



Baatcheet

No. 08/2025

AN INDIAN ARMY PUBLICATION

August 2025



INDIA IN PEACEKEEPING A LEGACY OF COURAGE AND COMPASSION



INDIA'S GLOBAL MARCH FOR PEACE....



Middle East
1956 - 67

UNEF 1956 - 67
UNOGIL 1958~

Korea
1950-54



Congo
1960- 63

UNSF 1962 - 63
UNYOM 1963



Angola
1976-2000

UNIMOG 1988- 91
UNAVEM 1989- 99
UNTAG 1989- 91
ONUCA 1989- 92

Cambodia
1991-94

ONUSAL 1991- 95



Mozambique
1992-94

UNOMIL 1993- 97

Somalia
1993-95



Rwanda
1993-96

UNMIBH 1995- 2002

Sierra Leone
1998- 01



Ethiopia & Eritrea
2006- 08

UNMIL 2003- 18

Current
Missions



Middle East Since 1950
Cyprus Since 1964
Western Sahara Since 1997

Lebanon Since 1998
DR Congo Since 1999
South Sudan Since 2005

Golan Heights Since 2006
Abyei Since 2011
CAR Since 2008

VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM



PROTECTING CIVILIANS IN SOUTH SUDAN (UNMISS)

But what drives this commitment?

The answer lies deep in our
civilisational values

“VasudhaivaKutumbakam”

The world is one family

India stands tall as one
of the largest Troop
Contributing Countries to
UN Peacekeeping Operations
with 2,92,000 personnel
served in 53 missions.



MONUC

India's first contribution to UN
peacekeeping was in 1950 during the
Korean War. Ever since, Indian Army
soldiers have led by example. India
believes in a multipolar world, but a
unified humanity. That is why we act
globally, while rooted in our ancient
principles.

MISSIONS THROUGH LENS



Protection of Civilians & Ceasefire Monitoring

It includes establishing safe zones, patrolling demarcation lines and responding decisively when civilians are under threat - often intervening amidst hostilities.



UNISFA (ABYEI)



MONUSCO (CONGO)



MONUSCO (CONGO)

Gender Equality & Child Protection

Protect women and children, reduce gender-based violence and establish trust within vulnerable communities.



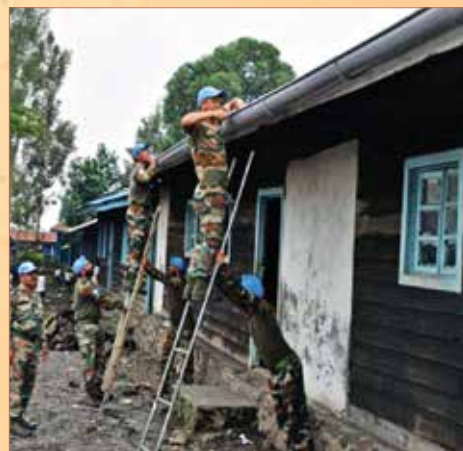
UNISFA (ABYEI)

Humanitarian Assistance

Indian peacekeepers provide crucial humanitarian aid through disaster relief and assistance in rebuilding homes and community infrastructure.



UNMISS (SOUTH SUDAN)



MONUSCO (CONGO)



UNMISS (SOUTH SUDAN)



UNIFIL (LEBANON)

Medical Assistance

Indian contingents deploy mobile hospitals and run medical camps for conflict affected civilians and displaced families

Community Engagement & Reintegration

Promote dialogue and reconciliation through community liaison, vocational training and literacy programmes - aimed at healing communities.



UNISFA (ABYEI)



MONUSCO (CONGO)



UNMISS (SOUTH SUDAN)



UNIFIL (LEBANON)

Veterinary Support

Indian peacekeepers provide free veterinary services, treat livestock diseases and train local farmers on animal care, enhancing food security and livelihoods.

WOMEN IN PEACEKEEPING A GROWING FORCE



India's largest all
women platoon
in UNISFA

155 Female troops
deployed



THE PRESENCE OF FEMALE PEACEKEEPERS

- ▶ Helps reduce conflict and confrontation
- ▶ Provides a greater sense of security to women and children
- ▶ Improves access and support for local women
- ▶ Makes our peacekeepers more approachable to women



MILITARY GENDER ADVOCATE AWARD



MAJ RADHIKA SEN



MAJ SUMAN GAWANI



ROLL OF HONOUR : UN



HE IS NEVER BORN NOR DOES HE EVER DIE OR HAVING
ONCE COME INTO BEING WILL HE AGAIN CEASE TO BE HE
IS UNBORN, ETERNAL AND ANCIENT EVEN THOUGH THE
BODY IS KILLED HE (THE SOUL) IS NOT SLAIN

CAPT GURBACHAN SINGH SALARIA, PVC (POSTHUMOUS)

On 5 December 1961, during a UN operation in Katanga, Captain Gurbachan Singh Salaria of 3/1 Gorkha Rifles a small force to cut off a roadblock at Elizabethville airfield. However, Capt Salaria and his platoon met strong opposition from a large number of rebels armed with automatic weapons and armoured carriers. He attacked the rebels ferociously and eliminated many of them quickly in close combat. During exchange of fire he got injured and later succumbed to his injuries. The entire rebel force soon got disintegrated. Capt Gurbachan Singh Salaria was awarded, "Param Vir Chakra" for his courage, leadership and supreme sacrifice.



MAHAVIR CHAKRA



LT COL AG RANGRAJ, MVC



MAJ NB BANERJEE, MVC



LT VP TREHAN, MVC



NK MAHABIR THAPA, MVC



LNK RB GURUNG, MVC



PVC - 01



MVC - 05



KC - 02



VrC - 21



SC - 09



SM - 37

न जायते म्रियते वा कदाचिन नाम भूत्वा भविता वा न भूयः ।
अजो नित्यः शाश्वतोऽयं पुराणो न हन्यते हन्यमाने शरीरे ॥

GLOBAL FO



UNFICYP
CYPRUS

UNIFIL
LEBANON

MINUSCA
CAR

MINURSO
W SAHARA

UNDPO
NEWYORK

161 PERSONNEL MADE
SUPREME SACRIFICE



DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD MEDAL - 2025

The DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD Medal commemorates UN peacekeepers who gave their lives upholding peace.



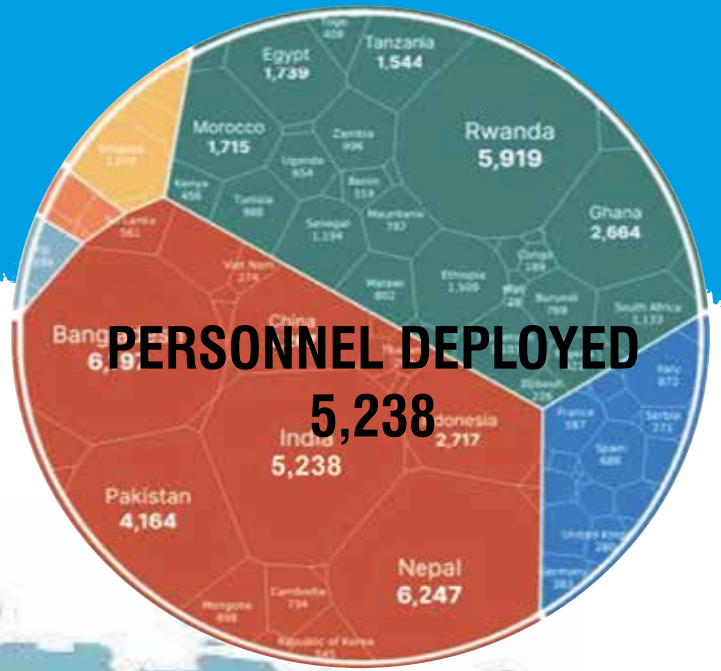
Brig Amitabh Jha, SM, VSM



Hav Sanjay Singh

FOOTPRINTS

PERSONNEL DEPLOYED



UNDOF GOLAN HEIGHTS

UNTSO MIDDLE EAST

UNISFA ABYEI

UNAOU ADDIS ABABA

MONUSCO DR CONGO

UNMISS SOUTH SUDAN

INDIAN PARTICIPATION

APPROX 2,92,000 TROOPS CONTRIBUTED

30 FORCE CDRS/ SENIOR OFFICIALS

CURRENTLY DEPLOYED IN 11 MISSIONS

53 OUT OF 72 MISSIONS

CHIEF'S PAGE



COAS alongwith Mr Mariano Caucino, Ambassador of Argentina to India jointly flagged-in the Indo-Argentine Army Mountaineering Expedition to Mt Kun (7,077m) in the Suru Valley, Ladakh.



COAS and Shri B.V.R Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog, jointly chaired a meeting of military and civil experts to explore convergence of strengths in the technology domain.



COAS visited Algeria from 25 Aug 2025 to 28 Aug 2025. The visit strengthened the relationship between the two countries.

COAS vis Bathinda Military Station to review the prevailing security scenario and assess the operational readiness of the Chetak Corps.



COAS inaugurated 'Agnishodh' the Indian Army Research Cell (IARC), at IIT Madras, marking a significant step towards Atmanirbharta in defence technology.



COAS launched two web applications MES Integrated Monitoring and Management Software for Arbitration (MIMAMSA) and Electronic Measurement Book (e-MB) to improve the operational efficiency of Military Engineering Services (MES).

VETERANS CORNER



Lt Gen Ranbir Chhabra (Retd) and Hav Rajat (Retd) | inaugurated an ECHS Polyclinic at Nyati, Pune.



Tiger Division celebrated 100th birthday of Lt Col Sharak Dev Singh Jamwal (Retd) who inducted tanks across Zoji La in 1947-48 Indo Pak War.



Sure Swift Striker Brigade organised a Mega Ex-Servicemen Rally at Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar Military Station, uniting over 2500 Veterans including 78 Veer Matas, Veer Naris, senior veterans and decorated achievers from across Marathwada.



On the 60th year of supreme sacrifice of Captain CN Singh, MVC of Garhwal Rifles, his brother Shri Sukhdev Singh, handed over the Maha Vir Chakra to Lieutenant General D S Rana, CINCAN and the Colonel of Garhwal Rifles & Garhwal Scouts at Dharamshala for displaying in the Regimental Centre.



General Upendra Dwivedi, COAS, honoured four Veterans with the 'Veteran Achievers Award' at Bathinda Military Station on 13 August 2025 for their exceptional contributions.



General Officer Commanding, Dakshin Maharashtra & Goa Sub Area inaugurated a new Canteen building at Karad for Ex-Servicemen & Veterans.

SNIPPETS



The 14th edition of bilateral exercise Bold Kurukshetra between Indian Army & Singapore Army concluded at Jodhpur.



Golden Key Warriors of Saidpur Brigade validated offensive drills at 15,000 ft, operating in rarefied heights and unforgiving terrain at Jolinkong, Uttarakhand.



RAN SAMWAD 2025 - a pioneering Tri Services seminar themed "Impact of Technology on Warfare" focusing on convergence of ideas on Strategy, Innovation & National Security was hosted by HQ ARTRAC under the aegis of HQ IDS at Army War College, Mhow (MP) on 26-27 Aug 25.



Indian Army launched rescue operations responding to a landslide struck near Dharali village, approx 4 km from the Indian Army Camp at Harshil, at around 1:45 PM on 05 Aug 2025.



Exercise Suraksha Chakra was conducted at Delhi to test inter-agency coordination and response between military and civil agencies, the Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs) were activated and mock drills conducted.



The first-ever Regional Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti & Defence Works Seminar was held at Northern Command on 26-27 August, marking a pivotal step towards integrated infrastructure development and enhanced defence preparedness.



Lieutenant General Simon Stuart, Chief of Army, Australian Army on official visit to India from 11 -14 Aug 2025, reviewed the Guard of Honour at the South Block.



The Indian Army deployed 13 flood relief and rescue columns in HADR operations in response to the massive floods in Jammu and Pathankot. 24 civilians including children were safely evacuated from flood-affected areas in Balle Da Bagh near Akhnour.



Brahmastra Corps under the aegis of Eastern Command conducted Ex POORVI DRONE KAUSHAL at Ranchi Military Station, showcasing integration of indigenous drone tech in combat ops which included 36 teams executing a coordinated operation under simulated battlefield conditions.



Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh, VCOAS flagged off "Infantry Pre Everest Massif Mountaineering Expedition 2025 to Mount Nanda Devi East (7434m), being conducted as a prelude to "Infantry Everest Massif Mission 2026" on the occasion of 80th Shaurya Diwas.



On the occasion of 59th AWWA Day, AWWA Week was celebrated through diverse events and Army Women's Welfare Association President Mrs. Sunita Dwivedi extended her heartfelt greetings to all Veer Naris and Next of Kin of Army personnel.



EQUIPMENT OF THE MONTH

Mechanical Minefield Marking Equipment Mk-II

The MMME Mk-II is an indigenously developed Mechanical Minefield Marking Equipment (MMME) system, inducted into the Indian Army, aimed at rapidly marking and fencing minefields with minimal human intervention. Jointly developed by Research & Development Establishment (Engineers), DRDO, and manufactured by BEML Ltd, it is designed to operate efficiently across various terrains like deserts, semi-deserts, and plains. This induction signifies a major step towards self-reliance in defence manufacturing and enhances the Army's operational capabilities.

Technical Details

Vehicle Platform: mounted on a TATRA 6x6 vehicle.

Adjustable Picket Spacing:

- pickets at intervals ranging from 10 to 35 mtrs.
- in 5-meter increments.
- up to a depth of 450mm.

Continuous Operation: up to 500 pickets in a single operation.

Rope Capacity: 15 kilometers (10 spools x 1.5 km each).

Operating Temperature: 0 to 45°C.

Crew Requirements: a driver and four operators.

Operating Environment: plains, semi-deserts, and deserts.

Output: Average speed is at least 1.2 km per hour at 15-meter picket spacing.

Key Features

- Reduced Troop Exposure
- Increased Speed and Efficiency
- Semi-automatic operation
- Adjustable picket spacing
- High marking speed
- Terrain adaptability

Significance in Indian Army

The Mechanical Minefield Marking Equipment Mk-II (MMME Mk-II) is significant for enhancing the Indian Army's combat readiness and operational effectiveness. It's an indigenously developed system that allows for rapid and semi-automatic marking of minefields, reducing manual effort and improving troop safety. This advancement supports the "Atmanirbhar Bharat" (Self-Reliant India) initiative by boosting indigenous defence production.



PARAM VIR CHAKRA



CAPTAIN GURBACHAN SINGH SALARIA
GORKHA RIFLES

BATTLE OF UNOKAT (05 DECEMBER 1961)

The Battle of Unokat, fought on 5 December 1961, stands as one of the most glorious chapters in India's military history and in the annals of United Nations peacekeeping. Operation UNOKAT was launched to break the stranglehold of Katangese forces in Congo, who were defying the UN's call for peace and threatening to choke vital supply routes to UN positions in Elisabethville.

In the face of fierce resistance, it was the legendary 3/1 Gorkha Rifles of the Indian Army, led by Brigadier K.A.S. Raja, who spearheaded the assault. Supported by Swedish armoured carriers and Irish contingents, the Gorkhas stormed forward with their trademark courage and lightning speed. By 2:30 p.m., they had smashed through heavily fortified roadblocks, reopening lifelines for UN forces and putting the enemy on the backfoot.

But the battle's defining moment came when Captain Gurbachan Singh Salaria, a young officer of 3/1 Gorkha Rifles, led his men into history. Tasked with neutralising Katangese armour and infantry, he advanced with his platoon in Swedish APCs under murderous fire from nearly 90 enemy gendarmes supported by armoured vehicles.

Where others might have faltered, Captain Salaria chose audacity. Rallying his Gorkhas, he ordered a fearless bayonet and khukri charge. Charging into the hail of bullets, the Gorkhas closed in with their traditional steel. In brutal hand-to-hand combat, they killed over 40 enemy soldiers, destroyed armoured cars and scattered the rest in utter panic.

Captain Salaria, though mortally wounded in the heroic clash, stood unflinching till his last breath. His gallantry prevented a devastating counterattack, secured the Gorkha flank and ensured the UN advance held firm. His men, inspired by their fallen leader, maintained their grip on the captured ground under relentless fire.

For this unparalleled act of bravery, Captain Salaria was posthumously awarded the Param Vir Chakra (PVC)—India's highest wartime honour. To this day, he remains the only PVC awardee in a United Nations peacekeeping mission, immortalised as a symbol of courage, sacrifice and the indomitable spirit of the Indian soldier.

The Gorkhas' heroism on 5 December turned the tide of the Congo campaign. Even as Katangese snipers, mortars and mercenary advisors tried to stem the UN advance, the momentum was unstoppable. ONUC aircraft pounded enemy strongholds, destroyed supply depots, and cut off reinforcements. By 6 December, Swedish troops secured key railway tunnels while Indian Gorkhas, embodying sheer grit, continued to push back against overwhelming odds.

Over the next few days, UN forces consolidated gains, steadily hammering Katangese strongholds despite heavy bombardments and sniper fire. The enemy used civilian sites as shields and relied on foreign advisors, yet nothing could blunt the determination of ONUC forces—least of all the unbreakable resolve of the Indian Gorkhas.

By 7–9 December, ONUC had seized air superiority, welcomed fresh reinforcements, and launched decisive strikes on Katangese infrastructure. The international community was divided—while the United States backed UN efforts for Congolese unity, Britain, France, and Belgium voiced criticism. Amid this storm, one fact was undeniable: it was the Indian Army's contribution, led by Brigadier Raja's 99 Infantry Brigade and anchored by the 3/1 Gorkha Rifles, that stood tall above all.

The gallantry of Captain Salaria (PVC), supported by the sacrifices of heroes like Naik Mahabir Thapa (MVC), showcased India as the backbone of ONUC. Their courage not only secured a military victory but also embodied the true essence of peacekeeping—courage under fire, discipline in adversity and an unshakeable commitment to restoring peace to a troubled land.

COMMUNIQUE

ENHANCED CHECK-IN BAGGAGE FACILITY ON AIR TRAVEL FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL IN DEFENCE TRAVEL SYSTEM (DTS)

- Additional 5 Kg baggage allowance has now been extended for Air Travel by Indigo, Air India & Air India Express for Defence Travel System (DTS). This facility is available free of cost. The details procedure for availing the addl 5 Kg Baggage Allowances are as under :-
 - Indigo Airlines & Air India Express. The Def traveller is required to select the option of 'Additional 5 Kg baggage (free of cost)' under 'Add On' option during the Web Check-In through the airlines website. This facility is available only through "Web-Check-In and will not be added at the airport check-in counter by producing DTS tkt, if option was not selected earlier during Web Check-In.
 - Air India. Additional 5 Kg baggage (free of cost) will be given upfront once the ticket is issued on DTS portal or Authorized Travel Agencies.
- It is reiterated that the Extra 5Kg baggage facility on Indigo and Air India Express can only be availed during the Web Check-In. The same will not be extended on the check in counter at the airport or through customer care of the airline. All personnel are encouraged to make full use of this facility during their air travel.



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I am Archana, a proud graduate of the Army Institute of Fashion & Design and currently a Junior Menswear Designer. AIFD provided me with a strong foundation in design, industry exposure, and hands-on learning that shaped my creative vision. The dedicated faculty and state-of-the-art facilities played a crucial role in building my confidence and understanding of trends and innovation. Today, I owe my professional growth to the invaluable knowledge and experience I gained at AIFD.

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Publisher : Additional Directorate General of Strategic Communication, IHQ of MoD (Army)

Editor Baatchheet Email : editorbaatchheet@gmail.com

Contact No : 011-23018665

Printer : Anything Printers, Ph : 011-45685718

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