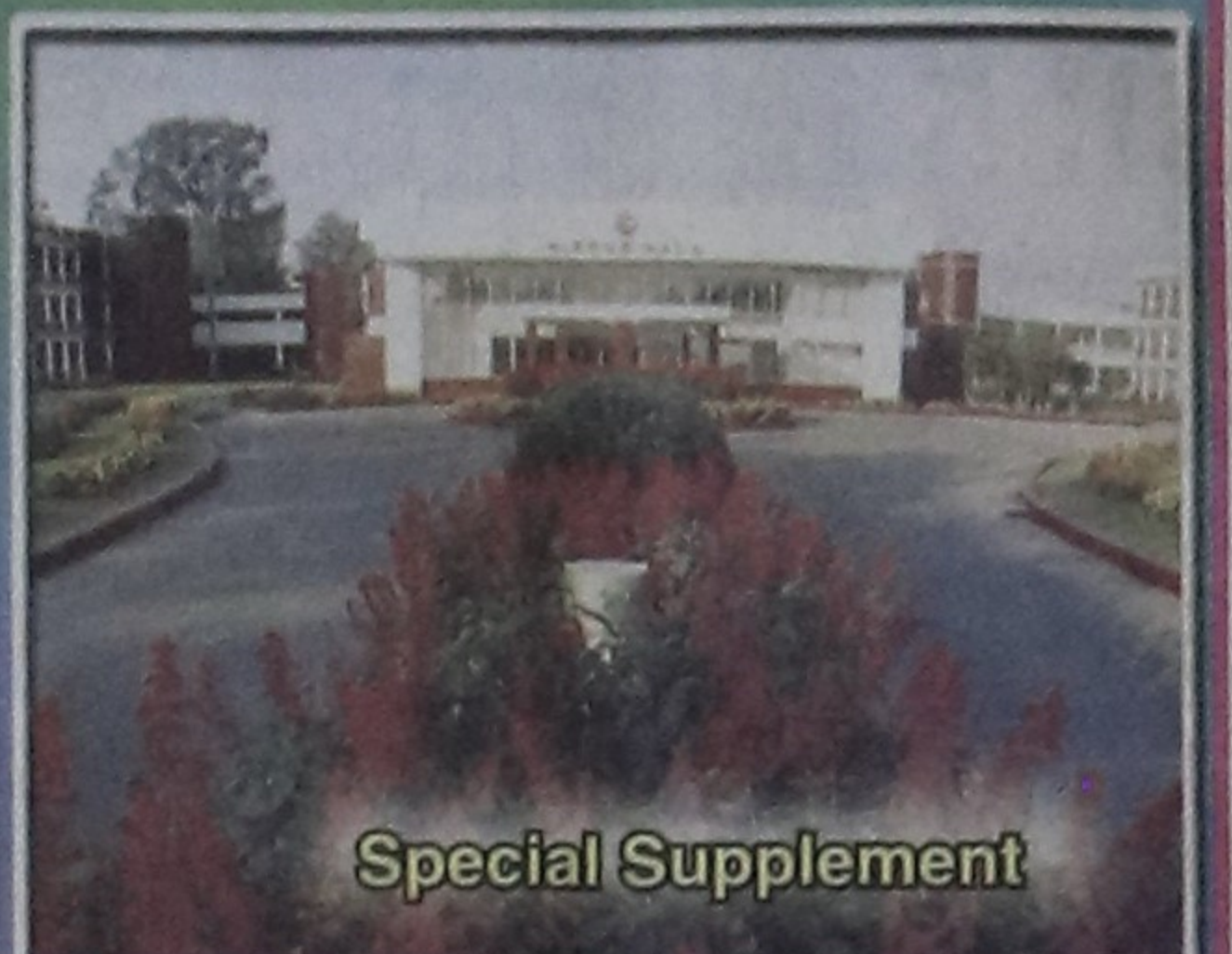
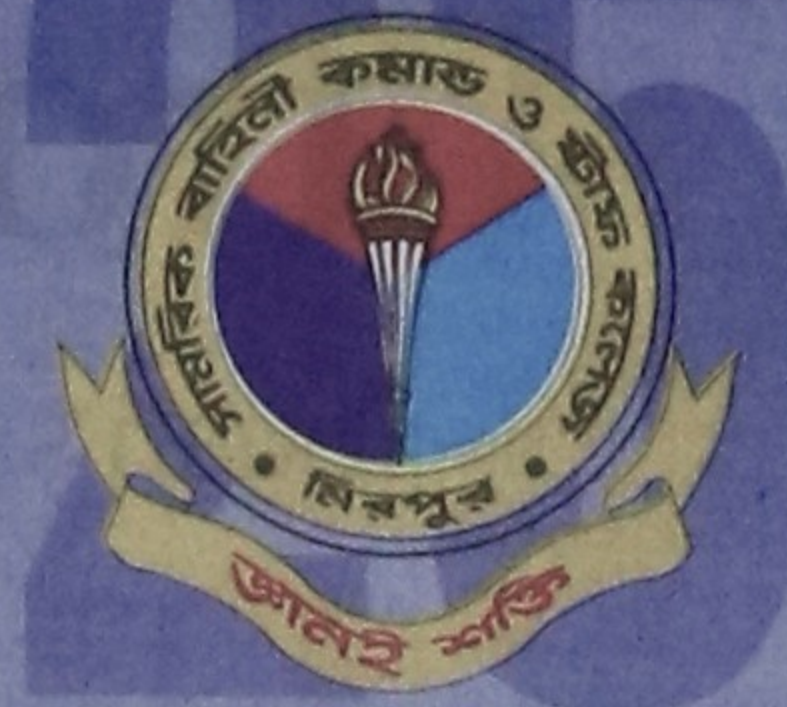


SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION 2002

Defence Services Command and Staff College

(DSCSC)



Special Supplement

Sponsored by : Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC)

Dhaka Sunday December 29, 2002

Planned & Designed by Nishu Advertising

DEFENCE SERVICES COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE : AN ACADEMIA WITH A MISSION

Group Captain Mahmud Hussain, psc, aesc

The Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) is the product of a vision toward developing the professional excellence of officers of Bangladesh Armed Forces. The aim of the institution, when it was founded on 30 December 1977, was to break the illusion of centuries-old dogma of putting faith in cavalier disposition of military virtues and instil in its place the intellectual strength bred on the fruits of good education. The last part of the twentieth century had witnessed inexplicable transformation in the professional and intellectual content of the military as a profession. The culture of diffidence that existed between the military and the society had begun to narrow, and the yawning gap between the two seemed no longer unbridgeable. It is notable that the credit of the military leaders that they saw to it that they initiated the enterprise, which was so expedient in the wake of this transformational epoch. The undercurrent of such subtle change in attitude was one of unquestionable faith in developing the mental horizon of the class of officers. The task was to proselytize with earnestness the potentialities of mid-level officer in dealing with "complex problems not only of his own profession, but those that baffled the society at both national and international plane".

Staff Colleges are the repository of competitiveness, novelty and tough-minded rubric in any military. The story of German General Staff in the nineteenth century invokes an awe-inspiring reflection of talent and genius. Moltke, the father of modern military staff system, instituted a rigorous process of attendance at *Kriegsacademie*. Adherence to the staff strictures was made upon attendance at the staff college with the successful passage of its final examination after which followed a two year probationary period on the staff itself, with an examination at the end. Candidates were selected strictly on the recommendation of superiors. The climax of the General Staff Officer's training was the annual practice journey carried out under Moltke's personal supervision. Later on in the twentieth century, many advanced western countries adopted in some form an imitation of the example of German General Staff system. In a way, German Army modeled and became a precursor of subsequent generation of staff colleges in other western militaries.

The birth of DSCSC had such concrete imperative in its formulation of the big picture. Two aspects held critical points in developing the core capabilities of the officers, namely command and leadership virtues. The problems of leadership and command are no simple matter. These are intangible and immeasurable qualities. But every individual possesses within himself the latent or dormant energies of talent, which remains unfocused unless channelised in right direction. The task of good education is to transform the staidity of human qualities into a progressive dynamism. The need is for addressing pragmatism of social growth by undertaking a positivist approach towards academic life. But that must be blended with the idealism of understanding. A combination of pragmatism and idealism in an educational curriculum is directed at effectualising products of rationalized utilitarian value. DSCSC has made it a strong element of its mission that students get right education in developing the qualities of a leader-cum-commander. By that necessity, officers are potentiated into articulating their ideas based on critical and analytical thinking process. Both oral and written communication skills occupy the main vehicle on which capabilities as a leader, who can think logically, are developed with the solid background of knowledge and wisdom to his backing.

Another aspect of military learning in a staff college is to free the course contents of the tentacles of only military subjects. DSCSC puts great emphasis on education in liberal arts. Knowledge is power, but wisdom can be gained through the assimilation of the abstraction inherent in theories of age-old formulae of universal education. Clausewitzian dictum that war is an instrument of policy makes it imperative for the military officers to be imbued with the possibilities of many sciences. Society, nation and international system all impress upon a modern intellectual mind to understand the relationship of war and the man in a spirit of scholarly disposition. This in turn, necessitates that a military officer today must equip himself with the knowledge of international relations, relevant socio-political and mathematical sciences. Good grip on these subjects enables him to look at the society of which he is a part with an understanding of renovated erudition. The education must also aim at making him a first-rate civilian. The speeches by the renowned scholars, politicians, civil servants, educationists, lawyers and other experts broaden the vision of these officers who are made to realise the importance of liberal education. It provides an excellent experience and cross-fertilization, which is essential to keeping military mind open to new ideas and military spirit amenable to scholarly aspirations. Perhaps, one of the most enduring lessons of these sessions is to comprehend the essence of economic difficulties and limitations contingent upon maintaining the armed forces. This, in return, focuses on an awareness of force development process, given the socio-economic and geo-political background of the state. Force structure connects directly with the state's budgeting programme that requires an exceptionally brilliant thinking for it to become rational, scientific and above all, pragmatic.

Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA) is a concept that has fundamentally altered the profession of arms in recent times. It has posed challenges to the military elite in cognitive, organisational and leadership areas. The instinct to keep pace with the modern knowledge continuum revitalizes DSCSC to offer the officers with something new and intellectually demanding each year. In order to promote the philosophy of knowledge-warriors, it believes in the learning process of combining traditional values of morals and ethics with that of intellectual and academic renovations. It prepares its officers with the conviction that survival under the duress of tremendous knowledge continuum is the greatest challenge that technology, society and the world thrust upon them. Any military that is disinclined to accepting that challenge can only do so at the expense of its decay and professional emaciation.

The most important contribution that DSCSC makes to our armed forces is the fostering of the culture of jointness. Jointness is something that can only be accomplished by an understanding of empathy in each other's values and traditions amongst the officer corps of the three services. It not only opens up the possibility for an officer as to what he can bring to the needs of warfighting skills of other services, but also what he can take by way of offer from them. Camaraderie and bondage established in the company of each other strengthen the social ties of the military elite that promises immense potentials of growth and development for the armed forces as a whole. DSCSC is that abode of communal living that has been instrumental in changing the outlook of a modern military man from wearing an exclusively single service mind-set to that of a joint one in the true spirit of the word jointness. The way in which the education of the modern military officer is being transformed with every passing decade since the end of the second world war is a tribute to the dynamic commencement



Prime Minister Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that the Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) is going to celebrate its Silver Jubilee beginning from 29 December 2002. On this occasion, I heartily congratulate the college alumni, officers, faculty members and students currently attending the course.

DSCSC was founded by Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman in 1977. It emerged as one of the finest military institutions in this region and with the passage of time it turned into a centre of excellence. Shaheed Zia's vision to set up a higher military institution to train officers in the art of warfare and leadership came true as the DSCSC grew by leaps and bounds. Moreover, the graduates so far passing out from this prestigious college held higher leadership appointments and steered out armed forces through difficult times with conviction and steadfastness.

I wish the Silver Jubilee Celebration of DSCSC all success and its continued growth and prosperity.

Allah Hafez, Bangladesh Zindabad.

Khaleda Zia



President and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces People's Republic of Bangladesh

MESSAGE

I express my sincerest felicitations to Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) on reaching its twenty fifth year of foundation. What could be more appropriate than to commemorate the year through the celebrations of Silver Jubilee? I am sure the graduates of the college must have been earnestly looking forward to a momentous occasion like this. It is indeed an event of great rejoicing to which I extend my heartfelt blessing.

DSCSC is a proud institution of our nation. Tasked with producing capable leaders for our military forces, it stands on the heights of intellectual brilliance and professional excellence. I am sure, in the days to come, it will continue to aim for even greater reaches of command competence and staff challenges by following a rigorous and dynamic training system.

I pray to the Almighty Allah for the grand success of the Silver Jubilee celebrations, and continued growth and prosperity of the college.

Allah Hafez, Bangladesh Zindabad.

(Professor Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed)



Minister Ministry of Education Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

MESSAGE

I am pleased to know that the Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) is going to celebrate its Silver Jubilee on 29 and 30 December 2002. The Silver Jubilee is certainly a special event for the college. As the torchbearer of military education intellectualism, the college is the proud claimant of many brilliant leaders who have held high the image of our armed forces both at home and abroad.

It is also gratifying to note that the college not only teaches military subjects, but also has a substantial focus on liberal arts. Such initiative in liberal pursuit of educational curriculum has enabled its students to qualify for the highest academic degree from the National University.

I wish DSCSC continued progress in future.

Allah Hafez, Bangladesh Zindabad

(M. Osman Farruk M. P.)



MESSAGE

Commandant, DSCSC

It is a matter of great pride and contentment for me that we are holding the Silver Jubilee celebrations on 29 and 30 December 2002. Firstly as a graduate of the college, then as a Directing Staff in the faculty and now as the Commandant, I feel destinedly privileged to be able to share this moment with all the alumni and staffs of the college. I express my sincerest compliments to the members of the different organising committees, the students of 2002-2003, and all others who have either directly or indirectly supported us in making the Silver Jubilee a success. Without their initiative, determination, and hard work, it would have been difficult to hold the event in a befitting manner.

Today, the DSCSC stands on the pedestal of universal fame and recognition. This has been possible due to the determination, commitment and hard work of all the previous Commandants, Chief Instructors, Directing Staffs and other staffs of the college. Without their professional, intellectual and moral support, the college would not have achieved the place of recognition on which it stands today.

I am particularly indebted to those who have kindly responded to our invitation, and made us feel proud on this occasion. Zeal and enthusiasm displayed, and support rendered by the three Services Headquarters to our endeavours need no mention. We are grateful to the overseas graduates who have taken so much of pain and travelled so long from their home country to join this event. Finally, on behalf of all, I feel privileged to take this blissful opportunity to extend our deepest gratitude to the members of the British Military Advisory Team (BMAT) whose conviction and commitment has helped this institute stand second to none in the pursuit of professional military knowledge. On behalf of all the members of DSCSC, let me thank all the participants on this great occasion, and may we all join in wishing the progress and prosperity of the college.

ASM Nazrul Islam Major General Commandant, DSCSC



Chief of Army Staff

MESSAGE

It is indeed a matter of great pleasure for me to know that the Defence Services Command and

Staff College (DSCSC) is celebrating its Silver Jubilee in a befitting manner. As a Mirpurian, I congratulate the Commandant and all the members of the DSCSC on this happy occasion and thank them for making us part of their celebration.

DSCSC is a pride institution of our Armed Forces. We appreciate the high standard of professional excellence for which it stands. The graduates of Mirpur continue to serve their nations with the zeal and enthusiasm imbibed in them by the College motto 'Knowledge is Power'. The sense of belonging to the fraternity of Mirpurians bind thousands of the military officers not only in Bangladesh but also in twenty nine friendly countries around the world. Therefore, DSCSC can be rightly proud of its achievement.

On this auspicious occasion we wish DSCSC the very best for the future. We also wish the Silver Jubilee celebration all the success that it deserves.

Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury Lieutenant General The Chief of Army Staff



Chief of the Naval Staff

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that DSCSC is going to celebrate twenty fifth

foundation of its noble service to the Armed Forces and the nation. It will certainly offer a unique opportunity for the Mirpurians to interact and get closer with each other in their professional relation. I believe such celebration will inspire the DSCSC to maintain its standard hierarchy of military education as it has been doing since its inception.

The DSCSC, like its sacred emblem 'Torch', signifies the glorious symbol of disseminating knowledge as a power to the dynamic professionals of our Armed Forces. It has unceasingly progressed in the direction of higher educational achievements with every passage of succeeding class of graduates. Its graduates have been constantly proving their worth in their command and staff appointments at home and abroad. Today, on the same path of brilliance in making the Silver Jubilee, I would like to convey my sincere thanks and compliments to the Commandant and all members of the DSCSC, Mirpur.

On behalf of Bangladesh Navy, I wish the Silver Jubilee a great success and pray to the Almighty Allah for the ever-expanding growth and excellence of such a professional institution.

Shah Iqbal Mujtaba Rear Admiral Chief of the Naval Staff



Chief of the Air Staff

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure that the Defence Services Command and

Staff College (DSCSC) is celebrating its Silver Jubilee with pride and jubilation. I compliment the Commandant and all the members of DSCSC that they have organised the event with great fanfare. It is, indeed, an occasion that the graduates, and other members of this prestigious Alma Mater ought to cherish with deep sense of fondness and endearment.

To Bangladesh Armed Forces, DSCSC represents a monument of professional excellence, intellectual prominence and academic brilliance. Training and education imparted in the college are undoubtedly of very high standard. It is a place of developing an ever-lasting bond of camaraderie amongst the graduates of the services. Honest friendship developed on social plane is effectively expanded to nurturing a joint culture in professional arena. A fusion place of both military professionalism and intellectual nurturing, DSCSC has become a symbol not only of military and national pride, but also a symbol of international recognition.

On behalf of Bangladesh Air Force, I wish the Silver Jubilee a grand success, and DSCSC a life of ever higher reaches of intellectual and professional accomplishments.

Fakhru Azam Air Vice Marshal Chief of the Air Staff