

Headlines at a Glance - 14th August 2020

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DIAT develops face mask “Pavitrapati”, antimicrobial body suit “Aushada tara”

Pune based Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, DIAT (DU) developed a Nanofibres of Ayurvedic based Biodegradable Face Mask which acts a virus neutraliser to resist against the bacteria / virus, and is named “Pavitrapati”. The Company now launched its first ever Ayurvedic based biodegradable face mask named “Pavitrapati” for sale. M/s Siddheshwar Techtessile Pvt. Ltd Maharashtra developed initially 10,000 Nos of this mask and have got responses from distributors, sales teams, pharmaceutical companies and the same will be made available on online platforms like. Amazon, Flipkart etc. Another ToT has been transferred to M/s. Siddheshwar Techtessile Pvt. Ltd Maharashtra by DIAT for development of antimicrobial bodysuits in the name of “Aushada tara ”. This suit has superhydrophobic, breathing, anti-microbial, comfort feeling properties. The fabric material of the suit has the approval for fighting against the COVID-19. The suit has cleared the splash resistant tests and it has got a good repellent property of any fluids. The demand of this suit will be for medical hospitals, private companies, airlines and Govt agencies. The production of the Aushada Tara has started and the initial order is already placed and executed.

SOURCE: *PIB*

Rajnath Singh launches Naval Innovation and Indigenisation

Organisation

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) through an online webinar. The NIIO puts in place dedicated structures for the end users to interact with academia and industry towards fostering innovation and indigenisation for self-reliance in defence. The Draft Defence Acquisition Policy 2020 (DAP 20) rolled out by the Defence Ministry last month envisaged establishment of Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation by the Service Headquarters. Indian Navy already has a functional Directorate of Indigenisation and the new structures created will build upon the ongoing indigenisation initiatives, as well as focus on innovation. During the launch event yesterday, the Indian Navy signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Uttar Pradesh Expressway Industrial Development Authority, Raksha Shakti University of Gujarat, Maker Village in Kochi and Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers. A compendium of Indian Navy's Indigenisation perspective plans titled 'SWAVLAMBAN' was also released on the occasion. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and other dignitaries were also present at the event.

SOURCE: *The Hindu*

Coast Guard's offshore patrol vessel "Sarthak" launched

An offshore patrol vessel (OPV) for the Indian Coast Guard was launched and rechristened as "Sarthak" on Thursday, the Defence Ministry said. The ship was launched by Veena Ajay Kumar, wife of Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar, through video conferencing from the Coast Guard headquarters at New Delhi, said the ministry in a statement. Ajay Kumar, Indian Coast Guard's Director General K Natarajan, Goa Shipyard Limited's Chairman and Managing Director Bharat Bhushan Nagpal and other senior officials of the Defence Ministry were also present at the launch ceremony, it noted. The OPV is fitted with the state-of-the-art navigation and communication equipment, sensor and machinery, the statement said. The 105 metre ship displaces approximately 2,350 tonnes and is propelled by two 9,100 KW diesel engines designed to attain a maximum speed of 26 knots, with an endurance of 6,000 nautical miles, it stated.

SOURCE: *The Indian Express*

PM Modi launches Transparent Taxation platform

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a platform to honour the honest taxpayers of the country. The unveiling took place at 11 am today via video conferencing. The "Transparent Taxation - Honoring The Honest" platform will initiate major tax reforms aimed at bringing transparency in income tax systems and empowering taxpayers, according to the government. This is considered to be another step which will make the lives of the taxpayers easier. Over the years, the income tax department has carried out several major reforms, including reduction in the corporate tax. The department had also abolished the dividend tax. It has also been focussing on simplification of direct tax laws and increasing transparency in communication. A major step in this regard was the introduction of Document Identification Number (DIN) wherein every communication of the department would carry a computer generated unique document identification number.

SOURCE: *Hindustan Times*

Israel successfully tests advanced missile defense system Arrow-2

interceptor

Israel's Defense Ministry said Thursday it conducted a successful test of the country's advanced missile defense system against long-range ballistic attacks. Defense Minister Benny Gantz said the successful flight test of the Arrow-2 interceptor was part of Israel's technological effort that "ensures that we will always be one step ahead of our enemies." The test was conducted overnight in central Israel, jointly with the U.S. Missile Defense Agency. Arrow-2 is part of the multi-layered system Israel has developed to defend against both short- and mid-range rockets fired from Gaza and Lebanon, as well as Iran's long-range missiles. It includes Iron Dome, David's Sling and the Arrow-3 system - capable of defending against threats from outside the atmosphere. Israel and the United States jointly tested Arrow-3 successfully last year in Alaska. The system was developed by Israel Aerospace Industries and U.S. aviation giant Boeing and became operational in January 2017. **SOURCE:***Economic Times*