



Message from CGDA

It is a matter of great pride and honour for me to take over as the Controller General of Defence Accounts and to lead the Defence Accounts Department which has a rich and distinguished legacy spanning over 278 years.

2. The progress made by the Department over the years and the professional milestones achieved, are testimony to the visionary leadership provided by our distinguished senior officers, both past and present and the untiring commitment and efforts of our staff. It is, therefore, our collective responsibility to not only build on the strong edifice provided to us but to also take the Department to newer heights and set new benchmarks of professionalism and service delivery. In this endeavour, we must leverage the wisdom gained over the years with the youthful energy of our personnel. I solicit the support of all officers & staff in this effort.

3. Our role in our core functional areas of internal audit, payment, accounting and financial advice has become more complex over the years with the increase in defence outlay, the complexity of procurement processes and payment systems. The expectations for faster, professional and transparent service delivery require that we strike a balance between the ultimate objectives of an organisation and the need for financial prudence.

4. Our focus in the days ahead will be on speedy & accurate delivery of audit, accounting & payment services, enhancing the capabilities of our offi-

cers & staff, enhancing the footprints of our glorious department and rendering objective, prompt and robust financial advice.

5. Our role & approach should, thus, be that of being a facilitator rather than a controller. This requires us to maintain synergy with our client organisations, understand their requirements and constraints and facilitate the achievement of larger national and organisational goals, albeit, within the framework of financial rules.

6. Processing and payment of personal claims is another area of our functioning that directly impacts the morale of the personnel. It should be our endeavour to deal with these with promptness and with empathy.

7. The Department has always been a pioneer in the technology domain and has leveraged technology through a number of platforms & solutions developed in-house by our talented officers and staff. These systems have served our requirements well. It is now time to scale up the level of digitization and move to a real time updated system at a national level for all our key platforms. We must graduate to use of AI and data driven risk assessment involving decision-making through a centralised database. Speedy implementation of SAMPURNA (System Automation for Procurement, Payment and Uniform Raksha Accounting) and CPS (Centralized Pay System) will continue to be high priority for the Department.

8. On this occasion, I also enjoin upon each one of you to always bear in mind that our actions and decisions impact overall defence preparedness and achievement of national security objectives. With this in mind, we must always take actions to further transparency & probity and weigh the implications carefully before arriving at any decision. We must display zero tolerance towards any malpractices and/or influences. In the days ahead, I shall be regularly engaging with all of you separately on the issues that I have briefly outlined.

9. I welcome your suggestions and ideas that help make our Department more effective, efficient and responsive and set newer and higher professional benchmarks.

Jai Hind