

## **E-IN-C MESSAGE : MES DAY**

1. Military Engineer Services (MES) Day is celebrated on 26<sup>th</sup> Sep of every year. This year MES is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> MES Day. In 1923, on this day, the MES was created and brought under the unified control of Engineer-in-Chief by the then Hon'ble Secretary of State of India by amalgamating Royal Corps of Engineers Personnel and Civilian Staff. Since then, many remarkable developments have seen MES grow over the years adapting seamlessly to rapid growth of infrastructure requirements and technology.
2. MES is one of the oldest and largest government infrastructure development agency with an annual budget of over 30,000 crore. It provides round the clock engineering support to the Armed Forces thereby enhancing their operational preparedness. Besides conventional building construction for the Armed Forces, MES is also involved in the execution of sophisticated and complex projects like airfields, runways, hangars, dockyards, wharves and other marine structures.
3. In sync with the Government directives, MES is at the forefront in the field of energy conservation and reduction of carbon footprint. MES has been entrusted for provisioning of 150 MW (Mega Watt) solar power plants across numerous locations of Army, Navy and Airforce and the same are under progress.
4. To overcome present and future challenges a number of important initiatives have being taken to improve the efficiency and transparency. Contemporary contract management practice of EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) methodology and modern construction technologies/ techniques have been adopted in works in line with the implementation latest construction technologies. MES is striving hard in creation of Defence infrastructure at remote locations and also ensuring sustainable development of the area while conserving the ecology and the environment.
5. MES took a big leap forward towards completely automating its procedures and recently launched several new e-Governance apps which will act as a catalyst in speedier, high quality and economical infrastructure development for armed forces.
6. The long awaited revision of Works Procedure and Scales of Accommodation 2009 has been approved recently by the Hon'ble RM which will ensure contemporary specifications in future infrastructure assets and better standards of living in addition to optimization of defence land usage and ensuring functionally improved working and living conditions for the Defence personnel.
7. New initiatives like SPARSH for online disbursement of pensions for veterans and policies involving posting of personnel and recruitments have been upgraded & implemented recently which will make the system more transparent keeping in view the organizational requirement and individuals aspirations.

8. In order to ensure timely mobility of staff/personnel and logistic movement of stores, the deficiency in Vehicle state of the MES establishment have been made up by procuring maximum number of vehicles this year. This will enhance the accessibility of the MES staff to render its services within short notice with maximum efficiency.

9. Apart from its main role MES has also shown its commitment in providing aid to civ authorities at times of distress. Be it the unprecedented times during COVID pandemic across the country or the power department strikes in Punjab and J&K or any other crisis situation, MES has always risen beyond the call of duty and worked day and night in ensuring uninterrupted engineering services.

10. MES over the years have been rendering a yeoman service in delivering quality engineering support to Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and various other Government organisations by close, constant and intensive interaction with the users and administrative staff. As the field of engineering expands aligning itself to technological advancement, MES is prepared to meet emerging challenges and organisational needs in times to come.

11. On the occasion of 100<sup>th</sup> MES Day, Lt Gen Harpal Singh PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC, Engineer-in-Chief, congratulates all MES personnel on this day and urges them to dedicate themselves to this great organisation in providing better services and contribute towards nation building.