

Functions of CDS

16. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS); and

(b) whether the concept of "Theatre Command" is going to be implemented under the CDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The duties and functions of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) include the following:

- (i) To head the Department of Military Affairs in Ministry of Defence and function as its Secretary.
- (ii) To act as the Principal Military Advisor to Hon'ble Raksha Mantri on all Tri-Service matters.
- (iii) To function as the Permanent Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee.
- (iv) To administer the Tri-Service organizations/agencies/commands.
- (v) To be a member of Defence Acquisition Council chaired by Hon'ble Raksha Mantri.
- (vi) To function as the Military Advisor to the Nuclear Command Authority.
- (vii) To bring about jointness in operation, logistics, transport, training, support services, communications, repairs and maintenance, etc. of the three Services.
- (viii) To ensure optimal utilisation of infrastructure and rationalise it through jointness among the Services.
- (ix) To implement Five-Year Defence Capital Acquisition Plan and Two-Year roll-on Annual Acquisition Plans, as a follow up of Integrated Capability Development Plan.
- (x) To assign inter-services prioritisation to capital acquisition proposals based on the anticipated budget.

- (xi) To bring about reforms in the functioning of three Services with the aim to augment combat capabilities of the Armed Forces by reducing wasteful expenditure.

(b) The mandate of the Department of Military Affairs *inter-alia* includes "Facilitation of restructuring of Military Commands for optimal utilisation of resources by bringing about jointness in operations, including through establishment of joint/theatre commands".

Defence India Start-up Challenge

17. DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of start-ups which have been funded under the "Defence India Start-up Challenge" for achieving the target of 50 tangible innovations for the advancement of the Defence Sector; and

(b) the details of such start-ups along with the amount spent on them respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) 44 iDEX winners have been identified for 14 problem statements and grants have been released to 24 of them.

(b) Grants of Rs 2.98 crores have so far been released to following 24 iDEX winners:—

Sl. No.	Company
1.	Tatvabodh Technology Pvt. Ltd.
2.	Logic Fruit Technologies Pvt Ltd
3.	North Street Cooling Towers Pvt Ltd
4.	Tonbo Imaging India Private Limited
5.	Dimension NXG Private Limited
6.	Kinetix Engineering Solutions Limited
7.	Nyokas Technologies Private Limited