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SAGAR MAITRI-5 EXPEDITION FORMALLY FLAGGED OFF





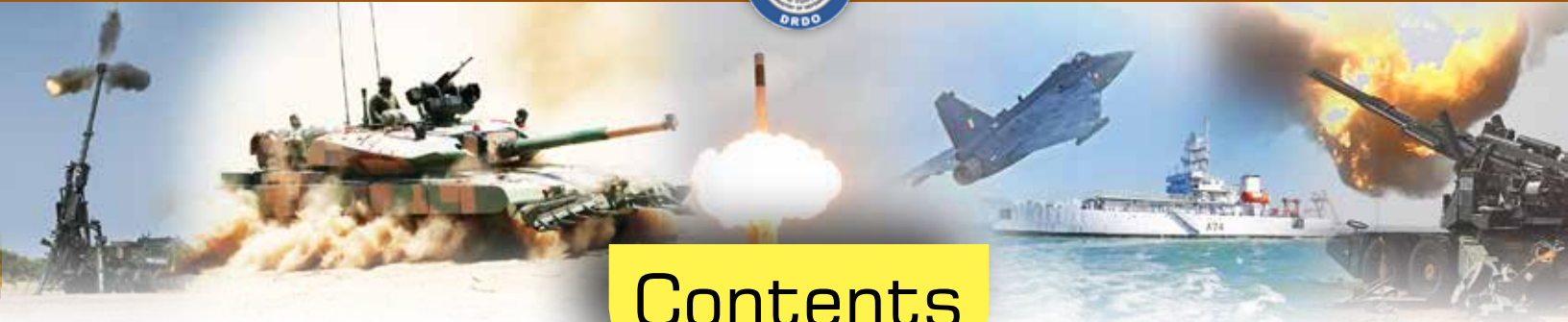
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46th Year of Publication

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SAGAR MAITRI-5 EXPEDITION FORMALLY FLAGGED OFF

Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi, has been conducting an oceanographic mission named 'SAGAR MAITRI' (SM) under the broad objective of PM's policy declaration "Security And Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)" to promote closer cooperation in socio-economic aspects as well as greater scientific interaction, especially in ocean research, among Indian Ocean Rim (IOR) countries. Under the aegis of this policy, DRDO had initiated a scientific component viz Marine & Allied Interdisciplinary Training and Research Initiative (MAITRI) with the focus on establishing long-term collaboration with IOR countries in the field of "Ocean Research & Development." In the SAGAR MAITRI program, the

research vessel INS Sagardhwani will retrace the tracks of INS Kistna, which participated in the International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE) during 1962-65. The missions aim to establish long-term scientific partnerships and collaborations with Oman, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, and Myanmar—the eight IOR countries. NPOL scientists participated in IIOE, and SAGAR MAITRI provides a platform to revisit the previous observations.

Sagar-Maitri-5 (SM-5) was flagged from Kochi on 17 January 2026, by Hon'ble Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence (SCoD), Shri Radha Mohan Singh, in the presence of the members of the Parliamentary SCoD, Dr Samir

V Kamat, Secretary, DD (R&D) & Chairman DRDO, and RAdm Upal Kundu, COS, Southern Naval Command. Senior DRDO officials and senior officers of the Indian Navy were also present during the flag-off ceremony. The SM-5 mission was led by Dr A Raghunadha Rao, Sc 'G' & Associate Director (Ocean Sciences) of NPOL.

During SM-5, INS Sagardhwani collected CTD data in international waters along INS Kistna track from Kochi to Kochi via Male, Maldives. Their findings will be used for studies on physical oceanographic features off the North Equatorial Indian Ocean along the tracks covered by INS Kistna during February 1963. The team also collected short-term deep-water ambient noise data in a silent ship regime at the equator.





The DRDO team interacted with Maldives National University and Maldives Marine Research Institute at Male. The Indian High Commission also organized a one-day seminar at MNU, Male. The

seminar was inaugurated by Mr Ahmed Shiyam, Hon'ble Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Resources, Maldives. Scientific talks on SM missions, physical oceanography, and underwater soundscapes with

a focus on fisheries and global warming were delivered. SAGAR MAITRI missions have become the backbone of DRDO's efforts towards relevant Underwater Domain Awareness (UDA).

TEST & TRIALS

DRDO CONDUCTS SUCCESSFUL QUALIFICATION TEST FOR GAGANYAAN DROGUE PARACHUTE

India's human spaceflight program has achieved a key milestone with the successful qualification level load test of Drogue Parachute for Gaganyaan program at Rail Track Rocket Sled (RTRS) facility of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) at Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL), Chandigarh. RTRS is a specialized dynamic test facility being used extensively for high speed aerodynamic and ballistic evaluations.

The test was conducted on 18 February 2026 with Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, ISRO, Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), DRDO alongside various TBRL's teams. The RTRS dynamic test, simulating qualification level loads which are higher than the maximum flight loads, shows the additional design

safety margin of parachute.

The test proves India's expertise in designing and manufacturing of high strength ribbon parachutes. The achievement once again highlights TBRL's immense contributions by providing advanced test facilities, instrumentation and technical expertise for space and defence programs.

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh praised DRDO, ISRO, and the industry

for successfully completing the qualification test for the Gaganyaan Drogue Parachute, calling it another significant step towards realizing the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Secretary, Department of Defence R&D & Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat has also congratulated the teams involved in the successful qualification test for level load.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2230224®=3&lang=1>



DRDO CARRIES OUT SUCCESSFUL DEMONSTRATION OF SOLID FUEL DUCTED RAMJET TECHNOLOGY

The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) carried out a successful demonstration of Solid Fuel

Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) technology from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha on 3 February 2026. The

successful demonstration places India into an elite league of nations possessing this technology that enables developing long-range



air-to-air missiles to give a tactical edge over the adversaries.

All the subsystems, including the nozzle-less booster, solid fuel ducted ramjet motor, and fuel flow controller, performed as per expectations after being initially propelled by a ground booster motor to the desired Mach number. The performance of the system was confirmed by the flight data captured by a number of tracking instruments deployed by ITR, Chandipur, along the coast of the Bay of Bengal. The launch was monitored by senior scientists from various laboratories of DRDO,

including Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Research Centre Imarat (RCI), and ITR.

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh complimented DRDO and industry on the successful demonstration of SFDR technology.

Secretary, Department of Defence R&D & Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat congratulated all the teams involved in the successful flight test.

(<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2222635®=3&lang=1>)



DRDO CONDUCTS SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT-TRIALS OF VERY SHORT-RANGE AIR DEFENCE SYSTEM

Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted three successive flight-trials of Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. These tests were carried out to revalidate the capability of VSHORADS missile system in neutralising high-speed threats flying at varying speed, range, and altitude. During all the flight-tests, the missiles intercepted and destroyed the high-speed aerial targets mimicking enemy aircraft in various threat scenarios meeting all extreme engagement points. These user validation flight-trials were carried out in the presence of the representatives of Joint Forces along with senior officials from DRDO and development cum production partners.

VSHORADS is a Man Portable Air Defence system designed and developed indigenously by Research Center Imarat in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories and Development cum Production Partners. The missile system has the capability to meet the needs of all the three branches of the Armed Forces, viz. Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has congratulated DRDO, Armed Forces and the industries

for the successful flight-tests of the system. He stated that the three consecutive successive flight trials of VSHORADS is a great success, and the system can soon be inducted into armed forces. Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat congratulated the entire DRDO team involved in design and development of the system, Armed Forces, and industry partners.

(<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2233776®=3&lang=1>)





RAKSHA MAN'TRI WITNESSES INDIGENOUS AERO ENGINES TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION AT GTRE

Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri visited Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE), Bengaluru on 16 February 2026. During the visit, the Hon'ble minister interacted with GTRE scientists on the indigenous engine development and also witnessed an engine test with engagement of afterburner. The indigenously designed and developed engine parts which were manufactured by Indian Industry Partner(s) were exhibited to the Hon'ble RM. Technologies developed for the Kaveri engine and its derivatives, Small Turbo Fan Engine, Advanced Turbo Gas Generator were displayed and the future

technologies proposed for AMCA class of engines were explained.

Hon'ble RM conveyed his appreciation to Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary DD R&D and Chairman DRDO, Dr K Rajalakshmi Menon, DG (Aero) and GTRE fraternity for their sustained effort in developing this critical technology and encouraged them to continue to work further with dedication and commitment.

He emphasised on the importance and need to have an aeroengine meeting the requirement of defence and civil applications. He also expressed confidence that GTRE will deliver the next generation engine

for AMCA with International collaboration and suggested to accelerate the engine development timeline. He directed them to undertake research activities on the sixth-generation engine technology and channelise effort towards achieving that feat.

Secretary DD R&D & Chairman DRDO, DG (Aero), DG (ECS), the Directors of Bengaluru-based DRDO laboratories and scientists from GTRE attended the interaction. Dr SV Ramana Murty, OS & Director, GTRE, briefed the ongoing engine development activities and accompanied Raksha Mantri to witness engine test.



MoU

MOU BETWEEN DIHAR AND IIT MANDI

In a landmark development for the Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR), Leh,

a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was formally signed with the Indian Institute of Technology

(IIT), Mandi, on 31 January 2026, paving the way toward deeper institutional collaboration in high-

altitude research and technology development. The agreement was executed in the esteemed presence of Prof. Laxmidhar Behera, Director, IIT Mandi; Dr Prateek Kishore, Director General (ACE); and Dr Neeraj Sharma, Associate

Director, DIHAR. The MoU establishes a formal framework for sustained cooperation in advanced research, technology development, and technical knowledge exchange in the domain of high-altitude defence technologies. It envisages

collaborative projects, joint experimentation, faculty-scientist interaction, student engagement, and shared utilization of specialized infrastructure to address the unique challenges posed by extreme high-altitude environments.



MOU SIGNED BETWEEN DMSRDE AND KIET, GHAZIABAD

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Defence Materials and Stores Research & Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur, and Krishna Institute of Engineering and Technology (KIET Deemed to be University), Ghaziabad, Delhi-NCR, India, on 30 January 2026 to foster a collaborative training and research program to provide advancement in scientific knowledge for the benefit of the country and society at large. Dr Kingsuk Mukhopadhyay, OS & Director DMSRDE, and Dr Adesh Kumar Pandey, Director Academics, KIET, signed the MoU in the presence of senior scientists from DMSRDE and senior faculty of KIET at KIET Campus. The

areas of collaboration in this MoU include the exchange of research, scientific & technical materials, collaborative research programs

in specific fields of interest, internship/trainee/dissertation programs, and the sharing of instrumentation facilities.



DMSRDE SIGNS MOU WITH DR BR AMBEDKAR NIT, JALANDHAR

Defence Materials and Stores Research & Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Dr BR Ambedkar National Institute of Technology (NIT), Jalandhar, on 30 January 2026 for academic and research cooperation. Dr Kingsuk Mukhopadhyay, OS & Director DMSRDE, and Dr Binod Kumar Kanaujia, Director, NIT Jalandhar, signed the MoU in the presence of senior scientists from DMSRDE and senior faculty of NITJ at NIT

Transit House, New Delhi. This MoU will provide opportunities for academic interaction, research

collaboration, and practical exposure for students and employees.



INFRA DEVELOPMENT

FOUNDATION STONE LAYING OF ADVANCED TECHNICAL, SUPPORT AND UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE AT CHESS HYDERABAD

The foundation stone laying ceremony of “Advanced Technical, Support and Utility Infrastructure” at Laser Complex CHES Hyderabad, was held on 23 January 2026 marking a significant milestone in the organization journeys towards strengthening its future research infrastructure and long-term vision. The event symbolized the beginning of a new chapter aimed at fostering innovation, scientific excellence and national capability. The foundation stone was laid by Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary DD R&D & Chairman DRDO in the august presence of Dr. B. K. Das DS

& DG (ECS), Dr Ravinder Singh, DG (R&M), Dr. Jagannath Nayak DS & Director CHES, Dr Biswajit Choubey, Director DCW&E, Shri M. Yagaiah CCE (R&D) South and Shri Rajeev Lochan, Chief

Engineer MES (R&D).

The proposed infrastructure will be equipped with a gallery type hall for witnessing of remote experiments and demonstrations from Test Ranges.



REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS

CVRDE, Chennai

The 77th Republic Day was celebrated at Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE), Chennai, on 26 January 2026. Shri J Rajesh Kumar, Director, CVRDE, unfurled the national flag, which was followed by the national anthem in the presence of senior scientists, officers, staff, and support teams of CVRDE.



DIPR, Delhi

The Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), Delhi, celebrated the 77th Republic Day with great zeal and patriotic fervor on 26 January 2026. Reminiscing and reaffirming the values and principles enshrined in the Constitution, Dr Nishi Misra, Director, DIPR, unfurled the national flag, followed by the rendition of the national anthem in the presence of senior scientists, officers from the armed forces, security staff, and the DIPR family, creating a shared sense of significance.

Marking the significant occasion and central theme of "150 Years of Vande Mataram,"

DIPR celebrated the same with songs of Vande Mataram sung by the enthusiastic members of the DIPR family, invoking the sense of patriotic fervor.

Director, DIPR greeted everyone, thanked them for their immense contributions, and urged all the officers and staff to rededicate themselves to the service of the country in both their professional and personal roles.



DMSRDE, Kanpur

Defence Materials and Stores Research & Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur, celebrated the 77th Republic Day with great zeal on 26 January 2026. Dr Kingsuk Mukhopadhyay, OS & Director, DMSRDE, unfurled the national flag, followed by the national anthem sung by DMSRDE personnel. Director addressed the gathering and congratulated all

the employees and their families on 77th Republic Day. Several DMSRDE employees presented patriotic poems and songs on the auspicious occasion. Cash prizes and merit certificates were also distributed to wards of DMSRDE employees for their meritorious performance. The event was coordinated by Dr Suresh Kumar, Sc 'G'.



IRDE, Dehradun

Instruments Research & Development Establishment (IRDE), Dehradun, celebrated 77th Republic Day on 26 January 2026 with unfurling of the national flag by Dr Ajay Kumar, OS & Director IRDE followed by the national anthem. Addressing the gathering, he expressed happiness, heartfelt thanks and congratulated all the employees on the Republic Day. He highlighted the achievements of IRDE in various aspects and appreciated officers and staff for successful completion of projects during 2025. He thanked everyone for their whole-hearted support in achieving the targets. Dr Ajay Kumar also released the latest issue of IRDE Newsletter 'DRISHTI'



(Detection, Recognition, Identification, Search, Homing and Tracking with Innovation). DRISHTI is a biannual publication of IRDE which covers all the news related to IRDE's new developed products, trials, events, visits, retirements, etc.



LRDE, Bengaluru

The Electronics & Radar Development Establishment (LRDE), Bengaluru, celebrated the 77th Republic Day on 26 January 2026 with patriotic spirit and enthusiasm. The celebration started with the unfurling of the flag by Shri Abid Hussain V A, OS & Officiating Director, LRDE, followed by the National Anthem. The Officiating Director addressed the gathering and extended heartfelt greetings to the LRDE community.



MTRDC, Bengaluru

77th Republic Day was celebrated at the Microwave Tube Research & Development Centre (MTRDC), Bengaluru, on the 26 January 2026. The celebration started with the unfurling of the flag by Dr SK Datta, OS & Centre Head, MTRDC followed by his address to the gathering. All employees of MTRDC participated with great enthusiasm. The event was concluded with national song "Vande Mataram".



NMRL, Ambarnath

77th Republic Day was celebrated at Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL), Ambarnath, on 26 January 2026 with patriotic spirit and enthusiasm. The celebrations commenced with the hoisting of the national flag by Dr Suman Roy Choudhury, OS & Director. He wished all employees and their family members a very happy Republic Day. During his speech, the Director, NMRL, encouraged employees to actively contribute toward technological advancement and foster a culture of innovation.

All officers and staff of NMRL participated in the celebrations. Children of NMRL employees presented patriotic poems and songs on this auspicious occasion.



NSTL, Visakhapatnam

Dr Abraham Varughese, OS & Director, NSTL hoisted the national flag in the NSTL Premises in the midst of NSTL officers, staffs and their family members. In his speech, he congratulated all members on the eve of 77th Republic Day celebrations. He expressed that our nation re-born again on 26th January 1950. We have given ourselves a written constitution, which declared India as a Sovereign. Dr Varughese inaugurated Multipurpose Fire Tender on the occasion of Republic Day which is having capacity of 5000 litre of water and 500 litre of foam, CO₂ and DCP cylinders.



RAISING DAY CELEBRATIONS

DIBT, Mysuru

The Defence Institute of Bio-Defence Technologies (DIBT), Mysuru, celebrated its 65th Raising Day with great enthusiasm and grandeur on 9 January 2026. The Chief Guest for the occasion, Dr Man Mohan Parida, OS & Director, Defence Research and Development Establishment (DRDE), Gwalior, inaugurated the event. The function was presided over by Dr R Kumar, Centre Head, DIBT. Dr VA Sajeew Kumar, Associate Centre Head, DIBT, welcomed the Chief Guest, dignitaries, retired personnel, and staff members. In his address, Dr Kumar highlighted the major R&D achievements of DIBT during the year 2025 and encouraged the staff to continue their dedicated efforts to achieve new milestones in research and development in the coming years.

Dr Parida appreciated the significant contributions of DIBT in the areas of space food, logistics support to the Armed Forces, development of field-amenable test kits, and the development of Meals Ready-to-Eat (MRE) rations with extended shelf life. He appreciated the institute for its yeomen service to the Armed Forces as well as to the civilian population.

On the occasion, various awards were presented to meritorious employees by the Chief Guest. Sports competitions were also organized and prizes were distributed to the winners.



The celebrations concluded with a colourful cultural programme showcasing the talents of the staff and their families.

The event reflected the rich legacy, scientific excellence, and continued commitment of DIBT towards strengthening national defence and ensuring food and bio-defence preparedness for the country.

NMRL, Ambernath

73rd Raising Day was celebrated at the Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL), Ambernath, with great zeal and enthusiasm on 6 January 2026. Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary DD R&D and Chairman DRDO, graced the event as Chief Guest. Shri RV Hara Prasad, DS & DG (NS&M), Shri PT Rojatar, Former Director, NMRL and Director, PMO/o DG NS&M, Director, DCWE, senior scientists from sister DRDO laboratories,

officers from the Indian Navy, industries, and NMRL employees attended the event. Dr Suman Roy Choudhury, OS & Director, NMRL, welcomed the guests. He addressed the gathering and presented an overview of growth and achievements made by the laboratory in the year 2025.

He also highlighted future research work to be undertaken by NMRL. Dr Kamat expressed a sense of great pride in the accomplishments made by NMRL over the years. He inspired the NMRL fraternity to achieve greater heights in their mission and motivated them to progress in R&D with new, first-of-its-kind ideas and innovations.

The NMRL Annual Report 2025, comprising various scientific developments, achievements made in various projects, R&D initiatives, HR, technology management, and

welfare activities of the laboratory, was released on the occasion. Certificates to lab-level awardees and winners of sports events were also handed over by the Chief Guest.

UARF, NPOL, Kochi

Underwater Acoustic Research Facility (UARF), Idukki, a field unit of Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi, celebrated its Annual Day on 23 January 2026. The Chief Guest, Dr D Seshagiri, OS & Director, NPOL, inaugurated the function and delivered the inaugural address. Shri Shan Victor Pereira, Sc 'F', UARF, welcomed the gathering and presented a brief on UARF activities. Smt Rameetha K, Sc 'H' & Director (Projects), Smt Miny G, Sc 'H' & Director (Technology), Shri Genesh R, Sc 'G' & Director (Management), Dr Rema Devi M, Sc 'G' & Chairperson, NPOL Works Committee also addressed the gathering. Shri Tinto Chacko, Secretary, Works Committee; Shri Abhilash MK, GS, NPOL Civilian



Employees Union & Leader, staff side, JCM IV level and member, JCM III level; and Shri Anand Kumar Dubey, President NPOL R&D Employees Union, offered Felicitations.

Officials from the Kerala Dam Safety Authority, Forest and Wildlife Department, District Administration, Kerala State

Electricity Board (KSEB), Kerala Police Department, etc. also witnessed the event. Associate Directors, Group Directors, senior officers, and works committee members from NPOL attended the function along with UARF members and their families. The function concluded with cultural programs.



PARTICIPATION OF DMSRDE IN 11TH NATIONAL DEFENCE EXHIBITION

The 11th National Defence Exhibition was organised by the Bengal Human Resource Development Foundation, Kolkata, during 15-18 January 2026. The theme of the mega exhibition was 'Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat.' Defence Materials and Stores Research & Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur, was nominated as the nodal laboratory for organizing the DRDO exhibition at the event. DMSRDE showcased various indigenously developed technologies, namely, BPJ Level-6, ACF-based CBRN Suit Mk-VI,

Advanced Riot Protection Suit, CBRN Gloves & Overboots, Blast Protection Suit, etc., in the event. The DRDO Pavilion received a

favorable response from industry and academia. Mr AK Gautam, Sc 'F' was the Nodal Officer for the event.



DRDO'S PARTICIPATIONS IN BHARATIYA VIGYAN SAMMELAN 2025

The 7th edition of Bharatiya Vigyan Sammelan 2025 was organized at National Sanskrit University, Tirupati, during 26-29 December 2025. The theme for BVS 2025 was "Sustainable Development with a Bharatiya Perspective."

The inaugural event was presided over by the Chief Guest, the Hon'ble CM of Andhra Pradesh Shri N Chandrababu Naidu, RSS Chief Dr Mohan Bhagawat, and Union Minister for Earth Sciences Dr Jitendra Singh. The event witnessed the presence of notable dignitaries from different forums, viz., Shri Satyakumar Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of Health, Family Welfare & Medical Education; Former DRDO Chairman Dr G Sateesh Reddy; Dr Chandrika



Kaushik, DS & DG (PC&SI); and Prof. GSR Krishna Murty, Vice Chancellor of National Sanskrit University.

The respective DRDO laboratories, viz. CVRDE, LRDE, CABS, NSTL, and DRDL,

showcased their products. CVRDE has been nominated as the nodal laboratory for organizing the event. Regional PRO Shri K Anbazhagan, Sc 'F' & Shri RP Chandrasekar, Sc 'E', PRO of CVRDE coordinated with the event.

DRDO'S PARTICIPATION IN EWCI-2026

“Electronic Warfare Conference of India—2026 (EWCI-2026)” is a prominent and globally recognized conference in the field of Electronic Warfare (EW) and emerging defence technologies. The conference was organized by the India chapter of the Association of Old Crows (AOC), Bangalore, in association with DRDO.

Microwave Tube Research & Development Centre (MTRDC), Bengaluru, also took part in the conference and displayed its latest technology developments in the

area of high-power microwaves and electronics warfare systems and showcased its products in the

EWCI 2026 during 20-22 January 2026 at JN Tata National Science Seminar Complex.



PARTICIPATION OF CVRDE IN SHAASTRA 2026 AT IIT MADRAS

The Annual Technical Festival of IIT Madras, Shaashtra 2026, one of India’s largest student-run technical festivals, was conducted at the IIT Madras campus during 2-6 January 2026. During the event, CVRDE showcased scale-down models of MBT Arjun Mk-IA and Arjun ARRV, highlighting the organisation’s latest technological advancements to the student fraternity.

Students from various institutions across the country actively participated and had exclusive interactions with CVRDE scientists and technical staff. The Public Relations team conducted outreach activities by distributing catalogues and pamphlets detailing CVRDE’s flagship products. A significant number of students expressed keen interest in learning about

CVRDE’s programs, and the interactions with project scientists and technical officers proved to be highly informative and inspiring for young minds. These efforts were well appreciated by the event organisers.

The inaugural function of Shaashtra 2026 was presided over by the Hon’ble External Affairs Minister, Dr S Jaishankar, who graced the occasion as Chief Guest and formally inaugurated the event.



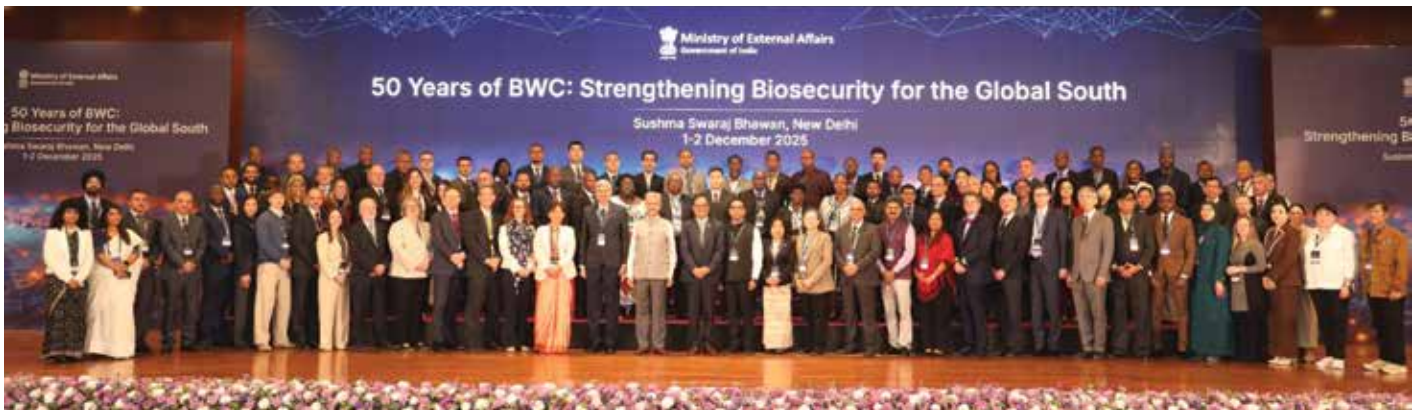
DRDE PARTICIPATED IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

Defence Research & Development Establishment (DRDE), Gwalior, participated in an international conference on “50 Years of Biological Weapons Convention: Strengthening Biosecurity for the Global South” during 1-2 December 2025 at New Delhi. Delegates from across the Global South, including Africa, Asia, and Latin America, with a focus on developing countries, made their presence.

In his inaugural address, Hon’ble External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar reaffirmed India’s commitment to the full and effective implementation of the

Biological Weapons Convention and India’s well-established non-proliferation record. Dr Samir V Kamat, Chairman, DRDO, and Secretary, DDR&D in his keynote address mentioned that India envisions a “Bio-Secure Bharat”—a framework integrating One Health, bio-defence and bio-economy under the umbrella of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Vision 2047 as a precursor to realise a “Bio-Secure World” through partnerships with the Global South. He shared India’s will to cooperate on technologies, training, and capacity building to strengthen collective resilience.

DRDE also participated in the exposition held in the conference where DRDE-developed technologies/products were exhibited and provided live demonstrations to the global south audience. The exposition was guided by Dr Manmohan Parida, OS & Director DRDE Gwalior, for the dignitaries visiting the DRDE exposition. Industry partners of DRDE, such as M/s Bharat Biotech International Ltd., Hyderabad; M/s Mylab Discovery Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Pune; and M/s Imgenex India Pvt. Ltd., Bhubaneswar, also participated and exhibited their products during this exposition.



COURSE RELATED TO CHARACTERIZATION OF SOLID ROCKET PROPELLANTS AT ACEM

Advanced Centre for Energetic Materials (ACEM), Nasik, conducted a three-day course on “Characterization of Solid Rocket Propellants and Testing of Rocket Motors” during 7-9 January 2026 to cover an overview of solid propellant systems, evaluation of mechanical & ballistic properties,

static testing, and non-destructive testing of solid rocket motors. The course was inaugurated by Dr AP Dash, OS & Director, HEMRL, Pune, virtually in the presence of Shri TV Jagadeeswar Rao, OS & GM, ACEM.

The course started with the keynote address by Director,

HEMRL with a focus on futuristic technologies in composite solid propellant. He highlighted the critical role of characterization of composite propellant for mission success and covered advancements in testing methodologies and recent developments in composite propellant technologies.



Shri TV Jagadeeswar Rao, OS & General Manager, ACEM, highlighted the remarkable technological advancement done at ACEM, starting from the processing of 3-ton class motors to 50-ton class motors by introducing new technologies like a dust-free metal powder sieving system, rotary vacuum dryers, the development of a 5-ton vertical planetary mixer, and a multiple rocket motor casting technique. He also highlighted that ACEM has processed a record-breaking 200 tons of propellant in 2025

with zero incidents.

A total of 41 participants from more than 12 DRDO laboratories participated in the course. Dr

Sandeep Kumar, Sc 'F' was the Course Director and Shri Ehtasimul Hoque, Sc 'C' was the Dy. Course Director.



SYNERGY CONFERENCE 2026 AT PUNE

The Synergy Conference 2026 was conducted on 28 January 2026 by O/o IFA (R&D), Pune, at O/o DG (ACE), Pune. The Chief Guest of the event was Prof (Dr) Prateek Kishore, DS & DG (ACE). Shri MS Saravanan IDAS, IFA (R&D) Pune, Addl IFA (R&D) & team, Addl CDA (R&D) & team, Director Admin, Director SQR, Director PM of O/o DG (ACE), Head MMG of ACE cluster laboratories, and NMRL participated in the conference.

In the welcome address, IFA (R&D), Pune, emphasized the requirement of such interactions between IFA, JCDA, and CFA for achieving better synergy and higher efficiency in the working of the organization as a whole and urged for the confluence and congruence of ideas among all stakeholders.

Prof (Dr.) Prateek Kishore, DS & DG (ACE), in his keynote address, emphasized synergy amongst all stakeholders for



seamless, efficient, and timely progress of work. Many points raised by the laboratories were also clarified during the event and in the concluding session. The

conference served as a valuable platform for the exchange of points of concern and for a more synergistic way ahead for all stakeholders.

WORKSHOP AND DEMONSTRATION OF BIOMIMETIC AUTONOMOUS UNDERWATER VEHICLE BY NRB

A two-day workshop and live demonstration of the Biomimetic Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) was successfully conducted during 3-4 February 2026 under the aegis of the DRDO-Naval Research Board (NRB). The event showcased the key design features, operational capabilities, and envisaged applications of the Biomimetic AUV for naval and defence use. The Biomimetic AUV was developed by a team of expert faculty and research scholars from IIT Kharagpur, IIT Madras, and IISc Bengaluru and DRDO laboratories-NSTL and NPOL with funding through NRB. The faculty involved included Prof. CS Kumar, Prof. Vishwanath Nagarajan, and Dr Kiran Vijayan from IIT Kharagpur; Prof. Asokan Thondiyath and Dr Jayasurya V from IIT Madras; Prof. Raghuraman N Govardhan, Prof. MS Bobji, and Prof. RK Shukla from IISc-Bengaluru.

The workshop was inaugurated and chaired by Dr HN Das, Sc 'H', who highlighted the strategic

importance of biomimetic systems for future naval applications and emphasized the role of indigenous research and academia-DRDO collaboration in advancing underwater technologies.

Dr VBS Ayyangar, Member Secretary, NRB, emphasized the importance of sustained academic research and innovation in addressing complex naval challenges through

collaborations and the process of translating fundamental research to prototypes with BAUV development as an example.

The workshop and demonstration served as an effective platform for build up Academia-DRDO collaboration, technical knowledge sharing, and showcasing indigenous research and engineering capabilities, in line with the objectives of DRDO.



COURSE ON TOOL DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING FOR COMPOSITE PRODUCTS BY R&DE(E)

A three-day course on 'Tool Design and Manufacturing for Composite Products' was conducted by Research and Development Establishment (E) (R&DE(E)), Pune, during 19 - 21 January 2026. Dr Makarand Joshi, OS & Director R&DE(E)

inaugurated the course. In his opening remarks, he emphasized the importance of the course as this topic is not readily available in any of the academic courses and urged participants to take full advantage of the course. A total of 41 participants attended

the course. Speakers from R&DE and industries who are involved in mould and product design and manufacturing delivered the lectures.

During the course, various topics on composite manufacturing and tool design along with case



studies were covered. Participants also received hands-on exposure to composite manufacturing by VARTM and RFI processes which are out of autoclave processes and suitable to manufacture thick-large as well as thin-small structures. Course director Mr Rajendra K Gupta, Sc ‘F’ concluded the course with a vote of thanks.



DRDO PARTICIPATION IN 2026-IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS, SMART AND GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

The IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Systems, Smart and Green Technologies (ICISSGT-2026) was organised jointly by IEEE Vizag Bay Section and Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam during 6-7 February 2026. In his opening address, Dr RV Hara Prasad, DG (NS&M), highlighted that "Intelligent and autonomous technologies, supported by sustainable and energy-efficient solution" are becoming key enablers for next-generation defence systems.

Dr Abraham Varughese, OS & Director, NSTL, highlighting the role of the laboratory, remarked that's remains committed to advancing cutting-edge research, testing and evaluation in support of Naval and Defence systems. Conference like ICISSTG strengthen the synergy between DRDO laboratories academic institutions, and provide an effective forum for young researchers and scientists to

contribute to technologies of strategic relevance".

ICISSTG-2026 witnessed participation from senior DRDO officials, scientists, academicians, industry experts, and research scholars from across the country. Emirate experts delivered keynote addresses and technical presentations covering defence oriented and dual-use applications of intelligent, smart, and green technologies.

Dr S. Lakshminarayana, General Chair of ICISSTG-2026 emphasized the growing importance of conference of this nature for a fruitful collaboration between academia and industry. He further mentioned that ICISSTG-2026 received more than 2300 manuscripts, out of which around 100 papers are being presented and will be subsequently published in IEEE explore.



COURSE ON ADVANCE SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT & FOOD TECHNOLOGY (ASMAFT-22) BY DIBT

Defence Institute of Biodefence Technologies (DIBT), Mysuru organised a four-day course on “Advance Supply Chain Management & Food Technology (ASMAFT-22)” during 16-19 February 2026. The course was attended by 18 Army ASC officers along with two Instructors from ASC Centre & College, Bengaluru. Lectures were delivered on ration technology and management, field amenable test kits, post-harvest quality of fruits and vegetables & management of fresh ration in extreme environment, basic nutrition concept, dietary requirement of soldiers and diet management, food regulation, etc.

Hands on trainings were provided on state-of-the-art and

novel food technologies to render comprehensive knowledge to the senior Army officers in food processing, frozen & chilled meat/chicken, quality control and management. A visit to Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) Dairy, Mysore, CFTRI, Mysore and ITC Foods Pvt Ltd, Nanjangud were arranged as a part of the course to understand the different

technological aspects of milk processing, milling of grains and Processing and Production of RTE foods and Potato chips respectively.

Dr R Kumar, Centre Head, DIBT distributed the certificates to the course participants. The programme ended with vote of thanks from Course Coordinator, Dr G Phani Kumar, Scientist ‘F’.



IN PLANT SAFETY TRAINING AT CABS BY NSCI

A three-day training workshop on “In Plant Safety” was conducted during 21-23 January 2026 at the Centre for Airborne Systems (CABS), Bengaluru, by an expert panel of National Safety Council India (NSCI). The training emphasised on the importance of regulatory and statutory requirements of safety norms at any establishment, accurately capturing the importance of safety awareness for all, covering key safety aspects such as hazard identification and risk assessment, safety while working at height, occupational health and industrial hygiene, safety in handling and transportation of chemicals, fire safety, electrical safety,

safety in machine and material handling, behavior-based safety management, methods to carry out safety audits, and emergency preparedness.

Ms P Santhya, ‘OS’ and Director, CABS, inaugurated the training, and Dr K Rajalakshmi Menon, ‘DS’ and DG (Aero) were the Chief Guest in the valedictory function.

In their speech, the Director CABS and DG Aero emphasized the importance of the Safety Training as a platform to acquire practical exposure on all the aspects of safety from the domain experts. Dr MR Shankar, Sc ‘G’, Chairman Safety Committee, was the overall training coordinator, and Gp. Capt. Sarvesh Rai was Dy coordinator.





WORKSHOP ON GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL ORGANIZED AT DRDE

A two-day workshop on Grievance Redressal in DRDO was organized at Defence Research & Development Establishment (DRDE), Gwalior, during 19-20 December 2025. The workshop aimed to address issues pertaining to the grievance redressal infrastructure of DRDO, its framework for functioning, and employee/citizen grievance redressal. More than 80 nodal officers assigned as Last Mile Officers (LMO) in various labs/

estts/SAUs of DRDO attended the workshop. The event was inaugurated by Dr Mayank Dwivedi, OS & DG (HR), in the presence of Dr Manmohan Parida, OS & Director DRDE, and Dr SK Dwivedi, Director DOP. Director DRDE, in his welcome address, briefed the participants about R&D activities of DRDE. Dr Ravindra Singh, Director, DMS, in his valedictory address, laid emphasis on citizen-centric service delivery, sensitivity in grievance handling,

and adherence to prescribed timelines. The interactive lecture sessions covered the end-to-end workflow of CPGRAMS, including registration of grievances, examination procedures, timely disposal, drafting of effective replies, escalation mechanisms, and best practices to improve grievance resolution quality. Dr Mukesh Kumar Meghvansi, Sc 'F', DRDE was Organizing Secretary of the event.



DRDO AT NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY, HYDERABAD

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, Hyderabad, has requested DRDO to give a presentation on DRDO's association with MHA, CAPFs, and police forces during the 18th Mid Carrier Training Program (MCTP) for senior IPS officers on 3 February 2026. Shri Sangita Rao Achary Addanki, Director, LIC, Shri Gaurav Verma Sc 'F' ARDE, and Shri Kishore Kumar, Sc 'E', DLRL delivered presentations on DRDO technology suitable for internal security and border surveillance like small arms & ammunition, anti-drone systems,

border surveillance, soldier protective gear, non-lethal tools for law & order, facial recognition systems, etc.

The senior participants of the rank of DGPs, ADGPs, and senior

IGs actively interacted with DRDO scientists and expressed that several solutions developed by DRDO scientists are relevant for their operation and shall look for induction of the same.



WORKSHOP ON GENDER SENSITISATION AT CABS

The Centre for Airborne Systems (CABS), Bengaluru, organized a workshop on "Gender Sensitization" on 22 January 2026. Shri Sunil K Srivastava, (Retd.) Chief Admin Officer, LRDE, delivered the lecture on "Gender Sensitization." A total of 42 employees participated in the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to spread awareness of the provisions of the POSH Act and "Gender Sensitization" to all cadres of employees. It was made interactive, case studies were dealt with, and the workshop also provided an opportunity for the participants for open learning,

promoting respectful behavior, and empowerment in their professional environment.



30TH BRIG. SK MAZUMDAR MEMORIAL ORATION AT INMAS

The Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Delhi, organized the 30th Brig. SK Mazumdar Memorial Oration on 16 January 2026 under the aegis of the Brig. SK Mazumdar Memorial Trust. Dr Rakesh Kumar, Prof. & Head, Dept. of Nuclear Medicine, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, was the Orator of the day. He delivered the oration on 'Theranostics: Precision Cancer Care.' Dr Abhinav Jaimini, Sc 'F' & Joint Secretary of the Trust, welcomed the guests. Dr Sudhir Chandna, OS and Director, INMAS, and Chairman, Brig. SK Mazumdar Memorial Trust gave opening remarks and remembered Brig. SK Mazumdar and his significant role in establishing INMAS. Dr Rashmi Aggarwal, a

member of the Trust, introduced the orator. The orator discussed the pioneering role of Brig. SK Mazumdar in establishing radio-iodine as a theranostic tool for treating thyroid patients and called him the father of theranostics in India. Brig SK Mazumdar Memorial Trust has

instituted a Best DRM Student Award for the topper in the Diploma in Radiation Medicine (Post Graduate Medical Diploma under University of Delhi, Delhi) every year. The award comprises a medal and a citation. Dr Raunak, Secretary, of the Trust, proposed the vote of thanks.





WORKSHOP ON FUTURISTIC ADVANCED COMBAT VEHICLE TECHNOLOGIES

DRDO–Industry Academia Ramanujan Centre of Excellence (DIA-RCoE) organised one-day workshop on Futuristic Advanced Combat Vehicle Technologies (FACT 2025) at IITM Research Park, Chennai, in collaboration with the Directorate of Futuristic Technology Management (DFTM), DRDO, on 13 December 2025. The workshop was formally inaugurated by Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary DD R&D and Chairman DRDO, in the esteemed presence of Dr Prateek Kishore, DS & DG (ACE). The workshop brought together DRDO scientists, Indian Army users, academicians, industry experts, start-ups, and

MSMEs from across the country, creating a national platform to accelerate innovation and collaboration in armored and combat vehicle technologies.

The objective of the workshop was to identify futuristic cutting-edge technologies with renewed

research culture and create the ecosystem for the development of futuristic advanced combat vehicle technologies. CVRDE participated in the event by exhibiting the AFV scaled-down models (MBT Arjun Mk-IA, Arjun ARRV, Indian Light Tank, etc.).



TRAINING COURSE FOR AFMS UNDER 'VIKIRAN PREHRI' FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME-MOD CHAPTER

Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Delhi initiated the 'Vikiran Prehri' Flagship Programme-Mod Chapter with a Hands-on "Radiation Biodosimetry & Biomarkers Training" for AFMS Allied Healthcare Professionals (AHPs) for Radiation Emergency Medical Management. The training program was conducted pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) formally signed by Dr Sudhir Chandna, OS & Director INMAS, and Surg. Vice Adm. Arti Sarin, AVSM, VSM. DGAfms on 24 November 2025. In the context of military operations, national security, and disaster response, and preparedness for R&N

incidents sectors are of paramount importance. Biodosimetry forms a critical pillar of this preparedness, enabling timely dose assessment, medical triage, and evidence-based clinical decision-making following radiation exposure. Within this framework, AHPs of the Armed Forces play a vital and frontline role. The 1st batch of AHPs successfully completed the

two-week training course from 5-16 January 2026. The training will be conducted on a quarterly basis to ensure the participation of all AHPs nationwide to further strengthen the country's preparedness for handling radiation emergencies. Dr Shuchi Bhagi, Sc 'D', INMAS, was the course coordinator for the training program.



RASHTRIYA KARMAYOGI TRAINING PROGRAM

CAS, Hyderabad

The Center for Advanced Systems (CAS), Hyderabad, completed the one-day Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Training Program (RKTSJP) for its employees in three batches. A total of 106 employees of all cadres were trained. The program was conducted by the Certified Master Trainers Shri M Satyanaryana,

Sc 'F', O/o DGMSS; Shri Devla Ramavath, Sc 'E', CAS; and Shri B Shankar Rao, Sc 'E', DLRL. The program aims to cultivate a spirit of public service (Seva Bhav) among government employees and foster a citizen-centric workforce by promoting a sense of duty, responsibility, and commitment to national development (Viksit

Bharat) under the guidance of the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) and delivered through the i-GoTKarmayogi platform. Dr Sivasubramaniam N, DS & Director, CAS, encouraged CAS employees to participate in the program as well as to complete mandatory online courses on the iGOT Karmayogi platform.



CASDIC, Bengaluru

Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Training program was conducted by Combat Aircraft Systems Development & Integration Centre (CASDIC), Bengaluru, for its employees during the month of January 2026. The training was

imparted by master trainers Shri Raju B Doddamani, Sc 'E' and Shri Ajeet Kumar, Sc 'E'. The opening ceremony was graced by Shri Rajeev Marathe, OS & Centre Head, CASDIC. The training was conducted in

6 batches for all the employees of CASDIC. The participants expressed that the training was helpful to strengthen the seva bhav which is very important during execution of day to day work.





DHRD, HQrs

A one-day workshop on i-GOT-related issues, organized by the Directorate of Human Resource Development (DHRD), DRDO HQrs, Delhi, and hosted by the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Delhi, was successfully conducted on 20 January 2026 at INMAS. Shri Rajkumar, Sc ‘E’, DHRD, led the sessions and addressed practical issues related to the i-GOT platform and uploading of Mandatory Training Programs on the i-GOT portal, which are to be linked with the APAR of DRDO officials.

The workshop was attended by leaders and admin officials from DRDO Hqrs various laboratories/establishments of DRDO. The interactive discussions and experience-sharing sessions provided valuable insights and enabled participants to identify



practical solutions to a range of operational challenges.

IRDE, Dehradun

Instruments Research & Development Establishment (IRDE), Dehradun, organised Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Training Program during the months of December 2025 and January 2026 in different batches. The last batch of this program was conducted on 14 January 2026. The programs were started with the introduction and pre-program survey followed by its

four modules. Dr Ajay Kumar, OS & Director IRDE inaugurated the program and also attended the program as one of the participants. Four master trainers from IRDE, Dr Sunita, Sc ‘F’; Shri Ashish Kumar Bhuriya, Sc ‘F’; Shri HP Agraphari, Sc ‘F’ and Shri Kamal Kumar Gulati, Sc ‘E’ lead the program as master trainers. Director IRDE facilitated master trainers with all the necessary infrastructure to conduct this program. A total number of 535 participants were trained during the program.



IN-HOUSE COURSE FOR RETIRING EMPLOYEES OF NPOL

Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi, organized a two-day training course titled INCREON (In-house Course for Retiring Employees of NPOL) for the superannuating

employees in the calendar year 2026 during 20-21 January 2026. NPOL is conducting INCREON consecutively for the 14th year. It is designed to equip superannuating employees with the necessary knowledge and skills

to lead a fulfilling and productive life post-retirement. The course was inaugurated by Dr Duvuuri Seshagiri, OS & Director NPOL, who highlighted the relevance and significance of the course in his inaugural address. Smt Hema



M, Sc ‘G’ & Chairperson, HRD Council, welcomed the gathering and gave a brief on the course.

The course featured expert-led sessions on topics such as financial management, pensionary benefits, healthcare, CGHS, and legal obligations for retired government employees. The course began with a talk by Dr Manu Melvin Joy, Assistant Prof., CUSAT, Kochi, on “Rejuvenating Your Retirement Life”. The course had a special session on "Healthy Aging," which deals with age-related health disorders by Dr Jino Joy, Geriatrician, Medical Trust Hospital, Ernakulam.



TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION OF AGRI-ALLIED TECHNIQUES IN BORDER VILLAGES OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH BY DRL

A technology demonstration of agri-allied techniques under the civil-military fusion program was conducted by the Defence Research Laboratory (DRL), Tezpur, in remote border villages along the Indo-China border in the Nafra block, Bichom district of Arunachal Pradesh during 7–10 February 2026.

The demonstration consisted of two modules: theory and on-site field demonstration. Training on GAP for large cardamom cultivation. The beneficiary farmers were acquainted with different cultivation aspects, viz., propagation, nursery raising, site selection, planting, nutrient & water management, mulching,

shade management, insect pests and management, harvesting, and post-harvest processes. A total of 267 beneficiary families from 26 villages participated in the technology demonstration. Agro-inputs, viz., cardamom knives, secateurs, neem kernel oil, and neem cakes, were distributed to them.





WINTER TRAINING ON PROTECTED CULTIVATION TECHNOLOGY TO ARMY UNITS

Training-cum-demonstration on protected cultivation technology of fresh vegetables was conducted for DRDO Greenhouse Users of various army units of 190 and 40 Mountain Brigade under HQ 4 Corps on 26 Nov 2025 at Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh. Agri-inputs, such as seeds of spinach, radish, coriander, beetroot, and carrot, were also provided. The Vegetable Cultivation Technology Calendar was also provided to each DRDO Greenhouse User to educate the

jawans on the importance of leafy and root vegetable cultivation

inside greenhouses as a source of fresh greens for their diet.



DR SOHAN LALL DISTINGUISHED LECTURE ORGANISED BY DIPR

The Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), Delhi, organized the second lecture as part of the Dr. Sohan Lall Distinguished Lecture Series, with Dr Manu Korulla, former Director General, R&M, DRDO, delivering an insightful talk on “Psychological Strengths and Enablers for Viksit Bharat”.

Dr Nishi Misra, Director, DIPR, highlighted that the series will provide exposure to the scientific fraternity about the breakthrough ideas and emerging trends through insights and perspectives shared by senior scientists, academicians, industry experts, military leaders, and researchers from various defence domains.

In his guest lecture, Dr Manu Korulla underscored the profound significance of psychology not only in the realm of defence but also in



every aspect of life. The speaker also outlined a vast landscape of psychological frontiers, from focusing on imbibing emerging technologies into psychological assessments to delving into human-machine teaming, aerospace psychology, and elevating the nation's happiness index, all while harnessing the untapped wisdom of traditional

practices. He passionately called upon the scientific community to recommit to national service with unwavering discipline, laser-sharp focus, and steadfast consistency, propelling us toward the realisation of Viksit Bharat.

Dr Nishi Misra felicitated the guest speaker and thanked him for his insights and meaningful perspectives.

TARGETED TRAINING CONDUCTED BY DIPR

Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), Delhi, organised a five-day targeted training on “Competency Mapping, Assessment, and Development Process” during 19-23 January 2026 under the facilitation of Dr Siraj Ur Rahman, Institute of Human Resource Development, Bengaluru. The training was inaugurated by Dr Sanjai K Dwivedi, Director, Directorate of Personnel & DHRD. Dr UK Singh, DS & DG (SSS), also shared his insights during the training. Dr Nishi Misra, Director DIPR, highlighted the importance of competency mapping for any organisation, R&D initiatives taken by the laboratory in this direction and encouraged all the participants to actively engage

with the faculty members during the training.

Participants were trained on various competency mapping models, methodologies, and assessment techniques. Practical activities with know-how to design the framework as an end-

to-end solution from recruitment to succession planning were of immense value to the participants. The valedictory and certificate distribution event was graced by Smt KV Prabha, Director, Recruitment and Assessment Centre (RAC), Delhi.



RAJBHASHA ACTIVITIES

SANYUKTA RAJBHASHA VAIGYANIK EVAM TAKNIKI SANGOSHTHI (NS&M CLUSTER) AT DMSRDE

Defence Materials and Stores Research & Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur successfully hosted the Sanyukta Rajbhasha Vaigyanik Evam Takniki Sangoshti (NS&M Cluster) during 22-23 January 2026. The Sangoshti was based on theme ‘Viksit Bharat ki Parikalpana mein DRDO ki Bhumika’. The Sangoshti was inaugurated by Chief Guest Dr RV Hara Prasad, DS & DG (NS&M) in the presence of Dr Kingsuk

Mukhopadhyay, OS & Director, DMSRDE. Representatives from 21 DRDO laboratories participated in the Sangoshti demonstrating

a strong commitment to promote Hindi in scientific and technical contexts. The event included the unveiling of the Sangoshti





Smarika, which contains 71 research papers by participants in Hindi. Overall 40 research papers were selected for oral presentation and 31 research papers for poster presentation. There were six technical sessions for oral presentation during the two days of Sangoshthi. Cultural

evening added a vibrant touch to the Sangoshthi. The Chief Guest in his address applauded the overwhelming response of DRDO laboratories by submitting large number of technical papers in the Sangoshthi which shows that DRDO is moving in the right direction of Viksit Bharat. Director

DMSRDE, expressed that the laboratory is proud to host such an event which will help in promoting the use of Hindi in research. The event was coordinated by Dr Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Sc 'F' and Smt Usha Suresh, Assistant Director (OL), Rajbhasha Adhikari.

HIGHER QUALIFICATION ACQUIRED



ARDE, Pune

Shri Ajay Kumar Singh, Sc 'F', from Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), Pune, has been awarded PhD degree from Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT), Pune, for

the thesis titled, "Performance Enhancement of Microwave Circuits using Slotted Structures".



INMAS, Delhi

Dr Pradeep Goswami, Sc 'E' Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Delhi, has been awarded PhD degree by Shobhit Institute of Engineering & Technology, Meerut for his thesis

"Radiochromic Dosimetry Studies for Ultra Violet-C (UVC) Radiation Measurements".

AWARD

DIBT, Mysuru

□ Dr R Kumar, Sc 'G' & Centre Head, Defence Institute of Bio-Defence Technologies (DIBT), Mysuru, has been conferred with the prestigious Fellow of the Association of Food Scientists and Technologists (India) [FAFST] Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to India's defence and Space food systems.



□ Dr DD Wadikar, Sc 'F', Defence Institute of Bio-Defence Technologies (DIBT), Mysuru, has been awarded with 'Prof. Carl Hoseney Award' for the work in Cereal Science & Technology from Association of Food Scientists & Technologist India (AFSTI).

The FAFST Award was conferred during the 31st

Indian Convention of Food Scientists and Technologists – 2025 (ICFoST-2025), held at the National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management, Thanjavur (NIFTEM-T), on 18 December 2025. The prestigious award was presented by Prof. Ashok S. Alur Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Kodagu University, Karnataka.





HEALTH CAMP AT CABS

Director, Centre for Airborne Systems (CABS), Bengaluru, Ms P Santhya, OS, inaugurated a one-day general health check-up cum blood donation drive organized by the CABS Welfare Committee under the chairmanship of Dr MR Shankar, Sc 'G' in association with

Sakra World Hospital, which was conducted on 19 December 2025. Sri S Saravanan, TO 'C', Sri Vijay Mahato, TO 'A', Sri Jayakrishna, TO 'B' and other CABS Welfare Committee Members have contributed to successfully organising and conducting the

camp. The campus provided an opportunity for all personnel to undergo their health check-ups. 77 people, including 3 ladies, donated blood. 139 personnel also underwent a health check-up, and an eye check-up was done for 105 people.



HEALTH AWARENESS TALK AT NPOL

Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), Kochi, organized a health awareness talk on 20 January 2026. The topic was "It is Time to Open Your Eyes to Sleep, Snoring, Disturbed Sleep, and Obstructive Sleep Apnea." The program was conducted to create awareness among employees about sleep-related disorders and their impact on overall health. In the awareness talk by Dr. Sunil Abraham, MDS, Orthodontist & Dental Surgeon, Abrahams' Dental Clinic & Orthodontic

Centre, Kochi explained various sleep disorders, their causes, symptoms, and the importance of early clinical diagnosis and treatment. Dr D Seshagiri, OS & Director, NPOL, delivered the felicitation address and highlighted the importance and benefits of sound sleep for maintaining good health and productivity. Dr Rema Devi M, Chairperson, NPOL Works Committee, welcomed the gathering, and Shri. Tinto Chacko, Secretary Works Committee, expressed the vote of thanks.



UNITED STATES PATENT GRANTED TO NSTL

A Patent No: US 12, 534, 348 B2 for "Article Handling System" has been granted by United States Patent Office to Dr Rama Krishna Varanasi, Dr Obla Ramanandam Nandagopan, (Retd.) OS & Director, Ch. Uppda Urban Kumar inventors from NSTL, Visakhapatnam and Sh. Parikshith Mallya & Sh. Chandru Patreyya Kulkarni inventor from Ramaiah, University of Applied Sciences, Bangalore.

VISITORS TO DRDO LABORATORIES

MTRDC, Bengaluru

During the month of January 2026, three teams visited Microwave Tube Research & Development Centre (MTRDC), Bengaluru, as part of their training programme to know about R&D of microwave technologies, technological advancements and EMI/EMC related issues for Defence applications. The teams broadly consist of technical training instructors and student officers from Army Air Defence Units and Ab-initio Trainee officers.

□ First Industrial Visit was organised for 30 participants from Headquarters Army Air Defence College Officers (AADC) on 9 January 2026 at the Centre. Shri Naveen Kumar Sharma, Sc 'F' and team coordinated the visit.

□ The second Industrial Visit, organised on 13 January 2026, was for 19 participants from Headquarters Army Air Defence College (AADC), with coordination by Shri Awadhesh Kumar Baranwal, Sc 'F' and his team.

□ The Third Industrial Visit was organised for 51 Air Force personnel from AFTC, Jalahalli, Bengaluru, during 20-21 January 2026, and was coordinated by Shri Awadhesh Kumar Baranwal, Sc 'F' and his team.

NMRL, Ambernath

RAdm Vikas Chawla, ACOM (D&R), NM, visited Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL), Ambernath, on 7 February, 2026. He was warmly



received by Dr D Ratna, Sc 'G' & Officiating Director, NMRL. The visit was aimed at deliberating upon the DRDO-developed Air Independent Propulsion (AIP)

systems. During the visit, RAdm Vikas Chawla was given a detailed briefing on the ongoing activities related to the AIP program, subsequently visited the Land

Based Prototype (LBP) facility. RAdm Vikas Chawla, ACOM (D&R), NM, appreciated the AIP and various technologies developed by NMRL. The visit facilitated constructive discussions on technical and logistical aspects crucial for successful AIP induction into the Indian Navy's submarine fleet.

NSTL, Visakhapatnam

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence (SCoD), under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Shri Radha Mohan Singh, undertook an On-the-Spot study visit to Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam on 20 January 2026. Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary DD R&D and Chairman DRDO; Dr RV Hara Prasad, DS & DG (NS&M); Dr Ravinder Singh, OS & DG (R&M); Shri Vipin Kumar Kaushik, OS & Director (DRPPI) and Dr Abraham Varughese, OS & Director NSTL welcomed the Chairman and member delegation comprising



Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Officials from Lok Sabha Secretariat and MoD.

The delegation took keen interest in NSTL's R&D efforts in the development of Under Water Platforms, Weapons, associated products and technologies to cater the requirements of Indian Navy. The committee witnessed NSTL developed Products like Torpedos, Mines, Decoys, SMART, HEAUV, SWARM, Under Water

Systems, Under Water Vehicles, products and other associated under water weapon technologies. The Committee also witnessed the live demonstration of Hydro dynamic testing on scale-down model of a ship at Sea-keeping and Manoeuvring Basin test facility.

The Chairperson SCoD appreciated the R&D efforts of NSTL in the strategically important area of Maritime Domain Awareness and Underwater Domain Awareness.

