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NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY DAY: CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF INNOVATION & DEFENCE EXCELLENCE

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NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY DAY: CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF INNOVATION & DEFENCE EXCELLENCE

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) celebrated India's remarkable journey of scientific prowess and self-reliance. From the historic Pokhran-II nuclear tests in 1998 to ground-breaking advancements in indigenous cutting-edge defence technologies like advanced missile systems, next-gen fighter jets, and space-based surveillance, India has emerged as a global leader in innovation. To celebrate this remarkable journey of scientific excellence, technological innovation, and self-reliance in defence capabilities, India observes National Technology Day (NTD) every year on 11 May.

On this occasion, Defence Science Forum, DRDO and Scientific Analysis Group (SAG), Delhi, organised a commemorative event at Metcalfe House, Delhi. The program was presided over by Dr BK Das, DS & DG (ECS), and featured addresses by Dr UK Singh, DS & DG (SSS), Chief Mentor DSF, and Dr N Ranjana, OS & Director DFTM, Member Secretary, DSF. The event was graced by Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Director, IIT-Jammu, as Chief Guest and Sqn Ldr Sameer Joshi (Retd), CEO, NewSpace Research & Technology, as Guest of Honour, who delivered insightful keynote addresses on emerging technologies, innovation, and self-reliance in the defence sector.

The celebration included inspiring orations by selected scientists from DRDO laboratories. During the award ceremony, medals and certificates were distributed, and commendation cards were conferred upon DRDO employees in recognition of their exemplary service, dedication, and valuable contribution. As part of this occasion, DRDO released three publications: 'DRDO Technology Spectrum-2026,' 'Raksha Anusandhan Bharti,' and 'Padma Awardees of DRDO.'

'Padma Awardees of DRDO' is a commemorative publication dedicated to distinguished DRDO personalities who have received the prestigious Padma Awards for their extraordinary contributions to science, technology, defence innovations and national service. 'DRDO Technology Spectrum–2026' is an extensive compendium of futuristic technologies, pioneering research, transformative innovations, and strategic scientific perspectives contributed by eminent scientists from various DRDO laboratories. The publication provides useful information about emerging technological domains shaping the future of national defence and strategic capabilities. 'Raksha Anusandhan Bharti' is a

thoughtfully compiled collection of Hindi articles centered on defence science, indigenous technologies, research achievements, and scientific advancements, reflecting DRDO's continuous efforts to promote scientific literature and technical communication in Hindi.

The publications collectively reflect DRDO's vision of fostering scientific temperament, strengthening indigenous technological capabilities, and advancing India's journey towards self-reliance in critical defence technologies.

The event reflected DRDO's continued commitment towards indigenous innovation, advanced research, and strengthening India's technological capabilities for national security.

As part of the celebration, the distribution ceremony of the "On the Spot Commendations Card 2025" and "Mementos to DRDO Employees on completion of 25 years of service in DRDO" was also held. Every year, 20 'On the Spot Commendations' are given by Secretary DD R&D and Chairman DRDO to the employees from the laboratories, units, and establishments under Secretary DD R&D. This year, on behalf of Secretary DD R&D and Chairman DRDO, Dr BK Das, DS & DG (ECS), presented the 'On the Spot Commendation Certificates' and Badges to scientists, technical officers, officers of the admin allied cadre, and officers from other services, including DIAT and ATVP, for their outstanding contribution in their respective fields during the year 2025. He also presented mementos to 16 employees of DRDO HQrs on completion of 25 years of service in DRDO.

The following laboratories of DRDO also celebrated NTD 2026 at their respective laboratories:

LRDE, Bengaluru

Electronics & Radar Development Establishment (LRDE), Bengaluru, celebrated NTD 2026 on 11 May 2026. Shri SD Suresh, Sc 'G' & Group Director, Directorate of Knowledge Resources Management, welcomed the participants, which included meritorious wards of the employees of LRDE. Shri Abid Hussain VA, Associate Director (Planning), briefed about the occasion and the significance of the theme for NTD 2026, "Responsible Innovation for Inclusive Growth," for our country. During his address, Shri M Sheik Althaf, OS & Director, LRDE, emphasized thinking unconventionally and going beyond our comfort zones and how development in technology is impacting the everyday lives of common men.

Smt Manjushree Tamang, Sc 'F' delivered the oration on "High Performance Radomes for Radar Systems: Design and Development Perspective." Director, LRDE, presented the commendation certificate to the orator. As part of the event, a short video on LRDE achievements was also played, and certificates of recognition were presented to officers and staff who have led and contributed towards HRD and knowledge dissemination. To encourage meritorious wards of employees who have excelled in their academic pursuits, educational awards were presented to students who have completed their Class X, Class XII/PUC, Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree exams. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Smt Raajita B Reddy, Sc 'F'.

NSTL, Visakhapatnam

Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam, celebrated NTD 2026 on 11 May 2026. Prof. M Chandrasekhar, Director, IIM-Visakhapatnam, attended as the Chief Guest of the function. Shri SL Srinivas, Sc 'F' & Chairman, gave the welcome address. Dr Abraham Varughese, OS & Director, NSTL, highlighted the theme of this year—"Responsible Innovation for Inclusive Growth"—underscoring the importance of modern technologies such as artificial technologies, quantum technologies, and digital tools for the benefit of all. Every year, on this occasion, a titanium medal is awarded to scientists for their outstanding work in R&D. This year, Shri Gopal Krishna Sahu, Sc 'G' has been awarded this medal and commendation certificate for his work on "Design and Evaluation of Air Droppable Container (ADC) System for Emergency Naval Logistics."

INNOVATIONS

FLAGGING CEREMONY OF AAP (TR & WH) AT VRDE

Advanced Armoured Platform (Tracked and Wheeled)—VIKRAM VT 21, designed and developed by Vehicles Research & Development Establishment (VRDE), Ahilyanagar, a premier research establishment of DRDO, was flagged off by Dr SV Kamat, Secretary DD (R&D) and Chairman DRDO, in an event held at VRDE on 25 April 2026.

The AAPs (Tracked and Wheeled) have been designed to cater to the emerging operational requirements of the Indian Armed Forces. The platforms meet the requirements of Infantry Combat Vehicle and Armoured Personnel Carrier roles. Both the platforms have been integrated with an indigenously designed and developed 30 mm crewless turret. The platforms have advanced features to meet the mobility, firepower, and protection requirements integrated with a high-power engine and automatic transmission, a high

power-to-weight ratio, higher speed capabilities, gradient and obstacle negotiating capability, STANAG level 4 and 5 protection with modular blast and ballistic protection, and amphibian with improved water obstacle crossing capability by incorporating hydro jets providing operational flexibility. The 30 mm Crewless Turret comprises a 30 mm main gun, a 7.62 mm PKT gun, twin Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) launchers, an RCWS-12.7 mm NSVT, and an integrated fire control system. The base design has capabilities to be configured for multiple roles. The manufacturing of the platforms has been carried out by two industry partners—M/s TASL, Pune, and M/s BFL, Pune—supported by many MSMEs. This collaboration has resulted in strengthening the evolving defence ecosystem.

The program was attended by Prof. (Dr) Prateek Kishore, DS & DG (ACE); Dr (Ms) Chandrika Kaushik, DS & DG (PC & SI); Shri Sukran Singh, CEO & MD M/s TASL Pune; Shri Amit Kalyani, VC & Jt MD M/s BFL Pune; and other dignitaries from industries. Shri GRM Rao, OS & Director, VRDE, briefed the features and capabilities of these platforms. Directors and senior scientists of various laboratories also participated in the event.

DRDO CONDUCTS EXTENSIVE LONG-DURATION TEST OF ACTIVELY COOLED FULL SCALE SCRAMJET COMBUSTOR

Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad, has achieved a path-breaking milestone in the development of hypersonic missiles by successfully conducting an extensive long-duration test of its Actively Cooled Full Scale Scramjet Combustor. A run-time of over 1,200 seconds was achieved at the state-of-the-art Scramjet Connect Pipe Test (SCPT) facility in Hyderabad on 9 May 2026, building upon the earlier successful test of over 700 seconds conducted in January this year.

The combustor has been designed and developed by DRDL and realised by industry partners. This successful test positions India at the forefront of advanced aerospace capabilities and continuously emerging war technologies.

The remarkable feat is achieved through cutting-edge supersonic air-breathing engines, which utilises indigenously developed liquid hydrocarbon endothermic fuel, high-temperature thermal barrier coating, and advanced manufacturing processes. The ground tests conducted at the SCPT facility have successfully validated the design of the advanced active cooled scramjet combustor as well as the capabilities of the state-of-the-art test facility.

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has complimented DRDO, industry partners, and academia on the successful ground test of the Full Scale Actively Cooled Long Duration Scramjet Engine. He described the achievement as a solid foundation for the nation's Hypersonic Cruise Missile Development Program. Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO, Dr Samir V Kamat also congratulated the teams associated with the test.

RELIABILITY ANALYSIS FOR BRAKE PARACHUTE RELEASE MECHANISM FOR COMBAT AIRCRAFT

The Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), Agra, has carried out a reliability analysis of the brake parachute release mechanism for combat aircraft. The Brake Parachute Release Mechanism (BPRM) is a safety-critical subsystem designed and developed as per AMCA requirements by ADRDE. It augments braking performance during landing by deploying the aerodynamic decelerator. Mounted at the aircraft's rear fuselage, BPRM comprises a Parachute Lock–Unlock Mechanism (PLUM), a Parachute Compartment Door Lock Actuation Mechanism (PCDLAM), an Electronic Control Unit (ECU), and a Brake Parachute Assembly (BPA), with the parachute housed in a dedicated airframe-integrated compartment. The accurate and timely operation of this mechanism is essential for ensuring aircraft controllability, runway overrun prevention, and compliance with operational safety requirements. Any failure to deploy or release the brake parachute as commanded can lead to hazardous or catastrophic consequences, particularly under adverse runway or environmental conditions. Consequently, the brake parachute Release Mechanism Demands a high level of reliability, despite operating under severe environmental and operational stresses. Failure Mode, Effects, and Criticality Analysis (FMEA) was conducted on the BPRM using a traditional approach by evaluating the criticality using the RPN number and the Risk Assessment Matrix. A structured reliability allocation of the BPRM using two complementary approaches: the Feasibility of Objectives (FOO) method and a Risk Priority Number (RPN)-based method derived from Failure Modes, Effects, and Criticality Analysis (FMECA). The combined application of these methods ensures that allocated reliability targets are consistent with the objective of achieving a reliability goal for a mission time.

TEST AND TRIALS

DRDO AND INDIAN NAVY SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCT MAIDEN SALVO LAUNCH OF NAVAL ANTI-SHIP MISSILE-SHORT RANGE

The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Navy have successfully conducted the maiden salvo launch of the Naval Anti-Ship Missile-Short Range (NASM-SR) from the Navy's helicopter platform off the coast of Bay of Bengal in Odisha on 29 April 2026. During the trial, two missiles were launched in quick succession from the same helicopter, making it the first salvo launch of an advanced air-launched anti-ship missile system.

All test objectives were fully met as per the data captured using various range tracking instruments like radar, electro-optical systems, and telemetry deployed by the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur. Along with proving the salvo launch capability, the missiles demonstrated the waterline hit capability. Senior scientists from DRDO, users' representatives from the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force, and Development-cum-Production Partners (DcPP) witnessed the test launches.

The NASM-SR missile uses a solid propulsion booster and long-burn sustainer. All critical sub-systems like the seeker, integrated avionics module, advanced navigation and guidance using a fiber-optic gyroscope-based Inertial Navigation System (INS) and radio altimeter along with advanced control and guidance algorithms, high-bandwidth two-way data link, and jet-vane control were developed indigenously by different laboratories of the DRDO and Indian industries.

The missile system has been developed by Hyderabad-based Research Center Imarat (RCI) in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories namely, Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad; High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune; Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL), Chandigarh; and ITR, Chandipur. The missiles are currently being produced by DcPP with help from other Indian industries and start-ups.

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has complimented DRDO, the Indian Navy, the Indian Air Force, and the industry, including the DcPP partners, for the successful maiden salvo launch. The development of this missile will further enhance the capabilities of the defence forces to a significant extent, he said.

Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO, Dr Samir V Kamat congratulated the teams associated with the successful salvo launches.

DRDO COMPLETES DEVELOPMENT TRIALS OF UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE LAUNCHED PRECISION GUIDED MISSILE-V3 IN AIR-TO-GROUND AND AIR-TO-AIR MODES

The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully completed the final deliverable configuration development trials of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Launched Precision Guided Missile (ULPGM)-V3 in air-to-ground and air-to-air modes at the DRDO test range near Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, on 19 May 2026. The trials were carried out using an integrated Ground Control System (GCS) to command and control the ULPGM weapon system. The GCS features state-of-the-art technologies to automate readiness and launch operations.

DRDO has partnered with two production agencies—Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, and Adani Defence Systems & Technologies Limited, Hyderabad—for the development and production of the missiles. The system has been integrated on UAVs developed by Newspace Research and Technologies, Bengaluru, for current trials.

The ULPGM missile has been developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad, as the nodal laboratory along with other DRDO laboratories, namely, Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad; Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL), Chandigarh; and High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune. The missile has been produced entirely in the Indian defense ecosystem, which involves a large number of MSMEs and other industries. The trials confirmed a fully mature domestic supply chain, equipped for immediate serial mass production.

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has complimented DRDO, PSUs, Defence cum Production Partners, and industry for the successful development trials of ULPGM-V3 in air-to-ground mode for the anti-tank role and air-to-air modes for drones, helicopters, and other airborne targets. He described it as a strategic milestone achieved in the pursuit of Aatmanirbharta in Defence.

Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO, Dr Samir V Kamat congratulated all the teams associated with the trials for the commendable achievement.

SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT-TRIAL OF ADVANCED AGNI MISSILE WITH MULTIPLE INDEPENDENTLY TARGETED RE-ENTRY VEHICLE SYSTEM

DRDO conducted the successful flight trial of an Advanced Agni Missile with a Multiple Independently Targeted Re-Entry Vehicle (MIRV) system from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha, on 8 May 2026. The missile was flight-tested with multiple payloads, targeted to different targets spatially distributed over a large geographical area in the Indian Ocean Region.

The telemetry and tracking were carried out by multiple ground and ship-based stations. These systems tracked the entire missile trajectory from lift-off till the impact of all payloads. Flight

data confirmed that all mission objectives were met during the trial. With this successful trial, India once again demonstrated the capability to target multiple strategic targets using a single missile system. This missile is developed by DRDO laboratories with the support of industries across the country. The trial was witnessed by senior scientists of DRDO and the Indian Army personnel.

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has complimented DRDO, the Indian Army, and industry on the successful flight test. This will add an incredible capability to the country's defence preparedness against the growing threat perceptions, he said.

DRDO AND IAF SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCT MAIDEN FLIGHT-TRIAL OF TACTICAL ADVANCED RANGE AUGMENTATION WEAPON

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully conducted the maiden flight trial of the Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation (TARA) weapon off the coast of Odisha on 7 May 2026. TARA, the modular range extension kit, is India's first indigenous glide weapon system to convert unguided warheads into precision-guided weapons.

TARA has been designed and developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad, along with other DRDO laboratories, to enhance the lethality and accuracy of a low-cost weapon to neutralize ground-based targets. It is the first glide weapon to utilize state-of-the-art low-cost systems. The development of the kit has been undertaken with Development cum Production Partners (DcPP) & other Indian industries, which have already started the production activity.

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has congratulated DRDO, IAF, DcPP, and the industry for the maiden flight trial, describing it as a significant development in advancing India's indigenous defence capabilities.

Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO, Dr Samir V Kamat also congratulated the teams associated with the successful flight trial.

HANDING OVER OF PROJECT NGC (NEXT GENERATION CORVETTES)

India has achieved a significant milestone in advancing indigenous naval capabilities with the successful completion of the hydrodynamic performance assessment and model testing of Next-Generation Corvettes.

The project, carried out by the Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL) in Visakhapatnam, working closely with the Warship Design Bureau of the Indian Navy, represents a major change towards designing warships based on performance and scientific methods. The project showed strong abilities in areas like how the ship's shape moves through water, the design of the propeller, computer simulations, and testing models, looking at important factors like resistance, how well it moves, stability in waves, turning ability, cavitation, and sound.

The outcomes were benchmarked against leading international standards, establishing parity in accuracy, reliability, and technical depth. In a major endorsement, the Indian Navy has selected the indigenous hull form and propeller configuration for the Next Generation Corvette P-28A project. The project was completed as planned, adhering to all timelines and milestones. The outputs are critical enablers for the contract signing of the P28A programme.

The formal handing over of project deliverables was carried out by the Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D, and Chairman, DRDO, to VAdm. Sanjay Sadhu, AVSM, NM, Controller of Warship Production & Acquisition (CWP&A). Dr RV Hara Prasad, DS & DG (NS&M), R Adm. Sujit Baxi, DG (WDB), Dr Abraham Varughese, OS & Director, NSTL, ADG (WDB), and the project team were also present during the ceremony.

HANDING-TAKING OVER OF TECHNICAL CADRE'S REQUIREMENT TOOL —TECART

The Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), Delhi, developed a Technical Cadre's Requirement Tool (TeCaRT) for the selection of DRTC personnel in DRDO. The tool will strengthen the recruitment process by assessing the psychological attributes related to the job performance of DRTC personnel in DRDO. The tool was handed over by Dr UK Singh, DS & DG (SSS), to Dr Manoranjan Patri, Chairman, Centre for Personnel Talent Management (CEPTAM), Delhi, on 25 March 2026.

INAUGURATION OF MICROWAVE UNITS INTEGRATION TEST FACILITY AT LRDE

The Electronics and Radar Development Establishment (LRDE), Bengaluru, inaugurated the Microwave Units Integration Test Facility on 27 March 2026. The facility was inaugurated by Dr BK Das, DG (ECS), in the esteemed presence of Shri M Sheik Althaf, OS & Director, LRDE, and Associate Directors of LRDE, viz., Shri Abid Hussain VA, Sc 'H'; Shri Suchith Rajagopal, Sc 'H'; Dr Sreenivasulu K, Sc 'H'; staff and officers of DG (ECS); Group Directors; officers and staff of the Directorate of Radar Antenna and Microwaves (DRAM) were also present during the inauguration.

Microwave Units Integration Test Facility is a Class 10000 facility with an ESD-safe area (42 feet (L) x 36 feet (W)) for testing sensitive microwave subsystems of Radar. The test facility has the provision of 24 ESD-safe workstations, a dedicated 10 kW liquid cooling interface for LRUs, 60 kVA power backup, smart access, CCTV, and fire alarm systems.

The facility will promote the seamless assembly, integration, and functional testing of microwave subsystems such as T/R modules, active phased array antenna units, exciter receiver units, and high-power transmitters.

DG (ECS) lauded the planning and execution of the test facility realization and also emphasized extending the usage of the facility to the sister laboratories and industry partners.

INAUGURATION OF AIRBORNE RADAR INTEGRATION & TEST FACILITY (ARITF) AT LRDE

The Airborne Radar Integration & Test Facility (ARITF) at Electronics & Radar Development Establishment (LRDE), Bengaluru, was inaugurated by Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D, and Chairman, DRDO, on 11 April 2026, in the august presence of Dr BK Das, DS & DG (ECS); Dr Ishita Ganguli Tripathy, Addl FA & JS; Dr Ravindra Singh, OS & DG (R&M); Shri M Sheik Althaf, OS & Director LRDE; Dr B Choubey, OS & Director DCW&E; Shri Meela Yagaiah, CCE (R&D) South, the project team, and other dignitaries.

The ARITF is being established as a state-of-the-art infrastructure for the integration, validation, and testing of airborne radar systems. Such facilities are crucial for ensuring the performance, reliability, and operator readiness of radar systems deployed on fighter aircraft and airborne surveillance platforms.

A key highlight of the facility is the upcoming 6 Degrees-of-Freedom (6-DoF) Radar target simulator with an anechoic chamber and instrumentation, which will enable realistic simulation in closed-loop testing of Airborne Radar. This capability

will allow developers to evaluate radar system performance under complex operational scenarios, replicating real-world conditions encountered by airborne platforms.

Dr Das emphasized the strategic importance of radar technologies in modern warfare and surveillance systems. He highlighted that advanced radar systems play a critical role in detection, tracking, and situational awareness across air and space domains. In the context of evolving global security scenarios and the increasing use of drones and autonomous aerial platforms in modern conflicts, the need for advanced radar testing and evaluation facilities has become more significant than ever.

Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary DD R&D and Chairman, DRDO, emphasized the importance of indigenous testing for strengthening India's defence capabilities. He also said that radar systems are among the most critical sensors on modern fighter aircraft and airborne platforms for which rigorous testing under controlled conditions is essential before deployment. Facilities such as ARITF will significantly enhance the country's capability to develop, integrate, and validate next-generation airborne radar technologies. The inauguration of ARITF marks an important step in enhancing India's self-reliance in advanced radar technologies and establishing a comprehensive national capability for radar integration, validation, and testing. The facility will enable the designer to reduce flight testing on the aircraft, which is both time-consuming and involves huge expenditure.

EVENTS

RAISING DAY CELEBRATIONS

CVRDE, Chennai

Combat Vehicles Research & Development Establishment (CVRDE), Chennai, celebrated its 52nd Laboratory Raising Day on 15th May 2026 at their premises. Shri J Rajesh Kumar, OS & Director, CVRDE, along with Dr V Balamurugan, OS & Program Director (AFV), ChairmanWorks

Committee, graced the event with their august presence. In his keynote address, Director CVRDE emphasized the importance of the laboratory's recent contributions and requested to continue the dedicated efforts in advancing the indigenous technologies base for armored fighting vehicles.

On the occasion, the CVRDE employees were honored with meritorious/commendation certificates for their significant contributions in the laboratory during the year 2025. Shri Bosco Nazrath, Vice Chairman of the 22nd Works Committee, delivered the welcome address, and the event concluded with a vote of thanks by Shri AP Jothikumar, Sports Secretary, 22nd Works Committee.

DL, Jodhpur

Defence Laboratory, (DL) Jodhpur celebrated its 68th Laboratory Raising Day on 16 May 2026. The program started with the offering of floral tributes to Prof. DS Kothari, the first Scientific Advisor to Raksha Mantri. Shri Deepesh Patidar, Sc 'G', Chairman, Organizing Committee, welcomed the guests. Shri VS Shenoi, OS & Director, DLJ, gave the brief annual report on the achievements of the laboratory. Hon'ble Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister of Culture & Tourism, was the Chief Guest and Dr RV Hara Prasad, DS & DG (NS&M), was the Guest of Honour. The minister appreciated the technologies and systems being developed in the thrust areas of DLJ for the armed forces. He also congratulated the teams for the quick realization of unique products as an outcome of lessons learned from Operation Sindoor.

DG (NS&M) in his speech appreciated the commendable contributions made by the laboratory over the years and suggested the laboratory work on novel first-of-its-kind technologies, keeping in view the evolving threat scenarios. He further emphasized enhanced academic collaboration and more industry involvement in the development activities of the laboratory.

During the program, Laboratory Commendation Cards were given to officers and staff of DLJ for their excellent contributions made during the previous year.

DLJ employees, who have completed 25 years of service, were also felicitated. The program concluded with the vote of thanks by Shri AS Rathore, OS & Associate Director, and with the national song and national anthem.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2026

CAS, Hyderabad

The Centre for Advanced Systems (CAS), Hyderabad, celebrated International Women's Day (IWD) on 15 April 2026. The event was inaugurated by Dr Sivasubramaniam N, DS & Director, CAS. Smt Narmatha Sivasubramaniam was the Chief Guest. The inaugural speech was given by Smt Surekha, Chairperson of the Women's Cell, highlighting the importance of the "Give to Gain" theme. She also emphasised that by giving opportunities and encouragement, women can truly gain a more inclusive and balanced future. Smt Narmatha Sivasubramaniam addressed all the women employees and highlighted their contribution towards advanced technology developments in all DRDO laboratories. She said that compared to the past, the present women have developed strength to face challenges. She also emphasised that women should prioritize self-care while engaging in multitasking roles.

LRDE, Bengaluru

The IWD 2026 was celebrated at the Electronics & Radar Development Establishment (LRDE), Bengaluru, on 16 April 2026 with great enthusiasm. Dr Shubha V Iyengar, Distinguished Scientist CSIR-NAL, Padma Awardee 2026, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Shri M Sheik Althaf, OS & Director LRDE and Chairman, Women's Cell, presided over the function. The Director's spouse, along with spouses of Associate Directors of LRDE and senior officers from O/o DG ECS, was specially invited for the event.

Director, LRDE extended warm greetings to all women employees and spoke on the global theme of IWD 2026, highlighting the importance of rights, justice, and action for all women and girls. He also brought out the capabilities of women by emphasizing their resilience, proficiencies, courage, and capacity to nurture and lead through historical and mythological authenticities.

This was followed by the speech of Chief Guest Dr Iyengar, who spoke about the multifaceted role played by the Indian women and the challenges faced by them in all spheres of life.

Dr Aarti Dewan Gupta, IFA (R&D)-ECS cluster, was also present on the occasion. The event concluded with a cultural program organized by the LRDE Fine Arts Society. All the employees of LRDE actively participated in the event.

CELEBRATION OF DR AMBEDKAR JAYANTHI AT CAIR

Bharata Ratna Dr BR Ambedkar 135th birth anniversary was celebrated at CAIR, Bengaluru, on 16 April 2026. Dr Rajendra KM, Nimhans, was the Guest of Honor. Dr Rituraj Kumar, OS & Director, CAIR, presided over the event.

To honor Dr BR Ambedkar's legacy of service and compassion, a video documentary was showcased, and a talk on "Life-Work Balance: A Vital Pillar for Happiness and Connected Living" was delivered by the Guest of Honor. The director also addressed the gathering, emphasizing the significance of the day.

ISO CERTIFICATION OF DEAL, DEHRADUN

Defence Electronics Applications Laboratory (DEAL), Dehradun, is an ISO 9001:2015 certified laboratory, under the aegis of the Quality Management System provided by the Bureau of Indian Standards with license number L-9003913. The license of the laboratory was re-certified in “Design & Development of Communication Systems for Defence Applications” for three years until 24 April 2026. It is pertinent to note that DEAL was the first R&D laboratory in all of India to be bestowed with ISO 9001 certification in 1996.

RECRUITMENT EXAMINATION SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTED FOR CEPTAM-11 CYCLE

The Centre for Personnel Talent Management (CEPTAM), Delhi, has initiated recruitment cycle CEPTAM-11 for direct recruitment of 561 STA-Bs and 203 Technician-As to cater to vacancies demanded by different DRDO laboratories and establishments. It is planned to conduct Tier-I and Tier-II recruitment examinations in Computer Based Test (CBT) mode for selection against the above posts, with an additional Trade Test for Technicians. CEPTAM successfully conducted the Tier-I examination on 23 March 2026 at 112 centers in 68 cities across the country. The examination, which was conducted in 3 shifts, was attended by 101,861 candidates. Additional security features that were introduced for the conduct of this examination included biometric identification of candidates using iris scans and facial recognition, use of jammers at centers for disabling mobile networks, and real-time monitoring of the examination from the command center using IP-enabled cameras. 465 scientists and officials from different DRDO laboratories and establishments played a key role, as duty officials, to ensure that the examination was successfully conducted as per plan, without any report of incidence of unfair means.

VIGILANCE & SECURITY SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME AT NSTL

Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam, has conducted a “Security & Vigilance Sensitization” program for NS&M cluster laboratories with the theme “Security is Everyone’s Responsibility." The program was inaugurated by Dr RV Hara Prasad, DS & DG (NS&M), on 14 May 2026.

The two-day program covered cyber security, vigilance, CCS conduct rules, IB inspection procedures, DVS guidelines, general security awareness, and case studies of security breaches. Cybersecurity and vigilance topics were covered by expert guest speakers in their fields. For CCS conduct rules, the Senior Admin Officer from NSTL has shared his experience. Talks on security and a case study of security breaches were delivered by the chief security officer and security officer, respectively.

Participants from all cluster laboratories attended the program along with NSTL participants. The participation certificates were awarded by Dr Abraham Varughese, OS & Director, NSTL.

The event achieved its intended objectives successfully by raising greater awareness and strengthening security consciousness among all participants.

FIRE SERVICE WEEK/MONTH OBSERVANCE

CASDIC, Bengaluru

The Combat Aircraft Systems Design and Integration Centre (CASDIC), Bengaluru, observed National Safety Month during 4-31 March 2026. With the theme of “Engage, Educate & Empower People to Enhance Safety," a safety pledge was administered, formulated by the National Safety Council, Bengaluru Chapter, on 6 March 2026.

Various training programs were organised at the laboratory to enhance the awareness of safety aspects, including classroom and practical training on fire safety; mock drill training and evacuation procedure; basic first aid training; and a lecture on occupational health and ergonomics. To respond during an emergency, an awareness of the fire safety was also touched upon. The role and responsibilities of the individual safety coordinators and the Safety Division management were brought out by the safety officer, CASDIC, during the training. Few games were also conducted to make the audience understand the importance of using PPE in the workplace for the benefit of all employees working in various environmental conditions. All the safety coordinators of CASDIC were trained on basic fire safety, and practical and high-visibility safety jackets were also distributed by the Centre Head.

DTTC, DMSRDE, Lucknow

Defence Technology & Test Centre (DTTC), DMSRDE, Lucknow observed Fire Service Week-2026 during 14-20 April 2026 with great enthusiasm and responsibility. Fire Service Week is celebrated in remembrance of the tragic fire and explosion at Victoria Dock, Mumbai Port, on 14th April 1944. This week is dedicated to bringing awareness and strengthening

fire prevention measures across industries and workplaces. As part of Fire Service Week, a comprehensive firefighting mock drill was conducted on 20 April 2026 at both DTTC, Lucknow campuses located at Amausi and Nadarganj, respectively. Dr Ashish Dubey, Sc 'G' & PD, DTTC, inaugurated the event. The drill was attended by all the officers, staff, private contractual employees, and DGR security guards. All employees actively participated, and a few of them have practiced using fire extinguishers on a live, controlled fire. The drill included awareness of fire types and a simulated fire emergency to practice fire suppression, evacuation, and rescue operations. Members of the Firefighting Committee have demonstrated the use of fire extinguishers effectively. The response time of the fire suppression was evaluated and found to be prompt and efficient. Safety measures were also tested during the drill.

NSTL, Visakhapatnam

Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam, observed the Fire Service Week 2026 during 14-20 April 2026 with the theme "Safe School, Safe Hospital & Fire Safety Aware Society—Together Fire Prevention." As part of the observance, various events were organized at NSTL, Visakhapatnam. Approx 500 fire safety pamphlets were distributed to all NSTL permanent and contractual employees for spreading awareness of fire safety; a fire safety lecture and live firefighting mock drill-cum-training for school children was also conducted at Ramnath Secondary School on 15 April 26. A total of 200 students and 08 teachers participated in the event. Firefighting training for all DSC

personnel was organised at Fire Station; a fire safety awareness lecture with practical training for families of the NSTL fraternity was conducted with an emphasis on LPG fire and fire due to short circuits. A total of 72 members, including children, attended the same. Fire lit for the demonstration purpose was successfully put out by the fire crew by using portable fire extinguishers, and the same drill was repeated by the employees to gain the confidence in their actions to extinguish the fire.

RAC, Delhi

Fire Safety Week 2026 was organised at RAC, Delhi, on 21 April 2026. Shri Vishal Harit, Fire Station Officer at Delhi Fire Service Academy under the Government of NCT of Delhi, was invited to deliver a lecture on the said topic. The theme for Fire Safety Week 2026 was "Safe School, Safe Hospital, and Fire Safety Aware Society—Together for Free Prevention." The speaker shared valuable insights on fire prevention and control and gave a demonstration on the proper use of fire extinguishers and emergency preparedness. The lecture was very informative and interactive, with a sizeable number of RAC employees actively participating and enthusiastically inquiring about various fire safety measures to be kept on various fronts. The attending officials learned fire safety measures to keep the workplace safe from fire hazards that included proper vigilance and various "do's and don'ts" to prevent fire in addition to the tips for fire control in varied situations in case of any eventuality of fire breakout. The presiding officer concluded the event by thanking the speaker for his valuable time and inputs and appreciated his efforts to deliver the practical insights and real-life examples in a lucid manner.

WORKSHOP ON INDIGIS TECHNOLOGY

A three-day workshop on "INDIGIS Technology" was successfully conducted by CAIR, Bengaluru, during 20-22 April 2026. The course was inaugurated with an inaugural address by Shri Prasanna Kumar KR, Sc 'H' & Associate Director (Tech). He highlighted the importance and relevance of GIS technology in defence sector. He stated that a meeting of different stakeholders of INDIGIS will surely help to make its proliferation across various domains. Dr Narayan Panigrahi, Sc 'H' & Head, GIS Division, addressed the participants. He delivered and explained the genesis of GIS technology and its current relevance in defence and civilian applications. The course coordinator, Shri Dilip Kumar Dalei, Sc 'F' urged the participants to network and discuss INDIGIS and its applications as relevant to their laboratories and domains of expertise.

The workshop was designed to create a unified platform for the CAIR team, DRDO users/developers from sister laboratories, and Transfer-of-Technology (ToT) partners to exchange and discuss the capability and capacity of CAIR's in-house developed INDIGIS technology and its potential to integrate into various defence and civilian applications and systems. The workshop was organized in response to the call of Chairman DRDO and Secretary DDR&D to use INDIGIS technology to meet geospatial requirements of all DRDO systems. A total of 34 participants from 15 DRDO laboratories and 18 personnel from six ToT partners attended the workshop.

During the concluding session, Dr Rituraj Kumar, OS & Director, CAIR, said that the workshop was a good opportunity to get an exposure to the INDIGIS technology and its outreach to DRDO and the industry partners. Dr Panigrahi addressed the gathering to collaborate and further enhance the geospatial technology to its maximum capabilities to become Atmanirbhar in geospatial technology and its applications across the nation.

SEMINAR ON MULTI-SENSOR DETECTION AND ADAPTIVE TRACKING FOR DIRECTED ENERGY SYSTEMS

A seminar on "Multi-Sensor Detection and Adaptive Tracking for Directed Energy Systems" was organized by the Centre for High Energy Systems and Sciences (CHESS), Hyderabad, in association with the Sensor Research Society (SRS) and the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) on 26 March 2026. The event witnessed the participation of more than 150 members from DRDO laboratories, academic institutes, and startups. The seminar was graced by the Chief Guest, Dr RV Hara Prasad, DS & DG (NS&M), who highlighted the strategic importance of multi-sensor integration in enhancing the effectiveness of directed energy systems. A keynote lecture on "Radar for Detection of Low Observable Targets" was delivered by Prof. Kumar Vijay Mishra, Senior Fellow at the United States DEVCOM, Army Research Laboratory, who elaborated on

advanced radar techniques and their critical role in detecting stealth and low-signature objects. Important talks from domain experts from academia, industries, and sister DRDO labs were delivered in different sessions. The Guests of Honour, Shri Anindya Biswas, DS & Director, RCI, and Dr Dasharath Ram, DS & Ex-Director, DRDL, also addressed the gathering, emphasizing the need for continuous innovation in adaptive beam tracking technologies and directed energy systems. Dr Jagannath Nayak, DS & Director, CHESS, felicitated the honorable guests and concluded the inauguration session with his warm speech. The

seminar concluded with a panel discussion led by Prof. Radhakant Padhi, Professor, Department of Aerospace Engineering, IISc, Bangalore. The event was hosted by Dr S Veerabuthiran, Sc 'G'.

COURSE ON RADAR SOFTWARE AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING: QA PERSPECTIVE

The Electronics & Radar Development Establishment (LRDE), Bengaluru, conducted a course on "Radar Software and Systems Engineering: QA Perspective" during 28-30 April 2026. The objective of the course was to introduce the participants to system and software development methodology, processes, and guidelines and standards. The course was inaugurated by Shri M Sheik Althaf, OS & Director, LRDE, on 28 April 2026.

The course broadly encompassed the topics such as System and Software Engineering, Quality Engineering, DO-178C, DO-254, Q&R Policy and Guidelines, Reliability, Availability & Maintainability Analysis, Certification Perspectives on Software & CEH, System Safety Assessment/Functional Hazard Analysis, FMEA & FMECA, Quality Function Deployment (QFD), Practical Case Studies, etc.

A total of 21 participants from LRDE, CEMILAC, GTRE, and BrahMos attended the course. Experienced faculty members from the Indian Statistical Institute, ADA, M/s Trident, and LRDE scientists had delivered the lectures. The Feedback and valedictory session was chaired by Shri Abid Hussain VA, Associate Director (Planning).

KNOWLEDGE SHARING LECTURE ON CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS AT LRDE

Electronics & Radar Development Establishment (LRDE), Bengaluru, organized a Knowledge Sharing Lecture on 21 April 2026. Shri Nishad Amit Kumar, M/s Bosch Global Software Technologies Private Limited (BGSW), was invited to deliver the lecture on “Cyber Security Awareness." He elaborated on the cyber security and cyber-attack awareness. He explained the topic with the help of a case study that included an attack scenario and defensive controls, cybersecurity challenges on all levels, operational and implementation challenges, complexity, and legacy systems. The session witnessed active participation and meaningful interaction between the speaker and attendees. More than 150 participants attended the awareness program.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON R&D MANAGEMENT FOR DRDO SCIENTISTS

As a significant step towards capacity building of the DRDO scientists in the field of Research and Development (R&D) Management, Directorate of Human Resource & Vigilance (DHRV), DRDO HQrs has successfully organized a comprehensive training program on “Research and Development (R&D) Management” for 30 DRDO scientists from 23 March to 18 April 2026 at IIM-Lucknow. This focused training program aimed to strengthen understanding of contemporary concepts and practices in R&D management and develop competencies in project management, innovation management, and technology leadership competencies of senior scientists involved in advanced research, technology development, and project execution in DRDO laboratories and establishments.

As part of the program, an industrial visit was also organized to Ordnance Factory, Kanpur to provide participants with practical exposure to defence manufacturing systems and production management practices. The visit served as a valuable experiential learning opportunity for the participants. During the visit, the scientists gained insights into advanced defence manufacturing processes and production planning systems, challenges and opportunities in indigenous defence production and modernization.

WORKSHOP-CUM-INTERACTIVE SESSION ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT BY GEM

High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune, organized one-day workshop-cum-interactive session on public procurement by GeM for ACE Cluster on 9 April 2026 through the GeM Team from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. The objective of the workshop was to cover features and functionalities on the GEM Portal and past procurement trends of DRDO and to address the issues faced by the buyer organization on the GeM portal. Dr Himanshu Shekhar, Sc 'G', inaugurated the event. A total of 55 participants from ACE Cluster laboratories, IFA, JCDA, NDA, CME, Command Hospital, and Pune Sub-area attended the workshop. Ms Nishita Upadhyay, IDAS, ACEO & CFO- GeM, made opening remarks during the inauguration session. The speaker, Harish Pal, GeM Business Facilitator, presented the GeM Overview, the role of the user, procurement modes, etc. The speaker also explained the services on GeM, types of bids pertaining to DRDO, custom bids, bunch bidding, BoQ bids, LTE, STE, etc. The speaker also explained the new functionalities and features of GeM, payment-related issues, and common issues on GeM. The speaker presented brief information about incident management, blacklisting of vendors, and raising of tickets on GeM. All the participants were informed about GeM, including its functionalities and features. All the participants appreciated the efforts and hospitality of the HEMRL HR team.

PERSONNEL

NPOL, Kochi

Shri Kiran Govind V, Sc 'F', Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi, has been awarded PhD degree from Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT), Pune, for the thesis titled, "Team Flow and its Effect on Research & Development Project Teams in DRDO-an Exploratory Study".

PATENTS GRANTED

- A Patent No. 576097 for "An Underwater Capsule Cooling System" has been granted by Indian Patent Office to Shri Sabu Sebastian, Shri Madhavan Nampoothiri and Shri Samuel Theophilus M, Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi.
- A Patent No. 573091 for "A Method and System of Estimation of Radiated Noise Level (RNL) of Marine Targets" has been granted by Indian Patent Office to Shri Sivaraman Vijayan Pillai, Shri Shan Victor Pereira, Shri R Krishna Kumar, Shri P Linthish, Shri Manoj Unni and Shri Manjula Prithvi Raj, inventors from Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi and Shri Sreekumar Nair and Shri Vinod Pillai from DWE, INHQ.
- A Patent No. 481530 for "A Fault Tolerant Digital Data Acquisition and Telemetry System for Thin Line Towed Arrays Over Single Coaxial Cable" has been granted by Indian Patent Office to Shri Nirmal Mohan and Shri Rajeshkumar CS, Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi.

VISITORS TO DRDO LABORATORIES

CAIR, Bengaluru

❑ Gen. Upendra Dwivedi, PVSM, AVSM, Chief of Army Staff, visited Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), Bengaluru, on 8 April 2026. The visit aimed to provide a firsthand overview of the ongoing research activities, innovations, and technological advancements in the fields of AI, robotics, cybersecurity, and command and control systems. The dignitary was received by Dr Rituraj Kumar, OS & Director, CAIR. A detailed presentation was made highlighting CAIR's vision, mission, key projects, and strategic contribution to national security and defence preparedness. The dignitary was briefed on the program, including autonomous ground vehicles, AI-enabled surveillance systems, command and control systems for tri-services, communication security, and information security systems.

Following the presentation, demonstrations of Indigenous technologies such as robotic platforms, satellite image analysis, and IndiGIS technologies were showcased. The dignitary interacted with project teams and lauded their commitment to self-reliance and technological excellence.

❑ Maj. Gen. SS Kartikeya, YSM, SM, Commander, Higher Command Wing, Army War College-Mhow, visited Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), Bengaluru, on 15 April 2026. There was a briefing by Dr Rituraj Kumar, OS & Director, CAIR, followed by a discussion and demonstration of technologies developed by CAIR in the area of intelligent systems & robotics, information & communication security systems, and command control systems.

❑ Shri Anish Prasad, IG (Comm & IT) FHQ, BSF, and team visited Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), Bengaluru, on 16 April 2026. Dr Rituraj Kumar, OS & Director, CAIR, delivered a briefing, followed by discussions and demonstrations showcasing technologies developed by CAIR in the domains of Intelligent Systems and Information Security Systems.

❑ Maj. Gen. VK Gudi, ADG SI, and teams from MI and SI visited Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), Bengaluru, on 20 April 2026. Shri Prasanna Kumar KR, OS & Officiating Director, CAIR, gave a briefing, followed by discussions and demonstrations of technologies developed by CAIR in the fields of Intelligent Systems & Robotics and Information Security Systems.

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