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INDIAN ARMY AND REPUBLIC DAY SPECIAL



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MISSION

We endeavour to sound **ALERTS** and create **AWARENESS** about the myriad dimensions and manifestations of **DEFENCE** and **SECURITY** in India and around the world.



The power of a King lies in his mighty arms...

Security of the citizens at peace time is very important because State is the only saviour of the men and women who get affected only because of the negligence of the State.

- Chanakya

DSA IS AS MUCH YOURS, AS IT IS OURS!



The tragic accident which claimed the life of Gen Bipin Rawat, amongst others, has set India's jointness efforts on backfoot.

As Chief of Defence Staff, Gen Rawat was at the forefront of the campaign to raise joint theatre commands. With his sad passing away, the efforts will have to start anew, almost at the starting block all over again. For he had invested considerable time and effort in this endeavour, and had seemed confident of raising the initial structures sometime in 2022. But alas! he will not be around physically to see that day, if it comes at all in this year.

There is no guarantee that the fresh efforts will bear fruit. For these are extraordinarily complex institutions to raise, and just as difficult to manage over the long run. India doesn't really have such varied experiences with new institutions, particularly of the joint military kinds. Even the decades old joint Andaman & Nicobar Command plods along, like an oddity in the larger military scheme of things.

Individual services continue to deny it the commitment required to make it an effective tri-Service command. The Government of India would do well to analyse its functioning little deeper to get at the lacunae.

Which also raises the question about its decision-making process, for the delay in announcing the next CDS has been extraordinarily long. No institution likes a vacuum, and when it relates to the military even more so, for they abhor the absence of accountable command. That is how the professional military functions, and retains its efficiencies. In conventional military structures, there is a well-placed chain of command to take over, should unusual circumstances prevail. But when it comes to new structures and untested command chains the onus rests on the political decision-making process to keep the formation functioning.

There is a lot banking on the office of the CDS despite the extremely complex organisation created, and that too with contradictory pulls from additional responsibilities. As Secretary in the Department

of Military Affairs, the CDS has a lower protocol profile than in the elevated four-star role. Over time this contradiction is bound to create functional problems, so it is better if necessary amendments are issued as soon as possible. Over last few years, the Government of India has gathered ample experience in issuing enormous numbers of amendments in any case. In this case the amendments needed are immediate.

As India prepares for its annual Army, and subsequently, Republic Day celebrations, Government of India would do yeoman service for national security if it were to appoint the new CDS without any further delays. It would also do well to rectify the contradictions created in the initial announcement of roles. As the nation prepares to witness the three Services on display at the Republic Day parade, the political process could emulate the dedication and discipline of its armed forces. Make the necessary announcement immediately and put an end to any unhealthy speculation that is doing the rounds in military circles.

Manvendra Singh



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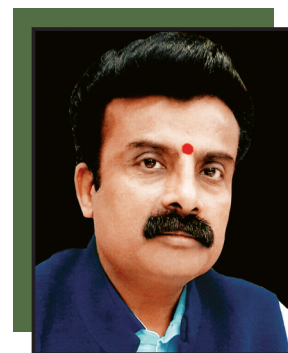
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BEST OF ARMIES IS THE INDIAN ARMY



My deepest condolences, first of all, to all the brave Indian Army soldiers including our first CDS Gen Bipin Rawat and his wife who left for the heavenly abode after their helicopter had a crash. It is a national loss which can never be repaired at all. The post of CDS was created by our government for an important cause to collate all the activities under one command for all the three defence forces to establish strong national security.

In a short span of less than two years, what measures were taken by Gen Bipin Rawat are commendable and will be remembered for decades as some were so impactful that they were historic for national security. Be it was controlling the situation in Jammu and Kashmir or handling the issue with China at the Galwan Valley and other international borders. It was the vision of Gen Rawat to express the retaliation by the Indian Army at the borders to the Chinese army and carry on the discussions on the table with the Chinese authorities at the same time. It was a matter of great concern for the national security as these situations were directly monitored by Gen Bipin Rawat and he made it a success story when the Chinese army had to revert back to their barracks and also dismantled the structures being constructed by them.

The Indian Army is one of the best and the finest army in the world and every Indian is proud of every man and woman who wear olives. Their commitment, sacrifices and devotion to the motherland are remarkable. The glorious history of Indian Army though exists and glorifies them, but their presence is equally glorified due to their same qualities. Our men and women in the green uniform have established the highest levels of commitment and sacrifices which cannot be compared with any other army.

We are proud to celebrate the Army Day and remember our brothers and sisters who have sacrificed for the nation and we all are proud of them who are manning our borders to ensure our safety and security in the challenging time and also serving the nation in the peacetime by extending their support to the various segments of the society by providing them health and medical services and education in the far-flung areas of the country.

So, let all of us feel proud of the Indian Army which is undoubtedly the Best Army in the world.

Jai Hind!

Pawan Agrawal
 Chief Executive Officer



WHO WILL SOLDIER FOR INDIA

LT-GEN HARWANT SINGH
PVSM, AVSM (RETD)

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MAJ GEN DR RAJAN KOCHHAR
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MAJ GEN SUDHAKAR JEE, VSM (RETD),
FORMER COLONEL OF THE MAHAR REGIMENT

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