Major activities of Department of Defence for the month of July, 2017

Delegation of Financial Powers

(1) Ministry of Defence has delegated substantial financial powers to the Armed Forces for undertaking works for perimeter security of sensitive military installations. The Vice-Chiefs of the three Services have been empowered to place orders, procure equipment and carry out works in this connection.

International Cooperation

(2) The MALABAR series of exercises which was initiated in 1992 between the Indian and US Navies, have steadily grown in scope, complexity and participation into a multifaceted exercise with the participation of the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force. The 21st edition of the naval exercise, MALABAR-17 was conducted in the Bay of Bengal from 10 to 17 July, 2017.

(3) An Egyptian delegation led by Director, Egyptian Military Intelligence Department paid a visit from July 9-12, 2017.


Unified Commanders’ Conference

(5) The two day Unified Commanders’ Conference was held on 10 & 11 July, 2017 in New Delhi. The Conference, which was addressed by the Defence Minister. Minister of State for Defence, National Security Adviser, Service Chiefs and senior dignitaries from Ministry of Defence and Tri-Services Establishments attended the Conference. All relevant issues including functional and operational synergy, enhancement of training curriculum in the Armed Forces Training Institutes among others were deliberated upon in the course of the Conference.

Navy and Coast Guard

(6) A contract of acquisition of 12 New Torpedo Decoy System (NTDS) for Indian Navy has been signed with M/s Ultra Electronics Maritime Systems, Canada on 21.7.2017 at a cost of Rs. 298.43 crore.

(7) Interceptor Boats of the Coast Guard (ICGS C-431 and C-432) were commissioned on July 6, 2017.

(8) Offshore Patrol Vessel (ICGS Shaurya) was inducted into the Indian Coast Guard on July 7, 2017.

(9) Approval was accorded by CCS on July 14, 2017 for permanent transfer of ICGS Varuna to Government of Sri Lanka for training and EEZ surveillance purposes. The formal handing/taking over of the ship to Sri Lanka is planned in August/September, 2017.
(10) Interceptor Boat of the Coast Guard (ICGS C-63) was decommissioned on July 4, 2017.

**Army**

(11) Raksha Mantri handed over additional ex-gratia amount from the Army Battle Casualties Welfare Fund (ABCWF) to ten Next of Kin (NoK) of battle casualties on July 25, 2017. The fund is being pooled by the concerned citizens for such martyrs. The Defence Minister also released an amount of Rs. 3.04 crore to 152 NoK of brave soldiers, including 10 NoK present, who made the supreme sacrifice for the country.

(12) A contract for procurement of 1050 Dual Technology Mine Detector at a cost of Rs. 201.606 crore from M/s Bharat Forge Ltd. was signed on 28.7.2017.

**Miscellaneous**

(13) The Chief of Staff Committee hosted a farewell Banquet on July 21 in honour of the outgoing President and the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Shri Pranab Mukherjee. The Vice President, Prime Minister, Defence Minister, Minister of State for Defence, Service Chiefs and other senior Civilian officials in the Ministry of Defence together with those from the Services attended the Banquet. The outgoing President, in his farewell address, extended his best wishes to all members of the Armed Forces and their families.

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