

9.13 Defence System

9.13.1 Inherited

On the eve of Independence, India inherited a well-organised, disciplined and professional military from the British. Soon after the acceptance of the Partition Plan on 3 June 1947, fixing 15 August for the Transfer of Power, steps were taken to devise the defence system to suit the requirements of the Sovereign State of India. An *Armed Forces Reconstruction Committee* was constituted to divide the Army, Navy and Air Force and to establish in India and Pakistan, a separate operational command; the administrative control over the forces was to rest, for some time after 15 August, with field-Marshal Auchinleck; and he was to be answerable to a *Joint Defence Council*. The Armed Force played a conspicuous and crucial role during the Indo-Pak conflict in 1947-48.

3.2 Defence Policy and Organisation

Since Independence, India's defence policy has *two clear-cut objectives*; 1) to promote and sustain durable peace in the sub-continent; and 2) to safeguard the country from aggression. The President of India is vested with the authority of the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces. The Union

Cabinet exercises the responsibility for national defence. The Armed Forces consist of the three main services: 1) the Army; 2) the Navy, and 3) the Air Force.

The Army Headquarters is located in New Delhi. It is headed by the Chief of the Army Staff. The main auxiliaries of the Armed Forces are the Territorial Army, Coast Guards, Auxiliary Air Force and National Cadet Corps. The Navy with its Headquarters in New Delhi functions under the Chief of Naval Staff, assisted by Principal Staff Officers. (It has three Naval Commands - Western at Bombay; Eastern at Vishakapatnam; and Southern at Cochin. There are two navel fleets the Western and the Eastern. (It shoulders the responsibility of defending the nation's maritime interests. The Air Force has its Headquarters in New Delhi. It is headed by the Chief of the Air Staff. The IAF maintains the highest level of vigilance and combat worthiness; provides air defence, air interdiction, reconnaissance and offensive air support; and assists civil authorities during national calamities.

9.13.3 Defence Training

Defence training is imparted to defence recruits and personnel, by defence schools, academics and colleges. Sainik Schools, started in 1961, are joint venture of the central and state Governments. They are fully residential, select meritorious students and educate and train them to become eligible for recruitment to the officers cadre in the Defence Forces. (Other important training centres are the Officers Training Academy, Chennai; National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla; Indian Military Academy, Dehradun; and Rashtriya Indian Military College, Dehradun.)

9.13.4 Production and Supplies

The primary purposes of the Department of Defence Production and Supplies are to equip the armed forces with the latest equipment and weaponry systems; and to contribute towards modernization of armed forces. The Ordinance Factories play a crucial role in equipping the armed forces with weapons, arms, ammunitions, tanks etc. The Supplies Wing functions under the Ministry of Defence. It is the nodal agency for evolving purchase policies for the Ministry of Defence.

9.13.5 Defence Research and Development

In 1958, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was set up, amalgamating the Defence Service Organisation and some of the

technical development establishments. The DRDO has developed a number of defence systems, equipment and other products as per requirements of the Armed Forces.

9.13.6 Role of Defence

Indian Armed Forces are highly disciplined, professional and apolitical in nature. They function under civilian control with operational authority. After the India-China War of 1962, the Armed Forces were modernized, secularized and further strengthened. Their apolitical role has strengthened the stability of India's democratic institutions, national unity and integrity. Above all, their all-India character and ethos safeguard the country from military intervention in political affairs.

9.14 Assessment

SATELLITE

- The heavenly body which revolves around the planets is called satellite. Moon is natural satellite of Earth.
- The speed of a satellite does not depend upon the mass of the satellite.
- A satellite revolving very close to Earth's surface has a period of revolution about 84 min and its speed is nearly 8 km/s.
- Every body inside the satellite is in a state of weightlessness. Total energy of the satellite is negative.
- *Artificial satellites are of two types*
Geostationary and Polar satellites
 - (i) The satellite whose time period is 24 h is called **geostationary satellite**. It is used to reflect TV signals and telecast programs from one part of the world to another. This satellite revolves around the Earth at a height of 36000 km. INSAT 2B and INSAT 2C are geostationary satellites of India.
 - (ii) **Polar satellites** revolve around the earth in polar orbits at a height of approximately 800 km. The time period of these satellites is approximately 100 minute. These satellites are used for weather forecasting, in studying various region of the atmosphere in mapping etc.

Electronic Media: Radio broadcasting in India was started in 1923 by the Radio club of Bombay. Since then it gained immense popularity and changed the social and cultural life of people. It was named as All India Radio (AIR) in 1936 and again it was renamed as Akashwani in 1957. It broadcasts a variety of programs related to information, education and entertainment. Special news bulletins are also broadcasted on special occasions like session of parliament and state legislatures.

Television broadcasting has emerged as the most effective audio-visual medium for disseminating information and educating the masses. Television network in India is known as Doordarshan (DD) which started Common National Program (CNP) services and it is extended to the backward and remote rural areas.

Internet (contraction of **interconnected network**) is the global system of interconnected computer networks that use the Internet protocol suite to link devices worldwide. **Social media** are interactive computer-mediated technologies that facilitate the creation and sharing of information, ideas, career interests and other forms of expression via virtual communities and networks.

Print Media: Newspapers are the most common but powerful means of communication come under print media. India has many newspapers which carry information on local, national and international events to the people.

Satellite Communication

The use of Satellite in getting a continuous and synoptic view of larger area has made this communication system very vital for the country. Satellite images are used for weather forecasting, monitoring of natural calamities, surveillance of border areas etc. The communication through satellites emerged as a new era in communication in our country after the establishment of **Indian Space Research**



Satellite system in India can be grouped into two

1. The Indian National Satellite System (INSAT)
2. The Indian Remote Sensing Satellite System (IRS).

The INSAT, established in 1983, is a multipurpose system for telecommunication, meteorological observation and for various other programs. The INSAT series are used for relaying signals to television, telephone, radio, mobile phone. It is also useful in weather detection, internet and military applications.

The INSAT series, GSAT series, KALPANA-1, HAMSAT, EDUSAT are the major communication satellite used for communication purpose. GSAT-7A is the recent launch (December 19, 2018) for communication programs. INSAT-1B launched on 30th August 1983 is the first communication satellite in INSAT series.

5.6 Trade

Trade is an important phenomenon that decides the economic growth of a country. Trade is an act (or) process of buying, selling or exchanging of goods and services. The primitive method of trade was known as the Barter system where goods were exchanged for goods. Later on, money was introduced as a medium of exchange in buying and selling of goods. The difference in value between the imports and exports is called balance of trade. The situation in which the value of exports exceeds the value of imports is termed as favourable balance of trade and the reverse position is termed as unfavourable balance of trade.