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SUPPORTING (ARMS & SERVICES) ROLE AND TASKS

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ARMED FORCES

LESSON PLAN AF 1

(Part 6)

SUPPORTING ARMS

ROLE AND TASKS

Artillery

The role of Artillery is to provide such fire power in the battle area that enemy neither interferes with our operations, nor develops his own effectively. It comprises of light, medium and field guns, howitzers, missiles, mortars, multi barrel rocket launchers and missiles.

Artillery

Role & Tasks

The tasks of Arty are as follows:

- (a) To provide heavy volume of fire at long ranges.
- (b) To provide fire power to advancing Infantry in offensive operations and defensive support to keep enemy head down with shocking firepower.
- (c) To provide fire power to fighting arms.
- (d) Surveillance and Target Acquisition.

Army Air Defence is equipped with air defence guns and Short and Medium range surface to air missile systems. Along with Air force it provides air defence to mobile forces, Vulnerable Areas and Vulnerable Points.

Role & Tasks. The tasks of Air Defence are:

- (a) To safeguard against hostile aircrafts, helicopters and drones attacking high value targets including Fighting Arms.
- (b) To ensure early detection and destruction of enemy aircrafts.

Army Aviation Corps

Role & Task

The role of Army Aviation corps is to carry out recce and observation and also to provide commanders and staff, rapid means of communication for liaison visits and reconnaissance. It is ideally suited for evacuation of battle casualties.

Corps of Engineers

It is one of the oldest supporting arms of the Indian army. The role of Engineers in War is to provide support for offensive and defensive operations in mine warfare, bridging, demolition, constructions of field fortifications and operational roads/tracks.

Role & Tasks. The tasks of Engineers are as follows:

- (a) To provide mobility to own forces by constructing bridges, tracks and helipads; on the other hand the Corps denies the same to the enemy by creating obstacles such as laying mine-fields and carrying out demolition of bridges.
- (b) To lay mine fields during War and also removing the mines and maintenance of records thereof.
- (c) To create water sources during operations.
- (d) To help in transportation of explosives and undertake bomb disposal activities during peace and war.

Corps of Signals

Role & Task. They are the communicators of Indian Army and provide Radio, Radio Relay, data and line communication and establish Signal Centres during war and peace. It also monitors enemy's communication systems.

Intelligence Corps

Role & Task. The main task of Intelligence Corps is to gather intelligence of the enemy and prevent the leakage of own information to the enemy.

SUPPORTING SERVICES

ROLE & TASKS

The following are Supporting Services, as they provide logistical support to fighting & Supporting Arms:

Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering

Role & Tasks

The major role of EME is repair, recovery and maintenance of all vehicles, arms, electrical, electronic and mechanical equipment.

Army Service Corps (ASC)

Role & Tasks. ASC is responsible for:

- (a) The supply and provision of ration to the Army during peace and war.
- (b) To provide fuel oil and lubricants to the entire Army.
- (c) To provide transport for conveyance of troops during movement.
- (d) Transportation of heavy equipment and machineries including ammunition during war.

Army Medical Corps

Role & Tasks.

It provides medical facilities during war as well as in peace stations to troops and their families.

Army Dental Corps

Role & Tasks.

This Corps provides dental hygiene and treatment to the soldiers.

Military Nursing Service

Role & Tasks

They provide nursing and care to the sick and wounded army personnel.

Army Ordinance Corps

Role & Tasks

It is responsible to provide equipment support to the Army during war & peace which are not the responsibility of ASC, AMC and that of ENGINEERS.

Remount and Veterinary Corps

Role & Task

It deals with caring and training of animals. It is employed with Army Supply Corps for transportations of Weapons, ammunitions, explosives, stores in forward area where vehicles cannot be employed economically.

Military Farms

Role & Tasks

They provide the Indian Army with dairy products and fodder for the animals maintained by the Army.

Army Education Corps

Role & Tasks. AEC is responsible for imparting Military & Civil education to troops which helps them in passing promotion exams required in their career and profession. They impart higher education to JCOs and NCOs.

Corps of Military Police

Role & Tasks. Its role is to provide security to Army personnel and their families and maintain law and order in the Army area. It also helps in movement of men, material and vehicles during peace or war.

Judge Advocate General Branch

Role & Tasks

Deals with Justice System and legal matters relating to all Arms, Services and branches of the Armed Forces.

Military Engineering Services

Role & Tasks

They are responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of all works, buildings, airfields, dock installations and also with accessory services for the Army.

Border Roads Organisation

Role & Tasks

Their main purpose is to create national highways, airfields, buildings and bridges.

Army Pioneer Corps

Role & Tasks

Civilian labour is either not available or it is not required for security reasons. The Pioneer Corps provides disciplined and well trained manpower for load carriage. They are mostly committed in operational areas during war.

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