

NATIONAL CADET CORPS

Report on CATC-cum-IGC TSC Camp from 16-07-2023 to 25-07-2023

Conducted by NCC Directorate of TN, P, and AN



Greetings with DDG – Commodore Atul Kumar Rastogi

(DDG remembers his recent visit to HITS for PD & SSB capsule while greeting KCG)

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INTRODUCTION

Combined Annual Training Camp (CATC) is a mandatory camp for 'B' and 'C' certificate examinations of NCC. Every year CATC camp will be conducted for nearly 4 times a year depending upon the vacancies of NCC cadets in a unit. Thal Sainik camp (TSC) is a tough camp among the Army wing to prove a cadet to be a soldier. There are two main competitions that will be conducted in TSC. Firing and Obstacle tasks that the cadet must complete the tasks accurately within seconds. These cadets will be more fit to enter defence sectors easily. Similarly, there are Nau Sainik Camp (NSC) for the Naval wing and Vayu Sainik Camp (VSC) for the Airforce wing.

Each camp will be conducted for the duration of 10 days and further on selected cadets will be shortlisted for future camps. TSC camp starts in the month of June and ends at Delhi in the month of October first week. The competitions will start from a unit Battalion and then to Inter Group Competition between groups like Madras A, B, Pondichery, Andaman & Nicobar, Trichy, Coimbatore and Madurai and then the final camp for Directorate level at Delhi.

National Integration Camp (NIC) like Republic Day Camp (RDC) will be conducted every year from the month of August to January 28th till PM Rally. And other camps such as para camp, trekking camp, and adventurous camp will be conducted for the duration of 12 days.

This report is about CATC-cum-IGC TSC camp which was from 16-07-2023 to 25-07-2023 conducted by NCC Directorate of TN, P & AN. The entire responsibility of the camp was taken by 1 TN Battalion NCC unit of Madras 'A' group where our college NCC unit is a part of 1 TN Battalion.

DEPUTATION OF ANO

Once a college professor by profession becomes an NCC in-charge, he/she will be appointed as a Caretaker of the NCC unit of college after attending an interview with the Commanding Officer (CO) at first. A caretaker can hold the responsibility for maximum 3 years within which he/she has to attend an interview at Tamil Nadu Secretariate with Defence panel members and the Department of Technical Education (DOTE) panel members and finally, he/she has to be medically fit within the prescribed age limits and he/she has to attend training for permanent commission (PRCN) at Officers Training Academy (OTA), Kamptee.

If a caretaker fails to attend the training within 3 years then a new caretaker has to be appointed as per the battalion orders. Maximum 2 caretakers can leave his/ her duty at an institution who fails to attend PRCN training or else a warning letter will be issued by the NCC unit for withdrawal. Once a caretaker completes his training at OTA, he/ she will be commissioned to be an officer in the rank of defence officer cadre holding an honorary rank as Lieutenant for the Army wing, Sub-Lieutenant for the Navy wing, and Flying Officer for Air wing. Timely promotions will be given to the officers on successful completion of service for 8 years as captain and 15 years as Major in the Army wing. And these NCC officers are called to be Associate NCC Officers (ANO).

Our Institution has an ANO, Lt.C.Akin (myself) in which now we have a permanent NCC unit at our campus. Further on we can include more vacancies and bring other wings with the proper approvals. The institution holds pride in bringing honorary rank through NCC from the Ministry of Defence. I found my rank was not mentioned in any registers or repository even after so many reminders to HR.

ANO's are a part of a NCC unit/ Battalion where they act as permanent officers. Whenever they are called or deputed for any duties or service offered by the Ministry of Defence through NCC, he/she must report to their duties through CO with the cooperation and support of the institution. As per the Battalion order, I was deputed for ANO duty for CATC-cum-IGC TSC camp held at Tambaram from 16-07-2023 to 25-07-2023.

CATC camp In-charge

Once an ANO is deputed for a camp, he will be given a designation and responsibility as Deputy Camp Commandant, Camp Adjutant, Camp Quarter Master, and so on as appointed by the Commanding Officer. And 24/7 during the camp period ANO is the sole responsible person for all the cadets in the camp, events, and activities. This is the reason why Battalion insists institutions to relieve ANO's from college duties during camp periods. In all events and activities, permanent instructors (PI) staff who are Army soldiers in the rank of SM, Subhedar, and Havildar will support the camp.

When any NCC cadet faces an accident or injury during the camp, the ANO in-charge of the camp has the responsibility to take care of the cadet and to inform their parents. Daily attendance parade must be signed by an ANO, and purchase orders and messing bills need to be signed by an ANO for witness. I was deputed as camp in-charge of the Combined Annual Training Camp (CATC). The NCC examination paper correction and mark allocation works are the tasks of ANO's.

Every day, at early morning 5:30 am ANO's should ensure fall-in time for the cadets to assemble at PT/ drill ground in which 4 am is the waking time with a clean shave and proper dress code. And as per the parade schedule the daily tasks will be completed and it may take till 12:30 am minimum to go to bed until then there will be a preparatory work for the next day's tasks. There is no holiday or Sunday during the camp periods until there is an order issued by the Commanding Officer with proper Government orders. Therefore, at the end of the camp at least there should be a one-day gap should be there before resuming the institutional duties. An ANO must report and perform his duties anytime when he was called by the NCC unit and Commanding Officer.

PARADE SCHEDULE

During any camps, the below schedule will be the default program of an NCC parade;

5:30 am to 6:45 am	Physical Training
7 am to 8 am	Uniform and Drill
8 am to 8:45 am	Refresh, and Breakfast
9 am to 10 am	Theory Class by an Officer, ANO on the general topics corruption, Disaster Management, NCC, Wars, Weapons and Map readings.
10 am to 10:15 am	Tea Break
10:15 am to 11: 15 am	Theory Class by an Officer, ANO on the general topics corruption, Disaster Management, NCC, Wars, Weapons and Map readings.
11: 15 am to 12:15 am	Practical Classes
12:15 am to 1:30 pm	Lunch Break
1:30 pm to 3 pm	Weapon training, Obstacle training and tent pitching
3 pm to 3:15 pm	Tea Break
3:15 pm to 4:15 pm	Competitions on MR, firing, OT, Cultural and tests
4:15 pm to 6 pm	Sports & Games
6 pm to 7 pm	Break and Preparatory works
7 pm to 8 pm	Study hour
8 pm to 8:45 pm	Dinner
9 pm to 10 pm	Competition works, mocks and Preparatory works for next day parade by Ustaads
10 pm to 11 pm	Cleaning and washing of uniform, belt, cap, and shoes.
11 pm to 4 am	Sleep

DAY WISE ACTIVITIES

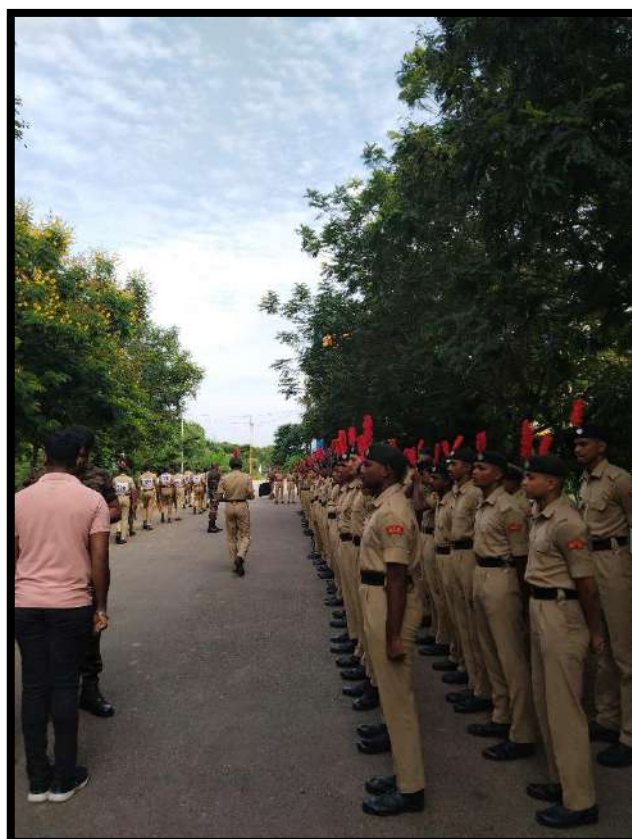
DAY 1: 16-07-2023:

Reporting day – Report of cadets from various institutions, Bio-metric registrations, camp document submission and Camp fee payments.



Day 2: 17-07-2023

Drill practice and Classes taken by Officers and ANO



Day 3: 18-07-2023

Weapon training class



Day 4: 19-07-2023

Drill Practice



Day 5: 20-07-2023

Firing Positions



Day 6: 21-07-2023

Sports and Games



Day 7: 22-07-2023

Obstacle training



Day 8: 23-07-2023

Examination and Competition for Running, firing, and tent pitching.



Day 9: 24-07-2023

Culturals, and Valedictory preparations



Day 10: 25-07-2023

Guard of Honor, Quarter Guard, Group Commander visit, Prize distribution and Valedictory.



SELECTION OF CADETS FROM CATC-CUM-IGC TSC

CATC-cum-IGC TSC camp is a combined where 2 different camps will be conducted separately. The CATC camp schedule is prepared according to the basic syllabus and the IGC-TSC camp is a selection camp for NCC cadets across TN, P, and AN Directorate. TSC cadets are subjected to do firing and Obstacle tasks in this camp and a final selection list will be prepared in which the selected cadets will be called for the next level camp till it ends at Delhi. Few cadets from the TSC camp are kept as a reserved party where their score is less than the main party in a few points. If any cadet met with an accident or got injured during the camp the reserved party will be shortlisted for the main party.

In the current IGC TSC camp, an NCC cadet from New College has broken his elbow during an obstacle task and immediately he was taken to a nearby government hospital by ambulance. As per camp rules, an Army Officer and JCO from Army Medical Corps and Ambulance must be available during the selection camp.

Obstacle tasks are the toughest task in TSC camp, 10 difficult obstacle tasks will be kept for a 30-meter distance each, and a total of 300 meters a cadet must complete it in the best 2.3 minutes. And Firing task in which a cadet must finish the target sheet with less grouping distance of a best 0.5 cm.



FIRING WITH 0.22” SPORTING AND DELUXE RIFLE

All the cadet who has enrolled in CATC-cum-IGC TSC camp will have the chance to do firing with 0.22” Sporting and Deluxe rifle. The Firing range will be at a distance of 25 meters for NCC Cadets and 50 meters plus for Officers and ANO’s from the firing wall. The Firing wall has 30 feet plus height and 3 feet plus thickness holding a slogan of “Ek Goli Ek Dhushman”.



CULTURAL COMPETITION

Every camp conducted by NCC/ Defence has a cultural competition which will be prepared perfectly and celebrated grandly. The Cadets will show their performance through group songs, group dances, solo song, solo dance, and skits. The performance of each cadet brings up their enthusiasm and spirit to the stage. The best performance cadet and team will receive prizes during valedictory.



PD & SSB CAPSULE

To motivate the NCC cadets to join in defence services, the personality development and SSB capsule session will be conducted in every camp by the commanding officers. This activity will add up a feather to the unit and Directorate. The Service selection board (SSB) is a mandatory and important stage of recruitment in Army, Navy, and Airforce as an officer. There are few entries to join in defence sector like, UPSC CDS, SSC and there is a special entry for an NCC cadet to join directly into the SSB which is the NCC special entry. The cadet who has a 'C' certificate can enroll for NCC special entry.

In 2014, I attended an SSB interview for one attempt, which I got screened in and attended 5 days of interview and tasks and conference out. The 5-day SSB interview includes the below tasks;

Day 1: Screening test – verbal aptitude, group discussion and PPDT test.

Day 2: Only screened in candidate can attend day 2. Psychological test, SRT, WAT.

Day 3: Group tasks, MR and obstacle.

Day 4: Individual task and interview with Brigadier and Higher rank officer.

Day 5: Final Command task, extempore speech, and role play.

Finally, the selected cadre will be sent for a medical test.



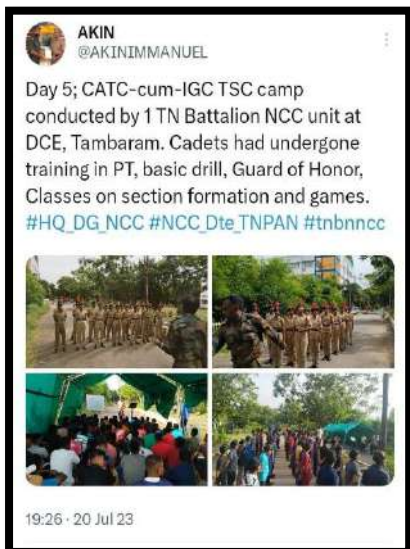
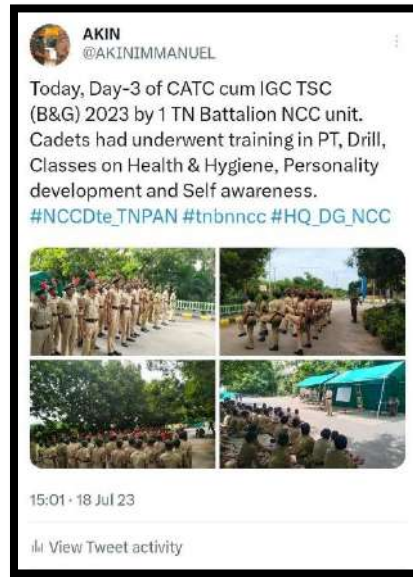
DDG VISITS THE CAMPSITE

Deputy Director General Commodore Atul Kumar Rastogi visited the CATC-cum-IGC TSC campsite. DDG is the Head of the NCC Directorate of TN, P, and AN. 1 TN Battalion NCC unit, CO Lt Col Suresh welcomes DDG with Guard of Honour along with the Group commander. DDG distributed the Prizes during the valedictory, and gave an address to the officers, ANO's, PI staff and NCC cadets about his experience in stepping towards defence and he motivated the cadets to join in defence sectors. DDG mentions his first attempt was a fail in Indian Army and then he tried for Navy where he succeed. Finally DDG greeted all officers and ANO's and a group photo was taken along with him in group wise.



SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES

Daily events and activities of the camp were updated on social media platform through twitter.



CONCLUSION

1 TN Battalion NCC unit has taken the responsibility to conduct CATC-cum-IGC TSC camp at the group level and completed its first camp successfully.

This camp has trained around 600 NCC cadets across TN, P, and AN from various institutions.

The day and night hard work of these 10 days of camp was put into a lot of effort for the development of NCC and young cadets.

This kind of participation will bring more credentials to the institution and each institution will act as a hotspot for the second line of defence.

And with the continuous support and guidance of the management the development and growth of NCC will be higher and higher.

I thank God Almighty first for all things and everything.

Jai Hind!!