



NDC
YEAR BOOK

2025



National Defence College



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DELINEATIVE STATEMENTS

VISION

To develop future policymakers on National Security and Strategic Studies

MISSION

To impart knowledge and develop future leaders in an integrated strategic environment to function as strategic thinkers in the realm of National Security, Statecraft, Diplomacy and Public Policy to uphold National Interests

ROLE

The NDC shall strive to:

- Conduct academic training program on NS&SS
- Enrol and conduct NS&SS course for the senior officers of SL Tri-Services, Police and Public Administration
- Enrol conduct NS&SS course for the senior military officers from Friendly Foreign Countries
- Provide academic environment that focus on strategic studies and other facilities required for the participants to research desired objective
- Develop strategic knowledge necessary to promptly and effectively address uncertainties
- Prepare CPs for the MSc and MPhil degree program conferred by the KDU

OBJECTIVES

- To provide an exposure to understand the diverse and complex strategic environment related to national security
- To enhance participants' skills and knowledge in strategy formulation and development of the national security concerns
- To assist higher institutions in developing or crafting national strategies and policies with respect to national security
- To serve as a strategic instrument for the Government of SL in promoting enhanced understanding, fostering cooperation and establishing constructive linkages within the national, regional and global strategic security environment
- To support the Government of SL in cultivating effective civil-military relations at the strategic level, as required, ensuring coherent policy formulation and national security planning

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA



In this momentous occasion, I extend my profound best wishes to senior military & police officers from Sri Lanka and senior military officers from our friendly foreign countries for the successful completion of course number 04 of National Security & Strategic Studies in the year 2025, at the National Defence College.

As the premier institution of strategic learning in Sri Lanka, the National Defence College plays a vital role in shaping senior military officers of the Sri Lanka tri-services & police and senior military officers from our friendly foreign countries providing an opportunity becoming strategic thinkers in the realm of national security & strategic studies. The knowledge that you gained not merely broaden the understanding of complex threats both domestic and international;

it further strengthens your commitment and leadership to protect the nation's stability, sovereignty and wellbeing. I am confident that the knowledge and insight you gained through this program will empowered each of you to serve the nation with professionalism and ethics.

In this context, ensuring the rule of law, eliminating corruption and abuse of power, and upholding good governance will be among the most pressing challenges that we face. As senior officers, it is imperative that you possess a comprehensive understanding of the risks and opportunities before us, and be prepared to lead with foresight and resilience. Your contribution will be a critical factor to strengthening our national security architecture and ensuring that Sri Lanka remains a land of opportunity and hope.

As you embark on the next chapter of your illustrious careers, while congratulating you again I extend my best wishes and may your continued commitment to excellence in strategic education contribute meaningfully to the security, progress, and prosperity of our motherland. As you step into your future responsibilities, I urge you to uphold the values of integrity, competence, and selfless service.

Anura Kumara Dissanayake

President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
and Minister of Defence & Commander in Chief of Armed Forces

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE



It is with deep pride and happiness I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the graduates of course number 04 of National Security & Strategic Studies in the year 2025, at the National Defence College (NDC).

Today marks the culmination of a demanding and transformative journey that has shaped you not only as leaders in your fields but also as guardians of nation's security and sovereignty. Your dedication and unwavering commitment throughout this rigorous academic and professional tour have prepared you to face the complex challenges in the future. As a graduate, now you shoulder the responsibility of contributing to the progress, stability, and prosperity of the motherland.

With compared to contemporary institutions, the National Defence College of Sri Lanka has rapidly reached to the required milestone as a premier institution producing strategic thinkers and visionary leaders under the right leadership and strategic guidance. The knowledge, skills, and exposure you have gained will undoubtedly play a vital role in terms of assisting shaping the future of respective armed forces, country, and in broader the region.

I take this opportunity to amiably congratulate the senior military officers from friendly foreign countries on the successful completion of the course. Your hard-earned knowledge through a series of well-structured modules and exposure to the renowned intellectuals of strategic thinking and deep understanding of the complex global security environment would greatly assist you in serving with high potentiality to your countries well in the future. We greatly value the bonds of friendship with your countries, and I firmly believe that the relationships and memories you have developed will further foster cooperation, trust, and mutual understanding in the years to come.

As you step into your future responsibilities, while congratulating once again, I wish may your careers be marked with success and honour, to work towards safer nations and more secure world.

Major General

Aruna Jayasekara (Retd) WWV RSP VSV USP ndc psc

Deputy Minister of Defence

Sri Lanka

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE



It gives me immense pride and great pleasure to extend my warmest congratulations to all graduates for the successful completion of Course Number 04 of National Security & Strategic Studies in the year 2025, at the National Defence College. Your achievement confirms and testament to your dedication and interest in further developing your knowledge of National Security and reflects your perseverance and excellence in the field and in developing strategic thinking.

As the highest seat of strategic learning in Sri Lanka, the National Defence College stands as an iconic institution for excellence, nurturing leaders with a holistic understanding that extends beyond factual knowledge to deeper insights and broad perspectives.

It fosters the intellectual mindset required to navigate the complexities of today's volatile global security environment. Your success in this demanding program underscores your potential to contribute meaningfully to the security and prosperity of our nation. I am confident that your learning will broaden the traditional view of National Security to include challenges beyond conventional warfare. As you embark on the next phase of your careers, I urge you to apply your skills with foresight, professionalism and integrity.

I further extend my heartfelt congratulations to the senior military officers from friendly foreign nations for the greater success that you have gained. Your successful completion of this course reflects enhanced capabilities in strategic thinking and deeper understanding of complex security dynamics. Moreover, the network and relationship that you established will be immensely benefitted to foster lasting friendship.

Sri Lanka faces growing challenges that demand insightful leadership and collective effort. I am confident that the graduates of this esteemed institution are well-prepared to shape a secure, stable and prosperous future for our motherland.

Air Vice Marshal

Sampath Thuyacontha (Retd) WWV RWP and two Bars RSP and Bar USP MMSc (Strat Stu- China) MSc (Def Stu) in Mgt MSc (Def & Strat Stu) fndu (China) psc
Secretary
Ministry of Defence
Sri Lanka

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT



At the outset, I wish to extend my warmest wishes to the participants on the successful completion of course number 04 of National Security & Strategic Studies in the year 2025, at the National Defence College. This momentous achievement marks the culmination of your perseverance, and unwavering commitment throughout this demanding and transformative academic journey.

As the Commandant, I had a unique opportunity to witness your intellectual and professional growth, both individually and collectively. In addition, your achievement reflects that you have done justice to the commitment made by the National Defence College to provide you with the knowledge you need. Also, I believe that the strategic knowledge, skills, and perspectives you have acquired during the course will greatly assist you in contributing meaningfully to the security and progress of your respective nations. The professional bonds and mutual respect that you have cultivated with this esteemed institution will remain a valuable network as you advance in your careers. Further, this experience will undoubtedly enhance your ability to shape and implement long-term strategies, policies, and goals vital to national development and global peace. As you move forward, I encourage you to apply the lessons that you learned here with wisdom, integrity, and resilience, to public service too. Let the learning of the past year continue to guide your decisions, ensuring they are always aligned with the vision, mission, and objectives of your institutions.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the National Defence College, I convey our best wishes for your continued success. We are confident that you will remain at the forefront of national security and leadership in the years ahead.

While congratulating you once again on this well-earned achievement, I urge you to use your newly acquired knowledge wisely in all your future endeavors.

Major General

Chamila Munasinghe WWV RWP RSP USP ndc psc IG MSc(NS&SS)

Commandant

National Defence College

Sri Lanka

THE CREST

The Crest of the National Defence College illustrates seven features as explained below;

Blue Water Lily

Blue Water Lily is the national flower of Sri Lanka. This plant grows in clear or muddy ponds, yet the flower blooms above the water surface with equal beauty and scent irrespective of the medium in which it grows. It does not acquire the characteristics of the medium, nor accumulate any dirt; the flower remains pure and beautiful irrespective of external factors. Therefore, Blue Water Lily petals around the shield identify the college's purity and ability to produce future leaders who can excel and drive the nation towards prosperity, irrespective of where they come from. The petals represent the 25 administrative districts of Sri Lanka.

Ancient Shield

The shield represents defence and security from any external or internal threats which is the combined responsibility of Army, Navy, Air Force, Police, Ministries and Departments of the government and every citizen of the state. Therefore, the Bronze Shield identifies the defence and security of the state and its territorial integrity. The 9 tags on the shield represent the 9 provinces of Sri Lanka. The colour bronze represents the ancient history and survival of the state.

National Emblem

The National Emblem represents the representative democracy of Sri Lanka as clearly enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic. The National Emblem placed at the crown of the logo represents the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as a free and independent state with a representative democracy at its core. The college holds national values as supreme and serves towards preparing leaders and decision-makers for the state.



Two Sheaves of Paddy

Two sheaves of paddy represent prosperity and well-being of the nation in social and economic aspects. Placement of them upon the shield denotes the commitment of the college towards achieving and sustaining prosperity with resilience.

Lamp

Lamp in the center represents the shedding of ignorance and attaining wisdom with positivity and goodness. The college contributes to generate wisdom among leaders and decision-makers that will pave the way for prosperity with resilience.

The Scroll (placed below the shield)

It carries the motto of the college 'Wisdom Prosperity Resilience' displaying the vision and objectives in a nutshell.

The Scroll (placed on the shield)

It carries the words 'National Defence College' introducing the college to everyone.

NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE AT A GLANCE



The NDC-SL was conceptualised to fulfill a vital national requirement for a premier institution dedicated to cultivating strategic leadership and policy making-level of expertise. The Cabinet of Ministers approved its establishment on 29 November 2016, and the property as it well known as 'Mumtaz Mahal' where the institute currently stands was assigned for the purpose. After an extensive phase of development in collaboration and expert guidance from contemporary institutions, the College was formally inaugurated on 11 November 2021, by His Excellency Gotabaya Rajapaksa the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and Minister of Defence. Functioning as the highest seat of institution for strategic learning, the NDC-SL provides an advanced forum for academic and professional development in National Security & Strategic Studies(NS&SS) for the course participants.

Academically, the College is affiliated with the General Sir. John Kotelawala Defence University(KDU), which confers the Master of Science(MSc) and Master of Philosophy(MPhil) degrees upon its graduates. This partnership ensures the integrity and recognition of NDC's academic standards, combining scholarly depth with practical application relevant to national and international security contexts. As a center of strategic excellence, the NDC-SL emphasises multidisciplinary learning, critical thinking and strategic foresight. It fosters collaboration among senior leaders from the military, civil

service, and international community to analyse emerging challenges and formulate coherent approaches to complex security and development issues. In doing so, the College plays a pivotal role in enhancing SL's strategic capacity, advancing civil-military integration and shaping informed decision-makers capable of contributing effectively to national and regional security objectives.

The NDC provides high-quality professional strategic education to produce graduates who are skilled in critical strategic thinking that facilitate them to provide professional counsel in achieving national security objectives. The NDC will also usher in a new era to enhance the professionalism of the Armed Forces, Police and the public sector. It will seek to foster inter-institutional civil-military synergy to strengthen the national security mechanism of the state through intellectual endeavour.

The NS&SS course is a multi-disciplinary learning platform tailored to suit the stated objective. A total of eight study modules are spread over two semesters; each module is developed considering the formulation of strategic options for decision-making with respect to current national, regional and global issues/scenarios that affect national security and policy. Further, course participants have the opportunity to meet state leaders and policy-makers locally and internationally to broaden their understanding on the concept of national security.

EVOLUTION OF NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE

The idea of having NDC-SL began its journey ten years ago in 2015, as the most prestigious institution for gaining advanced knowledge on national security and strategy for senior officials in the armed forces, the Police and the public sector.

Major General Anton Wijendra as the pioneer think-tan submitted a proposal on the need for the establishment of NDC in Sri Lanka. Subsequently, there had been several boards comprised of officers from armed forces, appointed to study the feasibility of establishing NDC in Sri Lanka. Based on the reports submitted, a cabinet memorandum was tabled to establish NDC at 'Mumtaz Mahal' which was used as the official residence of the Speaker of the Parliament during 1948 to 2001. Thus, cabinet approval was granted to establish the NDC and to explore the possibility of obtaining concessionary funding for the purpose.

However, due to financial constraints, renovation of Mumtaz Mahal building was delayed till the latter part of 2018 until the funding was made by the Ministry of Defence and provision of necessary work teams by armed forces.

During the process, armed forces crew had taken a remarkable effort in preserving the old architectural elements of the Mumtaz Mahal, the historical building in which the NDC commenced its journey. Assistance from several friendly states facilitated the NDC to add several important features. The People's Republic of China provided facilities for a state-of-the-art auditorium whilst the Islamic Republic of Pakistan provided the infrastructure and other necessary equipment to set up the much-needed library.

The Australian Department of Defence donated over 1032 books covering subjects related to international relations, security, strategy and policy, etc. The Road Development Authority also assisted in developing the premises.

To formulate a sophisticated study curriculum, the Australian Department of Defence had assigned Captain Andrew Deakin for the Curriculum Development Board. The rest of the board comprised of officers from armed forces who drafted the initial subject modules with relevant inputs from the officers who had completed similar NDC qualifications from accredited institutions.

At the outset, administrators felt that an affiliation with a recognized university was a necessity to gain much needed credibility to the NDC. Therefore, the college reached out to a few leading universities, such as the University of Colombo (UoC) and the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU). It was finally decided to affiliate the NDC with the KDU, to award post graduate degrees.

THE HISTORY OF MAIN BUILDING OF NDC 'MUMTAZ MAHAL'



The original house named 'Mumtaz Mahal' was built in 1928, with work commencing in 1927 following the demolition of the French styled villa, St Margaret's. It was built for a wealthy gentleman named Mohamed Ali Mohamed Hussain by his father Mr. Mohamed Ali. However, Mohamed Hussain tore down the villa and entrusted the task to a promising young architect Mr. Homi Billimoria to build a larger Italian renaissance styled house blending the luxurious lines of a Mediterranean villa with classic British architectural style. Billimoria completed the task and the mansion was later decorated by a French nobleman, Count De Mauny.

Then, Mr. Herbert Sri Nissanka who was a Ceylonese Lawyer, Legislator and closest friend of Mr. Mohamed Hussain had suggested to name the new house after his youngest daughter, 'Mumtaz'. A few years later moving into the house, Hussain faced bankruptcy and rented the house to the French Consul. Following the fall of the Vichy Government in 1943, the French Consul left the island and the house was requisitioned for the use of Vice Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton, Commander-in-Chief, Ceylon, who lived in it till the end of World War II.

With Ceylon gaining independence, the house was purchased by the Government of Ceylon to be used as the official residence of the first Speaker of the House of Representatives, Sir Francis Molamure. Subsequently, many eminent Sri Lankan Speakers such as Sir Albert Pieris, Mr. HS Ismail, Mr. TB Subasinghe, Mr. RS Pelpola, Mr. Hugh Fernando, Mr. Shirley Corea, Mr. Stanley Tillekaratne, Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis, Mr. Bakeer Markar, Mr. EL Senanayake, Mr. MH Mohamed, Mr. KB Rathnayake and Mr. Anura Bandaranayake had occupied this house as their official residence. Mumtaz Mahal was used in this capacity up until 2001, when the Speaker moved to a newly built residence close to the new Parliamentary complex at Sri Jayawardenepura, Kotte, the administrative capital of Sri Lanka.

The house was subsequently used for the Constitutional Council, the Fiscal Ombudsman, Buddhist and Pali University until the building was allocated to establish the NDC in 2016.

REJUVENATING MUMTAZ MAHAL



Met Commandant by the Relatives of Founders during their visit

FACILITIES AT NDC

NDC comprises a state-of-the-art auditorium, three syndicate rooms, a library with collection of literature related to strategic studies and an officers' mess. In addition, course participants are provided with single accommodation.



Main Building



Main Entrance



Syndicate Room



Auditorium



Officers' Mess



Library



Accommodation



THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The administration and management of the affairs of the NDC is vested with the Management Committee and is headed by the Secretary to the Ministry of Defence. The members of the Committee are Chief of Defence Staff, Commanders of Armed Forces, the Vice Chancellor of the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Additional Secretary to Defence, Additional Director General National Budget of the Ministry of Finance, Chief Financial Officer I Ministry of Defence, Commandant of the NDC and Secretary NDC.



Secretary
Ministry of Defence



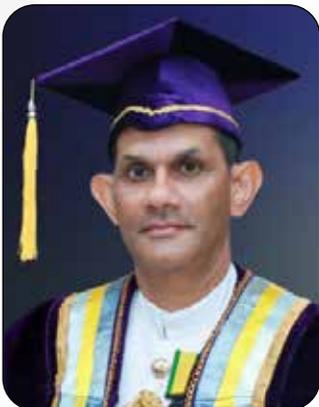
Commander of the Army



Commander of the Navy



Commander of the Air Force



Vice Chancellor KDU



Addl Director General
National Budget of the Ministry
of Finance



Chief Financial Officer I
Ministry of Defence



Commandant NDC



Secretary NDC

PAST COMMANDANTS



Major General
Amal Karunasekara



Major General
Sujeewa Senarath Yapa

FACULTY MEMBERS POSTED OUT



Brigadier Suresh Cooray



Brigadier Waruna Gamage



Air Commodore Amitha Jayamaha



Rear Admiral Nimal Ranasinghe

THE FACULTY

SECRETARY



Brigadier Gamini Bandaranayake

SENIOR DIRECTING STAFF (ARMY)



Brigadier Thusitha
Bandara

SENIOR DIRECTING STAFF (NAVY)



Rear Admiral Sanjeewa
Kathriarachchi

SENIOR DIRECTING STAFF (AIR FORCE)



Air Commodore Sujeewa
Ponnampereuma

COURSE NUMBER 04 NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE SRI LANKA



Seated Left to Right

Staff Colonel Zayed Alhumaidi, Brigadier General Muhammad Ali Haider Siddiqui, SSP KGL Geethal, Brigadier SNMAB Arambepola, Rear Admiral SP Kathriarachchi, Brigadier KMG Bandaranayake, Maj Gen CS Munasinghe, Brigadier MMT Bandara, Air Commodore ES Ponnampereuma, Rear Admiral MRJK Bandara, Air Commodore SPS Martino, Group Captain (Pilot) Walid Marhoon Mohommed AL-Naabi, Commodore Gaurav Singh

First Row Left to Right

Brigadier DS Horawalavithana, Brigadier DDGA Jayawardane, Commodore HIA Gunawardana, Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana, Brigadier MHR Fernando, Brigadier KADNR Kannangara, Brigadier PWMMD Wijeratne, Air Commodore WKASW Vithana, Commodore CT Gunaratne, Air Commodore WASB Weerasekara, Commodore MDCPK Gunathilake, Brigadier DIS Jayasinghe, Air Commodore PAV Padmaperuma, Brigadier TLM Chandrasekara, Brigadier MAV Gunarathna, Commodore LADT Shamenda, Brigadier GADKG Ganegoda

Second Row Left to Right

Staff Colonel Waleed Sulaiman M Alrahmah, Staff Colonel Yahya Mohammed A Alzahrani, Brigadier KPL Amunupure, Colonel (PSC) Para Saif Sulaiman Abdullah AL-Nabhani, Brigadier RMC Rathnayake, SSP AMUA Athapattu, Brigadier USB Ratnayake, Commodore RJ Walgampaya, Staff Colonel Ali Hamdan H Alsubaie, Air Commodore MTN Salgado, SSP MHKSDS Jayasekara, Air Commodore UCJ Piyasena, Brigadier DKCL Perera, Commodore MADDM Piyathilaka, Staff Colonel Aeman Abdullah A Aldweesh, Staff Colonel Jamal Shudayyid A Alamri

COURSE PARTICIPANTS ARMY



Brigadier
Anuruddha Arabepola



Brigadier
Kalana Amunupura



Brigadier
Manjula Wijerathne



Brigadier
Kusal Ganegoda



Brigadier
Roshan Kannangara



Brigadier
Ruwan Fernando



Brigadier
Sudheera Jayasinghe



Brigadier
Manjula Chandrasekara



Brigadier
Chaminda Rathnayake



Brigadier
Sanjeewa Horawalawithana



Brigadier
Ruwan Siriwardana



Brigadier
Amila Gunarathna



Brigadier
Lakmal Perera



Brigadier
Dhananjaya Jayawardhana



Brigadier
Udesha Rathnayake

NAVY



Rear Admiral
Jayantha Bandara



Commodore
Indika Goonawardhana



Commodore
Pradeep Gunathilaka



Commodore
Chaminda Gunaratne



Commodore
Ranjith Walgampaya



Commodore
Manjula Piyathilaka



Commodore
Thanuja Shamenda

AIR FORCE



Air Commodore
Prasanka Martino



Air Commodore
Vasantha Padmaperuma



Air Commodore
Nandika Salgado



Air Commodore
Samantha Weerasekara



Air Commodore
Sanjaya Vithana



Air Commodore
Uditha Piyasena

POLICE



SSP
Laksiri Geethal



SSP
Upali Atapattu



SSP
Kasun Jayasekara

FRIENDLY FOREIGN COUNTRIES



BANGLADESH
Brigadier General
Muhammad Ali Haider
Siddiqui



INDIA
Commodore
Gaurav Singh



OMAN
Colonel
Saif Sulaiman Abdullah
AL-Nabhani



OMAN
Group Captain
Waleed Marhoon Al-Nabi



SAUDI ARABIA
Staff Colonel
Yahya Mohammed A
Alzahrani



SAUDI ARABIA
Col staff
Zayed Alhumaidi B Alanazi



SAUDI ARABIA
Staff Colonel
Ayman Bin Abdullah
Al-Dawish



SAUDI ARABIA
Staff Colonel
Waleed Sulaiman M
Alrahmah



SAUDI ARABIA
Colonel
Jamal Shudayyid A Alamri



SAUDI ARABIA
Colonel
Ali Hamdan H Alsubaie

BELOVED FAMILIES OF THE COTERIE

COMMANDANT



Major General
Chamila Munasinghe

SECRETARY



Brigadier
Gamini Bandaranayake

SENIOR DIRECTING STAFF (ARMY)



Brigadier
MM Thusitha
Bandara

SENIOR DIRECTING STAFF (NAVY)



Rear Admiral
Sanjeewa
Kathriarachchi

SENIOR DIRECTING STAFF (AIR FORCE)



Air Commodore
Sujeewa
Ponnampereuma

COURSE PARTICIPANTS

ARMY



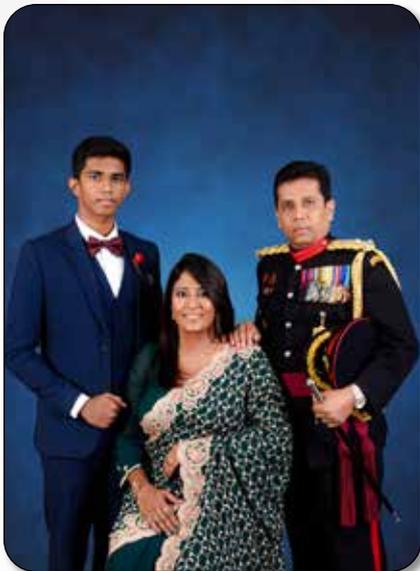
Brigadier
Anuruddha Arabepola



Brigadier
Kalana Amunupura



Brigadier
Manjula Wijerathne



Brigadier
Kusal Ganegoda



Brigadier
Roshan Kannangara



Brigadier
Ruwan Fernando



Brigadier
Sudheera Jayasinghe



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Chaminda Rathnayake



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Brigadier
Lakmal Perera



Brigadier
Dhananjaya Jayawardhana



Brigadier
Amila Gunarathna



Brigadier
Udesha Rathnayake

NAVY



Commodore
Indika Goonawardhana



Commodore
Pradeep Gunathilaka



Commodore
Chaminda Gunaratne



Commodore
Ranjith Walgampaya

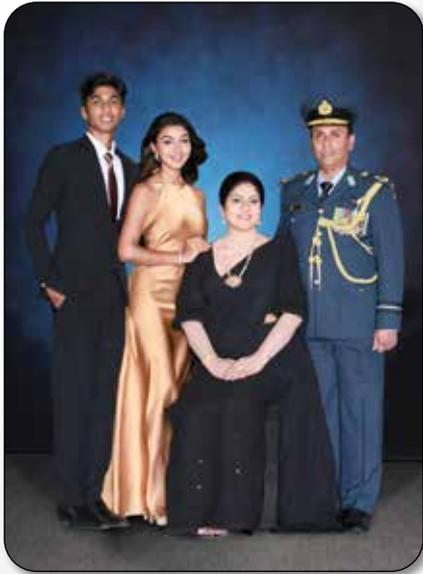


Commodore
Manjula Piyathilaka



Commodore
Thanuja Shamenda

AIR FORCE



Air Commodore
Prasanka Martino



Air Commodore
Vasantha Padmaperuma



Air Commodore
Nandika Salgado



Air Commodore
Samantha Weerasekara



Air Commodore
Sanjaya Vithana



Air Commodore
Uditha Piyasena

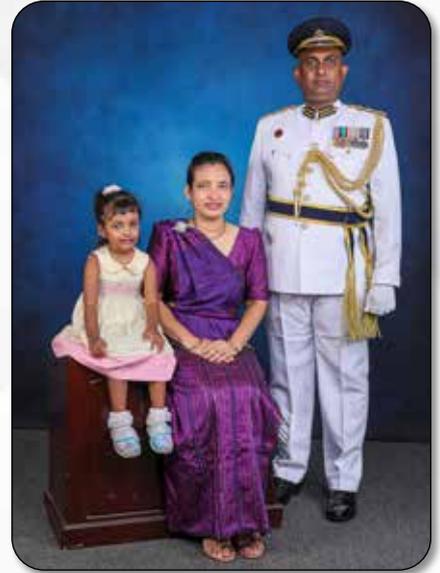
POLICE



SSP
Laksiri Geethal



SSP
Upali Atapattu



SSP
Kasun Jayasekara

FRIENDLY FOREIGN COUNTRIES



BANGLADESH
Brigadier General
Muhammad Ali Haider



INDIA
Commodore
Gaurav Singh



OMAN
Colonel
Saif Sulaiman



OMAN
Group Captain
Waleed Marhoon Al-Nabi



SAUDI ARABIA
Staff Colonel
Yahya Mohammed



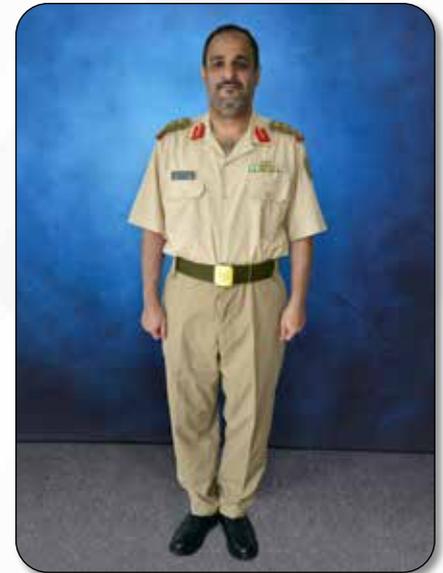
SAUDI ARABIA
Staff Colonel
Zayed Alhumaidi B Alanazi



SAUDI ARABIA
Staff Colonel
Waleed Sulaiman



SAUDI ARABIA
Colonel
Ayman Bin Abdullah



SAUDI ARABIA
Colonel
Jamal Shudayyid A Alamri



SAUDI ARABIA
Colonel
Ali Hamdan H Alsubaie

OPENING ADDRESS

The Commandant NDC, Major General Chamila Munasinghe, officially addressed and welcomed the Course Participants (CPs) on 15th January 2025 at the NDC Auditorium.



ICE BREAKER

“Ice Breaker”, the first social event of the National Security & Strategic Studies Course No. 4/2025 was held on 17th January 2025, providing an opportunity for the course participants, their spouses and members of the NDC faculty to interact with each other. Major General Chamila Munasinghe, the Commandant NDC along with his spouse, extended warm welcome to all attendees.





SEMESTER ONE

***“Without strategy, execution is aimless. Without execution, strategy is useless”
- Morris Chang***

On the 15th of January 2025, National Defence College officially welcomed the Course Number 4 in a professional, elegant and a brief ceremony at the NDC premises. The opening address by the Commandant NDC, Major General Chamila Munasinghe, set the initial shaping of this strategic level course, highlighting the challenges ahead and how to prepare for the same. The academic journey commenced with the Introduction to Strategy and Policy module. The main objective of the module was to stimulate strategic thinking in senior military/police officers to grapple with the complex interrelationship among policy, grand strategy and strategy that span in peace-war situations.

Concurrently, the Research Methodology module commenced with the objective of imparting the knowledge on the fundamentals of research, research process and research design on the course participants, mainly focusing to prepare their research proposal.

It was followed by the Sri Lankan Studies module giving an overview of Sri Lankan history and national security whilst establishing a profound cornerstone for the course to further develop and understand the socio- political structure.

The fourth module of the semester was the Economic Security: Regional and Global Compulsions which provided a broader knowledge on economic security and its relationship to national security.

The Exercise ‘MASTER MIND’, a major strategic planning exercise related to the Sri Lankan context, covering aspects of contemporary issues was conducted as a part of the course curriculum towards the end of the semester.

Final module of the first semester was the Science and Technology module which was aimed at identifying the impacts of science and technology on society and national security.

NDC concluded the International Collaborative Study Package which was scheduled as per the annual course curriculum. The study package comprised of three delegations to India, Indonesia and Pakistan. The aim of the visits was to gain strategic exposure and insight on these the countries through higher level interactions with selected Ministries and Institutions and other officers to the course participants. During the visit all three delegations had opportunities to have cordial discussions on matters of mutual interests in the regional and global security interests.

Furthermore during the first semester, course participants were taken on various research visits to Colombo National Museum, Department of National Archives, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Colombo Dockyard, and Sri Lanka Air Force Base, Katunayake. Apart from the academic and social activities, course participants and their spouses got a golden opportunity to have an excursion to Trincomalee Naval Base during the early part of the semester. During the visit, participants were able to visit the Naval Museum and the Governor’s office while gaining valuable insights into the governance and security situation in the eastern province. In addition, course participants were taken on a number of other local study visits.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE COURSE

Day 1 commenced with Insights of strategic leadership from distinguished military professionals and introduction to research methodology module.



Admiral Jayanath Colombage (Retd)



Major General Amal Karunasekera (Retd)



LECTURES OF PRE COURSE MODULE



AVM Andrew Wijesooriya (Retd)



Dr. Lakshika Liyanage



Maj Gen Udaya Perera (Retd)



NSSS 1023

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This Module is designed to introduce to the participants on the core methods and techniques on research methodologies in order to develop their critical thinking abilities to successfully complete the course programme. Following are the resource persons delivered lectures as stated against.



Dr. Lakshika Liyanage

- Introduction to Research Methodology
- Research Process
- Preparation of research proposal
- Research ethics



Prof. Mirani Weerasuriya

- Strategic leadership



Dr. Sanath De Silva

- Research philosophy, theory and conceptual framework



Ms. Manjula Rajapaksha

- Literature Review



Dr. Hemantha Premarathna

- Research design
- Collection of data
- Design methodology (final revision)
- Data sampling techniques
- Presentation of data



Senior Prof. Indralal De Silva

- Research methods: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mix
- Presentation of results



Prof. KAP Siddhisena

- Analysis of data - Part 1
- Analysis of data - Part 2
- Quantitative data analysis
- Qualitative data analysis



Dr. Upali Rajapaksha

- Testing of Hypothesis

PROGRESS OF THE MODULE



NSSS 1013

INTRODUCTION TO STRATEGY & POLICY

The Introduction to Strategy & Policy module was conducted from 16th January 2025 to 28th February 2025. The Module is designed to provide the basic principles of Strategy & Policy by covering theory and logic in both historical and contemporary issues. Following are the resource persons delivered lectures as stated against.



Adm Prof. Jayanath Collombage (Retd)

- Strategic thought of Adm Alfred Thayer Mahan and its applicability in the current context within the IOR and Sri Lanka



Maj Gen Amal Karunasekera (Retd)

- Basic Principles of Strategy, Policy and Concepts



Maj Gen Udaya Perera (Retd)

- Strategic leadership



R Adm Sisira Jayakodi (Retd)

- Sun Tzu and his concepts on strategy



AVM AWE Wijesuriya (Retd)

- Machiavelli and influence of his concepts on contemporary strategy and policy



Dr. Pulsara Liyanage

- The Rise and Fall of Athens
- Thucydides as a window of strategic insights into Peloponnesian Wars
- Thucydides as a window of strategic insights into Peloponnesian Wars



Prof. Gamini Keerawella

- Strategy in war and peace of Sri Lanka in pre colonial era



RAdm Pradeep Rathnayake (Retd)

- The naval policy of China's Ming dynasty and its strategic successes and failures



Dr. Asantha Senevirathne

- World War I: Causes of war and employment of multi-level strategic concepts



Dr. Maneesha Pasqual

- World War II: Causes of war and employment of multi-level strategic concepts



Dr. George Cooke

- Strategic perspectives of cold war and post-cold war eras
- The rise and fall of Détente its effects on global nuclear strategy
- Strategic interventions on crisis management



Dr. Sanath De Silva

- Nuclear Weapons: Global strategic architecture and nuclear deterrence as a global balance of power



AVM OANS Fernando (Retd)

- Strategic perspectives of coalition or alliance building and its effects



Mr. Arun Dowson

- Hegemonic rivalry : Thucydides to Nuclear age



RAdm DC Gunawardena (Retd)

- Maritime policy and strategy of Sri Lanka in the Indian Ocean Region



Mr. Nilanthan Niruthan

- Russian Strategic culture and current situation of Ukraine operations



Dr. Harinda Vidanage

- Strategic culture of the West and its influence



Dr. Dayan Jayathilaka

- Mao Tse-tung as a strategist his influence on Chinese strategic culture



Dr. S Baskaran

- China's strategy on great power prospects



NDC India

- Elements and perspectives of Indian Strategic Culture



Air Commodore (DR)
Ghulam Mujaddid (Retd)

- Elements and perspectives of Pakistan strategic culture



Mr. Ameen Izadeen

- Influence of strategic cultures on Middle East crisis

PROGRESS OF THE MODULE









The NS&SS course does not include formal examinations; instead, each module is centred on IAG discussions, which form its core. These discussions are strengthened by subgroup-level analytical studies and presentations. Each syndicate is divided into three or four IAGs (subgroups), each led by an appointed IAG leader. The IAGs conduct detailed research on assigned areas related to the relevant module. Collectively, each group produces an IAG paper of 3,000–3,500 words and presents its findings through a PowerPoint presentation, followed by a structured question-and-answer session. This methodology promotes collaborative learning, critical analysis, and the practical application of knowledge. The subgroup leader bears sole responsibility for conducting the IAG presentation and submitting the IAG paper. In addition, subgroup members present their individually assigned sub-areas at the syndicate and submit a Module Paper of 2,000–2,500 words.

IAG Presentations Syndicate - 1

Subgroup A - Enduring relevance of Admiral Alfred Thayer Mahan's strategic thoughts on sea power in the context of contemporary Geopolitical & Military Dynamics



Brigadier USB Ratnayake



Air Commodore
WKASW Vithana

Brigadier USB Ratnayake

Brigadier SNMAB Arambepola

Subgroup B - Maciavellian Leadership Portrayed in Modern Strategy



Rear Admiral MRJK Bandara



Staff Colonel
Waleed Sulaiman

Brigadier
MHR Fernando

Rear Admiral
MRJK Bandara

SSP
KGL Geethal

Subgroup C - Discuss the Nexus among Ways Means and Ends within Strategy and how they Complement Each Other within the Strategic Framework to Achieve Success in the Present day context taking selective examples from the ' Art of War'



Brigadier DIS Jayasinghe



Colonel
Saif Sulaiman

Brigadier
DIS Jayasinghe

Commodore
MADDM Piyathilaka

Subgroup D - Critical Analysis on the Disparities between the Desired Ends against the Disproportionate Means Employed in the Ming Dynasty's Naval Strategy



Air Commodore MTN Salgado



Brigadier General
MAH Siddiqui

Air Commodore
MTN Salgado

Brigadier
RMC Rathnayake

IAG Presentations Syndicate - 2

Subgroup A - Nuclear Deterrence and Its Relevance to the Sustainability of the Contemporary Global Balance of Power



Air Commodore UCJ Piyasena



Brigadier KPL Amunupure

Air Commodore UCJ Piyasena

Brigadier MAV Goonaratne

Subgroup B - Establishing a Rule-Based Order in the Indian Ocean Region: A Policy Framework for Stakeholder Cooperation and Regional Balance of Power



Brigadier GADKG Ganegoda



Commodore HIA Gunawardana

Brigadier GADKG Ganegoda

SSP AMUA Atapattu

Subgroup C - Leveraging Great Power Competition: Sri Lanka's Path to Strategic Influence in the Indo-Pacific



Commodore MDCPK Gunathilaka



Air Commodore PAV Padmaperuma

Commodore MDCPK Gunathilaka

Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana

Subgroup D - NATO and ASEAN: A Comparative Analysis of Their Roles in Regional and Global Security and the Balance of Power



Brigadier DKCL Perera



Group Captain WMM AL-Naabi

Brigadier DKCL Perera

Commodore LADI Shamenda

IAG Presentations Syndicate - 3

Subgroup A - Elementary Strategic Framework for Crisis Management in Sri Lanka



Brigadier DDGA Jayawardane



Brigadier PWMMD Wijeratne

Brigadier DGA Jayawardane

SSP MHKSDS Jayasekara

Subgroup B - Hegemonic Rivalry in the Peloponnesian War and Its Impact on Contemporary Global Strategy



Air Commodore SPS Martino



Brigadier KADNR Kannangara

Air Commodore SPS Martino

Commodore RJ Walgampaya

Subgroup C - The Strategic Cultures of Iran and Israel: Their Impact on Great Power Strategies in the Middle East



Brigadier TLM Chandrasekara



Air Commodore WASB Weerasekara

Brigadier TLM Chandrasekara

Commodore Gaurav Singh

Subgroup D - The Strategic Cultures of India and Pakistan: Impact on China's Great Power Strategy in South Asia



Commodore CT Goonarathne



Commodore CT Goonarathne

Brigadier DS Horawalawithana

NSSS 1033

SRI LANKAN STUDIES

The Sri Lankan Studies module was conducted from 06th March 2025 to 08th April 2025. This Module provided course participants with a contemporary understanding of Sri Lanka, in terms of country's historical evolution, cultural development and socio-economic / political landscape. Following are the resource persons delivered lectures as stated against.



Prof. Raj Somadewa

- Pre-Colonial Sri Lanka, Governance and Regime Changes



Prof. Nirmal Ranjith Dewasiri

- Colonial Rule in Sri Lanka, Paradigm Shifts and Implications
- Insurrections & Social Movements, JVP Uprisings of 1971 and 1987 - 89



Dr. Pradeep Peiris

- Sri Lanka at independence, Political changes and influencing factors



Dr. Darshi Thoradeniya

- Sri Lanka's Post-colonial Journey, Transformations changes



Dr. George Cooke

- State building & the Westminster Model, A Critical Analysis
- Leftist political influence in Sri Lanka's governance



Dr. Rohan Edirisinghe

- Constitutionalism and the First Republic of 1972



Mr. Kalinga Indratissa

- Evolution of Sri Lanka's judicial system, Challenges and Reforms



Dr. Dayan Jayatileka

- Post - Independence Foreign Policy, Sri Lanka on the World Stage
- The Geneva International Human Rights Council and Sri Lanka, Actions and Impact



Mr. Menaka Harankaha

- 13th Amendment and power devolution, Provincial Council system



Prof. Siri Hettige

- Nation - Building efforts after Independence, Planning and Execution



Dr. Athulasiri Samarakoon

- Welfarism, electoral politics and political security



Prof. Wasantha Senevirathne

- The 1978 constitution, Presidentialism and governance



Prof. Rohan Gunarathne

- State vs Non - State Actors, LTE Separatism and Extremism
- Sri Lankan Diaspora, impacts on society and Economy
- Diaspora issues & matters related to national reconciliation



Mr. Sarath Jayamanne

- Anti - corruption drives and good governance in Sri Lanka



Mrs. Chathurika Hansamali

- Poverty reduction and Employment security



SDIG Ranmal Kodithuwakku

- The Social cost of organized crimes and narcotics



Dr. Sharmini Chandran

- Religion as a Catalyst for social harmony in Sri Lanka



Hon.(Dr.) Suren Raghavan

- The Road to National Reconciliation in Sri Lanka



Prof. Charitha Herath

- Mass Media and Social Media in Modern Society, Implications for Sri Lanka



Dr. Sunil Jayantha Navarathne

- Sri Lanka's Education System, Progress and Way Forward
- Youth Protest Movements and political change in Sri Lanka, A Contemporary Analysis

PROGRESS OF THE MODULE







IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 1

Subgroup A - Youth Activism in Political Change in Sri Lanka



Brigadier PWMMD Wijerathne



Air Commodore UCJ Piyasena

Brigadier PWMMD Wijerathne

Commodore LADT Shamenda

Subgroup B - Sri Lanka's Foreign Policy (2005–2025): Balancing Sovereignty and Development in a Changing Global Order



SSP MHKSDS Jayasekara



Commodore MDCPK Gunathilaka

SSP MHKSDS Jayasekara

Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana

Subgroup C - Religion as a Catalyst for Social Cohesion and National Unity in Sri Lanka



Commodore HIA Goonawardana



Commodore HIA Goonawardana

Brigadier GADKG Ganegoda

Subgroup D - Drug Trafficking in Sri Lanka: Assessing Law Enforcement Strategies and Policy Effectiveness



Air Commodore WASB Weerasekara



Commodore Gaurav Singh

Air Commodore WASB Weerasekara

Brigadier DS Horawalawithana

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 2

Subgroup A - Impact of Colonial Powers on Sri Lanka: Special Reference to British Influence



Brigadier SNMAB Arambepola



Brigadier
DDGA Jayawardhana

Brigadier
SNMAB Arambepola

Commodore
CT Goonaratne

Subgroup B - Sri Lanka's Post-Colonial Journey: Governance, State-Building, and Societal Transformation impacted Shaping Contemporary Social, Political, and Economic Issues



SSP KGL Geethal



Brigadier
USB Ratnayake

SSP
KGL Geethal

Brigadier
KADNR Kannangara

Subgroup C - Impact of Post-Independence Rural-Urban Disparities on the Current Political, Economic, and Social Landscape in Sri Lanka



Commodore RJ Walgampaya



Commodore RJ Walgampaya

Brigadier DIS Jayasinghe

Subgroup D - Leftist Ideology and the JVP Insurrections in Sri Lanka: From Revolutionary Struggle to Political Main stream and Governance



Air Commodore WKASW Vithana



Air Commodore
SPS Martino

Air Commodore
WKASW Vithana

Brigadier
TLM Chandrasekara

Brigadier General
Muhammad

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 3

Subgroup A - The Executive Presidency in Sri Lanka: An Analysis of Its Impact on Democratic Governance



Air Commodore PAV Padmaperuma



Air Commodore PAV Padmaperuma

Brigadier DKCL Perera

Subgroup B - The 13th Amendment to the Sri Lankan Constitution: Impact on Ethnic Tensions and Power Devolution



Commodore MADDM Piyathilaka



Air Commodore MTN Salgado

Commodore MADDM Piyathilaka

Brigadier MHR Fernando

Subgroup C - The Role of the Tamil Diaspora in the Post-LTE Conflict: Future Stance and Implications for the Sovereignty of Sri Lanka



SSP AMUA Atapattu



Brigadier RMC Rathnayake

SSP AMUA Atapattu

Rear Admiral MRJK Bandara

Subgroup D - Welfare Policies, Electoral Dynamics, and Political Stability of Sri Lanka: A Complex Interplay



Brigadier KPL Amunupure



Brigadier KPL Amunupure

Brigadier MAV Goonaratne

NSSS 1044

ECONOMIC SECURITY

The Economic Security module was conducted from 22nd April 2025 to 06th June 2025. This Module enabled the participants to comprehend a broader knowledge on economic security and its relations to national security. Following are the resource persons delivered lectures as stated against.



Mr. M Ganeshmoorthy

- Economic Security as an integral part of National Security
- Economic and trade outlook for South Asia

Former Ambassador
HMGS Palihakkara

- Sri Lanka foreign policy towards economic development of the country



Dr. Hasitha Karawita

- Identification of economic potentials of Sri Lanka
- Economic development under market capitalism model



Dr. JAP Kumari

- Government budget and reforms



Prof. K Amirthalingam

- Overview of revenue targets, tax policies and impact to the GDP of Sri Lanka



Prof. HD Karunarathna

- Economic crisis of Sri Lanka: causes, challenges and future.



Dr. Janaka Fernando

- Pros and cons of international aid, loans and grants; integral concerns on Sri Lanka point of view
- Sri Lanka's macroeconomics: Policy outcomes and challenges



Mr. Suresh Shah

- Sri Lanka State Owned Enterprises, Economic concerns, effectiveness and future challenges



Dr. GKR Jayaweera

- Policies affecting Sri Lankan labour market



Dr. Thilak Siyabalapitiya

- Sri Lanka's strategy on renewable energy: Future challenges



Dr. George Cooke

- 'Belt and Road Initiative': Opportunities and challenges in Sri Lankan point of view



Prof. Sirimal Abeyratne

- Asian economic blocks, potentiality and global influence



Ms. Chamindry Saparamadu

- Sustainable Development Goals, Sri Lanka 2030 development agenda



Prof. Terney Pradeep Kumara

- Blue economy concept, challenges, strategic importance and Sri Lanka's potentiality



Mr. Isuru Thilakawardena

- Stock exchange and share market, indices and impact to the economic growth



Dr. MA Shantha Wijesinghe

- Geopolitics implications on Sri Lanka energy sector and energy security



Mr. Nihal Wijewardane

- Inland Revenue Department, role plays in terms of economic development of the country



Mrs. Renuka Weerakone

- Investment policy review of Sri Lanka



Mr. Dappula Aarewatte

- Sri Lanka Customs, functions and responsibilities



Mr. STB Ratnayake

- Auditor General's Department (National Audit Office), role and responsibilities towards the economic security



Prof. SP Premaratna

- Sri Lankan government's revenue leakages and steps to overcome, lessons from other countries



Ms. Dilini Indeewari

- Impact of global and regional trade rivalries to Sri Lanka and how to navigate in troubled market affiliations



Dr. Saliya Balasuriya

- Government revenue generation sectors (tourism, foreign remittance and service) its sustainability and other potential sectors



Mr. RMSPS Bandara

- IMF, World bank and ADB agreements and impacts on Sri Lanka



Dr. Kenneth De Zilwa

- Revolutionary of Fungible Tokens (Crypto Currency): Implications and vulnerabilities



Mr. Waruna Sri Dhanapala

- Digitalization of economy and government affairs: benefits and required policy amendments

PROGRESS OF THE MODULE









IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 1

Subgroup A - From Crisis to Resilience: Assessing the Pathways to Economic Sustainability in Sri Lanka



Brigadier KADNR Kannangara



Commodore RJ Walgampaya

Brigadier KADNR Kannangara

Subgroup B - Guidelines for Policy Implementation on Renewable Energy Resources to Enhance Sustainable Energy Supply



Air Commodore SPS Martino



Brigadier
DDGA Jayawardhana

Air Commodore
SPS Martino

Brigadier KPL
Amunupura

Subgroup C - Leveraging Sri Lanka's Blue Economy for Sustainable Economic Growth



Group Captain Walid



Air Commodore
PAV Padmaperuma

Group Captain
Walid

Brigadier
TLM Chandrasekara

Subgroup D - Revitalizing State-Owned Enterprises for Long-Term Financial Stability



Brigadier DKCL Perera



SSP
AMUA Athapattu

Commodore
MADDM Piyathilaka

Brigadier
DKCL Perera

Brigadier
MAV Gunarathna

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 2

Subgroup A - Proposals to Optimize Sri Lanka's Fiscal and Monetary Policy: Assessing the Current Government's Manifesto



Air Commodore MTN Salgado



Air Commodore MTN Salgado

Rear Admiral MRJK Bandara

Subgroup B - Developing Sri Lanka's Tourism Sector as a Key Economic Driver: Challenges, Opportunities, Price Inequality, and the Impact of the Tourism Mafia



Brigadier MHR Fernando



Commodore MDCPK Goonathilaka

Brigadier MHR Fernando

SSP MHKSDS Jayasekara

Subgroup C - Assessing National Development Indicators and Their Application in the Global South



Brigadier RMC Rathnayake



Commodore Gaurav Singh

Brigadier RMC Rathnayake

Brigadier GADKG Ganegoda

Subgroup D - Strategies for Sri Lanka to Achieve Economic Stability and Resilience Amidst Financial Challenges and a Volatile Global Economic Landscape



Brigadier DS Horawalavithana



Air Commodore WASB Weerasekara

Brigadier DS Horawalavithana

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 3

Subgroup A - Sri Lanka's Path to Sustainable Development: A Critical Analysis of BRI Engagement and Balancing Global Partnerships



Brigadier General MAH Siddiqui



Commodore HIA Gunawardana

Brigadier General MAH Siddiqui

Brigadier SNMAB Arambepola

Subgroup B - The Impact of Global Financial Institutions on the Economic Stability and Development of Sri Lanka



Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana



SSP KGL Geethal

Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana

Brigadier USB Ratnayake

Subgroup C - Enhancing Sri Lanka's Economic Growth Through Intra-Regional Trade



Air Commodore UCJ Piyasena



Air Commodore WKASW Vithana

Air Commodore UCJ Piyasena

Brigadier DIS Jayasinghe

Subgroup D - Navigating the Path to Sustainability: Sri Lanka's Journey Towards Achieving the SDGs



Commodore LADT Shamenda



Commodore CT Gunaratne

Commodore LADT Shamenda

Brigadier PWMMD Wijeratne

NSSS 1054 SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Science & Technology module was conducted from 11th June 2025 to 12th July 2025. This module enabled a systematic exploration of physical, social and natural worlds, and its' necessity for innovation, global competitiveness and national security. Following are the resource persons delivered lectures as stated against.



Dr. Chamli Pushpakumara

- Science and Technology for social security



Prof. M.N. Kaumal

- Philosophy of Science and Technology in global context



Mr. Nilanthan Niruthan

- Hypersonic Weapons; Application In Future Warfare And Implications
- Feedback to World Wide Web as a strategic tool



Col Amanda Johnston

- Revolution of Science and Technology in military affairs



Mr. Ashan Wickramasinghe

- Science and technological innovations in global power matrix



Dr. Sanath De Silva

- Concept and technological advancement of CBRN weapons



AVM Gihan Senaviratne (Retd)

- Modern trends and advance applications in aircraft technology



Mr. Oshadha Senanayake

- Application of cyber for information security and intelligence



Mr. Jayantha Fernando

- Nation's national digital policy



Dr. Pradeep Kalansooriya

- Hologram and augmented reality



Prof. Rohan Munasinghe

- Threats of UAVs and Drones as a strategic weapon



Prof. CD Gamage

- Use of trends and science & technology in military communication



Prof. Dhanapala Wijesinghe

- Advancements of science and technology for crime prevention



Brig Gen (R) Lloyd Gillet

- Impacts of emerging trends of Science & Technology on IHL & HR



Dr. Sanath Panawennage

- Space and space technology



Dr. Shoaib Khan

- Cyber-Security and challenges in global context



Cdr Rahul Varma (Retd)

- Autonomous weapon systems (AWS) in modern warfare



Mr. Manju Gunawardena

- Nanotechnology and its implications



Ms. Kanwal Cheema

- Artificial Intelligence and internet of things, as force multipliers in modern warfare



Prof. Nilmini Gunawardena

- Human Genetic Engineering and pros and cons of human cloning



Prof. Hemanthi Ranasinghe

- Use of Science and Technology as a tool for food security



Prof. Rohan Munasinghe

- Modern trends in robotics



Prof. Indika Karunathilake

- Science and Technology for health care and as a preventive measure



Commodore Amanat

- Anti - Access/Area denial (A2/AD):
Emerging naval strategy in modern warfare

PROGRESS OF THE MODULE









INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY GOVERNANCE- USA

LECTURE ON TECHNOLOGICAL IMPACTS ON WAR IN THE MODERN ERA





IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 1

Subgroup A - The Emergence of Biotechnology in Soldier Enhancement and Its Effects on Future Warfare



Brigadier SNMAB Arambepola



Air Commodore WKASW Vithana

Brigadier USB Ratnayake

Brigadier SNMAB Arambepola

Staff Colonel Waleed

Subgroup B - AI in Modern Warfare: Strategic Advantages, Legal, and Ethical Challenges



Rear Admiral MRJK Bandara



Brigadier DIS Jayasinghe

Rear Admiral MRJK Bandara

Subgroup C - Autonomous and Unmanned Systems in Warfare: Ethics vs. Strategic Advantage



Commodore CT Gunaratne



Brigadier General MAH Siddiqui

Commodore CT Gunaratne

Brigadier MHR Fernando

Subgroup D - Offensive Cyber Capabilities in Military Strategy: Ethical and Legal Implications



Air Commodore WASB Weerasekara



Air Commodore WASB Weerasekara

Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 2

Subgroup A - Strategic Importance of Space Technologies in Modern Warfare: Implications, Counter-Trends-Potential Impact on Sri Lanka's National Security



Commodore RJ Walgampaya



Captain
LADT Shamenda

Commodore
RJ Walgampaya

Brigadier
DKCL Perera

Subgroup B - Strategic Implications of Quantum Technology: Its Advancement on Military Doctrines and Relevance to Sri Lanka



Commodore HIA Gunawardana



Air Commodore
UCJ Piyasena

Commodore
HIA Gunawardana

Brigadier
PWMMD Wijeratne

Subgroup C - Strategic Implications of Hypersonic Weapons: The Need for Policy Reforms



SSP AMUA Atapattu



Brigadier
TLM Chandrasekara

SSP
AMUA Atapattu

Commodore
MADDM Piyathilaka

Subgroup D - Directed Energy Weapons in Modern Warfare: Implications for Global and Regional Defence Postures



Brigadier KPL Amunupure



Staff Colonel
Yahya Mohammed

Brigadier
KADNR Kannangara

Brigadier
KPL Amunupure

Air Commodore
SPS Martino

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 3

Subgroup A - Nanotechnology's Global and Military Strategic Influence



Brigadier GADKG Ganegoda



Brigadier RMC Rathnayake Brigadier GADKG Ganegoda SSP MHKSDS Jayasekara Colonel Jamal Shudayyid

Subgroup B - Modern Agricultural Technology and Food Security in Sri Lanka: Balancing Export Focus with Domestic Food Needs



Commodore MDCPK Gunathilaka



Air Commodore MTN Salgado Commodore MDCPK Gunathilaka Brigadier MAV Gunarathna Colonel Ali Hamdan

Subgroup C - Strategic Implications of Immersive Technologies on National Security and Military Preparedness



Staff Colonel Waleed Sulaiman



Commodore Gaurav Singh Staff Colonel Waleed Sulaiman Brigadier DDGA Jayawardane

Subgroup D - Harnessing Science and Technology to Enhance Strategic Resilience: Strengthening Food and Health Security in Sri Lanka



Air Commodore PAV Padmaperuma



Air Commodore PAV Padmaperuma Brigadier DS Horawalavithana

EXERCISE 'MASTER MIND'

The exercise is held as a key component of the course curriculum, in which Course Participants to engage in strategic-level thinking focused on contemporary challenges, strategic planning and integrated national development.

The Ex-Master Mind was conducted on 28th March 2025. This exercise provided the participants the opportunity to enhance their skills on analysing a given area using the knowledge gained during the previous Modules.





MASTER MIND DEBRIEFING AND HAPPY HOUR



TABLE TOP EXERCISE WITH UNITED STATES INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY GOVERNANCE

National Defence College conducted a three-day Capstone Project in the form of a 'Table Top Exercise' from 3rd to 5th March 2025 for the Course Participants of NS & SS Course No.04/2025. Exercise was conducted in collaboration of a six-member delegation of subject matter experts headed by Mr. Mike Rembold, of INDOPACOM from the United States Institute for Security Governance (ISG) and the faculty of NDC.



SEMESTER TWO

The second semester commenced on 17th July 2025 with the International Security module. The module enriched with topics such as, the sources of international security, global conflicts, regional conflicts, statecraft, crisis management, regional security and complex security issues that exist along the continuum between war and peace. Further, analysis on the dynamics of international security environment, shaping of national security strategies, current and emerging transnational as well as regional security threats, challenges from international actors and international influences on the formulation of regional and national security strategies were also covered during this module.

The second module of the 2nd semester was Geopolitics and Strategy which had a focus on the understanding of geo-strategic perspectives with respect to national, regional and global contexts over different aspects of critical importance to national security. An interactive process to conduct a critical analysis of local, regional and global strategic issues, changes in the post- WWII world political order and understand its impact on national interest and national security was included in this module.

The final module of the second semester was National Security and Policy. The main objective of this module was to offer a theoretical and conceptual understanding of major strategic issues under discussion, to make the students aware of National Defence/Security from a theoretical and conceptual framework. This module aims to enable the course participants to critically examine existing national security structures and miscellaneous factors and to provide an opportunity to construct national security policy by using various relevant tools applicable for short term, mid-term and long term. During this module, course participants were able to comprehend the subject by interacting with eminent scholars and experts including the Secretary to the Ministry of Defence and the Commanders of the armed forces of Sri Lanka.

NSSS 2064

GLOBAL SECURITY

The International Security module was conducted from 17th July 2025 to 19th August 2025. This Module examined the breadth and depth of contemporary global security issues through an interdisciplinary lens. Following are the resource persons delivered lectures as stated against.



Prof. Rasheen Bappu

- Evolution of Global Security in Westphalian System
- Transnational terrorism



Prof. Maneesha Pasqual

- Realism and Global Security : Power, Anarchy , and Security Dilemma
- Alternative Theories and concepts of Global security



Dr. Athulasiri Samarakoon

- Liberal Institutionalism and Collective Security
- 'Long-standing dispute in South China Sea



Dr. Solomon Major

- Geostrategic importance, global and regional security framework



Ambassador Ravinatha Ariyasinghe

- Emerging trends and looming challenges to the global security environment



Mr. Arun Dawsona

- Security Alliances and Balancing: NATO , AUKUS, and Quad



Mr. Asanga Abeyagoonasekara

- Regional Security Complexes: Indo-Pacific, and Eurasia
- Geostrategic and security concerns of Middle East
- Hybrid Warfare and Grey Zone Tactics : Challenges to State Sovereignty



Dr. George Cooke

- Euro-Atlantic governance architecture



Dr. Robin Bowley

- Maritime security concerns
- Russia-Ukraine war: Global security concerns



Dr. H.E. Kandaudahewa

- India-Pakistan Tensions: Implications for Regional Security
- Rise of China and Great Power Competition



Dr. Manpreet Sethi

- Nuclear Deterrence and the Logic of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD)



Maj.Gen. Rasheed Amin

- Conventional Warfare and the Changing Nature of State Conflict



Dr. Zia Ul Haque Shamsi

- Cyber Warfare and Strategic Stability of Nations



Dr. Maria Sultan

- Space Security : Militarization and Commercial Competition



Mr. Shakthi De Silva

- Future Trends in International Security: Multipolarity and Strategic Autonomy
- Weak States failed states and ungoverned states
- Conceptual Foundations of Global Security: Beyond the State



Dr. Shamini Chandran

- Ethno-nationalism and security



Prof. Chaminda Padmakumara

- Human Security : Redefining the Security Agenda



Ms. Ishara Maheshi Jayawardena

- Climate change as Global Security Threat

PROGRESS OF THE MODULE







IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 1

Subgroup A - The Balance of Power and Regional Security Complexes: Realist Perspectives on the Iran–Israel Conflict (2020–2025)



Brigadier DDGA Jayawardane



Commodore RJ Walgampaya Brigadier DDGA Jayawardane Commodore HIA Gunawardana Staff Colonel Waleed Sulaiman

Subgroup B - Strategic Stability and Nuclear Deterrence in the 21st Century: A Critical Reappraisal of the Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) Doctrine



Brigadier DS Horawalavithana



SSP MHKSDS Jayasekara Brigadier DS Horawalavithana Air Commodore UCJ Piyasena Colonel Ali Hamdan

Subgroup C - Modern Security Alliances in Strategic Balancing: Effectiveness and Challenges of NATO, AUKUS, and the QUAD



Brigadier MHR Fernando



Group Captain Walid Marhoon Brigadier MHR Fernando Brigadier GADKG Ganegoda

Subgroup D - Rise of China: Strategic Implications for South Asia's Security in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR)



Commodore Gaurav Singh



Air Commodore MTN Salgado Commodore Gaurav Singh Brigadier PWMMD Wijeratne

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 2

Subgroup A - Influence of Regional Rivalries and External Interventions on the Security Dynamics of the Middle East



Brigadier DIS Jayasinghe



Commodore CT Gunaratne

Brigadier DIS Jayasinghe

Brigadier SNMAB Arambepola

Subgroup B - Hybrid Threats and State Resilience in the Grey Zone: Strategic Responses



Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana



SSP KGL Geethal

Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana

Commodore MDCPK Gunathilaka

Colonel Saif Sulaiman

Subgroup C - Multipolarity and Strategic Autonomy: European Union-Turkey Security Dynamics



Brigadier MAV Gunarathna



Air Commodore PAV Padmaperuma

Brigadier MAV Gunarathna

Air Commodore WASB Weerasekara

Subgroup D - Integrating Human Security into National Security Strategy: A Critical Assessment of Challenges and Opportunities



Brigadier RMC Rathnayake



Brig AKCS De Silva

Brigadier RMC Rathnayake

Brigadier USB Ratnayake

Colonel Jamal Shudayyid

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 3

Subgroup A - Climate Change and Global Security: Unpacking Risks, Responses, and the Road Ahead



Commodore MADDM Piyathilaka



Air Commodore SPS Martino

Commodore MADDM Piyathilaka

Brigadier KPL Amunupure

Subgroup B - Global Counterterrorism Cooperation: Effectiveness Against Transnational Terrorist Networks



Brigadier KADNR Kannangara



Brigadier KADNR Kannangara

Rear Admiral MRJK Bandara

Subgroup C - Geostrategic Competition: The Future of Global and Regional Security Frameworks



Brigadier TLM Chandrasekara



Commodore LADT Shamenda

Brigadier TLM Chandrasekara

SSP AMUA Athapattu

Subgroup D - State Failure and International Response: A Critical Security Perspective



Air Comodore WKASW Vithana



Air Comodore WKASW Vithana

Brigadier DKCL Perera

NSSS 2074

GEOPOLITICS & GEOSTRATEGY

The Geopolitics & Strategy module was conducted from 20th August 2025 to 24th September 2025. This module provided a foundational and contemporary overview of geopolitics & geostrategy, with a focus on their relevance to national security and strategic planning. Following are the resource persons delivered lectures as stated against.



Prof. Chaminda Padmakumara

- Geopolitics: Theories and concepts
- West Africa: political influence and new world order



Mr. Nilanthan Niruthan

- Strategic thoughts and evolution of geopolitics: Clausewitz, Sun Tzu and beyond



Mr. Shakthi De Silva

- Thucydides trap and global power transitions
- Geopolitical reformations in new world order in contrast to globalization



Prof. Gamini Keerawella

- Analysis of geopolitics and strategic environment during Cold War era



Mr. Oscar G. De Soto

- Geostrategic and geopolitical concerns in the context of Post-Cold War era
- Geopolitical dynamics of the Red Sea and East Africa



Dr. Chanaka Thalpathewa

- Elements of statecraft of a country
- Proxy warfare as a Geostrategic tool.



Dr. Chulanee Attanayake

- Foreign policy of a country serves as the front line defence of its Geopolitics
- Sri Lanka's geostrategic position in the Indian Ocean; opportunities and challenges



Dr. Thumira Gunasena

- Navigating Geostrategic issues in world through diplomacy.



Dr. Darshana Baruah

- Geopolitical importance of Indian Ocean region and strategic influence



Maj Gen M Khalid Zaki

- U.S. policy and strategic influence on Indo-pacific region



Prof. Dr Shaheen Akhtar

- Geopolitical concerns of South Asian region
- Climate change is a significant factor in geopolitical instability acting as a 'threat multiplier'



Mr. Mirshohid Aslanor

- Geopolitical concerns in Central Asian republic



Admiral Thisara Samarasinghe (Retd)

- Geopolitical importance and strategic overview on Oceania region



Mr. Mohamed Faslan

- Europe: new world order and security challenges



Admiral Karambir Singh PVSM AVSM IN (Retd)

- Energy Security and Geopolitical importance of the Middle East



Dr. H.E. Kandaudahewa

- Great Power Rivalry between US, China and Russia, and strategic influence on emerging world order



Ms. Piumani Ranasinghe

- Role of Global West against Global South



Prof. Maneesha Pasqual

- Non-state actors: positive and negative role



Dr. Harinda Vidanage

- Crystal Gazing World order - 2050



Dr. Kenneth De Zilwa

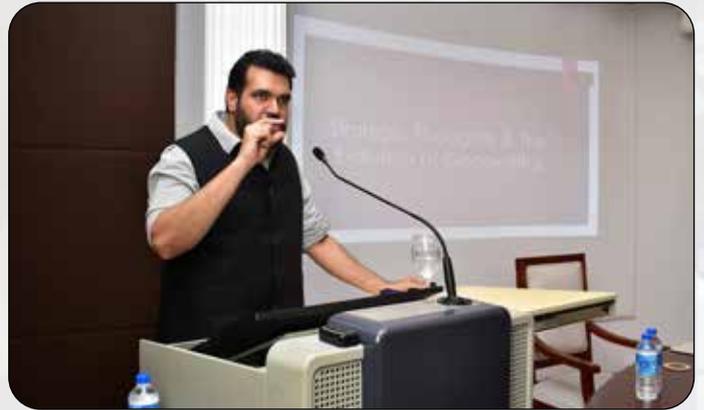
- Weponization of Global supply Chains



Dr. George Cooke

- Importance of Taiwan in on-going global geopolitical

PROGRESS OF THE MODULE









IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 1

Subgroup A - Geopolitics in the 21st Century: Assessing Realism, Critical Geopolitics, and Spatial Strategy in U.S.–China Competition



Commodore MDCPK Gunathilake



Commodore MDCPK Gunathilake

Brigadier KADNR Kannangara

Subgroup B - Strategic Thought Across Eras: A Comparative Evaluation of Clausewitz and Sun Tzu in Historical and Contemporary Contexts



Commodore LADT Shamenda



Brigadier
TLM Chandrasekara

Commodore
LADT Shamenda

Brigadier
KPL Amunupure

Subgroup C - The Thucydides Trap and U.S.–China Tensions in the Contemporary World



Air Commodore SPS Martino



SSP AMUA Athapattu

Air Commodore
SPS Martino

Brigadier MAV Gunarathna

Subgroup D - Explaining U.S.–China Rivalry Through National Interest and Grand Strategy: A Theoretical Analysis with Reference to Taiwan



Brigadier DKCL Perera



Brigadier General
Muhammad

Brigadier
DKCL Perera

Commodore
MADDM Piyathilaka

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 2

Subgroup A - Transformation of the Global Strategic Environment: From the Cold War Era to the Emerging Multipolar Order and Future Outlook



Air Commodore MTN Salgado



Commodore
HIA Gunawardana

Brigadier
DS Horawalavithana

Air Commodore
MTN Salgado

Commodore
Gaurav Singh

Subgroup B - Strategic Competition: Great Power Dynamics and Maritime Security Challenges in the Indo-Pacific



SSP MHKSDS Jayasekara



Brigadier
KADNR Kannangara

SSP
MHKSDS Jayasekara

Group Captain
Walid

Subgroup C - Resource Politics in Africa: How Regional and Global Stability Is Affected by Strategic Rivalries



Commodore CT Gunaratne



Air Commodore
WKASW Vithana

Commodore
CT Gunaratne

Brigadier
MHR Fernando

Subgroup D - Evolution of the International Order from Unipolarity to Multipolarity: Changing Dynamics of Global Politics



Brigadier GADKG Ganegoda



Brigadier
GADKG Ganegoda

Rear Admiral MRJK Bandara

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 3

Subgroup A - Strategic Utilization of Proxy Forces in Modern Conflict: Evolving Paradigms and Geopolitical Implications



SSP KGL Geethal



Brigadier
DIS Jayasinghe

SSP
KGL Geethal

Brigadier
RMC Rathnayake

Subgroup B - Weaponizing Supply Chains: Economic Statecraft and Consequences for Global Integration



Brigadier USB Ratnayake



Colonel
Saif Sulaiman

Brigadier
USB Ratnayake

Air Commodore
PAV Padmaperuma

Subgroup C - Climate Resilience as a Driver of Geopolitical Instability: Resource Scarcity, Migration, and Border Conflicts



Brigadier PWMMD Wijeratne



Brigadier
LHCR Siriwardana

Brigadier
PWMMD Wijeratne

Air Commodore
WASB Weerasekara

Subgroup C - The Demographic Divide: Analyzing the Implications of Demographic Transitions in Asia and Europe



Air Commodore UCJ Piyasena



Colonel
JSA Alamri

Commodore
RJ Walgampaya

Air Commodore
UCJ Piyasena

Brigadier
SNMAB Arambepola

NSSS 2084

NATIONAL SECURITY & POLICY

The National Security & Policy module was conducted from 29th September 2025 to 12th November 2025. This module provided an understanding of national security and policy aiming to equip participants with a broader knowledge base and the skills required to formulate effective strategic plans. Following are the resource persons delivered lectures as stated against.



Dr. Harinda Vidanage

- An overview of what is national security



Dr. Shamini Chandran

- Impacts of ethnic diversity and demography on national security



Dr. George Cooke

- Analysis of pre-colonial environment of national security concerns
- Analysis of post-colonial environment of national security concerns

Mr. Fahad Hussain
(Resource person from Pakistan)

- Instruments of national power
Diplomacy, Information



Air Cdre NK Bala

- Intro to College of Defence Management
- National Interest
- Environment scan
- SWOT exercise consideration



Col PK Chand

- Strategic Management process
- National Security
- Overview of Comprehensive Assessment for Security
- Formulation of short-term strategies through SWOT analysis



Col Vikrant Mittal

- National Power
- Geopolitics
- Formulation of short-term strategies through SWOT analysis



SDIG Sajeewa Medawatta

- Homeland security and protective mechanism



Maj Gen Ruwan Wanigasooriya (Retd)

- Intelligence and analysis of national security and crisis management



Prof. Praveen Abhayarathne

- Border security, illegal immigrants and action of far-right movements



Adm Priyantha Perera (Retd)

- Application of hard power, soft power and smart power



Prof. Ranjana Senavirathna

- Importance of health and health security



RAdm Damian Fernando

- Maritime strategy and Maritime Domain Awareness



Adm (Prof) Jayanath Colombage (Retd)

- Power balance and good governance in order to ensure



RAdm YN Jayarathne (Retd)

- Sri Lanka model of national security



Dr. Namali Sirisoma

- Importance of transport and transport security



RAdm Rohan Joseph

- Role of Sri Lanka Coast Guard in national security

PROGRESS OF THE MODULE









CONDUCT OF THE 'NET ASSESSMENT' CAPSULE

Five days 'Net Assessment' capsule was conducted from 13th to 17th October 2025, with the assistance of the College of Defence Management (CDM), India.

Throughout the session, participants engaged in lectures, case studies, and practical exercises designed to broaden their understanding of comparative assessment in security and defence contexts.





HAPPY HOUR WITH THE INDIAN CDM DELEGATION



IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 1

Subgroup A - Impacts of Transnational Threats on the Internal Stability of Sri Lanka



Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana



Air Commodore WKASW Vithana

Brigadier LHCR Siriwardana

Brigadier USB Ratnayake

Subgroup B - Radicalization, Extremism, and Terrorism: Regional Lessons for National Resilience



Brigadier DIS Jayasinghe



SSP KGL Geethal

Brigadier DIS Jayasinghe

Rear Admiral MRJK Bandara

Subgroup C - Diplomacy as a Pillar of National Security: Theoretical Foundations and Strategic Applications



Commodore RJ Walgampaya



Brigadier RMC Rathnayake

Air Commodore MTN Salgado

Commodore RJ Walgampaya

Commodore Gaurav Singh

Subgroup D - Cybersecurity Governance in South Asia: A Comparative Study of Sri Lanka's Institutional Resilience and Policy Effectiveness



Air Commodore PAV Padmaperuma



Colonel Saif Sulaiman

Air Commodore PAV Padmaperuma

Brigadier SNMAB Arambepola

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 2

Subgroup A - Social Uprisings in Nepal: Lessons for Good Governance and National Security



Brigadier KPL Amunupure



Air Commodore
SPS Martino

Brigadier
KPL Amunupure

Brigadier
KADNR Kannangara

Staff Colonel
Y M A Alzahrani

Subgroup B - Managing Public Dissent, Institutional Resilience, and Security: Insights from Armenia's Velvet Revolution



Air Commodore WASB Weerasekara



Commodore
MDCPK Gunathilake

Air Commodore
WASB Weerasekara

Brigadier
DKCL Perera

Subgroup C - Democracy and Dissent: Lessons from Ukraine's 2004 Orange Revolution



Brigadier TLM Chandrasekara



SSP
AMUA Athapattu

Brigadier
TLM Chandrasekara

Commodore
LADT Shamenda

Colonel
Jamal

Subgroup D - Unfinished Social Movement: Implications of the 2005 Tulip Revolution in Kyrgyzstan



Commodore MADDM Piyathilaka



Air Commodore
UCJ.Piyasena

Commodore
MADDM Piyathilaka

Brigadier
PWMDM Wijeratne

IAG Presentations of Syndicate - 3

Subgroup A - Spillover Effects of Middle East Conflicts on National Security



Commodore HIA Gunawardana



Brigadier General
MA Haider Siddiqui

Commodore
HIA Gunawardana

Brigadier
GADKG Ganegoda

Subgroup B - Indo-Pacific Geopolitical Competition and Its Impact on Sri Lanka's National Security



Brigadier MAV Gunarathna



Colonel
AHH Alsubaie

Brigadier
MAV Gunarathna

Commodore
CT Gunaratne

Subgroup C - South Asian Instability and Spillover Effects on Sri Lanka's National Security



Brigadier DS Horawalavithana



Brigadier
DS Horawalavithana

Brigadier
DDGA Jayawardane

Subgroup D - The Ukraine Conflict and Europe's Geopolitical Security Shifts: Implications for Sri Lanka's National Security



Brigadier PWMMD Wijeratne



Brigadier
PWMMD Wijeratne

SSP
MHKSDS Jayasekara

LOCAL VISITS

Local visits to important institutions were organized for the course participants during the first semester as a part of the training in the academic discipline of Security and Strategic Studies. Accordingly, course participants were taken on various research visits to KDU Library, Colombo National Museum, Department of National Archives, Biyagama Board of Investment Zone, and Southern Coast including Galle fort and Mirissa Coast Guard Headquarters.



KDU



THE NATIONAL MUSEUM COLOMBO



DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL ARCHIVES



GALLE FORT SLCG ROHANA



VISIT TO TRINCOMALEE



BOI SRI LANKA



SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY



SRI LANKA AIR FORCE
BASE KATUNAYAKE

VISIT TO THE KDU LIBRARY

The CPs engaged on a course visit to the KDU Library on 24th January 2025 enabling them to gather important information on the facilities and resources that are available for them in supplementing the facilities available at the NDC.



THE COLOMBO NATIONAL MUSEUM

The Course participants visited the National Museum Colombo on 15th February 2025.



DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Participants of NS&SS course no. 04 visited the department of national archives on 28th march 2025 as part of their academic activities in par with the 'Sri Lankan studies' module. The visit aimed to enhance participants' understanding of archival management, historical documentation and national heritage preservation. Also, the visit provided an opportunity for interactive discussions on how archival records contribute to researches with practical exposure to the preservation labs, digitalization units and historical records repository.





GALLE FORT & SRI LANKA COAST GUARD ROHANA

Galle Fort & Sri Lanka Coast Guard Rohana Visit on 22nd February 2025





VISIT TO TRINCOMALEE

The course participants along with their spouses had an opportunity of visiting the Strategic Naval Command at Naval Dockyard, Trincomalee from 07th to 10th April 2025. During the study tour, various educational and interactive sessions were organized in line with the NDC course curriculum to enhance the strategic thinking and to get first-hand information about the political strategic mechanism of Eastern Province, role and tasks of the prestigious Eastern Command of the Sri Lanka Navy, role of ground forces and how Army, Navy and Air Force activate a joint mechanism in multi ethnic and multi religious environment. On board visits to the capital ships, naval museum, comprehensive presentations and excursions in the region were considered as memorable events during the visit.



VIR CAMP BOYAGANE





NAVY LAKE ONE HOTEL





CALL ON WITH GOVERNOR OF EASTERN PROVINCE



BOAT RIDE FOR LADIES



CALL ON WITH EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND







RELEASING STRESS AT 'Elephant Point'





SIGIRIYA





BOARD OF INVESTMENT (BOI) ZONE - BIYAGAMA

To gain practical exposure and wider knowledge on the economic sphere, Course Participants visited Biyagama BOI Zone on 30th May 2025, in par with the 'Economic Security: Regional and Global Compulsions' module.

Zone Director, Mr. Kitsiri Kumarasinghe and Senior Deputy Director (Zone Management) Mr. Dhammika Basnaike conducted presentations providing an opportunity for interesting interactive discussion. The Course Participants were also given the opportunity to witness operations at Sri Lanka Gama Center; the Multipurpose Gamma Irradiation Facility belonging to the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board.



SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY - COLOMBO

Course Participants visited Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) Colombo on 12th September 2025. The visit was designed to provide a better exposure to one of the main economic hubs of the country.

The Harbour Master (SLPA) Mr. Nimal Silva, Director Security AVM Dilshan Wasage (Retd) and the staff extended their fullest support to ensure the success of the visit.

Course Participants received detailed briefing on operational functions, maritime logistics and the strategic role of the port of Colombo in the realm of regional and global trade.



SRI LANKA AIR FORCE BASE - KATUNAYAKE

As part of the strategic field study program, Course Participants visited Air Force Base Katunayake on 7th August 2025. The visit provided with valuable insights into the operational function and strategic role & responsibilities of the Sri Lanka Air Force Base Katunayake.

Visit was well organized by the Base Commander, Air Commodore AV Jayasekara and his able team under the guidance of the Commander of the Air Force. Visit commenced with a comprehensive briefing followed by visits to key engineering formations and terminated with a lovely interaction and delicious lunch.





INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE STUDY PROGRAM (ICSP)

REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

Sri Lankan NDC Delegation visited Republic of Indonesia to gain exposure, expertise ideas and better understanding on functions of Indonesian military and government establishments.



REPUBLIC OF INDIA

Sri Lankan NDC Delegation visited India to gain exposure, expertise ideas and better understanding on functions of Indian military and government establishments.



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

Sri Lankan NDC Delegation visited Islamic Republic of Pakistan to gain exposure, expertise ideas and better understanding on functions of Pakistan military and government establishments.



DINERS' CLUB

Diners Club' is one of the key events in the academic calendar in which intellectuals from different spheres are invited to share their wealth of knowledge and experience with CPs. Selection of Guest Speakers is at the high caliber resource persons; local or overseas, at the level of Ambassadors/High Commissioners, Entrepreneurs, Important Personnel in government or private sector or Renown Social Activists. The topic for the speech will be determined either based on the current module or at the speaker's discretion.

1ST DINERS' CLUB

On the invitation of the Commandant NDC, US Ambassador to SL, Ambassador Julie Chung delivered a speech on the topic of 'Economic Security and its Relation to Sovereignty' on 27th March 2025 at the first diners' club gathering held with the participation of the spouses of the course participants and the staff.





2ND DINNERS CLUB

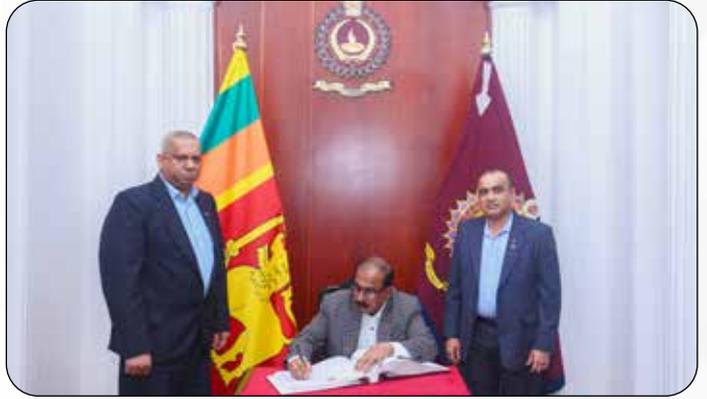
On the invitation of the Commandant NDC, HE Paul Stephens, Australian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, delivered a speech on the topic of 'Australia's Interest in Strengthening Sri Lanka's Resilience as an Indian Ocean Partner' on 5th June 2025 at the second diners' club gathering which was made colourful by the presence of the spouses of the course members.





3RD DINNERS CLUB

On the invitation of the Commandant NDC, Honourable Deputy Minister of Defence, Major General Aruna Jayasekara (Retd) WWV RSP VSV USP ndc psc, honoured NDC with his gracious presence at the 'Diners' Club' on 31st July 2025 and delivered a speech on the topic of 'New Era of Good Governance and Future Challengers of Sri Lanka'.

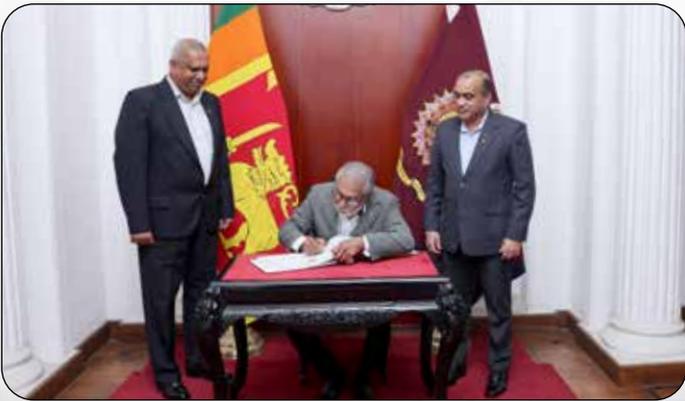




4TH DINNERS CLUB

Admiral Travis Sinnaiah (Retd), WWV RWP RSP VSV USP psc, the 21st Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy, honoured NDC-SL by attending the Diners' Club on 8 October 2025. He delivered an inspiring address on "The Ideal and the Reality," emphasising the need for an indigenous defence doctrine, followed by an engaging dialogue with Course Participants.





NATIONAL DAYS OF CELEBRATION

BANGLADESH

Celebration of People's Republic of Bangladesh National Day on 26th March 2025



INDIA

Celebrations of Republic of Indian National Day on 15th August 2025



DELEGATION VISITS

NDC PAKISTAN

A group of 9 Senior Officers from Pakistan National Defence University (NDU), headed by Air Commodore Muhammad Suleman Ghani, visited NDC on 8th May 2025 as part of their 'Overseas Study Tour'. NDC warmly welcomed the delegation, fostering an atmosphere of camaraderie and professional exchange.

The NDC Academic Coordinator conducted a presentation on the NDC Sri Lanka followed by a presentation made by a member of the visiting delegation on NDU Pakistan. Later, the delegation visited the NDC library, a donation made by the Government of Pakistan in 2021. During the visit, both parties engaged in a productive discussion on each other's academic framework further strengthening the longstanding ties between the two countries



INDIAN DEFENCE SECRETARY

Defence Secretary of India, Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, visited NDC on 06th June 2025 and delivered a keynote address titled "India - Sri Lanka Partnership for Shared Prosperity, Peace and Stability in the Indian Ocean Region" to the course members. He threw light on valuable insights on the shared security challenges in the IOR, the evolving contours of the India Sri Lanka defence partnership, and the potential avenues for collaboration in the future.





COMMANDER U.S. INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND ADMIRAL SAMUEL J. PAPARO

On 20th March 2025, Admiral Samuel Paparo, Commander U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, made an official visit to the NDC which is considered as the first instance of a high calibre Senior Military Officer from USA payed a visit to a higher military training institution in Sri Lanka, in recent history. During his address he highlighted the Geostrategic importance and complex security challenges of the Indo-Pacific region and emphasized the value of collaborative efforts to address these challenges.



COMMANDANT OF BANGLADESH DSC&SC

Visit of Major General Chowdhury Mohammad Azizul Haque Hazary OSP SGP nde pse MPhil the Commandant, Defence Services Command and Staff College, Bangladesh on Thursday, 26 June 2025



PARTICIPANTS OF INDIAN NDC

A group of 16 Course Participants from Indian National Defence College (NDC), headed by Senior Directing Staff (Army- II) Major General Pavanpal Singh, visited NDC on 1st September 2025 as part of their 'Strategic neighbourhood study tour' (SNST).

Commandant of NDC warmly welcomed the delegation, fostering an atmosphere of camaraderie and professional exchange. During the visits both parties engaged in a productive discussion on each other's academic framework further strengthening the longstanding ties between two countries.



INDIAN NAVY CHIEF OF STAFF

The Chief of the Naval Staff of Indian Navy, Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi PVSM AVSM NM visited NDC on 23rd September 2025. Commandant welcomed the Indian Naval chief upon the arrival.

After the call-on at commandant's office, Chief of the Indian Naval Staff addressed course participants, sharing valuable perspectives on requirement of a regional maritime security for transforming geopolitics, changing structural dynamic in the region, global prosperity through technology and importance of regional cooperation for maritime domain awareness. Further, during the address, Admiral Tripathi emphasized the importance of strong defence ties between India and Sri Lanka.



PARTICIPANTS OF AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE COLLEGE

A group of 19 members from the Australian Defence College, headed by Colonel Brandon Wood, visited NDC on 22nd October 2025 as part of their Field Application and Research Visit program.

The delegation was welcomed by the Commandant. Followed by a detailed briefing on academic structure of the NDC-SL, a member of the delegation conducted a presentation on Australia National Defence Strategy 2024. The session was followed by an interactive discussion with the course participants.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays of Course Participants were celebrated as per the NDC tradition at the officers' mess during the morning tea break with the participation of the faculty.

Month of January



Month of February



Month of March



Month of July 2025



Month of September



Month of October



ADDRESS BY THE HIERARCHY

At the culmination of the National Security and Policy module, the Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, Air Vice Marshal Sampath Thuyacontha (Retd) delivered a speech on the title of 'Contemporary Challenges and National Security of Sri Lanka' on 6th November 2025. The Commander of the Air Force Air Marshal Vasu Bandu Edirisinghe, Commander of the Navy, Vice Admiral Kanchana Banagoda and Commander of the Army, Lieutenant General Lasantha Rodrigo addressed the course participants on their respective institutional concerns on National Security, prior to the culmination.

Address by the Commander of the Air Force (31st October 2025)



Address by the Commander of the Navy (03rd November 2025)



Address by the Commander of the Army (5th November 2025)



Address by the Secretary to the Ministry of Defence (6th November 2025)



COURTESY CALL BY THE TRI-FORCES COMMANDERS AND INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE

AIR FORCE

The comadant, faculty, Course Participants and their Ladies were hosted by the Com-mander of the Air Force at the Officers Mess SLAF Base Ratmalana on 12th November 2025.





NAVY

The comadant, faculty, Course Participants and their Ladies were hosted by the Commander of the Navy at the Wardroom, Western Naval Command 'Rangala' on 17th November 2025.





POLICE

The comadant, faculty, Course Participants and their Ladies were hosted by the Inspector General of the Police for Dinner at Senior Police Officers Mess on 18th November 2025.





ARMY

The faculty, Course Participants and their Ladies were hosted by the Commander of the Army at the Grand Maitland, Colombo on 23rd November 2025





GRADUATION

The Graduation Ceremony of the NDC NS&SS Course No 04 was held on 27th November 2025 at the FGS Auditorium at KDU. Major General Aruna Jayasekara (Retd) Honourable Deputy Minister of Defence, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.









CLOSING ADDRESS

The Commandant, Major General Chamila Munasinghe, delivered the Closing Address on 27th November 2025 at the FGS Auditorium at KDU. At this occasion the Commandant congratulated all course participants for successfully completing the course meeting the NDC expectations and thank all the members the faculty and staff for their hard work during the program.



GRADUATION DINNER

The Graduation Dinner of the NDC Course No 04 was held on 27th November 2025 at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo. The Commandant NDC graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. A course gift was presented to the NDC by the Course Participants during the dinner.







THE EDITORIAL

CHIEF EDITOR



Air Commodore
Sujeewa Ponnampereuma

MEMBERS OF EDITORIAL COMMITTEE



Brigadier
Sudheera Jayasinghe



Brigadier
Manjula Wijeratne



Air Commodore
Samantha Weerasekara



Brigadier
Manjula Chandrasekara



Commodore
Indika Gunawardana



SSP
Laksiri Geethal



Commodore
Chaminda Gunaratne



Air Commodore
Vasantha
Padmaperuma



Commodore
Pradeep Gunathilaka



Air Commodore
Uditha Piyasena

THE PERMANENT STAFF



Seated Left to Right

Cdr GWMP Kumara, Capt PS Paranavithana, Col WAWT Sujith, RAdm SP Kathriarachchi, Brig KMG Bandaranayake, Maj Gen CS Munasinghe, Brig MMT Bandara, Air Cdre ES Ponnamparuma, Col KJACP Jayawardana, Lt Col VNM Jayasekera

First Row Left to Right

Maj NGT Yushan, Maj PA Bamunuge, Maj EDAN Ranasinghe, Ft Lt HDV Jayasinghe, Lt(QM) JAL Jayawardana, Lt ATN Athukorala, Capt BAI Herath, LCdr JGGD Jayasinghe, Ft Lt KAUM Kuruppu, Maj HKWSamarasekara

SUPPORTING STAFF

The strength behind the success at the NDC



Seated Left to Right

Sgt Thennakoon TMDS, F/Sgt Liyanage HMCD, CPO RPPA Bandara, Sgt Prasad MGRW, WO II Kumara LLWPB, WO I I GCB Ilukgoda USP, WO II Kulathunga IGJK RSP, WO I NWE Priyantha, WO II Gunathilake KMS, S/Sgt Punchihewa RSGW, F/Sgt Perera NSH, Sgt Maduranga SWS, CPO Abeysinghe

First Row Left to Right

L/C Dilrukshi MKN, CPL Rathnayake KMAL, PVT Chandraweera NNDA, CPL Bandara UMCS, L/C Anthony DRP, L/C Kumara EKM, CPL Dilantha AMK, CPL Rajapaksha L, CPL Weerasinghe WDJNK, L/B Herath MHMW, CPL Piyarathne GBA, CPL Janaka Madusanka K, CPL Wijesinghe HNPk, L/C Kumara EKM, SGT Dharmasena RDCK, PVT Sandhakeelum GGC

Second Row Left to Right

CPL Kanakarathna HM, SGT Karunaratne KGEB, SGT Abeysekera WASP, LAC Rajapaksha, SGT Samaranyake BRL, CPL Sri Lal IWI, CPL Arshaka WAADDL, CPL Michel RPCNK, LAC Saman Kumara A, LAC Jayawardhane JUKJ, SGT Lakmal AVL, LAC Anuruddha KWD, LAC Dissanayake MPS, LAC Pranandu WWSND, LAC Gunasinghe KANN

Third Row Left to Right

Wtr WLT Apeksha, LIT SSS Samarasinghe, PO LRA Chaturanga, LPRO AB Wijesinghe, TA MKGSK Ranathunga, TA WMST Karunaratne, ME NDVB Weerasinghe, LST TPC Sampath, ME JALJN Jayarathne, RPS Kumara



NDC 2025

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