





to set up voluntary battalions and a regular army. Partial military mobilization and army recruitment were implemented. The foundation of a professional army in our country was laid in late 1993. It was from that time that a scientific approach was adopted to army building, the armed forces were saved from disunity and an end was put to the politicization of the army. Under Heydar Aliyev as President and Commander-in-Chief, the main emphasis was placed on the strength of the army. According to a 22 May 1998 decree of President Heydar Aliyev, the day of the establishment of the Special Azerbaijani Corps, 26 June, was declared the Day of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and this date has been celebrated as an official state holiday ever since.

Today, the Azerbaijani Armed Forces are an example of the power of our state and a source of pride for the people. Under the leadership of Commander-in-Chief Ilham Aliyev, very important work has been being carried out to modernize the Armed Forces and bring their infrastructure to the latest standards. At the same time, our army acquires new technical capabilities and adopts modern, world-class warfare and combat tactics.

By increasing the number of its military partners, Azerbaijan also boosts its defensive power by buying

the most sophisticated military equipment and ammunition from many countries around the world. The growth in military spending has contributed to the continuous upgrade and improvement of our armored hardware, aircraft and ammunition. Taking into account the recent achievements of science and with the application of technological advancements, high-precision and destructive military hardware, ammunition and other military vehicles developed by the world's leading weapons manufacturers continue to be part of our Armed Forces.

The successful reforms, as well as the automated command and control centers that have been set up in the army using modern technologies have enabled all types of troops to operate steadily, flexibly and confidentially. The provision of military units, especially those on the frontline, with new types of weaponry, combat vehicles and other military equipment, modern missile complexes and fire control systems have significantly bolstered the combat capability of our troops and expanded their ability to destroy enemy personnel, combat technology and military infrastructure.

New state-of-the-art weaponry is consistently delivered and handed over to the army. Rules of their





effective use are taught in a short time prior to their deployment at appropriate locations. The new weaponry includes hundreds of armored vehicles, guard vessels, warships, air defense systems, fighter jets, combat and military vehicles, transport helicopters, most modern reconnaissance and unmanned aircraft, the most modern artillery installations, long-range missiles and operational tactical missile complexes.

Along with army building, the focus is also on the defense industry of Azerbaijan. There are about 30 military plants operating in the country, manufacturing military products to meet the demand of the Armed Forces. There are 58 manufacturing sites fitted with the latest technology and equipment from the world's leading companies. Today, Azerbaijan has managed to secure a worthy place in this field on a global scale. Domestic





production of military equipment in Azerbaijan has provided the army with arms, ammunition, military hardware and other resources and created conditions for the export of such products to foreign markets. The development of our military industry has allowed the country the opportunity to replenish its military arsenal with modern weapons and other military products manufactured domestically.

The destructive capacity and accuracy of the means of combat and ammunition our country has developed thanks to cooperation with other countries ensures the superiority of our troops over the enemy.





The military parade held in Azadlig Square in Baku on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces demonstrated once again that the Azerbaijani army is among the strongest armies in the world. The military equipment and personnel exhibited in the parade demonstrates that the Azerbaijani Armed Forces have sophisticated infrastructure and a high level of combat capability. Experts believe that the military parade was also an indicator of Azerbaijan's achievements in the field of army building. The Azerbaijani Armed Forces are the main guarantor of statehood and independence, as well as a factor of national development.

The military parade once again demonstrated the unity of the people and the army and the attitude towards the army in society. Today, every Azerbaijani citizen is proud of the power of the 100-year-old Azerbaijani Armed Forces, which is evidenced by the fact that thousands of Azerbaijanis serve in the army. Our National Army is a source of strength and pride. With such a strong army, we are ready to protect our homeland from the enemy and liberate our occupied territories. 🇦🇿