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Life is all about exploration. Our curiosities are resolved when we explore the unknown. From young age, I always wanted to enroll myself in the National Cadet Corps. Sadly, I didn't get the opportunity until I became an Undergraduate student of Chemical Engineering.

My first day was on 7th Feb'21, when I was asked to report to Pragjyotish college for the Naval unit. I was thrilled to learn and experience what was lying ahead. The sheer discipline of NCC cadets amazes me, and to be a part of them was like a lifetime experience. Greater so, when I was selected for the CATC camp, to be held from 15th Feb in Panikhaiti. With just one day experience in the class, I had merely any idea about the proceedings of NCC. But thanks to my seniors, they never hesitated to make me learn, even if it was as basic as saying the seniors "Jai Hind"! The entirety of the 5 days event went through a routine. Waking up at 3:30-4:00 A.M would have been a much difficult task at home, but in the camp, we were ready much before time. The fall-ins, the punishments, the drills and the exercises, the theoretical classes in the open, the cultural events, the firing sessions, the boat pulling sessions and moreover the overall learning experience had left behind a positive impact on me. Emphasizing the firing part, I would have in general, never imagined I would be someday holding a real rifle and firing with real bullets. I still get goosebumps when I think of that adventure. Being a first timer in the camp, I had the zeal to participate in everything and anything that was happening around. I went up for anchoring, for extempore, for singing, for tent pitching; you name them, and I was in it. Frankly, I went there knowing none other than the Cadet Captain of our college. But I came back with a whole lot of friends from various colleges. We had 23 SW's in total, all being my seniors, and I made the best bond with all of them! Being the least experienced cadet, technically, in the camp, I am still glad to have won the Best Academics award for the first year cadets at the end of the camp duration.

So, As I mentioned earlier, our curiosities are fed by exploration. Those 5 days helped me interact with the world that was beyond our cellphones; a world of discipline, punctuality, of true knowledge and natural interaction. To wake up before the sun rises, and to see it advancing through the mountains and finally, guessing the time of the day as the sun sets behind the clouds is something that is beyond words. I will trade anything to get a life such.