PRESS RELEASE

SSB- First responder, set-up RRTs

New Delhi(29 July, 2017):- Amidst impressive live demonstrations of various tactics and skills of rescue and relief by SSB personnel, Hon’ble MoS for Home Sh. Kiren Rijiju inaugurated setting up of Rescue Relief Teams (RRTs) at Dighalpukhri, Guwahati Assam.

ADG, SSB Sh. S.S. Deswal welcomed all the distinguished guests present on the occasion and emphasised that the border population has always found SSB beside them at the time of crisis or natural calamity and that is why it is popularly known as “People’s Force”.

Welcome address was followed by the speech of Smt. Archana Ramasundaram, DG, SSB. She said that for last 53 years SSB has been dedicatedly and relentlessly securing the nation. Government of India has mandated SSB to guard 1751 Kms of International border with Nepal and 699 Kms of border with Bhutan. Apart from this, SSB is also deployed in J&K for Internal Security duties and in states of Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar for Anti-Naxal Operation duties.

SSB has proved itself to be a force with humanitarian face by working for humanity in adversity, be it in flood relief, cloudburst, landslides, during earthquakes, during droughts, cyclones, epidemics and accidents etc. The local populace always found SSB steadfastly with them during difficult times. During the review meeting of SSB Hon’ble Union Home Minister was appreciative of excellent services rendered by SSB in disaster relief and our plan of raising RRTs in each sector.
She told that we had only three RRTs and therefore to further raise one RRT in each sector a consultative meeting was convened with NDMA (National Disaster Management Authority). Consequently, SSB finally decided to set up 18 RRTs in each sector of SSB. Every Rescue and Relief team comprises of 35 trained personnel including 05 women who are well equipped with modern equipments to tackle any calamity in their respective areas of responsibility and to provide succour to the affected populace in the capacity of the first responder. She told the gathering that the inauguration of 15 RRTs’ at 15 Sector HQ including for 03 Sectors at Guwahati are simultaneously being taking place at their respective locations.

DG, SSB further informed that in pursuant to national policy on Disaster management 2009, SSB is also going to set up a Disaster Management Training School at Salonibari, Assam. The case has already been taken up with the Government and therefore she urged the Hon’ble MoS Home to grant the approval to the proposal at the earliest.

Hon’ble MoS Sh. Kiren Rijiju for Home, Govt. of India in his address appreciated SSB for dedicatedly carrying out its duties on borders, in naxal infested areas and internal security but also in case of natural calamities and providing relief and rescue to the common masses as a First Responder.

He congratulated DG, SSB for taking up the case with Ministry of Home Affairs for setting up 18 RRTs after consulting NDMA authorities. These RRTs shall be able to carry out Rescue and Relief work in a more planned and efficient manner. Today her efforts have fructified and 18 RRTs well equipped and trained have been set up in each sector of SSB. He also appreciated the efforts of all SSB personnel in making the event a great success and wished them a success in all future endeavours.

Chief Guest further said he was happy to know that these RRTs will provide all possible help and facilities to all other stake holders and sister organisation
including NDRF and SDRF to get over the calamities and will work together. **While appreciating the setting up of RRTs by SSB, he emphasised that all other CAPFs should replicate the model of RRTs’ of SSB in their respective forces as it will stream line the efforts of rescue and relief and make it more effective.**

He also assured SSB that MHA will soon give its nod to set-up Disaster Management Training School in Salonibari, Assam and will provide all necessary monetary help for procurement of modern equipments for RRTs. The gathering was next addressed by Sh. Ranjit Dutta, Hon’ble Minister of Irrigation, Handloom, Textile and Sericulture, Govt. of Assam and in his speech he reminded erstwhile role of SSB and appreciated its approach to the common masses.

Sh. Mukesh Sahay, Director General Assam Police also addressed the gathering and congratulated SSB for setting up RRTs’ specially in Guwahati. **He further emphasised that RRTs in Assam will be of great help as the Floods in state are creating more havoc than the threat of terrorism.**

While addressing the gathering, Major General (Retd) Dr. V.K. Naik, Senior Consultant, NDMA said that he felt proud to be at the inaugural function of RRTs’ of SSB. Vote of thanks was given by Sh. Bhanu Upadhyay, Inspector General Guwahati Frontier (Assam).

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Arunanchal Pradesh had inaugurated RRT at Bomdila (AP). RRT at Bomdila demonstrated skills of slithering, Taroline traversing, Suspension Lowering and Casualty evacuation through suspension lowering Rappelling. Shri Pankaj Choudhary, Hon’ble Member of Parliament inaugurated RRT at Gorakhpur, where Relief and Rescue Team demonstrated evacuation drills, rendering medical Aid and Skills of Dog Squad.

At SHQ Spl Ops Jammu, the chief guest was Shri Shyam Lal Choudhary, Hon’ble Minister of PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control. RRT demonstrated tactics of Collapsed Structure Search And Rescue (CSSR), Rope Rescue, Fire Rescue operations.
At SHQ (Spl Ops) Bhillai, the chief Guest was Shri Bhojraj Nag, MLA, Antagarh Constituency where RRT demonstrated drill of rescuing victims of Vehicle accident and role of RRT.

Shri Ragunath Singh Chauhan, MLA, Almora was the chief guest at SHQ Almora where RRT demonstrated Building rescue and evacuation. At SHQ Pilibhit Shri Baburam Paswan, Hon’ble MLA Puranpur was the chief guest where RRT demonstrated flood rescue and relief techniques. Similarly, at SHQ Lakimpur Kheri Smt Maduri Verma, Hon’ble MLA was the Chief Guest and the RRT demonstrated flood rescue techniques. Divisional Commissioners, District Magistrates, Prominent local authorities were the chief guests at rest of the locations where demonstrations of flood rescue, rendering medical aid, mountaineering skills, fire fighting demonstrations, road accident rescue methods were displayed. These demonstrations were carried out so that local authorities became aware of the capabilities of these RRTs and at the time of crisis they may utilise them accordingly.

The function at Guwahati was witnessed at all SSB locations through Live Streaming on Facebook.

-Sd-
(MANOJ KESHAV)
Public Relation Officer