REPORT OF VISIT TO EX TOPCHI-DEMO SESSION-DEOLALI, NASIK

Titled as: Demo session of combat Artilleries by artillery units of school of artillery Deolali, Nasik.

Introduction: The demonstration of multiple artilleries used in Indian army is displayed at ranges of Deolali.

As a part of activity, the demonstration session is divided into three parts.

1. Equipment Introduction
2. Delivery of fire power
3. Equipment display

Deolali Artillery Centre: The biggest Artillery Centre in Asia, located just behind the Pandav caves in Nashik. During the India-Pakistan division, the artillery centre has been relocated to India, since then the centre is under military surveillance. This place served as an important training centre for the officers and soldiers of Indian Army. At this centre, the soldiers can get the training for one of the most advanced artillery weapons, Bofors gun. This centre is acting as one of the greatest contributors of skilled manpower to Indian Army. Artillery Centre in Nashik has produced more than 2,70,000 trained armed force personnel so far and helped the country in defending itself from enemies.

Schedule:

0715 HRS – Move towards the Museum of school of Artillery Deolali, Nasik.

0800-0900HRS – Visit to artillery museum.

1000-1030 HRS- Proceed to range of demonstration.

1100 HRS – Demonstration begins.

1230 HRS- Demonstration ends.

1230-1400 – Visit to the static display of all artilleries demonstrated in session.

1430 – Leaved the artillery centre

1500- Start return journey for Kolhapur

Key Activities: Cadets of Kolhapur Institute of Technology and Rajaram College get the information of 155 NM SOLTAM artillery by the RHM Lovepreetsingh.

Participants:

Attendance: Over 11 NCC Cadets of Kolhapur Institute of Technology and 11 NCC Cadets of Rajaram College were present.

Co-ordinator – CTO-Yogesh Chougale Sir and Havildar. Yograj Sir

Guide- Mr. Maharaj Sir

Mr. Ganpule Sir

Venue- Ranges of Deolali, Nasik.

Agenda: On 6th of January 2024 in the ranges of Deolali and in the presence of the chief guest Lieutenant General. S.H. Ayyer the programme of demonstration begins with the energetic entry of hand gliding team IA which holds the two world records in hand gliding. The instructors of programme introduced the guests about the ranges of Deolali and which landmarks used for the programme. The landmarks which include multiple valleys, peaks of the mountains which named as area HARBHARA, HATHIMATHA and etc. The equipment introduction started with 120MM MORTAR.

After the Demonstration all cadets visited the static gallery arranged at the session. All cadets get the information of all Artilleries which are demonstrated in programme. Every one gets the enough knowledge about the artilleries and remembers the role of artillery in combat fields.

Information about the combat Artilleries used in programme:

- **120MM MORTAR AM 50:** The 120 MM mortar AM50 is indigenously produced. it is extremely mobile and can be carried by mules and towed by a jeep. Underslung by a helicopter or even carried on a man pack basis for short distance. the mortar is effective on the short distance enemy locations. The high explosive bomb is fired from the mortar to increase the effectiveness against the enemy. It is ideal for the counter mortar role against enfiladed targets.

105MM LIGHT FIELD GUN (LFG): 105MM LFG was indigenously developed in early 1970s. the parachute field regiments of artillery are equipped with LFG. Being air portable, the gun has excellent tactical mobility. It combines lightness with strength and provides effective fire power at both high and low angles. It is lighter than 105MM IFG by 1000kg. The gun has participated proved its mettle in many battles including 1971 operations and Kargil war.

- **105/37 MM INDIAN FIELD GUN (IFG):** The 105mm IFG with its range, firepower and mobility combined with its low and high angle firing capability is ideal for use both in the plains as well as in mountains. it was indigenously developed in 1970. Being air portable the gun has the excellent mob. The gun has participated in many battles including 1971 operation and Kargil war.

- **130MM RUSSIAN FIELD GUN M-46:** 130MM gun was developed by Soviet Union in late 1950s. the gun uses the flexible charge system. A milestone in the history of artillery war reached when a battery of 39 Med Regt in Oct 1984 took the guns to a gun position located at the base camp of Siachen glacier. The thunderous roars of these guns in Nubra valley struck terror in the hearts of the enemy.

- **155MM/45 CAL DHANUSH:** 155MM/45 CAL DHANUSH has been developed by ordinance factory board under the flagship project of make in India. Dhanush gun has undergone extensive proving on various ground and climatic conditions and with the credits of having

the fired more than 4500 rounds, it stands completely ready to take on the role of ‘Reckoner’ for the Indian artillery.

- **155MM FD HOWITZER 77 B 02:** An extremely versatile and potent weapon system which boasts of several innovative features based on the state-of-the-art technology. It offers a high rate of fire and a high degree of accuracy and high angles. The guns have operated at extreme altitudes and in inclement weather conditions.

- **155/45 FIELD GUN E1 SOLTAM (130MM UPGUNNED):** The existing 130mm gun barrel has been up gunned to 155mm by Israel. The gun is more effective in terms of range and lethality. The gun has semi-automatic breech mechanism and can fire both Bofors and BI module charge system. The gun archives the maximum range of 39 km which is 33% more than Bofors gun system.

- **122MM GRAD BM21 MULTI BARREL ROCKET LAUNCHER:** The word grad in Russian means ‘hailstorm’. The grad BM-21 consist of bank of 40 tubes mounted on Ashok Leyland truck. Each rocket is a single stage, solid fuel rocket. A launcher can fire a salvo of 40 rockets within a span of just 20 seconds. Grad regiments inherent spread is 1000m by 600m, which could be vehicle concentrations, troops in open and hostile batteries.

- **214MM PINAKA:** PINAKA is amulet barrel rocket launcher system produced in India and developed by the defence research and development organization (DRDO) for the Indian army in 1986. The system can fire a salvo of 12 High explosives rockets in 44 seconds, with a battery neutralising a target area 1000m by 800m. The system is mounted on a TATRA truck for mobility.

- **SMERCH MULTIPLE LAUNCH ROCKET SYSTEM:** The smirch 300mm multiple launch rocket system (MLRS) is designed to defeat soft and hard-skinned targets, artillery and missile systems. The rocket consists of 12 rocket tubes mounted on a 10 X 10 TATRA launcher vehicle. The system is provided with its own Ulybka Met system.

Conclusion: Everyone was looking satisfied to have the such great experience of the demonstration of combat Artilleries in such energetic way. Every cadet learns and remembers the role of artilleries and why the artilleries are called as the ‘God of war’.