
4. NCC cadets are attached with defence units every year so that they get acquainted with the defence life.
5. NCC cadets are trained for parachute jumps and mountaineering so that they develop capacity to do courageous work.
6. Selected cadets are sent to foreign countries every year as part of Youth Exchange Programmes..
7. 32 seats are reserved per course in IMA for cadets who have passed NCC `C` certificate examination. NCC cadets having 50% aggregate marks in graduation with minimum `B` grade in `C` certificate examination are eligible for short service commission(NCC special entry scheme) without qualifying CDS written examination.

They face direct interview.

8. NCC trained cadets are given preference in recruitment in Armed Forces.
9. Many Industrialists give priority in jobs for NCC trained students.
10. Central and state governments also give priority for NCC trained students.
11. Given priority in recruitment in Para Military Forces.
12. Given refreshment on every parade and are given washing allowance for uniform.
13. Facility to purchase goods from military canteens.
14. On death or permanently handicapped of NCC cadet during NCC activities, a sum of Rs. 2,00,000 is paid from NCC cadet welfare society.