ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA
SMT DROUPADI MURMU
AT THE PASSING OUT PARADE OF AUTUMN TERM 2026 AT THE INDIAN NAVAL ACADEMY, EZHIMALA, KERALAM

Ezhimala: 28 November 2026

I am delighted to be present here today to review the Passing Out Parade Autumn Term 2026. I congratulate all the trainees graduating today, including those from the Indian Coast Guard and friendly foreign countries. You have successfully completed your training, which has tested your physical endurance, mental strength and determination. Your smart turnout, excellent military bearing and the precision with which you performed the drill today reflect the high standards of your training, discipline and dedication. I extend my compliments to each one of you.

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of your parents and families. Behind every young officer stands a family that has made sacrifices, offered encouragement and provided strength through difficult times. The contribution of your families deserves our appreciation.

I am particularly happy to see many young women among the graduating trainees. My dear daughters, your presence here is a matter of pride for the entire nation. You have demonstrated that determination, courage and competence know no boundary. Your achievements will inspire many more young women to dream big and take up challenging responsibilities in the service of the nation.

I also extend my special congratulations to the trainees from friendly foreign countries. It is heartening to see you marching shoulder to shoulder with your Indian counterparts. The friendships you have developed here will go beyond the years spent at this Academy. You will

carry forward the spirit of mutual trust, cooperation and friendship that binds our countries together.

Dear officer cadets,

In February this year, I had the opportunity to review the International Fleet at Visakhapatnam. It was an impressive demonstration of the growing strength and capabilities of Indian Navy. India is making rapid progress in strengthening its Armed Forces and enhancing its maritime capabilities. You are fortunate to be entering the service at a time when the Indian Navy is undergoing an important transformation. You will not only witness this transformation but will also be among those who shape its future.

The maritime domain has become increasingly important in today's interconnected world. A large part of global trade moves through the seas. The security of maritime routes is, therefore, closely linked to the economic well-being of nations and the everyday lives of their people. Any disruption in the movement of ships can affect the supply of essential goods, increase costs and ultimately place an additional burden on ordinary citizens. You should remember that your service at sea is connected to the lives of people on land. It contributes directly to their security, prosperity and well-being.

India is also steadily strengthening its indigenous defence capabilities. A growing number of our ships and submarines are being designed and built in Indian shipyards. This reflects our commitment to self-reliance and our confidence in the capabilities of our engineers, scientists, skilled workers and industry. As the officers of Indian Navy, you will be part of this journey towards a stronger and more self-reliant India.

Dear officer cadets,

Your integrity, professional competence, courage and compassion will define the character of the Indian Navy. At sea, you will face challenging

weather, long deployments and uncertain situations. You will have to take difficult decisions, often under pressure. You should always remember that leadership is not merely about giving commands; it is about undertaking responsibility, setting an example and standing by those who serve with you.

The world is changing at an unprecedented pace. New technologies are transforming the nature of warfare and maritime security. We cannot predict all the challenges that the future will bring. But I am confident that your training, adaptability and commitment will prepare you to face them. You should always continue to learn and should keep upgrading your knowledge and skills.

Dear cadets,

The ultimate purpose of all our national efforts is to build a strong, prosperous and developed India. The vision of Viksit Bharat is not limited to economic growth or improvements in development indicators. It is about creating a nation where every citizen feels secure, has access to opportunities and can lead a life of dignity and self-respect. It is about ensuring that the benefits of development reach every section of society and every corner of the country.

As you prepare to take your Antim Pag, you should remember that you are beginning a journey of service and responsibility. The uniform you wear carries the trust and expectations of more than a billion Indians. Every citizen, irrespective of where they live or what they do, looks towards our Armed Forces with confidence and pride. You must always remain worthy of that trust.

I urge each one of you to uphold the highest traditions of the Indian Navy. You should perform every duty with sincerity, face every challenge with courage and treat everyone under your command with fairness and respect. You should be proud of your individual achievements, but should never lose sight of the larger purpose of your service.

I wish all of you a fulfilling and professionally rewarding career. May you always have the courage to face the roughest seas, the wisdom to navigate difficult situations and the determination to accomplish every mission entrusted to you. Sam No Varuna!

Thank you!
Jai Hind!
Jai Bharat!