

CENTRE FOR UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING

The Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) was established in September 2000 through collaboration between the Ministry of External Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and three Service Headquarters. Our primary focus is to operate as a nodal Centre of Excellence with focus on the training and validation of contingents before getting deployed, military observers and staff officers nominated for deployment in various UN missions in conflict zones worldwide.

IN THE LAST TWO DECADES SINCE ITS INCEPTION, THE CENTRE HAS TRAINED 1,90,000 TROOPS WHICH INCLUDE 9000 INDIAN ARMY OFFICERS AND APPROXIMATELY 1900 OFFICERS FROM MORE THAN 90 FRIENDLY COUNTRIES

To achieve this aim, we conduct 12 pre-deployment courses annually on a training-of-trainers model. We also organize five to six international courses for military officers from across the world. All our courses are curated with experiential inputs of officers who have been on UN missions and are accredited by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in New York. The team at the Centre comprises over 100 subject matter experts drawn from the military, diplomatic community and academia. In addition to our core training programs, CUNPK actively engages in organizing seminars and workshops in collaboration with various think tanks and UN agencies in India and at the UN Headquarters.



CAPSULE FOR OPERATIONAL AND TACTICAL COMMANDERS IN FIELD IS A FLAGSHIP BIENNIAL EVENT CONDUCTED BY THE CENTRE



MAIDEN FEMALE MILITARY OFFICERS COURSE FOR ASEAN WOMEN: SEP 2023



NATIONAL UN PRE DEPLOYMENT COURSE 93: UNDER THE PEACEKEEPERS TREE SYMBOLISING GLOBAL PEACE AND HARMONY

UN PEACEKEEPERS DAY 2023

PLATINUM JUBILEE: 75 GLORIOUS YEARS OF UN PEACEKEEPING



PARTICIPANTS OF THE COMMEMORATIVE EVENT ON UN PEACEKEEPERS DAY 2023 WITH HONOURABLE RAKSHA MANTRI

India is the highest contributor of troops in UN peacekeeping operations till date having participated in 53 out of the 73 UN peacekeeping missions undertaken since the formation of the UN in 1948. As a befitting tribute to the peacekeepers who have made the supreme sacrifice and those currently donning the blue helmets and blue berets in service of humanity, the 75th anniversary of UN Peacekeepers Day was solemnly observed in New Delhi with a wreath-laying ceremony at the National War Memorial on 30 May 2023. The Chief of Army Staff and senior officers from the Integrated Headquarters of the Ministry of Defence (Army) participated in this event. A Special Commemorative Seminar was held at Manekshaw Centre on 13 Jun 2023, attended by the Honourable Defence Minister, the Chief of Defence Staff, the Chief of Army Staff and senior officials from the Ministry of Defence. Defence attaches from more than 25 countries were also present to witness the commemorative activities.



WREATH LAYING BY THE COAS AT NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL ON OCCASION OF UN PEACEKEEPERS DAY 2023



HON'BLE RAKSHA MANTRI AT THE PHOTO EXHIBITION

The highlights of the event featured a Photo Exhibition showcasing India's 73-year journey in UN peacekeeping, a short film highlighting the bravery of Indian Peacekeepers over the years and the release of a UN photo album capturing India's rich legacy in the United Nations. Following the inaugural event, there was an Ideation Session addressing contemporary challenges in UN Peacekeeping, featuring eminent speakers such as Maj Gen Patrick Cammaert, former Force Commander of MONUSCO and former Military Advisor to the UN and Mr Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator in India. Her Excellency Ms Ruchira Kamboj, the Permanent Representative of India to the UN addressed the gathering via a pre-recorded message.

INTERNATIONAL COURSES

ASEAN FEMALE OFFICERS' MILITARY COURSE

The Centre successfully organized the inaugural Women Military Officers' Course for ASEAN nations from 18 – 29 September 2023. This course was the first in a series of two events dedicated to ASEAN women peacekeepers, following the announcement made by the Honourable Defence Minister in November 2022 at Cambodia during the ASEAN Defence Ministers Conference. The Female Course was a tailor-made program specifically designed for ASEAN women peacekeepers, the first of its kind conducted by the Centre. This initiative demonstrates Indian Army's commitment to providing specialized training and support for women in military roles within the ASEAN region.



AT NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL NEW DELHI

The Women Military Officers' Course for ASEAN nations featured engaging scenario-based discussions on current challenges in peacekeeping, a display of equipment used by India in UN peacekeeping missions highlighting India's proficiency in indigenous production and a thematic lecture demonstration on operational situations in mission areas providing valuable insights into nuances of peacekeeping in conflict ridden hotspots. The blending of experience and culture on this platform brought out valuable lessons and best practices from the ASEAN women military officers. The diverse collective experience of the officers added enormous learning value for everyone. The participants had the opportunity to explore India's rich culture and heritage during the tours of Agra and Delhi.



EQUIPMENT DISPLAY DURING THE COURSE



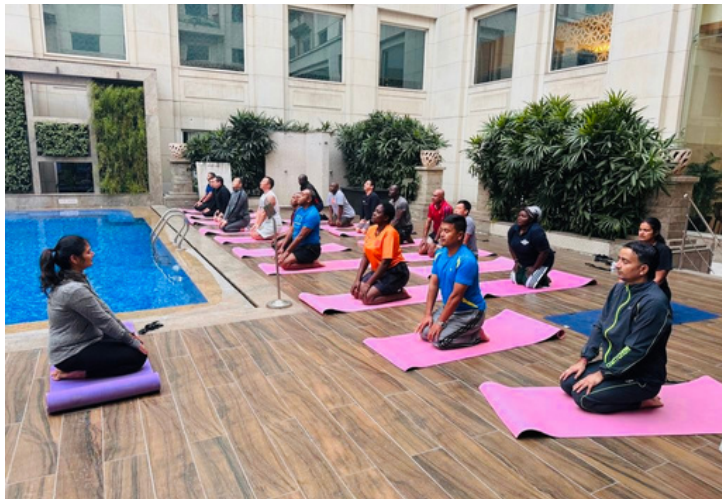
COURSE PHOTOGRAPH WITH THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF (IS&C) AND DEFENCE ATTACHES

INTERNATIONAL COURSES

UN PRE-DEPLOYMENT TRAINING OF TRAINERS COURSE - 03

Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping, India conducted a United Nations Pre-deployment Course (Training of Trainers) for military officers from 16 friendly Foreign Countries and the Indian Army from 06 to 24 Nov 2023. The Course, themed on the UN framework and designed as an empowering and collaborative training programme, was organized under the aegis of the Ministry of External Affairs. It underscores India's commitment to fostering greater international cooperation and furthering gender equality and empowerment in the armed forces.

The Course provided an invaluable opportunity for military leaders to refine their expertise, exchange best practices and forge lasting bonds of friendship and collaboration. The three-week interactive course provided an excellent platform for sharing of experiences and best practices. The Valedictory Ceremony for the event was conducted on 24 Nov 2023 at the New Delhi. Shri Sanjay Verma, Secretary West, Ministry of External Affairs delivered the closing address and presented certificates to all participants.



YOGA CLASS IN PROGRESS FOR PARTICIPANTS



AT THE INDIGENOUS UN EQUIPMENT DISPLAY



COURSE PHOTOGRAPH

INTERNATIONAL COURSES

ASEAN WOMEN MILITARY OFFICERS TABLE TOP EXERCISE

In a landmark event aimed at promoting gender inclusivity and enhancing the capabilities of women in peacekeeping operations, the Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK), India successfully conducted the ASEAN Women Officers Table-Top Exercise (TTX) at Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi from 04-08 Dec 2023. The exercise brought together a diverse group of women officers from ASEAN member countries, fostering collaboration and building a network of skilled professionals committed to maintaining peace and security. The ASEAN Women Officers TTX is part of CUNPK's ongoing efforts to strengthen international cooperation and capacity-building in peacekeeping missions, with a specific focus on empowering women in the field.



AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE TABLE TOP EXERCISE



PARTICIPANTS ENGAGED IN DISCUSSION

The event provided a platform for participants to simulate and strategize responses to complex peacekeeping scenarios, reflecting real-world challenges with specific focus on Women peace and Security, Gender equality and Role of women in Peacekeeping. Participants engaged in a series of brainstorming sessions, scenario based tactical simulations and lectures delivered by distinguished experts in the field. Opening Address of the exercise was delivered by Lt Gen Rakesh Kapoor, VSM, Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Information Systems and Coordination) on 04 Dec 2023. The one-week exercise also included heritage tour of Delhi, lecture demonstration on UN peacekeeping drills and a display of 'Made in India' equipment being deployed in UN missions.



NATIONAL COURSES

The primary mission of the Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) is to train trainers. CUNPK regularly organizes pre-deployment courses, female engagement team capsules, and thematic workshops as part of its commitment to preparing trainers. These trainers, once trained, become the core team responsible for training units and sub-units before their deployment in UN missions. In the past six months alone, CUNPK has successfully trained over 300 officers, providing them with in-depth knowledge of the intricacies of UN Peacekeeping



TWO FEMALE ENGAGEMENT TEAM CAPSULES AND FOUR UNPDC COURSES WERE CONDUCTED DURING THE PERIOD TO TRAIN OFFICERS AND TROOPS PRIOR TO DEPLOYMENT



UN PRE DEPLOYMENT COURSE SERIAL 92 IN PROGRESS AT MANEKSHAW CENTRE; THE COURSE PROVIDES PLATFORM FOR TALKS BY EXPERTS, DISCUSSIONS AS WELL AS PER LEARNING AND SHARING BEST PRACTICES



TRAINING IS CARRIED OUT BY AN EXPERIENCED PANEL OF INSTRUCTORS AT THE CENTRE FOR TWO WEEKS DURING THE NATIONAL UN PRE-DEPLOYMENT COURSE

Participants in the CUNPK programs undergo a comprehensive orientation to understand the intricacies of peacekeeping. This includes insights into the operational dynamics of ongoing missions and online interactions with Indian staff officers stationed across various missions. The Centre annually conducts flagship national courses such as the UN Pre-Deployment Course, Female Engagement Capsule, Contingent Logistics Officers Course and Contingent Training of Trainers Course. These courses are designed to equip participants with the necessary skills and knowledge for effective peacekeeping missions.

Recently, the Centre has launched a new initiative to engage interns for training and mentoring. Talented undergraduates from reputable colleges in Delhi are carefully selected for this program, offering them exposure to the operations and functions of the Centre. Interns also have the valuable opportunity to participate in accredited UN Courses organized by the Centre, enhancing their understanding and skills in the field of peacekeeping.

CUNPK also offers a customized program specifically designed for the orientation and training of unit training teams. This program includes officers, junior commissioned officers and other ranks, contributing to the overarching goal of 'empowering the trainers'. This initiative aims to enhance the skills and capabilities of those responsible for training units, ensuring they are well-equipped to fulfil their roles effectively.

PRE DEPLOYMENT TRAINING

MORE THAN 12000 TROOPS INCLUDING CONTINGENTS, MILITARY OBSERVERS AND STAFF OFFICERS ARE TURNED OVER EVERY YEAR

CONTINGENT TRAINING



The Centre holds the responsibility of overseeing and validating the training of contingents before their deployment to missions worldwide. Without interruption, the training cycles for all units awaiting deployment were diligently maintained. A selected team of officers conduct the validation, adhering to established quantifiable parameters. This included the training cycles and validation of three infantry battalion groups within the specified period. Following rigorous training, all units received certification as fit for deployment.

CAPSULE FOR OPERATIONAL AND TACTICAL FIELD COMMANDERS



In its continuous pursuit of excellence and adding value, the Centre successfully concluded the fourth edition of the Capsule on Negotiation Skills and Techniques for Field Commanders from 04 – 06 September 2023. The participants in this session comprised commanding officers, brigade commanders, and senior staff officers from operational theatres across the country.

The Capsule featured a diverse range of presentations by distinguished experts from the diplomatic community, armed forces, and academia. The talks covered a spectrum of topics, spanning from strategic considerations to tactical best practices applicable for on-ground situations.

On the final day of the Capsule, which took place on 06 September 2023, the Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS) addressed the participants during the fourth iteration of the event.

This Capsule is now a flagship event of the CUNPK demonstrating the Centre's outreach into diverse spheres of professional military education.



THE THREE DAY CAPSULE FEATURED TALKS BY EXPERTS FROM ARMED FORCES, MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIA AND THINK TANKS IN DELHI

FEMALE ENGAGEMENT TEAMS

EMPLOYMENT OF FEMALE ENGAGEMENT TEAMS

The UN has mandated increased participation of women peacekeepers in peacekeeping operations, including contingents, military observers, and staff officers. India has been actively committed to advancing the empowerment of women in the armed forces, particularly in peacekeeping missions. Notably, India has a significant legacy, marked by the deployment of the first all-women female police contingent in Liberia in 2007. Currently, India has two female engagement teams deployed in the sensitive and volatile areas of MONUSCO and UNISFA.

In addition to the deployment of female engagement teams in MONUSCO and UNISFA, women are also represented in the Indian Medical Team in UNDOF. A number of women military observers and staff officers from India are actively serving with the blue beret in demanding missions worldwide. Recognizing the dynamic security landscape, Female Engagement Teams are being creatively employed as force multipliers to optimize their utilization and augment mission effectiveness. Ongoing efforts are directed towards expanding the presence of female engagement teams in other Chapter VII missions where Indian contingents are deployed.

INSTRUCTOR FROM UN WOMEN TAKING A SESSION WITH FEMALE PEACEKEEPERS ON CONFLICT RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE



FEMALE ENGAGEMENT TEAM BEING DEPLOYED AT UNISFA ATTENDING THE FET CAPSULE AT CUNPK

FEMALE ENGAGEMENT TEAM TRAINING

The Centre has developed a specialized training capsule designed for the female engagement teams deployed with Indian contingents to Chapter 7 UN missions. This Capsule supplements the training provided to women peacekeepers along with their affiliated contingents. It focuses on familiarizing women peacekeepers with the intricacies of their role in conflict-ridden areas and measures for mitigation. The training includes case studies and scenario-based discussions to equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to act as effective force multipliers. The mission area has provided positive feedback regarding the crucial role played by female engagement teams in outreach efforts and the conduct of people-friendly operations.

The Centre has conducted multiple iterations of the Capsule, continuously enhancing the curriculum based on valuable feedback from contingents deployed in missions. This iterative process ensures that the training program evolves and remains responsive to the practical insights and needs identified by those actively serving in the field.

MULTILATERAL ENGAGEMENTS

BILATERAL COOPERATION

Consistent with India's commitment to fostering bilateral cooperation with friendly nations, the Centre regularly organizes bilateral field training exercises centered on UN peacekeeping themes. The objective is to strengthen collaboration and enhance capabilities in peacekeeping and humanitarian response for global disaster relief efforts. These exercises take place at designated foreign training nodes in India and other countries, as per arrangements. The events typically involve an orientation phase, followed by command post exercises, and culminate in a comprehensive field training exercise with the participation of troops from both countries. An example of such collaboration is VINBAX, conducted in December 2022 with Vietnam in Northern India. The Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) played a crucial role by providing methodological assistance, instructional support, and thematic context for the exercise.



TEAM OF INSTRUCTORS FROM CUNPK CONDUCTING UN LEG OF VINBAX 2022 - MAIDEN BILATERAL FIELD EXERCISE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES

The engagements with partner countries are periodically hosted by the Defence Cooperation Division in India and abroad with a host of themes like humanitarian response, disaster relief, protection of civilians and medical support, all under the overall umbrella of UN peacekeeping. The CUNPK is mandated as the core team to dovetail UN peacekeeping related training and exercises in the overall scenario.



BILATERAL EXCHANGE



VINBAX



IMBEX



AFINDEX



KINPOT



YUDH ABHYAS



KHANQUEST



EXCHANGE OF EXPERTISE

As a nodal agency in the field of UN Peacekeeping training for capacity building and the exchange of best practices, the Centre frequently engages in student-instructor exchanges with various peacekeeping training institutes. Specially tailored mobile training teams and instructors are nominated to visit these institutes, providing methodological assistance and sharing best practices as needed. Additionally, the Centre actively subscribes to numerous courses of instruction conducted abroad, aiming to gain valuable experience and enhance the subject matter expertise of its panel of instructors. This collaborative approach contributes to the continuous improvement and refinement of training methodologies.



INTERACTION WITH OFFICERS AT KAZAKHSTAN PEACEKEEPING TRAINING CENTRE AT ALMATY

MULTILATERAL ENGAGEMENTS

Earlier this year, AFINDEX 2023, a multinational field training exercise, took place at the Foreign Training Node in Aundh, Pune. Twenty-two African countries participated in this ten-day event, which featured both a UN peacekeeping leg and a dedicated segment for humanitarian response and disaster relief.

The exercise simulated the conditions of a typical Chapter 7 peacekeeping mission. A specialized eight-member panel of instructors from the Centre led activities related to UN peacekeeping. This included training the trainers, classroom sessions, a scenario-based tabletop exercise, and open-house discussions.

The culmination of the event involved a validation exercise over the last two days, showcasing a high level of multilateral cooperation. AFINDEX stands as a flagship event involving numerous African countries, striving to contribute to a lasting solution for peace.



WOMEN REPRESENTING THEIR COUNTRIES AT AFINDEX



PARTICIPANTS ENGAGED IN DISCUSSION DURING THE TABLE TOP SCENARIO BUILDING SESSION AT THE AFINDEX 2023



METHODOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE DURING AFINDEX 2023



BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

The Centre has inked a number of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) and Implementing Arrangements on Peacekeeping Training with various other Peacekeeping Training Institutes across the globe. These agreements signify a significant commitment to fostering international cooperation in the realm of peacekeeping operations. This collaborative framework aims to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, and standardization of peacekeeping training methodologies.

These agreements serve as formal agreements among the participating centers, outlining the shared objectives and principles that govern their collaboration. By pooling expertise, resources, and best practices, these centers strive to develop a comprehensive and uniform approach to peacekeeping training.



INDIAN AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA WITH DEFENCE MINISTER OF ARGENTINA SIGNING IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN PEACEKEEPING TRAINING CENTRES OF BOTH COUNTRIES



SIGNING OF IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN BIPSOT AND CUNPK BY THE CHIEFS OF ARMY OF INDIA AND BANGLADESH ON 27 APR 2023

The CUNPK presently has Implementing Arrangements with the Peacekeeping Training Centres of Vietnam, Malaysia, Bangladesh and Argentina. The Centre also has a Memorandum of Understanding with the UN C4 ISR Academy for cooperation and assistance for conduct of capability building UN courses, exchange of instructors and students and sharing of best practices.

The Centre understands the importance of inclusivity in its collaborative efforts, advocating for the participation of a diverse range of countries and organizations. This ensures that the training programs developed through these agreements are reflective of a comprehensive and inclusive global perspective. CUNPK is keenly aiming to collaborate with institutions that excel in specific aspects of peacekeeping, whether it be cultural awareness, gender-sensitive approaches or the integration of cutting-edge technologies.

By embracing a holistic approach to training, CUNPK seeks to enhance the capabilities of peacekeeping forces globally.



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