समाचार पत्रों से चियत अंश Newspapers Clippings

दैनिक सामयिक अभिज्ञता सेवा

A daily Current Awareness Service

Vol. 42 No. 157 08 Aug 2017



रक्षा विज्ञान पुस्तकालय

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Mon, 07 Aug, 2017 (Online)

200 successful missions: Navy, NPOL to mark INS Sagardhwani's milestone

Kochi: The Southern Naval Command (SNC) and the Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL) on Monday will jointly organise an event here to mark the successful completion of 200 scientific missions of INS Sagardhwani, a marine acoustic research ship owned by NPOL.

Rear Admiral R J Nadkarni, Chief of Staff, SNC, will be the chief guest at the function which will be presided by NPOL director S Kedarnath Shenoy.

A monograph highlighting the scientific contributions of INS Sagardhwani over the past two decades and 200 scientific missions will be released to mark the occasion.

"The monograph takes a comprehensive look at the contributions of INS Sagardhwani which are important to our understanding of different aspects of anti-submarine warfare (ASW) research activities at NPOL," a release said here.

It places special emphasis on the various scientific missions and associated experiments aimed to conceptualise, develop, and perfect new measurement technologies, primarily in the area of physical oceanography, geophysics and underwater acoustics.

During its 23 years of service, it has undertaken a large number of missions covering the waters of the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea.

INS Sagardhwani has ushered in a host of new findings and has led to technology development efforts that have raised NPOL's competence and credibility. The vessel has played host to a number of projects successfully executed by ocean scientists at NPOL.

NPOL is one of the premier system laboratories of DRDO primarily engaged in the design and development of underwater surveillance systems to meet the requirements of the Navy.

Its at-sea activities are spearheaded by INS Sagardhwani which conducts ocean research experiments relevant to lab's charter.

INS Sagardhwani

INS Sagardhwani is one of the first indigenously built oceanographic research ships. It is 85 m in length and 13 m in breadth. It was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd, Kolkata, and was commissioned on July 30, 1994. Operated and maintained by the Navy for DRDO, the ship is based at the Southern Naval Command, Kochi. A number of state-of-the-art scientific laboratories to support multidisciplinary studies make the ship the main stay in oceanographic research for NPOL.



Tue, 08 Aug, 2017

'Indian Army Standing Up To China Because Of Parrikar'

The BJP in Goa attributed the credit of Indian Army's capability to stand against China to former Defence Minister and Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar, with its spokesperson claiming that it was because Parrikar that India was able stand up to Beijing.

"Today, the Defence Ministry has forged so far ahead, we have seen it all. The direct result can be seen in Doklam in Sikkim, where we are prepared to take on a big country like China. All the credit should go to Parrikar bhai along with our PM Narendra Modi," Dattaprasad Naik told a Press conference in Panaji, while claiming that Parrikar, who is contesting the Panaji Assembly by-election, would win with a thumping majority.

Attempts by China to build a road near Doklam plateau has been the cause of a prolonged stand-off between the Indian and Chinese Armies since June this year. The stand-off has sparked fears of armed hostility between the two neighbours, especially in view of rhetoric engaged by leaders of both countries.

Naik also credited Parrikar for the "surgical strikes" against Pakistan, following terror attacks on an Indian armed forces base. "Such a big surgical-strike against Pakistan was only possible because of Parrikar," Naik said, while responding to allegations made by the Congress candidate for the Panaji seat Girish Chodankar, who had alleged that Parrikar had left the Defence Ministry in a hurry to rush to Goa to form a coalition Government.

MAIL TODAY

Tue, 08 Aug, 2017

New grounds for defence housing

By Ajit K Dubey in New Delhi

SEEKING to give a push to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's dream military housing scheme, the defence ministry has decided to delegate its powers of awarding contracts to local formations where dwellings have to be built and make them responsible for the quality of construction and other related activities.

Powers of awarding contracts decentralised to local formations

"To give a push to the Defence Married Accommodation Project, a decision has been taken to decentralise the powers of awarding contracts to local formations where houses have to be built, and make them responsible for ensuring that the quality of construction and other related aspects in the programme," a senior defence official said. "The decision was taken as the project was not moving forward due to complications involved in



In phase-2, only 5,000 houses were built in 10 yrs of the UPA rule. Also, out of 62 contracts awarded to builders, 30 had been cancelled due to poor construction.

tendering and poor quality work."

Under Vajpayee's plan to build two lakh houses for defence forces across the country, over 50,000 houses were completed during the initial years as part of phase-1 of the plan initiated in 2001.

The main problem occurred in phase-2 under which only 5,000 houses were built in 10 years till 2015 under the UPA regime. The ministry wants to get going with the

project and complete another 70,000 houses under phase-3 at the earliest.

In phase-2, out of 62 contracts awarded to builders, 30 had been cancelled due to poor construction and mismanagement. Many houses were found to be unfit for living even before they could be inaugurated and the mess in the \$20,000-cr project had resulted in the defence ministry forming a committee to probe irregularities.



Tue, 08 Aug, 2017

Army directed to shut 39 military farms

To save Defence Ministry expenses

Acting on a long pending proposal, the Defence Ministry has directed that the 39 military farms across the country be shut down within three months. This will bring to an end a long practice running since the end of 19th century.

"The order was issued by the Defence Ministry a week ago, and all 39 farms have to be shut within three months," a defence source said on Monday.