



Tue, 08 Nov, 2016

(Online)

DRDO hosts 58th Conference of International Military Testing Association

Imphal: Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), a Delhi-based laboratory of DRDO is hosting the 58th Conference of International Military Testing Association (IMTA) in New Delhi from 8th November 2016. The four-day long conference is being held in India for the first time and the event will be inaugurated by the Minister of State for Defence Dr. Subhash Bhamre.

It will be attended by Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr. S. Christopher and Ms Susan Truscott, Chair of the IMTA and Director General Military Personnel Research & Analysis, Canada.

This year the theme of the Conference is "Psychological Assessment: Shaping the Future Soldier", which suits the recent trends of research that DIPR is pursuing related to the issues and concerns of our Armed Forces.

The event will bring together experts of psychological assessment across the globe along with DRDO's partners from Armed Forces on a common platform to discuss and deliberate upon topics like Multi-method approach in Personnel Selection for the Armed Forces, International Perspectives on Assessing and Countering Destructive Leadership and Combat Stress Behaviours.

The Conference would also include 18 technical sessions which would focus on areas like Selection, Testing, Resilience, Aptitude, Training, Leadership and Positive psychology.

Over 127 delegates from 21 countries viz., Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, New Zealand, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA and hosts India would attend the event.

Participants from India would include DRDO scientists and Armed Forces Personnel with the Army, Navy and Air Force, associated as partners in this conference.

IMTA, the largest congregation of military psychologists is an International Non-profit body with 27 member countries under it, which deals with defence related issues and provides a forum for exchange of ideas among all member countries.

The event takes place annually in one of the member countries where various issues pertaining to military context are deliberated such as training, leadership, selection, testing, occupational analysis, aviation psychology, human factors and soldier effectiveness etc.

The conference theme thus is not only an attempt to exchange notes on the current trends in the discipline of military psychology all over the world, but also to create pathways for incorporating the changing realities of the social, political, economic and cultural milieu into the selection and assessment systems.

The DIPR is actively involved in research of Military Psychology and provides various psychological services to Indian Armed Forces. The major objectives of DIPR include taking on new areas of research related to military personnel selection, training, organizational behaviour, high altitude research, motivation and other issues related to Armed Forces.

The assessment system, methodologies, techniques and tests developed by DIPR are being used for selecting Armed Forces personnel of the country.

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Def aerospace R&D centre: Work to begin at IIT-Bombay

MUMBAI: The foundation stone for construction of the advanced defence-related aerospace research and development centre (Centre of Propulsion Technology) will be laid on IIT-Bombay premises on Friday, in the presence of defence minister Manohar Parrikar, Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) director, and IIT-B and IIT-Madras directors.

The MoU was signed last year after DRDO decided to finance over Rs 400 crore into IIT-B and IIT-M to kick-start advanced defence-related aerospace research and development.

A defence official said products and technology under development include aircraft that can morph into a missile, gas turbine engines used to run aircraft and missile propulsion and hypersonics that enable flights to go at several times the speed of sound. "PhD students will take over the project for DRDO to do research and build aeronautical-related equipment. IIT-B will be the administrative headquarters for the new CoPT."

The official said at IIT-M, this centre has 45 faculty across eight departments participating in the project, while at IIT-B, 25 faculty across departments will participate in the research being conducted for the first time in India.



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Goa needs to focus on naval tech & ocean sciences: Dr Mishra

MARGAO: To generate wealth through knowledge it is mandatory to enhance infrastructure, human resource and student collaboration, Dr Sudhir Mishra, Chief Controller (R&D) DRDO and CEO of BrahMos Aerospace said, adding that Goa being situated along the coast, it would be of great interest to focus on naval technology and ocean sciences.

He was speaking during his recent visit to the Don Bosco College of Engineering to find out the possibilities in involving faculty and students in DRDO research projects. Speaking further, he proposed that it would be ideal to create and identify projects that involved naval application and suggested that DRDO could fund and in this regard, suitable laboratories could be set up. He encouraged the management and the staff present that a minimum of 5 projects should be identified quarterly. Dr S Christopher, secretary and chairman, DRDO was also present. Dr Mishra and Dr Christopher visited Don Bosco College of Engineering in view of Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar's vision to have Goan institutes working with DRDO.

Dr Christopher mentioned about the training programmes and the possibility of the students at Don Bosco College of Engineering, having short term trainings with them. He stated that his intention is to tap the knowledge of students and attach it to defence related projects.

He spoke about the possibility of students taking up projects and working under the guidance of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

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DRDO, DBCE in talks for research collaboration

Panaji: The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is in talks with Don Bosco College of Engineering (DBCE), Fatorda, over a potential tie-up on research projects.

The institute was visited by DRDO chairman and secretary of the department of defence research and development S Christopher and chief controller of R&D and CEO of BrahMos Aerospace Sudhir Mishra on October 15 over the possibilities of involving the students and faculty in DRDO projects.

During the visit, Christopher mentioned the possibility of students having short stints with India's top defence research organization and also working on independent projects, under the guidance of scientists at DRDO.

The organization is preferably looking for projects related to naval technology and ocean sciences, and has currently asked the institute to finalize five research projects, out of which, one will be selected by the organization, under an memorandum of understanding (MoU), which is likely to be signed by March 2017, said a faculty member of the college. Talking about the interest of DRDO in their institute, assistant professor, civil engineering, and faculty-in-charge of public relations, professor Satyesh Kakodkar said that, so far, DRDO officials have visited the institute twice and details are still being worked out.

"The MoU will be signed with DRDO, in association with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), soon after we have our incubation centre ready. FICCI has signed a MoU with our college, where there will be a facility for 20 start-up entrepreneurs," Kakodkar said, adding that the DRDO's request to shortlist one project from the prescribed five is under way.

"We are contemplating options for possible projects to be showcased to DRDO," he said.

DRDO association with a Goan institute marks another instance of the defence industry eyeing the coastal state. Earlier, an engine servicing facility for armed forces' helicopters was announced in Honda. The facility will also be servicing the engines of the yet to arrive French Rafale fighter jets.