Major activities of Department of Defence for the month of June, 2019

International Cooperation

(1) A delegation led by Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal visited Sweden on a goodwill visit from 3rd to 6th June, 2019.

(2) A delegation led by Additional Secretary (JN) visited Russia for finalizing the Agreement on Reciprocal Logistics Support from 10th to 14th June, 2019.

(3) A delegation of officers from Army HQrs and International Cooperation (IC) Wing visited Guilin, China to attend the Final Planning Conference (FPC) for Table Top Exercise (TTX) and Field Training Exercise (FTX) of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting – Plan Experts' Working Group on Counter Terrorism from 26th to 29th June, 2019.

Raksha Mantri visits to Siachen Glacier and Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam

(4) Raksha Mantri, accompanied by the Chief of Army Staff made his maiden visit to the world’s highest battle field Siachen Glacier on 3rd June, 2019. He interacted with the troops and addressed them. He expressed heartfelt gratitude to them on behalf of the nation. He also assured them of the Government’s full support.

(5) Raksha Mantri visited Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam on June 29th – 30th, 2019. He held a meeting with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and the officials of State and District Administration. Both jointly reviewed the progress of ongoing infrastructure projects and proposals of the Indian Navy in Andhra Pradesh State. He was briefed on the operational
readiness of the Command and other aspects of maritime and coastal security on the Eastern Seaboard. He also visited Indian Navy’s indigenously conceived design and constructed frontline stealth frigate INS Shivalik and Indian Naval Submarine Sindhukirti at Visakhapatnam. He interacted with crew members.

**Acquisition**

(6) A contract for Procurement of 63 X Varunastra Torpedoes (53 Combat and 10 Practice) and Associated Equipments amounting to Rs. 1187.82 crore was signed on 11th June, 2019 with M/s Bharat Dynamics Ltd.

(7) A contract for Procurement of Satellite GSAT-7R along with associated hub infrastructure as redundancy to existing Naval Communication satellite GSAT-7 amounting to Rs. 1589 crore was signed on 11th June, 2019 with Department of Space/ISRO.

(8) Contract for Procurement of 262 SDR (NC) amounting to Rs. 145.85 crore was signed on 18th June, 2019 with M/s Bharat Electronics Ltd., Bangalore.

**Defence Cooperation Mechanism**

(9) Raksha Mantri reviewed activities of the Ministry of Defence on 6th June, 2019. He briefed regarding Defence Cooperation activities with Friendly Foreign Countries (FFCs). The Minister also briefed about planning activities of the Armed Forces including Tri-Services agencies viz. HQ IDS and Defence Cyber Agency, Defence Space Agency and Armed Forces Special Forces Division which were approved by the CCS in 2019.

**Operational and Procurement**

(10) Raksha Mantri took a meeting of senior officers of Ministry of Defence to review operational matters and procurement issues of the Armed Forces on
7th June, 2019. He discussed important revenue procurement cases regarding maintenance of platforms and assets with the Armed Forces.

**Ration**

(11) Raksha Mantri announced the restoration of the 'ration of kind' for the officers of the Armed Forces posted in peace areas on 18th June, 2019. Now all officers of the Armed Forces including those in peace stations will be getting ration.

**5th International Day of Yoga**

(12) Raksha Mantri led thousands in Yoga at majestic Rajpath with Rashtrapati Bhawan in the background on the 5th International Day of Yoga on 21st June, 2019. Prime Minister, accompanied by Minster of State (Independent charge) Ministry of 'AYUSH' and Raksha Rajya Mantri led the nation from Ranchi in Jharkhand in celebrating the spirit of Yoga.

**Miscellaneous**

(13) The Coastal Security Exercise – 'Sagar Kavach' was executed by RHQ (A&N) on 19th June, 2019. The exercise was terminated on 20th June, 2019.

(14) Monthly coastal security drill 'Op Sajag' was conducted by RHQ (A&N) on 20th June, 2019 to enhance the coastal security through extensive checking and verification of documents and crew passes of all fishing boats and craft at sea.

(15) The Government has sanctioned 'Establishment of Coast Guard Recruitment Centre at Dehradun & Guwahati vide letter dated 21st June, 2019.

(16) The Ex-gratia compensation for Casual Paid Labourers in BRO has been enhanced by the Ministry from Rs. 2.00 lakh to Rs. 5.00 lakh in case of death,
from Rs. 1.5 lakh to Rs. 4.00 lakh in the case of permanent disablement and from Rs. 1.00 lakh to Rs. 3.00 lakh in case of partial disability.

(17) A new Sainik School has commenced at Chandrapur in Maharashtra state with effect from 17th June, 2019 taking the total number of Sainik Schools in the country to 29.