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

**International Cooperation**

1. A delegation led by Joint Secretary (Planning and International Cooperation) visited Arabia to attend the 4th meeting of Joint Committee on Defence Cooperation (JCDC) from 2nd to 3rd January, 2019 and Jordan to attend 1st Consultative meeting on Defence Cooperation with Jordan during 5th – 6th January, 2019.

2. Nigerian Permanent Secretary, Minister of Defence, Nigeria visited India from 17th – 18th January, 2019 to meet Defence Secretary and other senior officials of Services.

3. 5th meeting of India – Nigeria Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC), co-chaired by Additional Secretary, was held in New Delhi on 17th – 18th January, 2019.

4. Defence Minister of the Republic of Maldives visited India during 23rd -30th January, 2019. During the visit, she met with Hon’ble Raksha Mantri and all the Service Chiefs.

5. 2nd Defence Cooperation Dialogue (DCD) between India and Maldives was held on 24th January, 2019. The DCD was co-chaired by Defence Secretary and the Chief of Defence Forces of Maldives.

**Acquisition**

6. Contract for Construction of two additional P 1135.6 ships (ex-GSL) and associated package for Indian Navy has been signed with M/s Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa (India) on 25th January, 2019 at a total cost of Rs. 14,120.00 crore.

7. Contract for Procurement of Eight Clip on Influence Sweeps (CLIOS) for Indian Navy has been signed with M/s Thales, Australia on 30th January, 2019 at a total cost of Rs. 304.50 crore.
(8) The contract for Supply, Installation and Commissioning of BrahMos Surface to Surface Missile (SSM) Complex for Delhi & Talwar Class Ships of Indian Navy and Supply of Initial Missile Outfit for Indian Navy has been signed with M/s BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd. (BAPL) on 10th January, 2019 at a total of Rs. 2911.94 crore.

**Defence Acquisition Council**

(9) The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), in a landmark decision on 31st January, 2019 approved indigenous construction of six submarines for the Indian Navy at a cost of over Rs. 40,000 crore. This is the second project under the MoD’s ambitious Strategic Partnership (SP) model that aims at providing a significant fillip to the Government's 'Make in India' programme. SP model envisages indigenous manufacturing of major defence platforms by an Indian Strategic Partner, who will collaborate with foreign OEM to set up production facilities in the country.

**Pre Stressed Concrete Box Girder type bridge**

(10) Hon’ble Raksha Mantri dedicated to the nation a 426.60 metre long Pre Stressed Concrete Box Girder type bridge over Diffo river on Roing-Koron-Paya road in Arunachal Pradesh on 18th January, 2019.

**Apprehending**

(11) Indian Coast Guard Hovercraft H-197 whilst on patrol apprehended one Sri Lankan FRP boat along with two personnel on 15th January, 2019.

**Republic Day Celebration**

(12) The Nation celebrated 70th Republic Day on 26th January, 2019. During Republic Day Celebrations 2019 Vice President, Defence Minister, Minister of State for Defence, Chief Minister of Delhi and three Service Chiefs visited to NCC Republic Day Camp. Prime Minister’s Rally was held at DG NCC Republic Day Camp-2019 on 28th January, 2019.
Gallantry Awards

(13) The President has approved awards of 411 Gallantry and other Defence decorations to Armed Forces personnel and others on the eve of the 70th Republic Day Celebrations. This includes 01 Ashoka Chakra, 04 Kirti Chakras, 11 Shaurya Chakras, 28 Param Vishisht Seva Medals, 03 Uttam Yudh Seva Medals, 51 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals, 01 Bar to Yudh Seva Medal, 09 Yudh Seva Medals, 02 Bar to Vishisht Seva Medals, 120 Vishisht Seva Medal, 06 Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 103 Sena Medals (Gallantry), 07 Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry), 02 vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry), 05 Bar to Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty), 35 Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty), 09 Nao Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty) and 14 Vayu Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty).

Beating the Retreat

(14) Beating the Retreat has emerged as an event of national pride when the Colours and Standards are paraded on Vijay Chowk on 29th January, 2019. The ceremony traces its origins to the early 1950s when Major Roberts of the Indian Army indigenously developed the unique ceremony of display by the massed bands. This year, Indian tunes were the flavour of ‘Beating the Retreat’ ceremony.

Martyrs’ Day

(15) Nation observed Martyr’s Day on 30th January, 2019. On the occasion of Martyr’s Day President, Vice President, Prime Minister, Defence Minister, Minister of State for Defence, three Service Chief and Defence Secretary visited and paid homage at Rajghat, New Delhi. The wreath laying ceremony was held.

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