

Committed To Defence And Security Worldwide

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The First and Only ISO 9001:2015 Certified Defence and Security Magazine in India
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Chief of the Air Staff,
Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
PVSM AVSM VM ADC



**INDIAN
AIR FORCE
RAISING DAY**



12TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL



THE FIRST CHOICE IN THE DOMAINS OF
DEFENCE, SECURITY AND WORLD AFFAIRS
WORLDWIDE

12 YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE





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 United States of America ended its longest military campaign at the end of August with the departure from Afghanistan. The circumstances of that campaign are well known in the public domain. Enough to make for a polemical debate on the merits, or otherwise, of the entire military venture. That debate will continue in perpetuity for no unconventional military campaign produces a clearly identifiable winner, and hence the dissection of wrong or right. But what cannot be debated, at least not in the identifiable and quantitative statistical achievement, is the remarkable feat of getting its citizens and allies out of Afghanistan.

Even as the world makes much of AirPower, and with the focus almost exclusively on combat aircraft that provide very eye-catching photo opportunities, Afghanistan gave a clear glimpse of another aspect that doesn't get the appreciation it deserves. Whilst ending its longest war, the US also undertook the largest airlift ever in a remarkably

short period of time. In an extraordinary feat, the US managed to extract more than 122,000 citizens and allies in a matter of two weeks or so. While the world gasped at the ghastly scenes from Kabul airport, another aspect of AirPower was on display.

While India, far closer geographically to Afghanistan, managed to get about 800 or so citizens and diplomatic staff out of Kabul, the US truly demonstrated the value of investing in military airlift capabilities. It wasn't simply the issue of making aircraft available for extracting those desperate to get out, but the sheer logistical management of all those planes, fuel, supplies, crew and airspace management. That is a feat worth analysing at greater length, for it is one aspect of AirPower that tends to get overlooked in the uni-focal approach to combat air capability.

At the end of the day, all the combat aircraft in skies, rotary or fixed wing, would be of lesser use if the ability to refuel and rearm them didn't exist. Far away from the base, the fleet air tanker is capable of refuelling

multiple aircraft at the same time. And also, far away from the logistics hub, transport aircraft carry munitions and other supplies to replenish stocks for fighter aircraft. And then the same transport aircraft also drops army paratroopers behind enemy lines, whilst undertaking risky flying missions. At the end of it all, a Kabul kind of airlift comes along and they rise up to the task once again.

Which only goes to suggest that in this period of intense focus of air assets and combat, under the radar abilities of the transport fleet should be recognised, and adequate attention should be given in that direction. Multiplicity of use is very obvious given the challenges India faces on its security front. And, at the same time, the scales must be rationalised given the current resource crunch. India can't hope to have an airlift capability like the US obviously, but what it can do is use national assets judiciously. Civilian aircraft are as national as military, and should be included in such operational planning. Maybe then India could've extracted more of its citizens than it did.

Manvendra Singh



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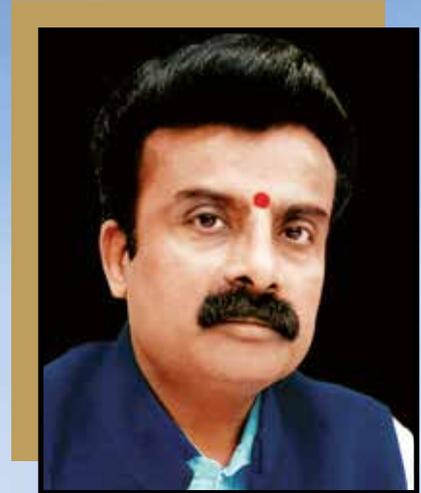
ANOTHER MILESTONE

As DSA completes the 11th year of its inception and enters the 12th year, it is another stepping stone for one of the best Indian magazines in the genre of Defence, Security and World Affairs. DSA was initiated in 2008 immediately after the Mumbai blasts and it took us around one year to publish the first edition in October 2009. Till now, the scenario has changed manifold in these genres in India as well as in the entire world.

The threats and challenges have transformed in the past 11 years with the transformation of the terrorism and radicalization all around us. In fact, the policy-makers and decision-makers responsible for the all these three

fields have been working very hard to save the people and the national security but I, personally, feel that still lot has to be done considering the transformation and inclusion of technologies being adopted by the terrorist groups.

I think there is a basic need of exchange of the information among all the countries so as to be well prepared to counter such threats which are not very new and just transformed. It is the hard time for all the defence and security departments of every country to organise a Central



Command Centre (CCC) which should cooperate with each other to counter this menace. If this is not done at the earliest, then it is very sad to say that there could be no peace on the earth.

If we analyse the way the terrorist groups have aligned with each other and spread in most of the countries with the same motives while nothing concrete has been designed so far by any of the Homeland Security departments of various countries to counter these threats. Speaking on various platforms will never serve the purpose. DSA has its limitations to publish 12 editions in a year and can carry all the required information on the threats and challenges. But even with these limitations, team DSA has been trying its best to propagate the subjects written by the experts of defence, security and world affairs.

Though DSA is now entering its 12th year and our team is very much committed to publish the expert in-depth views on various challenges and threats to India's National Security as well as the World Security and simultaneously, we are able to maintain the same quality content and its presentation. I assure, dear readers, that the same quality will be well maintained in this 12th year and in the future editions too. The cooperation and support by our esteemed experts is commendable and they are our real strength that we have been publishing DSA regularly since 2009 except for few editions which were suspended due to Covid19 and the two lockdowns.

In the end, I would like to congratulate the Indian Air Force on its 89th Anniversary and the appointment of the new Chief of

Indian Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari, PVSM AVSM VM ADC and DSA wishes great achievements in the coming years under his leadership.

I would also seek the same cooperation from all the defence and security lovers to support team DSA!

Jai Hind!

Pawan Agrawal
Chief Executive Officer





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YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE



**A WARM WELCOME TO
AIR CHIEF MARSHAL VIVEK RAM CHAUDHARI
PVSM AVSM VM ADC**

