

# Amity Journal of Defence & Strategic Studies

- Volume 3, Issue 1 -

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## AMITY JOURNAL OF DEFENCE & STRATEGIC STUDIES

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**Note**: Views that are recorded are the individual opinions and perceptions of the writers. AJDSS does not undertake any kind of responsibility for the same.

## Volume 3, Issue 1, 26 January 2021

CONTENTS Message from Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Education Group and President AIDSS Message from Dr Atul Chauhan, Chancellor AUUP Message from Prof (Dr) Balvinder Shukla, Vice Chancellor AUUP Message from Dr W Selvamurthy, Vice President AIDSS Message from Prof VY Jyotsna, Ph.D., HoI & Dean AIDSS From the Editor's Desk- Lt Gen (Dr) SK Gadeock, AVSM (Retd), Director General AIDSS & Commandant AIET		Page No 4 5 6 7 8 9
1.	ARTICLES Strengthening the Nation's CBRN Defence Preparedness Dr W Selvamurthy, President ASTIF & Vice President AIDSS Amity University U.P. and Ms Sneha Nair	10
2.	Self-Reliance in Defence Production: Need of Paradigm Shift to Private Sector Lt Gen Rameshwar Yadav, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)	18
3.	Defence Diplomacy in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Lt Gen Ashok Bhim Shivane, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)	25
4.	China from Ancient Times to the Present and Sino-India Skirmish 2020 Shri R M Aggarwal, IFS (Retd), Additional Director General Amity Centre for International Cooperation & Alliances University, at Amity University U.P.	32
5.	Sainik Schools Model- Fountainhead of NDA Aspirants and a Career Research Laboratory <b>Prof Dr. Raman Kr Jha,</b> <b>Vice-Chancellor, Amity University Chhattisgarh</b>	40
6.	Holistic Growth Model of Village to State Level Through Empowered Ex-Servicemen Leadership Lt Gen (Dr) SK Gadeock, AVSM (Retd), Director General AIDSS & Commandant AIET, Amity University U.P.	49





## MESSAGE FROM DR. ASHOK K. CHAUHAN FOUNDER PRESIDENT OF AMITY EDUCATION GROUP AND PRESIDENT OF AMITY INSTITUTE OF DEFENCE & STRATEGIC STUDIES (AIDSS)

*"Education is the basic tool for the development of consciousness and the reconstitution of the Society."* 

## -Mahatma Gandhi, Father of the Nation

This particular issue of the Amity Journal of Defence & Strategic Studies (AJDSS) carries some very informative articles embodying the contemporary strategic inflection points of growing confrontation emerging in the world in this abominable Covid pandemic environment. There are new signposts of strategic alignments and defence cooperation developing between nations and regional alliances, conforming to their respective national interests. The journal is a product of inspired minds with intellectual propensities of eminent military officers and civilian authors alike, who have reflected their in genuine thoughts with notable recommendations as solutions to the various problems on the subjects.

I must compliment Lt Gen (Dr) SK Gadeock, AVSM (Retd), DG AIDSS and Editor of this Journal and his editorial team comprising Brig BB Varma (Retd) and Dr Ritu Grover on their noteworthy initiative taken to enhance the qualitative content of the AJDSS, conforming to my ideals of providing thought provoking articles to the wide readership at Amity, as also to the numerous Think Tanks and research institutions in the country. These articles are worthy of eulogy by distinguished authors of the Armed Forces, retired bureaucrats and scientists, who have held exclusive positions of power in their respective careers.

Noida Date: 26 January 2021 Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan Founder President Amity Education Group





## MESSAGE FROM DR. ATUL CHAUHAN CHANCELLOR AUUP

I am particularly pleased to observe the consistency of the articles published in the Amity Journal of Defence & Strategic Studies (AJDSS) on a bi-annual basis, highlighting the strategic imperatives and the global challenges, with its associated ramifications. The Journal has unequivocally garnered the strategic insights on critical subject matter by renowned authors from the Armed Forces and those having affinity to military oriented issues with a discerning mind and great thoughtfulness.

The Journal will provide research material to procreate strategic solutions using the creative and innovative ideas to propagate issues pertaining to national security, foreign affairs, alliances in international relations, with a defence perspective. The student body would feel highly encouraged to read with great perceptiveness the developing hybrid threats, evolving high end technological break throughs, counter terrorism & festering insurgencies, with their myriad effects on the national interests of nations and their growing economies in this pandemic environment.

These articles with a diverse multi-spectral canvas would contribute efficaciously towards good governance, prudent policy formulations etc. by supplementing the state-of-the-art ideologies/ thought process to the premier institutions. We look forward to an inclusive feedback from the wide readership. I wish to convey my appreciation to Lt Gen (Dr) SK Gadeock, AVSM (Retd), DG AIDSS and Editor of this Bi-annual Journal, who has successfully produced the AJDSS with his editorial team in a meticulous and praiseworthy manner, attracting wide readership of the Think Tanks of the country and also those students pursuing research in the domains of defence and cyber security, international relations and foreign policy.

Noida Date: 26 January 2021 Dr. Atul Chauhan Chancellor Amity University, Uttar Pradesh





## MESSAGE FROM PROF. (DR.) BALVINDER SHUKLA VICE CHANCELLOR AUUP

It has heartened me no end, to mention that this quintessential issue of the Amity Journal of Defence & Strategic Review (AJDSS) is indeed commendable, as the students' fraternity and faculty at Amity University will be enlightened on the strategic issues highlighted with the rationale and logic given by the authors with their imaginative recommendations on the subjects. This will also provide an enriching experience for the scholars to undertake detailed analyses of the subjects in compilation of the extensive database, as also towards perspicuous articulation on the topics with a balanced national and global domain perspective.

The Journal would adequately also be reflecting on the current topics and doctrines and modern technologies, cyber security, hybrid warfare, artificial intelligence being developed to enhance operational preparedness and overall security of nations in the world. Matters related to foreign policy, military strategies, geo-politics and diplomacy too will find an important place in the Journal to serve national needs.

Our long-term goal is to achieve the higher threshold of benchmarked academic consistency in our progressive contemporary curriculum. I wish to my special compliments to Lt Gen (Dr) SK Gadeock, AVSM (Retd), DG AIDSS and Editor of this Bi-annual Journal and the editorial team comprising Brig BB Varma, and Dr Ritu Grover, who have conceptualized and produced this Journal estimably under the guidance of our Hon'ble Founder President, Dr Ashok K. Chauhan. The AJDSS would ostensibly be a trendsetter journal on defence oriented matters published by any Indian University with the Department of Defence & Strategic Studies.

Noida Date: 26 January 2021 Prof. (Dr). Balvinder Shukla Vice Chancellor Amity University, Uttar Pradesh





## MESSAGE FROM DR. W. SELVAMURTHY VICE PRESIDENT AMITY INSTITUTE OF DEFENCE & STRATEGIC STUDIES (AIDSS)

The Amity Journal of Defence & Strategic Studies (AJDSS) has been exceptionally well conceived and executed with great thoughtfulness by Lt Gen (Dr) SK Gadeock, AVSM (Retd), DG AIDSS and Editor of this Bi-annual Journal, with his editorial team comprising Brig BB Varma and Dr Ritu Grover, under the all-embracing guidance and foresight of our Hon'ble Founder President, Dr Ashok K. Chauhan. Most of the articles authored by the galaxy of renowned military strategists, defence analysts and scientists have provided the dynamic strategic essence with a regional or a global perspective.

The younger generation of Amity students and scholars involved in research driven activities will have a better depth of understanding and would comprehend the essentials of strategic issues with their newly acquired skills in 'strategic & critical thinking' through their accomplished mentors in respective domains. Their assimilative powers are honed, which enables better understanding of the issues as related to defence and national security, geo-politico-economic strategic matters, foreign affairs and international relations etc. at the national and global level.

I am confident that the AJDSS would induce wide readership, not only with the Think Tanks of the Nation, but also with the large segment of the veterans from the Armed Forces and students from various Amity Universities of the country and overseas. We will look forward to feedback in the form of some cogent suggestions and candid views sent to the Editorial team for achieving the desired qualitatively blend and further refining the AJDSS. The salient recommendations would be compiled and sent to the decision makers for their consideration.

Noida Date: 26 January 2021 Dr. W. Selvamurthy President ASTIF Vice President AIDSS





## MESSAGE FROM PROF. V YOGA JYOTSNA, Ph.D. HOI & DEAN AMITY INSTITUTE OF DEFENCE & STRATEGIC STUDIES (AIDSS)

This Volume 3 of Issue 1 of the Amity Journal of Defence & Strategic Studies (AJDSS) is an excellent academic product for the researchers at Amity University in the specific domains of Defence, National Security, Foreign policy and International Affairs. The articles highlight perceptions of the eminent authors, which will kindle interest of researchers and young strategists amongst the Amity student fraternity on myriad strategic issues.

The AJDSS has become popular with the defence personnel, research scholars and practitioners of defence policies and reforms, national security, external affairs and international relations, specifically from the defence perspective. In the current world scenario of the Pandemic environment, new strategic alignments and regional affiliations are experiencing a defence cooperation paradigm to guarantee better peace conditions and security. I am certain the students will attain scholastic excellence by gaining knowledge and pursuing research in their respective areas of interest towards a successful career path in their lives. The articles published in AJDSS have showcased strategic imperatives and national interests of the country in perspective, with some evolved solutions and recommendations corresponding to the tempestuous relationships in a complex security matrix.

I wish to convey my compliments and sincere appreciation to Lt Gen (Dr) SK Gadeock, AVSM (Retd), DG AIDSS and Editor of this Bi-annual Journal, who has worked assiduously with the editorial team collectively, viz Brig BB Varma and Dr Ritu Grover with great diligence and fervor to produce this Journal. We look forward to a large readership and feedbacks with suggestions to further improve this Journal by enhancing the qualitative content as a process of refinement.

Noida Date: 26 January 2021 Prof. V Yoga Jyotsna, Ph.D. HoI & Dean AIDSS





## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK LT GEN (DR) SK GADEOCK, AVSM (RETD) DIRECTOR GENERAL AMITY INSTITUTE OF DEFENCE & STRATEGIC STUDIES (AIDSS)

This issue of the Amity Journal of Defence & Strategic Studies (AJDSS) has conformed to the visionary foresight, professional outlook and mission-oriented approach of our Founder President, in its maiden endeavor to publish articles with strategic discernment of critical issues, affecting the peace equilibrium and stability in the region and world at large.

The aim of AJDSS is to provide conceptual, intellectual and strategic thought-provoking articles towards greater awareness of our Amity student fraternity and all readers of the geo-strategic paradigm. The qualitative solutions on problems related to critical politico-economic strategic matters, defence and national security issues, foreign affairs policies etc, would contribute towards better governance and statecraft. India's national interests and global objectives would also be analyzed beyond the narrow confines of the South East Asia regional dynamics and the 'Way Ahead' required by strategic leaders and thinkers, engaged in evolving issues.

The various external threat manifestations to the nation and imminent 'flash points' in the world, attributed to nuclear armament, disputed territorial borders of nations to include maritime domain, which could possibly conflagrate into any spectrum of conflict, may be of greater interest to our readers. The global complexities in maintenance of international peace, harmony and security, terrorism and insurgencies, affecting the various Members States of the United Nations in the above perspective.

I sincerely hope the AJDSS evokes an animated response from wide readership, with some diverse suggestions and viewpoints sent to the Editorial team for incisive analysis of the subject, which requires clarification.

Noida Date: 26 January 2021 Lt Gen (Dr) SK Gadeock, AVSM (Retd) Director General AIDSS

## STRENGTHENING THE NATION'S CBRN DEFENCE PREPAREDNESS

"Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world. Science is the highest personification of the nation because that nation will remain the first which carries the furthest the works of thought and intelligence"

-Louis Pasteur

#### Introduction

History of war has witnessed the use of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Weapons in the past. These are Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), the use of which has been rightly prohibited by the world community through various global control regimes, treaties and conventions; to mention a few: Non- Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and Biological & Toxins Weapon Convention (BTWC). With globalization, trade and economic links among the Nations, use of CBRN weapons has become a remote possibility. However, non-state actors including terrorists getting possession of those assets and capabilities cannot be ruled out. Every nation needs to be prepared to face any such eventualities.

India is becoming a major global player in the world economy as a country of 1.37 billion people. We need to ensure protection of our population which has more than 50% in the age below 25 years making it one of the largest workforce providers globally. It is also emerging as a "Knowledge Superpower" as well as a strong Military power. With the advent of non-conventional methods of warfare, there is a need for developing and implementing effective policies and strategies for ensuring National security. We must make ourselves self-sufficient and self-reliant in CBRN defence preparedness as the consequences of such emergencies may stretch National capabilities to their maximum extent. It is essential that we build on our resources to respond and mitigate the consequences of an emergency to life, property and the environment. MIC leak at Bhopal in December 1984 is one such major industrial accident which exposed the lack of preparedness at that time.

Threats related to CBRN agents are seeing an exponential rise with the technological development and changing political environment globally. CBRN defence is therefore one of the top priorities of a Nation's security as they pose

significant threat to comprehensive National security. It therefore becomes imperative for a Nation to reduce the risk and threats arising due to CBRN and related aspects and ensures its preparedness against such threats.

## **Indian Capabilities**

The Government of India has taken effective measures and have achieved significant success in the area of CBRN Defence preparedness, response and mitigation with an aim of combating the threat to ensure our preparedness for unknown unconventional threats. Nation's Defence sector has given due priority to develop necessary technologies, products, systems and system of systems.

The **CBRN** Defence planning starts with gathering intelligence of its potential use by non- state actors and terrorists as well as undertaking modelling and simulation of such eventualities with regard to potential threat, lethality, damage and rescue operations. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has already developed great expertise with trained scientific manpower and is delivering large number of CBRN Technologies Defence and Products to our Armed Forces. Many products and technologies

**These include Automatic Chemical Agent** Detector & Alarm (ACADA) and Chemical agent Monitor (CAM), Portable Gas Chromatograph, fieldbased NBC Suit Mk V, Integrated Hood Mask, **Resuscitator**, Leak Tester, **Respiratory Mask, Collective Protection** at Underground Field Shelter. **Decontamination Devices & Materials** and Medical Management. For detecting biological agents, the field based diagnostic kits have been developed to aid in diagnosis typhoid, leptospirosis, dengue, H1N1, malaria, plague, anthrax and other pathogens.

have been developed, manufactured by Indian industries and inducted into the services. These technologies cover a wide spectrum for early detection, personal and collective protection, decontamination and medical management. The deterrence against NBC can be achieved from a range of equipment and technology including detectors and reconnaissance vehicles. Technologies such as recce vehicles and remotely operated vehicle Daksh help in identifying chemically contaminated areas and removing any potential radiation/chemical source. Even a model hospital to handle CBRN victim has been effectively developed.

#### **Government Initiatives**

The Government of India has established National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) for capacity building for CBRN Emergencies. Since the CBRN training is no longer restricted to defence sector but has been introduced amongst the police force who will be the first responders in case of such mishaps, NDMA is equipping and training the police force on management of such emergencies. In addition to this the organisation has been involved in the training of staff at airports and seaports for management of CBRN incidents.

NDMA had also formulated the Standard Operating Procedure for responding to CBRN related disasters with valuable inputs from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). In addition, NDMA was also instrumental in the preparation of guidelines on District Disaster Management Plan (DDMPs) with nuclear power plants (NPP), Publication of manual on medical management of radiological emergency.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has also been constituted for the purpose of special response to a threatening disaster situation or disaster under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 which has been training personnel for quick action response. NDRF conducts regular training for BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP and IPS officers. The NDRF NBC combat team is also mandated to assist the defence forces during such emergencies.

India is a signatory and party to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) with its headquarters at The Hague, Netherlands. The Convention is a universal, non-discriminatory, multi-lateral, disarmament treaty which prohibits the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and monitors its elimination in order to secure chemical weapons free world. The National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) has also been established under the Chemical Weapons Convention Act, 2000 for implementing the provisions of the Convention. India was the First State Party to secure the distinction of chemical weapons amongst all State Parties of the Convention well within the stipulated time period. NACWC is also actively involved in the interaction with OPCW and other States Parties at various conventions, confidentiality commission and working group

meetings. The various activities undertaken by the NACWC include monitoring compliance with the provisions of the Convention, regulation and monitoring of toxic chemicals or precursors, conducting inspections, verification of approved Equipment, facilitation of exchange of scientific and technological information, funding research activities through proposals and training of Enforcement Officers. India is also a major contributor of schedule chemicals spectra to OPCW.

India has been supporting the Biological and Toxins Weapon Convention (BTWC) under which a treaty was signed with some reservations on January 15, 1973 which was ratified on July 15, 1974. India advocates the establishment of a fair, transparent and multilateral export regulation mechanism within the future Organization for the implementation of the Protocol.

#### **Future Perspective**

India has many geographical advantages being the largest biological wealth holder in the world with rich human, animal and plant wealth. The country has unparalleled plant wealth. More than 15% GDP comes from Agriculture Sector. The nation has a rich Biodiversity with two hotspots, one in the North East and other in Western Ghats having more than 45,000 species of plants many of them having high medicinal value. With great biological assets of our country, there is need for formulation of detailed plans and strategies to appropriately respond to any bio-threat which may arise from a natural outbreak transiting to an epidemic or pandemic; an enemy nation venturing into bio-warfare and non-state actors getting involved in bioterrorism. One cannot rule out the possibility of a virulent and contagious pathogen making way out of an advanced experimental facility inadvertently. All these scenarios might re-emphasize the need for a concerted Action Plan for our nation to be made Operational on priority. Appropriate surveillance and reconnaissance mechanisms should be strengthened for assuring the country's preparedness for CBRN Defence.

The primary focus should be on augmenting our technical capabilities in the areas of inspection, detection, protection of NBC materials and development of an effective and quick response system in case of an accident or attack is critically important. Creating awareness, education and training among general public can help in sensitising our citizens to ensure Community preparedness at the state and district level. A successful system requires close working relationship between

government ministries, national agencies and the industry. The private sector engagement is essential for strengthening the security system by developing the required products and technologies under PPP Model.

## Conclusion

The Nation's security system to respond to both conventional and nonconventional warfare and threat define its ability to protect its country and its citizens. It is therefore imperative to develop strong technological base to make sure we are prepared for achieving self-reliance and contributing to the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India). As a Nation we have a long way to go to ensure complete security from known / unknown threats. The need of the hour is therefore strengthening our capabilities in CBRN Defence as well. The time is also opportune for developing linkages and creating synergies among the nations in this important domain to maintain global peace and harmony.

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Dr. W. Selvamurthy is presently working with Amity University as President, Amity Science, Technology and Innovation Foundation, Director General for Amity Directorate of Science and Innovation and Chancellor, Amity University, Chhattisgarh. He is MSc in Human Physiology and done his Doctorate (Faculty of Medical Science) and Doctorate of Science (D.Sc.). He was also awarded D.Sc. from five



universities in recognition of his outstanding research and development contributions in Life Sciences. He has served DRDO for 40 years in which, all the health related and life science related technologies were developed and inducted in the Armed Forces towards health and efficiency of soldiers even in extreme operational environments. His R&D contributions include development of life support technologies for soldiers, NBC Defence Technology, Nano Technology Application for Defence, Application of yoga for the Armed Forces, Military psychology and others. He was the leader of the first Indo-Soviet scientific expedition to the Arctic Circle for polar physiology research. He superannuated from DRDO on 28 February, 2013 as Distinguished Scientist and Chief Controller, Research & Development (Life Sciences & International Cooperation) and joined Amity University.

He is presently member of the Scientific Advisory Committee to Cabinet (SAC-C), particularly in the field of Life Science, including health research. He is a member of the High-Powered Committee appointed by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to review its 12th plan proposal and Chairman of Technology Commercialization Committee of ICMR. He has published more than 250 research papers in journals of repute including 18 books. He has been a member of the Indian delegation to World Health Assembly under the Chairmanship of Health Minister to speak about the complimentary systems of medicine including Yoga. He has represented our country at the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) at the conference of State Parties, Executive Council, Working Group and Confidentiality Commission. TIFAC has entrusted the responsibility of Technology Vision (Health) - 2035 to Dr. Selvamurthy as Chairman to formulate Vision for the Nation for Health & Medical Sciences. In recognition of his significant contribution to Biomedical Research and Development, he has been awarded a number of prestigious research awards, including CSIR "National Award for S&T Innovations" presented by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India (2012), Academician Mirsaid Mirrakhimov award for "Contribution to High Altitude Medicine" from Kyrgyz Republic (2012), "Technology Leadership Award" by DRDO (2010) presented by Defence Minister, Lifetime Achievement Award from Hon'ble President of India in the field of Clinical and Preventive Cardiology (2006), ICMR Shakuntala Amir Chand Award (1986) and more. His email id is wselvamurthy@amity.edu

#### **ABOUT THE CO-AUTHOR**

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Jamia Hamdard in Masters in Bioelectronics & Instrumentation and PGDBA (HR) from Symbiosis Centre for Distance Learning. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Biosensors from Amity Institute of Advanced Research Studies (Materials & Devices). She has experience in coordinating and handling National and International accreditations and certifications such as NAAC, QS, NIRF for research and innovation, promoting and monitoring the research activities in order to raise research profile of the University, augmenting possible research collaboration. Her email id is snair@amity.edu

## SELF RELIANCE IN DEFENCE PRODUCTION: NEED OF PARADIGM SHIFT TO PRIVATE SECTOR

"The truly great leader overcomes all difficulties and campaigns and battles are nothing but a long series of difficulties to be overcome. The lack of equipment, the lack of food, the lack of this or that are only excuses; the real leader displays his quality in his triumphs over adversity, however great it may be."

> - General George C Marshall, Secretary of State and Secretary of Defence, United States of America

The newly coined phrase 'Atma Nirbharta' is the Hindi translation of 'Self Reliance', a debated necessity to offset the strategic fault lines that India finds itself difficult to fathom. The branded concept of 'Make in India' has not really taken off in the defence sector due to structural infirmities of its doctrinal make up and executive mechanism mired in beaurocratic spirals. As a result, India continues to be the second largest importer of weapon systems and equipment in the world. All this despite the claims of a large technical manpower with proven credentials of their innovative DNA, albeit on foreign shores.

It is clearly established that the public sector R&D and manufacturing establishments have failed to deliver the structural strength and vibrancy to the armed forces expected from them. It has been more than seven decades, wherein there have not been any path breaking innovations which can be categorized as the niche technology of game changing import. India continues to rush for emergency purchases at the slightest pretext to foreign markets, whenever there is national security crisis.

While it is correct that we pay for it, but at the same time it also creates inimical leverages which can be manipulated by the foreign powers for political purposes. So, a clear deduction is that, we need to change the concept and design of our defence production mechanism. Privatization with high priority to R&D alongside making foreign investment attractive seems to be the right way forward in the Indian context. While the world over it is the private sector which is the mainstay of the defence production, it is not so in India due to deep set security concerns. Moreover, lack of strategic culture and concomitant politico-military synergies, have not taken national security with the kind of seriousness it deserves. In consequence, persisting failures to come up with cutting edge technologies and high quality products have resulted in strategic vulnerabilities in absence of accountability of institutions and individuals entrusted with providing with structural strength to the armed forces.

In order to make privatization of defence production a success story, there is a need to create a level playing field to beat the competition from well entrenched public sector as well as foreign OEMs. It is a function of financial viability of the private enterprise through cutting edge technology, assured long term demand, optimal purchase commitments, industry friendly procurement procedure and flexibility to operate in open national as well as international markets. Therefore, the government has to reset and reposition the national priorities to exploit the inhouse strengths to boost the defence production and affiliated industries.

The scope of the policy needs to have a focus on encouraging private enterprise who have tremendous talent amply proved in non-military domain making Indian economy to graduate from regional to global standards. In defence industrial matrix, the public sector would continue to provide core industrial inputs alongside selected private industries as competitors, thereby enhance the quantity as well as the quality content of the product and services. Unlike government financed and protected public sector, the edifice of private sector is profit maximization for which they invest, innovate and struggle to create a niche for their product so as to survive in the dynamics of open market. Unless there is a reasonably assured market and optimal profit generation, they are unlikely to venture out in a maiden business line. It is therefore, essential for government to facilitate fair market conditions by creating level playing field for private players to enter the defence production.

The government, in order to attract foreign investment and technology has already announced increase of FDI up to 74% for automatic route and up to 100% in case of selected highly sensitive technology equipment. The policy also has increased the offset clause from 30% to 40% of the project value so as to provide incentives to the Indian industry seeking joint ventures with foreign OEMs.

There is a new policy on strategic partnership with the foreign OEMs and selected big Indian business houses to facilitate joint ventures related to big ticket weapon and equipment. Reliance, Mahindra & Mahindra, Tata, L&T, Bharat Forge etc have been considered for entering into strategic partnership with foreign manufacturing giants in the fields of aerospace, ships, sub marines, missiles, artillery guns and the like. However, some of them do not have requisite experience and infrastructure for these product lines. Whereas, the public sector companies have adequate experience in manufacturing military hardware.

Accordingly, the public sector can act as a firm base for private sector to absorb the new technologies and manufacturing processes. In consequence, it may be worth trying clubbing selected public sector companies along with the nominated private companies as strategic partners for joint ventures with the foreign OEMs. It would optimize capabilities of public as well as private sectors as regards to infrastructure, engineering support, skilled manpower, finances, market dynamics, managerial interface and operational viability of the enterprise.

Manufacturing of high technology, high secrecy big ticket strategic equipment certainly needs government interface in Indian context, wherein public sector companies along with private partners would be better bet than leaving it purely to the private enterprise. Such an arrangement may also take care of security concerns of foreign countries as regards to transfer of their cutting-edge technology as Government of India would be one of the stake holders.

The biggest fear of the private sector is the completion with the DPSUs who enjoy advantages of assured capital at zero borrowing rates, well established manufacturing chain, experienced skilled manpower & management and above all an assured purchase of their product. Whereas the private sector has none of it, hence expecting them to compete with the public sector is an impractical proposition. Government may consider foregoing suggestions to provide incentives so as to encourage the private sector.

Products available in the open market at completive rates may be purchased exclusively from the private enterprises wherein it is found that it is not cost effective to produce them through ordinance factories due to high overhead costs. Setting aside part of OFB quotas in case of selected products for private sector may be another way to encourage establishing in-house alternate sources of supplies. Surplus production of the public as well as private sector units in such cases may be earmarked for export to friendly foreign countries through govt to govt routes.

India enjoys reasonably high economic buoyancy as on date and it is time to relieve the government from the responsibility of running the businesses which is

best avoided. Therefore imperative, that corporatization of selected DPSUs and ordinance factories would be an appropriate step to infuse better management practices to draw economies of scale. The government should gradually switch its role as a facilitator even in defence production like it has done for other industrial sectors. However. control of strategic weapons and export of sensitive

Another option is to go in for GOCO (Government Owned and Corporate Operated) concept which is a hybrid business management model to involve private sector with minimal financial liabilities. This is planned to be introduced as a test case in running the Army Base Work Shops dealing with repair and recovery of sensitive defence equipment.

products should continue to be under the government domain.

While it sounds good to lay down transfer of technology as a precondition for joint ventures with the foreign OEMs, but it is unlikely to be given by them easily as it would impact on their own future businesses. Even if it is agreed to, the foreign countries are unlikely to part with the latest cutting-edge technology, an essential battle winning factor, that we are looking for. In consequence, it may be pragmatic not to insist on preconditions of technology transfer in all the cases initially. It may be better to permit foreign OEMs to establish turn key projects as being suggested by a foreign visiting dignitary with an idea of 'Make for India'.

In that, higher off set obligations, commitment to meet our requirements and employment of Indian work force may be more acceptable to them instead of parting with their core competencies. Incentives of higher FDI may be linked to above parameters and willingness of transfer of technology, based on merit of each case. A network of ancillary units will also develop to support the production line benefitting small and medium enterprises, generating direct as well as indirect employment. China draws her economic and military strength primarily from the foreign OEMs operating from Chinese geographical spread. It is worth looking at this model suitably modified to the Indian context. India in such an arrangement would be benefitted by cutting down expenditure on weapons due to competition and also reduction in logistics and after sale services costs. Moreover, eventually the technology and techniques would be known to Indian workforce over period of time. To be fair to foreign OEMs, even they need to have a reasonable degree of confidence in Indian systems and their own profitability prior to transferring the technologies.

The present procurement procedure is too complex and complicated and does not infuse confidence amongst private sector and foreign vendors who are

used to fast track liberal ways of seeking and conducting business. It needs to be simplified for 'ease of doing business' by aligning it with corporate sector practices. There are hardly any secrets which are not known world over as regards to weapon sales and their operational connotations in the global digital environment. Therefore, present day information transparency when hyphenated with our obsession with security concerns prompts a reality check of our restrictive policies. There exists a scope of

The R&D plays a major role in the selfreliance of strategic import, besides its positive economic connotations. There are fault lines in the present mechanism which need to be corrected to make it more proactive with enhanced objectivity which is missing as of now. Creating competitive environment with its edifice of perform or perish is the way forward to infuse positive synergies amongst the R&D establishments. Apropos, there is a need to tap the talent in the private sector at all levels to include the startups, small enterprises and big industrial houses.

simplifying the entire procurement mechanism thereby facilitating a level playing field in sync with international practices.

In Western countries the major part of research is done through the academic institutions wherein the private industry as well as the government provides the funding for the research work. The research scholars are granted higher degrees for such industrial research work as an incentive. This model may be adopted by the private industry through tie ups with the Indian as well as foreign universities. The public sector R&D establishments may also like to outsource part of their research work to the academia, thereby increase their research base and at the same time infuse competition.

Government may help selected universities in establishing R&D centers, wherein individuals may be permitted to pursue research on varied subjects under guidance of scientists / university professors. Motivating scientists from foreign countries as advisors would go a long way in enhancing quality content in R&D field. These R&D centers in each of the universities may also be designated as nodes of excellence for certain specific scientific fields with requisite laboratories and test facilities for better focus. Engineering colleges like IITs and private universities like Amity with proven credentials in Patents and Innovation Incubator have a dynamic and utmost significant role with appropriate funding from Government for establishing 'state of art' research centers.

The 'Make in India' campaign needs a fresh look and a mid-course correction based on our experience of last six years. It needs to simplify the present industrial policies and DPP with their undue emphasis on centralized control and labyrinth of procedural spirals. An open sky policy with reasonable checks and balances permitting fair market competition is right recipe for encouraging the private enterprise to venture into field of defence production. Gradual privatization of public sector to the extent possible would be the right policy in the longer run in Indian context. Creating requisite structural facilities in the two defence industrial corridors need to be expedited being the central spine of our future plans.

Since the weapon technology lies with the foreign sources, we have little choice than to accommodate their interests as of now. Joint ventures with the foreign OEMs are the key to the structural buoyancy of the private sector in present day Indian context. High priority to R&D is an essential investment to attain 'Self Sufficiency'. It's time for India to be pragmatic and take bold initiatives to enhance our military deterrence in order to reduce our strategic vulnerabilities.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Lt Gen Rameshwar Yadav, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd), was former Director General Infantry, Indian Army. The General Officer was commissioned into the Rajputana Rifles Regiment in December 1974, an alumnus of DSSC, Wellington, Higher Command Course and National Defence College. He was ADC to the President of India, has held



Principle Staff officer and operational appointments at Brigade, Division, Corps and Command levels. He was Brigadier General Staff of two frontline Corps. He commanded an Infantry division, was Chief of Staff of a Strike Corps, later Director General of Rashtriya Rifles and thereafter appointed Director General Infantry. He is MSc (Defence Studies), MBA, M Phil (Defence & Management Studies) and has also done another M Phil (Defence & Strategic Studies). The General Officer is a regular contributor to the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS) on issues pertaining to national security and international strategy defence journals. Email: other He can be reached and to at rameshwar.yadav@gamil.com

#### **DEFENCE DIPLOMACY IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

"The war we are fighting today against terrorism is a multifaceted fight. We have to use every tool in our toolkit to wage this war -diplomacy, finance, intelligence, law enforcement and of course, military power - and we are developing new tools as we go along"

- Richard Armitage (British Celebrity)

## **Defence Diplomacy in an Era of Global Fragility**

The 21st Century marks multilevel, complex and dynamic global security challenges that nation-states face today. This fragile security environment aggravated by belligerent China, global terrorism and COVID-19, impinges upon national security challenges and objectives. The emerging multitude of global threats aggravated with budgetary pressures, increasingly demands coalition building, new partnerships and greater international co-operation being central to modern defence policy. Defence diplomacy in this Century with its hard and soft power has thus emerged as an important tool of foreign policy and national security for conflict prevention cum resolution and as a mechanism of cooperative security multilateralism.

#### **Defence and Diplomacy**

Defence and Diplomacy are two sides of the same coin. Defence diplomacy is essentially the peaceful application of resources from across the gamut of defence spectrum, to achieve positive outcomes in the development of a country's bilateral and multilateral relationships. It's an integrated approach to international relations and security cooperation to further the strategic defence interests and meet the national objectives. However, defence diplomacy can only be effective as part of the comprehensive national power when synchronised with all other levers of government power.

#### **Indian Experience of Defence Diplomacy**

The Indian experience since the independence of optimising defence has been both chary and tardy hounded by political neglect and bureaucratic inertia. Historically Indian defence capability building was overlooked making the most important pillar of national security, weak and exposed. The fears of a dominant military in an evolving democracy and the woes of the neighbourhood under military rule added to the distrust and neglect of matters military. Populist and political agendas further overweighed national security calculus. Adding to the despair the bureaucratic and diplomatic powers in India steadily ensured that Indian defence diplomacy never attained its full potential and the military kept out of the policy-making loop. As India progressed to a vibrant democracy with global recognition, the bureaucratic control only tightened with defence policy-making the exclusive charter of bureaucrats and diktats flowing from party-centric politics, devoid of military perspective. The defence budgetary support saw a landslide ratio of Defence to GDP spending and the political apathy to both hard and soft power military capability building. As a consequence, defence diplomacy despite its enormous potential never attained the desired stature.

However, in the recent past there India's military engagement with the nations has steadily expanded shedding the cloak of military isolation. The recent defence relations particularly with the USA and QUAD are on the upswing. The US is now the third-largest weapons exporter to India and areas of training, technology transfer, joint exercises, defence cooperation and trade are gradually assuming a significant area of India-US strategic convergence. However, it would be prudent for India not to dilute the time-tested strategic security relationship with Russia and trusted partners like Israel and France. India must balance global security partnerships and defence diplomacy astutely to avoid skewed security dependencies with myopic vision. Further, the depth and scope of defence diplomacy require a de-novo outlook to strengthen the structures, enhance engagements and above all change mindsets. The recent efforts by India have been admirable, yet certain steps need to be taken to improve both capabilities and capacities in this domain as enunciated in succeeding paragraphs.

#### **Strengthening India's Defence Diplomacy**

India's improving stature in the region along with other key geopolitical players has heralded its arrival as a major regional power in the global power matrix. India is in a unique position in the region in terms of defence and military robustness and the present geostrategic environment presents it an opportunity to harness its defence diplomacy potential and emerge as a key global player. India satisfies all the attributes needed for robust interaction in the military sphere empowered by its geography, strategic location and military power calculus. It's recent robust military responses both on the western and northern borders have brought to fore the global respect of its military power. It is thus time that the nation integrates and strengthens this pillar of defence diplomacy in the comprehensive national security calculus more synergistically.

## **Bridging the Civil-Military Disconnect**

One of the shortcomings that have hounded India's higher defence management and its overall security preparedness, is the civil-military disconnect. India continues to be ambivalent

about its military power communication in support of its national objectives displaying a lack of coordination between MoD, MEA, MHA and MoF on understanding national security. These ministries have to jointly conceive and implement the security roadmap and harness defence diplomacy. Ironically the lack of a national security has aided this strategy approach with segmented а speckled understanding of the national defence. This has led to a lack of military, political and diplomatic synergy and deficits in financial budgeting to achieve national both security and

The key challenge remains to change mindsets and integrating structures to facilitate better cohesion. Creation of a political-military affairs division within the Ministry of External Affairs and empowering country/area-specific desks with uniformed (serving or retired) representation is mandated. The current **Disarmament and International Security** Affairs (D&ISA) division in MEA leaves little time for defence diplomacy. At the same time, an increase in the number of Foreign Service personnel/diplomats matters military, at exposed the to Ministry of Defence dealing with international relations would facilitate better understanding and coordination.

foreign policy objectives. The Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA) an intended interface towards harnessing defence diplomacy lacks the teeth, structure and empowerment cocooned on its primary charter of intelligence. Paradoxically even the recent establishment of Department of Military Affairs though nascent has not shown any visible positivity towards defence diplomacy empowerment, instead focussing on myopic and skewed fiscal policies detrimental to soldier welfare.

#### **Empowering Defence Attachés**

Defence Attachés of a country abroad play a crucial role in harmonising defence and diplomacy. India has about 70 defence diplomats posted in 44 countries and managed to cover 91 countries through multiple accreditations, which is a sub-optimal. In contrast, about 113 countries have their Defence attaches or DAs in New Delhi. Though their numbers are increasing as India spreads its diplomatic footprint globally, however, the diplomatic world is governed strictly by the quid pro quo approach. Hence with no matching reciprocity from India, it leads to a strategic offset which needs to be corrected. Besides the number deficit of DA's, its time that the scope of specialisation, aptitude, responsibility and accountability based on systemic education and exposure should be institutionalised. One such structural change could be a military-diplomatic corps, a specialist cadre of professionals empowered by above abilities. Besides, creating specialised defence expertise within the civilian bureaucracy would also help considerably in improving understanding, coordination and synergy.

#### **UN Peace Keeping Participation**

India has been one of the largest contributors to United Nations peace operations since independence drawing global respect and recognition. It has also suffered among the highest casualties in these operations. UN peacekeeping participation has given credibility for India's pursuit for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council, while the military has accrued benefit from the professional exposure building a global image of a professional force. However, the context and nature of international peacekeeping are changing both financially and in participation as an instrument of global peace and stability. India thus needs to balance its UN participation and its expanded global security perimeter and threats to its borders realistically for maximum payoffs. Its participation irrespective of financial critics must garner democratic reforms of the UN Security Council and facilitate its seat in the UN Security Council for greater space in global decision making.

#### Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Management

Another area of defence diplomacy at which India has enormous potential and has displayed credibility is humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to other countries. Cooperation and assistance to countries in meeting disasters both natural and man-made is an important function of defence diplomacy. These include terrorism, pandemic threat, climatic disasters, earthquakes, Tsunami, anti-piracy operations and synergy in various humanitarian activities between nations. India's geography and national resources endow it suitably to meet these challenges and project the national image globally. These need to be harnessed with the synergy between all ministries of the government with strategic foresight.

## **Defence Education, Training & Delegations**

India as the second-largest military ironically still lacks an Indian National Defence University, edifice the basic of defence education for the nation. The need well established and was the foundation laid only to be mired in petty party politics and lack of a longterm vision. Such an institution would not only contribute to integral defence and international relations education both for the uniformed non-uniformed and citizens including bureaucrats, but could play a major role in inviting foreign students and their participation as part of defence

Both bilateral and multilateral military exercises and delegations must be seen as a key element of defence diplomacy, they serve several purposes, including interoperability enhancing and operational synergy. Veterans are another asset of trained and disciplined force which could optimise running training teams and military facilities overseas besides Defence University and training establishments without impinging integral combat on resources. Of course, this would require structures and institutionalisation.

diplomacy. Notwithstanding above, India's prestigious Defence Services Staff College and the National Defence College have hosted several foreign officer students from across the globe. Some alumni have even risen to the highest military and civil positions including Heads of States contributing to India's image

building. However, reciprocity of India's participation is grossly insufficient in our military education, training and exchange/ delegation visit programmes. The onesided vision of financial aspects has stalled visionary outlook of its long-term payoffs both for the military and the national interests. Both bilateral and multilateral military exercises and delegations must be seen as a key element of diplomacy. defence they serve several purposes, including enhancing interoperability and operational synergy. Veterans are another asset of trained and disciplined force which could optimise running training teams and military facilities overseas besides defence university and training establishments without impinging on integral combat resources. Of course, this would require structures and institutionalisation.

## **Defence Diplomacy & Atmanirbhar**

The future of Atmanirbhar lies in transiting from an arm import dependency to defence self-sufficiency cum self-reliance to arms export orientation. While periodically the MoD sets optimistic targets of export, presently from 0.5 Bn USD to 5 Bn USD by 2025, they often overlook the potential of defence diplomacy to correct the skewed defence trade balance. Defence Attaché's and defence delegation of Indian Industry along with MoD representatives including uniformed lot/veterans could give a fillip to this effort and make it a reality. Similarly acquisition of defence equipment and technologies where necessary must have the Defence Attaché's interface.

#### Conclusion

India's ascending military capabilities, the recognition of its role as a regional security provider, and its increasing weight in the international system present an opportunity for leveraging defence diplomacy. Defence diplomacy by its very nature is a low-cost and high-visibility option. As India stands at a defining moment of its history, the Indian government has to shed some of its archaic segmented outlooks and invoke priorities for a long-term vision of its national interests. The world looks up to India for its leadership in many fields including global security and cooperation for peace, growth and stability. Thus, resources must not curtail vision but pave the path for enlightened defence diplomacy to attain national objectives. The increasing demand and payoffs of

defence diplomacy will require devoting considerably greater resources by the nation. More than resources, improved defence diplomacy will require a change of mindsets and integrating structures with much closer cooperation between the services, between India's military and civilian leadership, and coordination between all ministries. The nation will do well to realise that in a globalised world plagued with a multitude of threats, diplomacy does not only belong to diplomats. Defence diplomacy as the 'Velvet Gauntlet' must find its rightful place in the nation's global trajectory.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Lt Gen Ashok Bhim Shivane, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd) is an alumnus of NDA and IMA and joined the Indian Army in Dec 1978. The General Officer has done MSc, double MPhil and PG DCM all with First Class/ Distinction, besides several military coveted courses in India and abroad. He represented India at the UNPKF in Guatemala, was in charge of anti-terrorist operations in J&K from 1997 to 1999, was in charge of Perspective Planning and Future



Restructuring of Indian Army and finally the coveted appointment of Director General Mechanised Forces of Indian Army. He commanded the elite Strike Corps from 2104 to 2015. He was awarded besides other decorations the COAS and Army Commander's Commendations for his distinguished service of the highest order and also nominated Honorary ADC to President of India in July 2017 in recognition of his distinguished services. The General Officer is renowned nationally and internationally in the domains of leadership, motivation talks, geostrategy, geopolitics, national security, terrorism, military capability building, military technology and international relations. He has chaired and been a keynote speaker at several international and national seminars including Chairman of the Indo-Russian Land System Conference 2017. An acclaimed defence analyst, he has several publications to his credit including a recent book/ research paper released by the Rajya Raksha Mantri. He is a Defence Advisor to several Think Tanks and Defence Magazines, besides Global Legal Innovation Advisory and Hospitality Industry and was Consultant to the Ministry of Defence (Ordnance Factory Board) from 2018 to 2020. The General Officer's detailed profile is on (www.linkedin.com/in/lt-gen-a-b-shivane-pvsm-avsm-vsm-retd-Linked in 137a60128) along with large number of his publications.

#### CHINA FROM ANCIENT TIMES TO THE PRESENT AND SINO-INDIA SKIRMISH 2020

"We the Chinese nation have the spirit to fight the enemy to the last drop of our blood, the determination to recover our lost territory by our own efforts, and the ability to stand on our own feet in the family of nations."

#### On Tactics Against Japanese Imperialism (December 27, 1935)

People's Republic of China (PRC), a country in East Asia is the most populous in the world with a population of 1.4 billion in 2019, covering an area of 9.6 million Sq. Kms, world's third or fourth country by area. China is a one-Party State led by CCP (Chinese Communist Party) with jurisdiction over 22 provinces, five autonomous regions, four directly controlled municipalities, namely Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, Chongqing, two Special Administrative Regions (SAR), namely Hong Kong and Macau.

China is world's first civilization in the fertile basin of the Yellow River. It has been a world's foremost economic power for 2 millennia, from the 1st to 19th Century. For 1000 years, China has been an absolute Monarchy with Xia dynasty in 21st Century BC to Qing Empire (1644-1912). Qing Empire was China's last dynasty. While China suffered heavy losses to foreign colonialism (UK, Portugal Japan, Spain, France and Dutch) the Chinese Monarchy collapsed and with effect from January 1912, Qing Dynasty was replaced by ROC (Republic of China). China was invaded by Japan during 1937 and briefly ruled over by Japan till 1945. Once Japan left China in 1945 because of its surrender in WWII, civil war commenced in ROC which lasted till 1949. ROC was divided into two parts with ROC retreating to Formosa, the present Taiwan and formed Kuomintang led ROC government. The other part called themselves PRC with capital in Beijing (former Peking). PRC or simply China was formed in 1949 and subsequently calling themselves the Mainland China with Taiwan a part of China under 'One China Policy' ever since 1972 and later formalized into a statute by China. Taiwan cherishes its independence and sovereignty.

China is one of the largest economies in the world by PPP since 2014 and world's second largest by GDP since 2010. China is also the largest manufacturing economy with leading financial centres viz, Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Shenzhen reckoned in terms of the 2020 global financial centres Index. China being a single party Socialist Republic with liberal use of repression and suppression of religious and ethnic minorities, human rights abuses, censorship, mass surveillance; has its own crop of political dissidents. The 1989 Tiananmen Square killing of protesting students is one such example. The encampment of 1 Million Uighur Muslims from Xinjiang Province for indoctrination is still another example of Chinese human rights violation. Application of strong security laws in Hong Kong has invited international condemnation. China is a Nuclear Weapon State with world's largest Army at 2.3 Million active troops. China is a Permanent Member of UN Security Council since 1971 after replacing ROC which was holding the permanent membership of UNSC from 1945 to 1971. China has been ruled with an iron hand and repression too by Mao Tse Tung, Deng Xiaoping and now by Xi Jinping (since 2012 onwards). China annexed Tibet in 1950 and India could hardly do anything and almost allowed Tibet to go to China's hands.

Since 2012, President Xi Jinping is in power and is ruling with a policy of repression and diehard suppression а as communist autocrat. At present he is in power up to 2024 and thereafter is likely to become the life President in terms of the Constitutional Amendments affected in 2018. He is holding almost all levers of tyrannical power in the country, be it CPC or Military Commission. China which had a 'Single Child' Policy since 1979 was finally converted into two children policy in 2015. Xi Jinping is well known for an

There have been some misdirected missions by Mao Tse Tung, namely the Great Leap Forward (1958-1961), a massive reforms project, going haywire and which resulted in 15-35 Million deaths; Great Chinese Famine (1959-1961) resulting in 15-55 Million deaths, Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), inconsistent phenomenon an resulting in 1.5 Million people killed. Deng Xiaoping (1904-1997) is considered architect of modern China but had his own share of misadventures. The Tiananmen Square massacre of 04 June 1989 is one such example where tanks rolled over protesting students. China has removed the information on Tiananmen Square killings from its historical records and public memory.

absolute control over domestic affairs and the people; has a megalomaniac view of expansionism. This has led China to have boundary disputes with as many as 22 countries including all the 14 neighbours. At present, China is involved in an active conflict with India at LAC in the Eastern Ladakh region ever since May 2020. Also, China has maritime border disputes with multiple countries. Apart from all these conflicts, China is rapidly going ahead with fortifications of islands and islets in the South China Sea. China has active territorial disputes with Japan (Senkaku Islands) South Korea (illegal Chinese fishing in S Korean waters and Chinese objections to the deployment of THAAD in S Korea), Bhutan, India, Taiwan and so on. As for South China Sea, the fortification of its islands and islets by China is in total violation of UN Convention on Laws of the Sea, much despised by USA and Western European countries. Tibet, Hong Kong, Inner Mongolia and Xinjiang constantly face the wrath of China in the form of increased repressions. In short, President Xi Jinping, CPC are the only centres of absolute power, exerting the subjugation policy on the people ruthlessly with absolute authoritarianism.

After China (PRC) was formed in September 1949, India became its great supporter with warmth and friendship showered on it liberally (by India), oblivious of the hidden agenda and intentions of China towards India. India relentlessly supported China's candidature for UN membership, which was held by ROC (Taiwan) since 1945. Finally, PRC was admitted to UN on 25 September 1971 in place of ROC, which does not have UN membership even now. The Permanent Membership of UNSC held by ROC till 1971 was also given to PRC making it all powerful. In 1972 with President Nixon's reformative policy towards China, US also endorsed 'One China Policy', in terms of which Taiwan is left high and dry, but has since emerged as an industrialized, independent and sovereign country. Only 15 countries have diplomatic relations with Taiwan. Most of other countries have Representative level Missions with Taiwan and vice versa. India too has Representative office in Taipei, capital of Taiwan and so has Taiwan in India.

India established diplomatic relations with China on 01 April 1950 and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru visited China in 1954. In 1954 Panchsheel Agreement was also signed with China and those were the days of Hindi- Chini Bhai Bhai. But this rosy picture of bilateral relations did not last long. During the 1950s, the then Chinese PM Chau En Lai visited India several times for official talks on border dispute. But Pandit Nehru was utterly disappointed with the obdurate Chinese attitude (1959) and these talks ended and did not lead anywhere. The stillness in the frosty bilateral relations was suddenly broken with Chinese attack on the Northern and Eastern sectors of LAC in 1962. The Chinese forces annexed 38000 Sq. Kms of Aksai Chin from J& K and is still retaining it with them. In 1963, Pakistan's PM ZA Bhutto handed over 5180 Sq. Kms of Shaksgam valley, a part of POK to China as a gift. China retains that too. That was the time when India-China bilateral relations had dipped to an abysmal low. Thereafter, there were two conflicts with China in 1967 and in 1986-87 and India recovered its lost ground sufficiently from what it was in 1962, consequent to which there have been efforts once again from both sides to reset the bilateral relations.

This exercise began on a serious note with PM Rajiv Gandhi visiting China in 1988. In 1993, PM Narasimha Rao visited China and an Agreement named 'Maintenance of Peace and Tranquillity on LAC' was signed by the two sides. In 2003 during PM AB Vajpayee's visit to China, 'Declaration on Principles for Relations and Comprehensive Cooperation' was issued jointly and it was also decided to have Special Representatives level talks on border disputes (it has since met 20 times but has been inconclusive with no significant progress). In April 2005, during Chinese PM Wen Jiabao's visit to India, a Strategic and Cooperative Partnership for Peace and Prosperity was signed. Relations between India and China remained just stable with occasional and sometimes frequent incursions by China at LAC and retracting soon after following military level talks or confronted by Indian forces (without firing any shots). But in the process, China would grab some land on the LAC, termed as 'salami slicing' of territories, famously known as intruding 6 Kms into LAC and retracting 4 Kms and in the process grabbing 2 Kms. The exact border line is not delineated at LAC and China takes advantage of such a situation although we keep thwarting China's intrusions at LAC.

Such was the rapport or understanding between them that it was a great betraval (second after 1962) on the part of China when it attacked India at the LAC in Eastern Ladakh sector on 05 May 2020 (more on this later in the present note). In November 2018, 21st round of SR (Special Representative) talks on border dispute) were held. In January 2012, an Agreement called 'Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC)' was signed between the two sides. As for bilateral trade it was \$ 3.0 Billion in the year 2000 and by 2018 it rose to \$ 95.54 Billion, but with a large trade deficit in favour of China.

With PM Narendra Modi coming to power in May 2014, the Sino-India bilateral relations saw an upswing, between PM Modi and President Xi Jinping. In September 2014, the latter came to India and in May 2015, PM Modi visited China. President of India Pranab Mukherjee visited China in May 2016. From 2014-2019, PM Modi & President Xi Jinping met several times during the multilateral BRICS and SCO Summits as both China and India are its members. In April 2018, PM Modi went to Wuhan (China) for informal talks with President Xi Jinping. In October 2019, President Jinping Xi arrived at Mahamallapuram for informal talks with PM Modi. Between 2014 and 2019 PM Modi and President Xi Jinping met a total of 18 times.

There are prominent Indian companies in China such as Dr Reddy' Labs. Sundaram Fasteners, Mahindra and Mahindra, Tata etc. There are 100 Chinese companies in India. Indian community in China is 30,000, but comprises mostly of students.

On 05 May 20 it started the India- China conflict at LAC in the Eastern Ladakh region when China surreptitiously attacked India at LAC on several points eg. Depsang, Galwan valley, Hot Springs, Gogra, Pangong Lake and on several other locations and heights on LAC. In May 2020, China also objected to our construction of infrastructure roads, bridges, tunnels and fortification of existing roads by Border Road Organization, a GOI undertaking, experts in construction of high-altitude roads on the borders. It is strange since China is carrying out much larger fortifications including helipads, missile silos and bunkers on their side of LAC. India during pandemic had stopped patrolling in the areas along LAC and was least expecting an attack at the LAC positions. In March 2020 India, in a

friendly gesture, had sent a special consignment of masks, sanitizers, medicines and other medical supplies to China by IAF plane. But that was the time when China had already made up their mind to attack India at an opportune time! India under leadership of PM Modi swiftly deployed troops at the LAC to confront China and stop their advances in the region.

So far, a series of five WMCC (Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination) meetings and eight rounds of Commander level talks have taken place. but without any implementation by China, even after agreeing to disengagement at LAC. It is felt only now that India China close and are to disengagement and descalation at LAC. China being a deceitful and treacherous country, it is difficult to believe them and have trust in their statements. Intentions of Chinese are never revealed. Trade deficit between India and China can be bridged, but it is nigh impossible to bridge the trust deficit between them. Apart from WMCC and Commanders meetings; 04 on September 20, the Defence Minister of China General Fonghe and our At present, 50,000 Indian troops are deployed at LAC and approximately the same number by China are facing Indian troops, eye to eye. The first bilateral meeting of Commanders was held on 06 June 20 at Chushul post on LAC. But its effect was shattered to smithereens on the night of 15/16 June 2020 when the soldiers on the two sides fought with one another with bare hands and clubs employed by Chinese soldiers, resulting in 20 deaths on Indian side and nearly 43 deaths on Chinese side in the Galwan valley. For improving the infrastructure further by India on Darbuk- Shyok- DBO Road (255 Kms), leading to high airstrip altitude DBO and other constructions,12000 additional workers were deployed. China at present is in possession of 1200 Sq. Kms of our land on the LAC. India troops in a swift action have occupied Southern heights of Pangong lake on 29/30 August 20, hurting pride of China.

Defense Minister Rajnath Singh met in Moscow on the sidelines of SCO meeting being held there. Again, on 10 September 20, EAM Dr S Jaishankar and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met in Moscow on the sidelines of SCO meeting being held there. Some broad agreements have been arrived at but their implementation particularly by China is a difficult task to fathom. The seventh round of Commander level talks was held on 12 October 20 and the 8th round on 06 November 20. Some hopes have been raised for disengagement but it is easier said than done as China is linking the present talks to all other outstanding issues and their resolution may not be possible at the specific Commanders level meetings. Meanwhile, our troops at heights of 15000 feet are braving the extreme low temperatures and getting acclimatized. Modern winter equipment and clothing has been provided to the soldiers to face the harsh winter months of sub-zero temperatures ahead. A combat responsive logistics support system has been built up, besides the road communication infrastructure to support the military formations deployed in high altitude areas.

In 2019 alone 680 LAC violations were made by China and 20 round of SR talks have taken place but without any concrete results. China does not want any solution either, except the one which would give the entire disputed territory to China as it tries to claim or grab. It can wait for decades in this regard and their policy remains the same even with changes in leadership of China. China has objected to India declaring J&K and Ladakh as UTs and consistently places its claim on Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh. The strategic theory by Mao Tse Tung has been that in a Chinese hand, Tibet is the palm while the five fingers are: Ladakh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh! China is a staunch supporter of Pakistan and an adversary to India. Both Pakistan and China are in collusion, directed against India. Our statements on POK, Gilgit Baltistan, Aksai Chin, Shaksgam Valley as belonging to India, irks both China and Pakistan immensely. China has intruding designs in Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Maldives against India's national interests. China wants to wrench our neighbouring countries away from the Indian influence, thereby harming our interests economically, socially and diplomatically.

India in a very touching gesture has constructed a memorial to the brave 20 soldiers who were martyred in Galwan valley on the night of 15/16 June 2020, 120 Kms post on DS-DBO road in the Ladakh region. Their names have also been inscribed at the Central War Memorial in New Delhi. Further a 21-gun salute was given to the martyred Nyima Tenzin, company leader in the Special Frontier Force who died in September 20 in an accident at the LAC. His body was wrapped in Indian and Tibetan flags, in a befitting tribute to the martyred soldier. The Tibetans

are against the intransigence and non-cooperative authoritarian attitude of the Chinese and demand total independence from China.

In conclusion, the India- China skirmish at LAC in the Eastern Ladakh sector may continue for some more time and perhaps China is waiting for the spring season to arrive after the winter months, as the cold and frosty days combined with minus 30 degrees centigrade temperatures- are non-conducive for undertaking operations against India in the Ladakh region. But Indian leadership and Armed forces are well prepared to face any situation at the LAC. One thing is certain that China had not visualized a matching response from India at LAC and China had thought that it could just grab land at the LAC and then settle for endless talks with India as before. PM Modi's address to the Jawans at Jaisalmer on 14 November 20 was very impressive when he clearly derided the expansionist policies of China. Certainly, our country is in safe hands.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Shri RM Aggarwal belongs to the Indian Foreign Service (IFS), which he joined in 1975. An accomplished Diplomat with a successful career spanning 34 years in the IFS. During his brilliant career, apart from a few postings at Headquarters of Ministry of External Affairs, he had been Ambassador / High Commissioner to Angola, Gabon, Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and



Principe, Botswana and Yemen. He has also been Additional Director General at Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), a wing of Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi. He served in Colombo, Moscow (two times) and at Brussels in Europe. Presently, Shri RM Aggarwal is posted as Additional Director General Amity Centre for International Cooperation & Alliances University, at Amity University, Noida since March 2009. The gentleman may be contacted on rmaggarwal@amity.edu

# SAINIK SCHOOLS MODEL- FOUNTAINHEAD OF NDA ASPIRANTS AND A CAREER RESEARCH LABORATORY

# "Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power"

## - Sainik School Diaries

There was an article recently on the type of education, given in Sainik Schools for all other schools by the PMO. This thought possibly emanated from the fact that it induces discipline and national respect and a way to have more children ready to serve the country. Primarily with the aim of nurturing children for the Armed forces, Sainik schools have grown into a 'microcosm of learning and young leadership' of young giants with cerebral thought process and spirit of patriotism, having the strength to face the world and sacrifice yourself for the national flag, in case required. This is because of a selected few who get an opportunity of undertaking this training, after a wide range of researched and thoroughly systematic rigorous tests. This system is what may be actually required for any country. Even though this training has been proposed to be given during schooling to all including girls by many, it is for the first time PMO has emphasised on a mandate and hence the focus. Now the same training is also getting imparted to girls. It is a welcome move to produce upright young professionals for the nation.

It addresses the Challenges of National Security which needs attention on the following:

- Cultural identity under siege
- Domestic dynamics & British legacies
- International developments along borders
- Need for Indian strategies & working on Dilemma
- Utilisation of balance of power
- Defining India's National Interests
- Technological evolution and Cyber threats
- Land, Space & Water ways preparedness
- Need for National Character building through compulsory Military training

True interest from the Government and that too from PMO has made me react happily and positively, because of my own career having been shaped by Sainik School Tilaiya, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand. I owe all my success to the school, to the teachers, to its culture and the team-work taught to us to become a complete all-round person with due balance needed for life. The school Alumni have reached the top services starting from Defence forces to Police, CRPF, CISF, Academics, Administration, Medicine, Engineering, Business, Trainers, Researchers and Sportsmen. They have excelled in all walks of life with confidence despite all available problems of the society. The difference has been that the daily routine is followed with traditional 'Guru-Shishya-Parampara' with rigour. It ingrained in us the sense of togetherness for all causes since most of the activities involved team spirit from our teachers/ mentors working and spending valuable time with us, leaving no stone unturned for the purpose. I will discuss how this serves as the fountainhead for NDA or Defence force job aspirants.

On the earth, individuality determines personality and aspirations are the product of so many dimensions of interactions and experiences. Choice of Career is therefore a very difficult decision. While discussing and understanding the various aspects of a Career, I was happy to interpret Career for Caring. It has a deep hidden meaning and this article brings this new interpretation and point of view of the hidden design of the Lord Almighty in each one of us so uniquely. God has left the choice of career to us but has given us our share of strengths and intellect and wisdom. The moment one tries to understand the meaning of life and its purpose, the imprint is visualized and felt by heart. If we agree that, we are here to take care of our fellow beings, share with them the opportunities, resources, acquired knowledge, skills, even wealth and the like, We then have to choose a direction of Career where we are at our best version by decoding our own self. This has to be the direction of passion, no expectation, enjoyment of giving, caring, sharing, being our own real self. The difference designed by the creator has to be appreciated and linked with its usefulness using our wisdom rather than being rebuked or put down. The universal leadership demands togetherness and that also comes from our scriptures where the whole world is one family. Yoga has the same essence of Unity. But unless we as individuals keep ourselves at our very best, this unity is not possible. We came up with a unique concept of 'Lifetime Career Research Laboratory' with a deep sense of enquiry to understand each individual for a longer time through tests and analyse the data for a longer period to come to a

sufficient level of confidence to prescribe Career Passport with all details of the path to be followed.

I discuss below the aspects involved in upbringing of each child in Sainik Schools by a balanced mix of experts of Academic faculty and rigour of the Armed forces in its officials, namely the Principal, Head Master and the Registrar. I will share some genuine loving moments spent in my school during 1976-83 during the Principal-ship of three Principals of whom I would specially mention Col. P. S. Satsangi in whom we saw a Leader, a Philosopher, a Player, a Speaker, a practical gentleman who would teach us to eat even the unthinkable 'banana skin and pieces of coal', as it may require to be taken during an emergency. He gave this example in the Mess with an actual demonstration, by eating it himself. This made learning happen. It would also be unfair, if I do not eulogise the transformation undertaken during the period of Col R. L. Gadeock, the second Principal of the School, who not only contributed exponentially to the infrastructural facilities and qualitative improvement of the curriculum, but also emphasised on development of sterling character attributes in all students, sportsmanship potential and quintessential inter personal relationships. His persona and immaculate demeanour impacted positively on many students of the school during his time. Daily routine highlights at the School are given below:

- 1. Day began with morning Physical Training (PT) starting with 11 Kms of cross- country run, making a great beginning, and doing it with all friends taking care that each one completes the race. The practice of Yoga and group exercises on drum beats made a great start for the day. It is being continued even today keeping us all fit and away from diseases.
- 2. With limited resources we learnt to share the washrooms and still be in time and punctual for our zero period.
- 3. First year (class VI) being the toughest, we got used to the routine later and started loving the pattern, so badly required today in each child.
- 4. Breakfast, lunch and Dinner of the best quality was always done together, in one of the biggest messes of the country, being served by loving employees with so much care that we forgot the parenting by our mothers. Balanced diet was always maintained.

- 5. Compulsory sports of all types were made available and that made the whole difference, bringing in a sense of competition, breaking records in track and field events and other regular sports like football, hockey etc.
- 6. Social service in terms of cleaning was a general routine, inculcating good habits early in life.
- 7. Class level competitions in English and Hindi declamation, extempore and group discussions were a norm.
- 8. Personality development happened so naturally while organizing various events and following seniors. There was no scope of escaping, since a sense of enjoyment and self-discipline was built in and all did it together.
- 9. We were made to have regular class hours with utmost academic rigour by excellent teachers, and then a self-study (Prep) was compulsorily in the classroom in the evening, after the sports, from 7 to 9 p.m. to see us complete our daily academic task.
- 10. Having had that we finished our day around 10 p.m. with our dinner and our teacher would go to the extent of seeing whether we washed our feet and even removed water droplets between our fingers so as to get up fresh again at 5 a.m. the next day.
- 11. Celebration of all festivals together had its own charm with the faculty.
- 12. Faculty members in the campus gave the desired love and affection required and we always felt at home.

We were made genuinely strong in our character and were made to inculcate steadfastness with resolve to achieve success in all dimensions through meticulously designed system of imparting high-quality education. I stress that this type of EDUCATION will solve the problem at the grass root level. Finding right kind of solutions for all areas will never be a problem, since the training has all possible in-built ingredients. Some important characteristics required in all students' personality in schooling period are given below:

That they all should be self-disciplined, confident, good decision maker, proactive in nature, systematic planner for all small and big problems in the class and in the society, resilient fighter, scrupulously honest, thoroughly obedient, innovative thinker, go-getter, articulate speaker, have physical prowess, be a team maker and follower, ethical leader, taking the problem head-on, fearless to take action against wrong doings, respecting the uniform, the flag and the country. An

all-round nurtured personality with awakened soul and state of mind in all dimensions of life is the refined gentleman product of SAINIK SCHOOLS.

Some of the most important factors, which left an eternal impact and indelible impression on the unignited minds of each child in school were:

- Place (Away from home with focused aim at an early age)
- Complete Campus / Gurukul Environment
- > The curricula (CBSE, best to make them fit at par with others)
- > Total involvement of teachers (I would call them as Mentors for life),
- The involved Administration from the Armed forces, with zero tolerance on indiscipline.
- Government support (subsidised education) for the children from average income family.
- The meticulous planning & implementation, wherein students were kept active from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day to develop a holistic persona.
- The exposure in all areas including Academics, Sports and Games, viz, Boxing, Running, Horse riding, Swimming, Rock-climbing, Boating, Cycling, Sight-seeing, Seeing of historical monuments and places.
- Family type interaction with the teachers being away from parents at an early age, a special personal touch from the House Master.
- Learning from seniors and giving it to juniors etc., passing the baton with honour, pride and grace.
- > All inclusive approach without any interference from outside
- Uniformity in word and spirit

This moulded each child into a mature person with a balanced outlook in life by the time he reached Class X and they were already young dynamic leaders by Class XI or XII standards. Decisions about their careers were being taken while they were undergoing their schooling. Their performance at different levels was being tested every day, every moment with minutest details to produce a perfect product, which would be able to face the challenges in the years ahead. Many things came so naturally in seven years, when we stayed together. It created an immutable bond of camaraderie and instinctively generated the feeling to help support each other for life as good human beings. We are friends even today after a protracted period of 37 years, even though we have not met for decades. Thanks to the digital social media we are together again and remain in touch regularly. We understood each other and cooperated to become stronger with collective wisdom and feeling of togetherness in life. May this culture be imbibed in the citizenry of our country, to make us all succeed in our endeavours with a benevolent attitude as a good Samaritan.

Bringing out the best in each child with compulsory training in these formative years made a good impact on our lives. Once we mature and are made capable of taking our own decisions, career does not remain a question. It only remains a matter of choice and interest and furtherance of the area to find a place in life. In case, we introduce this education system in all our schools, changes are bound to happen. I will go a step further to add, that the same be given to both boys and girls, learning from what they can do in all fields including cricket. The positive changes expected in a developing society will only happen with a strategized plan towards shaping of human resource early in life at the primary and secondary school level, rather than at University level. Let us not delay the process, or we may have to suffer in this regard interminably.

Inspired by Possibilities, I reiterate that everyone on this planet sees objects around him /her place of interaction or movement, observes people, interacts with so many different people with varying degree of appreciation, experiences and situations in all walks of life, makes decisions and all these directly or indirectly influence our future. Every problem is unique but there are so many different possibilities of solving it. Life is full of opportunities and possibilities at all its stages. It would be heartening, if answers to the problems in life can be taken care by humanity, so that the journey can be further smoothened and unimpeded & clearly understood in a perspicuous perspective.

Everyone is not lucky to get into a Sainik School. We make a conscious endeavour and should be inspired by myriad possibilities that nature has already put before us. Apart from Armed forces other avenues do exist and the present technological era with digital literacy and Govt's seriousness about the universal National Education Policy 2020, the opportunities are galore.

All we require is the following:

Creative vision Organized thought Controlled attention Linking the possibilities with the dots created through our laboratory tests, mentioned earlier, one is expected to have a clear way forward as far as his /her Career is concerned. All of the above-mentioned points are ways of looking inward at ourselves closely and introspecting, as to what will give us the most blissful moments and how consistently the same can be followed for a longer period of existence. This inspiration needs the comprehensive perception of our persona, skill sets, value system and our response to these, with a greater depth of understanding, which will intrinsically guide us to devote our lives to our own chosen career path. Looking at Visible Career Contours, we understand that every human being is destined to excel, but reality is different. What makes this peak performance of majority fall off the track and eventually get side-lined?

The growing eco-system essentially lacks certain very important ingredients, which is so very essential for excellence, especially in India. Some problems are elucidated below to fathom deeper for a solution.

**Good & Healthy Childhood-** depends on family background & their priorities apart from the individual's instincts which are inherent and hidden.

**Society-** where he grows and interacts with his peer group fellows and actually gets involved in the learning process. The personality that comes out is a mixed product with no original self-realization sense. Individuality & true self does not take root most often. Residential system solves it partly.

Good and Balanced Education system- provided by parents and the prevailing Government system. The financial health of parents is also a vital contributory factor to ensuring success.

**Encouragement to the Child-** for following unbiased, balanced and rational path and still to be totally free to apply his/ her originality & creativity. Child needs love and affection and he/ she can contribute only when he/she feels sincerely loved and encouraged like from a real guru.

**False propaganda-** positioning of some irrelevant thoughts, biases of religion, sects, regions, languages, cultures dominate in early nurturing period.

A system to observe the growth pattern of the child and shape their career along that path, which is mandated for attaining excellence.

Some daring questions demands answers:

What time does a child visualize the actual contours of future career ahead of him?What are those contours?Who observes them first?Who notes them?Who applies them in the real life matching with individual passion ?

We see that the Gap Exists. This is to be done scientifically, else the capabilities and intellect will only be utilized for basic survival and not for excellence. We therefore need a 'Lifetime Career & Skill Research Lab'. Career Contours are usually visible at an early age, but we neglect them with the concept that the things (thought, actions, and related initial habits) will change with maturity. The answer to this is only approximate and no care is given at the time it is actually required. It either subsides because of social, parental and peer pressure, or comes out at later stage of life. But this basic instinct is well hidden at our conscious or subconscious level. Can we record it and note it for the future?

This is possible with the involvement of entire family and school teachers, maids, playmates and documented in some place of individual Career Library data. This data set collection is very important and has to be accurate and requires to be recorded continuously under a close watch or a laboratory test to put at all points of contact & interaction especially at the first age code level namely from 5 to 15 years of age. This is not possible without a Detailed Research and the same is not done anywhere in the World so far. This is one of its kind which requires support from all corners. This is the right time to attempt to study human beings in terms of all possible dimensions and use the data to group them under one category of 'Career Map' where he fits best. Sainik School models can be replicated for all Career options with different foci.

Sainik School culture has the answer to many such requirements and once research on Career in general happens, we would have well nurtured soldiers to inspire each one of us. Sainik Schools thus remain the fountainhead of NDA aspirants in particular and a harbinger of all round development of each child in general. I end by stressing on the fact, that we need soldiers in a multi-front dimension in our Nation, hence the suggested model of Career tests.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

As Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr. Raman Kr Jha is at present the chief academic and administrative officer of the University and also responsible for providing strategic direction to the institution's employees and for fostering the University's high-level contacts. Educated in University of Delhi after coming from a disciplined background of Sainik School Tilaiya, he is an active research figure in the field of Physics and Computer Science and Education. He has been



the recipient of a number of scholarships and awards. He has an Academic Administration & Teaching experience of ~30 years.

He was Assistant Professor at University of Delhi Colleges, Delhi from Dec 1990 to Oct 1997, Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor at SMIT, Sikkim from Nov 1997 - August 2009, Head, Deptt of Information Technology at Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology; 2007 – 2009, Head, Deptt of Physics at Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology; Sikkim 2007 - 2009, Dean, Student Affairs, SMIT, Sikkim 2005 – 2009, Founder Principal at Surendra Inst of Engg & Mgt, Siliguri, Darjeeling, West Bengal, 2009 - 2013, Vice Chancellor at Indus International University; Himachal Pradesh, 2013 – 2016 and later he was Founder Vice Chancellor Amity University Jharkhand, Ranchi, June 2016 onwards. He has large number of publications to his credit on Science subjects of Quantum Information Technology, Quantum-Cryptography, Physics & Astrophysics of Quark Gluon Plasma, Temperature Dependent Dynamics of Confinement, Mass spectrum of the temperature dependent Bethe Salpeter, Equation for composites of Quarks with a Coulomb plus a linear kernel, Finite Temperature Schrödinger Equation: Solution in Coordinate Space, Recent Trends and new Directions of Research in Cybernetics & System Theory, Impact of Information Technology on sustainable development.

He has many books to his credit on "Perspectives on Higher Education of India-Developing an Integrated Model", "Superconductivity: A new Approach based on the Bethe-Salpeter Equation in the Mean-Field Approximation", "Computer fundamentals and Programming with emphasis on integrated circuits", "Essential Mathematics for Physicists and Engineers", "Quantum Information Technology- A challenge for Physicists and Mathematicians and Computer Professionals". Prof Dr. Raman Kr Jha is an iconic leader and motivator of youth of our Nation.

# "HOLISTIC GROWTH MODEL OFVILLAGE TO STATE LEVEL THROUGH EMPOWERED EX-SERVICEMEN LEADERSHIP"

"Much of the India that we dream of still lies ahead of us; housing, power water and sanitation for all; bank accounts and insurance for every citizen; connected and prosperous villages; and smart and sustainable cities."

- Mr Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

## Introduction

In the previous millennia, about three fourth of the Indian population's livelihood depended on agriculture-oriented employment, since it was based on an agrarian rural economy. The population had to contend with archaic feudal land system, 'zamindari' syndrome, tenancy laws, etc. The low productivity in farming was attributed to use of primitive technologies, rain-based cropping, low threshold awareness of modern methodologies and fertilizers. It was only 69 years after independence, that the government strategized policy initiatives to ameliorate rural poverty conditions by abolition of draconian land systems and introduced reforms, cooperatives, micro finance schemes, insurance of crops etc. As the industrialization movements gained momentum, it attracted the rural segment (more literate) to migrate towards townships and metropolitan areas for better job opportunities. The rural areas advancement and visualized progression in developmental activities suffered abysmally, to the detriment of the rural population.

In this article, which is a derivative of my Doctoral thesis, a conscious causative analyses towards discerning the impediments in the existing growth structure of the rural areas has been reflected, as also the administrative set up has been examined, identified and thereafter recommended efficacious models / structures and have proposed suitable selection of promising ex-servicemen from all domains of defence forces to provide transformation leadership in the respective villages of their own districts. These selected patriotic personnel with prodigious potential and endemic soldierly leadership attributes in the age bracket between 30 to 55 years, by virtue of being in the Armed Forces would be extremely well

trained, educated and experienced, characterized by deterministic, focused and resilient attitude to ensure 'Holistic and Inclusive Growth' of rural areas (of their respective states) in a fully integrated and dedicated manner, fully synergized with the elected panchayats of the Panchayati Raj System. This endeavour embodying nationalistic fervour combined with time bound initiatives would culminate into noteworthy development and multifaceted progression, thereby contributing substantially to India's inexorable quest for creation of smart villages, which would greatly assist India in attaining its due status as a super power in the international comity of nations.

Today, in the developing, developed and underdeveloped nations of the world combined, there are more than 3 billion people who live in villages, often in a condition of underutilization of talent and resources and great sense of relative deprivation. A typical household in any of the over six lac villages in India, or elsewhere in the world would present the image of a truly versatile and a self-sufficient economic unit. Roughly half the world population lives in these rural areas, often relying on archaic technology, untapped resources. underdeveloped skills, assistance through subsidies, even donation oriented policies for earning their basic livelihood. There is a lack of

As a global society, particularly in developing and emerging nations. humanity stands at its defining moment in history, mandating critical evolutionary imperatives for the amelioration of poverty conditions, comprising prosperity with inclusion, development equity with and industrialization with environmental concern. There is large-scale disparity between the rural and the urban areas of the world has manifested in the income levels and the quality of human amenities. This is a loss of opportunity and a matter of great concern and trepidation, as regards the sustenance of 'peace, progress and prosperity' in an eternal dimension of time.

specialization from the perspective of both technology and capability. With a large exodus of the rural youth towards the cities, the only credible and educated workforces available in the villages, apart from the uneducated farmers are the 'retired personnel of the armed forces', who can be the common assured link to accentuate this complete process of transformation.

The ex-servicemen from the Armed Forces is yet another highly 'experienced pool' available in the civil society, which if dovetailed into the planning and monitoring process of the various government schemes will pay rich dividends. The officers of this 'purple spectrum' because of their expertise in 'transformational leadership' not only have the commendable ability to perceive and plan things impeccably, but most importantly their ability to execute honourably with assured probity.

#### **Genesis of Problems after Partition of India**

Pre partition Feudal 'Zamindari' System prevailed in the Indian Socialist environment, wherein the Agrarian rural Economy contributed 13% to GDP, with 68-70% population in rural / tribal areas, with about 40% Indians being illiterate. 60% of the poor resided in Naxal areas (Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, MP, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, UP & Telangana; 29.97% rural families were landless & depended on manual labour for livelihood; 23.52% rural families had no literate adult above 25 years. UNDP ranked India 135/ 187 nations with 21.9% Below Poverty Line in 6,38,588 villages in 612 Districts and income less than \$1.25 per day; only 46.1% villages had drinking water in their premises with 37.7 Million people affected by waterborne diseases per year. Also, 1.5 Million of the entire population was dying of Diarrhoea every year; as per statistical records of analyses done by eminent authors of various books written during the period of 2014-2017.

Problems which persisted in the country were 'Crippled Governance, Lack of Quality Infrastructure, Poor Education & Skills, Inadequate Hygiene, Sanitation & Healthcare facilities, Poor Employment & Low threshold of Industry & Production, Widespread Poverty & Inequality' etc. Over 6 lakh villages missed 'Industrial Revolution' & 'Information Technology Revolutions' and partially the 'Green Revolution' too. Neo Liberal Policy embodied the spirit of 'Liberalization, Globalization & Privatization', thereby providing free market trade, deregulation of financial markets, individualisation and shifting away from state welfare provisions. Diversification of Labour into Non-Agricultural Sector with better wages took place; but to have 8-9% GDP, investments were required to be 24-35% in the next 20 years. Villages essentially desired marketing linkages and partnerships with urban business houses for overall growth. Urbanites had psychological ascendency and a kind of superiority complex over the villagers.

The GOI investment priorities would relatively be in favour of urban projects in the country.

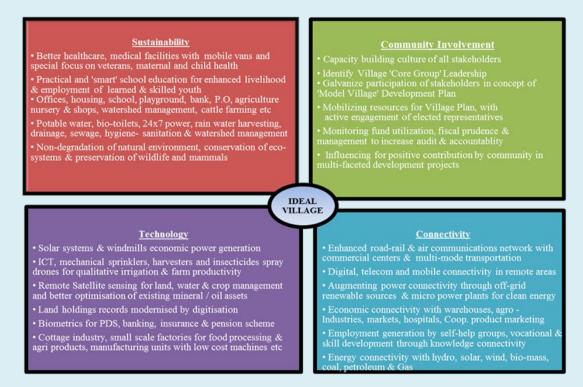
The First 5 Year Plan focused on Rural Land Reforms, Irrigation upgrades, Cooperative farming, later displaced by Industrialization in Second 5 Year Plan; wrongly perceived to benefit half of the population only. Pandit Nehru, was a Fabian Socialist, responsible to stifle growth & Indian entrepreneurship to a large extent. Non-Aligned Movement crumbled in 1991 and USSR fragmented into Russia and other independent republics. Socialism collapsed due to 'Balance of Payment' crisis in India, wherein Dr Manmohan Singh, then Finance Minister of India leveraged the GDP from 5.4%. to 8.8% in the year 2000-2010, due to the economic reforms towards greater Industrialization.

Small rural townships with good infrastructure had to be developed to facilitate modern marketing strategies; better commercial activities had to be undertaken with lower transportation costs. Health Centres, Schools, Shopping Complex, Cottage/ Small Industries were to be established; integration of the rural economy with national economy through Public Private Partnership (PPP) was mandated. Article 40 of Indian Constitution under DPSP directs States to take measures to organize Village Panchayats and endow them with powers for self-governance. The Community Development Programme in 1952 and the Balwant Rai Mehta Committee of 1957 gave rise to the 3 Tier Panchayati Raj structure with 'Zilla Parishad' (ZP, Distt Level), Panchayat Samiti (PS, Block/ Taluk Level) and Gram Panchayat (Village Level). The DC is Chairperson of ZP (Democratic decentralization), and executive powers lies with the PS and direct elections to were to be held for the Gram Panchayat. Duties were primarily to prepare and implement Economic Development & Social Justice Plan, to levy and collect Taxes, Duties, Tolls and Fees etc.

Panchayati Samiti gets its income from the Grants in Aid and loans from the state govts to implement schemes for agriculture, establish Primary Health Centres (PHCs), primary schools, drinking water supply, sewage & drainage, road construction, cottage/ small scale industries, cooperative societies and establish youth organizations. Ministry of Rural Development & Ministry of Panchayati Raj both lack synergy and implementation, the problems are due to lack of funds and clear demarcation of duties. Panchayats are ineffective to take tangible initiatives in Education, Health, Nutrition, Small Industry, Pastures & Forestry programmes.

The Questionnaire specifically prepared by me was responded promptly by the DC, Ooty on the ex-servicemen's abilities to contribute towards implementation of various village schemes.

Suggestion of MLAs to be Panchayati Samiti, Block President is laudable, by making their constituency co-terminus with the block, inspections & performance reports on panchayats, grants direct transfer to panchayats, levy tax on large land holdings and agriculture income. Good governance needs translation into a quantifiable 'Annual Index' on specific Development Scheme Indicators. Vision of an 'Adarsh Gaanv' (Ideal Village) to be that of self-sustainment contributing to overall growth of the Nation, with the objectives of preventing distress migration to urban areas, villages to be hubs of economic development, provide easier, faster and cheaper access to markets of agriculture produce, social empowerment of all sections of society, create culture of cooperative living & inclusive growth etc. 21st Century 'Ideal Village' in India needs direct support from the DC, requires community involvement, connectivity, modern technology, sustainability and four implementable issues of efficacious 'Audit, Accountability, Monitoring & Enforcement'.



Ideal Village: Salient Issues pertaining to Village Development

## Aim of Integration of Ex-servicemen with Village Administration

Socio-economic challenges of 300 Million people require critical support to move out of poverty; gainful employment to be created for 12 Million people every year; employment generation of 2-3 Million per year and equally critical is to provide food, drinking water, healthcare, quality education, energy and security. Can 'Transformation Leadership' potential of suitably selected ex-servicemen be exploited for 'Governance Augmentation & Progression' by executing and regularly monitoring developmental projects at grass roots level, thus acting as a pivotal link in the entire process of perfect governance, thereby bringing about 'Wholesome Transformation of Villages'.

## **Primary Objectives for Village Upgradation and Progression**

The analyses were done for a period post 2000 to 2015, starting from Asian Fiscal Crisis 1997 to World Economic Recession 2008. To analyse the nature of our present governance and their shortcomings, as applicable to villages in rural India, the pattern of low trajectory growth, its impact on living standards and advancement opportunities in the Indian bucolic scenario.

The aim was to recommend a new Societal Organization Structure and Administrative Setup (SOSAS) strategy. Innovative action plan was to be suggested towards achieving inclusive growth with better Audit, Accountability,

Monitoring Enforcement and mechanisms. Hence, exploiting the result-oriented disciplined training of the ex-servicemen leadership potential of the armed forces, as a pivotal symbiotic link for wellintegrated governance with the Panchayati Raj system to collectively ensure completion of development projects in the villages progressive in manner. a Collectivism with local area exservicemen would bring about

Existing system of governance and growth implementation in rural India lacks vision, synergy, transparency and modernization plan implementation. Focus was on well evaluated outcomes, collaboration of specialized experience and balanced leadership provided by select exservicemen to the Panchayati Raj system, under aegis of Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR).

relatively expeditious 'Wholesome Growth Oriented Transformation' of the

villages, for attaining highly advanced modern entities of the country in the rural areas.

Existing system of governance and growth implementation in rural India lacks vision, synergy, transparency and modernization plan implementation. Focus was on well evaluated outcomes, collaboration of specialized experience and balanced leadership provided by select ex-servicemen to the Panchayati Raj system, through the aegis of Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR).

An alternative 'Rural Development Model', with infusion of 'transformational leadership' potential of the ex-servicemen assuming greater responsibility and better accountability through empowerment. The enriched, extensive and diverse spectrum of experience of disciplined ex-servicemen, can be exploited for 'Governance Augmentation and Progression' by expeditiously executing and monitoring growth and developmental projects at grass root levels. This concept will be a credible pivotal link of progression, fully integrated procedurally, contributing to an efficient contemporary process of implementing ideal conditions of governance in the Panchayati Raj system. It would bring about sustainable 'Wholesome Evolution' of the villages in the country for the benefit of rural areas, through a validated constitutional empowerment of local area exservicemen.

### **Tamil Nadu Model of Rural Development**

The Tamil Nadu model of rural development symbolises balanced combination of growth, welfare and exemplary governance, conforming to the 'Amma' model of Development, as per Vision Document 2023.

## "Ellarumellavum Peravendum, Illamai Illai Entr Nilai Vendum" (All should get everything and there should not be a condition of have not)

Tamil Nadu had Highest Human Development Index (HDI) ranking in India. Industrial growth was 17% of GDP with 38,601 industrial units in the state. Innovation hub & Knowledge Capital, best Infrastructure, Housing, Drinking water, Sanitation, Transportation & Energy, Healthcare, Education & Employment, Skilled & Productive Labour, Single Window Clearance for industry and MSMEs, Joint Ventures and SEZs for FDIs etc. Agriculture highest food grain production in 2011-12, Precision farming and Micro-irrigation project outlay was Rs 10.48 Cr for Pulses, Wind Power 39% generation, First Solar Energy Park constructed, Paramakudi 100 MW Power at a cost of Rs 920 Cr. 'Amma' Canteens by 'Women Self Help Group' members, were trained at the institutions of Hotel Management & Technology.

Schools Education Dept were given Rs 14,553 Cr in 2013-14 to make Tamil Nadu a total literacy State. Free Education from Class 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> was undertaken successfully and 'Modular Employable Skills Certificate' for youth, ie Skill Smart Card was created for better job and employment opportunities. 'TN Village Habitation Scheme (THAI)'- 79,394 improved habitations in 12,524 Villages Panchayats. 'Expanded Social Security Scheme for Farmers & Agriculture Workers' with a monthly pension for 60 years and above. Marriage assistance Rs 10,000/- and Rs 8,000/- for women and men, Education assistance for those studying in ITIs for UG and PG students, Farmers Rs 1,000/- p.m. in event of death, Socio-eco development in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) areas of Dharmapuri & Krishnagiri was completed and 'Antyodaya Anna Yojana' of Universal Public Distribution System was introduced. Students were given free textbooks and Notebooks from Class I to XII, with 4 sets of uniform, laptops and bicycles for senior school Class XII students only. Good e-Governance, computerization of land records, Revenue, Registration, Municipal Administration, Village supplies and Transport for better accountability and less corruption was introduced.



## **Ex-Servicemen Contribution to Nation Building**

There are 22.5 lakh defence pensioners, about 4 lakh PMF pensioners with an approximately 10,000 each year wastage rate, as also from Navy & Air Force; approximately 60,000 trained, motivated and disciplined workforce each year is wasted only from Indian Army. Most retirees are between 35 to 40 years, mostly rural background in their 'prime of life' with spirited nationalism and about 80% return to villages without placements. The DC mentioned that ex-servicemen are virtually a bridge between the GOI and the Public and happen to be symbolically 'Role Models' to Villagers in doing challenging work with honesty and integrity, sincerity of purpose and great dedication.

The suitably selected ex-servicemen by the DGR can plan to undertake specialized training for few months without much difficulty as regards Dairy & Poultry farming; Piggery, sheep & goat rearing; Bee keeping & Sericulture; Warehousing & Construction projects; Health Centres & Schools, Cottage Industry/ Handicrafts with On-hands job Training; Vegetable Industry; Solar Power & Water harvesting; Security of Banks/ ATM Assets; Shopping Complex/ Amma Canteens; Youth Welfare Courses etc. They can assist in village administration with Gram Panchayat Committee for preparation of the Annual Development Plan; completion of Government Projects, Development Programmes within assured Timelines; Documentation & Financial/ Fund Control activities; Collective Forestry work & maintaining Biodiversity; Socio-economic upliftment & Organizing social functions/ Festivals etc. No institutionalized planning by the GOI for Retirees from the Armed Forces, for their effective engagement in contributing to leveraging of national growth & development projects.

Government Sector	Specialization: Retired Veterans	S. No	Body	Numbers	Recommended Number of Retired Uniformed Personnel	Total
* Highways & Road Transport	Engineers of three services				onnormed Personner	
Port & Shipping	Navy & Logistics	1.	RAPID Clusters	10,000	1 x JCO/NCO Equivalent	20,000
* Aviation	Air Force, Army Aviation Corps (AVC)	2.	Gram Panchayats	2,39,582 (Census of 2013)	l x JCO/ NCO (Equivalent)	2,39,582
Health & Medicine	Medical Corps (AMC)		Tahsildars/Zila Panchayats	6612	x Officer 10-15 Years' Experience, Likely Lt Col/ Equivalent)	
* Disaster Relief	Engineers, Medical					6,612
Public Works & Infra	MES, Engineers	3.	District Administration 676	676	CEO (25 Years' Experience, Likely Brigadier/	676
Supply Chain Management	ASC/ Logistic Branch		State Administration (Governing Bodies)	160 (Average of 5 per State & 2	Equivalent) 1 x Officer (30 Years' Experience, Likely a Maj Gen/ Equivalent)	160
* e-Governance	Signals & Communication Experts					
* Transport	EME & Vehicle Mechanics					
* Education	Education Corps (AEC)	5.	National Level	1	l x Lt Gen/ Equivalent	1

## **Recommendations for Achieving Enunciated Objectives**

There is a recommended 'Transformation Model' proposed for implementation with animated rationale and logic;

- 1. Each District to have one Chief Executive Officer (Officer with 18+ Years of Service), for undertaking Strategic Guidance, Fund Flow Management Information Management for Governance, Framing Development Plan and Annual Reports Generation, who would be interacting with the (Dy Commissioner / Additional).
- 2. Each District to have one Projects Manager (Officer with 6+ Years of Service), for undertaking Monitor Budget Allocation & Audit, Database Management of Projects & Programmes and Implementation/ Monitor Activities, who would be interacting with the Tehsildar (Zilla Parishad).
- 3. Each District to have two Program Coordinators (JCOs / Senior NCOs Equivalent), for undertaking Coordination with Implementation Agencies Collaboration with NGOs for Additional Growth oriented Development Works Help Documentation who would be interacting with the Revenue Inspectors (Panchayat Samiti).
- 4. Each District to have six Field Officers (NCOs/ Other Rank/ Equivalent), for undertaking Database Entry for Projects & Development Plan, Formation of Forums for Info Sharing & Dissemination and Identify Gaps in Development, who would be interacting with the Village Administration Officers (Gram Panchayat).
- 5. It is suggested that for the implementation of this proposal we could recommend the state of Uttar Pradesh. It is estimated that there are about 70 Districts in the state of Uttar Pradesh with large number of exservicemen, which would be selected for induction of suitably selected ex-servicemen, conforming to their district of residence. It would also require a proper Legislation for the Empowerment through a Bill in the Indian Parliament for these ex-servicemen to be positioned by name in the villages of the country, as instrumented by the DGR of the Indian Armed Forces through a gazette notification by the Ministry of Defence. This would be the competent military authority for empowerment and salary to be paid in accordance with gazette approval on the subject.

## Conclusion

The promotion and encouragement of the private sector players by the GOI, spurring Public & Private sector Partnership (PPP) for the upliftment of the rural sector in India has certainly enhanced ethical, social, spiritual and environmental benefits. The GOI is to play the Model Role as a motivator, and a facilitator, to ensure numerous modern development initiatives are undertaken for quality progression with time lined implementation in entire rural India. Empowered exservicemen leadership villages would be working in tandem with gram panchayats, Panchayati Samitis & Zila Parishads towards contemporary rural infrastructure, transport & telecommunication services, modern schools and quality education, libraries, health centre and nutrition facilities, banking & loan services, vocational training centres, solar & wind power services, renewable energy, water harvesting, cottage industry, fish and vegetable farms, dairy and poultry farming, tea, coffee and cardamom industry, bee keeping, synergize multiple-agencies and budget funding for upgradation of rural and tribal sector, ensuring overall exponential growth (GDP) of state and the Indian economy.

India must eternally with inexorable quest Strive for "Smart Villages, Smart Cities & Smart Power"

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Lt Gen (Dr) SK Gadeock, AVSM (Retd) was commissioned on 11 June 1977 into 12 GUARDS (ATGMs). An alumnus of NDA and IMA, he has done his PhD in Defence & Strategic Studies, MSc in Defence Studies, MPhil and Diploma in Senior Level Defence Management. He was ADC to the President of India, having served two Presidents from 1981-83, Adjutant of National Defence Academy, commanded an Independent



Armored Brigade and an Infantry Division. He was Logistics Advisor to Botswana Defence Force in Africa and Lieutenant General General Staff (LGGS) in a Command Headquarters. Held coveted command & staff appointments in the Joint Services Institutions, including twice in the elite Armored Divisions of the Indian Army. He was Commandant, Defence Services Staff College (DSSC), Wellington in 2014, where he was conferred with many National and Lifetime Achievement awards for manifold contribution to the military institutions, society and towards nation building. The 'Presidents Colors' were bestowed upon DSSC in 2016 by Hon'ble Shri Pranab Mukherjee. At Dubai he twice received the Golden Peacock Awards and at London, he was honored with the 'Distinguished Fellowship Award' by the Institute of Directors. He was bestowed with the Lifetime Achievement Award at Coimbatore and the Army Commander, Indian Army Training Command conferred upon him the 'Scholar Warrior Badge & Certificate'. He can be reached at skgadeock@amity.edu

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