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Editorial

November and December of 2016 were busy months for IMF. The Annual IMF Seminar on 10th November followed by the Remembrance Day on 20th November and celebration of the Anniversary of IMF's founding on 18th December, were the highlights of the last quarter of 2016.

The theme for this year's seminar was 'International Jointmanship in the Constabulary Role'.

The theme was significant in the context of India's emerging role as the Net Security provider in the Indian Ocean region. The keynote speaker VAdm HCS Bisht and other distinguished speakers brought a wealth of knowledge and insight to the theme.

The occasion of the seminar was also used to give away the prizes for the winners of the Global Warming and Climate Change essay competition. As the readers may recall, one of the initiatives of the IMF launched in 2016 was to institute awards for papers on global warming with special reference to its effect on ocean environment. The prizes were given away by VAdm HCS Bisht.

The 23rd anniversary of the founding of IMF was celebrated on 18th December at Central Park Hotel, Pune, in the usual grand style. VAdm Girish Luthra, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Western Naval Command Mumbai, was the chief guest for the occasion.

That an organization such as the IMF could sustain itself against all odds for 23 years and achieve the objectives it had set for itself was a subject of admiration by all.

The IMF continues to set new targets for itself in pursuance of its stated objectives.

IMF celebrated another milestone on 2nd December 2016 when the 1000th weekly meeting of IMF council members was held under the presidentship of Cmde R Vir.

As we present the first issue of SeaGull in the year 2017, we wish our readers a very happy new year. As usual, we have endeavoured to include topics that cover a wide range of maritime related issues, stories and anecdotes. In this issue, we present the 2nd and concluding part of Mr KS Shahabuddin's autobiography 'Lest I Forget'. Mr Shahabudin affectionately mentions his batch mate DC Mitter in the memoirs. Those of our readers who attended the Nautical & Engineering College at Azad Maidan in Mumbai in the nineteen sixties, would remember Capt DC Mitter who was a highly respected lecturer in the 'college' then. Capt Mitter continued to teach in the new LBS College at Sewri for sometime before taking up an assignment in Singapore.

Finally, we congratulate Capt RD Hajarnavis, Sr Vice President IMF, on being honoured with the 'Distinguished Golfer of the Year' award by Western India Golf Association for the year 2016.

NOTICE BOARD

- 02 Feb 17 : Release of Dr (Cdr) Arnab Das' Book " Maritime Eco Concern and Impact on the Indian Maritime Strategy ", MCCIA Hall, Pune
- 8-10 Feb 17 : SIMA's Annual Exhibition of Seascapes. Balgandharva Kala Dalan, Pune
- Last Week,
Feb 2017 : Annual Seminar by IMF's Delhi Branch.
- 10 Aug 17 : IMF's Annual Naval Seminar, Central Park Hotel, Pune