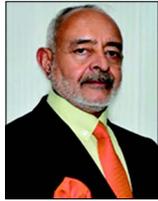




18TH RAISING DAY ANDAMAN & NICOBAR COMMAND



MESSAGE FROM LIEUTENANT GOVERNER ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS



I congratulate the Andaman and Nicobar Command on the occasion of its 18th Raising Day on 8th October 2018. I also extend my greetings and felicitations to all personnel of the Command and their families.

Owing to the strategic location of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and increasing interest and activities of extra Regional Powers in the Indian Ocean Region, ANC- the only Operational Joint Services Command of the country has an important role to play. Since its inception in 2001, the Command has shown indomitable spirit and commitment to the Nation, marked with notable achievements. I have witnessed the phenomenal rise in the capabilities of the Command in providing security and succor in times of need. Over the years, the Command has grown in operational efficiency and has been a beacon of light for the islanders. The professionalism exhibited during MILAN-18, a multinational exercise and by the Command in all spheres of activities is praiseworthy.

The populace of Andaman & Nicobar Islands is greatly reassured by the presence and effectiveness of the Command. On behalf of the islanders and the Andaman and Nicobar administration, I wish the Andaman and Nicobar Command all the very best and success in all its future endeavours.

Jai Hind!

(Admiral DK Joshi, PVS, AVSM, YSM, VSM, NM (Retd))
Lieutenant Governor
Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Date: 08 Oct 18

MESSAGE FROM COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ANDAMAN NICOBAR COMMAND



I convey my heartiest felicitations to all personnel and families of the Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) on this momentous occasion of its 18th Raising Day. The Joint Services Command has emerged as an epitome of jointness and excellence, achieving strategic coherence and high level of operational efficiency.

The Command stands tall on the Eastern Frontier of our nation as a secure bastion protecting our country from external threats. The security provided by its military presence in outlying islands facilitates both social and economic growth.

The command this year successfully organized MILAN-2018. The multilateral mega meeting of Navies of the Indian Ocean Region saw participation from sixteen countries. The effort put in by all the personnel and families of the Command in the preceding year, especially during the event is commendable.

The Andaman and Nicobar Command as the first Tri Service Command is a model for the future. We are committed not only to the well being and security of the Emerald Islands, but also to building bonds and 'Bridges of Friendship' with neighbouring countries while ensuring that the Islands find their rightful place in the growth of our Nation.

I wish all personnel and families of Andaman and Nicobar Command success in all their endeavours in the future
Jai Hind!

(Bimal Verma)
Vice Admiral
Commander-in-Chief
Andaman & Nicobar Command

Date: 08 Oct 18

PURSUING VICTORY THROUGH JOINTNESS

The unified nature of the military setup has been part of the Islands since 1970s. The same was re-affirmed with the formation of Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) on 08 Oct 2001 as the first Unified Command of the country. The Command comprises components of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard working in unison pursuing 'Victory through Jointness'. Since its inception, the Unified Command has effectively performed its duties in an exemplary manner.

Operations

The primary role of the ANC is the Defence of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, including their airspace and the seas around. Coastal Security and protection of the large Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) around these islands is an ongoing process and is a key focus area of the Command.

The ANI has rich marine bio-diversity and is home to various marine species and is therefore vulnerable to poaching of this immense wealth of flora and fauna. Round the clock surveillance by our ships, aircraft and troops in close coordination with the UT administration has significantly reduced poaching in the past few years.

In a specific incident, the Command carried out dedicated anti-poaching missions both by Air and Surface assets continuously for 40 days around Little Andaman Islands from 01 Jul to 09 Aug 2018. To further bolster the overall security scenario, a temporary post has also been set up under difficult living conditions at Landfall Island. Surveillance effort on the western coast of the Islands, both by air and ships, has redoubled and is continuing unabated in spite of rough conditions of sea and weather.

To validate defensive and operational logistics plan of ANC towards ensuring territorial integrity of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, two exercises namely, Defence of Andaman and Nicobar Exercise (DANX) and

Exercise KAVACH were conducted in Nov 2017 and Sep 2018 respectively.

During DANX, the operational preparedness of all the forces of the Command towards defence of Andaman Nicobar Islands were tested and their inter-operability rehearsed. Similarly, during KAVACH the



Rapid Action Medical Team during DANX and MILAN this year, security setup of the Command was exercised to validate its readiness to deal with an attack from extra regional forces

MILAN 2018

MILAN, the biennial meeting of navies of Indian Ocean region was held at Port Blair from 06 March to 13 March 2018. With the underlying theme of 'Friendship Across the Seas', MILAN 2018 witnessed a diverse mix of professional exercises and seminars, social events and sporting fixtures. The interactions during MILAN encompassed sharing of views and ideas on maritime good-order and enhancing regional cooperation for combating unlawful activities at sea. The theme of this year's MILAN International Maritime Seminar was 'In Pursuit of Maritime Good Order - Need for Comprehensive Information Sharing Apparatus'. Besides fostering co-operation through naval exercises and professional interactions, MILAN also provided an excellent opportunity to the participating navies to come together in a spirit of collaboration and mutual understanding to nurture stronger ties. This was the first time that Multilateral Exercise at

Sea (MILES-18) was conducted along with MILAN, where 11 foreign naval ships and nine Indian ships participated. Apart from enhancing inter-operability, the exercise enabled honing of procedure for Search and Rescue, Maritime Interdiction Operations and exercised a variety of maritime security scenarios.

FDN 2



The indigenously designed and constructed Floating Dock Navy-2 (FDN-2) was inducted into the Indian Navy on 25 May 2018 at Port Blair. The dock has the capability to lift ships up to 8000 tonnes, including frigates and destroyers of the Indian Navy. The floating dock is temporarily berthed at Semirames Bay and will shortly be berthed alongside to enhance the capacity of our jetty. It is designed to be moored even in calm waters enabling planned and emergency docking operations for ships. Induction of FDN-2 has substantially enhanced the repair and refit facility for the naval warships based in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Commissioning of INLCU-53 & L-54



LCU MKIV ships are landing craft utility of latest global standards being built in India by Garden Reach Ship Builders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE), Kolkata for Andaman & Nicobar Command. Two ships had been delivered to Command this year and are presently being deployed at sea for various missions. More ships are scheduled to be delivered in a phased manner by mid-2019.

INLCU-53 & INLCU-54 were commissioned in to the Command on 25 Apr 18 and 25 May 18, respectively. Primary roles of the ships are to transport, deploy and recover troops & armament from ship to shore and vice-versa. In addition, the ships also undertake anti-poaching missions, humanitarian relief,

Command's Commitment to our Islanders

Capacity building in areas where local entrepreneurs, commerce and industry can participate with ANC in providing a wide range of goods and services has been a priority area, so that, as the Andaman and Nicobar Command grows and builds specialised support infrastructure and inducts assets, the islands are also benefited. For the local populace every such asset creation results in generation of several economic and employment opportunities. The Andaman and Nicobar Command is one such bastion of our nation that the islanders and country can rely upon. The Andaman and Nicobar Command continues to render yeoman service to the islanders and her friendly people. The Command remains committed to every support whilst respecting the fragile nature of the unique eco-system that 'Our Islands are Blessed With'.

supply & replenishment and search & rescue operations. Since commissioning, the ships



have participated in many major exercises and beaching operations in the ANI.

Search and Rescue (SAR)

The Search and Rescue (SAR) of mariners in distress is one of the prime operational responsibilities of ANC and the Indian Coast Guard. The Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC), Port Blair coordinates all Search and Rescue missions within the area of its jurisdiction. Prompt response and sustained SAR operations resulted in saving 413 lives in 35 missions in the past one year. The toll free helpline number 1554 instituted by Coast Guard in 2007, specifically for search & rescue and is getting good response from the local population.

Recently on 02 Aug in a coordinated midnight rescue mission, Indian Coast Guard ship Aruna Asaf Ali de-flooded MV Swaraj Dweep and provided assistance in rescue of 343 personal onboard. The DSS vessel had reported flooding about 40 nautical miles east of Carnic Nicobar. Submersible and diesel driven pumps were used to de-flood the vessel by the damage control team of the ICG ship.

