NCC Day 2026: 79th Raising Day observed on 22 November

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News

National Cadet Corps (NCC) Day is observed every year on the fourth Sunday of November; in 2026 it falls on 22 November. In 2026 the NCC marks its 79th Raising Day; Chief Ministers Yogi Adityanath (UP), Rekha Gupta (Delhi) and Pushkar Singh Dhami (Uttarakhand) were among those who greeted cadets (IANS). The NCC was formed under the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, and came into being on 15 July 1948, starting with about 20,000 cadets. Today, with about 20 lakh cadets, it is the world's largest uniformed youth organisation and is present in 713 of India's 780 districts (PIB, Nov 2025). It has Army, Navy and Air wings and functions under the Ministry of Defence. During the 1965 and 1971 wars with Pakistan, NCC cadets served as the 'second line of defence', helping with supply of arms, rescue work and traffic control. Last year, on 22 Nov 2025, the eve of the 78th NCC Day (23 Nov), Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh and NCC Director General Lt Gen Virendra Vats laid wreaths at the National War Memorial, New Delhi.

Key facts for the exam

Point	Details
NCC Day	4th Sunday of November (2026: 22 Nov)
Law	National Cadet Corps Act, 1948
Raised	15 July 1948 (~20,000 cadets)

Point	Details
Recommended by	Committee under Pandit H.N. Kunzru
Motto	Unity and Discipline
Strength	About 20 lakh cadets; 713 districts
Wings	Army, Navy, Air
Ministry	Ministry of Defence
TN Directorate	Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & A&N; HQ – Fort St George, Chennai

Background

- The University Officers Training Corps (UOTC), set up by the British in 1942, fell short of expectations during the Second World War. A committee headed by Pandit H.N. Kunzru therefore recommended a national cadet organisation in schools and colleges, leading to the NCC Act, 1948.
- The NCC motto is 'Unity and Discipline' (Ekta aur Anushasan): unity is the bond among all Indians across caste, colour and creed, and discipline the foundation of a growing nation. After the wars, the syllabus was revised to stress leadership, social service and youth development.
- Teachers in NCC schools and colleges are trained as Associate NCC Officers (ANOs); the NCC Officers Training Academy for men is at Kamptee near Nagpur, Maharashtra. The NCC is headed by a Director General of Lieutenant General rank, with headquarters in New Delhi.

Tamil Nadu link: Tamil Nadu's NCC units come under the 'Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Andaman and Nicobar Directorate', headquartered at Fort St George, Chennai (Puducherry Government). Tiruchirappalli has an NCC Group Headquarters; on NCC Day 2025, NCC officers and cadets paid tribute at the memorial of Kargil war hero Major Saravanan on Collectorate Road, Tiruchi (IANS).

Frequently asked questions

What is this news about?

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What are the key facts to remember for the exam?

NCC Day: 4th Sunday of November (2026: 22 Nov); Law: National Cadet Corps Act, 1948; Raised: 15 July 1948 (~20,000 cadets); Recommended by: Committee under Pandit H.N. Kunzru.

What is the background to this news?

The University Officers Training Corps (UOTC), set up by the British in 1942, fell short of expectations during the Second World War. A committee headed by Pandit H.N. Kunzru therefore recommended a national cadet organisation in schools and colleges, leading to the NCC Act, 1948.

Practice questions (with answers)

1. Who headed the committee whose recommendation for a national cadet body in schools and colleges led to the NCC?

A) D.S. Kothari

B) A.L. Mudaliar

C) H.N. Kunzru

D) Tara Chand

Answer: C – Explanation: Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru (1946). Kothari – Education Commission (1964–66); Mudaliar – Secondary Education Commission (1952–53).

2. What is the motto of the National Cadet Corps (NCC)?

A) Service Before Self

B) Nabhah Sparsham Deeptam

C) Sham No Varunah

D) Unity and Discipline

Answer: D – Explanation: 'Ekta aur Anushasan' – Unity and Discipline. 'Nabhah Sparsham Deeptam' is the IAF motto; 'Sham No Varunah' the Navy's.

3. Which body, set up by the British in 1942, was the forerunner of the NCC?

A) Univ. Officers Training Corps

B) Home Guards

C) Territorial Army

D) Scouts and Guides

Answer: A – Explanation: The University Officers Training Corps (UOTC) – it fell short in World War II, so the NCC was created in 1948.

4. Tamil Nadu's NCC units come under which NCC Directorate?

A) Tamil Nadu & Keralam

B) TN, Puducherry & A&N

C) Tamil Nadu & Karnataka

D) Tamil Nadu & Lakshadweep

Answer: B – Explanation: The Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Andaman and Nicobar Directorate – HQ at Fort St George, Chennai. Lakshadweep is under the Keralam & Lakshadweep Directorate.

5. Kamptee, home of the NCC Officers Training Academy that trains Associate NCC Officers, is in which state?

A) Maharashtra

B) Madhya Pradesh

C) Gujarat

D) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: A – Explanation: Maharashtra – near Nagpur. The training academy for women ANOs is at Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.

Sources: PIB – Ministry of Defence, 22 Nov 2025 (NCC Day eve, strength, districts); NCC official site – indiancc.nic.in (history, motto, Directorates, OTA Kamptee/Gwalior); IANS, 22 Nov 2026 (79th Raising Day greetings); IANS, Nov 2025 (Tiruchi tribute); Puducherry School Education Department (TN, Puducherry & A&N Directorate); News On AIR, 22 Nov 2025; Business Standard (PTI – OTA Kamptee); The Statesman (OTA Gwalior). © Shanmugam IAS Academy.