

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

International Cooperation

- (1) A delegation led by DG, Israel MoD visited New Delhi from 2nd – 5th July to attend the 14th India – Israel Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting.
- (2) Under Secretary of Defence for Acquisition and Sustainment, USA met the undersigned on 18th July, 2018.
- (3) A delegation led by the Defence Secretary visited Tajikstan to attend the Joint Working Group (JWG) from 26th – 28th July, 2018.

Medical Assistance to crew of SLFV Nili Duwa

- (4) On 17th July, 2018 MRCC (CHN) received information from MRCC Colombo that a crew member of Sri Lankan fishing vessel 'Nili Duwa' is severely ill and in a critical condition. ICGS Sarang affected R/V with the SLFB on 18th July, 2018 and provided the patient with requisite medical treatment. The patient was later handed over to Sri Lankan Naval FAC on 19th July, 2018.

Settlement of pending Audit Paras

- (5) Ministry of Defence has made sustained efforts over the last two months to bring down pendency of Audit Paras. As a result, during the period from 1st April, 2017 to 24th July, 2018, 178 outstanding Audit Paras have been settled and as on date no Audit Para pertaining to period pre-1999 is pending.

Swachh Bharat

- (6) Following activities were organized at Headquarter Directorate General of Border Roads (HQ DGBR) during the month of July 2018 under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan:-
 - (a) Cleaning of campus and adjoining areas.

- (b) Cleaning of JCO's and NCO's living area including messes.
- (c) Cleaning of office complexes and surrounding area.
- (d) Focus on garbage collections disposal, Hygiene and sanitation of toilets and cook house.
- (e) Sanitary Rounds by Medical Officer to unit lines.

Unified Commanders' Conference – 2018

(7) The two-day Unified Commanders' Conference for the year 2018 was held on 30th and 31st July, 2018 at New Delhi. The Conference provided a platform for discussions at the Apex level on all 'Joint issues' amongst the three Services & Ministry of Defence and enabled stock-taking of the previous year and facilitated planning for future. The event was attended by the Raksha Mantri, Raksha Rajya Mantri, National Security Adviser, the Service Chiefs and other senior military and civil officers.

Kargil Vijay Diwas

(8) On the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas – 2018 Raksha Mantri along with three Service Chiefs paid their homage to the courage, valour and sacrifices of the heroes of Operation Vijay at Amar Jawan Jyoti in New Delhi on 26th July, 2018. The India-Pakistan Kargil conflict, known as 'Operation Vijay', was fought between May and July 1999, in the most inhospitable and rugged terrain along the Line of Control (LoC) from ZojiLa in the West to Turtok in the East.

Indo-US Defence Cooperation

(9) As part of Indo-US Bilateral Defence Cooperation, the 7th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) meeting was held between India and the US delegation in New Delhi on 18th July, 2018. The meetings are held twice a year, alternately in India and the USA with the aim to bring sustained leadership focus to the bilateral defence trade relationship and create opportunities for co-production and co-development of defence equipment.

Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)

(10) In continuation of its efforts to boost indigenous defence industry and to reduce timelines so as to ensure timely delivery of equipment to the Armed Forces, the DAC discussed and approved implementation of guidelines for the Strategic Partnership Model. Strategic Partnership Model aims to revitalize defence industrial ecosystem and progressively build indigenous capabilities in the private sector to design, develop and manufacture complex weapon systems for the future needs of the Armed Forces.

(11) Ministry of Defence has given a go ahead sanction for construction of 17 new baffle firing ranges in Military Stations/ Cantonments/Training Establishments at an approximate cost of Rs. 238 crore. This will add seven ranges to the Southern Command, three to the Eastern Command and two to the Northern Command proposed for the Officers Training Academy, Gaya. These 17 will be in addition to the 60 similar ranges existing all over the country. The proposed baffle shooting ranges can facilitate firing from 300 to 500 meters.
