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Centre for Defence Economics and Industry, MP-IDSA

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KEY EVENTS

Defence Investiture Ceremony (Phase-1) Held

President Smt Droupadi Murmu [conferred](#) 10 Kirti Chakras (seven posthumous) and 26 Shaurya Chakras (seven posthumous) to the personnel of the Armed Forces, Central Armed Police Forces and State/Union Territory Police during Defence Investiture Ceremony (Phase-1) at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi on 5 July 2024. The awards were given to the personnel for displaying conspicuous gallantry, indomitable courage and extreme devotion to duty.

President Confers 94 Distinguished Service Decorations

President Smt Droupadi Murmu [conferred](#) 94 Distinguished Service Decorations to the personnel of the Armed Forces and the Indian Coast Guard during the Defence Investiture Ceremony (Phase-2) at Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi on 19 July 2024. These decorations - 31 Param Vishisht Seva Medals (PVSMs), four Uttam Yudh Seva Medals (UYSMs), two Bar to Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSMs), and 57 AVSMs - have been given to the personnel for distinguished service of exceptional order.

Prime Minister Pays Homage to the Bravehearts on Kargil Vijay Diwas

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 26 July 2024 paid [homage](#) to bravehearts who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty, on the occasion of 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas at the Kargil War Memorial in Dras, Ladakh. The Prime Minister also witnessed the first blast of the Shinkun La Tunnel Project in Ladakh, virtually. Shinkun La Tunnel Project consists of a 4.1 km long Twin-Tube

tunnel to be constructed at around 15,800 feet on the Nimu – Padum – Darcha Road to provide all-weather connectivity to Leh. Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh paid homage to the bravehearts at the National War Memorial in New Delhi. He was accompanied by the Vice Chiefs of the three Services and Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC).

Rs 6.22 Lakh Crore Allocated to MoD in Regular Union Budget 2024-25

In the Regular Union Budget of Financial Year (FY) 2024-25, MoD has been [allocated](#) Rs 6,21,940.85 crore (approx. US \$75 Billion), the highest among the Ministries on 23 July 2024. While maintaining the allocation made to MoD during interim budget, the Government has made an additional allocation to the tune of Rs 400 crore on innovation in defence through the Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI) scheme. The allocation to MoD for FY 2024-25 is higher by approx. Rs one lakh crore (18.43 per cent) over the allocation for FY 2022-23 and 4.79 per cent more than allocation of FY 2023-24. RM Rajnath Singh exuded confidence that the capital outlay of Rs 1,72,000 crore will further strengthen the capabilities of the Armed Forces. He also hoped that the earmarking of Rs 1,05,518.43 crore for domestic capital procurement will provide further impetus to the ‘Aatmanibharta’ in defence.

Raksha Mantri Holds Talks with Australian Deputy Prime Minister

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [held](#) a telephonic conversation with Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence

Minister Richard Marles on 4 July 2024. Both Ministers noted the transformative progress in defence cooperation under the comprehensive strategic partnership.

Raksha Mantri Pays Tribute to Nguyen Phu Trong

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [visited](#) the Vietnam Embassy in New Delhi on 25 July 2024 to pay tribute, on behalf of the Government and the people of India, to General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Nguyen Phu Trong, who passed away recently.

Raksha Rajya Mantri launches GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme

Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth [launched](#) the 'GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme' (GAINS 2024) in Kolkata on 10 July 2024. The scheme seeks to promote technology development using start-ups.

RRM visits Eastern Command HQs, Kolkata

Raksha Rajya Mantri, Sanjay Seth [visited](#) Fort William, the Headquarters of the Eastern Command, on 11 July 2024. Later, Shri Seth visited NCC Directorate West Bengal & Sikkim.

RRM Visits HAL, BEML Limited and BEL Facilities in Bengaluru

Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth [visited](#) the facilities of HAL, BEML Limited and BEL in Bengaluru, Karnataka on 15 July 2024 to review the works being carried out by the DPSUs.

RRM Visits DRDO Bhawan in New Delhi

Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth [visited](#) DRDO Bhawan in New Delhi on 24 July

2024. Secretary Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat gave a detailed presentation on recent achievements, major ongoing projects and the future roadmap.

RRM Flags in Successful Expedition Team of NCC Cadets

Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth [flagged](#) in triumphant expedition team of NCC Girl and Boy cadets to Mt Kang Yatse-II (Ladakh) at a ceremony held in New on 3 July 2024.

CDS: Multiple Initiatives to Maintain an Edge over Adversaries

Multiple initiatives are being taken by the Indian Armed Forces in war fighting doctrines, strategy and concepts as per perceived threats. This was [stated](#) by CDS General Anil Chauhan at an event in New Delhi on 18 July 2024 to mark 25 years of Kargil Vijay Diwas.

CDS: Sacrifices of Soldiers in Kargil War Will Not Go In Vain

CDS General Anil Chauhan [conveyed](#) his felicitations and wishes to all Ranks of the Armed Forces on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Kargil War. The CDS underscored that the supreme sacrifices made by the Bravehearts in Kargil War will not go in vain.

CAS Inaugurates Weapon Systems School at Begumpet, Hyderabad

Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) [inaugurated](#) the Weapon Systems School (WSS) at Air Force Station Begumpet, Hyderabad on 1 July 24. The IAFs Weapon System (WS) branch was started in 2022.

Defence Secretary Meets Democratic Republic of Congo Defence Secretary

The first Secretary-level meeting between the Defence Ministries of India and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was [held](#) in New Delhi on 5 July 2024. The Indian delegation was led by Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane and the Congolese delegation was led by Permanent Secretary of Defence, DRC Major General Lukuikila Metikwiza Marcel.

Annual Defence Production Hits Record High Rs 1.27 lakh crore in FY 2023-24

The MoD [achieved](#) the highest-ever growth in indigenous defence production in value terms during Financial Year (FY) 2023-24. The value of defence production was Rs 1,26,887 crore, reflecting a growth of 16.7 per cent over the previous financial year.

Defence Secretary: Government Committed To Implement Industry 4.0/QA 4.0

Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane said that the MoD is [committed](#) to handhold the defence ecosystem by implementing the Industry 4.0/QA 4.0. He was delivering keynote address at a National Level Seminar on Quality Reforms held virtually by Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) in association with SIDM on 9 July 2024.

India UAE Joint Defence Cooperation Committee Meeting Held

The 12th edition of the Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting

between India and UAE was [held](#) in Abu Dhabi on 9 July 2024.

MoD Notifies Fifth Positive Indigenisation List

The Ministry of Defence [notified](#) the fifth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL) consisting of 346 items on 16 July 2024, with import substitution value worth Rs 1,048 crore.

Indian Navy's Annual Safety Review 2024 Held

The Annual Safety Review- 2024 (ASR-24), the 7th edition of Indian Navy's apex meeting on safety, was [conducted](#) at Southern Naval Command, Kochi on 19 July 2024. Adm Dinesh K Tripathi, CNS urged the senior leadership to strengthen the safety climate of Indian Navy.

24 Service Personnel Taking Part in 2024 Paris Olympics

Twenty four (24) Armed Forces personnel are among the 117 Indian athletes [participating](#) at the Paris Olympics, beginning 26 July 2024. Among these 24 athletes, 22 are men, including star Javelin Thrower Subedar Neeraj Chopra, and two women, which marks the maiden participation of female Service athletes at the Olympics.

India-Russia Military Technical Cooperation Meeting Held

The Working Sub Group on Planning of Military Cooperation of the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Military and Military Technical Cooperation (IRIGC-M&MTC) [held](#) its 3rd Meeting on 23-24 July 2024 at New Delhi.

Armed Forces Respond to Landslides in Karnataka and Kerala

On 31 July 2024, the Indian Army [intensified](#) its HADR operation, to rescue people stranded after devastating landslides struck Wayanad on 30 July 2024. IAF helicopters undertook multiple sorties dropping relief material. Naval aviation assets provided support in transportation of SDRF and state administration officials. The Southern Naval Command [dispatched](#) a disaster relief team from INS Zamorin at Ezhimala on 30 July 2024. An ALH detachment in SAR configuration was deployed from Kochi to Calicut.

MoD's Divyangjan Expedition to Mt. Kilimanjaro Flagged Off

The Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), Darjeeling under the aegis of the MoD is [undertaking](#) a Divyangjan expedition from Kanchenjunga National Park to Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest peak of the African continent during 2-20 August 2024.

AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

MoD Inks MoU To Set Up Testing Facilities

The MoD has [signed](#) an MoU on 2 July 2024 to establish three state-of-the-art testing facilities in Chennai under the Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor - one each in Unmanned Aerial System (UAS), Electronic Warfare (EW) and Electro Optics (EO) domains. The MoU was signed under the Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS). The MoD on 30 July 2024 [inked](#) another MoU to set up three state-of-the-art testing facilities under the Uttar

Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC). One facility will be established in Lucknow in Mechanical & Material (M&M) domain, one each in Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) and Communications domains in Kanpur.

DRDO Sanctions Seven New Projects under TDF Scheme

The DRDO has [awarded](#) seven new projects to industries under the TDF scheme for various requirements of the Armed Forces and aerospace & defence sectors on 11 July 2024.

DRDO Successfully Flight-Tests Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence System

DRDO successfully [flight-tested](#) Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence System on 24 July 2024. The Target Missile was launched from LC-IV Dhamra at 1620 hrs, which was detected by weapon system radars deployed on land and sea. The Phase-II AD Endo-atmospheric missile was launched from LC-III at ITR, Chandipur at 1624 hrs.

First of Two Advanced Frigates under Construction Launched

The first of two Advanced Frigates under construction by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) for the Indian Navy, was [launched](#) on 23 July 2024 at GSL, Goa. The contract for building the two Advance Frigates was signed on 25 January 2019.

MoD and NSE Ink MoU to Facilitate Capital Market Access to MSMEs

The MoD and National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) on 29 July 2024 [signed](#) a MoU to facilitate capital market access to MSMEs.

DAC Clears Capital Acquisition Proposals

The [Defence Acquisition Council](#) (DAC), under the chairmanship of Raksha Mantri on 29 July 2024 accorded AoN to the procurement of Advanced Land Navigation System (ALNS) for Armoured Fighting Vehicles (AFVs) of the Indian Army. The DAC also accorded AoN for procurement of 22 Interceptor Boats.

iDEX and AFMS Sign MoU

iDEX-DIO, the flagship initiative of MoD, has [signed](#) an MoU with Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) for the launch of Medical Innovations and Research Advancement (MIRA) on 30 July 2024.

DEFENCE DIPLOMACY

India-Thailand Joint Military Exercise Maitree Held

The 13th edition of India-Thailand joint military Exercise [MAITREE](#) was conducted from 1-15 July 2024 at Fort Vachirapukan in Tak Province of Thailand.

India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant Held

The 16th edition of India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise NOMADIC ELEPHANT [commenced](#) on 3 July 2024, at Foreign Training Node, Umroi (Meghalaya).

INS Tabar Visits Casablanca, Morocco and Hamburg, Germany

Indian Navy's frontline frigate, INS Tabar [arrived](#) at Casablanca, Morocco on 8 July

2024 for a three - day visit. Later, upon departure from Casablanca, the two Navies will also undertake a PASSEX at sea. INS Tabar [arrived](#) at Hamburg, Germany on 17 July 24 for a three day visit.

Indian Air Force Participates in Ex Pitch Black 2024 at Darwin, Australia

An IAF contingent participated in Exercise Pitch Black 2024 [conducted](#) from 12 July 2024 to 02 August 2024. The exercise is a biennial, multi- national exercise hosted by the RAAF. The IAF contingent comprised over 150 highly skilled Air Warriors including pilots, engineers, technicians, controllers and other subject matter experts, operating Su-30 MKI multirole fighters, with the C -17 Globemaster and the IL-78 Air-to-Air Refuelling aircraft in combat enabling roles.

RSNF Trainees Complete Training Onboard First Training Squadron

76 trainees from King Fahd Naval Academy of the Royal Saudi Naval Forces (RSNF) [completed](#) their Afloat Training Course at First Training Squadron (1TS) of the Indian Navy on 18 July 2024.

Indian Army Contingent Participates in Exercise Khaan Quest

An Indian Army contingent [participated](#) in the Multinational Military Exercise KHAAN QUEST conducted from 27 July to 9 August 2024 at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

'The Newsletter is a compilation of media reports and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Manohar Parrikar IDSA or the Ministry of Defence, Government of India'.