

# समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

दैनिक सामयिक अभिज्ञता सेवा

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## Army, IAF get Chiefs; Praveen Bakshi to continue

*Suhag said that infiltration bids had increased during the year and the number of terrorists killed was nearly double the previous year.*

New Delhi: The 1.3 million strong Indian Army got a new chief on Saturday as Lt. Gen. Bipin Rawat took over as its 27th Chief succeeding Gen. Dalbir Singh Suhag.

Air Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa also took charge as the 25th Air Force Chief replacing Arup Raha. Gen. Rawat superseded two senior most Lt. Generals, Praveen Bakshi and P.M. Hariz. Lt. Gen. Bakshi, who heads the Kolkata-headquartered Eastern Command, announced “full support” to the new chief and told theatre officers through video conferencing that he will continue to lead with “full professional sincerity as hither-to-fore”. “I convey my best wishes and full support of the Eastern Command to Gen. Bipin Rawat on having taken over as the Chief of Army Staff,” he said.

Gen. Suhag, who superannuated on Saturday after 42 years of service, said the Army is prepared to meet any challenge as he thanked the government for “providing a free hand” and implementing the One Rank One Pension scheme.

He said that infiltration bids had increased during the year and the number of terrorists killed was nearly double the previous year. The General said the Army focused on operational preparedness during his tenure.

Gen. Suhag said that when he had taken over, he asserted that “the response of the Army to any action against our interest would be immediate, adequate and intense”. The Army has done that in the last two-and-a-half years, he said.

Later at noon, he handed over the charge to Gen. Rawat, who was commissioned in the Fifth Battalion of the Eleven Gorkha Rifles in December 1978 from IMA, Dehradun. He was awarded the ‘Sword of Honour’ at the academy. Earlier in the day, Gen. Suhag and Air Chief Marshal Raha paid tributes at Amar Jawan Jyoti and inspected the guard of honour.

The new IAF chief, Air Marshal Dhanoa, had developed the country’s aerial targeting philosophy against potential adversaries and transformed the concept of air operations of the Air Force into contemporary war fighting practises.

He has mainly flown Kiran and MiG-21 aircraft, though he has the experience of flying the entire spectrum of fighter aircraft from Jaguar to state-of-the-art MiG-29 and Su-30 MKI.

The Air Marshal has many feathers in his hat. As the commanding officer of a frontline ground attack fighter squadron, he led the IAF punch during the “Limited War” against Pakistan to drive the enemy out of their “dug in” defences in Kargil region. During the conflict, under his leadership, the squadron devised unique methods of bombing at night at altitudes never before attempted in the history of air warfare, the IAF said.

Prior to the attack, the squadron had been adjudged as the best fighter squadron of western Air Command for its high degree of professionalism and peace-time training. After the conflict, it emerged as the most decorated IAF unit of Kargil War.

He also holds the highest flying instructional category in the IAF and was handpicked to establish the “IAF Training Team” abroad. Gen Rawat has vast experience in high altitude warfare and counter-insurgency operations. He commanded an infantry battalion, along the Line of Actual Control in the Eastern Sector, a Rashtriya Rifles Sector and an Infantry Division in the Kashmir Valley, a Corps in the Eastern theatre and the Southern Command.

He has tenanted instructional appointments at Indian Military Academy and at Army War College, Mhow. Gen Rawat has held important staff appointments at Directorate General of Military Operations and Military

Secretary's Branch at Army HQ. He has also been Major General General Staff (MGGS) at HQ Eastern Command. The General commanded a Multinational Brigade in a Chapter VII mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC). While serving with the United Nations, he was twice awarded the Force Commander's Commendation.

An alumni of Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, he has been awarded various medals of high honour for gallantry and distinguished service in a span of over 38 years in uniform.

He also attended the Command and General Staff College (CGSC) course at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, USA. Academically inclined, Rawat has authored numerous articles on national security and leadership, which have been published in various journals and publications.

He was awarded M.Phil in Defence Studies from Madras University.

He has a Diploma in Management and another Diploma in Computer Studies. Gen Rawat has also completed his research on military media strategic studies and was awarded Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D) from Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut in 2011.



*Sun, 01 Jan, 2017*

## **Lt. Gen Bakshi pledges support to Army chief**

Setting at rest speculations that he may quit after getting superseded for the post of Army chief, Lt General Praveen Bakshi on Saturday announced "full support" to the new chief General Bipin Rawat and said he will continue to lead the Eastern Command with full "professional sincerity as hither to fore". Bakshi also called up Rawat to congratulate him after he took charge from incumbent General Dalbir Singh Suhag, who retired.

Addressing his officers through video-conferencing from Kolkata-based Eastern Command on the eve of the New Year, Bakshi also requested that speculation and trolling in media and social media should stop and everyone should focus on contributing their best to the betterment of the Army and the nation.

Bakshi, who had met Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar days after being superseded, was obviously referring to speculations that he may rather quit than serve under a junior officer. "I convey my best wishes and full support of Eastern Command to General Bipin Rawat on having taken over as the Chief of Army Staff," he said.

Buzz in the corridors of South Block housing Defence Ministry was that Bakshi may get the new post of Chief of Defence Staff(CDS). Parrikar is expected to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi in mid January to discuss the modalities of creating the new post which is part of higher defence management reforms.

A committee, headed by then Home Minister LK Advani, had proposed the creation of CDS or Permanent Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee and this officer will provide single-window military advise to the political leadership of matters of national security. The Advani committee was set up in the wake of Kargil war in 1999 to recommend reforms in higher Defence management system.

The Government had done away with the convention of selecting the senior most officer for the top post and named Rawat as the new Chief a fortnight back. He superseded two officers including Baskhi, the senior most, and Southern Command chief Lt General P M Hariz.

While Bakshi is at least one year senior to Rawat, Hariz is senior by seven months. Bakshi, an Armoured Corps officer, will retire in July end next year while Hariz, a Mechanised Infantry officer, will hang his boots in November end in 2017. The last time senior most officer overlooked for the top job was in 1983 when Lt General SK Sinha, then Vice Chief, was superseded and General AS Vaidya was selected as the Army chief. Sinha then resigned.

Justifying the decision to elevate Rawat, who was Vice Chief of Army, the Government maintained he has vast experience in dealing with insurgency and terrorism and served on the Line of Control (LOC) in Jammu & Kashmir besides stints on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) facing China. The Government also said Rawat was selected keeping in view the current security situation wherein terrorism and counter-insurgency was the main challenge. Bakshi served mostly in the plains of Punjab and Rajasthan during his career.



Sun, 01 Jan, 2017

## US curbs on 7 Pak cos for missile link

*Says Entities Acting Against Its Nat'l Security*

The United States has slapped sanctions on seven Pakistani entities associated with the country's missile programme.

A notification by US commerce department said that the entities added to Export Administration Regulations (EAR) list “have been determined by the government to be acting contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the US“.

The entities added to the EAR list are Ahad International, Air Weapons Complex, Engineering Solutions Pvt Ltd, Maritime Technology Complex, National Engineering and Scientific Commission, New Auto Engineering and Universal Tooling Services.

Pakistan has always denied any wrongdoing in connection with its nuclear or missile programme, and it was unclear if the names and addresses given were correct or in any way linked to the country's missile programme. According to the notification, the US government determined that there was reasonable cause to believe, based on specific and articulable facts, that these “government, parastatal, and private entities in Pakistan are determined to be involved in activities that are contrary to the national security and/or foreign policy of the US“.

The conduct of these seven entities “raises sufficient concern that prior review of exports, re-exports or transfers (in-country) of items subject to the EAR involving these persons, and the possible imposition of licence conditions or licence denials on shipments to the persons, will enhance (the department's) ability to prevent violations of the EAR“.

The placement on the list imposes a licence requirement for all items subject to the EAR and a licence review policy of presumption of denial. The licence requirements apply to any transaction in which items are to be exported, re-exported, or transferred (in-country) to any of the entities or in which such entities act as purchaser, intermediate consignee, ultimate consignee, or end-user.

In addition, no licence exceptions are available for exports, re-exports, or transfers (in-country) to the persons or firms added to the entity list. The restrictions will also apply to acronym used by these entities to help exporters, re-exporters and transferers. However, the notification does not specify the violations these entities have committed.



Sun, 01 Jan, 2017

## Kalpakkam's Nuclear Reactor Slow Progress Worries Scientists

Top nuclear reactor engineers and scientists of India have expressed their reservations and apprehensions about the progress of the 500 MW Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor coming up at Kalpakkam, 60 km away from Chennai. The reactor, works for which commenced in 2004, remains incomplete even after 12 years. When the

works began in 2004, the director of Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) at Kalpakkam Dr Baldev Raj had told reporters that the reactor would start yielding power to the national grid by early 2011.

The IGCAR is the elite research establishment under the DAE entrusted with the design, fabrication and commissioning of the FBR, a revolutionary project which would have generated more fuel than what it consumes. The reactor which runs on fuel fabricated from the oxides of uranium and plutonium was expected to breed more fuel which could be used to power other such reactors, earning it the name Fast Breeder Reactors.

Though it was mentioned that the FBR would be built in five to six years time, the next series of FBR would take only five years for completion and the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL) had announced grand plans to construct four more such reactors by the time the first reactor would be built.



Sun, 01 Jan, 2017

## British-Indian professor knighted in New Year's honours

*Prof. Balasubramanian (50) has been recognised for his work as a co-inventor of Next Generation DNA sequencing.*

Shankar Balasubramanian, an Indian-origin British professor of chemistry and DNA expert at Cambridge University, has received a Knighthood along with Olympic stars Andy Murray and Mo Farah among others by Queen Elizabeth II for their contributions.

Prof. Balasubramanian (50), Herchel Smith Professor of Medicinal Chemistry at Cambridge University, has been recognised for his work as a co-inventor of Next Generation DNA sequencing, described as the most transformational advance in biology and medicine for decades.

“Solexa sequencing, as it is now known, allows an individual genome to be sequenced in a day or two at a cost of less than 1,000 pounds; previously, sequencing the human genome took years of work and cost billions. His work has spawned an entirely new discipline of Bioinformatics,” his citation reads.

“More recently, he has made major contributions to understanding the role of DNA-quadruplexes in cancer and invented a method for the sequencing of epigenetic modifications,” his citation reads.

Murray, Farah and British track and field athlete Jessica Ennis-Hill are among others honoured in the 2017 New Year Honours list, which also includes big names from the entertainment world, including actors Mark Rylance and Patricia Routledge.

Rio 2016 men's tennis champion Murray and double gold-winning athlete Farah receive Knighthoods, while heptathlete Ennis-Hill becomes a Dame.

A host of other Indian-origin professionals are also included in the honours list, including Knights Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for Hardip Singh Begol of the UK's Department for Education for services to education; Kamaldeep Singh Bhui, Professor of cultural psychiatry and epidemiology at Queen Mary University of London for services to mental health research and care.

Neena Gill, Member of the European Parliament for the West Midlands for parliamentary and political service, Ravindra Pragji Govindia of Wandsworth Borough Council for services to local government and the community in Wandsworth, London and Anita Thapar from the Institute of Psychological Medicine and Clinical Neurosciences at Cardiff University for services to child and adolescent psychiatry are also included in the list.

Indian-origin Officers of the Order of the British Empire (OBEs) include Poonam Gupta, Chief Executive Officer of PG Paper Company Ltd, for services to Business and charity; Dr Brinder Singh Mahon, Chief Executive Officer of Nishkam School Trust, for services to education; Yorkshire prison officer Avtar Singh Purewal for services to prisoners; and Jasvir Singh, founding chair of City Sikhs, for voluntary service to faith communities and social cohesion.