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Defence Current Affairs

12 November 2022

Protection of Overseas Chinese Nationals, BRI Projects Become Top Priority of China: Report

- Amid growing negative public perception about Chinese investments and attacks on Chinese nationals, as well as, on Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) projects, safety and security has become the top agenda of Beijing.
- "We will strengthen our capacity to ensure overseas security and protect the lawful rights and interests of Chinese citizens and legal entities overseas," the Chinese President said during the 20th National Congress.
- **China's BRI and India**
- More than 100 countries signed agreements with China to cooperate in BRI projects like railways, ports, highways and other infrastructure.
- It was announced by the Chinese President Xi Jinping-led regime in 2013. It encompassed five kinds of activities:
 - Policy coordination, Trade promotion, Physical connectivity
 - Renminbi internationalization, People to people contacts.



IAF Aircrew Practices Aerial Refuelling During Garuda VII Exercise With FASF

- The ongoing Ex Garuda VII between Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FASF) witnessed combined flying by Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) of IAF, Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, and Chief of the Air Staff of FASF, General Stéphane Mille today. While CAS flew a sortie in an IAF Rafale fighter, the FASF Chief flew in an IAF Su-30MKI fighter. Both participated in the exercise as part of a combined training mission which was flown from Air Force Station Jodhpur.
- Speaking to the media later, along with the FASF Chief, CAS brought out that Ex Garuda provides the unique opportunity for both Air Forces to learn and imbibe best practices of each other during operations. He also highlighted the growing interoperability between both air forces, which has been developing with each successive edition of the exercise, a regular bilateral exercise since 2003.
- Ex Garuda VII is also the first occasion for the LCA Tejas and the recently inducted LCH Prachand to participate in any international exercise. The exercise, which is due to culminate on 12 November 22, includes four FASF Rafale fighters and one A-330 Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT) aircraft. Apart from the LCA and LCH, the IAF contingent consists of Su-30 MKI, Rafale and Jaguar fighter aircraft, as well as Mi-17 helicopters. The IAF contingent also includes Combat Enabling Assets like Flight Refuelling Aircraft, AWACS, AEW&C and Garud Special Forces.





Western Air Command Commanders' Conference

- The Western Air Command Commanders' Conference was held on 10 and 11 November 2022 in New Delhi. Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) was the chief guest during the conference. On his arrival at Command HQ, the CAS was received by Air Marshal Sreekumar Prabhakaran, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Air Command and was accorded a ceremonial Guard of Honour.
- In his address, CAS emphasised the need for maintaining Op preparedness, serviceability of assets and ensuring physical and information security. Enhancing the IAF's operational capability through force structuring, self-reliance and indigenisation was the key to being future-ready, he added. The CAS directed all Commanders present to ensure the operational readiness of all platforms, weapon systems and assets, at all times.
- During the conference, Mr Ashok K Kantha, who was Indian Ambassador to the People's Republic of China till 2016, shared his strategic analysis of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine War, the Sino-Russian relationship and the implications for India and the world. This was followed by a talk given by Dr Vijay Kumar Saraswat, Former SA to RM, DG DRDO & Secretary and presently a member of the NITI Aayog, who shared his views on emerging technologies.



In a First, ISRO Supplies Rocket System to Support a Private Launch Vehicle

- The ISRO has for the first time supplied a rocket system to support a private launch vehicle built in the country. Chennai-based space technology startup Agnikul Cosmos received its first flight termination system (FTS) on November 7 from ISRO.

- With the support of IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre), a single-window autonomous government agency to promote, permit, and oversee private sector space-based activities.
- “This also marks the first time that a system that has been used for ISRO’s vehicles is being supplied for supporting a private launch vehicle built in India. The package will be used for their fully controlled sub-orbital launcher, scheduled to launch from SDSC SHAR, Sriharikota,” it said.
- Agnibaan is a highly customizable, 2-stage launch vehicle On November 4, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), the lead Centre of ISRO for the development of launch vehicles, facilitated the hot testing of a rocket engine developed by Agnikul Cosmos.
- The VSSC successfully conducted the 15 seconds hot test of the Agnilet Engine at its Vertical Test Facility, Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS), Thiruvananthapuram.
- The test was carried out as part of an MoU signed between ISRO and Agnikul Cosmos to provide an opportunity for Indian space start-ups to use facilities of ISRO through IN-SPACe.



Agnikul Cosmos @AgnikulCosmos · 8m

Humbled to have rec'd @isro 's FTS packages to help us on flight safety in our 1st mission- a controlled flight tracking a predetermined trajectory. This is a significant step in getting ready for launch from ISRO's launchpads. Grateful to @INSPACeIND for their support throughout



k
MS

Brazilian Embraer Considers Setting Up Plant In India

- India recently became the manufacturing centre for the Tata-Airbus consortium’s C295 tactical transport aircraft for the IAF. Narendra Modi laid the groundwork for the plant’s manufacturing hub in Gujarat.
- Following this, reports surfaced indicating that Embraer, a Brazilian plane maker, is looking for a manufacturing partner for its proposed new-generation turboprop, for which India is also being considered.

- Embraer stated, “We are in talks with potential partners in India and around the world about a variety of partnering options for the next generation turboprop aircraft, including manufacturing. These discussions are ongoing and moving along nicely.”
- Significant progress has also been made by the government-owned aerospace firm Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), which produces the Hindustan-228, the domestic version of the Dornier-228, and has integrated several Indian businesses into the global ecosystem of Airbus and Boeing's supply chains. Moreover, setting up a manufacturing plant in India can give a big boost to the economy as well as the Indian aviation sector.



Project WARDEC: Indian Army to implement AI-Based Wargame

- MOD in May this year, has asked Wargame Research and Development Centre in Delhi, under project WARDEC to develop AI based War Games to create virtual reality wargames at the center, this program would enable a better understanding of situations that are unforeseen till now.
- The Army will train and evaluate its troops' tactics using metaverse-enabled gameplay at the Wargame Research and Development Centre. The interface is used to teach military strategy to its officers. Soldiers' skills will be put to the test in the metaverse, which combines virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) to mimic its surroundings.

- The Indian Army has recently undergone numerous changes. They have been strengthening their training programmes, and this is the army's future. The new training programmes will help soldiers and officers alike in critical training programmes. The Army will be stronger as a result of new training programmes.



Indian Army Has Released A Tender For 47,627 Bulletproof Vests For Troops

- The tender for the jackets was issued by the Ministry of Defence under Make in India, and the procurement would be done in phases over a 12 to 24-month period after all modalities were finalised and user trials were completed.
- BPJs should be able to protect a soldier from 7.62 mm armour piercing rifle ammunition as well as steel core bullets fired from a distance of 10 metres.
- BPJs used to protect against armour piercing ammunition, which has a higher velocity than other bullets, should weigh less than 10 kg, while those used to protect against steel core rounds should not weigh more than 11.8 kg in the case of large-sized jackets.
- A shortage of bulletproof jackets has been dodging the army for many years and in the past, the procurement process, as well as trials, have generated controversy pertaining to the source as well as the quality. The Indian Army is expected to issue another tender for full-body protection bulletproof jackets which would be produced by one of the selected Indian defence industry partners.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. The Western Air Command Commanders' Conference was held on 10 and 11 November 2022 at

- A. Shillong
- B. New Delhi
- C. Nagpur
- D. Kochi

ANSWER: B

2. In a First, ISRO Supplies a Rocket System To Support A Private Launch Vehicle To Which Company?

- A. Agnikul Cosmos
- B. Sagar Pvt Ltd
- C. Boeing
- D. BEL

ANSWER: A

3. Current LG of J&K Is

- A. Praful Khoda Patel
- B. Vinai Kumar Saxena
- C. Manoj Sinha
- D. None

ANSWER: C

4. AUKUS Stands For

- A. Azerbaijan, the United Kingdom, & the United States
- B. Australia, the United Kingdom, & the United States
- C. Australia, the United Kingdom, & Uganda
- D. Argentina, the United Kingdom, & the United States

ANSWER: B

5. RIYADH Is The Capital Of

- A. SAUDI ARABIA

- B. SENEGAL
- C. SERBIA
- D. SEYCHELLES

ANSWER: A

6. KAKADU Exercise Hosted By

- A. Australia
- B. USA
- C. France
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

7. A book titled 'Chinese Spies: From Chairman Mao to Xi Jinping' authored by

- A. Robert De Cook
- B. Amit Kumar
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Roger Faligot

ANSWER: D

8. Regimental Center Of PUNJAB REGIMENT Is In

- A. Balasore, Odisha
- B. Chennai, T.N.
- C. Trombay, M.H.
- D. Ramgarh Cantonment, Jharkhand

ANSWER: D

9. "Nischay kar apni jeet karon" Is The Motto Of

- A. SIKH REGIMENT
- B. SIKH LIGHT INFANTRY
- C. JAT REGIMENT
- D. PARACHUTE REGIMENT

ANSWER: A

10. India Purchased IAI Searcher UAV from

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France

D. Israel

ANSWER: D

11. India Purchased Romeo 64 Helicopter from

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. Russia

ANSWER: A

12. SITMEX Ex Is Done Among

- A. India, Singapore, and Thailand
- B. India, Sri Lanka and Thailand
- C. Indonesia, Singapore, and Thailand
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

13. Commander Rank Of the Indian Navy Is Equivalent To Rank Of IAF Is

- A. Wing Commander
- B. Squadron Leader
- C. Group Captain
- D. Flying Officer

ANSWER: A

14. INS Visakhapatnam (D66) Manufactured By

- A. GRSE
- B. MDL
- C. CSL
- D. Boeing

ANSWER: B

15. Which Nation Is Not A Member Of SCO?

- A. China
- B. Pakistan
- C. India
- D. Ukraine

ANSWER: D

16. War Cry of ASSAM REGIMENT

- A. Parakramo Vijayate
- B. Rhino Charge
- C. Jai Bajrangbali
- D. Duty, Honour, courage

ANSWER: B

17. Operation Steeplechase Launched In

- A. July 1971
- B. July 1972
- C. July 1973
- D. July 1974

ANSWER: A

18. War Cry of THE BIHAR REGIMENT

- A. Parakramo Vijayate
- B. Rhino Charge
- C. Jai Bajrangbali
- D. Duty, Honour, courage

ANSWER: C

19. Department of Military Affairs Headed By

- A. CDS
- B. NSA
- C. COAS
- D. Defence Minister

ANSWER: A

20. The Indian Struggle Book Written By

- A. Subhas Chandra Bose
- B. Adolf Hitler
- C. Ravindra Nath Tagore
- D. Jawaharlal Nehru

ANSWER: A



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