



YEP SELECTION CAMP – MY EXPERIENCE AND HOW I PREPARED

I attended the YEP selection camp conducted at Group Headquarters , Calicut Group from 4th to 6th of February. Though it was a three-day camp, just meant for selecting the cadets who would later appear for the Director General of NCC's interview, it was a life changing experience for me. It made me realize my true potential - each moment spent in the camp I was trying to bring out the best in me and interacting with all the officers there inspired me to the core.

The news that a separate selection was going to be conducted to select cadets for YEP came as a surprise to me as usually cadets who appear for YEP or the coveted Youth Exchange Program are those who get selected from the Republic Day Camp. Unfortunately, I was not able to be a part of it and was quite disheartened about my ill-fate. It was then, one fine morning, one of my seniors rang me up and said that I would be representing my institution in the Battalion level online interview for selecting cadets to the group level for YEP. I was so happy. I was really excited about my interview and started preparing. I made short notes on some sensational issues during that time and tried to cover my NCC syllabus and basic facts as much as I could. But the question our Hon'ble Commanding Officer Col PK Singh sir asked me during the interview was really different and thought provoking. He asked me "Anjula, in case you get selected for YEP , what are you going to carry abroad apart from your belongings and luggage?" It was the moment when I realized mugging up facts was not enough to pass an interview by an officer. You need to introspect, know your strength and weaknesses, be spontaneous and above all – be courageous and confident. I answered the question about how I'll be carrying my country's culture, heritage and goodness to the country I 'd be visiting and luckily I got selected for the next level. Next interview I attended was conducted by the Hon'ble Calicut Group Commander Brig AY Rajan Sir. There was a three-fold test (group discussion, drill test and written exam) for getting selected to the group team. Next thing that awaited me was the three-day selection camp. The camp helped me in getting to know the real spirit of NCC. The camp brimmed with competition, companionship and dedication. We had a written exam, drill test, group interview and the selected were sent to an interview with Hon'ble Additional Director General of NCC Maj General Mandeep Singh Gill. Meeting an officer of such a high rank is a great opportunity for an NCC Cadet and I consider myself privileged to have accomplished it.

With God's grace I was able to enter the final list of cadets selected in the directorate level. I was super excited and happy to know it. It was like a perfect culmination to all the efforts put in during the interviews and the camp. Waking up at early mornings and rushing

to study during the small intervals that we got taught me to value time and who can not give in their best efforts when the officers around you are always motivating to do more. I would never forget the motivation that I got from Brig AY Rajan sir before our final selection. The way it boosted my self confidence is beyond perception. Overall , I am grateful for this wonderful opportunity I got and hope that NCC brings more of such positive changes in future as well.

Cadet Anjula BK

KL/19/SWA/184593

Govt Arts and Science College,Calicut

30 K BN NCC

Calicut Group