

INTERACTIVE SESSION: KARGIL WAR STORY

NCS (Kochi) joined the nation in saluting those brave heroes who fought for their country on the freezing mountains of the mighty Himalayas. On Saturday, 20 July 2019 the students of classes 6 – 12 had the rare opportunity to participate in an engaging interactive session titled 'Kargil War Story'. It was spearheaded by Brigadier M Indrabalan a Kargil war hero. Brigadier Indrabalan was the Brigade Major in 70 infantry brigade and tasked with conquering 70 square kilometres of tough snow covered Himalayas.



Ms Edwina Michael introduced the speaker to the audience teeming the Multi –Purpose Hall. Captain Rakesh Dhall, Director NCS (Kochi) graced the occasion with his esteemed presence. The Principal Dr Nellie Paul Verghese, Vice Principals and teachers were also present.

The Brigadier began the session with a brief explanation on the circumstances that led to the Kargil War. A power point presentation outlined the high points the war. It was quite obvious that the infiltration by the Pakistani soldiers and the Kashmiri militants into the line of control triggered off the war. The two primary aims of the army were stated. The location of the war mapped out in the slides, brought home to the young minds the magnitude of the hardship faced by the comrades- in –arms in defending the country in the snow clad higher altitudes of our nation. The pictures of steadfast war heroes were displayed. A touching letter written by a young soldier from the war front expounded the

unrelenting devotion of the warriors to the cause they represent. The least that a citizen of India can do for the martyrs of war is to pay homage to their bodies when brought home.



An emotionally charged video illustrating a mother's bond with her son who had joined the army and her proud acceptance of his ultimate sacrifice brought tears to the eyes of the audience. Quotable quotes of bereft parents of war heroes were exhibited.

The session was a tribute not only to the known heroes but to the unsung heroic deeds of all the unknown soldiers who laid down their lives to defend our freedom. Brigadier Indrabalan clearly brought out the pathos and hardships faced by the soldiers who are relentlessly committed to safeguarding the nation with no assurance that they would return alive or dead. The narrative was all the more poignant as it was given by a soldier who had experienced the bitter hardships and faced the adversities with valour.



The audience was one with the speaker, sharing the harsh condition as we fought the Kargil War with Brigadier Indrabalan, reliving each moment, facing each trauma, freezing in the mind numbing cold. It was indeed the most befitting way to convey our heartfelt tribute to the great warriors who so selflessly dedicate themselves to ensure our safety and security.

