

MAKING MILITARY ENLISTMENT MANDATORY AFTER 12TH

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Abstract

Mandatory military enlistment of the youth after their high school education is the need of the hour. The country would thereby have a large reserve force to keep the boundaries of the country safe. The spirit of patriotism blended with qualities of high moral values, ethics and integrity and strong discipline will ensure that the youth are productive and use their time wisely and help make our country self-reliant. Therefore, military conscription should be made mandatory for all after they complete Class 12.

Introduction

Military enlistment should be made compulsory after Class 12. Many countries like Greece, Norway, Armenia, Iran, Finland etc have made military service compulsory for its youth. This practice like any other has its own share of advantages as well as disadvantages, where the former outweighs the latter. It is seen that a growing number of youth today, are wanting in a sense of direction, discernment and lack a sense of belongingness towards their homeland. Conscription helps unite people under a common goal and be of service to the public at large. When interests of the masses converge to seeking welfare of the society, the citizens begin to value what they have and work unitedly towards evolving to the next step. As the Indian Military Academy Manifesto says, "The safety, honour and wellbeing of your country come first, always and every time."



This imbibes a quality of selfless living in the citizens of the country and boosts a spirit of brotherhood in the community, where each member puts his/her own self-interests aside and works for the common good of the society as a whole.

In countries with democracy, and specially multi-party country like India, there's a lot of diversity, freedom, and fierce debates and disagreements and enough scope for influencing the minds of the youth and creating separatism; Mandatory military enlistment, would automatically create a common identity, despite the differences and disagreements and create a common platform for people to arrive at compromises in the interest of the nation.

Life in the defence forces, teaches people to live a disciplined life, value time, and keep up commitments. "Discipline is a state of order and obedience derived from training which makes punishment unnecessary"- Unknown. The training regime is tough and challenging not just physically but also mentally (Berman *et al*, 2019). It teaches the important lesson that discipline is a friend, an ally and not your enemy. It builds character, obedience and makes one a thorough gentleman. Beyond this, the military makes a person trained in self- defence, sacrifice, and helps to understand the quality of service.

The training provides one with an expertise to tackle any challenge heads on with a calm demeanour and profound analytical skills. Making use of even sparse resources, they are taught to be quick, critical and creative in their thinking and swift in action. A large number of volunteers are required to take charge whenever a nation is faced with any calamity, national disaster, endemics and pandemics, which is many a time not very forthcoming. Mandatory military training after schooling, will give the country, this much needed huge reservoir of trained human resource during rescue operations.

Conscription will strengthen the country's capital of armed forces which in turn would dissuade foreign nations from planning to attack/ invade our country (Kennedy *et al* 2019). Terrorist activities can be dealt a crippling blow when the nation has a huge battalion of trained armed personnel across the diverse span of the country. Other criminal activities too will take a natural dip.

Again, not only discipline but also health is another factor where people can be benefited from military training



Fig: Success story of Soldiers

That rigorous exercise, activities, and practices help both men and women cadets to be physically, mentally and emotionally fit. It would build the confidence of women and help fight back atrocities against women.



Fig: Strong and courageous women cadets Pic credit; Indian Army website

The rigorous physical training in the military academy would enhance the health, vitality and agility of the youth of the nation and thereby creating fit and healthy older generation in the years to come. Physical demand is the primary standard and is best, which is suited to the military. However, sometimes physical standard changes as per the need of soldiers. Therefore, this helps to indicate that the combat necessity of soldiers (Cohen, 2019). Training makes them physically fit and sharp in intellectually, which helps to

increase their energy and to work fully. If after 12, it became compulsory, then every student can get a chance to improve themselves.

Life with the armed forces does not teach only warfare; apart from technical skills, it teaches, leadership quality, teamwork and sportsman spirit and the ability to take both, success and failures in their stride with the same demeanour. It enhances the presence of mind. All these qualities make a person more employable after retiring from serving his/her station.

One of the greatest maladies afflicting the generation today is stress. People undergoing the army training undergo a rigorous regime in which their mental health is put to test. The challenges they face seem unsurmountable and hence the strain on their mind is extreme to say the least. The trainees have to face a battery of intense bodily and mental stress which enable and enhance their capabilities and skills to face every challenge of life head on, with minimal to zero stress. They naturally become the most sought after and head hunted by the human resource recruitment agencies.

Military training empowers the trainees with strategic planning and decision-making skills. They are adept at handling all kinds of work including the run of the mill household chores. Their gentlemanly traits, sense of responsibility, level-headedness make them ideal life partners. It helps to enhance some virtues like teamwork, loyalty, trustworthiness, the value of time. For them, duty is more important than anything (Derefinko *et al* 2019). They learn the sense of duty, selflessness, and dignity of labor.

Mandatory military conscription would inculcate deep sense of patriotism in the youth which is of significant importance. This would unite the country in a common thread of unity and supreme sacrifice for the countrymen.

The training would build courage and strong sense of responsibility. People would have the ability to not only protect themselves, they would also be able to help others in need.



Fig: Art of Self-Discipline

Conclusion

Compulsory military enlistment would bring about a sense of equality among men and women from diverse backgrounds. It would build a strong reserve force which can spring up into quick action whenever the country is faced with any national calamities or manmade disasters. The spirit of patriotism would be at an all-time high and bind the nation together in a single strong thread of brotherhood. Country would think twice before thinking of attacking the country. The youth of the country would become a disciplined lot. Through military training, they will be disciplined and follow the rules. In addition, their discipline life will be helpful to others in ordinary life. To conclude, it must be said that to make India great, and then military training is mandatory after 12. Not only India, but even other countries will also be nepotism free and corruption-free. Only military training can make actual youth soldiers who can die for their motherland. Also, this will help to make defence security policy for the country. Again, when military training is completed, then coming back to a healthy life, they can lead to living successfully. However, keeping aside discrimination, one country should provide opportunities both for men and women. So that every person can start this after 12, and women can be self-dependent and confident too.

Reference

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