

## Indian Army tests 'Air Cavalry' concept

Agency  
Jaipur, May 13

The Indian Army has tested in the desert terrain of Rajasthan the military concept of 'Air Cavalry' that was used by the US Army to locate and assault enemy ground forces during the Vietnam War.

To enhance its defence capabilities, the Army tested the concept under which weaponised helicopters carry out combined action against the enemy in coordination with tanks and mechanised ground forces.

This being done by the Indian Army, with an eye on the future, which is focusing on strengthening its combat assets by procuring attack helicopters.

This is a new concept for the Indian Army and it is aimed at reshaping land battle by defeating the enemy by offensive punch from the air in coordination with tanks on the ground.

In the recently held offensive exercise 'Vijay Prahar' in Mahajan firing ranges near Suratgarh, the concept of 'Air Cavalry' was tried by the South Western command, defence spokesperson Lt Col Manish Ojha told news

agency.

The concept was implemented after a detailed deliberation, sand-model discussions and war gaming. In normal battle scenario, attack helicopters are called in on requirement basis by forces moving on the ground to launch an attack where the ground forces are not able to neutralise the target due to any reason, including difficult terrain.

Under the 'Air Cavalry' concept, attack helicopters are fully integrated with tanks and mechanised ground forces.

A fleet of armed helicopters simultaneously flies in air and performs a number of tasks, including troop insertion in forward areas, on the spot aerial recon, launching attacks and it proves more powerful and a good speed in the action is achieved.

This requires a very high degree of precision, coordination and continuous upgradation. It saves time and energy," another senior officer of the SW command said.

"The forces achieve more flexibility and fluidity in an operation and multitasking can be performed more quickly, swiftly and effectively and the ground commanders can act

decisively, boldly and offensively, the officer said. Under this kind of arrangement, attack helicopters can engage targets in the shortest possible time and the mission can be accomplished in a very flexible and effective manner.

This concept can be executed in different kind of terrains depending upon the feasibility. While the US used this concept in the jungles of Vietnam during the war from 1954-75, India tested it in scorching heat in desert terrain to sharpen its teeth.

The Army is gradually inducting helicopters equipped with ultra-modern sensors and high-precision weapons and therefore a need was felt to use the Air Cavalry concept for increasing capabilities in monitoring and protecting both eastern and western borders of the country.

The Indian Army is focusing on its own combat assets so there was a requirement that a concept should be in place for the best utilisation of attack helicopters. The helicopters will be used as force multiplier and will increase the potency of ground forces to engage the targets, defence sources said. The Army's combat assets will be crucial in the

land battles in desert along the western front as well as in the eastern front where the terrain is mountainous, the sources said.

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd is developing Light Combat Helicopter for the Army to meet its requirement for an attack helicopter which can operate at high altitude. The Army will also procure multi-role AH-64 'E' Apache attack helicopter manufactured by American aviation giant Boeing.

The Defence Ministry in August last year had approved the procurement of six most advanced Apache helicopters along with weapons systems at a cost of Rs 4,168 crore which will be the Army's first fleet of attack choppers.

Apaches have played a vital role in international conflicts, including in the Gulf, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq.

### State news

## "Awareness program on Voluntary Blood Donation in RIMS"

IT News  
Imphal May 13,

College of Nursing, RIMS, Imphal in collaboration with Department of Immunohaematology & Blood Transfusion (IHBT), RIMS, Imphal and sponsored by State Blood Cell, NHM, Manipur organized an awareness program on voluntary blood donation in the College of Nursing premises yesterday. Prof. A. Barindra Sharma, Head, IHBT, and Prof. A. Jamuna Devi, Principal, College of Nursing spoke on the needs and importance of the supreme act of blood donation.

They further mentioned that blood donation is definitely a noble act. Many hospitals constantly require blood for several purposes. This makes the idea of blood donation a noble gesture as it provides life-saving help to people and patients. On an average, human body contains approximately 4 to 5 liters blood that can be donated after every third month for men and every 4 months for women.

The program is being organized in connection with the observance of Nurses Week, 2018 wherein nurses all over the world remembers the contribution of Ms Florence Nightingale, the founder of Modern Nursing. A voluntary blood donation camp will be organized on 15 of May, 2018 at 10.00 am and requested all the volunteers to donate blood on this occasion. The awareness program was attended by faculty members, students and staff of the College of Nursing, RIMS, Imphal.

## Nine killed, dozens injured after a wave of blasts strike church in Indonesia

Agency  
Jakarta, May 13

A wave of blasts including a suicide bombing struck outside churches in Indonesia on Sunday, killing at least nine and wounding dozens of others, police said, the latest assault on a religious minority in the world's biggest Muslim-majority country.

Indonesia, which will begin the holy fasting month Ramadan this week, has been on high alert over attacks by terrorists, including some incidents claimed by the ISIS.

No one has yet claimed responsibility for the Sunday bombings in Indonesia's second-biggest city Surabaya.

"Nine people are dead and 40 are in hospital," East Java Police spokesman Frans Barung Mangera told reporters, adding that two police officers were among the injured.

The official death toll climbed from an initial two killed and may include those who succumbed to injuries in hospital.

Three separate locations were hit by the bombings around 7:30 am (0030 GMT).

Images from one scene showed a body lying outside the gate of Santa Maria catholic church and members

of Indonesia's bomb squad poring over the rubble.

At least one of the attackers was killed when they detonated their bomb at Santa Maria. It was not clear if any other perpetrators were among those killed or injured.

"I was frightened... many people were screaming," 23-year-old witness Roman told AFP after the blast at Santa Maria church.

The attacks come several days after five Indonesian police officers and an inmate were killed in clashes at a high-security jail on the outskirts of Jakarta.

ISIS claimed responsibility for that incident although police rejected its involvement.

The Southeast Asian nation's 260 million people includes significant numbers of Christians, Hindus and Buddhists but there are concerns over rising intolerance.

Indonesian police shot and wounded a man who attacked a church congregation in the town of Slemman with a sword during a Sunday mass in February.

The radical Islamist, who had wanted to fight with the ISIS in Syria, injured four people.

The archipelago nation of some 17,000 islands has long struggled with Islamic militancy and has suffered a

series of attacks in the past 15 years — including the 2002 Bali bombings that killed 202 people, mostly foreign tourists, in the country's worst-ever terror attack.

A sustained crackdown weakened the most dangerous networks but the emergence of ISIS has proved a potent new rallying cry for radicals. Hundreds of Indonesians have flocked to fight with ISIS, sparking fears that extremist outfits could get a new lease on life.

A gun and suicide attack in the capital Jakarta left four attackers and four civilians dead in January 2016, and was the first assault claimed by ISIS in Southeast Asia.

The attack on a district packed with malls, embassies and United Nations offices left around 20 others injured.

Previous incidents have included a 2004 suicide car bomb that killed 10 outside the Australian embassy in Jakarta, twin bomb blasts that killed 22 in a market in the Central Sulawesi town of Tentena, and a suicide bombing in 2005 that left 20 dead in Bali.

Seven people were killed, six of them foreigners, and more than 40 were injured when suicide bombers targeted the luxury Ritz-Carlton and JW Marriott hotels in Jakarta in July 2009.

### ADMISSION NOTICE (Academic Session 2018-19)



#### South Asian Institute of Rural and Agricultural Management

Affiliated to Manipur University (A Central University)

The South Asian Institute of Rural and Agricultural Management (SAIRAM) was established by the South Asian Rural and Agricultural Management Foundation (SARAF), registered as a Non-Profit making Company under the Indian Companies Act 2013 and affiliated with Manipur University (A Central University). The institute desires to achieve academic, profession and research excellence using innovative, creative, collaborative and sustainable practices.

#### ADMISSION TO THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMMES:

Course	Duration
1. Bachelor of Science (B.Sc)* in i) Agriculture ii) Horticulture iii) Biotechnology	4 years 4 years 3 years
2. Bachelors in Business Administration (BBA)**	3 years
3. Short-term Skill Development (STS)*** in Plant Micro propagation Techniques, Medicinal Plant	6 months
4. Certificate Courses in Foreign Language (CCFL)**** in i) Japanese ii) Chinese iii) Korean iv) Thai	6 months

\*Eligibility for admission to B.Sc. Programmes: 10+2 pass with 50% marks in aggregate (45% marks for SC & ST Candidates and 47% marks for OBC Candidates) in Science with Biology as a subject

\*\*Eligibility for admission to BBA Programmes: 10+2 pass with 50% marks in aggregate in any discipline (45% marks for SC and ST Candidates and 47% marks for OBC Candidates)

\*\*\*Eligibility for admission to Short Term Courses: 10<sup>th</sup> pass in any discipline

\*\*\*\*Eligibility for admission to Certificate Courses in Foreign Language: 10+2 pass in any discipline

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HOW TO APPLY: Candidates can get the Application Form from the Office of the Institute on payment of Rs. 500/- (Rs. 300 for SC & ST Candidates) during office hours. Application forms can also be downloaded from the institute's website: [www.sairam.org.in](http://www.sairam.org.in) and submit the duly filled in application form with relevant documents. The candidates who downloaded the application form from the website should pay the application fee of Rs. 500/- (Rs. 300 for SC & ST Candidates) at the time of submission of the form in cash or Demand Draft drawn in favour of SOUTH ASIAN RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT (SAIRAM) FOUNDATION, payable at Imphal

#### IMPORTANT DATES:

Date of issue of Application form : 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 onwards  
Last date for submission of duly filled in Application Form : 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2018  
Last date for admission of forms for respective programmes : 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018

SELECTION PROCEDURE: Application forms will be shortlisted and merit list will be prepared based on the marks they secured in their 10+2 certificate examination.

#### SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM

The duly filled in and signed application forms with self attested copies of relevant documents should be submitted to the undersigned on or before 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2018

Director

South Asian Institute of Rural and Agricultural Management,

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## India, Nepal agree to expand their partnership for socio-economic development

Agency  
New Delhi, May 13

India and Nepal have agreed to expand their partnership for socio-economic development on the basis of principles of equality, trust, respect and mutual benefit.

In a joint statement issued after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day visit to Nepal

yesterday, Mr Modi and his Nepalese counterpart KP Sharma Oli emphasised the need for regular convening of bilateral mechanisms to review the overall state of bilateral relations and for expeditious implementation of the economic and development co-operation projects.

The two Prime Ministers also underscored the importance of trade and economic ties between India and Nepal. They underlined the catalytic role of connectivity in stimulating economic growth and promoting movement of people. Both the Prime Ministers also agreed to take further steps to enhance economic and physical connectivity by air, land and water.

### Sports News

## India beat Japan 4-1 in Women's Asian Champions Trophy Hockey

Agency  
Donghae City, May 13

Navneet Kaur scored a hat-trick as India got off to a rollicking start with a 4-1 win over Japan in their opening match of the 5th Women's Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament here today.

Young forward Navneet scored in the 7th, 25th and 55th minute while Anupa Barla (53rd) got the other goal for India at the Sunrise Stadium here.

The Indian team was dominant right from the start as it displayed well-strategised attack to break the strong Japanese defence. An early chance came by when forward Vandana Katariya and Lilima Minz worked in tandem to create space in the striking circle.

Navneet picked up an assist from Vandana to send the ball past Korean goalkeeper to give defending champions India 1-0 lead in the 7th minute. India played with speed, kept the ball possession and stayed consistent as they kept up the pressure on Japan. Good defence led by Skipper

Sunita Lakra ensured Japan did not find too many chances in the circle.

Navneet showcased her abilities with the stick as she drove into the 25-yard mark and assisted experienced forward Vandana drive into the circle. Vandana's clever return of ball from the right flank to an unmarked Navneet at the top of the circle saw her score a splendid goal, doubling India's lead to 2-0 in the 25th minute.

India continued to keep up the momentum into the third quarter which was disrupted by rain. Three minutes into the third quarter, India won back-to-back penalty corners but both Deep Grace Ekka and Gurjit Kaur could not convert. Japan too won three back-to-back PCs this quarter but could not beat the experienced India goalkeeper Savita.

India's third goal came off a brilliant assist by Udit to Anupa Barla beat the Korean defender to send the ball into the net with a fierce hit in the 53rd minute.

India's fourth goal came off a counter attack when Japan missed their opportunity to score off a PC in the 55th

minute.

It was Navneet who was the in the thick of action yet again, taking the ball into India's half, passed it to Udit until she could position herself to strike the ball past Korean goalkeeper with ease. Her significant effort in India's win saw her being awarded the man-of-the-match.

Though Aki Yamada scored a consolation goal for Japan in the 58th minute, it did little damage to India's feat.

"It was an important match to win because a good start always gives confidence to play better in the next matches to come. This is my first man-of-the-match award in an international arena, and I am very happy about it," said an elated Navneet after the match.

"In the absence of our key striker Rani, there was more responsibility on us to create chances and I am happy that our team did really well. Our target is to win this tournament so that we can carry the winning spirit into the Women's World Cup." On May 16, India take on a formidable China in their second Pool match.