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Defence Current Affairs

23 November 2022

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Meets Counterparts From US And Australia In Cambodia

- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh held a bilateral meeting with US Secretary of Defence Mr Lloyd Austin in Siem Reap, Cambodia today. Shri Rajnath Singh and Mr Lloyd Austin are in Cambodia to attend the 9th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Plus meeting. Both leaders met each other with great warmth and expressed satisfaction at the growing bilateral defence engagements. The Raksha Mantri was accompanied by Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane and other senior officials of Ministry of Defence.
- The two Defence Ministers discussed wide range of issues of mutual interest while expressing their commitment to a strong India-US defence cooperation. Shri Rajnath Singh emphasised the need for both countries to work together for capability building in critical domains such as military aviation, artificial intelligence and cyber technology.
- The Raksha Mantri looked forward to building a roadmap towards greater defence industrial collaboration between India and US. He highlighted India's growing expertise in aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) and ship-building, repairs and refits and suggested specific areas where US defence companies can look for technology cooperation and manufacturing opportunities with Indian partners in India. Secretary Austin welcomed the suggestions and assured Raksha Mantri of cooperation in this regard.
- The two leaders expressed their commitment towards an inclusive and rules-based Indo Pacific with freedom of navigation, overflight and unimpeded trade. They further discussed initiatives that can be taken to strengthen maritime cooperation between the two countries including in maritime domain awareness. Both leaders also shared their perspectives on the regional security situation.

- The maiden India-ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting was held today at Siem Reap, Cambodia to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of India-ASEAN relations in 2022, which has also been designated as 'ASEAN-India Friendship Year'. The meeting was co-chaired by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence of Cambodia General Tea Banh. It preceded the 9th ASEAN-Defence Ministers Meeting' (ADMM) Plus scheduled to take place tomorrow.
- The Raksha Mantri, in his address, highlighted the historic and robust ties that India shares with ASEAN countries. India-ASEAN relationship was elevated recently to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership during the ASEAN-India Summit held in Cambodia on November 12, 2022.



South Korea: Indian Navy Ships Dock At Busan Port

- Indian Naval Ships, Shivalik and Kamorta arrived at Busan, South Korea on November 21 for a port call. Indian Navy said the ships are scheduled to undertake professional and social interactions with the Republic of Korea (ROK) Navy, which would also include a maritime partnership exercise at sea.
- The port calls are a true testimony of the growing friendship between the two countries, and both navies are poised for enhanced cooperation.
- INS Shivalik and Kamorta are indigenously designed and developed multi-role Guided Missile Stealth Frigate and Anti-Submarine Corvette respectively.
- They are under the Eastern Naval Command and form part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam.
- The two ships are equipped with a versatile array of weapons and sensors, carry multi-role helicopters and represent the growth of India's warship-building capabilities.



INDO-PACIFIC REGIONAL DIALOGUE 2022 (IPRD): 23 TO 25 Nov 22

- The IPRD is an apex level international annual conference of Indian Navy and is principal manifestation of Navy's engagement at the strategic-level. The National Maritime Foundation (NMF) is Navy's knowledge partner and chief organizer of each edition of the event. The IPRD seeks to foster exchange of ideas and promote deliberations on regionally relevant maritime issues.
- Being a Track 1.5 event that aims to encourage discussions on public policy, the IPRD endeavors for a balanced representation from government and non-government agencies and institutions. The first two editions of IPRD were held in 2018 and 2019 respectively at New Delhi.
- Indian Navy being the lead maritime security agency of the Government, is deeply invested in the actualization of each of the seven spokes or pillars of the IPOI. The 2022 edition of the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD-2022) is appropriately centered upon the IPOI and its operationalization, with particular but not exclusive focus upon the pillars of 'Maritime Security'.



Zorba, India's First Dog On Anti-Poacher Duty, Dies

- Zorba, India's first dog to be deployed for tracking down poachers, died in Guwahati due to old age. The 12-year-old male Belgian Malinois was a member of 'K9', the nation's first dog squad for wildlife crimes.
- Zorba was the first dog of the squad and he was credited with helping law enforcement authorities nab over 60 poachers. Zorba retired from service in 2019 and was honoured for his services with a traditional Assamese 'gamosa' and a citation on Independence Day this year.

- In one incident in Orang National Park, the dog picked up vital clues from the crime scene, leading to the identification of the suspect's house outside the park, following which the accused was arrested. The nation's first dog squad for wildlife crimes was set up in Assam under the initiative of biodiversity organisation 'Aaranyak' in 2011.



PAF Developing New Forward Airbase Across Indian Border

- Pakistan Air force (PAF) is developing a new forward airbase in a town called Muridke, about 100 km from the line of Control (LOC) and only 120 km from Jammu. The airfield is located 15 kilometers northeast of Muridke, which is close to Lahore.
- Once completed, the Muridke airfield will be not only 120 kilometers from Jammu but also approximately 250 km from Srinagar. It will also be near Indian Air Force airfields such as Pathankot and Awantipora.
- The construction of the airfield at break-neck speed is a sign of Pakistan seeing some kind of weakness in the area and the need to have stronger air defenses there.
- Globally known The Global Air Powers Ranking 2022 of WDMMA has placed the Indian Air Force (IAF) above the People's Liberation Army Air Force, also known as the Chinese Air Force and also above Pakistan's Airforce. IAF has been ranked sixth, above the Pakistan Air Force which has been placed at 18th spot.

- If we measure quantitatively in terms of personnel, then certainly India has an upper edge over Pakistan as the Indian Air Force (IAF) is the fourth-largest air force globally after the US, China, and Russia. India has currently around 1,70,000 personnel and 1,645 aircraft. India's Air Force is quite more powerful but India lacks in the number of pilots as the IAF currently has a ratio of 1.5 pilots per aircraft in comparison to 2.5 pilots per aircraft for the PAF.
- Officially, the Indian Air Force is considered to be a more progressive and developed force than the Pakistan force which has over 65 thousand personnel and it has almost half the number of fighter aircraft that India possesses.



CDS Starts Work On Military Theatre Commands

- CDS Gen Anil Chauhan has begun to build consensus among the three services on the proposed establishment. The CDS and the three service chiefs—Gen Manoj Pandey, Admiral R Hari Kumar, and ACM V R Chaudhari will discuss the proposed commands at the NDA in Khadakvasla, Pune.
- Gen Chauhan reportedly has told three chiefs that to streamline their perspectives over the issue as theatre commands cannot be delayed any longer. Indian Air Force has legitimate concerns over splitting its limited air assets among the respective theatres.
- The Central Military Commission, led by President Xi Jinping, oversees five theatre commands in China. Western Theatre Command is responsible for the entire 3488 km Line of Actual Control with India, with dedicated army, air force, and naval assets.

What are Integrated Theatre Commands?

- Combining the resources of all three services (the Army, Navy, and Air Force) under a single commander to secure a particular geographic area is known as integrated theatre commands.
- There are theatre commands in several countries, including China and the United States. The reports of the military reforms commission headed by Lt. General (ret.) DB Shekatkar made the concept of Theatre Command a suggestion.
- It suggested setting up three integrated theatre commands: one in the north for the China border; one in the west for the Pakistan border; and one in the south for the sea role.

Current commands in India

- The Indian armed forces currently have 17 commands.
- There are seven commands each of the Army (Northern, Eastern, Southern, Western, Central, South-western and Army Training Command)
- The Air Force has seven commands (Western, Eastern, Southern, Southwestern, Central, Training and Maintenance).
- The Navy has three commands (Western, Eastern and Southern).
- A four-star military commander is in charge of each command.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. ADMM Plus Stands For

- A. ASEAN-Defence Ministers Meeting
- B. ASEAN-Defence Ministers Mega Meeting
- C. ASEAN-Defence Ministers Meeta
- D. None

ANSWER: A

2. MRO Stands For

- A. Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul
- B. Maintenance, Repair and Overtake
- C. Maintenance, Repair and Over
- D. None

ANSWER: A

3. Ex 'SIAM BHARAT' Conducted b/w India &

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman
- C. Thailand
- D. Russia

ANSWER: C

4. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. India's ranking in the Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2022 has dropped.
- 2. "AI talent concentration" is one of the indicators assessed under the Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2022.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

ANSWER: B

5. COP Stands For

- A. Creator of Parties
- B. Conference of Parties
- C. Conference of Programme
- D. None

ANSWER: B

6. Indian Economy Is Worth Of

- A. \$2 Trillion Dollar
- B. \$3 Trillion Dollar
- C. \$10 Trillion Dollar
- D. \$25 Trillion Dollar

ANSWER: B

7. 63rd Raising Day of BRO Is Observed On

- A. 6 May
- B. 7 May
- C. 8 May
- D. 9 May

ANSWER: B

8. Akash Prime Is A

- A.** Rocket
- B.** Air Defence Missile System
- C.** Sniper Rifle
- D.** Tank

ANSWER: B

9. NAVIC Stands For

- A. India Regional Navigation Satellite System
- B. Indian Regional Navigator Satellite System
- C. Indian Regional Navigation Satellite Source
- D. Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System

ANSWER: D

10. Major Rank Of the Indian Army Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of The Indian Navy?

- A. Captain

- B. Inspector
- C. Lt Commander
- D. Vice-admiral

ANSWER: C

11. Training Command of IAF is located at

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bangalore
- C. Gurugram
- D. Lucknow

ANSWER: B

12. Captain Of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Rank Of IAF Is

- A. Wing Commander
- B. Squadron Leader
- C. Flight Lt.
- D. Air Chief Marshal

ANSWER: C

13. Colonel Rank Of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Rank Of Indian Navy Is

- A. Commander
- B. Captain
- C. Group Captain
- D. Lieutenant

ANSWER: B

14. Warsaw Is The Capital Of

- A. Oman
- B. Germany
- C. Ukraine
- D. Poland

ANSWER: D

15. "Indian Fiscal Federalism" Book Is Written By

- A. Dr. Bibek Debroy
- B. Dr. Krishna Saksena
- C. Dr. Y.V. Reddy
- D. Jairam Ramesh

ANSWER: C

16. Tangail Airdrop Was Done At Which War

- A. 1948
- B. 1962
- C. 1965
- D. 1971

ANSWER: D

17. War Cry of NAGA REGIMENT

- A. Bharat Mata ki Jai
- B. Ki ki so so Lhargyalo
- C. Jai Durga Naga
- D. Durga Mata Ki Jai

ANSWER: C

18. Sankalp-class OPV Designed And Built By

- A. Goa Shipyard Limited
- B. GRSE
- C. MDL
- D. CSL

ANSWER: A

19. Which State Of India Has The Longest Coastline?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Kerala

ANSWER: A

20. Mitra Shakti Ex Held B/w India &

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

ANSWER: A

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