

## **NCDS Course 3 successfully completes Term 1 activities**

The National College of Defence Studies (NCDS) has successfully concluded the first term of Course 3, marking a significant milestone in the College's pursuit of excellence in strategic leadership education, national security studies, and policy development.

The term began with the arrival, orientation and registration of participants, followed by an intensive academic programme designed to broaden participants' understanding of contemporary security challenges, international relations, governance, strategy, research methodologies and project management. Throughout the term, participants benefited from lectures, panel discussions, syndicate room discussions, presentations and interactions with distinguished scholars, policymakers, security practitioners and public officials.

A major highlight of the term was the successful conduct of several high-level seminars and panel discussions on critical national and international issues, including democracy and national development, national security, governance, migration, climate change, terrorism and violent extremism, cyber security, and emerging security challenges. These engagements enriched participants' perspectives and strengthened their capacity for strategic analysis and decision-making.

The College also successfully organised the Course 3 Matriculation Ceremony, formally inducting participants into the NCDS academic community. The event underscored the College's commitment to academic excellence, professional development and lifelong learning. Earlier in the term, the College organised an Induction Religious Service, offering an opportunity for reflection, thanksgiving and spiritual guidance as the course commenced.

Another important achievement was the Gender Module, which deepened participants' appreciation of gender perspectives across governance, security, and international relations. Participants also undertook research-related activities, including presenting proposed research topics and preparing for the Experiential Research Studies (ERS), a key component of the College's experiential learning approach.

As the College prepares for the start of Term Two, management expresses appreciation to the government, the Armed Forces High Command, resource persons, partner institutions, faculty, staff and participants for their dedication and professionalism, which contributed to the term's success. Building on the achievements of Term One, NCDS remains committed to delivering world-class strategic education and to fostering the development of leaders capable of addressing complex national, regional and global challenges.