

## **DIRECTORATE OF NET ASSESSMENT**

### **GENESIS**

1. Net Assessment Directorate was created along with Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff in 2001 primarily as a Think Tank of the Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC). The directorate functions as part of the Doctrine, Organization and Training Branch.

### **ORGANIZATION, ROLE & CHARTER OF DUTIES**

#### **Organization**

2. The Directorate is headed by a Deputy Assistant Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (Brigadier) who is assisted by three officers, one from each service, in the rank of Colonel / equivalent.

#### **Role**

3. The role of the Directorate is as under:-

- To provide **strategic level policy makers** a **perspective of likely future threats and challenges**.
- To **facilitate evolution of national security policies and strategic perspectives**.
- Provide strategic inputs to ensure **competitive advantage** vis-a-vis adversaries / competitors.
- Analyze **near, mid and long term** trends of **strategic and military issues**.
- To be **Advisor to the CISC** on **Net Assessment matters**.

### **Charter of Duties**

4. The **Charter of Duties** of the Directorate is to carry out **Net Assessment** and recommend **Policy Options** on issues as under :-

- **Indian and foreign military capabilities.**
- **Security policy, doctrine & strategy at national and joint service level.**
- **Specific weapon systems, force development, economic sustenance and defence infrastructure.**
- **Technological drivers of strategic balance** e.g. revolution in military affairs (RMA), emerging dangerous and dual use technologies, Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), missiles, space, nano technology, etc.
- When nominated, **represent the CISC at Ministry of Defence, National Security Council, National Security Advisory Board and at Seminars** in India and abroad.
- **Interact with Ministry of Defence, other Government agencies, Branches of Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff, Service Headquarters and Think Tanks.**
- Address **specific questions by Honourable Raksha Mantri and Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee.**

## PRIMER ON NET ASSESSMENT

5. **Definition. Net Assessment** is a formal process designed to **address strategic issues of National Security**. It is a **comparative analysis of military, technical, political, economic and other factors**. The discipline helps to analyze the **emerging nature of competition amongst nations, over medium to long term**. **Net Assessment** requires writing **histories of the future** (in fact many possible alternate futures) to enable development of strategic policy options, therefore **asking the right question is more important and essential than the right answer**. It extensively **utilizes tools and techniques of Net Assessment**, namely **Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Analysis** and **Scenario Building** to generate **Strategy Options**.

6. **The Net Assessment Process.** **Net Assessment** is a step wise process which utilizes tools and techniques to derive strategies from plausible scenarios. Given below is a graphical representation of a **Net Assessment** study specifically for a target country:-

