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DG's MESSAGE ON 70th DGAQA FOUNDATION DAY

On the occasion of 70th Foundation day, I extend my felicitations and warm greetings to all DGAQA personnel and their families.

My special greetings to our esteemed DGAQA veterans and their families. It is their vision and hard work that nurtured DGAQA all along since its inception in 1954.

'DGAQA Day' is a momentous occasion to look back and note our remarkable achievements. It is also an occasion to rededicate ourselves to our primary objective of providing requisite QA towards flight safety.

In the year gone by, there have been major thrust by the government on QA reforms through simplifying the QA procedures and practices for improving quality culture, empowering industry, ease of doing business towards achieving Atmanirbharta in Defence. Towards this, we have taken following initiatives:

- (i) Revision of DDPMAS. DDPMAS document has recently been revised after incorporating the suggestions from all stakeholders. This document is being renamed as Indian Military Airworthiness Procedure (IMAP-2023). This version provides next level of reforms in r/o Airworthiness certification & QA aspects. This shall benefit both Producers and Users in Military Aviation.
- (ii) AFQMS to OF-DPSU's post OFB corporatization. Major review of QC/QA stages were carried out wherein the QMS of Ordnance Factories were strengthened and brought at par with other peers namely HAL, BEL etc. Accordingly, out of total 16 factories under DGAQA ambit, 13 factories were granted AFQMS approval.

- (iii) DGAQA engagement in C-295 Tata – Airbus project. This project is likely to be the game changer in the military aviation production, being the first project in private sector with Foreign OEM partnership. DGAQA officers underwent training at M/s Airbus, Spain and are geared up for PDI of bought out aircraft and subsequent production in the country.
- (iv) DGAQA-AFQMS approval. We have granted AFQMS approval to total 104 firms. Further, we have started granting AFQMS approval to Pvt Firms also and presently five such firms have been granted approval.
- (v) Registration of Firms and Test labs. As part of capacity assessment and registration of Firms and Test labs towards expansion of Indian defence industry, a total of 94 Firms and 17 Test labs are registered with us.
- (vi) DGAQA is continuously supporting Industry through proactive approach during various activities in indigenous design and development projects viz LCA, ALH, LUH, LCH, HTT-40, Saras, AMCA etc. as also indigenization, material substitution, life extension studies. Requisite coverage is also provided to MoD flagship programs viz iDEX, DTIS, MRGS etc. We opened two new field offices last year namely at BEL-Kotdwar and OEF-Hazratpur.
- (vii) On export front, DGAQA is providing QA coverage and final clearance for Dornier to Seychelles and Mauritius and also we shall be geared up for forth coming orders for export of LCA, Brahmos & Aakash missiles. Towards this, MOD has recently exempted the inspection charges of (1-4%) for export purpose. With this, our industry shall be more competitive in getting export orders and it shall avoid need for PDI by outside agencies as well.
- (viii) We have organized workshop on 'QA Reforms in Military Aviation for promoting Indigenous R&D and Manufacturing' with participation of various stake holders viz DPSUs (HAL, BEL, BDL, Midhani), OF-DPDU's, DRDO Labs, Industry Forums (SIDM & SIATI), Oil PSUs (IOCL, BPCL, Reliance, Avi Oil etc) User services (IAF, Army Aviation, Naval Aviation, ICG Aviation) and Private industry at Vigyan Bhawan last month. The suggestions from the industry have been compiled and the actionable points are being worked out.
- (ix) On materials front, a comprehensive study has recently been carried out with a number of reforms; a Report was released by Hon'ble RM ji during last Def Expo. Five initiatives have been taken namely requirement of 03 batches for certification is relaxed initially for non-critical aero materials, Time bound issue of QTP and ATP documents

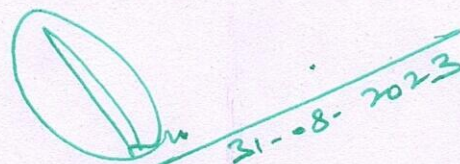
by CEMILAC & DGAQA respectively, Acceptance of materials on CoC basis by main contractor, certification based on Pilot test batch on lab scale that can be scaled up later during actual production batches and lastly development & certification of Aero materials by CEMILAC & DGAQA without formal supply order. Our industry friends have started taking benefit of these provisions and this shall help in indigenization of critical Aero materials on faster rate.

- (x) On Human resources front, Cadre review of Group A cadre has been finalized and draft cabinet note submitted. Further, despite a number of Court cases, a considerable chunk of officers have been promoted to higher level in this year.
- (xi) On training front in preceding year, we have conducted / organized 42 courses wherein about 300 DGAQA personnel have been trained in various areas.
- (xii) On Rajbhasha front, HQrs has conducted for the first time, two day workshop with participation of Rajbhasha officials from various FEs. I am glad that our Hyderabad & Itarsi offices have received award for Utkarsh Karya in Rajbhasha from NARAKAS. Also, we encourage the work done by various FEs for annual publication of in house Rajbhasha Patrika.

Our in house Technical publication '**Vaimaniki Darpan**' has completed three years and I urge our fellow officers for providing Quality Articles for mutual benefit of all.

On the 70th Foundation Day, let us resolve to continue performing our duties with utmost dedication and professionalism. I am confident that our collective capacity to achieve excellence and our commitment will take DGAQA to further heights.

Jai Hind!



(S Chawla)
Director General