Inauguration of Information Centre for Armament Technology (ICAT) at ARDE, Pune

ARDE's Technical Information Resource Centre has been metamorphosed into the new information centre - ICAT- which was formally inaugurated by Dr. S Christopher, DG(DRDO) and Secretary, Defence R&D, in the presence of Shri Anil M Datar, DS & DG(ACE) on 27 Oct 2015.

ICAT has a rich collection of more than 63000 print publications viz. books, reports and technical documents, standards and bound volumes of journals. Users can also access the excellent digital library collection with around 84000 digital resources including books, reports, standards, patents, journal articles and technical papers, symposia proceedings, etc. This digital collection includes priced born-digital publications, free online resources and around 10000 digital reports which are digitized in-house as digitization project.

ICAT will offer its users a strong IT infrastructure for enhanced information services, with a dedicated server room hosting the Intranet domain/web server, the Digital database server for DSpace, the Bibliographic database server for Libsys, and the National Knowledge Network (NKN) server. A new attraction will be Kindle E-Book readers enabling users to go through a treasure-house of technical literature in digital format.

In the new ICAT vast reading spaces have been provided in an ambient air-conditioned environment. The new features at ICAT are a technical discussion room, study carrels for independent research studies, space for exhibitions and extension activities, an interactive global digital classroom and IT infrastructure of Internet and Intranet spread over two floors. Users will continue to have access to services on the Internet network (E-Journal consortium services, National Technical Reports Library of US reports, AIAA Education Series E-books, Armament Resource Shelf, etc.) as also other databases on the Intranet system (Libsys bibliographic database, DSpace digital databases, NPTEL engineering video lectures, Jane's military handbooks, TIRC Blog, etc.)

Classrooms are provided for HR training courses and a Digital Classroom will provide for interactive training from any classroom online, may be in India or abroad. It will also provide workstations to handle hands-on training in Engineering softwares with huge memory requirements.

Human Resources Development Division will also be housed in ICAT building, with a view to enable training staff and students to easily access the knowledge base of TIRC/ICAT and have free areas for interactions during the training courses, workshops, seminars etc.

The ICAT, with its team of 15 officers and staff, promises to forge ahead as a premier DRDO library in the field of armaments, serving the information needs of ARDE scientists as well as scientists from other DRDO establishments.