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# A Study NCC Open Elective Course with Reference to Community Development and Social Service Activities in Terms of Reaction of NCC Cadets and Associated NCC Officers

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#### ABSTRACT

This paper is a study of implementation of NCC as an open elective course and overall NCC training for Community development and Social Service activities among NCC cadets. This paper also aims to provide suggestions from experts for best implementation of the NCC Open Elective and overall NCC training. The research design of this study is descriptive survey research design. The sample of the present study comprised of 322 NCC cadets and 134 Associate NCC Officers who were randomly selected from different states of the India. The reaction scale used for the data collection was developed by the investigator. The data were analyzed with the help of frequency, percentage, Standard deviation, Coefficient of Variation and t test. The major findings of the study are that NCC Cadets and ANOs given favorable and positive reaction towards the different aspects of the NCC training and overall NCC Education as a whole for Community development and Social Service activities among NCC cadets and implementation of NCC open elective course in the universities and Colleges. Army Officers, Associated NCC officers and College Principals also given various suggestions to improve the NCC training for Community development and Social Service activities among NCC cadets like active attachment national integration and cultural exchange activities, regular NCC classes, more cooperation among NCC state directorates, ministry of education and more promotional benefits for the Associate NCC officers. They also expressed challenges of limited training resources, extra academic burden.

Keywords: Community development and Social Service, NCC, Reaction, Open Elective Course

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India is a country with innumerable diversities; an entity composed of many communities, races classes, languages and sub cultures. "There are many obstacles to the achievement of national integration. In India, various issues/ factors are obstructing the growth of national feeling, viz. casteism, communalism, linguistic fanaticism, social disparity, economic inequalities and immorality, regionalism etc. In spite of all these limitations India has developed into one nation by the influence of common territory, common history and common fight for freedom against the foreign rule. The Indian society is multi-racial and multi-religious with a diverse culture. Indian culture has given rise

to various complications in the society. The mixed culture of today and the rich cultural heritage can prove to be the most effective tool for achieving National Integration. Unfortunately, the people are not being correctly taught and guided on these cultural aspects.

Community development and Social Service-"Social service towards the citizens of the country.

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NCC has adopted community development activities. One of the major aims of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) is to provide some effective social service towards the citizens of the country. NCC has adopted community development activities with the aim of absorbing amongst cadet's selfless service toward the society, importance of self-help, need to protect the environment and to assist weaker sections of the society towards their upliftment. This is done through various program aimed at helping out society and in the meantime building a zeal among the candidates towards helping out their society, community and country. The activities of the NCC towards social service may include: Tree plantation drives to ensure climatic balance. Blood donation camps aimed at collecting blood to help out those in urgent need. Campaigning against the Dowry in the form of different Rallies, Pledge against Anti Female Infanticide, Anti Leprosy Drive to educate people about the disease and also giving information about cure, AIDS Awareness Rally to spread information about this disease and also giving information about some prevention tips, Visits to Old Age Homes and spending some quality time there with senior citizens providing help in slum clearance, Disaster Management & Relief at the time of war and epidemics."

**Reaction-** "Reaction is a rating feedback and attitude of NCC cadets towards NCC as an open elective course and overall NCC training."

Open Elective Course: "Elective course is a course which can be chosen from a pool of papers. It may be: Supportive to the discipline of study, providing an expanded scope, Enabling an exposure to some other discipline/domain, Nurturing student's proficiency/skill; An elective may be Generic Elective focusing on those courses which add generic proficiency to the students. An elective may be Discipline centric or may be chosen from an unrelated discipline. It may be called an Open Elective."

NCC (National Cadet Corps): "NCC stands for National Cadet Corps, which is a youth wing of the Indian Armed Forces. It's a voluntary organization that trains students in schools and colleges. The NCC aims to develop disciplined, patriotic, and service-oriented citizens". "The NCC has an enrolled strength of more than 17 Lakhs

cadets and consists of two divisions, Senior Division and Junior Division. NCC established on 15 July 1948 through XXXI Act of Parliament, representing all three services in the Corps, Army, Navy and Air Force 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, 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." NEP 2020 recommended that "a paradigm shift in NCC's positioning from extra-curricular or co-curricular to NCC as a curriculum integral part. 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 creditbased courses & projects in the field of community engagement and service."

## RATIONALE OF THE STUDY

"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 Extra-Curricular Activities/General Interest and Hobby Courses/Sports/NCC/NSS/Vocational courses/related courses on their own." Due to one of the expectations of NEP 2020 to remove "hard separation between extra-curricular & co-curricular activities in Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) & offer all such activities as credit courses under Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)", 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 creditbased courses & projects in the field of community engagement and service". This is imperative to study the Curriculum of NCC Elective course and reaction of major stake holders like students, teachers, Educational Administrators and Associated NCC Officers. The purpose of introducing NCC CBCS course is to introduce NCC as a "General Elective Credit Course" "under the Choice Based Credit System, in line with NEP-2020 with the objective of harnessing the full potential of NCC's capacity in youth development and enlarging the student base taking up NCC training in the country." It has a large social impact because this is one of the largest youth forces in the country and this youth force directly connected with different sections and strata of the society. After Reviewing literature, it was found that There was probably no study were conducted on introducing NCC as an elective subject and also no study was found to study reaction and opinion of Educational Administrators, Associated NCC Officer, Army Officers and NCC cadets on policy of introducing NCC Elective Subject. There are challenges of financial liabilities arising out of the new changes such as hiring of the resource-persons, training aids and examination and evaluation related expenditure. There are various challenges of implementing NCC as an Elective course like shift from co-curricular to curricular credit course, scheme is not tandem with NEP Cafeteria approach, challenges of financial liabilities, challenge from other academic subjects, standards of an academic discipline with a set of core ideas, theories and models as generally is the case with a majority of the subjects taught in the Departments/ Centers of the University, NCC stands now not an area of study or field of specialization counting on inputs from several disciplines duties are not considered academic work and time spent on NCC training is not counted as workload, NCC duties of associated teachers does not help in career progression, distribution of credits across semester is uneven, NCC Classes and other administrative work taken by ANO are not counted in workload of ANO. Participation in PRCN/Refresher Courses at NCC training academies not factored in for their promotion. Accommodation of proposed 24 Credit in present structure of university all UG programs, the student's problems in adjusting with The study has significant contribution for policy makers in terms of present challenges of implementing this course in Indian universities and colleges. Following are the main challenges in implementation of NCC elective course, Due to the challenges of implementation, to know the attitude of students/ NCC Cadets, Associated teachers, educational administrators and Associated Army Officers this study needs to uptake by the Investigator. 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. Implementation of recommendations of NEP-2020, UGC Curriculum and Credit framework for Under Graduate Programs this study need to uptake.

# **OBJECTIVES**

- 1. To study the feedback reaction of NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training for Community development and Social Service activities among NCC cadets and implementation of NCC open elective course in the universities and Colleges.
- 2. To study the feedback reaction of Associated NCC Officers towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training whole for Community development and Social Service activities among NCC cadets and implementation of NCC open elective course in the universities and Colleges.

**Delimitations of the Study:** This study is delimited to the most of the selected colleges and universities from North East India and some Colleges and Universities are from other states of India.

Sample: 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, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland. The subjects of sample are belonging to different location, different Gender, different Academic streams, different Socio-Economic Status, different Educational Oualifications 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.

**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, SSCD participation, Enhance national integration, SSCD extra burden, 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, 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. The reaction scale of NCC cadets was developed by the Investigator.

#### DATA ANALYSIS

"Mean, Percentage, Standard deviation and Coefficient of Variation were used to study Reactions of NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training."

Feedback Reactions of NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS Open Elective Course and Overall NCC Training for Community Development and Social Service Activities among NCC Cadets

The first objective of the study was to study Reactions of NCC Cadets towards NCC CBCS open elective course and overall NCC training. The data related to this objective were analyzed with the help of Mean, "Percentage, Standard deviation and Coefficient of Variation. The results are given in table 1".

From Table 1, it can be seen that the Mean Score of Reaction towards different aspects of NCC Open Elective Course and NCC training was



**Table 1:** "Mean Standard Deviation and Coefficient of Variation values of NCC Cadets Reaction towards NCC Open Elective Course and Overall NCC Training for Community development and Social Service activities among NCC cadets and implementation of NCC open elective course in the universities and Colleges"

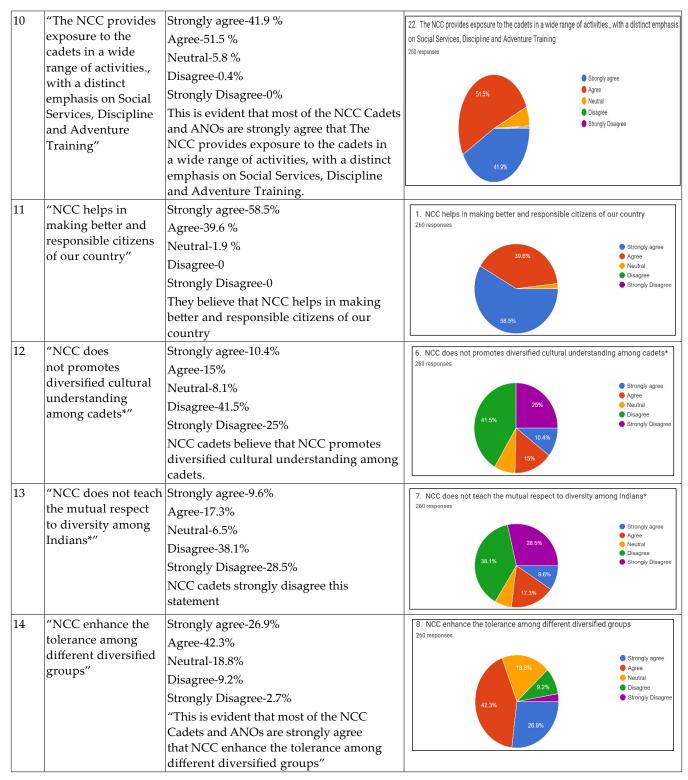
Group	Mean	Standard Deviation	Coefficient of Variation
NCC CADETS	243.05	25.41	10.45%

#### Table 2

1	NCC gives opportunities to participate in various SSCD activities	Strongly agree-40.4 % Agree-50% Neutral-7.3 % Disagree-1.2 % Strongly Disagree-1.2% This is evident that most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC gives opportunities to participate in various SSCD activities	5. NCC gives opportunities to participate in various SSCD activities 260 responses  Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree
2	"NCC enhance national integration attitude among the cadets"	Strongly agree-48.1 % Agree-45.8% Neutral-4.2 % Disagree-1.5 % Strongly Disagree-0.4% This is evident that most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC enhance national integration.	6. NCC enhance national integration attitude among the cadets 260 responses  Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree
3	"NCC facilitates better bonding among cadets came from diversified cultural background"	Strongly agree-43.8 % Agree-46.9 % Neutral-6.5 % Disagree-1.9 % Strongly Disagree-0.8 % This is evident that most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC always try to make a good relationship among the cadets.	11. NCC facilitates better bonding among cadets came from diversified cultural background 260 responses  Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree
4	"NCC cadets learn to respect and have a tolerance for people belongs to different gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion and state"	Strongly agree-48.5 % Agree-46.5 % Neutral-4.2 % Disagree-0% Strongly Disagree-0.8 % This is evident that most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC cadets know that how to respect the people belonging to the different gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion and state.	12. NCC cadets learn to respect and have a tolerance for people belongs to different gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion and state 260 responses  Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Strongly Disagree

5.	"The NCC imbibes the cadets with self- discipline, secular	Strongly agree-35.8 % Agree-48.1 % Neutral-9.6 %	The NCC imbibes the cadets with self-discipline, secular ideas, camaraderie and selfless service.     Service.     160 responses		
	ideas, camaraderie		Strongly agree Agree		
	and selfless service."	Disagree-5.4 %	48.1% 9.6% Neutral Disagree		
		Strongly Disagree-1.2 %	Strongly Disagree		
		They believe that Through NCC training Cadets can develop with self-discipline, secular ideas, camaraderie and selfless service.	35.8%		
6.	"The NCC has been steadfastly engaged in nation	Strongly agree-32.3 %	18. The NCC has been steadfastly engaged in nation building ever since its inception by promoting		
		Agree-53.6 %	a national character		
		Neutral-11.2 %	260 responses		
	building ever since	Disagree-1.2 %	Strongly agree		
	its inception by		Agree  Neutral		
	promoting a national	Strongly Disagree-0.8 %	54.6% Disagree  Strongly Disagree		
	character"	They strongly agree that The NCC has been steadfastly engaged in nation building			
		ever since its inception by promoting a	32.3%		
		national character			
7	"The National Cadet	Strongly agree-48.1%	21. The National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a youth development movement, it has enormous potentia		
	Corps (NCC) is a	Agree-48.1%	for nation building		
	youth development	Neutral-3.5 %	260 responses		
	movement, it has	Disagree-0.4%	Strongly agree  45.1%     Agree		
	enormous potential	Strongly Disagree-0%	48.1% Agree Neutral		
	for nation building"	This is evident that most of the NCC Cadets	<ul><li>Disagree</li><li>Strongly Disagree</li></ul>		
		and ANOs are strongly agree that The			
		National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a youth			
		development movement, it has enormous	48.1%		
		potential for nation building			
8	"NCC cadets learn	Strongly agree-48.5 %	12. NCC cadets learn to respect and have a tolerance for people belongs to different gender, race,		
	to respect and have a	Agree-46.5 %	ethnicity, culture, religion and state 260 responses		
	tolerance for people	Neutral-4.2 %	Zou responses		
	belongs to different gender, race,	Disagree-0%	Strongly agree  46.5% Agree		
	ethnicity, culture,	Strongly Disagree-0.8 %	46.5% Agree Neutral		
	religion and state"	This is evident that most of the NCC Cadets	<ul> <li>Disagree</li> <li>Strongly Disagree</li> </ul>		
		and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC			
		cadets know that how to respect the people			
		belonging to the different gender, race,	48.5%		
0	((TET) - N	ethnicity, culture, religion and state.			
9	youth development movement, it has enormous potential for nation building"		21. The National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a youth development movement, it has enormous potential for nation building		
		Agree-48.1%	260 responses		
		Neutral-3.5 %	Strongly agree		
		Disagree-0.4%	48.1% Agree Neutral		
		Strongly Disagree-0%	Disagree		
		This is evident that most of the NCC Cadets	● Strongly Disagree		
		and ANOs are strongly agree that The			
		National Cadet Corps (NCC) is a youth	48.1%		
		development movement, it has enormous potential for nation building			
	1	Potential for hadon bullding	<u> </u>		





found to be 243.05. The Reaction towards different aspects of NCC Open Elective Course and NCC training with reference to community development and social service activities; The Mean score of Reaction towards different aspects of NCC Open Elective Course and NCC training was towards 295 signifying strong favorable Reaction towards

different aspects of NCC Open Elective Course and NCC training." The Coefficient of Variation for NCC Open Elective Course and NCC training was found to be 10.45% which was quite low. It indicates that, as a group, the Reaction towards different aspects of NCC Open Elective Course and NCC training were almost invariant and strongly

favorable. It may, therefore be concluded that the NCC students expressed favorable Reaction towards different aspects of different aspects of NCC Open Elective Course and NCC training on the whole with reference to community development and social service activities (Table 2).

#### **FINDINGS**

- 1. Most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC enhance the tolerance among different diversified groups.
- Most of the NCC Cadets are strongly agree that NCC teach the mutual respect to diversity among Indians
- 3. Most of the NCC Cadets are strongly believe that NCC helps in making better and responsible citizens of our country
- Most of the NCC Cadets are strongly agreed that NCC cadets believe that NCC promotes diversified cultural understanding among cadets.
- 5. Most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC gives opportunities to participate in various SSCD activities
- Most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC enhance national integration attitude
- 7. Most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC always try to make a good relationship among the cadets.
- 8. Most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that NCC cadets know that how to respect the people belonging to the different gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion and state.
- 9. Most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that through NCC training Cadets can develop with self-discipline, secular ideas, camaraderie and selfless service.
- 10. Most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agreed NCC has been steadfastly engaged in nation building ever since its inception by promoting a national character.
- 11. Most of the NCC Cadets and ANOs are strongly agree that The National Cadet Corps (NCC)

- is a youth development movement, it has enormous potential for nation building,
- 12. The NCC cadets and Associated NCC Officers "expressed favorable Reaction towards different aspects of NCC as an open elective course and Overall NCC training on the whole.
- Associated NCC officers, College Principals, Army Officers given suggestions like more financial support to NCC, improvement in training, orientation of college principals, more facilities and academic credits for ANOs etc.
- 14. Majority of ANOs replied that reaction towards Implementation of NCC as an Open Elective Course and towards overall NCC Training whole is positive and favorable.

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

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 for Community development and Social Service activities among NCC cadets and implementation of NCC open elective course in the universities and Colleges. Thus, this study has implications for NCC cadets, Associated NCC Officers, College Principals, Educational Planners, and Curriculum Developers.

NCC Cadets: 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.

Associated NCC Officers: Associated NCC officers are college teachers who actively engaged with NCC cadets in institutional training and NCC camps. This study found that most of Associated NCC Officers shows positive and favorable attitude towards NCC as an open elective course and overall NCC training. Therefore, including NCC in academic course is a good step at the same time

ANOs expressed dissatisfaction towards incentives and career promotion of the extra duties for the NCC, Thus the policy of college teacher promotion needs to give some bonus points for the services of associated NCC officers.

College Principals: College Principals shows positive and favorable attitude towards NCC as an open elective course and overall NCC training. Therefore, including NCC in academic course is a welcoming step at the same time they express need for 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. NCC cadets also expressed difficulties of attending NCC camps as no space is given in academic calendar of the institute, therefore the head of institute need to give proper space for the activities related to NCC training.

**Army Officers:** Army Officers in the role of Battalion Commanding officers and administrative officers of the NCC battalion shows positive and favorable attitude towards NCC as an open elective course and overall NCC training. Therefore, the policy is good to implement NCC in academic course at the same time they expressed improvement in NCC training, allocation of funds, requirement of NCC academy and more benefits for the associated teachers.

**Educational Planners, Curriculum Developers:** 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.

#### CONCLUSION

The NCC cadets and Associated NCC Officers "expressed favorable Reaction towards different aspects of NCC as an open elective course and Overall NCC training on the whole. For Community development and Social Service activities among NCC cadets" Many Army Officers, Associated NCC officers and College Principals given various suggestions to improve the NCC training like active attachment training with Armed Forces, regular NCC classes, more cooperation among NCC unit, Institute, ministry of education and more promotional benefits for the Associate NCC officers. They also expressed challenges of limited training resources, extra academic burden. Associated NCC officers, College Principals, Army Officers given suggestions like more financial support to NCC, improvement in training, orientation of college principals, more facilities and academic credits for ANOs etc. Majority of ANOs replied that, NCC promotes feeling of selfless service for the nation and society. Majority of ANOs replied that reaction towards Implementation of NCC as an Open Elective Course and towards overall NCC Training whole for Community development and Social Service activitiesamong NCC cadets is positive and favorable.

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