

# What NCC Has Taught Me

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**"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."**

-Benjamin Franklin

"Involve me and I learn"- Getting involved in a particular task provides us with the practical experience that is unmatched to the theory".

The institutions of our Country stress more on theoretical knowledge than the practical.

But, NCC is an organization that not only makes you a much more practical person, but also develops your personality as an individual.

This organization is much more than just an organization focussing on ingraining leadership qualities in one.

I have learnt uncountable things from NCC but I want to list out the major ones that have completely transformed my personality.

## **Unity and discipline –**

The first thing that we are taught here , which also happens to be the motto of this beautiful organization.

We work as a whole no matter what. No deviations , no diversions.

It's easy to break a stick but extremely difficult to break a bunch of them.

Whether it be drill or any task, we do it as a single unit. When you see an NCC flight marching down the streets chanting "ek do ek" you can feel the synchronization between the cadets. As if everyone is connected to one another.

The thunderous digs and their chants are in absolute synchronization. This doesn't come overnight, we practice hours and hours under the scorching sun accompanied by punishment for any mistake.

One makes mistake, the whole flight pays for it. This implants a sense of

perfection in us. Everything we do has to be perfect or we must be ready for the consequences.

### **Determination-**

In the past I've left a number of tasks that could have been completed back then. I was lacking determination.

But this organization has taught me to get any job done by any means. If you are given a task, you have to get it done within the stipulated time. You must be able to do any task on your own without requiring anyone's assistance. This has actually helped me to extend my limits and my thinking horizon.

During punishments, we've learnt to push ourselves to the limit. With our legs on the wall and hands on the ground pressed against those sharp stones, we've learnt to convince ourselves to hang there a few more seconds and then a few more again. This has made us realize that we can do better than we think. We just need to say to ourselves " hang in there, you can do it". It's really wonderful to see the female cadets giving us a tough competition in all aspects. And of course, when you see someone fighting his/her pain to push themselves , you definitely get inspired and gather courage to keep pushing.

### **Cooperation-**

One thing that's unique about armed forces is that men and women are treated equally, unlike the rest of the world. Helping each other has become a part of our lives. Unity is nothing without cooperation. We help each other in the smallest of tasks. Due to this the environment in NCC units is so beautiful because we live in a world where people prefer to film people suffering rather than helping. This is the fundamental quality for those who want to serve the nation and luckily we NCC cadets are equipped with it.

### **Liveliness-**

From laughing at those who got punishment to laughing again after the entire flight gets punished, NCC taught us how to live in the moment. We never thought

we would start loving punishments. But I think when the whole flight gets punished, in some way we enjoy it. Without the regret of anything, we've learnt to enjoy every moment of our life. No matter how big the problem is, just smile and deal with it.

"Past is a place of reference and not a place of residence". We cadets live the present and plan the future. Some people cross limits when they're happy, but we've learnt how to control ourselves.

NCC has made us more formal than ever before.

We have ethics and we follow them. We greet our seniors and respected officers every morning. We don't do anything that goes against the ethics of armed forces. These ethics are a set of rules or you may call them discipline.

We enter our unit with proper haircut, clean shaven and properly dressed. Creating an aura of a warrior around us.

And this is not temporary. I've got habituated to this kind of a lifestyle, and that's what makes me distinctive and unique.

### **Sacrifice-**

Though the sacrifices we make might not be significant but these sacrifices will prepare us for bigger ones when needed.

I agree to the fact that our NCC classes are conducted on Sundays only and sometimes on week days too, but most of the people tend to plan their outings on Sundays. I don't even remember how many times I've refused to go out with my friends on Sundays or postponed something important to attend NCC classes. And all of us in one way or the other sacrifice something. I've always been active in sports but many of us are not that exposed to physical activities or getting up early. Those people sacrificed their sleep to come to unit for rigorous physical training. It may be a nightmare for some as well. But they don't give up. This is what NCC has made us. And that is the reason why we won't be surprised if one of us decides to sacrifice himself/herself for the nation in future. We're mentally prepared for everything.

## **Stamina-**

Stamina or physical fitness is the backbone of someone who wants join armed forces. As it is said that a healthy body is where a healthy mind resides. We're trained physically for 3-4 hours every class day . From running kilometers with a 4.5 kg rifle glued to our chest or doing frog jumps with rifle above us, NCC has helped us explore our physical limits and push them further.

Drills have helped us develop accurate body and mind coordination.

A very popular phrase

" Practice makes a man perfect"

actually doesn't fit right. One of my teachers modified it and when I heard it, it suddenly made an impact

" Perfect practice makes a man perfect"

And I believe that this line forms a very thick boundary between military and civil environment.

If you practice things the wrong way, it is not going to contribute. You have to practice the right way to be perfect.

And that's what military does. That's what NCC does. That's what we do.

And that's why we are DIFFERENT.