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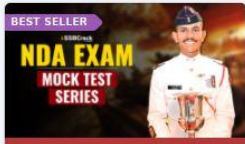
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Daily Defence Current Affairs

23 July 2022

India, UK NSAs Discuss Regional Security, Cooperation In Defence Sector

- National Security Adviser Ajit Doval met his United Kingdom counterpart Stephen Lovegrove here on Thursday and discussed a wide range of subjects of bilateral and global significance. Cooperation in cyber security, maritime and Indo-Pacific, regional security, and dealing with violent extremism.
- The focus was on specific and substantial outcomes to take the partnership forward in line with the vision of the India-UK Roadmap 2030. The NSAs also discussed forward-looking cooperation in the technology and defence sectors with a focus on key objectives of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative
- **The India-UK Relationship:** India is a key strategic partner for the UK in the Indo-Pacific both in terms of market share and defence, as was underscored by the signing of the **Defence and International Security Partnership** between India and the UK in 2015.
- **The India-UK roadmap is based on five pillars-**
 - trade and economy
 - people-to-people
 - health
 - defence
 - security areas
- India is the **2nd** largest investor in the UK. While the UK ranks 18th as a trading partner of India, it is 3rd as an investor in India.



Army Buys 20 Swedish Advanced Avalanche Rescue Systems to Detect Trapped Soldiers with Precision

- The Army has got deliveries of 20 avalanche rescue systems from a Swedish firm this month, nearly two years after it placed an order for the equipment as an emergency procurement. The rescue systems will be sent to different sector stores of the northern command.
- Gulmarg-based High Altitude Warfare School (HAWS)—which runs specialised training programmes for mountain and winter warfare—had a limited number of rescue systems that were procured last year after successful trials.
- The detector of the rescue system emits a radar signal that on hitting the reflector is echoed back to the detector, thus pointing the rescuer in the direction of the victim.
- About 35,000 troops are deployed in high-altitude areas across the Army's eastern and northern commands and there are over 2,000 troops posted in Siachen and nearby areas.



India To Attend SCO Foreign Ministers Meet

- India is due to attend two key meetings next week, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation or SCO foreign ministers meet and an international conference on Afghanistan in Uzbekistan. While the conference on Afghanistan will take place on 25th and 26th July at the level of Special Envoys on Afghanistan, the foreign minister meeting will take place on 28th and 29th July.
- Taliban will also take part in what is officially known as International Conference “Afghanistan: security and economic development”.
- SCO is more than a two-decade-old grouping that includes Russia, China, India, Pakistan and **4 central Asian countries** — Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.
- The summit level meeting will be important for India as the chairmanship of the grouping is handed over to New Delhi, which means it will be holding all key meetings of the grouping for next one year.
- Uzbekistan is the chair of the grouping for this year and holds all major events. Next month, Uzbekistan will hold SCO interior and defense ministers meet. In September, the country will be holding the summit level meeting in which all the leaders are expected to be present.



4th Army to Army Staff Talks b/w Indian Army & Royal Thai Army

- 4th Army to Army Staff Talks AAST between Indian Army & Royal Thai Army were conducted in Ayutthaya, Thailand. AAST focused on joint training & military exercises and preparing a roadmap for enhanced Defence Cooperation between both Armies.
- Since 1947, India has enjoyed dynamic bilateral relations with Thailand. 2022 marks the 75th year of diplomatic ties between the two nations.
- **International Forums:** They cooperate closely in the:
 - ASEAN
 - East Asia Summit (EAS)
 - Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)
 - Mekong Ganga Cooperation (MGC)
 - Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD)
 - Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)
 - Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS)

Trade relations

- In 2021, Thailand became India's fourth largest trading partner in ASEAN.
- Trade between India and Thailand reached US\$11.88 billion in 2019, which reduced to US\$ 9.92 billion in 2020, owing to the major disruptions caused by the pandemic. In 2021-22, Thailand was India's 22nd top trade partner, with a total trade of US\$ 6.6 billion.

- Bilateral trade during the current year is poised to surpass US\$12 billion despite the pandemic. ASEAN India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) and Early Harvest Scheme between India and Thailand have played an important role in the growth of bilateral trade and investment.

Defence cooperation:

The MoU on Defence Cooperation between India and Thailand was signed on 25 Jan 2012. Since 2015, India is participating in Ex-Cobra Gold, the largest Asia Pacific Military exercise in the 'Observer Plus' category.



China tests PHL-16 Multiple Launch Rocket System near Indian border along LAC

- China's People's Liberation Army recently tested an advanced Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) at an altitude of more than 5,300 metres in the Xinjiang Region close to the Indian border that could hit critical Indian military bases.
- China's state media reported that China is likely to deploy the PHL-16 MLRS on the Sino-Indian border. On Wednesday, China's PLA carried out a military exercise with attack helicopters over Pangong Lake, a video telecast by the state media network CCTV showed.
- Meanwhile, India and China held the 16th round of Corps Commander level talks on Sunday at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Indian side.

- The two sides held talks for disengagement along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh and the Indian side was led by Fire and Fury Corps Commander Lt Gen A Sengupta.
- They had a detailed exchange of views in keeping with the guidance provided by the State Leaders to work for the resolution of the remaining issues at the earliest.
- The two sides reaffirmed that the resolution of remaining issues in eastern Ladakh would help in the restoration of peace and tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western Sector and enable progress in bilateral relations.
- The two sides also agreed to maintain the security and stability on the ground in the Western Sector in the interim. They agreed to maintain dialogue via military and diplomatic channels to reach a mutually acceptable resolution of the remaining issues at the earliest.



Royal Navy of Oman Training delegation visited INA

- A delegation of RNO led by Captain Khamis Ali Salim Al Sultani and two officers called on Chief Staff Officer (Training), SNC on 19 July 2022.
- Royal Navy of Oman Training delegation visited INA from 20-22 Jul 22. The delegation was briefed about the Academy and all aspects of training. The team also visited various Academic and Outdoor training facilities.
- The two countries across the Arabian Sea are linked by geography, history and culture. Diplomatic relations were established in 1955 and the relationship was upgraded to Strategic partnership in 2008.

- Oman has been a key pillar of **India's West Asia Policy**.
- The Joint Military Cooperation Committee (JMCC) is the highest forum of engagement between India and Oman in the field of defence.
- **Military Exercises:**
 - Army exercise: Al Najah
 - Air Force exercise: Eastern Bridge
 - Naval Exercise: Naseem Al Bahr



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. SCO Stands For

- A. Shanghai Corporate Organization
- B. Singapore Cooperation Organization
- C. Shanghai Cooperation Organization
- D. Shanghai Cooperation Organised

ANSWER: C

2. PATRIOT Guidance Missile System Developed By

- A. USA
- B. China
- C. Germany
- D. Russia

ANSWER: A

3. India and Oman conduct Exercise of

- A. Al Najah
- B. Eastern Bridge
- C. Naseem Al Bahr
- D. All of the above

ANSWER: D

4. Joint Military Cooperation Committee Held b/w India And

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

ANSWER: B

5. Blaser R93 Tactical Is Rifle Of

- A. Oman
- B. Qatar
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Germany

ANSWER: D

6. NITI Aayog was Formed On

- A. 1 Jan 2014
- B. 1 Jan 2015
- C. 1 Jan 2016
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

7. "Qadam Qadam Badhaye Ja" Is The March Past Song Of

- A. IAF
- B. ICG
- C. Indian Army
- D. BSF

ANSWER: C

8. Joint Exercises B/w The India And Japan Is Called:

- A. Yama
- B. SLINEX

- C. Indra
- D. JIMEX

ANSWER: D

9. SLBM Stands For

- A. Submarine-launched Ballistic Misery
- B. Submarine-launched Ballistic Missile
- C. Submarine-launched Ballet Missile
- D. Solar-launched Ballistic Missile

ANSWER: B

10. PVSM Stands For

- A. Param Vishisht Seva Medal
- B. Param Vishisht Sainik Medal
- C. Param Vishishthtm Seva Medal
- D. None

ANSWER: A

11. "Discipline and united action are the real source of strength for the nation."

Said By

- A. Gandhi Ji
- B. Lal Bahadur Shastri
- C. Pt. Nehru
- D. Gopal Krishna Gokhale

ANSWER: B

12. Exercise Zair-Al-Bahr 21 Conducted B/w

- A. India- Uzbekistan
- B. India- Uganda
- C. India- Qatar
- D. India- UAE

ANSWER: C

13. What type of missile is 'New Generation Akash Missile (Akash-NG)'?

- A. Surface-to-air missile
- B. Air to Air Missile
- C. Surface to Surface Missile
- D. Intercontinental Ballistic Missile

ANSWER: A

14. Nicosia Is The Capital Of

- A. Cyprus
- B. Cuba
- C. UAE
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

15. "The Light We Carry" Book Is Written By

- A. Imran Khan
- B. Vladimir Putin
- C. Narendra Modi
- D. Michelle Obama

ANSWER: D

16. Exercise Peaceful Mission 2021 Conducted Among

- A. SAARC Members
- B. NATO Members
- C. OPEC Members
- D. SCO Members

ANSWER: D

17. SCO Hq Is In

- A. Beijing
- B. New Delhi
- C. Moscow
- D. Islamabad

ANSWER: A

18. "Sangathan Va Veerta" Is The Motto Of

- A. JAT REGIMENT
- B. PARACHUTE REGIMENT
- C. PUNJAB REGIMENT
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

19. SLINEX 2022 Ex Conducted At

- A. Goa

- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Kerala
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: B

20. Air Marshal Rank of IAF Equivalent to Which rank of Indian Navy

- A. Flying Officer
- B. Vice Admiral
- C. Admiral
- D. None

ANSWER: B

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