

दिसंबर
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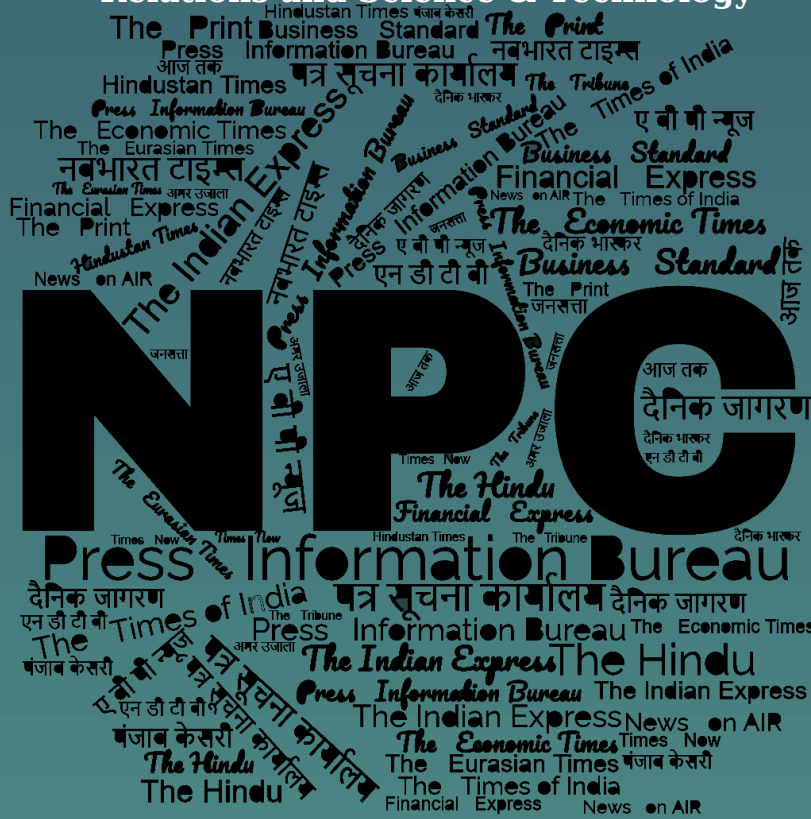
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समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

डीआरडीओ समुदाय को डीआरडीओ प्रौद्योगिकियों, रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकियों, रक्षा नीतियों, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंधों और विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी की नूतन जानकारी से अवगत कराने हेतु दैनिक सेवा

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Defence Strategic: National/International



Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Defence

Thu, 30 Nov 2023

Delivery of Ammunition cum Torpedo cum Missile (ACTCM) Barge, LSAM 17 (YARD 127) Third Barge of 11 x ACTCM Barge Project on 30 Nov 23 at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai for NAD (KARANJA)

Third Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile (ACTCM) Barge, LSAM 17 (Yard 127) has been Delivered to Indian Navy on 30 Nov 23 in presence of Shri Shankar Mukharjee, INAS, AGM NAD (Karanja). With all major and auxiliary equipment/systems sourced from indigenous manufacturers, this Barge is proud flag bearer of “Make in India” initiative of Ministry of Defence.

Contract for construction and delivery of 11 x Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile (ACTCM) Barge was concluded with M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd, Thane, an MSME, in consonance with “Aatmanirbhar Bharat” initiative of the Government of India. The MSME shipyard has successfully delivered two Barges. These Barges are being built under the classification rules of Indian Register of Shipping (IRS). The availability of ACTCM Barges will provide impetus to Operational commitments of IN by facilitating embarkation and disembarkation of articles / ammunition to IN Ships both alongside jetties and at outer harbours.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1981253>



Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Defence

Thu, 30 Nov 2023

Simultaneous Launch of ‘MAHE, MALVAN and MANGROL’, First Three Ships of ASW SWC (CSL) Project on 30 Nov 23 at CSL, Kochi

Mahe, Malvan and Mangrol, the first three ships of 08 x ASW Shallow Water Craft (CSL) project being built by CSL, Kochi for the Indian Navy, were launched on 30 Nov 23 at CSL, Kochi. In

keeping with maritime tradition, Mahe was launched by Mrs Anjali Bahl in the presence of VAdm Puneet Bahl, Commandant INA, Malvan was launched by Mrs Kangana Berry in the presence of VAdm Suraj Berry, C-in-C, and Mangrol was launched by Mrs Zarine Lord Singh in the presence of VAdm Sanjay J Singh, Vice Chief of Naval Staff. The ships were launched to the invocation from Atharva Veda. The Mahe class ASW Shallow Water Crafts have been named after ports of strategic importance along the coast of India, and will look to carry forward the glorious legacy of the erstwhile minesweepers which were their namesake.

The contract for building eight ASW SWC ships was signed between the Ministry of Defence and Cochin Shipyard Limited on 30 Apr 19. The Mahe class of ships will be equipped with indigenously developed, state-of-the-art underwater sensors, and are envisaged to undertake anti-submarine operations in coastal waters as well as Low Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO) and Mine Laying Operations. The ASW SWC ships are 78 m long and displacement is approx 900 tons, with a maximum speed of 25 knots.

Simultaneous launch of three ships of the same class highlights our strides in indigenous shipbuilding, towards 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'. The first ship of the project is planned to be delivered in 2024. The ASW SWC ships will have over 80% indigenous content, thereby ensuring that large scale defence production is executed by Indian manufacturing units, generating employment and capability enhancement within the country.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1981148>



Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Defence

Thu, 30 Nov 2023

MAHASAGAR

'Indian Navy's outreach initiative between Maritime Heads'

MAHASAGAR also another word for vast ocean, is the Indian Navy's outreach initiative for a high level virtual interaction between Maritime Heads for Active Security And Growth for All in the Region. The maiden edition of the high level virtual interaction MAHASAGAR was hosted by the Indian Navy on 29 November 2023, during which Adm R Hari Kumar, Chief of the Naval Staff interacted with Heads of Navies/ Maritime Agencies and Senior Leadership from IOR littorals, viz., Bangladesh, Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Tanzania. The interaction's theme was 'Collective Maritime Approach towards Countering Common Challenges', which highlights the present and necessary imperative for harmonising and collaborating capacities and capabilities in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), which is in consonance with the Government of India's vision of SAGAR 'Security and Growth for All in the Region'.

During the interaction, the Principals from participating nations exchanged candid views on common maritime challenges and the need to address them in a collective and cooperative manner. Adm R Hari Kumar, CNS, emphasised the need to find 'Regional Solutions to Regional Problems'.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1981010>



Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Defence

Thu, 30 Nov 2023

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh Inaugurates 40th Coast Guard Commanders' Conference in New Delhi

Exhorts ICG to continue working with dedication & professionalism towards bolstering India's coastal defences & maritime capabilities

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has called upon the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) to continue working with dedication and professionalism towards bolstering the coastal defences and maritime capabilities of the country. Inaugurating the 40th Coast Guard Commanders' Conference in New Delhi on November 30, 2023, the Raksha Mantri complimented the ICG for ensuring maritime security by being in the vanguard in the field of search & rescue and pollution response.

“The ICG, since its inception, has rendered a yeoman service to the seafarers by ensuring their safety and security in all circumstances,” said Shri Rajnath Singh. He stressed on the need to continue the drive against contraband and drug trafficking. During the conference, the Raksha Mantri was given an overview on the ongoing development projects, operational readiness and future expansion plans of the ICG by Director General Rakesh Pal. The three-day conference aims at addressing contemporary maritime challenges and fortifying the country's coastal surveillance mechanisms. It is being attended by senior officers of the Ministry of Defence and the ICG.

The conference agenda encompasses a wide spectrum of crucial topics, including enhancing maritime safety and security such as search & rescue operations, maritime pollution response, drive against contraband/drug trafficking, safety of fishermen/seafarers at sea, optimising coastal security measures, fostering inter-agency coordination, and promoting Maritime Domain Awareness. The conference is held annually, where all the officers put forth the roadmap for the future and discuss various policy and strategic issues. It aims to carve out a futuristic vision for the service and to determine the modalities to overcome the challenges efficiently.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1981090>



Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Defence

Thu, 30 Nov 2023

Defence Acquisition Council Approves Capital Acquisition Proposals worth Rs 2.23 Lakh Crore to Enhance the Operational Capabilities of the Armed Forces

98% to be sourced from domestic industries in major boost to 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence Procurement of Light Combat Helicopters & Light Combat Aircraft Mk 1A from HAL gets a nod

Medium Range Anti-Ship Missiles for surface platform of Indian Navy accorded approval

Acquisition of Towed Gun System cleared to replace Indian Field Gun

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), under the chairmanship of Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh on November 30, 2023, accorded approval in respect of Acceptance of Necessity (AoNs) for various Capital Acquisition Proposals amounting to Rs 2.23 lakh crore, of which, acquisition worth Rs 2.20 lakh crore (98% of total AoN amount) will be sourced from domestic industries. This will give a substantial boost to the Indian Defence Industry towards the aim of achieving the goal of 'Aatmanirbharta'.

The DAC has accorded the AoN for procurement of two types of Anti-tank Munitions namely, Area Denial Munition (ADM) Type - 2 and Type-3, which are capable of neutralising Tanks and Armoured personnel carriers and enemy personnel. To replace the Indian Field Gun (IFG), which has completed its service life, AoN for procurement of state-of-the-art Towed Gun System (TGS) has been granted which will become a mainstay of Artillery forces of Indian Army. The AoN was also accorded for 155 mm Nubless projectile for use in 155 mm Artillery guns which will enhance lethality and safety of the projectiles. All these equipment of the Indian Army will be procured under Buy (Indian-IDD) category.

The AoN for procurement and integration of Automatic Target Tracker (ATT) and Digital Basaltic Computer (DBC) for T-90 Tanks under Buy (India) category have also been accorded which will help in maintaining combative edge of T-90 tanks over adversary platforms. The AoN for procurement of Medium Range Anti-Ship Missiles (MRAShM) for surface platform of Indian Navy under Buy (Indian-IDD) category has also been accorded. The MRAShM is envisaged as a lightweight Surface-to-Surface Missile which will be a primary offensive weapon onboard Indian Naval Ships.

In addition, the DAC accorded AoNs for procurement of Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) for Indian Air Force (IAF) & Indian Army and Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mk 1A for IAF from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) under Buy (Indian-IDD) category. The AoNs have also been accorded by the DAC for upgradation of Su-30 MKI Aircraft indigenously from HAL. While procurement of these equipment will provide enormous strength to the IAF, acquisition from domestic defence industries will take the indigenous capability to a new height. It will also reduce dependability on foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) substantially.

Further to maximise indigenisation, the DAC has accorded approval for a major amendment in the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020. It has been decided that henceforth, in all categories of procurement cases, minimum 50% of indigenous content shall be in the form of material, components & software that are manufactured in India. For the purpose of calculation of Indigenous content, cost of Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC)/Comprehensive Maintenance Contract (CMC)/After Sale Service shall be excluded. Also, the DAC has taken decision to further encourage start-ups/MSMEs participation in the defence ecosystem. For all procurement cases with AoN cost upto Rs 300 crore, registered MSMEs and recognised start-ups will be considered for issue of Request for Proposal (RFP) without any stipulation of financial parameters, which can further be relaxed with approval of Defence Procurement Board (DPB) for AoN cost upto Rs 500 crore on case-to-case basis.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1981135>

Defence Ministry Clears Rs 2.23 Lakh-Cr Acquisitions

The defence ministry has cleared acquisition proposals worth ₹2.23 lakh crore for the armed forces, including 97 additional light combat aircraft and 156 light combat helicopters from Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), and indigenous towed artillery gun systems.

A ₹65,000-crore plan to upgrade the mainstay Su 30MKI fighter jet fleet in service with the air force is also among the plans approved by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) led by minister Rajnath Singh, officials said.

These approvals will bring big business to the domestic defence industry in the coming years. "Out of the proposals amounting to ₹2.23 lakh crore, acquisition worth ₹2.20 lakh crore (98% of the total acceptance of necessity, or AoN, amount) will be sourced from domestic industries," one of the officials said. The clearance for 97 more light combat aircraft MK1A comes as a major shot of confidence for the indigenous aircraft that was recently flown by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

With this order, the Indian Air Force (IAF) will have a total of 220 fighter jets in service in coming years. HAL is working on increasing its production capacity and hopes to ramp it up to 24 jets a year, officials said. Besides, work is also progressing on an MK2 version that will be powered by a stronger jet engine to be produced in India in partnership with US firm GE under a technology sharing pact that was inked at the government-to-government level.

The DAC also cleared procurement of two types of anti-tank munitions that will be capable of neutralising tanks, armoured personnel carriers, and enemy personnel.

Looking to replace the Indian Field Gun (IFG), which has completed service life, the ministry gave a go ahead to procure new 155 mm towed gun system (TGS) from the Indian defence industry.

For the Navy, a go ahead has been given for procurement of medium range anti-ship missiles (MRAShM) that will be equipped on battleships. "The MRAShM is envisaged as a lightweight surface-to-surface missile, which will be a primary offensive weapon onboard Indian Naval Ships," one of the officials said.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/defence-ministry-clears-rs-2-23-lakh-cr-acquisitions/articleshow/105635982.cms>



Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Defence

Thu, 30 Nov 2023

President of India Smt Droupadi Murmu Reviews Passing Out Parade of 145th NDA Course at Khadakwasla

In a first, a contingent of 15 female cadets takes part in the parade

A total of 1,225 cadets, including 21 from Friendly Foreign Countries, participate in PoP

The Passing Out Parade of 145th National Defence Academy Course was conducted at Khetarpal Parade Ground, NDA, Khadakwasla on 30 Nov 2023. The parade was reviewed by the President of

India Smt Droupadi Murmu. For the first time, a contingent of 21 female cadets, presently in their third term of training, took part in the parade. A total of 1,225 cadets, including 21 from Friendly Foreign Countries, participated in the parade.

On the occasion, the President paid homage to the brave hearts whose names are etched in the hallowed precincts of The Hut of Remembrance. She released a Commemorative Coin, Postal Stamp and First Day Cover of NDA as part of the 75 Glorious Years Celebrations of the iconic institution. She also laid a foundation stone for the No 5 Battalion at the NDA.

The President, in her address, congratulated passing out course cadets, medal winners and the Champion Squadron for their hard work and overwhelming performances. She lauded the female cadets on choosing the profession of arms and expressed her happiness on witnessing the first batch of female cadets take part in the passing out parade. Smt Droupadi Murmu interacted with the medal winners and parents of cadets of the Passing Out Course.

The event was also attended by Governor of Maharashtra Shri Ramesh Bais, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, and Commandant, NDA Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar.

Battalion Cadet Captain (BCC) Pratham Singh won the President's Gold Medal for standing first in the overall order of merit. Academy Cadet Adjutant (ACA) Jatin Kumar won the President's Silver Medal for standing second in the overall order of merit and Battalion Cadet Adjutant (BCA) Harsh Wardhan Shailesh Bhonsle won the President's Bronze Medal for standing third in the overall order of merit. 'Juliet' Squadron bagged the prestigious 'Chiefs of Staff Banner', for being the Champion Squadron which was presented during the parade.

The 21 cadets from Friendly Foreign Countries included those from Bhutan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Sudan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar & Bangladesh. Out of 1225 cadets participated in the parade, 348 cadets were from the passing out course. These included 186 Army cadets, 36 Naval cadets and 105 Air Force cadets. The cadets will now join their respective Pre-Commissioning Training Academics.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1981322>



Fri, 01 Dec 2023

सेना में अफसर बनने की राह पर 15 बेटियां, राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने शुभकामनाएं दे कर बढ़ाया मनोबल

पुणे के खडकवासला में गुरुवार को राष्ट्रीय रक्षा अकादमी (एनडीए) की महिला कैडेटों के पहले बैच ने पासिंग आउट परेड में लिया हिस्सा। राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने एनडीए के 145 वें कोर्स की पासिंग आउट परेड का निरीक्षण किया। उन्होंने मार्चिंग दल में शामिल महिला कैडेट की भागीदारी की सराहना की। मुर्मू ने इसे ऐतिहासिक दिन बताते हुए सभी महिला कैडेट को शुभकामना दीं। कहा कि बेटियों को अपनी पसंद का करियर चुनने के लिए संघर्ष करना पड़ता है।

पासिंग आउट परेड में लगभग 15 महिला कैडेट ने पुरुष समकक्षों के साथ भाग लिया। उन्होंने मित्र देशों के विदेशी कैडेटों को भी कोर्स पूरा करने पर बधाई दी। राष्ट्रपति ने कैडेटों से भविष्य की चुनौतियों का सामना करने के लिए नई तकनीकों को सीखकर आगे बढ़ने को कहा।

कहा, मुझे यकीन है कि महिला कैडेट भविष्य में एनडीए और देश को नई ऊंचाइयों पर ले जाएंगी। उन्होंने कहा, हम 'वसुधैव कुटुंबकम' (दुनिया एक परिवार है) की परंपरा का पालन करते हैं, लेकिन हमारी सेनाएं किसी भी बाहरी या आंतरिक स्थिति का सामना करने में पूरी तरह सक्षम और तैयार हैं।

इस अवसर पर महाराष्ट्र के राज्यपाल रमेश बैस और चीफ आफ डिफेंस स्टाफ जनरल अनिल चौहान उपस्थित थे। एक रक्षा अधिकारी ने कहा कि देश के प्रमुख एनडीए, खडकवासला में पिछले साल 19 महिला कैडेट का पहला बैच शामिल हुआ, जिनके सैन्य-सह-शैक्षणिक प्रशिक्षण का यह दूसरा वर्ष है। दूसरे और तीसरे वर्ष के कैडेट पासिंग आउट परेड में हिस्सा लेते हैं।

<https://www.jagran.com/maharashtra/pune-maharashtra-15-daughters-on-the-way-to-become-officers-in-the-army-president-draupadi-murmu-boosted-their-morale-by-giving-best-wishes-23593720.html>



Fri, 01 Dec 2023

Navy Gets Ready for its Biggest Naval Exercise amid Ocean Engagements

As the Indian Navy looks to mark Navy Day on December 4, it is also gearing up to host its largest multilateral exercise early next year. The next edition of Exercise MILAN is scheduled to be held in February 2024, and is expected to see the participation of over 50 countries, defence sources said while noting that this reflects the significant expansion of the Navy's engagements as well as capacity to assist countries in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) as the first responder and Preferred Security Partner.

“Presence and operational reach by the Indian Navy through Mission Based Deployments and other operational engagements has steadily enhanced. There are 17 multilateral and 20 bilateral exercises that the Navy conducts annually which exemplifies India's commitment to maintaining strong defence ties,” a defence source said. “These exercises are crucial for honing operational capabilities, sharing best practices, building mutual trust, fostering interoperability, strengthening diplomatic ties, and enhancing maritime security. They not only demonstrate India's naval prowess but also contribute to the shared goal of ensuring a secure and stable maritime environment.”

Exercise Milan is a biennial multilateral naval exercise which began in 1995, and has since significantly expanded in scope and scale to become the largest exercise held by India. The mid-planning conference of Milan-24 was held in October this year. The last edition of Milan, which is held off Visakhapatnam, saw participation from over 40 countries.

In addition, since July 2022, Indian Navy has joined the Bahrain-based Combined Maritime Force (CMF), a US-led multi-national naval partnership that aims to promote security, stability, and prosperity across international waters in IOR. “Indian Naval ships and aircraft are being deployed for CMF led operations on regular basis,” sources noted and earlier this month India announced its decision to become a full member of the grouping.

This year, the Navy Day is scheduled to be held on December 4 at Sindhudurg Fort on the western seaboard, built in 1660 by Chhatrapati Shivaji. It is located 550 km from Mumbai and about 135 km from naval station at Goa. The operational demonstration will witness participation of 20 warships along with 40 aircraft comprising MiG 29K and LCA Navy along with combat beach reconnaissance and assault demo by the Marine Commandos. This is the first time that the Navy

will be organising a mega event which is not taking place at any major naval station. December 4 is observed as Navy Day to commemorate the Navy's daring attack on Karachi harbour during the 1971 War under 'Operation Trident'.

India has also significantly expanded assistance in capacity building to countries in the region. This includes giving platforms, regular training as well as routinely deploying Mobile Training Teams (MTT) overseas to facilitate capacity development. "Recently, MTT from Indian Naval Work up teams undertook Operational Sea Checks of ships of two friendly countries - Sri Lanka and South Africa at Trincomalee and Cape Town respectively where they worked alongside the ship's crew to achieve very high standards of operational readiness as well as safety compliance," a defence source said.

Similarly, INS Nireekshak conducted mix gas diving training for Sri Lankan Navy personnel in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka, both in 2022 and 2023. To date, Indian Navy has trained over 15,000 personnel from over 40 countries from the IOR, the first source stated.

Indian built Off-shore Patrol Vessels (OPV) and Fast Attack Craft (FAC) are in service in Mauritius, Seychelles and Sri Lanka, facilitated through defence Lines of Credit. In October 2020, India gifted a kilo-class Submarine INS Sindhuvir which was extensively refitted and upgraded prior handing over, to Myanmar.

India also gifted Maldives an FAC and a landing craft in May this year, replacing the FAC gifted earlier, a second source noted. In July this year, India gifted an operational corvette, INS Kirpan to Vietnam. "Gifting of these assets are aimed at enhancing the capacity of these countries to contribute to regional security," one of the sources said adding other capacity building measures include hydrological survey undertaken by Indian Navy Survey Ships in Tanzania, Maldives, and Mauritius, as also the regular conduct of joint Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) surveillance in response to requests from Indian Ocean littoral states such as Maldives, Seychelles, and Mauritius.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/navy-gears-up-for-its-largest-multilateral-exercise-amid-high-tempo-of-engagements-in-ior/article67591954.ece>



Fri, 01 Dec 2023

IIT Guwahati Initiates Training for Armed Forces Officers in Drone Technology

The Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IITG) on Thursday initiated a three-month training programme on drone technology for junior commissioned officers and personnel of other ranks in the armed forces.

Apart from imparting skills to strengthen aerial defence, the course is aimed at post-retirement career options for the officers in the rapidly expanding drone technology sector, a statement from the IITG said.

The course is being implemented by IITG's Centre for Educational Technology, Centre for Intelligent Cyber Physical Systems, Centre for Drone Technology (CDT), and the Technology Innovation and Development Foundation.

"This first-of-its-kind programme will focus on providing exhaustive training on drone technologies, pilot training, software operations, and applications to officers of the armed forces with a mission to revolutionise various operational activities," Parameswar K. Iyer of the CDT

said. The programme has been tailored to equip the participants with the knowledge, perception, and vision necessary for them to succeed professionally in the diverse drone industry or as technology entrepreneurs, he said.

“The aim of the armed forces resettlement courses is to enable a smooth transition of service personnel who aspire for a second career in the corporate world at various levels after retirement,” Brigadier Rajeev Kapur, Assistant Director General of the Directorate General of Resettlement, said.

He said the IITG programme would help the officers of the armed forces to not only expand their knowledge of drone technology and its various applications in the emerging global environment, but also to give them an insight into the civil domain and familiarise them with the working environment of the corporate world.

Thirty officers from various armed forces are undergoing the training involving theoretical, classroom sessions, and practical handling of drones. Robotics, 3D printing, practical flying with instructors, and solo flying are also a part of this programme.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/iit-guwahati-initiates-training-for-armed-forces-officers-in-drone-technology/article67590591.ece>

Science & Technology News



Thu, 30 Nov 2023

India Set to Launch its First X-Ray Polarimeter Satellite: ISRO

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced that India is set to launch its first X-Ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat), aiming to investigate the polarisation of intense X-Ray sources.

According to ISRO, while space-based X-Ray astronomy has been established in India, focusing predominantly on imaging, time-domain studies, and spectroscopy, the upcoming XPoSat mission marks a major value addition. This research, supplementing traditional time and frequency domain studies, introduces a novel dimension to X-Ray astronomy, generating anticipation and excitement within the scientific community.

The XPoSat spacecraft is designated for observation from Low Earth Orbit (non-sun synchronous orbit of ~650 km altitude, low inclination of approximately six degree), carrying two scientific payloads. With these two payloads, the XPoSat mission is capable of simultaneous studies of temporal, spectral, and polarization features of the bright X-Ray sources.

The mission objectives include measurement of X-Ray polarization in the energy band of 8-30 keV emanated from X-Ray sources, long-term spectral and temporal studies of cosmic X-Ray sources in the energy band of 0.8-15 keV. The mission life is expected to be approximately five years. The payloads onboard XPoSat will observe the X-Ray sources during the spacecraft's transit through the Earth's shadow, i.e., during the eclipse period.

The primary payload of XPoSat, POLIX (Polarimeter Instrument in X-rays), is designed to measure polarimetry parameters —specifically the degree and angle of polarization — in the medium X-ray energy range of 8-30 keV photons originating from astronomical sources. The POLIX payload was developed by the Raman Research Institute (RRI), Bengaluru, with support from various ISRO centres. The secondary payload is the XSPECT (X-ray Spectroscopy and Timing) payload, which will provide spectroscopic information within the energy range of 0.8-15 keV. The XSPECT payload was developed by the U.R. Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), ISRO.

The XPoSat will be launched by the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), from the Satish Dhawan Space Center in Sriharikota.

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/india-set-to-launch-its-first-x-ray-polarimeter-satellite-isro/article67589615.ece>



Thu, 30 Nov 2023

NASA Administrator Visits ISRO Headquarters, Inspects NISAR

NASA Administrator Bill Nelson on Thursday met the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman and Department of Space (DoS) Secretary S Somanath at the ISRO headquarters here.

At a meeting organised at Antariksh Bhavan, Nelson and Somanath, along with the first Indian cosmonaut Wg Cdr Rakesh Sharma (Retd.), interacted with the ISRO/DoS community.

Somanath noted the long-standing collaboration between the two space agencies – from the launch of the first sounding rocket from India to the discovery of hydroxyl molecules on the Moon by the payloads on board Chandrayaan-1 to the upcoming low earth orbit observatory NISAR (NASA ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar).

Nelson congratulated ISRO on Chandrayaan-3 which made India the first nation to reach the south pole of the Moon. He said NASA is looking forward to receiving the data from NISAR. ISRO said “potential opportunities for continued cooperation” beyond NISAR, in programmes like India’s human spaceflight mission Gaganyaan and enhanced interactions among scientific, academic and industrial communities were discussed.

Senior members from ISRO, DoS, NASA and the US Consulate, Chennai, participated in the meeting. Earlier in the day, the NASA administrator and the ISRO Chairman visited the U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC) and had a look at the NISAR satellite which is undergoing its final integration and testing activities, with the participation of engineers from ISRO and NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). Nelson also interacted with the NASA/JPL engineers who are working at URSC on the satellite.

<https://www.deccanherald.com/india/karnataka/bengaluru/nasa-administrator-visits-isro-headquarters-inspects-nisar-2791781>

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