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Defence Current Affairs

15 November 2022

Navy Conducts 'Prasthan', An Offshore Security Exercise Off Mumbai

- Indian Navy on Saturday conducted 'Prasthan', a structured exercise to evaluate organisational effectiveness in protecting offshore assets off Mumbai on an Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) platform 150 km into the sea.
- 'Prasthan' is conducted twice a year under the aegis of Headquarters, Western Naval Command. It aims to assess various measures and protocols conceived to address security threats and other contingencies that may arise in offshore oil production platforms.
- According to the Navy, various crisis situations such as attacks by terrorists, bomb threats, fire, blow out and medical evacuations were simulated during the exercise. Partner agencies such as the Indian Navy, Indian Air Force, Indian Coast Guard, ONGC, Mumbai Port Authority (MbPA), the police, fisheries and customs activated their emergency procedures to deal with the contingencies.



EXERCISE 'SEA VIGIL-22'

- The third edition of the 'Pan-India' Coastal Defence Exercise 'Sea Vigil-22' will be conducted on 15-16 Nov 22. This National Level Coastal Defence Exercise was conceptualised in 2018 to validate various measures that have been instituted towards enhancing maritime security since '26/11'. Coastal Security being a major sub-set of Coastal Defence construct, the concept of 'Sea Vigil' is to activate the Coastal Security apparatus across India and assess the overarching Coastal Defence mechanism.
- The exercise will be undertaken along the entire 7516 km coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone of India and will involve all the Coastal States and Union territories along with other maritime stakeholders, including the fishing and coastal communities. The exercise is being conducted by the Indian Navy in coordination with the Coast Guard and other ministries entrusted with the task of maritime activities.
- The scale and conceptual expanse of the exercise is unprecedented in terms of the geographical extent, the number of stakeholders involved, the number of units participating and in terms of the objectives to be met. The exercise is a build up towards the major Theatre Level Readiness Operational Exercise (TROPEX), which the Indian Navy conducts every two years. Sea Vigil and TROPEX together will cover the entire spectrum Maritime Security challenges. Assets of the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, Customs and other maritime agencies will participate in Ex Sea Vigil. In addition to the Ministry of Defence, the conduct of this exercise is also being facilitated by the Ministries of Home Affairs, Ports Shipping and Waterways, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Fisheries Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Customs, and other agencies of Centre/ State.
- While smaller scale exercises are conducted in Coastal States regularly, including combined exercises amongst adjoining states, the conduct of exercise Sea Vigil at the national level is aimed to serve a larger purpose. It provides opportunity, at the apex level, to assess our preparedness in the domain of Maritime Security and Coastal Defence. Exercise Sea Vigil-22 will provide realistic assessment of our strengths and weaknesses and thus will help in further strengthening Maritime and National Security.



Swift, Transparent Decision-making Needed For Country's Combat Readiness: Rajnath Singh

- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has exhorted Defence Accounts Department (DAD) to ensure judicious use of financial resources through quick & transparent decision making, terming it as the key to strengthen the combat readiness of the Armed Forces. Inaugurating the two-day Controllers' Conference of DAD in New Delhi on November 14, 2022, the Raksha Mantri described the officials of the department as the sentinels of the defence finance system who play their part in nation building by managing the allotted funds with financial prudence.
- The DAD handles the budget allocated to Ministry of Defence (MoD), which translates into pay and allowances of personnel, payment to pensioners, processing of financial advice cases for various procurements and processing of first & third party claims, apart from the other auxiliary activities, including internal audit function. In Union Budget 2022-23, MoD has been allocated a total budget of Rs 5.25 lakh crore, including Rs 1.19 lakh crore for pensions.
- The agenda points of the conference include Public Finance Management: Towards a system of faceless transactions; IFA System: An aid to effective decision making; Efficiency & Performance Audit: From Compliance to Assurance Framework; Improving Service Delivery; Challenges in Human Resource Management and Sustaining Major IT systems developed by the DAD.
- Rajnath Singh laid special emphasis on ensuring timely payments to beneficiaries, i.e., soldiers, pensioners and third parties. He hoped that the session on 'Public Finance Management: Towards a system of faceless

transactions' will pave the way for transparency in defence financial transactions. He exuded confidence that the conference will further improve the services of the DAD; bring transparency in its working and strengthen Human Resource Management.



Illegal Migration, Cross-border Activities Major Challenges Along Indo-Bangla Border: MHA

- Illegal migration and cross-border activities are major challenges along the India-Bangladesh border, which is marked by a "high degree of porosity", the Union Home Ministry has said in a report.
- The total length of the India-Bangladesh border is 4,096.7 km, of which 3,145 km has been covered by physical fencing and the remaining is planned to be covered by physical and non-physical barriers, it said.
- On July 26, 2022, Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai said 2,399 Bangladeshi nationals had been found using fraudulently obtained Indian documents in the last five years.
- "In order to prevent illegal migration and illegal activities including anti-national activities from across the border, the government of India had sanctioned the construction of border fencing with floodlights in two phases," it said, adding that all the ongoing works are to be completed by March 2024.
- So far 3,750.87 km of border roads have been constructed out of the sanctioned length of 4,223.04 km. The ongoing work is to be completed by March 2024.



DRDO Operationalised First Avalanche Radar In North-East Himalaya

- DRDO has successfully installed an Avalanche Radar, which is claimed to be a first of its kind in India. The radar is capable of monitoring critical avalanche prone slopes even during inclement weather.
- Defence Geoinformatics Research Establishment (DGRE), Chandigarh led the research initiative to develop critical technologies for enhancing combat effectiveness and safe movement of troops in all kinds of terrain with a focus on avalanches and landslides.
- DGRE also collaborated with 33 Corps of the Indian Army to jointly conduct the installation and launch of the state-of-the-art Doppler Avalanche Radar at an altitude of 15000 ft in North Sikkim region. As per the information from DGRE, it involved an Indian Industry partner.



Army Will Showcase Desi Products To Foreign Delegations, Give FCs: Vice Chief

- VCOAS Lt Gen BS Raju said that as part of encouraging private Indian defence industry the Indian Army would showcase indigenous products and technologies to visiting delegations and also issue certificates to boost confidence among foreign partners.
- Annually more than 40-50 foreign delegations come visiting and I'd like to assure the industry that we will showcase your products to them. Also, we would like to issue certificates of fitness for your products which we feel are useful and that should give confidence to our foreign partners to buy products that you are manufacturing," he said.
- Lt Gen BS Raju VCOAS visited ASC Centre & College, Bengaluru & reviewed the training infrastructure of the establishment. VCOAS was briefed on the EV Experience Centre, Immersive Virtual Reality Centre & working cut models of military vehicles.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. TROPEX Stands For

- A. Theatre Level Ready Operational Exercise
- B. Theatre Level Readiness Operational Exercise

- C. Theatre Level Readiness Operation Exercise
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

2. Sea Vigil and TROPEX Exercise Will Be Conducted By

- A. Indian Navy
- B. IAF
- C. Indian Coast Guard
- D. Both A&C

ANSWER: D

3. 37th Army Aviation Corps Day Observed On

- A. 01 Nov
- B. 02 Nov
- C. 03 Nov
- D. 04 Nov

ANSWER: A

4. Which Nation Doesn't Participate In Ex Malabar?

- A. Australia
- B. Austria
- C. Japan
- D. USA

ANSWER: B

5. 'Ex AL NAGAH, NASEEM-AL-BAHR, Ex EASTERN BRIDGE' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: B

6. Who Is The Chairman Of The National Command Authority Of India?

- A. PM
- B. NSA
- C. Cabinet Secretary
- D. Defence Minister

ANSWER: A

7. 'Ex KOMODO' Hosted By

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

ANSWER: D

8. Operational Range of Rudram-1 Is

- A.** 150 km
- B.** 250 km
- C.** 350 km
- D.** 450 km

ANSWER: B

9. Army Air Defence College Is In

- A. Gopalpur, Odisha
- B. Pune, M.H.
- C. Chennai, T.N.
- D. None

ANSWER: A

10. "Sarvatra Izzat-o-Iqbal" Is The Motto Of

- A. Dogra Scouts
- B. Sikkim Scouts
- C. Regiment Of Artillery
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

11. Prahaar Missile Manufactured By

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

ANSWER: B

12. Thales Group Is A Company of ___

- A. UK
- B. USA
- C. Germany
- D. France

ANSWER: D

13. Which Of The Following Is Not The Command Location Of The Indian Army?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Lucknow
- C. Pune
- D. Jaipur

ANSWER: A

14. Which Is The 2 Star Rank In The Indian Army?

- A. Brigadier
- B. Major General
- C. Lt Gen
- D. Colonel

ANSWER: B

15. Bratislava Is The Capital

- A. Oman
- B. Serbia
- C. UAE
- D. Slovakia

ANSWER: D

16. "Courts of India" Book Is Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. CJI Ranjan Gogoi (Former)
- C. Roopa Pai
- D. Peter Baker

ANSWER: B

17. World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) Hq Is At

- A. Paris, France
- B. Vienna, Austria

- C. New York, USA
- D. Geneva, Switzerland

ANSWER: D

18. UNICEF Stands For

- A. Union Nations Children's Fund
- B. United Notions Children's Fund
- C. United Nations Children's Future
- D. United International Nations Children's Fund

ANSWER: D

19. __ Himalayan pass is situated b/w India and China.

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

ANSWER: D

20. Wartime Gallantry Award Is/Are

- A. Param Vir Chakra
- B. Maha Vir Chakra
- C. Vir Chakra
- D. All of the above

ANSWER: D

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