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Defence Current Affairs

28 December 2022

Taiwan Extends Compulsory Military Service Amid China's Aggression

- Amid growing Chinese aggression, Taiwan has decided to extend mandatory military service for male citizens from four months to one year starting in 2024, Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen announced on Tuesday, The Wall Street Journal reported.
- Terming it an "extremely difficult decision," Tsai Ing-wen emphasised that peace depends on national defence and national defence is dependent on the people of the country. She stated that the conscript pay will be increased to the minimum wage. Tsai Ing-wen announced that training will be intensified and expanded to involve instruction on the use of Javelin antitank missiles and drones.
- "This was an extremely difficult decision," The Wall Street Journal quoted Tsai Ing-wen as saying.
- "Peace depends on national defence, and national defence depends on the whole population," she added.
- Taiwanese Defence Ministry said that six Chinese aircraft and ships were detected around Taiwan. It further stated that Taiwan's armed forces monitored the situation and tasked the navy vessels, and land-based missiles to respond to these activities of China.
- Taiwanese Defence Ministry tweeted, "6 PLA aircraft and 3 PLAN vessels around Taiwan were detected in our surrounding region by 6 a.m.(UTC+8) today. R.O.C. Armed Forces have monitored the situation and tasked CAP aircraft, Navy vessels, and land-based missile systems to respond these activities."
- On Monday, Taiwan Defence Ministry said that 71 Chinese air force planes and seven ships were spotted around Taiwan with 47 military aircraft detected to have crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait. The incursions, according to

Taiwan, were made by aircraft, including 12 J-11, 6 J-10, 18 J-16, six SU-30, CH-4, WZ-7, Y-8 EW, Y-8 ESW and KJ-500.



Ministry Of Power And DRDO Sign MoU For Developing Mitigation Measures

- Ministry of Power signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), Ministry of Defence today here for Implementation of Early Warning System for Vulnerable Hydro Projects/Power Stations. The MoU was signed by Shi Alok Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Power and Dr. Samir V Kamat, Secretary, Department of Defence (R&D) & Chairman, DRDO.
- Ministry of Power and DRDO will jointly work towards developing suitable mitigation measures against avalanches, landslides, glaciers, glacial lakes and other geo-hazards. The expertise of DRDO will also be utilized in developing comprehensive Early Warning System for vulnerable hydro projects/ power stations in hilly regions. Separate and specific tasks will be formulated between DRDO & respective project developer(s) in agreement with broad understanding developed through this MoU.
- Under the visionary leadership of Union Minister of Power & NRE, Shri R. K. Singh, Ministry of Power has taken the initiative of implementing Early Warning System (EWS) in the Hydro Power Projects especially those located in upper reaches of Hilly regions. EWS is an integrated system of hazard monitoring, forecasting and prediction, disaster risk assessment, communication and preparedness for timely action to reduce disaster risks in advance of hazardous

events. Ministry of Power has already signed MoUs with CSIR-NGRI, IMD, WIHG and NRSC-ISRO for implementation of EWS.



Lt Gen Arvind Walia Appointed Next Engineer-in-Chief Of Indian Army

- Lieutenant General Arvind Walia has been appointed as the next Engineer-in-Chief of the Indian Army. He would be succeeding Lt Gen Harpal Singh who is superannuating on December 31.
- Lieutenant General Arvind Walia has been appointed as the next Engineer-in-Chief of the Indian Army. He would be succeeding Lt Gen Harpal Singh who is superannuating on December 31.
- **Founded:** 1777
- **Motto(s):** Sarvatra (Ubique, Everywhere)
- **Garrison/HQ:** New Delhi, India
- **Active:** 1777 - Present
- **Branch:** Indian Army
- **Engineer-in-Chief:** Lt Gen Harpal Singh AVSM, VSM



Exercise “Veer Guardian 23” In 2023

- IAF and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) are set to hold their maiden bilateral air exercise, “Veer Guardian 23”, from January 16 to 26 at Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base in Japan.
- The IAF is fielding four Su-30MKI fighters from No. 220 squadron under the Western Air Command and one IL-78 mid-air refueller, along with a contingent of around 150 personnel who will be transported by two C-17 transport aircraft.
- The JASDF would be fielding four **F-15s** and four **F-2 fighter jets** for the exercise.
- Japan also participated for the first time in the multilateral exercise MILAN hosted by the Navy early this year. The two countries also operationalised the logistics support agreement, Reciprocal Provision of Supply and Services Agreement, in March this year. The defence cooperation between the two countries has significantly expanded in recent years, especially in the maritime domain with Maritime Domain Awareness emerging as a key focus area.



Indian Army To Start Getting Arjun Mk1A From 2024 Onwards

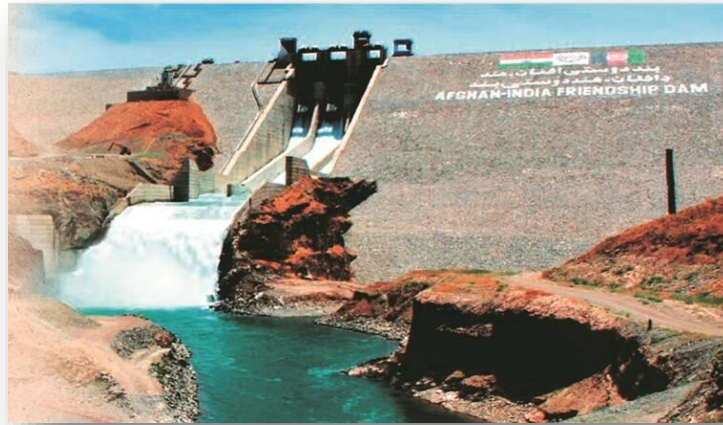
- India's state-run Armoured Vehicle Nigam Limited (AVNL) will be reactivating the production line of the Arjun Mk-1A Main Battle Tank after being idle for close to 10 years and as per the latest media report, AVNL will deliver the first batch of Arjun Mk1A MBT to Indian Army from March 2024 onwards.
- AVNL will complete the delivery by March 2026. AVNL had got orders for 118 Arjun Mk-1A Main Battle Tanks in 2021. Mk-1A which has been designed and developed locally in India comes with vast improvements over Mk1 MBT that went into service nearly 10 years ago.
- Mk-1A comes with 72 new features and incorporates numerous upgrades on Arjun MBT, the current in-service main battle tank with the Indian Army. MK-1A is equipped with accurate and superior firepower, all-terrain mobility and invincible multi-layered protection provided by an array of advanced technology systems.
- Engine: MTU MB 838 Ka-501 V10; 1,400 hp (1,044 kW) liquid-cooled turbocharged diesel engine
- Armour: ERA–NERA, Kanchan armour (classified)
- Designed: 1983–1996
- Crew: 4 (commander, gunner, loader and driver)

- Fuel capacity: 1,610 litres (350 imp gal; 430 US gal)
- Ground clearance: 0.45 metres (1 ft 6 in)
- Height: Mk.1: 2.32 metres (7 ft 7 in); Mk.1A/Mk.2: ~2.8 metres (9 ft 2 in)



Indian Projects In Afghanistan ‘Suffer Setback’: Government

- The centre told the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs on Tuesday that the implementation of Indian projects in Afghanistan has been hampered by the country’s political and security situation.
- India has been one of the largest development partners in Kabul, with over 500 projects in each of the country’s 34 provinces in critical areas such as power, water supply, road connectivity, healthcare, education, agriculture, and capacity building.
- The Committee also stated that, given the current political situation in Afghanistan, the majority of countries, including India, have suspended their projects in the country.
- The Ministry responded that it had taken note of the Committee’s observations and would work to implement them. It stated that several proposals in this regard are already being considered. The Ministry’s remarks come just days after the Taliban claimed that India may restart 20 stalled projects in the country.



India, Kazakhstan Conduct Joint Military Exercise In Meghalaya

- The sixth edition of KazInd 2022, the joint exercise of the Indian Army and Kazakhstan Army was held at Umroi in Meghalaya.
- The 14-day-long joint military exercise started on December 15.
- The joint annual training exercise with the Kazakhstan Army was instituted in 2016 as Exercise Prabal Dostyk, which was later upgraded to a company-level exercise and renamed as Ex Kazind in 2018.
- In the sixth edition of KazInd, Kazakhstan Army soldiers, comprising troops from the Regional Command, South and Indian Army soldiers from the 11 Gorkha Rifles, took part.
- The final validation exercise named as Ex Jenis (Ex Victory) displayed the various skills inculcated in patrolling, jungle shooting, reflex shooting, combat tracking, use of Mine Protective Vehicles and the conduct of raid on Monday.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. The World's Largest Arms Manufacturers Is/Are

- A. Lockheed Martin
- B. Raytheon Technologies
- C. Boeing
- D. Boeing

ANSWER: A

2. ___ Edition of KazInd 2022 Is Conducting

- A. 5th
- B. 6th
- C. 7th
- D. 8th

ANSWER: B

3. Ex 'LAMITIYE' Conducted b/w India &

- A. Seychelles
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Singapore
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

4. 'Ex KOMODO' Hosted By

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

ANSWER: D

5. Army Air Defence College Is In

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

ANSWER: A

6. Which Nation's Airforce Comes First In The World Directory Of Modern Military Aircraft Report?

- A. PLA Air Force
- B. IAF
- C. Russia
- D. USA

ANSWER: D

7. FGM-148 Javelin Is Made By

- A. Boeing
- B. Lockheed Martin
- C. Raytheon
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

8. Ex PRABAL DOSTYK Conducted B/W India And

- A.** France
- B.** China
- C.** Kazakhstan
- D.** Kyrgyzstan

ANSWER: C

9. Group Captain Rank Of IAF Is Equivalent to Which Rank of Indian Navy?

- A. Colonel

- B. Captain
- C. Commander
- D. Major

ANSWER: B

10. What Is The Ranking Of The IAF In The World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA)?

- A. 1st
- B. 2nd
- C. 3rd
- D. 4th

ANSWER: C

11. Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (DLRL) Centre Is Located In

- A. Hyderabad, Telangana
- B. Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- C. Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
- D. Tezpur, Assam

ANSWER: A

12. Indian National Committee for Space Research Was The Former Name of Which Organisation?

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. CSIR
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

13. HAL HPT-32 Deepak Is A

- A. Trainer Aircraft
- B. Fighter Aircraft
- C. Helicopter
- D. None

ANSWER: A

14. Malabo Is The Capital Of

- A. Equatorial Guinea

- B. Eritrea
- C. Estonia
- D. Ethiopia

ANSWER: A

15. "Super-Infinite: The Transformations of John Donne" Book Is Written By

- A. Ruskin Bond
- B. Gita Gopinath
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Katherine Rundell's

ANSWER: D

16. Accuracy International Arctic Warfare Magnum Is A

- A. UAV
- B. Sniper Rifles
- C. Tank
- D. Transport Aircraft

ANSWER: B

17. What Is The Full Form Of SDSC?

- A. Satish Development Space Centre
- B. Scientific Development Space Centre
- C. Satish Dhawan Space Centre
- D. Static Development Space Centre

ANSWER: C

18. INS Cheetah Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Landing ship tank

ANSWER: D

19. Which Port Is Located In Western Coast of India?

- A. Kandla
- B. Kolkata
- C. Mangalore
- D. Visakhapatnam

ANSWER: A

20. With reference to the Project 15B warships, consider the following statements:

- 1. They are equipped with BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles and long-range Surface-to-Air Missiles.**
- 2. 'INS Surat' was the first-ever ship of Project 15B Destroyers.**
- 3. Project 15B warships are completely indigenous.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

ANSWER: A

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