

**PUBLICATION OF ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION UNDER THE  
RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT,2005  
NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE**

**BACKGROUND**

1. The ability of a modern state to address its security concerns gets manifested in the manner and efficiency with which it can harness all its resources, human as well as material. All organs of the administrative machinery must get fully activated and directed to one goal, "Supremacy of National Interests", both in the national as well as in the international environment. In a democratic system like we have in India, this can only be done with a very high level of mutual understanding between all organs of the State. Thus, the senior civil servants must know the capabilities and limitations of the Defence Forces. Likewise, the senior military officers must understand the view-point of the civil servants and know the constraints - constitutional and administrative - under which they function. Both, in turn also have to be aware of the larger perspectives of National Security, the opportunities and threats of geo-politics and the related diplomatic imperatives, as also the interplay and linkages of economy, defence, diplomacy, development, environment, technology and numerous other dimensions of National Security.

2. On attaining independence, India became wholly responsible for her national security and defence policies. This, together with the need for a more co-ordinated approach to identify and address national security related issues, made it necessary to evolve a closer understanding between the defence forces and the host of civil departments of the Government of India involved in the affairs of internal security, development, diplomacy and defence. Thus, under the changing context, forging of bonds between them for a better understanding of National Security issues became imperative.

3. This realization led the Estimates Committee of Parliament to recommend in 1956, the setting up of an institution similar to the Imperial Defence College, London, where senior Indian Officers were then being sent for training in limited numbers. In pursuance of this recommendation, the Government of India decided to set up the National Defence College.

4. Accordingly, the College was inaugurated by our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, on 27 April 1960. While inaugurating the College he said :-

***"...Defence itself is not an isolated subject. It is intimately connected with the economic aspects, industrial aspects, and many other aspects in the country ...India today has become positively and actively defence-conscious, more than at any time since independence. Our desire is to continue to live peacefully and co-operatively with all our neighbours. Nevertheless, no defence apparatus can exist in a purely idealistic way. It has to be very realistic and remain prepared for any emergency."***

## **ROLE AND OBJECTIVES**

### **Aim**

5. The aim of the National Defence College is to impart training in National and International Security related fields to selected senior defence and civil service officers and to promote research and understanding of various related issues by creating the necessary academic environment for such work.

6. Role of National Defence College is as follows:-

(a) To provide a facility to bring together selected senior officers from various organs of the Government of India and other organizations for the purpose of giving them a structured exposure to various issues related to national security of a modern state in general and India in particular.

(b) To facilitate individual development of selected senior officers of the Indian and Foreign Defence Forces, Indian Civil Services and other selected organizations nominated for training at the National Defence College by creating at the College the necessary academic environment related to National Security issues.

(c) To develop a thorough and lasting mutual understanding between different organs of the Government of India and friendly foreign countries by creating necessary working environment and opportunities for development of such understanding between officers under training at the National Defence College.

(d) To be an instrument for the Government of India to foster better understanding, mutual co-operation and desirable linkages in the National, Regional and International Security related fields with selected foreign countries.

7. To fulfill the above roles, the course of instruction at the NDC is on "National Security and Strategic Studies" which is conducted annually for 47 weeks.

8. The aim of the "National Security and Strategic Studies Course" is to equip future policy makers, who all have the potential to attain senior and key appointments in their respective organisations, with a broad understanding of the economic, political, military, technological and organizational aspects involved in the planning of National Strategy.

### **Objectives of the National Security and Strategic Studies Course**

9. The National Security and Strategic Studies Course provides an opportunity to a select group of senior officers of the Defence Forces, Civil Services and other organizations, who have demonstrated potential to take on strategic responsibilities at the National level, to obtain a structured exposure to issues linked with the various dimensions of National

Security, take time off to catch up with professional and general reading and crystallize their thoughts and views on important national security issues in the form of papers, presentations, discussions and a thesis. The objective of the course is therefore as follows:-

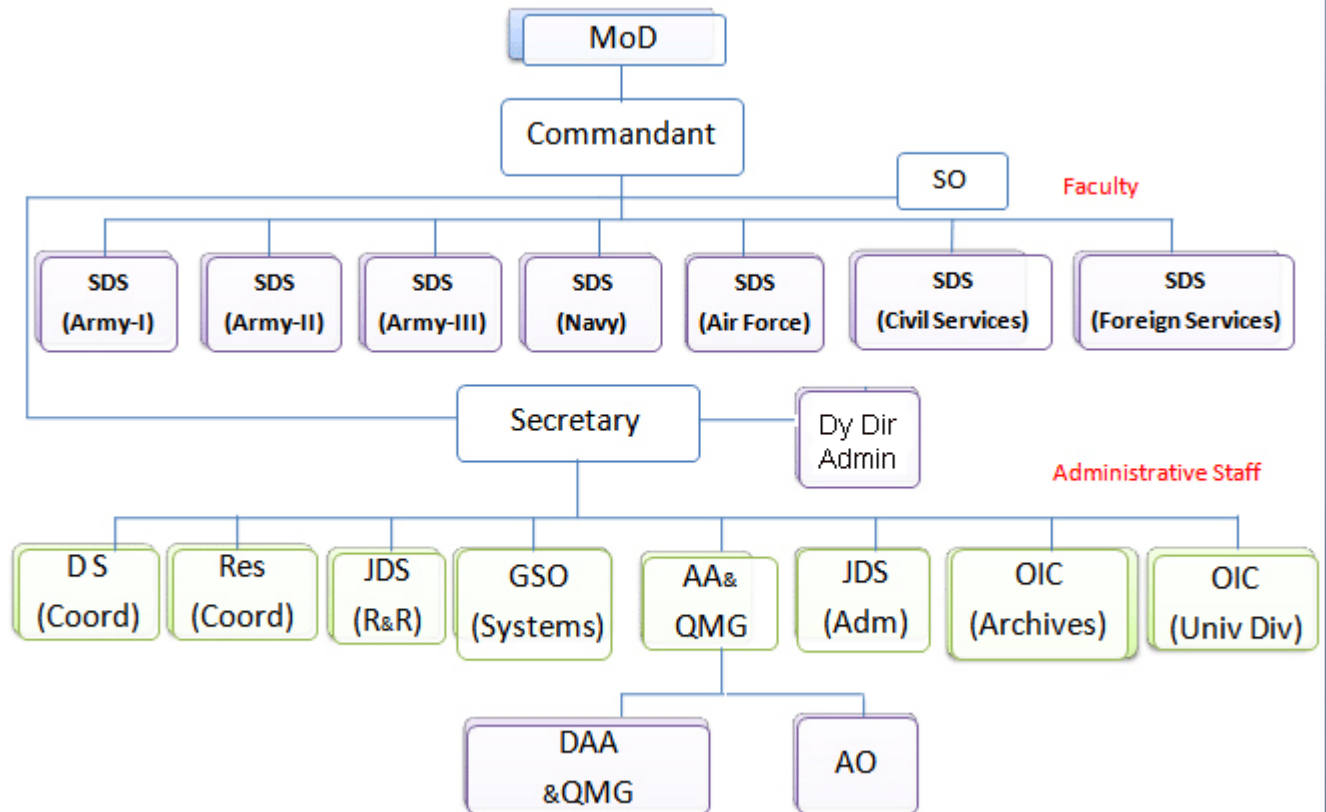
- (a) To provide the participants a detailed exposure to views and opinions of experts from different fields on numerous issues related to national security.
- (b) To give the participants a firsthand feel of the ground level situation in various fields related to National Security, which include socio-political environment science and technology the economic scene and defence capabilities and limitations.
- (c) To give the participants an overview of international security and global issues through lectures and discussions and by interacting with Ambassadors and other officials of the governments of a few foreign countries at the College as well as during visits to such countries in the form of Foreign Countries Tours.
- (d) To provide opportunity and environment to the participants to develop a lasting mutual understanding and spirit of co-operation among themselves and their respective organizations/countries.
- (e) To provide an opportunity to the participants to interact with colleagues from different walks of life, work together to tackle macro level issues synergistically and prepare them to take on responsibilities at the highest levels in their respective organizations.

## COLLEGE ORGANISATION

### Command and Control

10. The National Defence College is an Inter-services Organization of the Government of India functioning directly under the Ministry of Defence.

11. The Organization chart of National Defence College is as follows:-



### The College Crest

12. The motif of the College crest is a 'Diya' – a traditional Indian lamp with four flames. The Diya symbolizes the lamp of learning and the four flames represent the four main categories of scholars, i.e. officers from the three wings of the Defence Forces and from the civil services, who undergo the training at the NDC.

13. Motto. The College Motto is "बुद्धिर्यस्य बलंतस्य" which translates to "Knowledge is Power".

## FACULTY AND STAFF

### Faculty

14. Commandant of National Defence College is of the Lieutenant General/Air Marshal/Vice Admiral. He is drawn from the three wings of the Defence Forces in rotation. Vice Admiral Sunil Lanba AVSM is the Commandant at present.

### Staff

15. The administrative structure at the National Defence College is headed by the College Secretary, who is of the rank of Brigadier from the Indian Army and an NDC alumnus. He is responsible for co-ordination of all activities at the College. Presently, the College Secretary is Brigadier JK Sharma, Indian Army.

### Functions and Duties

16. The Administrative, Financial and other powers rest with the Commandant, NDC who has further delegated it to the Secretary, NDC, DS (Coord), AA & QMG & JDS (R&R). The Administrative and Financial powers of these officers are as given under: -

17. **Secretary, NDC.** The Secretary, NDC is responsible for the overall administration of the College, Research Wing, Raksha Bhavan and NDC Outhouses and such matters of training, as may be delegated to him by the Commandant from time to time. He will be assisted by the DS (Coord), JDS (R&R), AA & QMG and other officers in discharging his duties which involve: -

- (a) **Station Commander.** He is appointed the Station Commander of NDC and Raksha Bhavan and is to discharge all responsibilities and duties as required of a Station Commander.
- (b) **Budget, Finance and Audit.**
  - (i) Estimation and budgeting of all public funds and control of all public grants.
  - (ii) Convening of quarterly audit boards and their timely completion, settlement of audit objections and regularization of losses.
  - (iii) Maintenance, quarterly audits and efficient functioning of all Non Public/Regimental funds assigned to him.

18. **Directing Staff (Coord).** He is responsible for the co-ordination of studies, training and all training tours and visits. This will involve the following: -

- (a) Administration.
  - (i) Arrangements, including cleanliness and upkeep of the Visitor's room, Briefing room and Lecture Hall.
  - (ii) Proper maintenance and functioning of the Public Address equipment of the College for lectures/central/panel discussions.
  - (iii) Upkeep of all training equipment and computers in IAG rooms.
- (b) **Financial**. Planning, expenditure and control of the Annual Training Grant.\_

19. Junior Directing Staff (Research and Reference). He is responsible to the SDS in-charge Library for the efficient functioning of the College Library and the research, referencing, documentation and computerization of all materials connected with the NDC Course and full time research conducted by the Research Wing. His duties are as under: -

- (a) **Financial**. He is responsible for the planned expenditure, control and accounting of the Library Grant.
- (b) **Administration**. He is to: -
  - (i) Oversee and supervise the functioning of the Library staff.
  - (ii) Be responsible for the discipline and leave of the Library staff.
  - (iii) Ensure annual stock taking of the Library and proper accounting of all books, periodicals, publications and computer software/programs.

20. **Assistant Adjutant and Quarter Master General (AA & QMG)**. The AA & QMG is responsible to the Secretary for the administration of the College. His duties are as under: -

- (a) **Financial**.
  - (i) Maintenance and operation of Public Fund Accounts, including settlement of audit objections in respect of all public funds other than Commandant's Fund, Annual Training Grant and Library Grant.
  - (ii) Pay and Allowances and other miscellaneous claims of all staff and Course Members.
  - (iii) Procurement of stores including local purchases out of Incidental & Miscellaneous Grant. Maintenance and updating of separate permanent ledgers for all purchases made from the various funds and of the gifts received by the various groups of the College during their outstation visits.
  - (iv) Assist the College Secretary in progressing the I&M Grant budget with Financial Planning Directorate, Army HQs, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Defence (Finance).

(b) **Administration.**

(i) To organize reception of members of the new course and attend to their administrative requirements at the time of their first reporting, as also the subsequent requirements.

(ii) Maintenance and accounting of Regimental Accounts. Maintain liaison with Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Income Tax Office, Foreign Residents Registration Office (FRRO) and Customs authorities to assist in the arrival, registration, customs and income-tax clearances of the foreign course members.

**Decision Making Procedure.**

21. The College is an autonomous inter-services Defence organization functioning directly under the Ministry of Defence. The Army, Navy and Air Force Acts would apply, as applicable to individuals, for the functioning of the College. Because of the stringent requirements of military Chain of Command, during the absence of the Commandant, the officiating Commandant from the defence services is responsible for all administration, discipline and leave and interaction with outside agencies.

**Rules and Regulations**

22. All the Defence service personnel posted at the National Defence College are governed by the Indian Army Act. For the civilian personnel, the Central Civil Services Rules are applicable as promulgated by the Department of Personnel and Training and Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time, as is the case with all other Central Government employees also.

**Boards and Committees**

23. There are certain Boards headed by the Course members for the overall welfare and to coordinate various College activities. These are: -

- (a) Library Board.
- (b) Sports Board
- (c) Entertainment Activities
- (d) Raksha Bhawan Board
- (e) Mess Members Board Directory of Officers