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USI

(Estd. 1870)

OUR ACTIVITIES

Centre for Military History and Conflict Studies (CMHCS)

The CMHCS was established in Dec 2000 at the behest of the three Service Headquarters for encouraging an objective study of all facets of Indian military history with a special emphasis on the history of the Indian Armed Forces. It focuses on diverse aspects of the history of Indian military evolution, policies, and practices—strategic, tactical, logistical, organisational, socioeconomic, as well as the field of contemporary conflict studies in the broader sense.

Centre for Atma Nirbhar Bharat (CANB)

The centre was established on 01 Jan 2024 and also includes Cyber Centre of Excellence (CCoE) as part of it in conjunction with Cyber Peace Foundation. The centre's objective is to forge emerging technologies with geostrategic and geopolitical situations with a view to make the services self-reliant by making possible the indigenous production of defence equipment and spares. The CCoE trains military personnel in artificial intelligence, cyber, and machine learning in addition to cyber forensic analysis in its well-equipped lab.

Gold Medal Essay Competition

every year the Institution organises a Gold Medal Essay Competition open to all officers. These essays, the first one of which was introduced in 1871, constitutes a barometer of opinions on matters that affect national security in general and the defence forces in particular.

USI War Wounded Foundation Joint Essay Competition

This essay competition was instituted in 2021 after the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between USI and the War Wounded Foundation. The competition is open to all across the globe and must be on the subject of issues relating to the experiences and/or rehabilitation of war disabled personnel of the Indian Armed Forces.

Lt Gen SL Menezes Memorial Essay Competition

This has been instituted from 2015 on a subject related to armed forces historical research. The essay competition is open to everyone, all across the globe.

Lectures, Discussions, and Seminars

A series of lectures, discussions, and seminars on service matters, international affairs, and topics of general interest to the services are organised for the benefit of local members in Delhi

MacGregor Medal

This medal is awarded to armed forces personnel for valuable reconnaissance and adventure activity they may have undertaken.

Centre for Strategic Studies and Simulation (CS3)

The erstwhile Centre for Research and its resources have been merged into the new centre named as CS3 w.e.f. 01 Jan 2005. The centre aims at conducting detailed and comprehensive enquiry research, and analyses of national and international security related issues, and gaming and simulation of strategic scenarios, to evolve options for wider discussion and consideration.

Centre for UN Peacekeeping (CUNPK)

The centre was established in 2000 and functioned with USI to organise workshops, seminars, and training capsules for peacekeepers, observers, and staff officers, both Indian and foreign. It also oversaw the practical training of Indian contingents. In Aug 2014, CUNPK moved out under the Integrated Headquarter of Ministry of Defence (Army). The USI has now established a United Nations (UN) Centre which is focusing on operational, strategic, and policy issues related to UN Peacekeeping. It also organises seminars and conferences on such issues.

Correspondence Courses

The Institution runs regular correspondence courses for officers of the armed forces to assist them in preparing for promotion examinations, and for the entrance examinations to the Defence Services Staff College and the Technical Staff College. Over the years, this has been significant and well-received activity.

USI Journal

The USI Journal is the oldest surviving defence journal in the country and in Asia, having first appeared in 1871. In the era when there is a feeling that free expression of views by defence personnel is not looked upon kindly by the establishment, the journal in fact provides just such a forum, without regard to seniority and length of service in the armed forces, subject to propriety and quality of the written work.

Library and Reading Room

The library holds over 68,000 books and journals, including some books from the 17th, 18th, and 19th Centuries, on an astonishing variety of subjects. While the principal emphasis is on strategy and defence, there are a large number of works on different vistas of Indian life. There are memoirs, biographies, recollections, diaries, journals and manuscripts for scholars and researchers. The reading room is airconditioned, spacious and well-stocked in terms of current reading material. Library was automated in 2002.