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## MESSAGE

Advancements in commercial Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have been successfully capitalized in recent years for Military usage. This is also epitomized by the giant strides taken by the Corps of Signals in provision of operational communications. The technological advancements in the recent past in the fields of broadband wireless communications, spectrum efficiencies and cyber security need to be leveraged for a 'Digital Army'. I find the organizational recognition of these requirements encouraging.

The promising relevance of Information and Networks in the military context needs to be recognized and supported whole heartedly, Information Superiority is vital to the conduct of all operations as it has truly transcended its conventional boundaries. The traditional pivotal role of Corps of Signals in the pursuit of Non-Kinetic operations needs to be capitalized upon to garner its potential for further improvements in kinetic operations for true Network Centric Warfare (NCW) capabilities for the Digital Army.

While I compliment Indian Industry, both private and public, Academia and R&D on the successful strides in the past, I also exhort all of you to steer the journey towards India's 'Digital Army' with all your might. Self-reliance in ICT shall be the key to a strong Defence Industrial Base and needs to leverage the visionary initiatives of 'Make in India'. I am sanguine that DEFCOM 2017 will lead to tangible and implementable initiatives as in the past.

I wish the Corps and Signals and CII all the very best for successful conduct of DEFCOM 2017.

(Dr. Subhash Bhamre)

09 Jan, 2017  
New Delhi