

# ANNUAL ARMY SEMINAR 2017/18

## CONTRIBUTION OF THE ARMY TOWARDS NATION BUILDING

MANEKSHAW CENTRE

MARCH 1, 2018



Centre for Land Warfare Studies  
New Delhi





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The Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), New Delhi, is an independent think tank dealing with contemporary issues of national security and conceptual aspects of land warfare, including conventional and sub-conventional conflicts and terrorism. CLAWS conducts research that is futuristic in outlook and policy-oriented in approach.

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# CONCEPT NOTE

## INTRODUCTION

The Indian Army has been a key contributor in the integration, consolidation, and institutional development of India. The idea of India was threatened from inception by inimical forces and hostile nations; with perseverance and diligence, these threats were eliminated by the Army. Through its secular fabric, apolitical character and altruistic service, it has endeared itself to the people of India. The Indian Army has provided relief and succour to the citizens of India in times of adversity and natural disasters. The contributions of the Indian Army in the development of games and sports are catalysts for the country to reach greater heights.

Often, defence budgets were referred to as non-plan expenditure; this mistaken nomenclature creates an impression which is flawed. Wherever the Army is located or deployed, the local economy benefits as do the home states of soldiers, however, maximum gains accrue where defence industries are established and human resources employed, in addition to the benefits to the research and development organisations and raw material supply chain.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE SEMINAR

The objective of the seminar is to examine the 'Contribution of the Indian Army Towards Nation Building and Identify New Spheres and Areas for Future Participation'.

## CONDUCT

The Seminar will be conducted over one day in four sessions. The four sessions will be devoted to understanding the Indian Army's role in nation building through transforming the socio-economic paradigms in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) and north-east, Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, spinoffs through synergy with the defence industry, and contributions in the field of Military Diplomacy.

## UNDERSTANDING OF ARMY'S ROLE IN NATION BUILDING

There is a need to evaluate the actions and role played by the Army in the growth and development of the nation. The appraisal should highlight the achievements and successes that have ensured peace, security and stability for the country, establishment of the rule of law, economic growth, cultural, and social progress. The intangible impacts range from proving a secure environment for democracy to flourish, invigorating the social fabric and contributing towards the values, principles, and ethics of a rich society.

In today's world of information overload and hectic schedule of the society, a need is felt to highlight the contribution of the Army in various spheres of the country's progress.

## TRANSFORMING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PARADIGM

The Indian Army has been active in bringing peace and stability to various parts of the country over the past 70 years. It has been conducting counter-insurgency operations in the north-east part of the country for many decades. It is fighting a proxy war in J&K which is slowly getting hybrid overtones. While contributing to counter-terror operations, it is also reaching out to the people in far-flung areas which lack adequate state governance. Through its activities, the Indian Army is changing the socio-economic paradigm in J&K as well as the north-east. In addition, it has been called for Aid to Civil Authority to ensure that violence is curbed and rule of law maintained, to allow all organs of the state machinery to perform their mission. The Indian Army has successfully maintained and protected the integrity of the country through these operations.

## RELIEF, AID, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

### Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief

Due to its pan India presence, deployment in remote and inaccessible areas and quick reaction ability the Indian Army invariably becomes the first respondent in any natural disaster or man-made calamity. Whether it be the earthquakes at Latur or Nepal, floods in Uttarakhand, J&K, Assam, Bihar or Tamil Nadu, or cyclone damage on the East or West Coast, the rescue and relief operations by the Indian Army have always stood up to the test of time. The Indian Army is committed to ensuring the welfare of the needy and distraught even to the extent of providing food and shelter from its meagre resources when the need arises. It also innovates solutions for the populace where the local administration cannot reach or has become ineffective due to the disaster/calamity.

### Games and Sports

The Indian Army has been at the forefront of spreading and encouraging games and sports in different parts of the country. It has also represented India individually or as team members at international meets and competitions. Major Dhyan Chand was the most illustrious player from the Indian Army, there are many others like Milkha Singh and Lieutenant Colonel Rajya Vardhan Singh Rathore who did India proud. By encouraging games and sports where the Army is deployed, awareness is created and facilities are provided for the local populace to learn the new disciplines.

## 'MAKE IN INDIA' – SYNERGISING MILITARY REQUIREMENT WITH THE DEFENCE INDUSTRY

Defence Industry is a major contributor to the gross domestic product (GDP) of any developed nation in the world. Self-reliance in the defence industry is a major contributor towards

achieving this. There is a need to synergise the Military requirements with the emerging defence industry, provide opportunities through indigenisation, and enhance the defence production and technological base. This will give the industry a platform for local entrepreneurs and energise the job market. India must become an important hub of defence industry as it will bring in dual-use technology as well as much needed jobs for the youth of our country.

### **MILITARY DIPLOMACY AND PEACEKEEPING**

Military diplomacy is increasingly becoming important in the comity of nations. Although a relatively modern term which came into prominence in the 1980s it has a far-reaching relevance in today's interconnected world. It forms an important part of the multi-track diplomatic efforts being conducted by many developed countries of the world. Indian Army personnel have contributed to this effect as Defence Attachés, as well as while serving in the United Nation Missions across the world. Indian Army is widely respected for its professional excellence and contribution in 44 missions in which it has contributed 1,80,000 troops over the years, the highest in any country. There is a need for deeper understanding of this resource and means to further India's foreign policy.

# SEMINAR PROGRAMME

09:00 – 10:00 h	Tea and Registration
10:00 – 10:10 h	Welcome Remarks by COAS
10:10 – 10:30 h	Keynote Address by Hon'ble <i>Raksha Rajya Mantri</i>
10:30 – 10:40 h	Vote of Thanks by DG PP
10:40 – 10:55 h	Release of Books by Hon'ble <i>Raksha Rajya Mantri</i>
10:55 – 11:20 h	Tea
11:20 – 12:30 h	<b>SESSION I: Military Diplomacy – An Effective Instrument of Achieving National Foreign Policy Goals</b>
11:20 – 11:30 h	Opening Remarks by Chair: Ambassador G Parthasarathy
11:30 – 11:50 h	Experience and Outcomes by Lieutenant General Aditya Singh, PVSM, AVSM** (Retd)
11:50 – 12:10 h	Prospects of Military Diplomacy in the Future by Ambassador Asoke Kumar Mukerji
12:10 – 12:30 h	Interactive Session
12:30 – 13:40 h	<b>SESSION II: Humanitarian and Disaster Relief – Indian Army as Primary Responder and Key Enabler</b>
12:30 – 12:40 h	Opening Remarks by Chair Lieutenant General Anil Chait, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)
12:40 – 13:00 h	National Perspective on Disaster Management and Role of Army by Major General VK Datta, AVSM, SM**, VSM**, PPMG (Retd)
13:00 – 13:20 h	Maritime Domain and Military Assistance by Vice Admiral Anup Singh, PVSM, AVSM, NM (Retd)
13:20 – 13:40 h	Interactive Session
13:40 – 14:30 h	Lunch
14:30 – 15:40 h	<b>SESSION III: Indian Army's Role in Transforming Socio-economic Paradigms in J&amp;K and North-East</b>
14:30 – 14:40 h	Opening Remarks by Chair Lieutenant General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd)
14:40 – 15:00 h	J&K Contribution in Education, Social Systems and Youth Empowerment by Lieutenant General Syed Ata Hasnain, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM**, VSM** (Retd)
15:00 – 15:20 h	Economic Upliftment, Infrastructure and Wealth Creation by Lieutenant General Rakesh Sharma, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)
15:20 – 15:40 h	Interactive Session



15:40 – 16:50 h	<b>SESSION IV: ‘Make in India’ Initiatives of Indian Army - Laying Foundation for 100 per cent Self Reliance in Defence</b>
15:40 – 15:50 h	<b>Opening Remarks</b> by Chair Lieutenant General JP Singh, PVSM, AVSM (Retd)
15:50 – 16:10 h	<b>Policy and Capability Building</b> by the Government of India and Ministry of Defence and Private Enterprises by Dhirendra Singh, IAS (Retd)
16:10 – 16:30 h	<b>Defence and Industry Interface, Cooperation and Challenges for ‘Make in India’</b> by Lieutenant General Subrata Saha, PVSM, UYSM, YSM, VSM** (Retd)
16:30 – 16:50 h	Interactive Session
16:50 – 17:00 h	<b>Vote of Thanks</b> by Director CLAWS
17:00h	Tea and Dispersal

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS) conducted the Indian Army Seminar on 'Contribution of the Army Towards Nation Building' on March 1, 2018.

The Seminar ensured an in-depth appraisal of the factors which comprise nation building and how the Army has been actively participating in this onerous responsibility over the years. A host of views and counter-views were expressed during the course of the Seminar which has given great food for thought as to how to streamline it further as an important activity.

The summary of deliberations is enumerated next:

## INAUGURAL SESSION

- The key points that emerged from this Session are as under:
  - The defence budget is required to upgrade all the available resources at the disposal of the armed forces to meet emerging challenges of external and internal national security threats.
  - If we want to narrate the story of emerging India that offers opportunities for business, entrepreneurship, innovation, and want foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, including in the field of Military modernisation and indigenisation, then we need to create a secure atmosphere to invite investment in the country.
  - A very large part of our defence budget that appears to be a burden on the exchequer of the country actually goes into nation-building.
  - Nation building is the creation and sustenance of peaceful and progressive environment and security is pivotal to this framework.
  - Indian Army has a central role in nation building process. There is need to look at the ways in which Indian Army has played a role in nation building and the way this can be augmented in future is pertinent and required.
  - Nation building is impacted by the prevalent security environment. Effective management and negation of inimical external and internal threats are necessary.

## SESSION I

- The important issues that emerged in the Session are given in the succeeding sub-paragraphs:
  - Nation building means the unification of the people. It is defined as 'constructing or structuring a National Identity using the power of the State. Nation-building aims at the unification of the people within the state so that it remains politically stable and viable in the long run.'

- The Indian Military is an effective force despite its limited resources and an allocation of only 1.58 per cent of the GDP.
- Military Diplomacy has to be understood within the prism of national interests since 'National Security' has not been mentioned anywhere in the Indian Constitution.
- Military Diplomacy is an oxymoron, but must now be seen as Defence Diplomacy and not Military Diplomacy.
- Military Diplomacy is essential towards conflict prevention and conflict resolution. Soldiers exercise Defence Diplomacy, in addition to fighting and preventing wars, through interactions with foreign armies. There has been a significant increase in engagements with various militaries, which is encouraging.
- India's ability to rescue Indian citizens from all over the world, particularly from the Gulf region is a significant indicator of our national will and ability.
- There is a need to change the architecture of the Indian Armed Forces. Recommendations of the committee headed by Ambassador Parthasarthy for politico-military rankings must be taken into account and appropriate changes made in the Ministry of Defence (MoD).
- While the Indian Foreign Services (IFS) and the Indian Military work in synergy the IFS lacks capacity and the Indian Army can help fill this void; however, a closer integration is required. The Indian Army can support the Indian Foreign Service with area-specific approach, intelligence, and reconnaissance. A re-orientation within the MoD is essential to exploit this vast potential of the Military. It was highlighted with the example of Maldives, 'A better structure would have enabled the Indian Army to better tackle the Maldives problem, as many of them have trained together and who could have worked together behind the scenes.'
- An increased contact with the Chinese is essential towards resolving disputes. It was Military Diplomacy that had helped resolve the Doklam issue and such engagements must continue.
- Three frameworks of Military Diplomacy were proposed for analysis. These are as under:
  - **National/Bilateral Diplomacy.** Focus on securing territorial integrity of India.
  - **Strategic Partnerships.** Focus on contributing to the transformation of India, including through India's Strategic Partnerships with USA, Russia, France, UK, Japan, and Germany.
  - **Multilateral/United Nations.** Focus on effective multilateral cooperation to sustain the supportive external environment for the transformation of India, this must be understood in the context of the disruptions of our changing international environment.
- Use three instruments in the immediate neighbourhood context, namely, deterrence, dialogue, and if the dialogue is productive, then cooperation.

- **Success Stories**
  - **Doklam.** Standoff managed in the way it was because of the close relationship between the services (IFS and the Indian Army). The BRICS summit precluded aggression. The Summit provided the platform for the two leaders of India and China to engage and talk about areas of cooperation for the future, including the financing of terrorism. This issue was taken up again by the current Foreign Secretary in a meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister and subsequently, a political decision was made by China to withdraw its reservation to place Pakistan in the terror-financing watch list.
  - **QUAD.** This has been a new area of engagement for the last 2.5 years.
  - **SAGAR.** This is an expansion of the Quad framework and a newer, larger framework of analysis. It envisions security and growth for all within the Indian Ocean framework.
- **Indo-Pacific Project.** The Project is currently driven by the United States (US) and focused on its Pacific Command. India must put its shoulder to the project too and extend it from the eastern shores of Africa to the straits of Malacca since this is where the strategic interests of India lie and this is what India should advocate and accept. We must now go back to our older security stance which ranged from Aden to Malacca.
- The strategic partnership with the US becomes important in getting an access to technology, especially in the case of dual-use technologies.
- At the level of multilateral engagement, India must focus on the role and engagement with the United Nations (UN).
- India's use of Military Diplomacy must be based on its lessons from history. Example of Kashmir was elucidated as to how it became an India-Pakistan question in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) only due to the intervention by the UK, while it was not mentioned in the complaint lodged by India, or even during the initial discussions. This could happen because India was not in the room during the discussions; India was neither a permanent nor a non-permanent member of the Security Council at the time.
- India needs to increase its presence if we have to make an impact through Military Diplomacy towards nation-building.

## SESSION II

- A summary of important issues that emerged in the Session is given in the succeeding sub-paragraphs:
  - High availability disaster recovery (HADR) is structured around two basic issues and that is the 'threat to life' and the 'threat to property'.
  - The lack of infrastructure and human capital trained in dealing with HADR in remote and border areas necessitates the role of the Military. HADR has become one of the

most important functions of the Indian Army and it executes cost-effective operations, including civic engagements, training, and infrastructure.

- HADR is a multi-jurisdictional, multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary, and multi-resource initiative. Therefore, it is vital that the federal, state, and local governments as also the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) play their roles and work in synergy in achieving shared goals of disaster management.
- Disaster management implies a continuous and integrated process of planning, organising, coordinating, and implementing measures which are necessary or expedient for prevention, mitigation or reduction of risk, capacity-building, prompt response, and assessing the severity or magnitude of effects of any disaster.
- The need to have a very good understanding of geography and a broad vision towards HADR to develop a comprehensive framework cannot be overemphasised. There is a requirement to understand preparedness and mitigation at the conceptual level in addition to having a marked clarity in conceptual understanding of emergency, crisis, and disaster. The involvement of different actors and stakeholders in disaster management requires the institutionalisation of a coordination and collaboration mechanism.
- The Armed Forces play a vital role in capacity building and conduct of mock drills in several states and districts thus contributing towards efficiency and awareness.
- The Indian Navy's outreach Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and the Maldives during the Tsunami in December 2004 were highlighted as a fine example of HADR and Military Diplomacy.

### SESSION III

- The summary of important issues that emerged in the Session is given next:
  - The nature of unrest in J&K and the north-east is very different in its character and the approach required to resolve issues. While the unrest in the Valley is stoked by Pakistan, the north-east has a sense of alienation. There are also cases of tribal insurgency supported by China.
  - Both the regions represent the 'politico-military scenario'. These questions are political since the question of identity is related to it.
  - In J&K, the Indian Army has to tackle the problem of radicalisation, terror funding, and deal with the Bar Association who portrays an anti-army image. The media in J&K is also known to act irresponsibly and depict an anti-Army image.
  - There are talks of modern warfare which mean operations carried out through robots and satellites. The modern war consists of new war domains like hybrid war, proxy war, and kinetic war. In order to deal with such threats, the Army has to identify its 'new defined role' which is beyond the area of 'counter-violence'.
  - Operation SADBHAVNA has transformed the image of Kashmir and now it must be taken to the next level.

- The other issue is to address is the absence of NGOs in assisting the Army. This needs to be explored.
- The issue of the state administration withdrawing from the developmental or socio-economic work once the Army intervenes must be addressed.
- **Unemployment in J&K.** Twenty-five per cent of the total population in the state is unemployed, vis-a-vis, 12 per cent unemployment at the national level. These people are allowing themselves to be radicalised and therefore creating problems for the state and the Army as well.
- **Healthcare.** Over the years 2,812 hospitals have been constructed by the government. However, no hospital has adequate staff which can take care of the patients. There are no doctors available to the people. The infrastructure is also inadequate. Hence, people are largely dependent on the Armed Forces.

### Suggestions

- There is something wrong with the theory of ‘changing minds and heart of people’. The heart and minds of people are not on sale. The work done should be for the development of ‘own people’.
- The Army is controlling every aspect of life in J&K. It would be better if Armed Forces can create a document of what is required in the area and send it to the state government.
- Ample work should be done in the areas of education. Education has the capacity to move people.
- Army should take a step backward in the area of the infrastructure development. Army has an excessive load in this area which should be shared by the private contractors.
- The work of the Army should be to develop the conclusive environment where state and nation can work.

### SESSION IV

- The important issues that emerged in the Session are presented as under:
  - To have a great nation you need not only valour, but strategy, tactics, and above all weaponry to fight.
  - India has a first-class Army, Navy and Air Force, but we are not a great power. We have great strategists and thinkers yet we are not a great power. It must be realised that no country can become superior to other people’s arms.
  - The way forward is to make a conscious choice between strategic platforms, quality of our strategy, and the cost factor.
  - Building partnerships are important not just for the period of the contract, but beyond.
  - Develop a tiered relationship with a host of Tier 1, Tier 2, and other micro-enterprises.

- The provisions of 'Make 2' must be exploited. The potential of our young entrepreneurs must be exploited. This will also preclude the migration of these critical ideas abroad.
- The three fundamentals of quality, cost, and time must be applied in dealing with acquisitions and the current procedures must be introspected.
- A distinction must be made between procurement and development.



# SEMINAR REPORT

The aspects enumerated as part of this report are exclusively based on the deliberations by panellists and interaction with the delegates. These do not necessarily conform to the views of the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS) or that of the Indian Army or the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.



**The Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) Being Greeted by the Vice Chief of the Army Staff (VCOAS) on His Arrival for the Seminar**





The Hon'ble Raksha Rajya Mantri (RRM) Being Received by the COAS and the Director of CLAWS



From left Lieutenant General BS Nagal, PVSM, AVSM, SM (Retired), Director CLAWS, Hon'ble RRM Dr Subhash Bhamre, VCOAS, and COAS at the Manekshaw Centre

### INAUGURAL SESSION

During the Inaugural Session, the Honourable Raksha Rajya Mantri (RRM) Shri Subhash Bhamre and General Bipin Rawat, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, ADC, COAS addressed the delegates.



**General Bipin Rawat, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, ADC, COAS, addressing the Seminar  
Welcome Address by COAS General Bipin Rawat, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM**

The COAS highlighted the following points in his welcome address:

- There is always a concern amongst the citizenry and amongst the people in uniform about the defence budget allotted to the three defence services, and about its usage and judicious spending.
- The defence budget is required to upgrade all the available resources at the disposal of the Armed Forces to meet emerging challenges of external and internal national security threats.
- Today, if we are looking at an emerging India on the path of development, progress, and sky-rocketing aspirations of our youth, we need to have a stable and a safe secure environment.

- If we want to narrate the story of emerging India that offers opportunities for business, entrepreneurship, innovation and wants FDI inflows, including in the field of Military modernisation and indigenisation, then we need to create a secure atmosphere to invite investment in the country. How will these aspirations be realised, if the nation is not secure?
- To invite investment, we have to build and develop the confidence amongst the investors that in this nation, borders are secure and the internal security situation in the country is under control. And for this, a sound and optimum defence budget is required. Therefore, economic development and Military modernisation should go concurrently, hand-in-hand. They cannot be divested from each other. The economic rise can only take place if the country is secure.
- A very large part of our defence budget that appears to be a burden on the exchequer of the country actually goes into nation-building. Almost 35 per cent to 37 per cent of the annual budget given to the Armed Forces goes into nation-building. If we develop roads and infrastructure in the remote areas of our country, it benefits the local population in that area. The Armed Forces have reached and have rendered their service in the remotest part of India, where even the state government machinery has not been able to reach. And so, it's the Army and its deployed resources on the ground, that to a great extent has brought change, and is of a great value to the people in these regions.
- Each and every soldier in the Indian Armed Forces is a taxpayer. Our taxes are deducted at the source. So, we contribute to the taxes, particularly income tax which goes to the state exchequer.
- Our deployments in the UN require meticulous specialised training and budgeting. A lot of expenditure is incurred while maintaining the troops in these UN missions. Providing equipment and other related facilities requires funding. While all these UN deployments are funded by the Armed Forces, depending on their deployment, the reimbursement that comes from these deployments are not reverted to the Forces but are directly deposited into the Consolidated Fund of India.
- Indian Armed Forces have played an important role in Humanitarian and Disaster Relief Operations whenever any part of the country is struck by a disaster of any type and intensity.
- Indian Army, in particular, has been active in the peaceful conduction of elections in sensitive areas of the country.

### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY DR SUBHASH BHAMRE, HON'BLE RAKSHA RAJYA MANTRI**

The Hon'ble RRM addressed the gathering and highlighted the following issues in his keynote address:

- The concept of nation-building encompasses defence, diplomacy, governance, economy, food, health, education, technology, and so on.



- All the aspects of the national building can only remain embedded and give shape to an inclusive national development if the aspect of security remains intact.
- Nation building is the creation and sustenance of peaceful and progressive environment and security is pivotal to this framework.
- The Indian Army has a central role in the nation-building process. There is need to look at the ways in which the Indian Army has played a role in nation building and the way this can be augmented in future is pertinent and required.
- Nation building is impacted by the prevalent security environment. Effective management and negation of inimical external and internal threats are necessary.



Dr Subhash Bhamre Hon'ble RRM Addressing the Delegates

- Today we face difficult neighbourhood with a myriad of security challenges. Ceasefire violations at the Line of Control (LOC) continue to target Indian Army posts, civilian population as well as infrastructure. Infiltration bids continue and the situation in Kashmir remains a challenge. However, because of the effort of our security forces, we have succeeded in neutralising a large number of threats emanating from the neighbourhood.
- The rise of religious fundamentalism and its spread through the use of social media remains a cause of concern.



Top: The VCOAS escorting Veterans to the Tea  
Bottom: COAS interacting with Delegates during Tea



- The probability of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) to non-state actors is high.
- The situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) was 'sensitive' as incidents of patrolling, transgression, and stand-offs have the potential of escalation. While confidence-building measures are being enhanced, we shall continue to take all action as deemed necessary to ensure the sanctity of LAC.
- The likelihood of Pakistan becoming a conduit for eastward spread of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) ideology remains high, putting the threat of increased radicalisation. The rising instability in our neighbourhood has increased probability of proliferation of WMD to non-state actors.
- Indian Armed Forces are dominant on the border and are capable of tackling any situation and eventuality at the border.
- We need to continue with firm action to negate, mitigate, and destroy elements inimical to our security.

### SESSION I: MILITARY DIPLOMACY – AN EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT OF ACHIEVING NATIONAL FOREIGN POLICY GOALS



Session I being attended by dignitaries

- The Session was chaired by Ambassador G Parthasarathy and the discourse covered the following topics:
  - Experience and Outcomes by Lieutenant General Aditya Singh, PVSM, AVSM\*\* (Retd).
  - Prospects of Military Diplomacy in the Future by Ambassador Asoke Kumar Mukerji.

### Ambassador Parthasarathy's Opening Remarks



#### Ambassador Parthasarathy

- Ambassador Parthasarathy highlighted that although the COAS had started his speech by mentioning what the Army does for the country, he had left out that all this and more is being done only with 1.5 per cent of the GDP. No other country has such an effective defence force.
- He highlighted the importance of Defence Diplomacy by highlighting the fact that a soldier today does not just have to fight – he also has to prevent wars. It is in this manner that he has an important role to play in interacting with the Armed Forces of the other countries, in conveying what the Indian Army is all about.
- He was sanguine that we as a country are seeing an increase in the Military Diplomacy efforts by the Indian Military – multiple new engagements all over the world with various militaries. This has also enabled the Indian Military to be available to rescue Indian citizens

all over the world; particularly in the Gulf. He was also of the opinion that Military Diplomacy is essential towards conflict prevention and conflict resolution.

- Speaking on the issue of national building, he stated that although many of the senior officials from the Pakistani Armed Forces, and the Indian Armed Forces graduated from the same schools, they have gone in very different directions – and this is where we see the difference that Military Diplomacy makes. Indian Armed Forces the epitome of the culture of national unity that we see in India.
- However, we need to change the architectural structure of the Indian Armed Forces and match the responsibilities with the power. He stated that the recommendations had been made by the committee under him for politico-military rankings and these must be taken into account, and appropriate changes must be made in the MoD.
- On the issue of Military interactions, he suggested to increase our contact with the Chinese as in his view much could be gained from such an interaction. He was sure that it was Military Diplomacy that had helped to resolve Doklam issue in 2017 and such engagements must continue.

### Experience and Outcomes by Lieutenant General Aditya Singh, PVSM, AVSM\*\* (Retd)

- He opened his speech by observing that integration of the services not yet up to the mark.
- He gave a short discourse on nation-building as under:
  - Nation building really means the unification of the people.  
*Nation building is constructing or structuring a NATIONAL IDENTITY using the power of the STATE. Nation building aims at the unification of the people within the state so that it remains politically stable and viable in the long run.*
  - Nation building is possible only when there are peace and security.
  - The wellbeing and right to life of every Indian in conditions of internal and external peace; the right to live a life of freedom – that is what nation building is all about.
- To support the tent of the nation, we need various pillars like the economy, social harmony, technology, defence, etc. Territorial integrity is the most important factor and is the central and main pillar of the nation. It is to defend this pillar, we need the Military.
- Military Diplomacy has to be understood within the prism of national interests. But, is Military Diplomacy an oxymoron? The military is about defence policy, winning battles, and war; whereas diplomacy is about managing a nation's international relations. Therefore, there is a need to visualise Military Diplomacy as Defence Diplomacy.
- A nation can have security without growth, but there can be no growth without security. Yet, 'National Security' has not been motioned anywhere in the Indian Constitution.
- It was envisioned that we would be able to have stable relationships with our neighbours, and would therefore not require the Military to the extent that experience has proven is



needed. We today live in one of the most dangerous neighbourhoods, with two nuclear-powered nations

- India has 52 defence cooperation engagements. The IFS and Military are the two closest structures in the country and they think alike. India has multiple Military engagements worldwide.
- HADR is also one of the most important functions of the Indian Army.
- The Indian Army has always ensured cost-effective operations, including civic engagements, training, and infrastructure.
- The capacity of IFS is not there to perform multifarious diplomatic tasks and hence, needs more qualified persons. The Indian Army is ready to send many more personnel on deputation to IFS, they must now be more closely integrated. Area-specific approach is the need of the hour; therefore, the IFS needs more assistance from the Indian Army in the field of intelligence and reconnaissance. Re-orientation within MoD is needed for the same.
- A better structure would have enabled the Indian Army to tackle the Maldives problem in a comprehensive manner in order to wrest the initiative, as many of the Maldivian soldiers and officers have trained in India, who could have worked together along with their Indian counterparts behind the scenes.
- At the end of his talk, the General proposed a new mantra for Defence Diplomacy:  
 $R^2 = \text{RAKSHAK-RAAJANAYIK}$

### Prospects of Military Diplomacy in the Future by Ambassador Asoke Kumar Mukerji



Ambassador Asoke Kumar Mukerji

- At the outset, he mentioned that looking at the trends developing in the Military Diplomacy domain, we see three frameworks for analysis. These are as follows:
  - National/Bilateral Diplomacy – Focus on securing territorial integrity of India.
  - Strategic Partnerships – Focus on contributing to the transformation of India through India's Strategic Partnerships (USA, Russia, France, the UK, Japan, and Germany) – have not yet fully used this angle, and have focused mostly on one or two, such as that with the US.
  - Multilateral/UN– Focus on effective multilateral cooperation to sustain the supportive external environment for the transformation of India – this must be understood in the context of the disruptions of our changing international environment.
- In the national context, the focus will continue to be on securing the borders with Pakistan and China.
- Using three instruments in the immediate neighbourhood context: deterrence, dialogue, and if the dialogue is productive, then cooperation and can be articulated as under:
  - China border – focus on peace and tranquillity along the border.
  - Pakistan – focus on preventing cross-border terrorism.
  - SAGAR – a new policy for the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- Talking on the India-China Doklam standoff he explained that it was managed in the way it was because of the close relationship between the services – they knew that the leaders would soon be meeting for the BRICS summit, and could therefore not be too aggressive. The BRICS summit then provided the platform for the two leaders to engage, and talk about areas of cooperation for the future, including the financing of terrorism. This issue was taken up again by the current Foreign Secretary in a meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister, and subsequently, a political decision was made by China to withdraw its reservation to place Pakistan in the terror-financing watch list.
- He highlighted the new area of engagement since the last 2.5 years – strategic cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, especially with talks of the QUAD (US, Japan, Australia, and India). A newer, larger framework of analysis is that of SAGAR – Security and Growth for All – Indian Ocean Framework. This is an expansion of the Quad framework.
- India's participation in the Indo-Pacific project needs to be re-calibrated.
  - At the moment, the project, driven by the US, is focused on the area within the Pacific Command only. This has been dubbed as being 'from Bollywood to Hollywood'.
  - India now needs to put its shoulder to the project and extend it from the eastern shores of Africa to the Straits of Malacca. This is where the strategic interests of India lie and this is what India should advocate for, and accept. The areas of interest are as follows:
    - Keeping open Sea Lanes of Communication in the West (Bab-al-Mandab/Red Sea), North (Hormuz) and the East (Straits of Malacca) for trade, energy, and information and communications technology (ICT) flows.

- Countering terrorism originating from its global epicentre in the Af- Pak region.
- Stability in the Gulf/West Asia: 8 million Indian nationals, US\$ 35 billion annual remittances to household economy, 50 per cent-60 per cent of India's energy (oil and gas) imports, 35 per cent of India's external trade flows through this region.
- We must now go back to our older security stance – which ranged from Aiden to Malacca.
- He articulated the five priorities for the Indian Ocean framework SAGAR. These are:
  - India as a net security provider in the Region.
  - India as a contributor to enhanced maritime security capacities of the Region.
  - Effective collective action to respond to challenges from the maritime domain.
  - Integrated sustainable development of Region, including of Ocean or Blue Economy, linked with nation-building; positioning India as the leading economy in the region, in the Blue Economy of the Indian Ocean.
  - Primary responsibility for peace, stability, and prosperity of Region is on countries of the Region. External cooperation is essentially meant for capacity building and economic partnership.
- Strategic engagements have taken the Indo-US strategic relationship as an example. There has been a focus on the exchange of and access to technology. This is especially the case of dual-use technologies. Sectors that this encompasses include nuclear materials, facilities and equipment, chemicals, electronics, computers, telecommunications, sensors and lasers, as well as for navigation and avionics. These are also the core sectors for the 'Make in India' programme and this is where the strategic partnership with the US becomes important.
- At the level of multilateral engagement, India must focus on the role and engagement with the UN. India has been especially active in the UN Peacekeeping Operations (UNPKO). India has focused the engagement based on the three principles of impartiality, consent of host government, and use of force in defence of the mandate. India, however, faces two challenges with regards to engagement in Peacekeeping Operations (PKO). These are as follows:
  - Use of existing provisions.
  - For their own reasons, the P5 do not want to interact with the troop-contributing countries directly, which are not members of the UNSC, to discuss the deployment of the peacekeeping forces. This has had a large impact on-the-ground where peacekeeping is mandated.
- India's use of Military Diplomacy must be based on its lessons from history. Highlighting the case of Kashmir he mentioned that it became the India-Pakistan question only due to the intervention by the UK – it was not mentioned in the complaint lodged by India, or even during the initial discussions. This could happen because India was not in the room during the discussions. It was neither a permanent nor a non-permanent member of the SC at the time.

We thus need to be more present if we need to have more effect through Military Diplomacy towards nation building.

## SESSION II: HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF: INDIAN ARMY AS PRIMARY RESPONDER AND KEY ENABLER



**NCC cadets listen to the Pearls of Wisdom in the Session II**

- HADR operations have been one of the major responsibilities which the Indian Armed Forces have undertaken and discharged with utmost dedication, compassion, and sheer will to serve the country and its people.
- HADR activities include all those operations which are intended to rescue and minimise human suffering caused by natural disasters like cyclones, droughts, earthquakes, floods, and tsunamis. The Session was chaired by Lieutenant General Anil Chait, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd) and the discourse covered the following topics:
  - National Perspective on Disaster Management and Role of Army by Major General VK Datta, AVSM, SM\*\*, VSM\*\*, PPMG (Retd)
  - Maritime Domain and Military Assistance by Vice Admiral Anup Singh, PVSM, AVSM, NM (Retd)



### Opening Remarks by Lieutenant General Anil Chait, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)



#### Lieutenant General Anil Chait, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)

This Session was chaired by Lieutenant General Anil Chait who deliberated upon the following issues and points:

- HADR is structured around two basic issues—the ‘threat to life’ and the ‘threat to property’. And these two aspects are the most important ones which we encounter while dealing HADR.
- Given this pretext, he emphasised that why and how the Indian Military should deal with HADR. He emphasised on Chetwoodian Motto of Safety, Honour and Welfare and contextualised it with the HADR and in doing so he urged the Armed Forces to deliberate whether the task of the Armed Forces is only to defend India or to serve the people of the nation in a comprehensive manner.
- He also deliberated upon the fragility of remote lands in border areas where communication and transport facilities are the minimum due to infrastructure constraints. These border lands are prone to natural disasters. Owing to lack of infrastructure and human capital trained in dealing with HADR in these regions, the role Military becomes obvious but the modus operandi of HADR operations should be thought and innovated.
- Lieutenant General Chait also highlighted HADR operations in coastal areas which frequently face cyclones; tsunami was definitely one extreme example.

**National Perspective on Disaster Management and Role of Army by Major General VK Datta, AVSM, SM\*\*, VSM\*\*, PPMG (Retd)**



**Major General VK Datta, AVSM, SM\*\*, VSM\*\*, PPMG (Retd)**

The earlier mentioned facts and points of deliberations was further elaborated and discussed by Major General Dutta, who comprehensively examined the land aspect of HADR operations as given under:

- Major General Dutta deliberated upon disaster and its management framework. He defined Disaster Management as follows:  
“The coordination and integration of all activities necessary to build, sustain and improve the capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to and recover from threatening or actual natural or human-induced disasters.”
- Disaster management is ‘a multi-jurisdictional, multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary and multi-resource initiative’. And therefore, it is vital that the federal, state and local governments and the non-government agencies to play their respective roles and responsibilities and complement each other in achieving shared goals of disaster management.
- He further deliberated upon a comprehensive understanding of disaster management according to the Disaster Management Act, 2005 which states that:

“Disaster Management means a continuous and integrated process of planning, organising, coordinating, and implementing measures which are necessary or expedient for the

- Prevention of danger or threat of any disaster;
  - Mitigation or reduction of risk of any disaster or its severity, or its consequences;
  - Capacity building;
  - Preparedness to deal with any disaster;
  - Prompt response to any threatening disaster situation or disaster;
  - Assessing the severity or magnitude of effects of any disaster.”
- He also outlined the definition of disaster according to the Disaster Management Act, 2005, which states disaster as:

“A catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence in any area, arising from natural or man-made causes, or by accident or negligence which results in substantial loss of life or human suffering or damage to, and destruction of property, or damage to, or degradation of environment and is of such a nature or magnitude as to be beyond the coping capacity of the community of the affected area.”
  - He asserted on the need to have a good understanding of geography and a broad vision as the utmost requirement to develop a comprehensive framework to deal with a disaster of any kind and intensity. There is a need to prevent, prepare, mitigate, and have a good response mechanism.
  - He highlighted the conceptual understanding of preparedness and mitigation. Preparedness means the state of readiness to deal with a threatening disaster situation or disaster and the effects thereof whereas mitigation means measures aimed at reducing the risk, impact or effects of a disaster or threatening disaster situation.
  - He also emphasised on the need of having a marked clarity in conceptual understanding of emergency, crisis, and disaster. The involvement of different actors and stakeholders in disaster management requires the existence of a coordination and collaboration mechanism.
  - He also deliberated upon the role of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) which is mandated to lay down policies, plans, and guidelines for disaster management to ensure timely and effective response to disasters. NDMA provides the mechanism that serves as a regulatory guideline for effective and efficient disaster management.
  - Touching upon the role and composition of NDRF, Lieutenant General Dutta highlighted the role of NDRF and its composition with respect to personnel. At present, NDRF has the strength of 12 Battalions with each Battalion consisting of 1,149 personnel, three each from the BSF and CRPF and two each from CISE, ITBP, and SSB. Army, Navy, and Air Force has been kept out of NDRF and rightly so because, in an event of war, Army, Navy, and Air Force will have to fight the war and therefore paramilitary will have to take the charge of dealing with HADR.

- He also highlighted the role of Indian Armed Forces and the manner in which they align with the civil authorities in HADR operations and also their involvement in leading and training the task force comprising civil authorities.
- Traditionally, the Armed Forces are called upon to assist the civil administration only when the situation is beyond their coping capacity.
- The Armed Forces are an important part of the government's response due to their vast potential to meet any adverse challenge with speed and resources at their disposal.
- Capacity building and conduction of mock drills in several states and districts have been co-ordinated by the Armed Forces resulting into efficiency and awareness. Army officers are also deployed as observers in the mock drills conducted by the civil administration. According to directions given by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to the Armed Forces, the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) plans HADR exercises by the Army, Navy, and the Air Force and in addition to this, directions have been given to the Armed Forces to participate in all the mock exercises conducted by the NDMA.
- The future prospects of HADR and the way to move forward were also highlighted during the course of deliberations. Following are those recommendations:
  - Promoting a culture of prevention and preparedness, so that disaster management receives the highest priority at all levels.
  - Ensuring that community is the most important stakeholder in the disaster management process.
  - Encouraging mitigation measures based on state-of-the-art technology and environmental sustainability.
  - Mainstreaming disaster management concerns into the developmental planning process.
  - Putting in place a streamlined and institutional techno-legal framework for the creation of an enabling regulatory environment and a compliance regime.
  - Developing contemporary forecasting and early warning systems backed by responsive and fail-safe communications and information technology (IT) support.

### **Maritime Domain and Military Assistance by Vice Admiral Anup Singh, PVSM, AVSM, NM (Retd)**

Vice Admiral Anup Singh discussed maritime aspects which deal with cyclones and tsunamis and following are the key issues discussed in his talk:

- Natural disasters in maritime domain range from tsunami to cyclones. These natural disasters wreck heavy damage to life and property in coastal areas.
- When the tsunami struck India's coast in December 2004, immediately within 24 hours, 19 Indian naval ships, 4 aircraft, and 14 helicopters were deployed to conduct relief operations in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and the Maldives. In the next 24 hours, two Indian naval ships were already in Galle and Trincomalee and three others had been dispatched to





**Vice Admiral Anup Singh, PVSM, AVSM, NM (Retd)**

Male. And within few days, the Indian Navy had converted two of its ships into hospital ships and sent them to Indonesia, which was the worst hit.

- The Indian Navy is the first responder to many crisis situations around the IOR. Given the fact that the IOR stands significantly exposed to a wide-ranging natural disasters and India's own vulnerability to them — 58.6 per cent of the landmass is prone to earthquakes of moderate to very high intensity; over 40 million hectares (12 per cent of land) is prone to floods and river erosion; of the 7,516-km long coastline, close to 5,700 km is prone to cyclones and tsunamis — quick access, mobility, availability of the desired relief material and the medical care are some of the key factors that define the Indian Navy's role in relief operations as far as maritime domain of HADR is concerned.
- Similarly, when Mumbai came to a standstill on July 26, 2005, the Armed Forces were instrumental in carrying out the HADR operations. The India Navy sent out its divers and the Indian Army was called to launch massive operations to provide aid and assistance and launching all measure to normalise the effect of havoc caused by heavy rain due to cloudburst.

- All this is done mainly because in the Armed Forces we have a regiment which starts with discipline, reece, tutorials, examination, and exercise and these develop the professional competence as well as capacity building which is very much required while dealing with HADR operations.

### SESSION III: INDIAN ARMY'S ROLE IN TRANSFORMING SOCIO-ECONOMIC PARADIGMS IN J&K AND NORTH-EAST



**The Panel for Session III**

- The Session was chaired by Lieutenant General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd) and the discourse covered the following topics:
  - J&K Contribution in Education, Social Systems and Youth Empowerment by Lieutenant General Syed Ata Hasnain, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM\*\*, VSM\*\* (Retd)
  - Economic Upliftment, Infrastructure and Wealth Creation by Lieutenant General Rakesh Sharma, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)

### Opening Remarks by Lieutenant General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd)



#### Lieutenant General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd)

Lieutenant General KT Patnaik highlighted the following issues in his Opening Remarks:

- The deployment of Indian Armed Forces in J&K and north-east is the longest military deployment in the world. The Indian Army is deployed in north-east for the last 60 years and similarly, it is deployed in J&K for the last 30 years.
- Both the regions are problematic. In the Valley, there are groups who are continuously chanting the 'Azadi' slogan, funded by Pakistan. Pakistan still believes in its policy of 'making thousand cuts' in India and therefore using J&K against India.
- On the other hand, north-east is facing a different type of problem. The area of north-east is a remote area which is largely away from the mainstream of India. There is a sense of alienation among the people of north-east which force them to take arms. There are also cases of tribal insurgency in Nagaland and Naga militants who get Chinese support for their arms and training.
- The Army was not allowed to kill Naga militants. As a result, Army tends to capture them and try to transform them. It was only due to the Army efforts that Naga Peace Accord came into existence.



- There were many tribal uprising in north-eastern states which were properly dealt by Army. After the suspension of operations, they were always ready to talk to the government.
- Both the regions represent the 'politico-military scenario'. These questions are political- as the questions of identity are related to it.
- In J&K, the local population who are chanting the slogan of 'azadi' vary from time-to-time. A window of opportunity was opened for India when Pakistan was busy in its Afghanistan's neighbour.
- The Army was responsible for conducting elections in both the areas so that democratic institutions could work effectively.
- Army also took the responsibility of administrative and development work.
- The reason why Army has taken such an active role is that it was an operational necessity for the Army to win the support of the local populations. The doctrine of 'winning the heart and mind of people' became embedded in the Army. Operation Sadbhavna becomes quite famous. Army, as a result, provided a lot of services to help the people during natural disasters, finding missing people, etc. As a result, local population came in favour of Army.
- The same is not the case with J&K. The reason is radicalisation of the local population and Pakistani propaganda to mislead the population. They distribute literature in opposition to Army so as to malign the image of Army. Army has now to answer the question that how to tackle the problem of radicalisation in the Valley, deal terror funding and the bar association which depicts the anti-army image in Kashmir. Army needs to address these problems.

### **Jammu and Kashmir: Contribution in Education, Social Systems, and Youth Empowerment by Lieutenant General Syed Ata Hasnain, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM\*\*, VSM\*\* (Retd)**

Lieutenant General Hasnain brought out the following points in his talk:

- Indian Army has always contributed to the economic development of a state. A survey was conducted in Kashmir which shows that approximately Rs 600-900 crore is contributed by the Army in a state largely because they are also important buyers in the areas.
- It is normally believed that the Army is associated with the question of violence and counterviolence. The work related to administration does not come in its domain.
- There are talks of modern warfare which mean operations carried out through robots and satellites. The modern war consists of new war domains like hybrid war, proxy war, kinetic war, etc. In order to deal with such threats, Army has to look for its new defined role which is beyond the area of 'counterviolence'.
- The era from 1989/96 was dominated by the area of hard power. However, there were instances when the Indian Army was spending money from the units for the purpose of socio-economic development and giving medicines to help civilian populations which were meant for troops. Since 1996, the role of soft power in the operational area begun to realise.



**Lieutenant General Syed Ata Hasnain, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM\*\*, VSM\*\* (Retd)**

- There are many people who openly debate Sadbhavna and said that what it has actually achieved. Sadbhavna has actually transformed the image of Kashmir and it is now the question that how to take it to next level. In the case of the situations of proxy war when the civil administration is unable to respond to the needs of the society, it is the duty of the Army to step in and take the work of the administration. The focus is always on the healthcare, medical care, women empowerment, and human resource development. Since 2016, Army has tried to reach towards the rural areas where it is difficult for the civil administration to reach.
- Army has taken over the areas of schools as to impart education among the local population. Army has managed to improve the financial status of the schools, increasing the qualities of the teachers and thus imparting good quality education in the Valley. Medical camps were organised by the Army, especially in remote areas. Cable TVs were provided in the rural areas to take the edge over Pakistan's cable TV.
- Army has also worked in the area of religion. Amarnath Yatra was conducted peacefully mainly due to help of the Army. Army has ensured the safety of people, infrastructure, communication, and medical facilities.

- Army played an important role in disaster management when there was snow tsunami, earthquake, and floods in providing relief to the people.
- However, there are problems faced by Army. Media in India is responsible to depict an anti-army image. The other issue is to address is the absence of NGOs in assisting Army. This need to be explored.

### Economic Upliftment, Infrastructure, and Wealth Creation by Lieutenant General Rakesh Sharma, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)



**Lieutenant General Rakesh Sharma, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)**

Lieutenant General Rakesh Sharma covered the following aspects:

- There has been a lot said about the role of Army in the socio-economic development of the state. However, this is not what Army is meant for and this is not the job of the Army. The developmental work of the nation belongs to the state and civil administrations are paid for it. Once the Army decide to take over the developmental or socio-economic work, the state administration withdraws itself from the duties assigned to it.
- The irony is that there is little acknowledgement of the work done by the Armed Forces. The reason is that perception of people depends on what is shown in the media and not what is present on the actual ground.

- Coming to the work done by the Army, the Indian army is involved in running schools, orphanages, constructing roads, helipads, sports infrastructure, foot bridges, etc. The reality is that Indian Army is present in every facet of life in the operational areas.
- However, the economic figures show a different story. J&K has lost five per cent of the total gross state domestic product (GSDP) which clearly points out that there is something bad about the economy.
- The Army is also carrying out the education of the children in the Valley. However, the literacy rates are not very encouraging. On the other hand, the state is responsible for running 2,650 schools in which there are 10 lakh students. The total number of teacher employed is also low. The 46 good will schools of Army do not make any difference to the majority of the population of children. Further, all the effort done by the Army goes in vain as almost 40 schools are destroyed by the terrorists.
- Same is the problem of unemployment to which Army cannot make any difference. The percentage of the total population that is unemployed is 25 which is approximate 12 per cent of the total population of the nation. These people are allowing themselves to radicalise and therefore creating problems for state and Army as well.
- Coming to the problem of healthcare, total 2,812 hospitals were constructed by the government. However, no one hospital has staff which can take care of the patients. There are no doctors available to the people. The infrastructure build is also not very satisfactory. As a result, people depend largely on the Armed Forces.
- Therefore, there is a problem in the socio-economic development of the Valley as the state has taken a backseat. Educated unemployed youth has far reached consequences, a problem to which Armed Forces can help little.
- Similarly, there are issues involved in wealth creation also. Wealth creation consists of tourists and trade. It is believed that Amaranth Yatra and Vaishno Devi Yatra managed to get tourist and therefore will be important. However, units move every year to these places due to the reasons of security. Is it wealth creation or economic development? It is the leisure tourism which is responsible for the creation of wealth and this is absent in the Valley. When we talk about trade, the 75 per cent of total GSDP depends on apple trade. However, Sophie which is an important market to carry out trade is always attacked by the terrorist groups.
- He gave the following suggestions:
  - There is something wrong with the theory of ‘changing minds and heart of people’. The heart and minds of people are not on sale. The work done should be for the development of ‘own people’.
  - The Army is controlling every aspect of life in J&K. It would be better if Armed Forces can create a document of what is required in the area and send it to state government.
  - Ample work should be done in the areas of education. The education and school has the capacity to move people.





College students expressed special interest in Session III



- Army should take a step backward in the area of the infrastructure development. Army has an excessive load in this area which should be shared by the private contractors.
- The aim of the Army should be to develop a conducive environment where state and central governments can work together in unison.

#### **SESSION IV: 'MAKE IN INDIA' INITIATIVES OF INDIAN ARMY: LAYING FOUNDATION FOR 100 PER CENT SELF RELIANCE ON DEFENCE**

The Session was chaired by Lieutenant General JP Singh, PVSM, AVSM (Retd) and the summary of the discourse covered is given next:

- **Policy and Capability Building by the Government of India and the Ministry of Defence and Private Enterprises** by Mr Dhirendra Singh, IAS (Retd)
- **Defence and Industry Interface, Cooperation, and Challenges for 'Make in India'** by Lieutenant General Subrata Saha, UYSM, YSM, VSM\*\* (Retd)
- **Opening Remarks by Chair Lieutenant General JP Singh, PVSM, AVSM (Retd)**

Lieutenant General JP Singh covered the following issues:

- The last Session of the day deals with capabilities, a very important subject as the primary objective of the Armed Forces is to be constantly prepared to counter any threat to the nation's sovereignty.
- Towards this aim the Military demands that it gets the required equipment which can be sustained and also replaced when it is turning obsolescent.
- The Armed Forces can handle 30 per cent state-of-the-art equipment, 40 per cent mature equipment, and 30 per cent balance equipment nearing obsolescence. This ratio is not in a healthy state today.
- A kinetic war cannot be wished away. It takes a generation for an equipment to be inducted successfully and for personnel to train on it. All this cannot happen overnight.
- Newer technology like robotics, artificial intelligence, fuel cells, etc., need to be attained in quick time as the cycle of technology is short. These systems need to be interoperable with our existing systems too.
- We have to be ready for the challenge of a two-front war.
- Here in lies the challenge because we are the largest importers of defence equipment. This trend needs to be reversed.
- A defence industrial base is not only a strategic requirement but has an economic significance too.
- If you want to be a regional or global power there is got to be a strong defence industrial base.
- There is huge leverage of countries having a strong defence industrial base over the countries which procure weapons from them.

- We have a small budget of 1.6 per cent of the GDP out of which capital procurement is only 10 per cent.
- The manufacturing private industry can play the game changers in case they are supported by the government which in many cases is the user, the research and development (R&D) initiator, and the regulator.
- We may like to emulate the US which has a defence innovation team comprising 50 per cent industrialists and 50 per cent government scientists and officials who go around the industry and order as well as fund critical projects and innovations which are the need of the hour.
- **Policy and Capability Building by the Government of India and Ministry of Defence and Private Enterprises by Mr Dharendra Singh, IAS (Retd)**
  - Mr Dharendra mentioned about reading Captain Vijayant Thappar's father's letter and the thought that came to his mind was that of Valour. Valour - Which one read as a child, about Leonidas at Thermopylae, each one of the soldiers giving their lives. The Persians soon take over the country and destroyed the crops. Alexander destroyed the Persian Kingdom 6 months later.
  - To have a great kingdom you need not only Valour, but you need a strategy, you need tactics, and above all, you need arms to fight.
  - What we have today is first class Army, Navy and Air Force, but we are not a great power. We have great strategists and thinkers, also we are surrounded by Valour, yet we're not a great power.
  - When we talk about the sword of Damocles we must know that it was made with Indian technology, after all, steel was discovered in India. The British swords were no match for the sharp-edged Indian swords. Soon, the British strategised and started fighting with guns and pistols, and got the better of us, indirectly technology update got the better of us.
  - If we have to keep such a big country secure, the only way is through superior arms. We must realise that no country can become superior to other people's arms, and the sooner we realise this the better.
  - What is the way forward?
    - Make a conscious choice between strategic major platforms.
    - Quality is of importance, i.e. quality of our strategy and arms.
    - Cost factor will automatically be addressed with the development of industrial base.
    - We must be strong in terms of major platforms.
  - We have to give importance to the partnership. We have to continue building partnerships not just for a period of the contract, but for decades and hundreds of years to come.
  - We must develop a tiered relationship with a host of Tier 1, Tier 2, and other micro-enterprises. There should be a robust partnership between MoD, the Armed Forces,

and Enterprises. Partnerships not just with private manufacturers but also the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), the universities, and other R&D establishments.

- Today we have a complex system. We as a nation need to develop the organisational skills and the environment in the Government of India is not conducive to the implementation of this work.
- We as a nation need to take certain difficult decisions and if we take these decisions we will have a first-rate Army, Air Force, and Navy and a military power in the true sense within a decade.
- **Defence and Industry Interface, Cooperation and Challenges for 'Make in India' by Lieutenant General Subrata Saha, PVSM, UYSM, YSM, VSM\*\* (Retd)**

Lieutenant General Saha was very candid on the undermentioned issues:

- As Army people, we need to do some introspection in the sense that when we talk on a nation's national power, it doesn't undermine that the other end of the military power is as important, i.e. the technology.
- We have to take charge of our requirements. You heard of the aircraft we need and we don't have, and until and unless we decide to take charge of our own responsibility, it will remain this way.
- For too long we have been trapped in the chakravaty of the Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), Ordnance Factories, DRDO, and if not, then go for import. This is the truth where we are.
- Our policies in 'Make in India' endeavours still do not support young entrepreneurs who get frustrated and finally are inclined to sell their products abroad.
- Everything is about three fundamental things, namely, quality, cost, and time. The largest order for artillery guns of one kind after the Second World War came up as India's requirement in 2006 and since then we are conducting trials, confirmatory trials, expert committee trials, trials and trials in trials, and it is still under the scrutiny of some experts. It is so because we want to point out every single flimsy thing, which has very little bearing and that is why I think we have to look inwards.
- We just don't make a distinction between procurement and development. Procurement is for something which is available, one can understand the slight tweaking of certain requirements, but if the whole thing has to be started, literally as a fresh development how can we ever get it on time?
- Our Ordnance factories and DRDO have to become accountable for the targets that have been set up for them.
- Look at the second rung of universities apart from the IITs too.
- Wherever the DRDO has done well there is a need to procure the equipment otherwise the technology will get outdated.

- We need as a nation something called a defence production technology policy document. We as the industry can work with the Director General Perspective Planning and the Technical Manager Land Systems to make this document.
- It is time that we create something called an Army Technology cadre. From the academies pick up the cadets who have a love for technology and send them to the units for the first 3 years. Thereafter they can do the degree course and then the MTech course with a project for each one of them.

## CONCLUSION

Lieutenant General Nagal delivered the conclusory remarks as under:

- We need to restructure our Military Diplomacy structure; the whole system needs advancement.
- HADR will only grow. Whether it is population, climate change or migration, all pointers point to the fact that this responsibility for the Military will keep growing.
- We need to improve the systems in place for socio-economic development in troubled areas.
- If the Military succeeds in the 'Make in India' endeavours it will support our own GDP and not any other country. The system needs to become more accountable.



Lieutenant General Nagal Delivering the Conclusory Remarks















