



Indian Navy's second expedition to Mount Everest was flagged off by Admiral Sunil Lanba, PVSM, AVSM, ADC Chief of the Naval Staff on Thursday by handing over the ceremonial Ice Axe to the climbers. These climbers have been selected from various ships, submarines, aircraft squadrons and establishments of the Indian Navy
Pioneer photo

पंजाब केसरी

सशस्त्र बलों को सीमा पर युद्ध के लिए तैयार रहना चाहिए : सेना प्रमुख

नई दिल्ली : सेना प्रमुख जनरल बिपिन रावत ने आज कहा कि सशस्त्र बलों को देश की सीमाओं पर पारंपरिक युद्ध के लिए तैयार रहना चाहिए और सेना को उन्नत तकनीक शीघ्र, मुहैया कराई जानी चाहिए। जनरल रावत ने कहा कि सैन्य उपकरणों की खरीद के लिए "परीक्षण प्रक्रिया" ज्यादा समय तक लटकी न रहे यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए उचित ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए।

सेना प्रमुख ने किसी देश का नाम लिए बिना कहा कि भारत के समक्ष पारंपरिक अथवा गैर परंपरागत युद्ध के खतरे आते रहेंगे और सशस्त्र बलों को ऐसी किसी भी चुनौती से निबटने के लिए तैयार रहना होगा।

जनरल रावत ने सैन्य संचार पर दो दिवसीय संगोष्ठी को संबोधित करते हुए कहा, "सशस्त्र बलों को सीमा पर परंपरागत युद्ध के लिए तैयार रहना होगा।

रक्षा राज्य मंत्री सुभाष ब्रह्मा ने सभा को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि सरकार सशस्त्र बलों की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी उसकी ताकत को बढ़ाने का काम कर सकती है।

जनरल रावत ने सशस्त्र बलों के लिए बिना देर किए आधुनिक तकनीक अपनाने की जरूरत पर जोर दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि हमें सशस्त्र बलों के लिए सही तकनीक की पहचान करनी होगी और यह सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि परीक्षण प्रक्रिया ज्यादा लंबी नहीं हो। उन्होंने कहा कि सशस्त्र बलों के लिए संचार प्रौद्योगिकी सामान्य, हल्की और रख रखाव में आसान हो क्योंकि सीमा पर युद्ध के दौरान इसकी जरूरत होगी।

संगोष्ठी को संबोधित करते हुए सीआईआई के चंद्रजीत बैनर्जी ने सरकार और रक्षा उद्योग के बीच रक्षा उत्पादों की सामरिक साक्षेदारी के लिए जल्दी अधिसूचना जारी करने पर जोर दिया।

BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD. | ESTABLISHED 1858 | NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2017 | PAGES 92 | CAPITAL | SUBSCRIPTION PRICE ₹4.50 WITH GST OR ₹6.50 WITH NAVBHARAT TIMES

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Fri, 24 Mar, 2017

Dead Armyman's organs save four lives in capital

By DurgeshNandan Jha

A 26-year-old Army jawan, posted in Rajouri of Jammu and Kashmir, recently died in a road accident. However, his organs were harvested for transplantation with permission from family members, which helped save at least four lives. This included a young IAS aspirant battling for life at BLK super-specialty hospital suffering from endstage heart failure.

The jawan's heart was transported to BLK hospital through a green corridor created by Delhi Traffic Police.

Dr Ajay Kaul, chairman and head of cardio thoracic and vascular surgery (CTVS) department at BLK hospital, said the 28-year-old IAS aspirant was admitted on March 5 with complaints of difficulty in performing daily routine activities. "His heart was highly dilated with very poor pumping action. There was severe left ventricular dysfunction and without timely heart transplant the patient would have died," Kaul said.

"The donor heart was a perfect match for the recipient as their age, body built and haemo-dynamics were the same. Surgery started around 2.35am and lasted till 6.30am," Dr Kaul said, adding that the recipient has recovered well post-surgery. The jawan's kidney and liver were used at Army Research and Referral (R&R) hospital, where he breathed his last.

Speaking to TOI, the jawan's father said his son had come to Saharanpur for vacations. "He met with a fatal accident while going to the local railway station to buy a return ticket," he said. Recently, the family of a 22 year-old ITBP jawan, who died after suffering from severe head injury in a road accident in west Delhi's Dwarka, donated all his organs, including his intestine, to Safdarjung hospital. This helped save the lives of at least five patients, including one who suffered from intestinal failure.

Dr Jagdish Prasad, director general of health services, said this is a positive trend. "We can save more lives by donating organs. There cannot be a bigger service to humanity than donating the organs of a person who is dead or declared brain dead," he said.

hindustantimes.com

hindustantimes

Fri, 24 Mar, 2017

Delhi should stand firm on the Dalai Lama

I have long admired His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He has an extraordinary following across the globe. His demeanour and wisdom are inspiring. His books are sought after. His presence is uplifting. He also regularly advocates the need for a Tibet free of Chinese hegemony. I find it perfectly understandable, given his harrowing escape and the constant hounding of Tibetans by Beijing.

Over the years, the Chinese government and official media have branded him as ‘a splittist’, a ‘wolf in sheep clothing’ and a trouble maker. His international stature, including his Nobel prize, have been a challenge for Beijing, which has found it difficult to handle a man who speaks softly, laughs a lot and advocates love, reconciliation and brotherhood. It has resorted to a petulant vocabulary that is official and insulting, so as to discredit and distance him. A sense of unilateral touchiness and sensitivity has, in fact, been a hallmark of China’s foreign policy, including on Taiwan. More importantly, it has regularly resorted to threats and harsh retribution if anybody, including governments are not mindful of its concerns.

Recently, Pradeep Khosla, Chancellor of the University of California, San Diego was not only ticked off by the Chinese government for inviting the Dalai Lama to address the students but also threatened with retaliation. Pradeep stood his ground.

It is in this context that the recent decision of the Government of India to invite His Holiness to visit Arunachal Pradesh and the historic Tawang Monastery gains importance. Beijing has, understandably, threatened that the decision would impact bilateral relations. Given how low India-China relations are at present, it hardly matters.

How India stands up to Beijing’s threats would determine India-China relations for the future. It would also send a message to many other countries, as to whether bullying international affairs can be a viable foreign policy strategy.

China has constantly used its economic and military might to resort to intimidation and arm-twisting. For a nation determined to lose friends, Beijing under Xi Jinping with his ‘forceful diplomacy’ has consistently failed to understand that it is persuasive diplomacy and not force that wins friends and influences people.

Now is the time for New Delhi to re-craft its terms of engagement with Beijing. Where Xi Jinping seriously miscalculated is that he took Prime Minister Modi hospitality as subservience, when it was, in fact, a hand of friendship. He needs to recall that Beijing’s behaviour in 2016 could not have won any friends in New Delhi.

It remains to be seen as to how firm India’s resolve is. Would India consider, for instance, the next President of India from Arunachal Pradesh? Amit Dasgupta is a former diplomat. *The views expressed are personal.*



Fri, 24 Mar, 2017

Fears of next Dalai behind Beijing's Tawang claim?

By Saibal Dasgupta

China is worried about the next Dalai Lama emerging from a foreign country, which probably explains its stiff opposition to the upcoming visit of the present Buddhist spiritual leader to Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh, which is the birthplace of one of his predecessors in the 6th century. Experts at a government think-tank on Thursday said that the visit will certainly hurt India-China relationship. Tawang is part of China, Lian Xiangmin, director of Institute of Contemporary Tibetan Studies at China Tibetology Research Centre (CTRC), said at a press conference. He cited historical links between mainland China and Tawang to substantiate his claim.

“One of the three major temples of Tibet is Zhaibang (Drepung monastery near Lhasa), and Tawang was a subsidiary of Drepung and in history, Tawang's monks went to Drepung to study sutras,” he said. He said that in the past, the Tawang shrine under Drepung made contributions to the local government. This is why Tawang is part of Tibet, which in turn makes it part of China, he argued.

‘China will decide Dalai successor’

Beijing: Calling Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama a “separatist” who wants to create an independent political entity in China, a top Beijing-based think-tank on Thursday said India should not allow him to visit “disputed areas” and emphasised that only Beijing will decide who his successor would be, when needed.

On April 1, the Dalai Lama is expected to begin a tour of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, which China claims is part of south Tibet. He will be in Tawang between April 5 and 7 where he is slated to deliver religious lectures. The Chinese government has already warned India that it is “gravely concerned” about the visit.

On Thursday, the China Tibetology Research Centre (CTRC) sent out a sharp note of displeasure. “So Tawang is part of Tibet and Tibet is part of China, so Tawang is part of China. Not much of a question,” Lian Xiangmin, director of the CTRC-affiliated Institute of Contemporary Tibetan Studies said.

On the issue of Dalai Lama’s succession, Lian said it has to be done according to “historical conventions and religious rituals”. “I hope that his successor should be found in his hometown in China,” Lian said.

“In China, there are 6 million Tibetan people. Apart from religious followers who are Tibetan, there are also people of other ethnic groups who follow Tibetan Buddhism. I believe they hope to see the successor of the 14th Dalai Lama produced in their neighbourhood in China,” he said.

In a first, troops from China, Saudi Arabia and Turkey march at Pak Day

Islamabad: Chinese, Saudi and Turkish troops for the first time joined the Pakistan Day parade in the capital Islamabad on Thursday, in a sign of deepening ties.

Before Pakistan showed off long-range rockets, tanks and other military hardware, armed Chinese troops marched past Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Pakistan’s army chief.

Pakistan President Mamnoon Hussain said it was the first time Chinese troops participated in a parade in a foreign country, terming it a “historic event”, with the two countries embarking on building vast infrastructure together.

Soldiers from Saudi Arabia, a long-time Pakistan ally, also joined the parade, as did a military band from Turkey, which strengthened ties with Pakistan in recent years.

Islamabad considers China an “all-weather friend” and in recent years the countries have grown even closer on the back of the \$57 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a Beijing-funded network of road, rail and pipelines that will link western China with Pakistan’s Arabian Sea port of Gwadar.

The militaries of the two countries have in recent years also increased cooperation. *Reuters*

2 aircraft carrier-sized warships make Japan naval powerhouse

AJAI SHUKLA
New Delhi, 23 March

The state-controlled Chinese media has sharply criticised the commissioning of Japan's powerful new warship, which has the same name — Kaga — as one of the Imperial Japanese Navy's aircraft carriers in World War II.

The original Kaga, which Beijing's English language daily *Global Times* terms a "notorious warship", was sunk by the US Navy in the Battle of Midway in 1942.

With Japanese Ship (JS) Kaga's rebirth on Wednesday as a 'helicopter destroyer', Japan now has Asia's only navy with two aircraft carrier-sized warships — the Kaga and its predecessor, JS Izumo. The 248-metre-long Kaga is larger than the Indian Navy's INS Vikramditya. Additionally, Japan also operates two smaller helicopter destroyers, JS Haga and JS Ise, which are about the same weight class as the 'Harrier carriers' that served the Italian, Spanish and Thai navies.

Beijing would also have noted last fortnight's commissioning of Japan's eighth Soryu-class submarine — a massive 4,100-tonne vessel with air independent propulsion that many consider the world's finest conventional submarine. With 11 older Oyashio-class submarines already in the fleet, Japan would have 23 submarines by 2021, when all 12 Soryu-class vessels are delivered.

Yet, the Japanese government, headed by the avowedly nationalist Shinzo Abe, still



Japan now has Asia's only navy with two aircraft carrier-sized warships — the Kaga (pictured) and its predecessor, JS Izumo

calls its navy the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF). However, with China aggressively enforcing claims to disputed islands and waters in the Sea of Japan, East China Sea and South China Sea, Tokyo is gradually dropping the pretence.

Reuters has reported that JS Izumo will shortly lead a JMSDF naval task force on a three-month tour of the South China Sea, which the news agency terms the "biggest show of naval power in foreign waters in more than 70 years."

JS Kaga, like its forerunner, JS Izumo, currently has a complement of just nine helicopters. However, each vessel can embark 28 small, or 14 large aircraft. The helicopter carriers are not fitted with catapults or ski jumps for launching fixed-wing fighters, but they could function as aircraft carriers by embarking vertical take-off fighters like the F-35B Lightning II.

Tokyo has a contradictory

position on the use of military force. Its pacifist constitution, imposed on a defeated Japan by a victorious US after World War II, explicitly renounces war. It limits Japan's defence spending to just one per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) and prohibits it from acquiring offensive weapons platforms like aircraft carriers (helicopter carriers are passed off as defensive platforms).

On the other hand, the US today sees Japan as an ally against a resurgent China. Washington backs unapologetically nationalist leaders like Abe, who argue for shedding the US-imposed restraint. When President Donald Trump argued for allies like Japan to bear more of the cost of their defence he was, in effect, arguing for scuppering Japan's one per cent spending cap.

Yet the JMSDF, despite its spending restraints, is widely considered Asia's most power-

ful navy, even beating out China. Even with the one per cent spending cap, Japan has announced a defence budget for 2017 of \$43.6 billion, only marginally smaller than India's \$53.5 billion.

Unlike India and China, Japan's army does not consume the bulk of the budget — the navy and air force do. In contrast, India's navy was allocated just 14 per cent and the air force 22 per cent of the defence budget.

Furthermore, Japan's sophisticated shipbuilding industry, including giants like Kawasaki Heavy Industries and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, churns out warships fast and cheaply. Japan's latest defence budget reveals they will build a new Soryu-class submarine for \$685 million (India's Scorpene submarines, less than half the Soryu's size, costs about the same). Japan is building a 690-tonne, Awaji-class ocean minesweeper for just \$160 million, and has budgeted \$210 million for a 2,900-tonne Hibiki-class ocean surveillance ship.

For over a decade, the US has cajoled India and Tokyo into closer naval cooperation. Last year, Japan formally became a participant in the annual Malabar naval exercise, making it a US-India-Japan trilateral exercise.

There are bilateral proposals between New Delhi and Tokyo for the supply of Japanese defence equipment to India — a touchy subject, given Japan's constitution. On the table is the Japanese maritime sea-plane, the US-2; and the Soryu submarine.

Breaks detected in NASA's Mars rover wheels

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, 23 March

NASA's Curiosity Mars rover has developed small breaks in its aluminium wheels, say scientists who have detected the latest signs of wear and tear as the robotic probe continues its journey across the red planet.

The mission's first and second breaks in raised treads, called grousers, appeared in a March 19 image check of the wheels, documenting that these breaks occurred after the last check on January 27.

"All six wheels have more than enough working lifespan remaining to get the vehicle to all destinations planned for the mission," said Curiosity Project Manager Jim Erickson at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in the US.

"While not unexpected, this damage is the first sign



that the left middle wheel is nearing a wheel-wear milestone," said Erickson.

The monitoring of wheel damage on Curiosity, plus a programme of wheel-longevity testing on Earth, was initiated after dents and holes in the wheels were seen to be accumulating faster than anticipated in 2013.

Testing showed that at the point when three grousers on a wheel have broken, that wheel has reached about 60 per cent of its useful life.

Curiosity already has driven well over that fraction of the total distance needed for reaching the key regions of scientific interest on Mars' Mount Sharp.

"This is an expected part of the life cycle of the wheels and at this point does not change our current science plans or diminish our chances of studying key transitions in mineralogy higher on Mount Sharp," said Ashwin Vasavada, Curiosity Project Scientist.