

**ADDRESS BY THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA
SMT DROUPADI MURMU
ON THE OCCASION OF CALL ON BY THE PROBATIONERS
OF MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES**

Rashtrapati Bhavan, June 25, 2026

Dear Officer Trainees,

I congratulate each one of you on becoming a part of the Military Engineer Services, an organisation that has played a very important role in strengthening the nation's defence infrastructure.

The MES forms the backbone of defence infrastructure in our country. MES is responsible for creating and maintaining defence infrastructure for the Indian Armed Forces. By developing and maintaining strategic installations, MES plays a vital role in strengthening the operational capabilities of our Armed Forces. The skill, dedication and hard work of the Military Engineer Service officers are fundamental to ensuring that our soldiers, sailors, and air warriors can perform their duties of defending the nation effectively and efficiently.

As young officers, you are the custodians of a proud legacy and the architects of India's future defence infrastructure. I urge you to uphold the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, technical excellence and dedication to duty. You should embrace innovation, leverage emerging technologies and strive for excellence in every project you undertake. Your leadership, commitment and vision will shape the future of not only this organisation but also of our great nation.

Dear Officer Trainees,

In today's world, marked by conflicts and geopolitical tensions, self-reliance has become a strategic necessity for nations. A self-reliant country is better equipped to maintain its economic stability and

undertake developmental priorities during times of crisis. This was evident during Operation Sindoor, which highlighted how indigenous defence capabilities, advanced technology, and a robust domestic industrial base are integral to enhancing operational readiness and strategic effectiveness of a nation.

I am happy to note that MES is promoting and using Made in India products. It is also working towards realization of the vision of Atma-Nirbhar Bharat. I urge the young officers to develop and implement the latest and advanced technologies in all fields of construction and maintenance.

In the recent years, we have seen the increasing participation of women in every field, including in the Armed Forces and defence establishments. Across the Army, Navy, Air Force, and supporting organisations, women are breaking barriers and excelling in roles that were once considered beyond their reach. Their professionalism, leadership, courage, and commitment have enriched our institutions and strengthened our national defence. I hope to see women officers of MES in the upcoming batches. A diverse and inclusive workforce not only reflects the values of our Constitution but also enhances organisational effectiveness and innovation.

Dear officers,

Today, the world is facing climate change and various environmental challenges. In this scenario, sustainable development is no longer an option, but a necessity. As engineers, you have the responsibility to promote environmentally sustainable practices in planning, construction, and maintenance. You should follow our timeless values, which teach us to respect and protect nature. You must adopt green technologies, conserve energy and water, increase green cover, minimise waste, and integrate sustainability into every aspect of your work. Infrastructure that is resilient, efficient, and environmentally responsible will not only serve the needs of today but also safeguard the interests of future generations. I am happy to know that MES is showing a strong commitment towards

environmental sustainability through the adoption of GRIHA-compliant building practices, energy-efficient designs, rainwater harvesting systems, and other green initiatives.

Your efforts should contribute not only to a strong and secure India but also to a clean, green, and sustainable India. I am confident that through your dedication, innovation and commitment to service, you will continue to uphold the finest traditions of the Military Engineer Services and contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat.

I extend my best wishes to all of you for a bright future and wish you many fruitful years in the service of the nation.

Thank you,
Jai Hind!
Jai Bharat!