

Career Counseling Session by SO to Chairman Major Akhil S. Nair

The recent career counseling session led by SO to Chairman Major Akhil S. Nair was conducted on 9 November, 2024, in APS Akhnoor, with an aim of introducing students to diverse and rewarding career opportunities within the Indian Armed Forces. This insightful session covered various branches of the Indian Army, benefits of a military career, and pathways to joining the forces.

Overview of Different Branches in the Armed Forces

Mr. Akhil S. Nair introduced students to several prestigious branches within the Indian Army, each offering unique roles and challenges:

Rajputana Rifles: One of the oldest and most decorated regiments, known for its bravery.

Army Medical Corps: Dedicated to providing healthcare services to personnel and their families.

Armoured Corps: Specializes in tank and armored vehicle operations.

EME (Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers): Ensures the maintenance and technological support of military equipment.

ASC (Army Service Corps): Manages logistics, ensuring a steady supply chain.

Signals Corps: Facilitates communication and maintains networks for secure, effective operations.

Reasons to Choose the Indian Army as a Career

The Indian Army offers more than a conventional career path. Mr. Nair outlined key advantages:

Competitive Salary and Benefits: The army offers high salaries with additional allowances, especially in difficult or high-risk postings.

Challenging and Purposeful Career: A career in the army is filled with adventure, discipline, and purpose.

Early Settlement and Job Security: With an early retirement age, soldiers often have the opportunity to pursue second careers.

Post-Retirement Benefits: Pensions, healthcare, and other benefits provide long-term security.

Core Values and Ethos of the Armed Forces

Mr. Nair emphasized the ethos that underpins service in the Indian Army:

Spirit of Self-Sacrifice: Soldiers are trained to prioritize the nation above themselves.

Non-Discrimination: The army fosters a culture of equality, where merit is the only criterion for recognition.

Fairness and Honesty

Discipline and Integrity

Fidelity, Honour and Courage

Espirit-De-Corps

The Chetwode Motto

The session highlighted the Chetwode Motto, which states: “The safety, honour, and welfare of your country come first, always and every time. The honour, welfare, and comfort of the men you command come next. Your own ease, comfort, and safety come last, always and every time.” This motto reflects the core duty of every army officer and forms the guiding principle for leadership and service.

Educational Benefits in the Armed Forces

In the Armed Forces, opportunities for further studies are encouraged, with special programs, sponsorships, and educational allowances to ensure continuous professional growth. Personnel can pursue specialized courses in fields such as engineering, medicine, and technology.

Adventurous Activities

The Indian Army provides a platform for adventurous activities such as paragliding, rafting, mountaineering, and archery. These activities build resilience, courage, and teamwork, essential traits for a career in defense.

Pathways to Joining the Indian Army

Mr. Nair elaborated on the various entry routes:

Post 12th Standard: Students can appear for the National Defence Academy (NDA) and Technical Entry Scheme (TES) examinations.

Service Selection Board (SSB): A rigorous selection process for candidates aspiring to become officers.

Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC): Medical students can join the Army Medical Corps via AFMC, one of India’s premier medical institutions.

Foreign Postings in the Indian Army

Foreign postings offer officers and personnel a unique experience to work in different countries, often as part of diplomatic or international peacekeeping missions.

Energetic Interaction and Q&A

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A where students asked questions on various aspects of military life, career growth, and requirements. Mr. Nair patiently addressed their queries, providing clarity and encouragement.

The session was inspiring and informative, emphasizing that the army isn't just a job; it's a commitment to serve. Concluding with the powerful saying, "When the going gets tough, the tough get going," Mr. Nair motivated students to consider the Indian Army as a noble, exciting, and fulfilling career option, prepared to take on challenges and make a meaningful impact.



