

DEFENCE NEWSLETTER

Vol 5 | Issue 6 | June 2026



MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR
DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES

मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

Centre for Defence Economics and Industry, MP-IDSA

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KEY EVENTS

President Presides Over Defence Investiture Ceremony 2026 (Phase-I and Phase-II)

President Smt Droupadi Murmu [conferred](#) 07 Kirti Chakras, including 02 posthumous; 15 Vir Chakras, including 03 posthumous; and 29 Shaurya Chakras, including 01 posthumous, to the personnel of the Defence Forces, Central Armed Police Forces and State/Union Territory Police during Phase-I of Defence Investiture Ceremony 2026 at Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi on 8 June 2026. The President then [conferred](#) 105 Distinguished Service Decorations (07 Sarvottam Yudh Seva Medals, 30 Param Vishisht Seva Medals, 12 Uttam Yudh Seva Medals and 56 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals) to the personnel of the Defence Forces, and the Indian Coast Guard during the Defence Investiture Ceremony 2026 (Phase-II) at Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi on 29 June 2026.

Prime Minister Commissions Three Frontline IN Platforms

Prime Minister Narendra Modi [commissioned](#) three frontline platforms - INS Dunagiri, an advanced stealth frigate; INS Sanshodhak, a survey vessel (large); and INS Agray, an anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft - into the Indian Navy in Kolkata on 21 June 2026. The vessels have been [designed](#) by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata, and constructed by GRSE.

Second India-Australia Defence Ministers' Dialogue Held

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh and Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Richard Marles [co-chaired](#) the second edition of the India-Australia Defence Ministers' Dialogue at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, on 1 June 2026. The two sides discussed efforts to finalise the Joint Maritime Security Collaboration Roadmap.

Raksha Mantri Releases Revised DFP 2026

On 4 June 2026, Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [approved](#) the revised Delegation of Financial Powers (DFP) for the Defence Services, significantly enhancing financial limits to improve operational efficiency, expedite procurement, and accelerate project execution. The revised framework also substantially increases emergency procurement powers for Service commanders, introduces higher financial authority for joint-service acquisitions, and decentralises procurement by creating new Competent Financial Authorities for goods and services. The RM on 29 June 2026 also [released](#) the DFP to DRDO 2026 to enhance efficiency, accountability, and timely execution of strategic R&D projects.

First Large-Scale Solar Power Project on Defence Land in UP

In a major step towards enhancing energy security, promoting renewable energy and ensuring optimum utilisation of vacant

defence land, Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [approved](#) the establishment of a 250 MW Solar Power Project with Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) on 9 June 2026 at Sitapur (Ex-Cantonment), Uttar Pradesh, on approximately 850 acres of vacant defence land. The initiative will be developed through NTPC.

Raksha Mantri Inaugurates Advanced Weapon System Complex at DRDL

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [inaugurated](#) an Advanced Weapon System Complex at DRDO's Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex on 12 June 2026. The RM commended the DRDO for its pivotal contributions to India's technological excellence, strategic autonomy, and national security and highlighted the exceptional performance of indigenous missile systems during Operation Sindoor.

Raksha Mantri Reviews Combined Graduation Parade at Air Force Academy

231 Flight Cadets (194 men and 37 women), including the first batch of women from the National Defence Academy, were commissioned as officers in the IAF following their graduation from the Air Force Academy (AFA), Dundigal, Hyderabad on 13 June 2026. Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [reviewed](#) the Combined Graduation Parade of 217 Course, and awarded the 'President's Commission' to the graduating cadets.

10,000 Ton Aluminium Extraction Press at YIL

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [performed](#) the Bhoomi Pujan for the state-of-the-art 10,000-ton Aluminium Extrusion Press at Yantra India Limited (YIL), Ordnance Factory, Ambajhari, Nagpur, on 19 June 2026. The press will support the manufacture of large and complex aluminium alloy profiles required for defence systems and platforms, aerospace & aviation structures, missile programmes, railways and transportation sectors.

Raksha Mantri Celebrates Yoga Day at Eastern Air Command HQ

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [led](#) the MoD and the Armed Forces in celebrating the 12th International Day of Yoga on 21 June 2026 at the Eastern Air Command Headquarters in Shillong, Meghalaya. Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma and Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh joined him.

15th Defence Information Technology Consultative Committee Meeting Held

Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth [chaired](#) the 15th meeting of the Defence Information Technology Consultative Committee (DITCC), held by the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS) on 23 June 2026 in New Delhi.

General Dhiraj Seth Takes over as Chief of the Army Staff

The Government, on 13 June, appointed Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth, PVSM,

UYSM, AVSM, who is serving as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff, as the next Chief of the Army Staff, with effect from the afternoon of 30 June 2026. General Dhiraj Seth [took over](#) as the 31st Chief of the Army Staff (COAS). Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi, PVSM, AVSM, [superannuated](#) from service on 30 June 2026.

India, Zimbabwe Inaugural JDC Meeting Held

The inaugural meeting of India-Zimbabwe Joint Defence Committee (JDC) took [place](#) in New Delhi on 4 June 2026. Both sides agreed to enhance bilateral defence ties by expanding existing cooperation and discussed ways to collaborate in new areas, including joint manufacturing, counter-terrorism, border management, and peacekeeping.

First Batch of Women Cadets Trained at NDA Commissioned into Defence Forces

The first batch of women cadets trained at the NDA were [commissioned](#) as officers in the Defence Forces. The batch of 17 women cadets, who joined the NDA in August 2022 as part of the 148th Course, completed their rigorous pre-commission training at their respective Service academies.

Defence Production at a Record Rs 1.78 lakh crore in FY 2025-26

India's annual defence production has [surged](#) to an all-time high of Rs 1.78 lakh crore in the Financial Year (FY) 2025-26, 15.6 per cent higher than the previous fiscal year's output of Rs 1.54 lakh crore. Indigenous defence production has

increased almost fourfold from Rs 43,746 crore in FY 2013-14.

10th Thailand-India Defence Dialogue Held

The 10th Thailand-India Defence Dialogue took [place](#) in Bangkok on 16 June 2026 to review the full spectrum of bilateral defence cooperation and exchange views on regional and global security issues of mutual interest. The two sides discussed opportunities to deepen collaboration in defence manufacturing, research, innovation and capability development.

AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

Successful Flight-Tests of RudraM-II Air-to-Surface Missile Conducted

The DRDO and the IAF [conducted](#) successful flight tests of the RudraM-II Air-to-Surface Missile from an airborne platform. RudraM-II has been indigenously developed by Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad, as the nodal DRDO laboratory, in collaboration with sister labs such as the Defence Research and Development Laboratory, the High Energy Materials Research Laboratory, the Armament Research & Development Establishment, and the ITR.

Contract for 20 Enhanced Capability Global Navigation Satellite System Jammers

The MoD on 10 June [signed](#) a contract under the Buy-IDDMM category with Accord Software and Systems Private Limited (ASSPL), Bengaluru, for the procurement of 20 Enhanced Capability Global

Navigation Satellite System (ECGNSS) Jammers for the Indian Navy at a total cost of Rs 449 crore with a minimum 75 per cent indigenous content.

DRDO Demonstrates Multi-Layered BMD

DRDO successfully [demonstrated](#) multi-layered ballistic missile defence (BMD) on 10-11 June 2026 against long-range ballistic missiles and an anti-ship capability at medium range. The maiden flight test of the Naval Anti-Ship Missile-Medium Range (NASM-MR) was also successfully carried out. Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh congratulated DRDO on successfully demonstrating these crucial technologies.

DRDO Conducts Successful Flight-Test of LRLACM

DRDO [conducted](#) a successful flight test of the Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) on 15 June 2026. All the test objectives were fully met.

Indigenous Air Cushion Vehicle Inducted

The first of the six indigenous Air Cushion Vehicles (ACVs), being constructed by Chowgule and Company Private Limited for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), was [inducted](#) into service in Goa on 18 June 2026.

Contract for 1.25 MW Marine Gas Turbine Generators for Indian Navy Signed

The MoD [signed](#) a contract on 19 June under the Buy (Indian) category with

Bharat Forge Limited for 12 sets of 1.25 MW Marine Gas Turbine Generators, with a minimum of 60 per cent indigenous content, for the Indian Navy at a total cost of around Rs 425 crore.

Keel-laying ceremony of MDL's Next-Gen OPV for ICG Held

The keel-laying [ceremony](#) for the fourth of the six Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) being built by MDL for the Indian Coast Guard took place in Mumbai on 25 June 2026. The ship is being indigenously designed, developed and constructed by MDL.

IAF Gets Final Operational Clearance of 'Netra'

DRDO [handed](#) over the Final Operational Clearance (FOC) certificate of the Indigenous 'Netra' Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) system to the IAF on 25 June 2026. The Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) was given in 2017.

ICGS Akshay Commissioned into Bharatiya Tatrakshak Fleet

Bharatiya Tatrakshak [commissioned](#) the ICGS Akshay, a new-generation Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV), at Goa Shipyard Limited in Goa on 27 June 2026. The vessel is equipped to undertake a wide range of Coast Guard operations, including maritime law enforcement, coastal security, search and rescue, marine environmental protection and assistance to mariners in distress.

DEFENCE DIPLOMACY

INS Sudarshini Reaches Port of Baltimore

The Indian Navy's Sail Training Ship INS Sudarshini concluded a four-day port call at Antigua on 31 May 2026 as part of the landmark Lokayan 26 transoceanic expedition. INS Sudarshini then [arrived](#) at the Port of Baltimore, Maryland, USA, on 26 June 2026, ahead of the Sail250 Maryland celebrations commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States. Before arriving in Baltimore, Sudarshini participated in the Sail250 Virginia celebrations in Norfolk from 19-23 June 2026.

INS Tarkash Visits Seychelles and Mauritius

INS Tarkash, a stealth frigate of the Indian Navy, visited Port Victoria, Seychelles, from 12-15 June 2026 during her ongoing operational deployment to the South West Indian Ocean Region. The ship escorted the Seychelles Coast Guard ship PS Zoroaster upon completion of the refit at M/S GRSE, Kolkata. INS Tarkash then visited Port Louis, [Mauritius](#), from 20-22 June 2026.

INS Sharda Concludes Successful Visit to Colombo, Sri Lanka

[INS Sharda](#), a Sukanya-class offshore patrol vessel of the Indian Navy, visited Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 13 June 2026 after

a successful port call, further strengthening maritime cooperation and friendship between India and Sri Lanka.

Indian Army Contingent Participates in Exercise Khaan Quest

An Indian Army contingent comprising 40 personnel [participated](#) in the multilateral joint military exercise, Exercise KHAAN QUEST, from 20 June to 3 July 2026, in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Indian Navy Ships Arrive at Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

INS Udaygiri, a stealth frigate, and INS Kavaratti, an anti-submarine warfare corvette, both indigenously designed and constructed warships of the Indian Navy, [arrived](#) at Nha Rong Port, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, on 22-24 June 2026, during their operational deployment in Southeast Asia. INS Udaygiri, Kavaratti, and Shakti of the Eastern Fleet then [visited](#) Sattahip, Thailand, from 27-29 June 2026.

INS Ikshak Arrives at Port Victoria, Seychelles

INS Ikshak, Indian Navy's indigenously built Survey Vessel Large (SVL), [visited](#) Port Victoria, Seychelles, on 26 June 2026, as part of her operational deployment to the South West Indian Ocean Region. INS Ikshak participated in the 50th National Day celebrations.

'The Defence Newsletter is a compilation of media reports and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Manohar Parrikar IDSA or the Ministry of Defence, Government of India'.