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

**International Cooperation**

(1) A delegation led by Hon'ble Raksha Mantri visited Japan and Republic of Korea for attending the Annual Defence Dialogue with Japan from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2019 and Seoul Defence Dialogue with Republic of Korea from 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.

(2) A delegation led by the Defence Secretary visited Singapore and Vietnam for attending the 13<sup>th</sup> India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue from 30<sup>th</sup> September – 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2019 and 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Security Dialogue with Vietnam from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

**IGA with Russian Federation**

(3) Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with Russian Federation on joint manufacturing of spares, components, aggregates and other material related to Russian/ Soviet origin arms and defence equipment was signed on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 after approval obtained on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2019 under Rule – 12 of the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules. CCS note for ex-post facto approval of CCS has been submitted to Cabinet Secretariat on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.

**Acquisition**

(4) After approval of the CCS in its meeting held on 28.08.2019, the contract for supply of seven squadrons of Akash Missile System for IAF has been signed with M/s BEL on 13.09.2019.

(5) Contract for upgradation of Kashmir Surface to Air Missile (SAM) Complex to Shril-1 SAM Complex and Radar Fregat MAE to Fregat M2EM onboard Delhi class (P-15) ships concluded with M/s JSC ROE, Russia on 12.09.2019 at a cost of 394.5 Million USD, excluding taxes.
(6) Seven separate contracts for procurement of two ship-set of Gas Turbine Aggregate for Additional Project 11356 follow-on ships concluded with M/s Zorya Mashproekt RPC, Ukraine (OEM) on 12.09.2019 at a total cost of 71.6 Million USD, excluding taxes.

**IGA with Russian Federation**

(7) Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with Russian Federation on joint manufacturing of spares, components, aggregates and other material related to Russian/ Soviet origin arms and defence equipment was signed on 4th September, 2019 after approval obtained on 3rd September, 2019 under Rule – 12 of the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules. CCS note for ex-post facto approval of CCS has been submitted to Cabinet Secretariat on 25th September, 2019.

**Raksha Mantri flies the Tejas**

(8) Shri Rajnath Singh became the first Raksha Mantri to fly the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) 'Tejas' at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited Airport in Bengaluru on 19th September, 2019.

**SCO Conference**

(9) The first conference of Military Medicine for Shanghai co-operation Organisation (SCO) Member states was held in New Delhi on 12th – 13th September, 2019. Inaugurating the conference, Hon’ble Raksha Mantri called upon the Armed Forces Medical Services of SCO countries to devise ways to effectively deal with new threats posed to soldiers by the ever advancing battle field technology.

**Chief of Air Staff**

(10) On 30th September, 2019, Air Marshal Shri RKS Bhadauria, Vice Chief of Air Staff took the charge as the next Chief of Air Staff following the retirement of Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa on 30th September, 2019.
**Exemption of Defence goods from GST**

(11) Vide MoF notification issued on 30th September, 2019 the Government has exempted specified defence goods including steam turbines, turbo jets propellers, mine detectors, helicopters, aeroplanes, artillery weapons, rifles, etc. from GST.

**Interactive Session of MoD**

(12) Hon'ble RM had an interactive session with officers of the level of Deputy Secretary and above on 26th September, 2019 at DRDO Bhawan. The Joint Secretaries concerned made presentations on status of implementation of Cabinet/Cabinet Committee's decisions taken after the new Government was formed. Hon'ble RM had an opportunity to listen to suggestions and questions raised by the participants of MoD. The interactive session was very productive not only in terms of generation of ideas and exchange of views but also in building team spirit.

**Swachh Bharat**

(13) During 'Swachhta Hi Sewa' campaign (from 11.09.2019 to 02.10.2019), various activities like cleanliness drive, awareness drive, competitive activities etc. were conducted by various organizations under MoD all over the country.

(14) The 'Swachhta Pledge' was administered to the employees of the Ministry on 26th September, 2019 by Secretary (ESW). A workshop on 'Plastic Waste Management' was also conducted in South Block on 30th September, 2019 by an NGO named 'Chintan'.

**Miscellaneous**

(15) Hon'ble Raksha Mantri commissioned Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) 'Varaha' in Chennai on 25th September, 2019 to further strengthen coastal security. He called for a proactive coordination among all agencies and stakeholders involved in coastal security to achieve the common goal of national security.

(17) Hon'ble Raksha Mantri launched Navy's first new stealth frigate, INS 'Nilgiri' and commissioned the largest dry dock of Indian Navy – The aircraft carrier Dock at Naval Dockyard.

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