The last full quarter of the year has been extremely exciting & challenging, with events moving at a frenetic pace to virtually tumble into each other to create a kaleidoscopic mosaic, even as it saw us celebrating the first anniversary of this publication. Beginning with the meticulously organised Independence Day security envelope & culminating with the enthralling 33rd Raising Day Celebrations, the period saw the pathmaking K-9 Seminar by NSG, the whirlwind countrywide motorcycle expedition spreading CT awareness, our foray into the valley to add value to the existing operational apparatus, & topped up by the summiting of the Nun Peak by our mountaineering team as the perfect icing on the cake. We were deeply honoured by the presence of the Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, along with a galaxy of national & international dignitaries for our Raising Day function, which provided us an opportunity to showcase our high degree of operational readiness & daredevilry, egged on by a hugely appreciative spectators' gallery. I must place on record my appreciation for the superlative effort of every member of our team in making all these events enduring success stories. Training has been an area of our constant focus with the Training Centre leading the way in improving the quality of commandos donning the “Black Dungarees”. We have earnestly endeavoured to improve our technological threshold by modernising our equipment profile, while carrying on with our quest for being “Scholar Warriors” through various intellectual stimuli. Towards the end, the Annual Group Commanders Conference provided us an ideal platform to review our operational & training ethos to drive the course correction for being a “world class zero error force”.

In yet another sterling initiative, NSG completed its seminal trilogy by organising a K-9 seminar on 07 & 08 Sep 2017, close on the heels of CT & Aviation Seminars in Feb 17 & Jul 17, respectively. It has served to underscore the importance of the role played by the man’s best friend “the canine” in our fight against terrorism. The presence of Shri Kiren Rijiju, Hon’ble Minister of State for Home Affairs; Govt of India, Shri K Vijay Kumar, IPS (Retd) Sr Security Advisor, MHA & Lt Gen AJ Singh, VSM, DG, RVS only highlighted the need for such measures. The event brought together subject experts from across the country and foreign shores to deliberate on key topics of relevance for the K-9 community. The seminar saw the evolving cutting-edge technology & techniques on display in the fields of training & tactics on employment of the “commando-K-9” team. The intellect & ferocity of the force multipliers left everyone awestruck. The K-9 team of the NSG has gained invaluable lessons from the experience which will help us to improve our preparedness through requisite steps at all the required levels.
THE K-9 SEMINAR

A MAN'S BEST FRIEND, INDEED
The 33rd Raising Day on 16 Oct 2017 was the focal point during the quarter, with a series of activities organised to specifically mark the occasion. The NSG Commandos showcased their multitude of skills on varying platforms to commemorate the event. NSG was privileged with the presence of the Honourable Vice President of India, Shri Venkaiah Naidu to witness the breathtaking demonstration of courage, dexterity & superlative operational proficiency. He added flavour to the occasion by releasing the NSG First Day Cover. A solemn wreath laying ceremony, a stimulating Raising Day Lecture by Shri Shakti Sinha, IAS (Retd), Director, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, flagging- in of the Motor Cycle expedition, release of the Black Cat Journal & a golf tournament marked the occasion. The event concluded with a festive barakhana which allowed all ranks of the Black Cat fraternity to intermingle and unwind after some hectic preparations. The DG felicitated the Veer Naries and awards were given away for professional competitions.
In another first, a NSG Motorcycle Expedition Team was flagged off by Shri Kiren Rijiju, Honourable Minister of State for Home Affairs, Govt of India on 07 Sep 2017. In a superlative effort of endurance & perseverance, the 34 member team travelled for 40 days across 13 States, covering almost 8000 Kms to generate awareness about the “Need for Collective Responsibility” to fight terrorism as one strong nation. The overwhelming response of the citizenry & State Police Forces for the cause has strengthened our resolve to protect the nation with all our might.

In another pioneering initiative, NSG scaled the Nun Peak. Overcoming daunting challenges of time & clime, a 26 member team summited the 7135m Nun Peak in the Himalayas to add another glorious chapter under the guidance of Brig Ashok Abbey, AVSM (Retd). Forays into uncharted territories have been adding aura to the already haloed profile of NSG.

The tri colour was proudly hoisted at the HQ NSG complex on an imposing 100ft high mast on the Independence Day by the proud pioneers of the force – Shri RT Nagrani, IPS (Retd), first DG & Maj Gen Naresh Kumar, PVSM, the first IG of NSG along with Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, MP & Mr Surinder Singh, MLA, a NSG veteran. The flag presents a delightful landmark within the city’s landscape, visible from several vantage points including all landing aircrafts!

March Towards Being Scholar Warriors

The desire for learning has been getting stronger over the past one year. The stimulating sessions on national security issues have lit up the fire for greater seeking. Incisive lectures from leading strategists have kept the momentum going.

- Shri Ashok Prasad, IPS (Retd), Advisor (Technical), MHA, ex DGP J&K
- Dr P Kumarauguru, Associate Prof, IIIT Delhi
- Shri Shakti Sinha, IAS (Retd) Director, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library
Another batch of 830 spirited commandos, eager to don the Black Dungarees, got inducted post the gruelling CCC- 3&4.

The Annual Group Commanders Conference on 11 & 12 Oct 2017 saw the entire senior leadership of NSG descend on the Manesar Garrison to discuss the future strategy. Two days of threadbare discussions have provided the direction for future course of action.

Rank & file of NSG came together to pledge their commitment to nation building on the National Unity Day.

The Police Commemoration Day on 21 Oct 2017 was an apt reminder of the sacrifices being made by the security forces personnel in the line of duty. A sombre ceremony at Manesar War Memorial marked the occasion. The Police Medal Ceremony acknowledged the stupendous effort being put in by the same fraternity by awarding their courage & valour in a glittering ceremony at HQ NSG in the eminent presence of DG of BSF, CRPF, ITBP & CISF, Special Secy Internal Security & Special Dir IB.
The Marathon fever caught up with the campus, with almost the entire garrison seen practising at all conceivable hours. The mega event on the Gandhi Jayanti saw enthusiastic participation from all age groups ranging from 05 yrs to 65 yrs in various categories. Iconic Pugilist, Vijender Kumar added the glamour quotient, giving away prizes, while throwing a few shadow punches to the crowd’s delight. Everyone once again put on their running shoes for the “Run for Unity” to mark the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.

The sporting calendar came alive with some spirited competitive streaks coming to the fore. The keenly contested Football & Basketball championships saw amazing talent on display, where josh & verve more than made up for everything else. The Messiz’ of HQ CTF overcame a power packed push from the Ronaldoz’ of Training Centre to lift the trophy in a perfect curtain raiser to the FIFA U-19 World Cup! The Hoopsters of 52 SAG fought tooth & nail to fend off a spirited challenge from the Cagers of Training Centre to bag the coveted Basketball Trophy. The Tigerz & McIlroyz of the NSG Golf Team set the ITC Manesar Greens on fire against the Johnsonz’ & Jasonz’ of the tour, giving a laudable account of their prowling prowess.

The festival of light came early, extending into the joyous mood of Raising Day celebrations. The impressive Diwali Mela, inaugurated with traditional gaiety by Mrs Anita Bakshi, set the lone for festivities all around the Manesar Campus. It was heartwarming to see kids lead the way in a green, virtually cracker & pollution free merrymaking.

The Ankur Play School for kids got a shot in the arm with inauguration of a new building to house all the separate entities together for a more efficient & viable management.