

## **A Study of National Cadet Core Course of College Students in Context of NEP 2020**

Lt. (Dr) Hitesh Sharma, Assistant Professor  
and Associate NCC Officer,  
Department of Education, Tezpur University

### **Abstract**

*This study is a policy review of felt need to expose a larger community of student population of India to minimal military training and national security consciousness. NCC student, besides scoring required credit points towards his UG course, is also likely to benefit in the number of jobs/ career options which gives bonus marks or priority in selection, to candidates holding NCC B and C certificate. The present research aims to study the policy review of NCC general elective credit course in universities under choice-based credit system to align with national education policy 2020 in terms reaction of NCC Cadets and associated NCC Officers. This paper also aims to provide suggestions from experts for best implementation of the NCC Open Elective and overall NCC training. Due to the availability of very few researches on this topic and Challenges of implementation of the scheme, to know the attitude of NCC Cadets and Associated NCC Officers this study was need to uptake. The research design of this study is descriptive survey research design. The sample of the present study comprised of 322 NCC cadets who were randomly selected from different states and 134 Associate NCC Officers who were also selected randomly from the different states of the India. The reaction scale used for the data collection was developed by the investigator. The major findings of the study are that most of the NCC Cadets and Associate NCC Officers given positive and favorable reaction towards the implementation of NCC open elective course in the universities and Colleges, NCC Cadets and ANOs given favorable and positive reaction towards the different aspects of the NCC training and overall NCC Education as a whole.*

**Keywords-** NCC, NEP 2020, Course

### **Introduction**

Introduction of NCC as Credit Course can facilitate partial realization of the felt need to expose a larger community of student population of India to minimal military training and security consciousness. Paradigm shift in NCC's positioning from extra- curricular to mainstream activity, finds favor with large majority of student population and cadets. NEP-2020 Sec 4.9 proposed to remove "hard separation between extra-curricular & co-curricular in Higher Education Institutes (HEIs)" &

offer all such activities as credit courses under Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) and may be included as skill-based course (SEC) or Value-added Course (VAC) as per new FYUGP and UGC Curriculum and Credit framework for undergraduate programs, in section 5.4 of CCFUG it is mentioned that “Students may be encouraged to enroll in activities such as NSS / NCC” and in section 5.1.9 it is also stated that “participation in activities related to National Service Scheme (NCC), National Cadet Corps (NCC), adult education/literacy initiatives, mentoring school students, and other similar activities” should be ensured. Sec 11.8 of NEP 2020 mandates all HEIs to include credit-based courses & projects in the field of community engagement and service. The existing UGC policy permits offering NCC as elective course on voluntary basis by HEIs. The UGC guidelines on CBCS extend requisite academic freedom to universities to offer NCC as a credit course if they wish. Universities/ Institutes may evolve a system/policy about Courses/Sports/NCC/NSS/Vocational courses/related courses on their own. Paradigm shift in NCC’s positioning from extra-curricular to mainstream activity, finds favor with large majority of student population and cadets. This option addresses a larger national interest of generation interest among students in matters of national defense and security apart from imbibing the basic ethos of NCC training and discipline among a much larger body of students beyond the authorized strength of 15 Lakhs NCC cadets. The NCC is open to all regular students of schools and colleges on a voluntary basis. The students have no liability for active military service. Traditionally NCC training is imparted as extra-curricular activity to volunteer students from recognized schools and colleges who enroll as cadets. NCC as a Credit Course is designed with an intent to transform NCC training into a curricular activity from an extra-curricular thereby providing academic credits to students undergoing NCC training along with other attended advantages to the cadets in the college/ university. This study is a policy review of felt need to expose a larger community of student population of India to minimal military training and national security consciousness. NCC student, besides scoring required credit points towards his UG course, is also likely to benefit in the number of jobs/ career options which gives bonus marks or priority in selection, to candidates holding NCC B and C certificate. NCC was raised with an aim of grooming both the boys and the girls, nurture them and direct their energy towards nation building by making them responsible citizens. The NCC provides exposure to the cadets in a wide range of activities. NCC

provides a distinct emphasis on Social Services, Discipline and Adventure Training. The NCC is open to all regular students of schools and colleges on a voluntary basis. The students have no liability for active military service. NCC aims and objectives are to develop character, commandership, discipline, leadership, secular outlook, and spirit of adventure and the ideals of selfless service amongst the youth of the country. Introduction of NCC as Credit Course can facilitate partial realization of the felt need to expose a larger community of student population of India to minimal military training and security consciousness. Paradigm shift in NCC's positioning from extra-curricular to mainstream activity, finds favor with large majority of student population and cadets. NCC Cadets derive direct academic credits from NCC training, including participation in camps, SS CD, etc., which was missing hitherto. This option addresses a larger national interest of generation interest among students in matters of national defense and security apart from imbibing the basic ethos of NCC training and discipline among a much larger body of students beyond the authorized strength of 15 Lakhs NCC cadets. The policy of introducing NCC as an academic credit course is a welcoming step to earn academic credits from NCC. The National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a youth development movement. It exposes cadets to a regimented way of life which is essential for inculcating the values of discipline, dutifulness, punctuality, orderliness, smartness, respect for rightful authority, good and correct work ethos and self-confidence. It has enormous potential for nation building. The NCC provides opportunities to the youth of the country for their all-round development with a sense of Duty, Commitment, Dedication, Discipline and Moral Values so that they become able leaders and useful citizens of India. The NCC provides exposure to the cadets in a wide range of activities, with a distinct emphasis on Social Services, Discipline and Adventure Training.

NCC aims to create a human resource of organized, trained and motivate youth to provide leadership in all walks of life and always available for providing a suitable environment to motivate the youth to take up a career in the Armed Forces. After independence, the present day NCC formally came into existence on 15th July 1948 through XXXI Act of Parliament. The Girls Division of the NCC was raised in July 1949. On 01st April 1950, Air Wing established with an aim for raising a second line of defense and to create a large pool of trained youth available for Armed Forces, during the First World War, University Corps was conceptualized by the British Government.

In India, was raised, with one Air squadron each at Bombay and Kolkata. The Naval Wing of the NCC was raised in July 1952, thus representing all three services in the Corps. Today the NCC has an enrolled strength of more than 13 Lakhs cadets and consists of two divisions of all the three Services i. e, the Senior Division / Senior Wing for boys/girls from colleges and the Junior Division / Junior Wing for boys/girls from schools. The Motto of NCC is 'Unity and Discipline'. The National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a youth development movement. It has enormous potential for nation building. The NCC provides opportunities to the youth of the country for their all-round development with a sense of Duty, Commitment, Dedication, Discipline and Moral Values so that they become able leaders and useful citizens. Training schedules planned for cadets ensure that the optimum benefits of the NCC organization reach maximum number of cadets. The main emphasis is on practical training which in consonance with theory is made to facilitate active participation of learner, better assimilation of knowledge, and proper development of various skills, strengthening of mind and body which is the bedrock of NCC training. The Course learning outcomes are related with individual development and also development of the society.

Due to the availability of very few researches on this topic and challenges of Job Satisfaction of Associated NCC Officers, Challenges of implementation, to know the attitude of students/ NCC Cadets, associated teachers, educational administrators and Associated Army Officers this study needs to uptake. The present study intends to review the expected learning outcomes in terms of reaction of different stake holders. Introduction of NCC as Credit Course can facilitate partial realization of the felt need to expose a larger community of student population of India to minimal military training and security consciousness, recommendations of NEP 2020, UGC Curriculum and Credit framework for Under Graduate Programs this study need to uptake.

### **Social impact of the study**

The present study has wide social impact as NCC cadets are the students of universities and colleges. These students represent the community and school; colleges are the miniature of the society. The aims of NCC are to develop character, camaraderie, discipline, and secular outlook, the spirit of adventure, sportsman spirit and ideals of selfless service amongst cadets by working in teams, honing qualities

such as self-discipline, self- confidence, self-reliance and dignity of labor in the cadets. To create a pool of organized, trained and motivated youth with leadership qualities in all walks of life, who will serve the Nation regard less of which career they choose. NCC aims to provide a conducive environment to motivate young Indians to choose the Armed Forces as a career. Therefore, the present study deals with the quality of NCC training hence it has a wide social impact. The NCC is a responsive, learning and continuously evolving organization. Its activity is guided by certain Core Values that NCC endeavors to instill among all ranks of the NCC. These include a sense of patriotic commitment to encourage cadets to contribute to national development, Respect for diversities in religion, language, culture, ethnicity, life style and habitat to instill a sense of National unity and social cohesion, abiding commitment to learn and adhere to the norms and values enshrined in the Indian Constitution. Understanding the value of a just and impartial exercise of authority, Ability to participate in community development and other social program, A healthy life style free of substance abuse and other unhealthy practices, Sensitivity to the needs of poor and socially disadvantaged fellow citizens, Inculcating habits of restraint and self-awareness, Understanding the values of honesty, truthfulness, self-sacrifice, perseverance and hard work and Respect for knowledge, wisdom and the power of ideas.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of present study are as follows

1. To study the reaction of NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training.
2. To study the reaction of Associated NCC Officers towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training.
3. To compare the reaction of Male and Female NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training.
4. To compare the reaction of Rural and Urban NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training.
5. To compare the reaction of Arts, Science and Engineering NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training.
6. To study the reaction of NCC Army Officers towards the policy of introducing NCC as an CBCS elective course.

## Hypotheses

The hypotheses of present study are as follows:

1. There is no significant difference between reaction of Male and Female NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training.
2. There is no significant difference between Rural and Urban NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training.
3. There is no significant difference between Arts, Science and Engineering NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training.

## Sample

The total population of NCC cadets in the India is approx. 13 lakh cadets. The sample of the present study comprised of 322 NCC cadets who were randomly selected from different states of India and 134 Associated NCC officers who were also selected randomly from the different states of the India. The cadets and ANOs were from Assam, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana, Telangana, Odisha, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, New Delhi, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland. The subjects of sample are belonging to different locations, different gender, different academic streams, different socio-economic status, different educational qualifications and from rural and urban residence area. The language and culture of different state peoples are different. The qualitative data were collected through a semi structured interview from 10 army officers and 10 college principals who were selected with purposive sampling technique.

### Gender wise and academic discipline/ Stream wise table of NCC cadets

|                               |                                |      |        | Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|--------|-------|
|                               |                                | Male | Female |       |
| Academic Disciplines / Stream | Humanities and Social Sciences | 93   | 64     | 157   |
|                               | Engineering                    | 39   | 11     | 50    |
|                               | Science                        | 52   | 24     | 76    |
|                               | Commerce                       | 25   | 14     | 39    |
| Total                         |                                | 209  | 113    | 322   |

## **Research Design**

The research design of the present study was descriptive survey research design.

## **Tools**

In the present study data were collected in respect of feedback and attitude and reactions towards NCC open elective course and overall NCC training from NCC cadets and associated NCC officers with the help of a reaction scales developed by the investigator. The feedback and attitude of educational administrator and army Officers were collected with the help of semi structured interview.

## **Reaction scale of NCC cadets**

Reaction of NCC cadets towards NCC elective course was assessed by reaction scale developed by the investigator. The aspects to which statements belonged were feasibility of course, accommodation of credits, willingness of administrators, financial constraints, career avenues after NCC, overall reaction towards NCC as open elective, large credit compared to other open electives, fulfillment NEP 2020 objectives, SSCD support, academic continuity, B & C exam help, Institutional training improvement, credit earn, infrastructure institute support, same academic value, syllabus design, camp credits, SSCD extra burden, weapon training, Scholarships does not motivating, NCC help in good CGP, Credits earn with physical training, Drill, map reading, FC & BC, Infantry weapons and infantry battalions, motivates to join the Armed Forces, New carrier avenues, SSCD participation, Enhance national integration, SSCD extra burden, Not interested in drill and physical, Firing exp with .22 Rifle, Fire Fighting training, Bonding cadets from diversified cultural background, Respect and Tolerance for gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion diversity, acquaint cadets with navigation and map reading, boost confidence in public speaking, Not boost the spirit of courage and endurance among the cadets, Enhance the skills of time management, Imbibes self-discipline, secular ideas, camaraderie and selfless service, Steadfastly engaged in nation building by promoting a nationalism, keep physically fit, Gives experience of regimental life, Enormous potential for nation building, Exposure for Social Services, Discipline and Adventure Training, Open to all students on a voluntary basis, motivate the youth to take up a career in the Armed Forces, Making better and responsible citizens of our country, Promotes feeling of selfless service for the nation and society, Improves punctuality among the cadets, boosting the feeling of nationalism and patriotism among the cadets, teaches proper health and hygiene in line area or living area, promotion of diversified cultural understanding among NCC cadets, teach the mutual respect to diversity, Enhance tolerance among diversified groups, Participation in social service and community development activities, Good habits like early to

bed and early to rise, Shaping personality of the youth through multifarious training, adventure and cultural activities, Making an able leader and useful citizens of the Country, Development character, commandership, discipline, leadership, secular outlook, spirit of adventure and the ideals of selfless service, Organized, trained and motivate youth to provide leadership in all walks of life, production of matured, disciplined and responsible citizens in the country, Helping in the development of personality and leadership, Produce citizens who are always available for the service of the nation, Inculcating the values of discipline, dutifulness, punctuality, orderliness, smartness, respect for rightful authority, good and correct work ethos and self-confidence, Preference in Selection of State Police force and CAPF, Overall reaction towards Implementation of NCC overall NCC training etc.

### Procedure of data collection

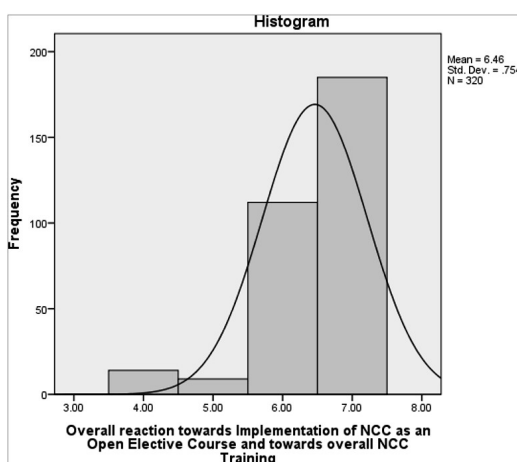
The data were collected with the help of self-developed reaction scale. Firstly, the tool was developed and validated. The necessary permission was taken with the educational administrators, Commanding officers and college teacher for the data collection. The researcher collected data in digital google form as well as physically from Associate NCC Officers, NCC cadets and Army officers. The collected data were analyzed with the help of percentage, frequency, Mean, standard deviation and t-test.

### Result and findings

The result and findings of the research are given objective wise as follows.

#### 1. Reaction of NCC cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training

NCC Cadets expressed favorable Reaction towards different aspects of NCC as an open elective course and Overall NCC training on the whole.





| S.No. | Feedback Reaction towards overall NCC training and NCC Course | Frequency  | Percent     |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 1.    | Very Poor                                                     | 0          | 0%          |
| 2.    | Poor                                                          | 0          | 0%          |
| 3.    | Below Average                                                 | 0          | 0%          |
| 4.    | Average                                                       | 14         | 4.3%        |
| 5.    | Above Average                                                 | 9          | 2.8%        |
| 6.    | Good                                                          | 112        | 34.6%       |
| 7.    | Excellent                                                     | 187        | 58.0%       |
| 8.    | <b>Total</b>                                                  | <b>322</b> | <b>100%</b> |

## **2. Reaction of associated NCC officers towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall ncc training**

The Associated NCC Officers expressed favorable Reaction towards different aspects of NCC as an open elective course and Overall NCC training on the whole.

## **3. Reaction of male and female NCC cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training**

The Reaction feedback of NCC cadets of both Males and females NCC cadets was found to be same extent or similar on different aspects of NCC as an open elective course and Overall NCC training.

## **4. Reaction of rural and urban NCC cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training**

The Reaction feedback of NCC cadets of both Rural and Urban NCC cadets was found to be same extent or similar on different aspects of NCC as an open elective course and Overall NCC training. The attitude of both Males and Females equally favorable towards different aspects of NCC as an open elective course and Overall NCC training on the whole.

### **5. Reaction of arts, science and engineering NCC cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall ncc training**

Students belonging to Engineering group were found more favorable attitude in terms of feedback reaction towards NCC open elective course and overall NCC training; to students belonging to Humanities and Social Science and science group in feedback reaction towards NCC open elective course and overall NCC training; while students belonging to three pairs that are Commerce-Science and Commerce-Humanities & social sciences and Commerce- Sciences were found same extent of feedback reaction towards NCC open elective course and overall NCC training.

### **6. Reaction of NCC army officers towards the policy of introducing NCC as an CBCS elective course**

Army officers and College principals given positive feedback on implementation of NCC as an open elective course and overall NCC training and also given emphasis on improvement of NCC military training, academic implementation of NCC course and improvement required in terms of benefits for NCC cadets and associated NCC officers.

## **Conclusion**

The present study revealed that NCC cadets, Associated NCC Officers, Army officers and College principals have favorable positive attitude towards implementation of NCC open elective course and overall NCC training. A favorable reaction found irrespective of Gender and Residential Background of NCC cadets, Thus, this study has implications for NCC cadets, Associated NCC Officers, College Principals, Educational Planners, Curriculum Developers. NCC cadets are the future citizens of our country the study findings shows that majority of NCC cadets have positive and favorable attitude towards NCC military training which help them in gaining minimum military training, discipline, personality development, good turn out and confidence in presentation, therefore the step of including NCC as an academic course is useful step for NCC cadets and students of our country. This study is useful for Educational Planners, Curriculum Developers as students and teachers demanded more quality curriculum, academic course and academic calendar space for NCC training. Therefore, the educational planners and curriculum developers can plan appropriate academic credits and curriculum for the NCC open elective and overall NCC training.

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