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Daily Defence Current Affairs

12 May 2022

General Manoj Pande COAS took over as the Honorary Colonel of the SIKH LIGHT Infantry

- General Manoj Pande COAS took over as the Honorary Colonel of the SIKH LIGHT Infantry. COAS was presented with Baton & Regimental accoutrements by Lt Gen DP Pandey, Colonel of the SIKH LIGHT Infantry in a traditional ceremony.
- The Sikh Infantry, earlier known as the Mazabhi and Ramdasia Sikh Regiment, is an elite Regiment of the Indian Army. It is the successor unit to the Mazhabi Sikh Pioneers 23rd, 32nd and 34th Sikh Pioneers.
- The regimental motto is “Deg Tegh Fateh”, meaning “prosperity in peace and victory in war”.
- The regiment recruits from the Sikh community of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana states of India.
- The versatility of the Sikh Light Infantry has seen the regiment conduct operations from conventional warfare on the Siachen Glacier, the highest battlefield in the world, to counter-terrorism.



Army Chief Gen Pande speaks to Bangladeshi counterpart

- Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande on Wednesday spoke to his Bangladeshi counterpart Gen SM Shafiuddin Ahmed with a focus on enhancing bilateral defence cooperation.
- It is learned that the two Army chiefs also exchanged views on evolving geopolitical situation as well as its possible impact on regional security. “General Manoj Pande COAS had a video interaction with General SM Shafiuddin Ahmed, Chief of Army Staff, Bangladesh Army and discussed ways to enhance the defence cooperation between both the Nations”.
- **India-Bangladesh Relations**
- India was one of the first countries to recognize Bangladesh and establish diplomatic relations immediately after its independence in December 1971.
- **Defence Cooperation:**
- Various Joint exercises of Army (Exercise Sampriti) and Navy (Exercise Milan) take place between the two countries.
- **Border Management:** India and Bangladesh share 4096.7 km. of border, which is the longest land boundary that India shares with any of its neighbours.
- The India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) came into force following the exchange of instruments of ratification in June 2015.
- **Economic Relations:**
- Bangladesh is India’s biggest trade partner in South Asia. India’s exports to Bangladesh for financial year 2018-19 (April-March) stood at US 9.21 billion USD and imports from Bangladesh for the same period stood at US 1.22 Billion USD.
- Bangladesh has appreciated the Duty-Free and Quota Free access given to Bangladeshi exports to India under South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) since 2011.



Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar assumed the appointment of DGMO

- Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar assumed the appointment of the Director-General of Military Operations on 11 May 22. Prior to this, he was commanding the prestigious STRIKE ONE.
- An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Lieutenant General Katiyar was commissioned in the 23rd Battalion of the Rajput Regiment in June 1986.
- He has replaced Lt Gen BS Raju, who has now become the Vice Chief of the Army Staff. Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar was commanding the prestigious 1 Corps, popularly known as the Strike One - a strike formation responsible for offensive operations against both Pakistan and China.
- The Corps is headquartered at Mathura and comes within the Indian Army's South Western Command. Lt Gen Katiyar earlier held the appointment as Director of General Staff Duties at Army Headquarters.
- He also commanded an infantry brigade along the Western borders and a mountain division. Lt Gen Katiyar is also a distinguished graduate of the National War College, USA. He served as an instructor in the Indian Military Training Team in Bhutan and at the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington.



Indian Navy plans to purchase the GISAT-2 satellite to increase its capacity

- The Indian Navy plans to purchase a specialised earth imaging satellite Geo Imaging Satellite-2 this fiscal year as part of its modernisation and network-centric combat and communications programme. The satellite, if operational, is likely to improve the navy's operating capabilities in the Indian Ocean region, which is strategically and geopolitically crucial, especially given China's growing influence.
- **Satellites in the GISAT family:**
- The GISAT-2 will be designed to deliver near-real-time photos of vast regions of interest at regular intervals, assisting the navy not just in surveillance but also in operations planning. The satellite, which will operate from a geostationary orbit (GEO), will also allow for near-real-time observations in cloud-free situations.
- According to information from the Ministry of Defence, the GISAT-2 is one of 21 planned procurements, including several long-term buys. In addition, the navy's capabilities development/modernization is being carried out in line with the long-term objectives in place for the next decade.
- Under the budget projections for 2022-23, the navy would receive Rs 45,250 crore for modernisation. With a 10% annual growth rate, it is expected to receive more Rs 2.7 lakh crore for upgrading by 2026-27. According to the Ministry of Defense, the navy's total committed liabilities are Rs 1.20 lakh crores, and modernization schemes worth more than Rs 1.9 lakh crores and Rs

2.5 lakh crores (under Part A and B of the annual acquisition plan) are being advanced for contract conclusion over the next five years.

- Aside from GISAT-2, the navy plans to buy: Next-generation missile vessels, fleet support ships (FSS), high and medium altitude long endurance remotely piloted aircraft systems, multi-role carrier borne fighters, indigenous aircraft carrier-2; next-generation fast attack craft; next-generation corvettes, destroyers, fast interceptor craft, and survey vessel; national hospital ship; electronic warfare system; extra-large unmanned underwater vehicle; anti-ship missiles (cons).
- While the Ministry of Defense has designated GISAT-2 for acquisition this fiscal year, the satellite's development and launch dates have yet to be determined. When it comes to satellite acquisition, the Navy has led the way among the armed forces.



India will need around 1 lakh drone pilots in coming years, says Aviation Minister

- Today, someone who has passed the Class-12 exam can be trained as a drone pilot and no college degrees are required for it, he pointed out.
- "With two-three months of training, this person is in his or her job as a drone pilot with a monthly salary of around Rs 30,000," the minister said.
- Scindia had, on September 16 last year, said the Indian drone industry will see a turnover of up to Rs 15,000 crore by 2026.
- "The PLI (production-linked incentive) scheme, which has been implemented under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will give a fresh boost to manufacturing and services in the drone sector," the minister added.

- The PLI scheme was introduced in September 2021 as a follow-through of the liberalised Drone Rules, 2021 released by the ministry on August 25 last year.
- Mr Scindia said the third wheel is to create indigenous demand and the 12 ministries have tried to create that demand.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. took over as the Honorary Colonel of the SIKH LIGHT Infantry.

- A. Lt Gen D P Pandey
- B. COAS Manoj Pandey
- C. Admiral R Hari Kumar
- D. None

ANSWER: B

2. The India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) came into force in

- A. 2015
- B. 2016
- C. 2017
- D. 2018

ANSWER: A

3. Ex 'Ekuverin' conducted b/w India &

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: D

4. The joint maritime exercise Paschim Lehar (XPL-2022) was conducted by which naval command?

- A. Eastern Naval Command
- B. Southern Naval Command
- C. Western Naval Command
- D. All the above

ANSWER: C

5. Which country hosted multilateral exercise MILAN 2022?

- A. France
- B. UK
- C. India
- D. Malaysia

ANSWER: C

6. Which Indian Navy ship has been awarded the prestigious President's Colours?

- A. INS Sindhurakshak
- B. INS Vikrant
- C. INS Hansa
- D. INS Valsura

ANSWER: D

7. Mitra Shakti Ex Held B/w India &

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. USA
- C. UK
- D. Nepal

ANSWER: A

8. Russia's new nuclear-capable intercontinental missile that can strike any target in the world is ____.

- A. Nikita
- B. Mashov
- C. Spike
- D. Sarmat

ANSWER: D

9. From Which Country Has India Purchased Its Apache Helicopters?

- A. U.K.
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. USA

ANSWER: D

10. The offshore security exercise, 'Prasthan' has been organised by which unit of the Indian Navy?

- A. Eastern Naval Command
- B. Daman and Diu Command
- C. Western Naval Command
- D. Southern Naval Command

ANSWER: C

11. What is the name of India's first indigenously developed Flying Trainer?

- A. Horn-NG
- B. HANS-NG
- C. HANSA-NG
- D. Hawk-NG

ANSWER: C

12. 'Urja Pravaha', which has been inducted, is the Ship (Auxiliary Barge) of which armed force?

- A. Indian Air Force
- B. Indian Army
- C. Indian Coast Guard
- D. Indian Navy

ANSWER: C

13. Which nation has hosted the world's largest cyber exercise Locked Shields 2022?

- A. Ukraine
- B. Croatia
- C. Moldova
- D. Estonia

ANSWER: D

14. Sea Dragon-22 Is A

- A. Domestic Ex
- B. Multilateral Ex
- C. Bilateral Ex
- D. None of these

ANSWER: B

15. The Jawahar Tunnel Was Constructed Under Pass?

- A. Shipki La
- B. Banihal Pass
- C. Bara Lacha La
- D. Rohatang Pass

ANSWER: B

16. ___ Himalayan pass is situated b/w India and China.

- A. Shenkota
- B. Thalghat
- C. Bhorghat
- D. Shipki La

ANSWER: D

17. World's Highest Motorable Road Is In

- A. Sikkim
- B. Ladakh
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Assam

ANSWER: B

18. Army Adventure Nodal Centre (Hang Gliding) Is In

- A. Deolali, Maharashtra
- B. Noida, U.P
- C. Gurugram, Haryana
- D. Shimla, H.P

ANSWER: A

19. AMCA Stands For

- A. Advanced Medium Cockpit Aircraft
- B. Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft
- C. Advanced Motor Combat Aircraft
- D. Advanced Machine Combat Aircraft

ANSWER: B













20. Who was India's first Chief of Defence Staff?

- A. General Vijay Kumar Singh
- B. General Manoj Mukund Naravane
- C. General Arjan Singh
- D. General Bipin Rawat

ANSWER: D

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