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Defence Current Affairs

20 December 2022

India To Host QUAD Foreign Minister's Meet Next Year

- India is going to host the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) Foreign Minister's meeting next year and Japan's Foreign Minister is looking forward to visiting India on the occasion, Japanese envoy to India Hiroshi Suzuki said.
- India this month has taken over the Presidency of G20 and come January, Japan will take over the presidency of G7. So, the close cooperation between India and Japan under the Presidencies of G20 and G7 is more important than ever.
- The last Quad Foreign Ministers' meet was held in New York City on the sidelines of the 77th United Nations General Assembly to deepen Quad multilateral cooperation in support of advancing a free and open Indo-Pacific.
- "As a nation in the Indo-Pacific region, Japan will further promote efforts to realize a FOIP (free and open Indo-Pacific) by deepening cooperation with like-minded countries through the Japan-US Alliance as a cornerstone and through efforts such as the Japan-US-Australia-India (QUAD) partnership," reads the plan.
- Japanese Ambassador participated in an event today that commemorated 70 years of the diplomatic relationship between India and Japan. As a part of the celebratory events, the Horse-riding Performance of Japanese Yabusame and Indian Tent Pegging took place at Army Polo and Riding Club (APRC) Ground in Delhi.



Ocean Sailing Expedition On Indian Naval Sailing Vessel

- INSV Tarini has set sail for an expedition to Cape Town, South Africa for participating in the 50th edition of Cape to Rio Race 2023. This ocean sailing race will be flagged off from Cape Town on 02 Jan 23 and will culminate at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The race is one of the most prestigious Trans-Atlantic ocean races. The expedition is being undertaken by an Indian Navy crew of five officers including two women officers.
- During this expedition whilst transiting from Goa to Rio de Janeiro via Cape Town and back, INSV Tarini would be covering a distance of almost 17000nm (approx. 30000 km). The crew, over a period of 5-6 months in this trans-oceanic voyage is expected to face extreme weather and rough sea conditions of the Indian, Atlantic and the Southern oceans.
- The expedition aims to train the crew onboard, in essential seamanship skills including Navigation, Communication, Technical, Planning, etc. The expedition is an important milestone in training of the two women officers onboard for undertaking solo circumnavigation sailing expedition of the globe.
- Ocean sailing is an extremely tough adventure sport. These Ocean Sailing expeditions help inculcating the spirit of adventure, risk taking abilities whilst also enhancing Indian Navy's ability to project its benign presence across the globe. Accordingly, Indian Navy has been regularly participating in sailing expeditions like Sagar Parikrama, IONS 10th anniversary and Bay of Bengal sailing expeditions.

- INSV Tarini is known for circumnavigating the globe with an all women officer crew in the historic expedition titled 'Navika Sagar Parikrama' in 2017. In the present expedition, the vessel is being skippered by Capt Atool Sinha with Lt Cdr Ashutosh Sharma, Lt Cdr Dilna K, Lt Cdr Roopa A and SLt Aviral Keshav as the crew.
- During this ongoing expedition, a crew turnaround is planned at Rio de Janeiro for the return leg to India. Post the crew turnaround Cdr Nikhil P Hegde will be taking over as skipper with Cdr MA Zulfikar, Cdr Divya Purohit and Cdr Abhishek Doke as crew. Lt Cdr Dilna K and Lt Cdr Roopa A will be part of the crew for both legs of the expedition as they are being trained for solo circumnavigation of the globe by woman officer. Under the same training curriculum these women officers also participated in the recent expedition to Mauritius.



Lok Sabha Passes Anti-maritime Piracy Bill To Promote India's Trade Security On High Seas

- Lok Sabha on Monday passed the Anti-maritime Piracy Bill, 2019 that seeks to provide an effective legal instrument to combat piracy not only in territorial waters and the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) but also on the high seas.
- The Bill will empower Indian authorities to deal with piracy on the high seas beyond the exclusive economic zone which is 200 nautical miles from the country's coastline.
- The Minister had said India's security and economic well-being are inextricably linked to the sea and maritime security is a prerequisite with more than 90 % of

the country's trade with the world taking place through sea routes and more than 80 % of hydrocarbon requirements being seaborne.



Defence Ministry To Discuss Indian Army Proposal For Acquiring 354 'Zorawar' Light Tanks

- The Defence Ministry will take up an important Army proposal for the development of light tanks for deployment on the China border at a meeting scheduled to be held later this week.
- The Indian Army has issued specifications for its future light tank which has been named 'Zorawar'.
- The tank has been named after the legendary general who led multiple successful victories in Tibet which is now controlled by the Chinese Army.
- The Indian Army had to induct a considerable number of T-72 and T-90 tanks in operational areas, gaining tactical surprise over the adversary and thereby forcing the adversary on a back foot.
- “However, the tanks were primarily designed for operations in plains and desert terrain having their own limitations when employed in high altitude Areas. They face a similar handicap when employed in marginal terrain of Rann of Kutch,” an official said.



INS Kursura Submarine Museum Key Tourist Spot In Visakhapatnam

- The Indian Navy's Kursura Museum is located in Visakhapatnam on the eastern seaboard of India. The museum is inside an actual submarine, INS Kursura, India's fourth submarine.
- The museum is situated on RK beach, near the War Memorial in Visakhapatnam. Many visitors from South and North areas of the country include foreign visitors Visiting the submarine. The submarine played a key role in India Pakistan war of 1971.
- INS Kursura (S20) was a Kalvari-class diesel-electric submarine of the Indian Navy. It was India's fourth submarine. Kursura was commissioned on 18 December 1969 and was decommissioned on 27 February 2001 after 31 years of service.
- “A visit to the museum is not only a must to gain some knowledge but also to rejuvenate a feeling of patriotism and pride for our country and for the warriors who fought and even lost their lives for our freedom. Approximately 10,000 visitors visit the museum per week” said Raju.



Import And Export In Defence Sector

- Details of net Budget provided to Ministry of Defence (All four Grants) in Budget Estimates (BE), Revised Estimates (RE) from 2017-18 to 2022-23 are tabulated below:
- (Rs. in crore)

Years	BE Allocations	RE Allocations
2017-18	3,59,854.12	3,74,003.85
2018-19	4,04,364.71	4,05,193.85
2019-20	4,31,010.79	4,48,820.10
2020-21	4,71,378.00	4,84,736.06
2021-22	4,78,195.62	5,02,883.54
2022-23	5,25,166.15	----

- The quantum of import and export carried out in defence sector from 2017 to 2022, year-wise is tabulated below:

- (Rs. in crore)

IMPORT	
Year	Foreign Procurement*
2017-18	37,030.89
2018-19	45,705.57
2019-20	47,961.47
2020-21	53,118.58
2021-22	50,061.68

- *Foreign procurement includes procurements made towards purchase of Defence stores/equipments under both, Revenue and Capital segments.
- (Rs. in crore)

EXPORT	
Year	Export Value of Authorisations issued
2017-18	4,682
2018-19	10,746
2019-20	9,116
2020-21	8,435
2021-22	12,815

-

- This information was given by Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt in a written reply to Shri Ghanshyam Tiwari in Rajya Sabha.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. QUAD Foreign Minister's 2023 Meeting Will Be Held In

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

ANSWER: C

2. INSV Tarini Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Sailing Ship

ANSWER: D

3. INS Kursura Submarine Is Converted Into

- A. Garden
- B. Museum
- C. Park
- D. Research Center

ANSWER: B

4. Lok Sabha Passes Anti-maritime Piracy Bill To Promote

- A. India's Trade Security On High Seas
- B. Western Trade Security On High Seas
- C. Anti Terror Operation
- D. None

ANSWER: A

5. The 'Zorawar' Is A

- A. Helicopter

- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Light Weighted Tank

ANSWER: D

6. INS Karmuk Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. Missile Corvette
- C. Submarine
- D. Tank

ANSWER: B

7. Air Marshal Rank of IAF Is Equivalent to which rank of the Indian Navy?

- A. Commodore
- B. Captain
- C. Commander
- D. Vice Admiral

ANSWER: D

8. Ex 'Ekuverin' Conducted B/W India &

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

ANSWER: D

9. Prahaar Missile Manufactured By

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

ANSWER: B

10. Which Honorary Rank Does Sachin Tendulkar Hold?

- A. Lieutenant Colonel
- B. Lieutenant
- C. Major
- D. Group Captain

ANSWER: D

11. UNDP Was Established In

- A. 1965
- B. 1975
- C. 1985
- D. 1995

ANSWER: A

12. Lamitye Exercise Held B/W India And____?

- A. Thailand
- B. USA
- C. Qatar
- D. Seychelles

ANSWER: D

13. War Cry of THE MAHAR REGIMENT

- A. Bharat Mata ki Jai
- B. Bolo Hindustan Ki Jay
- C. Jai Hind
- D. Durga Mata Ki Jai

ANSWER: B

14. Manila Is The Capital Of

- A. Philippines
- B. Poland
- C. Peru
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

15. "The Light We Carry: Overcoming In Uncertain Times" Book Is Written By

- A. Michelle Obama
- B. Preeti Shenoy
- C. Rasheed Kidwai
- D. Devika Rangachari

ANSWER: A

16. Which Country Is Not The Member Of The NATO?

- A. Albania

- B. Belgium
- C. Bulgaria
- D. Bharat

ANSWER: D

17. P-8I Is A

- A. Helicopter
- B. Tank
- C. Attack Helicopter
- D. Long-range Patrol Aircraft

ANSWER: D

18. DISHA Scheme, Recently In News, Is Related To Which Of The Following?

- A. Providing access to justice, launched by Minister of Law and Justice
- B. Navigation portal, launched by Ministry of Earth Sciences
- C. Teacher Training programme, launched by Ministry of Education
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

19. Machchhu River, Recently Seen In The News, Is Located In Which Of The Following States?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: C

20. National Geoscience Awards (2022) Is Established By Which Of The Following?

- A. Ministry of Earth Science
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. Ministry of Nonrenewable Energy
- D. Ministry of Mines

ANSWER: D



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