



Prime Minister looking at the DRDO's Products Catalogue. Talking to him are Dr VS Arunachalam, SA to RM and Shri SS Murthy, Director, DESIDOC

A GUIDE TO DRDO'S PRODUCTS, PROCESSES AND TECHNOLOGIES

DESIDOC brought out a guide, "Defence Research and Development—Products, Processes and Technologies" on the occasion of the Joint Services Commander's Conference held during 26–31 October 1986. An exposition of these products was also organised at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The guide covers products, technologies, facilities and systems on a wide range of subjects resulted from the researches

conducted by DRDO in recent years. Various items of information in the guide have been arranged into 12 broad subjects namely — aeronautics, armaments, combat vehicles, computer and systems studies, electronics, engineering, life sciences, materials technology, national test facilities, naval systems, rockets and missiles, and training and information. Information about each item included in the guide gives a brief description accompanied by suitable photographs and performance



A view of the DRDO Exposition pavilion at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

features. The guide depicts adequately the present status of capabilities of the Department of Defence Research and Development and the focus of its engineering and technology programmes.

Dr VS Arunachalam, Scientific Adviser to Raksha Mantri, talking to newsmen at the exposition site, affirmed that by 1995 all critical items of equipment required by the country's armed forces would be developed and would be under production. Foreign technology for the light combat aircraft, a state-of-the-art aircraft for the nineties, would be obtained only on our terms. It will fly with the engine to be made in India by the mid nineties. He mentioned about the breakthrough achieved in developing engines.

A matter of satisfaction, according to Dr Arunachalam, is that a large number of technologies resulting from defence research are being offered to private and public

sector industries for use in the production of items of daily use.

The products displayed at the exposition covered diverse fields from light snow shoes, pressurized clothes for high altitude and dry food of various types to sophisticated low level radar.

Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, who also holds the Defence portfolio, spent about three hours at the exposition and showed keen interest in the various exhibits. The other dignitaries who visited the exposition included Shri R. Venkataraman, Vice President; Shri Arun Singh, Minister of State for Defence Research; Shri VP Singh, Finance Minister; Shri P Chidambaram; Minister of State for Home Affairs and Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions; Shri Shivraj V Patel, Minister for State for Defence Production; the three Service Chiefs and a host of Senior Commanders of Army, Navy and Air Force.

TRAINING COURSE ON SCIENTIFIC PHOTOGRAPHY

The third training course on 'Scientific Photography' was organised at DESIDOC, Metcalfe House, Delhi during 6-17 October 1986. This course, attended by 16 trainees from DRDO Estts/Labs and public undertakings under the Ministry of Defence, was inaugurated by Shri SS Murthy, Director DESIDOC. In his address, Shri Murthy emphasized the importance of photography in information processing, storage and dissemination.

The course was at an advanced level and the participants were professionals and experienced photographers. The curriculum included topics concerning black-and-white, and colour photography, portraiture, processing of colour films, pitfalls in processing, lighting equipment, Agfa colour materials and equipment, etc. Special lectures on reprography, microform and industrial photography were arranged. The faculty comprised five well known experts in photography, viz., Sarvashri T Kasinath, OP Sharma, K Ponnuswamy, PT Bhopale, RK Bose besides some DESIDOC officers.

In his valedictory address, Shri Vivek R Sinha, Additional Secretary, Defence Research, appreciated the efforts of DESIDOC in organising such a course. He emphasised the need for a manual on preparation of slides, so that uniformity could be maintained in the slides which the DRDO Directors have to often use to make presentations at the HQs or elsewhere. The programme ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Shri VK Rangra, Scientist-in-Charge, Training.

Shri PV Rao, Scientist-in-Charge Reprography was the Course Coordinator.

VISITS TO DESIDOC

Prof BS Kesavan a doyen among Library & Information Scientists in the country, visited DESIDOC on 8 Aug 1986. He was introduced to various heads of divisions and was shown various publications, current awareness bulletins and manuals. Prof Kesavan showed keen interest in the computerised library services rendered by DESIDOC, viz accession lists, acquisition of serials and circulation control system, etc. He also witnessed a demonstration of online searching of DRDO-IRS database, created on the basis of literature received in Defence Science Library. A demonstration on searching of other international databases through DIALOG was also given.



Prof BS Kesavan going through an information search output. Explaining to him are Shri SS Murthy, Director, DESIDOC (centre) and Shri RK Srivastava, Scientist of DESIDOC

Prof Kesavan was very happy with DESIDOC's overall performance and appreciated the team spirit prevailing in Centre and the progress it has made under the able guidance of its present Director.

In his words "I had visited DESIDOC quite sometime back. During this visit I

find that a sea-change has taken place. It has achieved a sophistication and modernity which augurs well for the future. More than the gadgetry, what impressed me was the alertness and quality of the personnel who are making a little a long way. Shri Murthy, Director, DESIDOC has achieved a fraternity of workers whose knowledge and readiness to keep abreast with the latest developments is worthy of praise. They have a long way to go and are awaiting a shift to the new location to carry out their plans. I spent a joyful and educative three hours with this fine staff".