



Delhi Defence Dialogue 2025

“Harnessing New Age Technology for Defence Capability Development”

PROGRAMME

Day One: Tuesday, 11 November 2025

Venue: Auditorium, Second Floor, MP-IDSA

0930-1000 Registration

1000-1100 **Special Address by Gen Anil Chauhan, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, Chief of Defence Staff** – “Impact of Technology on Modern Warfare”

Moderator: Amb Sujan R Chinoy, *Director General, MP-IDSA*

Interactive Q&A

Vote of Thanks by Col Vivek Chadha (Retd), Senior Fellow, Military Affairs Centre, MP-IDSA

1100-1140 **Inaugural Address by Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri and President, MP-IDSA**

Moderator: Amb Sujan R Chinoy, *Director General, MP-IDSA*

Vote of Thanks by Col Vivek Chadha (Retd), Senior Fellow, Military Affairs Centre, MP-IDSA

1140-1200	High Tea
1200-1300	SESSION-I: Impact of New-Age Technology on Modern Warfare Moderator: Amb Sujan R Chinoy, <i>Director General, MP-IDSA</i> Speakers: Ms Reena Dayal Yadav , <i>Founder and CEO, Quantum Ecosystems and Technology Council of India</i> “The Role of Ecosystem and Collaboration in the Context of Quantum, a Dual-Use Technology” Dr Subrahmanyam Saderla , <i>Associate Professor, IIT Kanpur</i> “Integration of AI in Drone Warfare” Mr Leonid Nersisyan , <i>Senior Research Fellow, APRI-Armenia (Armenia)</i> “Role of Drones in Modern Warfare with a Case Study of the Ukrainian and Nagorno-Karabakh conflicts” <i>Interactive Q&A</i>
1300-1400	Lunch
1400-1430	Special Address by Dr Rituraj Kumar , <i>Director, CAIR, DRDO</i> - “Harnessing New Technology for Defence Capability Development” Moderator: Lt Gen Raj Shukla, PVSM, YSM, SM (Retd.), <i>Member, UPSC</i> <i>Interactive Q&A</i>
1430-1600	SESSION-II: Adapting to Excel – Structures, Mechanisms and Challenges Moderator: Lt Gen Raj Shukla, PVSM, YSM, SM (Retd.), <i>Member, UPSC</i> Speakers:

Mr Pranay Kotasthane, Deputy Director, Takshashila Institution

“Challenges in the Semiconductor Industry”

Dr Peter Layton, Visiting Fellow, Griffith Asia Institute &

Associate Fellow, RUSI (Online-Australia)

“The Emerging New Model Air Force and Its Impacts”

Lt Gen DS Hooda, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM*(Retd), Co-founder, Council for Strategic and Defense Research

“Role of AI in Defence Innovation and Structures”

Interactive Q&A

1600-1620 Tea/Coffee Break

1620-1650 Special Address by

Vice Admiral Tarun Sobi, UYSM, AVSM, VSM

Deputy Chief of Naval Staff - "Levelling the Playing Field – Leapfrogging Challenges"

Moderator: Vice Admiral Shekhar Sinha, PVSM, AVSM, NM & Bar (Retd.), *Member, Governing Council, Indian Council of World Affairs*

Interactive Q&A

1650-1820 SESSION-III: Levelling the Playing Field – Leapfrogging Challenges

Moderator: Vice Admiral Shekhar Sinha, PVSM, AVSM, NM & Bar (Retd.), *Member, Governing Council, Indian Council of World Affairs*

Speakers:

Prof Balaraman Ravindran, Head, Department of DSAI, IIT Madras

“Artificial Intelligence in the Indian Military: Challenges in Adoption”

Dr MS Prathibha, Associate Fellow, East Asia Centre, MP-IDSA

"The Chinese PLA and AI: Perspectives and Challenges"

Dr Bhaskar Kanseri, Associate Professor, IIT Delhi

"Role of Quantum Communication for Defence Capability Development"

Interactive Q&A

1820

End of Day One

Day Two: Wednesday, 12 November 2025

Venue: Auditorium, Second Floor, MP-IDSA

0930-1000 **Special Address by Gen Upendra Dwivedi PVSM, AVSM,**
Chief of the Army Staff- "Modernisation of the Indian Army, Role of New-Age Technology"
Moderator: Lt Gen (Dr) Subrata Saha, PVSM, UYSM, YSM, VSM** (Retd), *Executive Chairman, Manekshaw Centre for National Security Studies and Research*
Interactive Q&A

1000-1030 **Special Address by Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary of the Department of Defence R&D and Chairman, DRDO-** "Enhancing Collaboration, Co-Development and Co-Production"
Moderator: Lt Gen (Dr) Subrata Saha, PVSM, UYSM, YSM, VSM** (Retd), *Executive Chairman, Manekshaw Centre for National Security Studies and Research*

1030-1045 *Interactive Q&A*

1045-1100 Tea/Coffee Break

1100-1230 **SESSION-IV: Collaboration, Co-Development and Co-Production**
Moderator: Lt Gen (Dr) Subrata Saha, PVSM, UYSM, YSM, VSM** (Retd), *Executive Chairman, Manekshaw Centre for National Security Studies and Research*
Speakers:
Col Anurag Awasthi (Retd), CEO, Escape Velocity Mediaworks -
“Challenges for Collaboration and Co-Development of Semiconductors”
Prof Hari Babu Srivastava, Professor of Practice, IIT Delhi
“Challenges for Collaboration and Co-Development”

Sqn Ldr Sameer Joshi (Retd), CEO- NewSpace Research & Technologies Pvt Ltd

"Navigating Barriers to Growth: Challenges and Strategic Solutions for India's Aerospace and Defence Startups"

Interactive Q&A

1230-1330 Lunch

1330-1400 Special Address by Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Secretary, Department of Defence Production, Government of India- "Atmanirbharta in New Age Technology"

Moderator: Shri Raj Chengappa, *Group Editorial Director (Publishing), India Today Group*

Interactive Q&A

1400-1530 SESSION-V: Defence Policy Planning – Best Practices & Challenges

Moderator: Shri Raj Chengappa, *Group Editorial Director (Publishing), India Today Group*

Speakers:

Shri Atul D Rane, Retired OS and *Former DG, BrahMos Aerospace*
"India's BrahMos Experience: Lessons for the Future"

Mr Iida Masafumi, *Director, Security Studies Department, National Institute for Defense Studies*

"Chinese Discourse on Military Application of AI"(Japan)

Mr Dmitry Stefanovich, *Research Fellow, IMEMO RAS*
"Planning of the Strategic Weapons Development and Deployment: Mapping Priorities Under Uncertain Conditions" (Online-Russia)

Interactive Q&A

1530-1545 Tea/Coffee Break

1545-1615 **Special Address by Air Marshal Narmdeshwar Tiwari, SYSM, PVSM, AVSM, VM, Vice Chief of the Air Staff- "Civil-Military Fusion to Harness Emerging Technologies to Overcome Challenges posed by an Increasingly Democratised Airspace"**
Moderator: Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari, PVSM, AVSM, VM (Retd), *Former Chief of the Air Staff*
Interactive Q&A

1615-1745 **SESSION-VI: Civil-Military Fusion – Scope and Possibilities**
Moderator: Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari, PVSM, AVSM, VM (Retd), *Former Chief of the Air Staff*
Speakers:
Ms Elsa B Kania, *Adjunct Senior Fellow, Technology & New Security Program, CNAS*
 "Military-Civil Fusion in a New Era: China's Strategy, Emerging Capabilities, and the Competitive Challenges" (Online-USA)
Ms Kateryna Bondar, *Fellow, Wadhwani AI Centre, CSIS*
 "The Future of Warfare: Innovation, Iteration and Acquisition at Speed" (Online-USA)
Gp Capt (Dr) RK Narang (Retd), *Senior Fellow, North America & Strategic Technologies Centre, MP-IDSA*
 "Civil-Military Fusion in the Drone Industry"
Interactive Q&A

1745-1830 **Valedictory Address by Shri Baba Kalyani, Chairman & Managing Director, Bharat Forge**
Moderator: Amb Sujan R Chinoy, *Director General, MP-IDSA*

1830-1835 **Vote of Thanks by Col Vivek Chadha (Retd), Senior Fellow, Military Affairs Centre, MP-IDSA**