**FORCE COMMANDER’S ADDRESS –**

**MEMORIAL SERVICE ON SATURDAY, 21 DEC 13**

Thursday, 19 Dec 13 has been another gloomy day for the UNMISS family. This day, we lost 2 comrades; WO DHARMESH SANGWAN and WO KUMAR PAL SINGH of the INDIAN contingent deployed at the AKOBO Temporary Operating Base (TOB).

These gallant soldiers lost their lives while protecting distressed civilians and negotiating their safety at AKOBO as part of their mandated Protection of Civilians task. They were caught up in fire targeted at the troubled civilians during the violence that broke out since Sunday, 16 December 13.

They laid down their lives in the service of noble ideals. Their objectives of bringing peace, stability and prospect of a better future to the people of South Sudan will linger on. They were dedicated peacekeepers, whose commitment to the work of the United Nations will not be forgotten.

At this wearisome moment, our deepest condolences go to their family members, loved ones, their home Unit and to the government of India.

Together as a unified UNMISS family; our thoughts are with their dear families during this trying time of misery.

May the almighty God grant their souls perfect peace.