



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

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| 0930-1000 | Registration |
| 1000-1100 | <p>Special Address by Gen Anil Chauhan, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, Chief of Defence Staff – “Impact of Technology on Modern Warfare”</p> <p>Moderator: Amb Sujan R Chinoy, <i>Director General, MP-IDSA</i></p> <p><i>Interactive Q&A</i></p> <p>Vote of Thanks by Col Vivek Chadha (Retd), <i>Senior Fellow, Military Affairs Centre, MP-IDSA</i></p> |
| 1100-1140 | <p>Inaugural Address by Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri and President, MP-IDSA</p> <p>Moderator: Amb Sujan R Chinoy, <i>Director General, MP-IDSA</i></p> <p>Vote of Thanks by Col Vivek Chadha (Retd), <i>Senior Fellow, Military Affairs Centre, MP-IDSA</i></p> |

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

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 Sobti, 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, Wadhvani 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**