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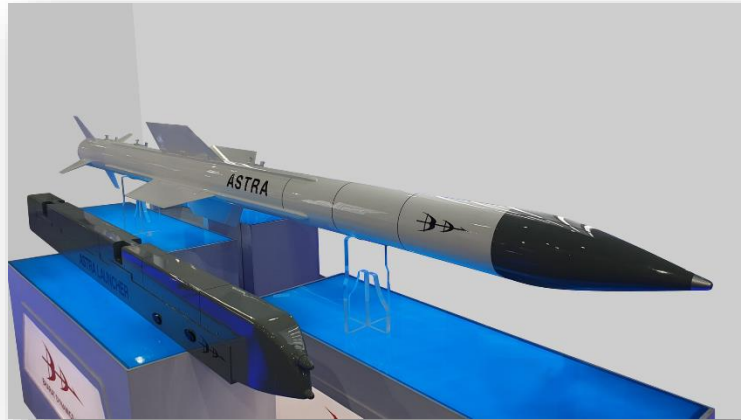


# Monthly Defence Current Affairs

## June 2022

### MoD signs over Rs 2,900 crore contract with BDL for procurement of ASTRA Mk I

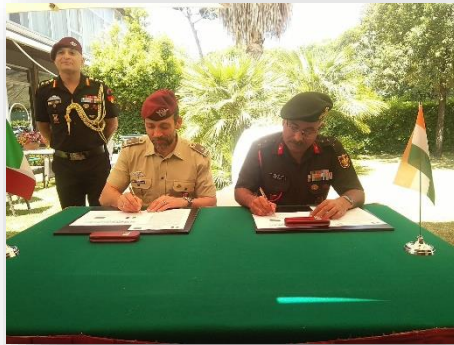
- In a major boost to PM Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', MOD, on May 31, 2022, signed a contract with BDL for the supply of **ASTRA MK-I BVR AAM** and associated equipment for the Indian Air Force & Indian Navy at a cost of Rs 2,971 crore under Buy category.
- Indian defence and security establishment is set for the maiden test of the indigenous Astra Mk 2 missile with a 160-km range.
- Defence Ministry announced the signing of a deal for the Astra Mk 1 BVR AAM and associated equipment, at a cost of Rs 2,971 crore. The Astra Mk 1 missile, for the use of the IAF & Indian Navy, is being procured from BDL.
- This is the first such indigenous missile to enter the service of the Indian armed forces, which has always depended on Russian (mainly **R 73 and R 77**) and French (**Mica and Meteor**) air-to-air missiles.
- Astra Mk. 2 will use a dual-pulse solid rocket motor for extended reach and better kinematics during the kill phase.
- The plan is to extend the range of Mk. 2 version to 160 kilometres (99 mi) rivaling American **AMRAAM AIM 120-D**. Astra Mk. 2
- A future variant Mk. 3 based on Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) engine is being jointly developed by **India and Russia**. The missile was first tested on 30 May 2018 and a further test was carried out on 8 February 2019.



## 11<sup>th</sup> India - Italy Military Cooperation Group Meeting

- 11th edition of India - Italy Military Cooperation Group meeting was held from 31 May 2022 to 01 June 22 in Rome, Italy.
- MCG is a forum established to boost defence cooperation b/w both countries through regular talks at the strategic and operational levels between Hq, IDS and the Joint Staff HQ of Italian Armed Forces.
- The meeting was Co-Chaired from the Indian side by Deputy Assistant Chief of Integrated Staff IDC(A), HQ IDS Brigadier Vivek Narang and Italian Defence General Staff Brigadier General Alessandro Grassano, from the Italian side.
- **India & Italy Relations**
- India and Italy are ancient civilizations but young states (Italy having been reunified only in 1861).
- The classical languages, Sanskrit and Latin both belong to the Indo-European language family.
- People of these two ancient civilizations have known, interacted and traded with each other for over 2000 years.
- Italy is among India's top 5 trading partners in the EU. The balance of trade has been in India's favor since the early eighties.
- India ranks **19<sup>th</sup>** as the country of origin of Italian imports, accounting for 1.2% of Italian imports.

- The Indian community in Italy (estimated at 2.4 lakhs and 25000 PIOs) is the third-largest community of Indians in Europe after the UK and the Netherlands.



## Indian Navy To Bid Farewell To Two Frontline Ships

- The Indian Navy will decommission two of its frontline warships on Friday, marking an end to their glorious voyages of protecting the nation's maritime interests for around 32 years.
- The two ships -- **Nishank and Akshay**.
- Nishank, the fourth of the Veer-class missile corvette, has been an integral part of the "**Killer Squadron**" renowned for its heroics in the 1971 war.
- Akshay is part of the 23rd patrol vessel squadron whose primary role is **anti-submarine warfare and coastal patrol**.
- These ships deployed on numerous occasions during heightened security situations such as during the **Kargil War** in 1999, **Operation Parakram** in 2001 and after the 2017 **Uri attack**, maintaining a vigil to give a befitting reply against any enemy misadventure.



## Indian Navy Commissions INAS 325 aircraft

- In an impressive ceremony held at INS Utkrosh, Port Blair. Indian Naval Air Squadron (INAS) 325 was commissioned into the Indian Navy. The INAS 325 was commissioned by Lieutenant General Ajai Singh, AVSM, Commander-in-Chief, Andaman and Nicobar.
- In an impressive ceremony held at INS Utkrosh, Port Blair. Indian Naval Air Squadron (INAS) 325 was commissioned into the Indian Navy.
- The state-of-the-art multi-role helicopter has been developed and manufactured by **HAL**, Bangalore which embodies the mission of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and helps protect maritime interests in the region to boost India's strategic presence.
- "These helicopters come with the latest-generation avionics and role equipment. They are primarily meant for use in long-range SAR and Maritime recce role. They can also be used for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief in the Islands.



## Rajnath Singh & Israeli Defence Hold Bilateral Talks

- Rajnath Singh held a bilateral meeting with Defence Minister of Israel Mr Benjamin Gantz in New Delhi on June 02, 2022. A wide range of issues concerning bilateral, regional and defence industrial cooperation were discussed during the meeting.
- They discussed ways to increase cooperation in all domains with a focus on R & D in future technologies and defence co-production.

- Defence cooperation has been one of the significant pillars of bilateral cooperation. This year marks the **30<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the formation of the official diplomatic ties between India and Israel.
- To mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries, India and Israel launched a commemorative logo.
- The logo features the Star of David and the Ashoka Chakra- the two symbols that adorn the national flags of both countries- and forms the numeral 30 depicting the 30th anniversary of bilateral relations.
- **Diplomatic Ties:**
  - Though India officially recognised Israel in **1950**, the two countries established full diplomatic ties only on **29th January 1992**. As of December 2020, India was among 164 United Nations (UN) member states to have diplomatic ties with Israel.
- **Economic and Commercial Relations:**
  - From USD 200 million in 1992, bilateral merchandise trade stood at USD 4.14 billion (excluding defence) during the period April 2020 – February 2021 with the balance of trade being in India's favour.
  - Trade in diamonds constitutes about 50% of bilateral trade.
  - India is Israel's **third-largest** trade partner in Asia and seventh largest globally.
  - Israeli companies have invested in India in energy, renewable energy, telecom, real estate, and water technologies, and are focusing on setting up R&D centers or production units in India.
  - India is also in dialogue with Israel for concluding an FTA.
- **Defence:**
  - India is the largest buyer of military equipment from Israel, which, in turn, is the second-largest defence supplier to India, after Russia.
  - **Phalcon AWACS (Airborne Warning And Control Systems)** and Heron, Searcher-II and Harop drones to Barak anti-missile defence systems and Spyder quick-reaction anti-aircraft missile systems purchased by Israel.



- Israel is also joining the India-led **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, which aligns very well with the objectives of both countries to scale up their cooperation in renewable energy and partner in clean energy.



## Denmark Votes To Join EU Defence Pact Amid Concerns Over Russia-Ukraine Conflict

- Denmark has voted to join the European Union's defence pact and scrap its 30-year-old opt-out from the bloc's common security and defence policies.
- In a referendum held on Wednesday, a vast majority, or 66.9 percent, of Danish citizens, have voted for the move, according to the preliminary results from Statistics Denmark, which gives the Nordic country a seat at the EU table to discuss military cooperation. The vote occurred with a turnout of 65.76 % of the 4,260,944 electoral roll.
- In addition, Denmark aims to meet NATO countries' target defence spending of 2 percent of GDP by 2033, with efforts starting to be made in 2024.
- Due to the defence opt-out, Denmark could not participate in EU military operations or cooperation on the development and acquisition of military capabilities within the EU framework. Furthermore, the country was not obligated to provide military support or supplies to EU-led efforts in conflict zones, nor to participate in any operational decisions or planning.



## Freedom Fighter Anjalai Ponnusamy Dies Aged 102

- Freedom fighter Anjalai Ponnusamy, who fought for India's independence from colonial Britain, died yesterday, aged 102. Anjalai Ponnusamy, one would not guess that she was once a trained soldier who fought alongside Indian nationalist 'Netaji' Subhas Chandra Bose, for Indian independence.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday condoled the passing away of distinguished Indian National Army (INA) veteran from Malaysia, Anjalai Ponnusamy, and said that her courage and inspiring role in India's freedom movement will always be remembered.
- Anjalai was once a soldier who served under the command of Netaji Bose, a name known to Indians here and abroad.
- A prominent figure in the struggle for India's independence, Bose was a contemporary of Mahatma Gandhi, who shared his dream of an India free from British rule.
- To accomplish this, he founded the Indian National Army in 1943, albeit with the support of the Japanese, during World War II.
- At the age of 21, Anjalai joined **the Rani of Jhansi Regiment** – the women's regiment of the Indian National Army – in the hopes of discarding the yoke of British colonialism from the Indian people.





## NCC's Puneet Sagar Campaign To Culminate On June 5, 2022

- NCC has launched the latest phase of its nationwide flagship campaign '**Puneet Sagar Abhiyan**' on 30 May 2022 and it will continue till 5th June 2022, the World Environment Day.
- About 74,000 cadets from 10 States and 4 Union Territories will participate in the campaign during this phase. The NCC cadets shall also be joined in by NCC Alumni, locals and tourists in several places across the country.
- Puneet Sagar Abhiyan was launched by NCC to clean Sea Shores/Beaches and other water bodies including rivers & lakes, of plastic & other waste and increase awareness amongst the local population about the importance of keeping the beaches and river fronts clean.
- The purpose of the Abhiyan is to educate locals and sensitise them about '**Swachh Bharat**'.
- The theme of World Environment Day 2022 is **Only One Earth**, focusing on "Living Sustainably in Harmony with Nature".
- Led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and held annually since **1973**.



## Rajnath Singh to hand over 12 high-speed guard boat consignments to Vietnam

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is all set to embark on a three-day visit to Vietnam from **8-10 June** to hand over twelve high-speed guard boats constructed under India's **USD 100 million** Defence Line of Credit.
- During his visit, Rajnath Singh will also hold bilateral talks with his Vietnamese counterpart Phan Van Giang to further strengthen defense cooperation between the two nations
- Defence Minister will also visit the training institutions of Vietnam **at Nha Trang**, including the Telecommunication University where an **Army Software Park** is being established with a **USD 5 million** grant from the **Government of India**.
- India and Vietnam share a **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership** since **2016** and defense cooperation is a key pillar of this partnership. Vietnam is an important partner in **India's Act East policy** and the Indo-Pacific vision.
- The Defence Minister's visit on the historic occasion of **50 years** of establishment of India-Vietnam Diplomatic relations and **75 years** of India's Independence will further consolidate the bilateral defense cooperation and the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.



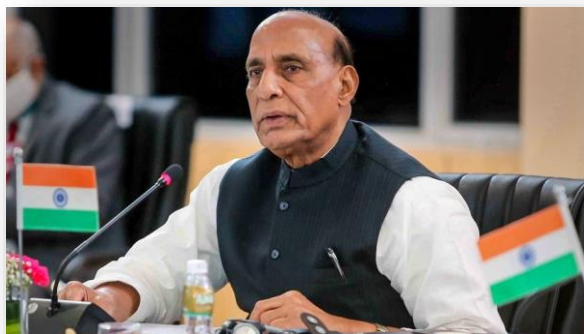
## INS Nishank And INS Akshay Decommissioned After 32 Years Of Glorious Service

- Indian Navy Ships **Nishank** and **Akshay** were decommissioned on 03 June 2022 after rendering 32 years of glorious service to the nation. The decommissioning event was conducted at **Naval Dockyard, Mumbai**.
- While INS Nishank was commissioned on **12 September 1989**, INS Akshay was commissioned a year later **10 December 1990** at Poti, Georgia. INS Nishank and INS Akshay were part of the 22 Missile Vessel Squadron and 23 Patrol Vessel Squadron respectively under the operational control of Flag Officer Commanding, **Maharashtra Naval Area**.
- The ships were in active naval service for more than 32 years and during their illustrious journeys, participated in several naval operations including Op Talwar during the Kargil War and Op Parakram in 2001.



## Government Approves Military Modernization Projects Worth Rs 76,000 Crore

- In a major boost to 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', the Defence Acquisitions Council, chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, gave preliminary approval to military modernization projects costing Rs 76,000 crore, including the Navy's next-generation corvettes.
- The approval will help cut India's dependence on foreign imports for military equipments. India is one of the largest defence importers in the world.
- The Indian Army to procure Rough Terrain Forklift Trucks (RTFLT), Bridge Laying Tanks (BLTs), Wheeled Armoured Fighting Vehicles (Wh AFVs) with Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGMs), and Weapon Locating Radars (WLRs) from domestic sources, with a focus on indigenous design and development.
- The Indian Navy for the procurement of Next Generation Corvettes (NGC) at a cost of around Rs 36,000 crore. Surveillance missions, escort operations, deterrence, Surface Action Group (SAG) operations, Search & Attack, and Coastal Defense will all be possible with these NGCs.
- The Navratna CPSE M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the manufacture of Dornier aircraft and Su-30 MKI aero-engines, with a focus on increasing indigenization, particularly in the area of aero-engine material.
- The DAC has authorized the 'Digital Coast Guard' project under the 'Buy (Indian) Category,' in line with the government's aim for digital transformation in defense.



## IRBM Agni-4 Successfully Tested

- A successful training launch of an IRBM, Agni-4, was carried out at approximately 1930 hours on June 06, 2022, from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha. The successful test was part of routine user training launches carried out under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command.
- The launch validated all operational parameters as also the reliability of the system. The successful test reaffirms India's policy of having a 'Credible Minimum Deterrence' Capability.
- **Agni-IV-**
  - Agni-IV is the fourth in the Agni series of missiles which was earlier known as **Agni II prime**. It has been developed by India's DRDO and displayed a number of new technologies and significant improvements in missile technology.
  - **Engine:** Multi-stage composite rocket motor
  - **Flight altitude:** 900 kilometres
  - **Launch platform:** 8 × 8 transporter erector launcher/Rail Mobile Launcher
  - **Length:** 20 metres,
  - **Operational range:** 3,500 – 4,000 km



## Any Retired Or Serving Lt Gen/General Level Officer Can Be Appointed As The

- In a major development, the government has amended the rules for appointment of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS).
- According to the new rules, a retired officer in the rank of **Lt Gen** equivalent or **General** equivalent positions could be considered for the appointment of **Chief of Defence Staff** provided he hasn't attained age of **62 years** at the time of appointment.
- The amendments are an indicator that the government is moving ahead to appoint the next CDS after an inexplicable delay of six months. Gen Rawat's death has slowed down the entire process to build an integrated war-fighting machinery within budgetary constraints through the creation of theatre commands.
- The three current chiefs — Gen Manoj Pande, Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari and Admiral R Hari Kumar — will of course be among the top contenders for the CDS post. "But three-star officers who have commanded or are commanding the 17 single-service commands (Army - 7, IAF - 7 and Navy - 3), two unified commands (Andaman & Nicobar and Strategic Forces Command) and the three vice chiefs are also now in the zone of consideration".

### Role of the Chief of Defence Staff

- CDS acts as the permanent Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee which will also have three service chiefs as members.
- His core function will be to foster greater operational synergy between the three service branches of the Indian military and keep inter-service frictions to a minimum.
- He also head the newly created Department of Military Affairs (DMA) in the Ministry of Defence.
- The CDS will be the single-point military adviser to the Defence Minister on matters involving all three services and the service chiefs will be obliged to confine their counsel to issues pertaining to their respective services.
- As the head of DMA, CDS is vested with the authority in prioritising inter-service procurement decisions as Permanent Chairman-Chiefs of Staff Committee.
- The CDS is also vested with the authority to provide directives to the three chiefs.



- However, he does not enjoy any command authority over any of the forces.
- CDS is first among equals, he enjoys the rank of Secretary within the DoD (Department of Defence) and his powers will be confined to only the revenue budget.
- He will also perform an advisory role in the Nuclear Command Authority (NCA).

### **What is the Significance of CDS?**

- Synergy between Armed forces and Government: CDS' role is not simply about tri-service cooperation, it is equally about fostering better cooperation between the Ministry of Defense bureaucracy and the Armed services.
- Since 1947, there are three Service Headquarters (SHQ) designated as "Attached Offices" of the Department of Defense (DoD).
- Due to this, communication between SHQ and DoD takes place largely through the medium of files.
- With the creation of CDS as Principal Military Adviser (PMA) to Defense Minister, the process of decision-making will be accelerated.
- Jointness in operations: The Chiefs of Staff Committee-COSC (predecessor of CDS), has been dysfunctional because its chairmanship is held by one of the three chiefs on a part-time rotational basis.
- Historically, the chairman COSC lacked the authority as well as capacity and inclination to tackle tri-service issues of substance.
- With the CDS now being designated as "permanent chairman of COSC", he will be able to devote undivided attention to the administration of tri-service organisations.
- Operationalisation of Theatre Command: Creation of DMA will facilitate the operationalisation of joint/theatre command.
- Although a successful template for joint operations was created in the Andaman & Nicobar Command, the lack of political direction and indifference of the COSC has led to inactivity of this joint command.
- Theatre commands would need staff with the knowledge and experience to deploy land, maritime and air forces. Given the disruptive impact of each of these measures, they would best be implemented by the CDS.
- CDS as a key functionary in the nuclear command chain will also administer the Strategic Forces Command.
- This measure will go a long way in enhancing the credibility of India's nuclear deterrent.
- The CDS would also initiate an early review of India's Nuclear Doctrine.

- In the approaching era of dwindling defence budgets, a crucial function of CDS will be “prioritising” the capital acquisition proposals of individual services.
- CDS will have to ensure that the “defence rupee” is spent judiciously; on warfare-capabilities considered vital for national military power, and not on pandering to service demands.



## India Interested In C-390

- In a potential boost to the Indian Air Force's (IAF) transport capabilities, **Brazilian aircraft manufacturer Embraer** has revealed it is “in talks” with Indian authorities with its **C-390 Millennium** offering.
- The aircraft is a medium-size, twin-engine, jet-powered military transport aircraft which, if inducted will give the IAF significant heavy lift capabilities.
- The aerospace giant of Brazil has together with DRDO collaborated to produce three ‘**Netra**’ AEW&C on the Embraer ERJ145 platform which is operated by the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- Embraer's Legacy **600 jets** are being operated by the IAF and Border Security Force (BSF) for the transportation of government officials and VIPs.
- Meanwhile, state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and Israel Aerospace Industries have inked a MoU to work under Make in India initiative to convert a civil aircraft to a Multi Mission Tanker Transport (MMTT) aircraft.



## Naval Air Operations School Conducted Jungle Survival Training For Officers At INS Garuda

- Naval Air Operations School at HQSNC conducted Jungle survival training for Officers of 95th Regular & 26th SSC Naval Air Operations course off Vagamon, providing realistic exposure to the trainees & familiarising them with survival techniques in Jungle Adventure at **INS Garuda**.
- A Jungle survival training camp for officers undergoing 'Naval Air Operations Course' at Naval Air Operations School at Kochi was conducted off Vagamon from 03 to 05 Jun 2022.
- The aim of the exercise was to provide a realistic exposure to the trainees and familiarise them with survival techniques in the jungle.
- 16 trainee officers and two instructors from Naval Air Operations School attended the camp. The aircraft from Garuda were also involved in the exercise undertaking SAR, thereby giving a real-world feel to the trainees.
- 16 trainee officers and two instructors from Naval Air Operations School attended the camp. The aircraft from Garuda were also involved in the exercise undertaking SAR, thereby giving a real-world feel to the trainees.
- Recently INS Garuda the Naval Air Station at Kochi celebrated its **69th Anniversary** on 11 May 2022. The unit plays a vital role in operations & training activities under HQSNC.



## Rajnath Singh & His Vietnamese Counterpart General Phan Van Giang Hold Bilateral Talks In Hanoi

- Rajnath Singh held bilateral talks with Vietnam's Minister of National Defence General Phan Van Giang in Hanoi on June 08, 2022. Wide-ranging discussions on effective and practical initiatives to further expand bilateral defence engagements and regional & global issues were held b/w the two sides.
- The two Defence Ministers also signed the '**Joint Vision Statement on India-Vietnam Defence Partnership towards 2030**', which will significantly enhance the scope and scale of existing defence cooperation.
- A Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual **Logistics Support** was also inked in the presence of both the Ministers.
- Both Ministers also agreed on early finalisation of **\$US 500 million** Defence Line of Credit extended to Vietnam.
- The Raksha Mantri also announced gifting **two simulators** and monetary grants towards setting up of Language and IT Lab at Air Force Officers Training School for capacity building of the Vietnamese Armed Forces.
- India had established **the Consul General's office** in Hanoi as early as 1956.
- Vietnam established its diplomatic mission in **1972**.

- India and Vietnam agreed to strengthen their strategic partnership “**in line with India’s Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)** and the ASEAN’s Outlook on Indo-Pacific to achieve shared security, prosperity and growth for all in the region.”
- **Trade relations:**
- During the Financial Year (FY) April 2020 – March 2021, bilateral trade between India and Vietnam reached USD 11.12 billion.
- Indian exports to Vietnam amounting to USD 4.99 billion and Indian imports from Vietnam at USD 6.12 billion.
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## **Funding Under Technology Development Fund Scheme Of DRDO Enhanced To Rs 50 Crore Per Project**

- Rajnath Singh has approved enhancement of funding under Technology Development Fund scheme of MOD to Rs 50 crore per project from Rs 10 crore. The TDF scheme, executed by DRDO supports indigenous development of components, products, systems and technologies by MSMEs and start-ups.
- It may be recalled that 25 percent of defence R&D budget was earmarked for private industry, start-ups and academia in Union Budget 2022-23. The enhanced funding is in line with the budget announcement, and it will give further boost the vision of ‘Aatmanirbharta in defence’.



- The TDF Scheme aims to provide a major fillip to the defence manufacturing sector by encouraging the industry to innovate and develop defence technologies in order to place India on a self-reliance trajectory.



## Defence Minister Hands Over 12 High-speed Guard Boats To Vietnam

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday handed over to Vietnam **12 high-speed guard boats** built under a **USD 100 million** Line of Credit granted to the Southeast Asian country by India.
- The boats were given by Singh at a ceremony in the **Hong Ha shipyard** amid increasing maritime security cooperation between the two sides to deal with Beijing's increasing military assertiveness in the **South China Sea** region.
- The initial five boats were manufactured at the **L&T Shipyard** in India and the remaining seven were built in the **Hong Ha shipyard**.
- "This project is a glowing example of our '**Make in India -- Make for the World**' mission".





## IMA Commandant's Parade Held At IMA, Dehradun

- Indian Military Academy Commandant's parade is held at IMA as a prelude to the final passing-out event. Also, the IMA held the Commandant's prize distribution and award ceremony for spring term-2022 passing out courses comprising 150-regular courses and 133-technical graduate courses on Wednesday in Dehradun.
- The passing out parade will be held on June 11, in the backdrop of the famous Chetwode Building. The Band Symphony and Multi-Activity Display will also be included in the events being showcased during the passing out parade.
- The 377 cadets set to be commissioned into various armies are sure to earn laurels and add glory to this great institution.
- During the ceremony, IMA Commandant Lt Gen Harinder Singh presented about 40 medals and trophies to the Gentleman Cadets (GC)s who excelled in various fields during their pre-commission training at the academy.
- Among the award winners, **GC Ajay Kumar** has been conferred the Parachute Regiment Medal for **best in endurance and physical toughness** during the training course.
- The Sikh Regiment Silver Medal for best sportsman was presented to **Parttik Bahadur Chhetri**. Similarly, GC **Arvind Singh Chauhan** was presented the Rajput Regiment Silver Medal for **best in academics** during training. The Bangladesh Trophy for **best Foreign GC** was presented to **Tenzin Namgay** of Bhutan.



## IAF Plans To Build 96 Fighter Jets In India Under Rs 1.5 Lakh Cr For 114 Combat Aircraft

- Amid a big push for the Aatmanirbhar Bharat scheme by the PM Narendra Modi-led government, the Indian Air Force is planning to acquire 114 fighter jets of which 96 would be built in India, and rest 18 would be imported from the foreign vendor chosen for the project.
- The Indian Air Force has plans of acquiring 114 Multirole Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) under 'Buy Global and Make in India' scheme under which Indian companies would be allowed to partner with a foreign vendor.
- As per the plan, after the initial 18 aircraft are imported, the next 36 aircraft would be manufactured within the country and the payments would be made partially in foreign currency and Indian currency.
- The last 60 aircraft would be the main responsibility of the Indian partner and the government would make payments only in Indian currency.
- Global aircraft manufacturers including Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Saab, MiG, Irkut Corporation and Dassault Aviation are expected to participate in the tender.
- The Indian Air Force has to rely heavily on these 114 fighter jets for maintaining its superiority over the neighboring rivals Pakistan and China.



## White Knight Celebrated Golden Jubilee Raising

- White Knight celebrated **Golden Jubilee Raising Day**. Hon'ble Lt Governor J&K & Army Cdr NC graced the occasion with their presence. Hon'ble Lt Governor complimented all ranks for maintaining peace & stability in the region.
- The White Knight Corps was raised on **1 June 1972**, as part of the Northern Command and Lt General JFR Jacob was the first Corps Commander. The Corps has a rich history of valour in wars and has also performed commendably in the operations along the Line of Control and in CI/ CT operations in J&K.
- The Lt Governor made a special mention of the medical camps being organized to raise awareness about health and fitness among the local people, besides sustained thrust on channelizing young energies towards productive engagement through a host of schemes including- reformatory and motivational lectures in schools and colleges, scholarships for needy students, providing IT and computer education for skill development and promotion of sports amongst the youth.
- On Golden Jubilee Raising Day celebrations of White knight, Veer Smriti Yatra was 'Flagged In' by Hon'ble Lt Governor J&K at Nagrota Mil Stn. 15 Riders traversed through spines of the Himalayas covering 600 kms in 06 days paying tribute to the Bravehearts.



## Cabinet clears 'AGNIPATH' Scheme For Recruitment Of Youth In The Armed Forces

- The Union Cabinet today approved an attractive recruitment scheme for Indian youth to serve in the Armed Forces. The scheme is called AGNIPATH and the

youth selected under this scheme will be known as Agniveers. AGNIPATH allows patriotic and motivated youth to serve in the Armed Forces for a period of four years.

- The AGNIPATH scheme has been designed to enable a youthful profile of the Armed Forces. It will provide an opportunity to the youth who may be keen to don the uniform by attracting young talent from the society who are more in tune with contemporary technological trends and plough back skilled, disciplined and motivated manpower into the society. As for the Armed Forces, it will enhance the youthful profile of the Armed Forces and provide a fresh lease of 'Josh' and 'Jazba' whilst at the same time bring about a transformational shift towards a more tech savvy Armed Forces – which is indeed the need of the hour. It is envisaged that average age profile of Indian Armed forces would come down by about 4-5 years by implementation of this scheme. The nation stands to immensely benefit by infusion of highly inspired youth with deeper understanding of self-discipline, diligence and focus who would be adequately skilled and will be able to contribute in other sectors. The dividends of a short military service to the nation, society and the youth of the nation are immense.
- This is a major defence policy reform introduced by the Government to usher in a new era in the Human Resource policy of the three Services. The policy, which comes into immediate effect, will hereafter govern the enrolment for the three services.

### Benefits to the Agniveers

Year	Customised Package (Monthly)	In Hand (70%)	Contribution to Agniveer Corpus Fund (30%)	Contribution to corpus fund by GoI
	All figures in Rs (Monthly Contribution)			
1 <sup>st</sup> Year	30000	21000	9000	9000
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	33000	23100	9900	9900

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Year</b>	36500	25580	10950	10950
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Year</b>	40000	28000	12000	12000
Total contribution in Agniveer Corpus Fund after four years			<b>Rs 5.02 Lakh</b>	<b>Rs 5.02 Lakh</b>
<b>Exit After 4 Year</b>	Rs 11.71 Lakh as SevaNidhi Package <i>(Including, interest accumulated on the above amount as per the applicable interest rates would also be paid)</i>			

- Agniveers will be given an attractive customised monthly package along with Risk and Hardship allowances as applicable in the three services. On completion of the engagement period of four years, Agniveers will be paid one time 'SevaNidhi' package which shall comprise their contribution including accrued interest thereon and matching contribution from the Government equal to the accumulated amount of their contribution including interest as indicated below:
- The 'Seva Nidhi' will be exempt from Income Tax. There shall be no entitlement to gratuity and pensionary benefits. Agniveers will be provided non-contributory Life Insurance Cover of Rs 48 lakh for the duration of their engagement period in the Indian Armed Forces.
- During this period of service to the nation, the Agniveers will be imparted with various military skills and experience, discipline, physical fitness, leadership qualities, courage and patriotism. Post this stint of four years, the Agniveers will be infused into the civil society where they can contribute immensely towards the nation building process. The skills gained by each Agniveer will be recognised in a certificate to form part of his unique resume. Agniveers, on completion of the four-year tenure in the prime of their youth, will be mature and self-disciplined with the realisation to become better version of himself/herself both professionally as also personally.
- The avenues and opportunities that will open up for their progress in the civil world after Agniveer tenure would certainly be a big plus towards nation building. Moreover, the 'Seva Nidhi' of approximately Rs 11.71 lakh would aid the Agniveer to pursue his/her future dreams without the financial pressure,

which is normally the case for young people from the financially deprived strata of society.

- The individuals, selected for enrolment in the Armed Forces as regular cadre, would be required to serve for a further engagement period of minimum 15 years and would be governed by the existing terms and conditions of service of Junior Commissioned Officers/Other Ranks in Indian Army and their equivalent in Indian Navy and Indian Air Force and that of Non-Combatant enrolled in the Indian Air Force, as amended from time-to-time.
- The scheme will lead to much more youthful and technically adept war fighting force by ensuring a fine balance between youthful and experienced personnel in the Armed Forces.

### **Advantages**

- A transformative reform of recruitment policy of the Armed Forces.
- A unique opportunity to the youth to serve the country and contribute to Nation Building.
- Armed Forces profile to be youthful and dynamic.
- Attractive financial package for the Agniveers.
- Opportunity for Agniveers to train in the best institutions and enhance their skills & qualifications.
- Availability of well-disciplined and skilled youth with military ethos in civil society.
- Adequate re-employment opportunities for those returning to society and who could emerge as role models for the youth.

### **Terms & Conditions**

- Under the AGNIPATH scheme, the Agniveers will be enrolled in the Forces under respective Service Acts for a period of four years. They would form a distinct rank in the Armed Forces, different from any other existing ranks. Upon the completion of four years of service, based on organisational requirement and policies promulgated by the Armed Forces from time-to-time, Agniveers will be offered an opportunity to apply for permanent enrolment in the Armed Forces.



- These applications will be considered in a centralised manner based on objective criteria including performance during their four-year engagement period and up to 25% of each specific batch of Agniveers will be enrolled in regular cadre of the Armed Forces. Detailed guidelines will be issued separately. The selection will be the exclusive jurisdiction of the Armed Forces. 46,000 Agniveers will be recruited this year.
- Enrolment will be undertaken through an online centralised system for all three services with specialised rallies and campus interviews from recognised technical institutes such as Industrial Training Institutes and National Skills Qualifications Framework, among others. Enrolment will be based on 'All India All Class' basis and the eligible age will be in range from 17.5 to 21 years. Agniveers will meet the medical eligibility conditions laid down for enrolment in the armed forces as applicable to respective categories/trades.
- The educational qualification for Agniveers will remain as in vogue for enrollment in various categories. {For example: For entry into General Duty (GD) soldier, the educational qualification is Class 10}.

### Cabinet approves proposal on Agneepath recruitment scheme for armed forces



## Russia Overtakes Saudi Arabia To Become India's 2nd Biggest Oil Supplier: Industry Data

- Russia has overtaken Saudi Arabia to become India's second-biggest supplier of oil behind **Iraq** as refiners snap up Russian crude available at a deep discount following the war in Ukraine, industry data showed.

- Indian refiners bought about 25 million barrels of Russian oil in May or more than 16 percent of all their oil imports. Russian-origin crude hit 5 percent of India's total seaborne imports in April for the first time, rising from under 1% throughout 2021 and Q1 2022, the data showed.
- India, the world's **third-biggest oil-importing** and consuming nation, has long defended purchases of crude oil from Russia following President Vladimir Putin ordering the invasion of Ukraine. The Oil Ministry had last month stated that "energy purchases from Russia remain minuscule in comparison to India's total consumption."
- Iraq remained the top supplier to India in May and Saudi Arabia is now the third biggest supplier.
- After the **U.S. and China**, **India** is the world's third-largest consumer of oil, over **85 percent** of which is imported.



## EXERCISE "EX SAMPRITI-X" CONCLUDES AT JASHORE

- Indo-Bangladesh bilateral Joint Military Exercise "Ex SAMPRITI-X" concluded at Jashore Military Station, Bangladesh today.
- The aim of the exercise was to strengthen the military relations between the two countries.
- The exercise also provided an opportunity to the contingents from both the Armies to understand each other's tactical drills and operational techniques as well as to share their experience on Counter Insurgency/ Counter Terrorism, Peace Keeping and Disaster Relief Operation under the United Nations mandate. Senior officers of both the Armies conveyed their appreciation to the participating contingents for achieving the objectives of the Exercise.

- Besides training, both contingents also participated in a number of activities including friendly football and cricket matches. The joint exercise, besides promoting understanding and interoperability between the two armies, further helped in strengthening ties between India and Bangladesh.
- **India-Bangladesh Relations**
- India was one of the first countries to recognize Bangladesh and establish diplomatic relations immediately after its independence in December 1971.
- Various Joint exercises of Army (**Exercise Sampriti**) and Navy (**Exercise Milan**) take place between the two countries.
- India and Bangladesh share 4096.7 km. of border, which is the longest land boundary that India shares with any of its neighbours.
- 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.



## **BDL, MBDA sign MoU to manufacture Mistral in India**

- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) and European missile manufacturer MBDA have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the ongoing EURO Saturday 2022 International Exhibition of Defence and Security in Paris for the manufacture of Mistral air-to-air missile system for helicopters.
- The Mistral has a maximum intercept range of 6.5 kilometers and can be used to take out hostile Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and helicopters.
- The Mistral has two launchers each carrying two missiles and it is already integrated into India's Rudra helicopter and Light Combat Helicopter.

- Under the licensing agreement MBDA will transfer the equipment and knowledge to Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for establishing the facility that will start operation in the current fiscal year.



## Combined Graduation Parade Held At Air Force Academy Dundigal

- The Air Force Academy on Saturday, June 18, held its Combined Graduation Parade at Dundigal, Hyderabad, marking the successful completion of the course of pre-commissioning training of flight cadets of various IAF branches.
- General Manoj Pande COAS reviewed the CGP at IAF Academy today marking the successful culmination of training for 165 Flight Cadets. On the occasion, 5 officers from the Indian navy & 7 from ICG were also awarded 'Wings'.
- The IAF academy is the cradle of training for pilots, ground duty and technical officers and commissioned officers of the Indian Air Force. The Academy was established in 1969, and it started its operations in the year 1971. It is currently situated in Dundigal, around 25 km from Hyderabad to Secunderabad.
- During the function, he conferred the 'President's Commission' to the graduating trainees. The ceremony includes the presentation of 'Wings' and 'Brevets' to the flight cadets who would be successfully completing flying and navigation training respectively. The award of 'Wings' or 'Brevets' represents a significant milestone in every military aviator's career and is the culmination of a demanding and rewarding period of training. The Reviewing Officer will also award 'Wings' to officers of the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard on successful completion of their flying training at Air Force Academy, it said.



## Indian Naval Air Squadron INAS 550 Based At INS Garuda SNC Celebrated 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

- The Indian Naval Air Squadron INAS 550 based at INS Garuda SNC celebrated its 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary on 17 Jun22. The Oldest Sqn in the Indian Navy has operated 14 different types of Aircraft & has been part of Indo Pak War 1971 Op Pawan 1988 & Op Madad 2018.
- INAS 550- The oldest squadron of the Indian Navy, this was the unit where Naval Aviation was born, where it all began, and from where it grew and spread its wings to touch the skies. The Navy's first Fleet Requirement Unit (FRU), comprising two Sealands and manned by five pilots and two observers, was commissioned on 11 May 1953 at Venduruthy II, Kochi. Lt Cdr Y N Singh was the commissioning Squadron Commander. The FRU was recommissioned as INAS 550 on 15 June 1959 under the command of Lt Cdr Y N Singh.
- The present day 550 continues to be a squadron that puts in extensive flying effort towards maritime reconnaissance, patrol and Observer training.



## **Op SANKALP: 3<sup>rd</sup> YEAR OF INDIAN NAVY'S MARITIME SECURITY OPERATIONS**

- Indian Navy's stealth Frigate, INS Talwar is presently deployed for Op Sankalp commemorating the 3rd continuous year of Indian Navy's presence in the Gulf for protection of India's Maritime Interests.
- In the milieu of the deteriorating security situation in the Gulf region, post attacks on merchant ships in the Gulf of Oman in June 2019, Indian Navy had commenced Maritime Security Operations, code named 'Op SANKALP', in the Gulf Region on 19 June 2019 to ensure safe passage of Indian Flag Vessels transiting through the Strait of Hormuz.
- Indian Navy continues to monitor the situation in the Gulf region and is maintaining presence in the region to ensure security of our sea borne trade and the safety of Indian Flag Merchant Vessels transiting through the region. The Indian Navy stands committed to protection of the nation's Maritime Interests.





## **"Ex Khaan Quest – 2022" Concludes At Mongolia**

- The Multinational Peacekeeping Exercise "Ex Khaan Quest -2022" culminated today at the Peace Support Operations Training Centre in Ulaanbaatar at Mongolia.
- The exercise conducted from 06 June to 20 June 2022 provided a platform for mutual learning and sharing best practices amongst the armies from 16 Nations. The Indian contingent consisting of personnel from the LADAKH SCOUTS participated in the field training as well as the Command Post exercise. A number of training activities were organised during the course of the exercise, which included mock tactical operations as per United Nations (UN) mandate, combat discussions, training of staff & command appointments; as part of a combined UN brigade, in order to enhance multinational interoperability.
- The bonhomie, esprit-de-corps and goodwill generated during the exercise will go a long way in future strengthening of bonds between the Armies of participating Nations.



## Ministry of Defence Celebrates 8th International Day Of Yoga

- On the occasion of the 8<sup>th</sup> International Day of Yoga, the MOD organized a simultaneous mass demonstration of Yoga at the Defence Accounts Department Headquarters in New Delhi on June 21, 2022, along with the Prime Minister's Yoga Programme in Mysuru, Karnataka.
- The theme of the IDY is "**Yoga for Humanity**". The PM's Yoga programme at Mysuru and aligned events by various Central Government Ministries as part of the novel programme '**Guardian Yoga Ring**' which is a collaborative exercise b/w 79 countries and United Nations organisations.
- The International Day of Yoga has been celebrated annually on June 21 since 2015, following its inception in the United Nations General Assembly in 2014. Yoga is a physical, mental and spiritual practice which originated in India.



### **38<sup>th</sup> India – Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (Ind-Indo Corpat)**

- IND-INDO CORPAT exercise is being conducted from 13-24 Jun 22. Indian Naval Ship INS Karmuk Missile Corvette based at the A&Nc, along with a Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft, is participating in the CORPAT whilst the Indonesian Navy is being represented by KRI Cut Nyak Dien, a Kapitan Pattimura class Corvette.
- The CORPAT has helped both navies to better understand each other's operating procedures and enhance interoperability whilst facilitating institutional measures for preventing/ suppressing Illegal Unreported Unregulated fishing, drug trafficking, maritime terrorism, armed robbery and piracy in the region.
- The sea phase for the 38th edition of CORPAT was undertaken from 20 – 21 Jun 22 along the IMBL in Andaman Sea, whilst the closing ceremony is scheduled at Sabang, Indonesia on 23 June 22.



## MOD Approves Establishment of Wayside Amenities ‘BRO Cafes’

- MoD has approved setting up of wayside amenities at 75 locations in 12 States/Union Territories on different sections of roads with BRO.
- These are intended to provide basic amenities & comfort to the tourists and lead to boosting of economic activities in border areas, besides generating employment for the local people. These wayside amenities will be branded as ‘BRO Cafes’.
- The scheme provides for development and operation of wayside amenities in public private partnership mode with agencies, on license basis, which will design, build & operate the facility as per guidelines of BRO.
- Amenities like parking for two and four wheelers, food plaza/ restaurant, separate rest rooms for men, women and differently abled, first aid facilities/MI Rooms etc. are proposed to be provided. Selection of licencees will be done through a competitive process.
- The terms of the agreement will be for 15 years which may be further extended for a period up to five years. The location of 75 BRO Cafes is as under:
- 

S No	State	Roads				
1	Arunachal Pradesh	Daporijo	Bame	Koloriang	Pasighat	Menchuka
		Moying	Thumbin	Yinkiong	Tippi	Durga Mandir
		Km 79	Tenga	Rama Camp	SelaTop	Tawang
		Jengthu	Hayuliang	Wakro	Changwinti	
2	Assam	TezpurTown	BP Tinali			
3	Himachal Pradesh	Km 8.5	Km .5	Km 11.8	Sissu	Manali
		Kharo	Sumdo			

4	Jammu & Kashmir	TeePee	Tragbal	Hussaingaon	Km 95	Km 117.90
		Km 58	Galhar	Siot	Bathuni	Budhal
		Kapotha	Surankot			
5	Ladakh	Matiyan	Kargil	Mulbek	Khaltse	Leh
		Hunder	Choglamsar	Rumtse	Debring	Pang
		Sarchu	Agham	Nyoma	Hanle	
6	Manipur	Km 0				
7	Nagaland	Jakhama				
8	Punjab	Fazilka,				
9	Rajasthan	Tanot Dett	Km 44.40	Sadhuwali Vill.	Birdhwal	Arjansar
10	Sikkim	Kupup Dett				
11	Uttarakhand	Darkot	Km 61	Km 57.44	Bhaironghati	Birahi
		Gwaldham	Pandukeshwar	Manera bypass	Nagni	Kamand
		Majri grant				
12	West Bengal	Melli				



## IAF Air Warriors Landed In Egypt To Participate In A Bilateral Tactical Leadership Programme

- A team of IAF Air Warriors landed in Egypt on 22 Jun 2022 to participate in a bilateral Tactical Leadership Programme with Egyptian Air Force.
- Participating with the Su-30 Mkl aircraft, the aim of the exercise is to understand and assimilate the best practices.

### India-Egypt Bilateral Relations

- India and Egypt, two of the world's oldest civilizations, have enjoyed a history of close contact from ancient times. Ashoka's edicts refer to his relations with Egypt under Ptolem-II. In modern times, Mahatma Gandhi and Saad Zaghloul shared common goals for the independence of their countries, a relationship that was to blossom into an exceptionally close friendship between President Nasser and Prime Minister Nehru, leading to a Friendship Treaty between the two countries in 1955.

### Political Relations

- India and Egypt share close political understanding based on long history of contacts and cooperation in bilateral, regional and global issues. The joint announcement of establishment of diplomatic relations at Ambassadorial level was made on 18 August 1947. Both countries have cooperated closely in multilateral fora and were the founding members of Non-Aligned Movement. The year 2022 is of particular significance since it marks the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relation between India and Egypt.



- **Economic Relations:** Bilateral trade has expanded rapidly in 2021-22, amounting to 7.26 billion registering a 75% increase compared to FY 2020-21. India's exports to Egypt during this period amounted to US\$ 3.74 billion, registering a 65% increase over the same period in FY 2020-21. At the same time, Egypt's exports to India reached US\$ 3.52 billion registering an 86% increase.
- **Exercises:** The first-ever Special Forces exercise "Cyclone 1" between India and Egypt planned in Jodhpur from 8th – 22nd January 2022 stands postponed.



## Vertical Launch Short Range Surface To Air Missile Successfully Flight-tested

- Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) was successfully flight-tested by Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy from an Indian Naval Ship at Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha on June 24, 2022. The VL-SRSAM, a ship borne weapon system, is meant for neutralising various aerial threats at close ranges including sea-skimming targets.
- The launch of the system was conducted against a high speed aerial target mimicking aircraft, which was successfully engaged. The flight path of the vehicle along with health parameters were monitored using a number of tracking instruments deployed by ITR, Chandipur. The test launch was monitored by senior officials from DRDO & the Indian Navy.
- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has congratulated DRDO, Indian Navy and the industry for the successful flight-test and stated that the system has added an

armour that will further enhance defence capability of Indian Naval ships against aerial threats.

- Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar appreciated the Indian Navy & DRDO for the successful flight test of the VL-SRSAM and said that the development of this indigenous missile system will further strengthen the defensive capabilities of the Indian Navy.
- Secretary, Department of Defence R&D & Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy complimented the teams involved in the successful flight test. He said, the test has proved the integration of indigenous weapon system onboard Indian Naval Ships. He added that it will prove to be a force multiplier for the Indian Navy and is another milestone towards Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

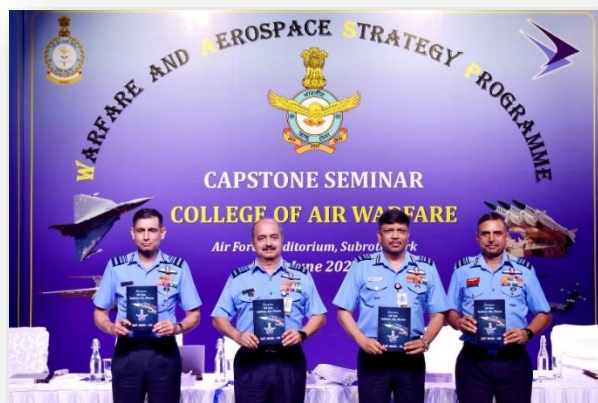


## **‘Progress Made In Deliberations For Tri-services Theaterisation Plan’: IAF Chief**

- Definite progress has been made in ongoing deliberations for the theaterisation plan and the Indian Air Force (IAF) remains fully committed to the tri-services integration for enhancing comprehensive national combat power, Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari.
- As per the plan, each of the theatre commands will have units of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force and all of them will work as a single entity looking after

security challenges in a specified geographical territory under an operational commander.

- Initially, a plan was firmed up for the creation of an Air Defence Command and Maritime Theatre Command.
- The theatre commands are being planned to integrate the capabilities of the three services and to ensure optimal utilisation of their resources.



## LCA-Tejas Among Shortlisted Contenders In The Malaysian Tender

- The Royal Malaysian Air Force has shortlisted India's LCA-Tejas Mk1A along with Sino-Pakistani developed JF-17, Chinese L-15 LIFT Jets with South Korean FA-50 jets to meet its requirements of LCA/LIFT jets under the tender for 18 LCA as per internal leaked picture of the RMAF.
- **India-Malaysia Relation**
- India established diplomatic relations with Malaysia in 1957.
- **Economic Relation:** India and Malaysia have signed the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA). CECA is a kind of Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
- India has also signed the FTA in services and investments with the 10-member ASEAN.
- Malaysia is the third largest trading partner in ASEAN.



## **Cochin Shipyard Delivers Two Autonomous Electric Vessels To Norway Based Firm**

- In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the CSL delivered two Autonomous Electric barges for Norway based ASKO Maritime AS. The 67-meter-long vessels are delivered as Full-Electric Transport Ferries powered by a 1,846 kWh capacity battery.
- These vessels will be managed by M/S Massterly AS, which is a joint venture between M/S Kongsberg, the world leader in autonomous technology and M/s Wilhelmsen, which is one of the largest maritime shipping companies.
- The 67-metre long vessels are delivered as Full-Electric Transport Ferries powered by a battery of 1,846 Kilowatt per hour (kWh) capacity.
- After the commissioning of autonomous equipment and field trials in Norway, these vessels will operate as fully autonomous ferries of ASKO that can transport 16 fully loaded Standard EU trailers in one go across the fjords. The vessels being built at CSL are designed by the Naval Dynamics, Norway using Kongsberg Maritime systems, with detailed engineering carried out by CSL.
- The vessels are built at a cost of Rs 65 crore each. The project is partially funded by the government of Norway.
- Cochin Shipyard Ltd is the largest shipbuilding and maintenance facility in India. It is part of a line of maritime-related facilities in the port-city of Kochi, in the state of Kerala, India. Of the services provided by the shipyard are building platform supply vessels and double-hulled oil tankers.



## **Indigenously Developed Laser-guided ATGM Successfully Tested By DRDO & Indian Army**

- ATGM was successfully test-fired from Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun by DRDO and Indian Army at KK Ranges with support of Armoured Corps Centre & School (ACC&S) Ahmednagar on June 28, 2022.
- The all-indigenous ATGM employs a tandem High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour protected armoured vehicles. The ATGM has been developed with multi-platform launch capability and is currently undergoing technical evaluation trials from 120 mm rifled gun of MBT Arjun.
- Engaging the targets at lower ranges is a challenge due to the dimensional constraints of tank launched ATGMs, which has been successfully accomplished by the ATGM for MBT Arjun. With the trial, the ATGM's capability to engage targets from minimum to maximum range has been established. Earlier the trials have been successful for maximum range.
- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has congratulated DRDO and Indian Army for the successful trial of the Laser Guided ATGM and said that development of this system is an important step towards realising Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.
- Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy congratulated the teams involved in design, development and trial of the system. He stated that successful development of laser guided ATGM will enhance the fire power of the MBT Arjun.



## **PADMA, the Centralised Pay System for ICG launched**

- Pay Roll Automation for Disbursement of Monthly Allowances (PADMA), an automated Pay & Allowances module for the Indian Coast Guard was inaugurated by Shri Rajnish Kumar, Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA), Ministry of Defence, on June 28, 2022.
- PADMA is an automated platform leveraging latest technology which will provide seamless and timely disbursal of Pay & Allowances to around 15,000 ICG personnel. This module has been developed under the aegis of Defense Accounts Department and will be operated by Pay Accounts Office Coast Guard, Noida.
- The CGDA emphasized that the Government has campaigned for Digital India to ensure dedicated services and reduce manual intervention at every level & to promote E-Governance in a big way. Launch of PADMA will strengthen the Digital India concept. Also, it is an 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative as the entire module has been designed and developed by Indian entrepreneurs assisted by domain experts.





## INS Satpura Arrives At Pearl Harbour In Hawaii To Participate In Rimpac-22

- INS Satpura entered Pearl Harbour in Hawaii Islands on 27 Jun 22 to participate in RIMPAC-22. INS Satpura and one P8I maritime patrol aircraft from the Indian Navy are participating in one of the largest multilateral Naval Exercises, the US Navy led biennial Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise 2022.
- The exercise spanning over six weeks of intense operations and training is aimed at enhancing interoperability and to build trust among Navies of friendly foreign countries. 27 countries are participating in the current edition of the multi-dimensional exercise.
- INS Satpura is an indigenously designed and built 6000-tonne guided missile stealth frigate equipped to seek and destroy adversary in air, surface and underwater. A frontline unit of Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam, INS Satpura is currently on an extended operational deployment in the 75th year of India's Independence.



## **Indigenous Advanced Light Helicopter MK III squadron commissioned into ICG**

- 835 Squadron (CG), an indigenous ALH MK III squadron, was commissioned into ICG at its Air Enclave in Porbandar, Gujarat on June 28, 2022. DG, Coast Guard Shri VS Pathania presided over the commissioning ceremony which was attended by various military & civil dignitaries based in Porbandar and Gujarat area.
- The ALH MK III helicopters have been indigenously manufactured by HAL. They feature state-of-the-art equipment including advanced RADAR as well as Electro-optical sensors, Shakti engines, a full glass cockpit, high-intensity searchlight, advanced communication systems, automatic identification system as well as SAR homer.
- So far, 13 ALH MK-III aircraft have been inducted in the Indian Coast Guard in a phased manner and four of these aircraft are positioned at Porbandar. Since the induction, the squadron has flown over 1,200 hours and conducted numerous operational missions, including the maiden night SAR mission off Diu coast.
- The 835 Sqn (CG) is commanded by Commandant Sunil Dutt. The commissioning will give a major fillip to the abilities of the Indian Coast Guard in the Gujarat region and further strengthen the country's maritime security.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. Ex Sampriti X Held In**

- A. Jashore, Bangladesh
- B. Ranikhet, UK
- C. Dhaka, Bangladesh
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**2. Who Has Participated In The "Khaan Quest 2022" Exercise In Mongolia**

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

**ANSWER: D**

**3. Which Company Signed The Contract Of ASTRA MK-I?**

- A. BDL
- B. MDL
- C. CSL
- D. HAL

**ANSWER: A**

**4. IAF's 'DISHA' Is A**

- A. Directorate of Induction and Selection in a Holistic Approve
- B. Directorate of Induction and Selected in a Holistic Approach
- C. Directorate of Induction and Selection in a Holistic Approach
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**5. BVR Stands For**

- A. Beyond Visual Range
- B. Beside Visual Range
- C. Be Visual Range
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**6. Range of Astra Missile Mk 2 Is**

- A. 110 km
- B. 160 km
- C. 170 km
- D. 250 km

**ANSWER: B**

**7. "The Epic Battle of Longewala" Book Is Written By**

- A. Arun Kumar
- B. Ashish Ghatak
- C. Ramesh Kandula
- D. Air Marshal Retd Bharat Kumar

**ANSWER: D**

**8. International Yoga Day 2022 Theme Is**

- A. Yoga For Peace
- B. Fit
- C. Yoga for Humanity
- D. Yoga Our Future

**ANSWER: C**

**9. Laser-Guided ATGM was successfully test-fired from MBT\_\_.**

- A. Arjun
- B. Bhisma
- C. T-72
- D. T-90

**ANSWER: A**

**10. Armoured Corps Centre & School (ACC&S) Is In**

- A. Chennai
- B. Pune
- C. Ahmednagar
- D. Nashik

**ANSWER: C**

**11. INS \_\_ Participated In 38 IND INDO CORPAT Exercise.**

- A. Kochi
- B. Karmuk
- C. Gomati
- D. Delhi

**ANSWER: B**

**12. PADMA Stands For**

- A. Pay Roll Automation for Disbursement of Monthly Allowances
- B. Pay Roll Automation for Digital Monthly Allowances
- C. Pay Roll Automated for Disbursement of Monthly Allowances
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**13. The ALH MK III helicopters have been indigenously manufactured by\_\_.**

- A. Boeing
- B. HAL
- C. DRDO
- D. Dassault Aviation

**ANSWER: B**

**14. Which of the following Country Is Not The Member Of ASEAN?**

- A. Brunei
- B. Laos
- C. Vietnam
- D. China

**ANSWER: D**

**15. \_\_To Guard JSW Steel Plant In Coastal Maharashtra.**

- A. CRPF
- B. IAF
- C. NSG
- D. CISF

**ANSWER: D**

**16. Current India's Second-biggest Supplier Of Oil Is**

- A. Iran
- B. Iraq
- C. USA
- D. Russia

**ANSWER: D**

**17. India Has Offered To Set Up Production Facilities For The Manufacturing Of In\_\_.**

- A. Canada
- B. Maldives
- C. Malaysia
- D. Egypt

**ANSWER: D**

**18. Lt Gen. Rank Of Indian Army Is To Which Rank Of IAF?**

- A. Vice Admiral
- B. Air Commodore
- C. Commodore
- D. Air Marshal

**ANSWER: D**

**19. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)?**

1. It is a non-statutory body.
2. It is chaired by the Union Minister of Home Affairs.

**Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

**ANSWER: D**



**20. Army Aviation Corps Center Is In**

- A. Nasik
- B. Devlali
- C. Pune
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**21. School of Artillery Is At**

- A. Chennai
- B. Bhopal
- C. Nagpur
- D. Deolali

**ANSWER: D**

**22. Ex SIAM BHARAT conducted b/w India &**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**23. Hands Over 12 High-Speed Guard Boats To Vietnam Is Built By Which Indian Company?**

- A. DRDO & ISRO
- B. DRDO & Israel Aerospace Industries
- C. L&T
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**24. The Eastern Command Indian Army HQ at**

- A. Kolkata
- B. Kochi
- C. Kerala
- D. Coimbatore

**ANSWER: A**

**25. Which one of the following statements is/are correct regarding BRICS?**

**1. It was set up with the sole purpose of countering the NATO influence and emerging as its substitute.**

**2. The New Development Bank is one of the initiatives of BRICS.**

**Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

**ANSWER: B**

**26. Indian Army is represented by a contingent from the\_\_ KHAAN QUEST EX 2022?**

- A. Sikh Regiment
- B. JKLI
- C. Rajput Regiment
- D. Ladakh Scouts

**ANSWER: D**

**27. "Bose: The untold story of an inconvenient nationalist" Book Is Written By**

- A. Chandrachur Ghose
- B. Meenakshi Lekhi
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Subhash Chandra Garg

**ANSWER: A**

**28. C-390 Millennium Is A Civilian Aircraft of**

- A. Qatar
- B. China
- C. Australia
- D. Brazil

**ANSWER: D**

**29. "All Time Favorites for Children" Book Is Written By**

- A. Sunita Dwivedi
- B. Avtar Singh Bhasin
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Ruskin Bond

**ANSWER: D**

**30. Which Country Is Not The Member Of The G-7?**

- A. Canada
- B. USA
- C. UK
- D. India

**ANSWER: D**

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