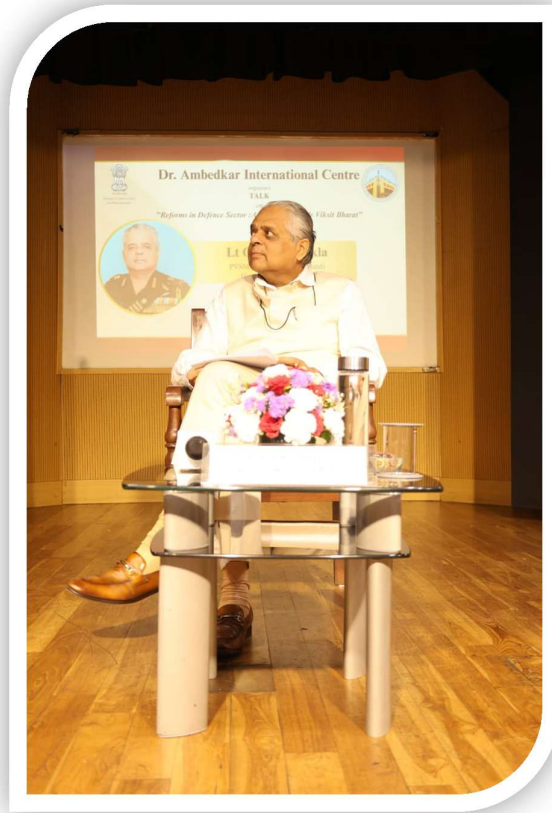


---

**EVENT REPORT**

---



**TALK SESSION ON**

**“Reforms in Defence Sector:  
Advancing Towards Viksit Bharat”**

**Speaker: Lt. Gen. Raj Shukla, PVSM, YSM, SM (Retd.)**

*Hon'ble Member, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)*

**07 August 2026 | Nalanda Hall, DAIC, New Delhi**

## EVENT OVERVIEW

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Event</b>        | Talk Session on “Reforms in Defence Sector: Advancing Towards Viksit Bharat”                                                                                                         |
| <b>Date</b>         | 07 August 2026                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Venue</b>        | Nalanda Hall, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC), 15, Janpath, New Delhi – 110001                                                                                              |
| <b>Organised By</b> | Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC)                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Speaker</b>      | Lt. Gen. Raj Shukla, PVSM, YSM, SM (Retd.), Hon’ble Member, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)                                                                                   |
| <b>Attendance</b>   | Approximately 100 participants, including Cadets Academy students, Library students, DAIC Interns, Research Associates, Associate Professors, Young Professionals and UPSC aspirants |

A Talk Session on “Reforms in Defence Sector: Advancing Towards Viksit Bharat” was organised by the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC) on 07 August 2026 at Nalanda Hall, DAIC, New Delhi.

The session was delivered by Lt. Gen. Raj Shukla, PVSM, YSM, SM (Retd.), Member, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). The programme was attended by the Director, DAIC, who welcomed and felicitated the distinguished speaker. The session was attended by approximately 100 participants, including students of Cadets Academy, Library students, DAIC interns, Research Associates, Associate Professors, Young Professionals and other UPSC aspirants.

## ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER

In his address, Lt. Gen. Raj Shukla highlighted the rapidly changing nature of warfare and the growing role of technology and innovation in strengthening national security. He discussed the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence, drones, autonomous systems, cyber capabilities, space technologies and electronic warfare on modern military operations. He emphasised that technological innovation is increasingly enabling faster intelligence gathering, decision-making and precision in military operations.

The speaker underlined the need for India to strengthen its indigenous technological capabilities and defence innovation ecosystem. He emphasised the importance of research and development, start-ups, private sector participation and young technological talent in achieving strategic self-reliance and building future defence capabilities. He particularly encouraged the younger generation to contribute to emerging areas such as AI, drones, cyber security, space and autonomous technologies.



*Lt. Gen. Raj Shukla addressing the gathering at the podium*



*The speaker on stage during the talk session*

## STRATEGIC AND GEOPOLITICAL PERSPECTIVES

The discussion also focused on India's strategic and geopolitical challenges, particularly the importance of technological preparedness and credible deterrence. Speaking on Aatmanirbharta, Lt. Gen. Raj Shukla highlighted the growing contribution of start-ups and the private sector, while stressing that Indian enterprises must develop the capacity to compete effectively at the global level.

## QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

An engaging Question-and-Answer Session followed, during which participants raised questions concerning India's relations with China, national security, self-reliance, sanctions, technological innovation and the qualities required for public service. The interaction provided valuable insights to the students, young professionals and UPSC aspirants.



*Participants attentively engaging with the speaker*



*A wide view of the audience during the session*

---

## CONCLUSION

---

Overall, the session successfully highlighted the importance of defence reforms, technological transformation, indigenous innovation and strategic preparedness in India's journey towards Viksit Bharat 2047. The active participation of the diverse audience contributed significantly to making the programme an informative and meaningful platform for dialogue and learning.

---

## GLIMPSES OF THE EVENT

---



*National Anthem being sung at the commencement of the programme*



*Participating students with faculty members at the venue*

---