

Major activities of Department of Defence for the month of November, 2018

Delegation of Financial Powers in r/o Ministry of Defence for Revenue Procurement cases

(1) The Ministry of Defence has delegated greater financial decision-making powers to Vice Chiefs of the three Services in order to expedite the decision making process involved in the revenue procurements of the Armed Forces. With the new delegation, the Vice Chiefs will be able to exercise financial powers upto five times more than the existing powers with an enhanced ceiling of Rs. 500 crores. This is likely to give another fillip to the capacity of the three Armed Forces.

International Cooperation

- (2) A delegation led by Defence Secretary visited China for attending the 9th Annual Defence and Security Dialogue from 12th to 14th November, 2018.
- (3) A delegation led by Defence Minister of Singapore visited India for attending the 3rd India-Singapore Defence Ministers' Dialogue from 19th to 20th November, 2018.
- (4) A delegation led by Defence Secretary visited Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for attending the 11th Malaysia-India Defence Cooperation Meeting (MIDCOM) from 21st to 22nd November, 2018. During the meeting, a MoU between Malaysia and India on United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation was also signed.
- (5) 3rd India-Spain Joint Defence Committee (JDC) meeting chaired by Joint Secretary (Navy) was held on 26th November, 2018 in New Delhi.
- (6) A delegation led by Defence Secretary visited Oman for attending the 10th Joint Military Cooperation Committee meeting from 28th to 29th November, 2018.

Acquisition

(7) Contract for upgrading 100 Nos of 40mm L-70 Guns under option clause at a cost of Rs. 340.36 crore M/s Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Chennai was signed on 14th November, 2018.

Cyclone 'Gaja'

(8) Raksha Mantri visited cyclone 'Gaja affected areas of Nagapattinam, Tamilnadu on 29th November, 2018. She conducted an aerial survey of the devastation caused by the cyclone in Kodyakkarai. Raksha Mantri reviewed the relief operation executed by the Indian Navy through air, road and sea on the worst hit villages.

(9) ICGS Samar and Aryaman sailed from Kochi for Overseas Deployment to Maldives and Sri Lanka from 23rd November – 9th December, 2018. CG Dornier 753 was also tasked from Thiruvananthapuram to Maldives on 25th November, 2018 to participate in exercise DOSTI-XIV at Maldives from 25th – 29th November, 2018. The ships will enter Kochi on completion of deployment on 9th December, 2018.

(10) Coast Guard District HQ (CGDHQ-15) at Okhas has been established on 26th October, 2018.

(11) PRT (NW) at Vadinar has been activated on 9th November, 2018.

(12) Hon'ble Raksha Mantri chaired Consultative Committee Meeting of Ministry of Defence on Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and reviewed the operation preparedness, Infrastructure development and coastal mechanism of the Coast Guard on 17th November, 2018. Hon'ble Raksha Mantri and the delegation was briefed about the coastal security mechanism and preparedness of Coast Guard to tackle maritime emergencies.
