SSB celebrated its 56th Anniversary, 2019

New Delhi (19th Dec, 2019): Celebrating the 56th Anniversary day, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) displayed a splendid show with an impressive parade and delightful demonstrations today. The nine decorated marching contingents marched past the saluting base with great vigor and pride. The grand campus of 25th Battalion, Ghitorni, New Delhi was jubilant as Sh. Amit Shah, Hon’ble Minister of Home Affairs, inspected the parade along with Sh. Kumar Rajesh Chandra, IPS, Director General, SSB and thereafter, the Chief Guest, Hon’ble Union Home Minister, took salute of the marching contingents.

The highlights of the function included a magnificent march past by the nine decorated contingents drawn from all the frontiers of SSB and included three special contingents of Special Ops, a women contingent and the canine squad, this was followed by an inspiring speech by the Hon’ble Chief Guest, which motivated all force personnel to strive towards excellence in all endeavours of the Force. This was followed by felicitation of 02 recipients of the President’s Police medal for distinguished service and 18 recipients of the Police Medal for meritorious service for the year 2019 and awards to best SSB Battalions and Frontiers in recognition of their outstanding performance in the sphere of border guarding duties. Thereafter, the audience was entertained with thrilling demonstrations by SSB’s daredevil team, Rifle Tattoo drill and the energetic displays of Wushu, which mesmerized everyone present in the viewers’ gallery. In a display of cultural integration initiatives by SSB in its Area of Responsibility a demonstration of the famous Lion Dance from the state of Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim was also presented.
On this auspicious occasion Sh. Amit Shah, Hon’ble Union Minister of Home Affairs in his address first of all mentioned his sincere respect and paid homage to all the brave sons of Mother India who laid down their lives to protect the country. Hon’ble Minister also made a special mention for Shaheed Neeraj Kshetri of SSB, who was martyred while fiercely fighting Naxals in Dumka District of Jharkhand on 02 June 2019. CT/GD Neeraj Kshetri showed valor and fought to save his fellow soldiers despite being shot by Naxals. Sh. Amit Shah ji expressed the Nation’s forever indebtedness to the families who have given their sons and daughters for the security and service of the Nation.

The Chief Guest appreciated the discipline, swiftness and synchronization shown by the SSB’s men and women marching contingents and admired the professional functioning of SSB while safeguarding the 2450 Kms friendly borders of India with Nepal and Bhutan. Sh. Amit Shah ji also commended SSB for performing their duties in a professional way inspite of facing all odds, and congratulated the Force for the substantive operational achievements in the field of seizures and apprehensions. He also praised the important role SSB has played in troubled and militancy affected areas of J&K, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar and Assam. Hon’ble Union Home Minister mentioned that it is a matter of pride for us that whether it is patrolling the borders or peaceful conducting of elections, fighting against terrorism or protecting the countrymen from natural calamities, SSB’s brave Men and Women have been performing their duties with full devotion and commitments, even in most difficult circumstances.

Hon’ble Union Home Minister mentioned that SSB is the first Force in the country in which the women were recruited and deployed in 2007. Since then, women are contributing towards the security of Nation and are moving on the path of serving the Nation hand in hand with their male colleagues. For the first time SSB’s contingent of 22 women personnel is currently posted in Congo as a part of the United Nations peacekeeping team, which is matter of honour and at the same time it is an ongoing example of true women empowerment. He appreciated the free medical camps, veterinary camps and other civic action programs being organized by SSB to
improve the standard of living of the people of border regions. SSB has signed a mutual MoU with National Skill Development Corporation, under which the skill development training is being imparted to the youth of border regions at 08 locations. This initiative is praiseworthy because on one hand our youth is getting employment and on the other hand anti-national and anti-social elements will not get the opportunity to mislead our youth.

The achievements of SSB’s sportspersons of winning 72 gold, 60 silver and 75 bronze medals in many International and National competition was highly appreciated by the Hon’ble Chief Guest.

Hon’ble Union Home Minister also met a group of girls & boys, who arrived in Delhi from different parts of the country for the “Educational Excursion cum Study Tour” organised by SSB under its Civic Action Programme and Govt of India’s “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat” campaign. These young girls and boys hailing from far-flung and remote areas shared their wonderful experiences of the Educational Excursion cum Study Tour to various places of historical interest. Hon’ble Home Minister while stressing on the importance of National integration and Nation building wished them good luck for all their future endeavors, and also congratulated SSB for organizing such programs so that the youth can know the social, political and cultural aspects of the different regions of the country and strengthen the idea of unity in diversity of the Nation.

Concluding his speech, Sh. Amit Shah, Hon’ble Union Minister of Home Affairs welcomed the decision of Govt. of India for raising the retirement age limit of CAPF personnel from 57 to 60 years, which has benefitted all Force personnel. Further, he also added that MHA will ensure that each Force personnel would spend at least 100 days per year with their family. Efforts are being made to implement this scheme very soon. For providing better accommodation facilities to the troops and for establishment of Sector Hqrs, Battalion Hqrs, Composite Hospitals and Separated Family Accommodation, funds have been already allotted this year and construction work will be completed shortly.

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Public Relation Officer