

Courses

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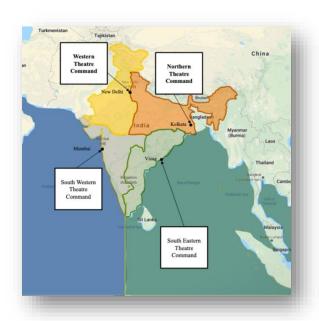
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Defence Current Affairs 10 October 2022

Theatre Commands Likely By March

- CDS Gen Anil Chauhan will brief Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the steps taken toward the formation of military theatre commands at the Combined Commanders' Conference in March 2023 at Karwar naval base in Karnataka.
- Only officers of the rank of commander-in-chief attend the CCC, which is hosted by the Indian Navy and where operational matters are discussed.
- While the three service chiefs agree on theatre commands, entrenched interests
 are still attempting to protect individual turfs in order to secure maximum key
 positions for their respective services in the proposed process, as well as
 cornering hardware platforms.
- 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.



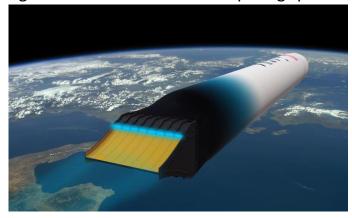
The Indian Army Has Ordered Nearly 2,000 Surveillance Drones

- The army has ordered nearly 2,000 drones, some of which will be used to transport vital supplies to forward posts and others for surveillance and reconnaissance. Because of high-altitude clashes between Indian and Chinese troops in Ladakh and, more recently, Arunachal Pradesh, these bulk orders are urgently required.
- Approximately 400 drones are being purchased for logistical support and approximately 1,500 for various types of surveillance. The logistics drones can carry loads weighing between 5kg and 40kg and will primarily be used to transport various types of supplies to troops in forward positions. The drones' travel distances could range between 5km and 20km.
- In Ladakh, China's People's Liberation Army has moved more troops forward and constructed heated structures and helipads in Aksai Chin, as well as key conflict points like Demchok and Galwan. This has necessitated keeping a close eye on their movements. The helipads allow them to quickly move troops to forward positions.



Validation Of India's First Revolutionary Aerospike Engine Carried Out

- Spacefields Private Limited revealed India first AeroSpike Engine and confirmed that it carried out Cold flow testing at Propulsion facility in Aerospace department, Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore to validate shock wave profiles and structural integrity of the propulsion system.
- Aerospike nozzles are designed to be altitude compensating i.e. they can have maximum efficiency and thrust at ground pressure as well as in the higher atmosphere: a unique capability that allows for a huge increase in efficiency with respect to currently used bell nozzles.
- First-stage engines perform best at sea level but are inefficient at higher
 altitudes or in space, necessitating the use of different engines for each stage of
 flight. The aerospike engine is unique in that it works by cutting the bell of a
 rocket engine, which directs the exhaust of a rocket engine in one direction, in
 half and then joining the two halves to form a tapering spike.



Raksha Mantri chairs Ambassadors' Roundtable Conference For Aero India 2023

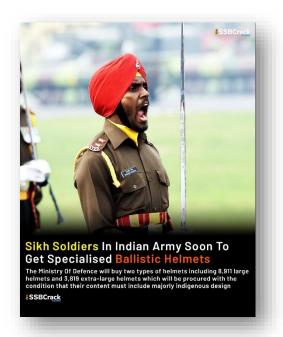
- Rajnath Singh chaired, in New Delhi on January 09, 2023, the Ambassadors'
 Roundtable conference for the forthcoming Aero India 2023. The reach-out
 event, organised by Department of Defence Production, MOD, was attended by
 Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Chargé d'affaires and Defence Attachés of
 over 80 countries.
- The Raksha Mantri invited the representatives from across the world to attend Asia's largest and 14th Aero show - Aero India-2023 - which will be held in Bengaluru, Karnataka b/w February 13-17, 2023. He urged them to encourage their respective defence and aerospace companies to attend the global event.
- Recalling the success of Aero India 2021, Shri Rajnath Singh stated that the last edition had witnessed unprecedented attendance of over 600 exhibitors physically and another 108 virtually. He added that the event saw the participation of 63 countries and around 3,000 Business-2-Business meetings were held. He also elaborated on the huge success of DefExpo 2022 which witnessed unparalleled participation of over 1,340 exhibitors, businesses, investors, start-ups, MSMEs, Armed Forces and delegates from several countries. He asserted that the conclusion of 451 Memoranda of Understanding, Transfer of Technology agreements, product launches and orders to domestic businesses, worth Rs 1.5 lakh crore, etc. attest to the success of the DefExpo. The Raksha Mantri hoped for a larger presence of exhibitors and representatives of friendly countries in Aero India-2023 and said "We remain committed in supporting the partnerships that have been forged thus far and forming new bonds for future growth."
- Shri Rajnath Singh gave a broad overview of India's growing defence industrial
 capabilities, stating that efforts are being made towards enhancing
 manufacturing capabilities, particularly in the emerging areas of drones, cybertech, Artificial Intelligence, radars, etc. He added that a robust defence
 manufacturing ecosystem has been created which has led to the emergence of
 India as a leading defence exporter in recent years. The defence exports have
 grown by eight times in the last five years and now India is exporting to over 75
 countries.



Sikh Soldiers In Indian Army Soon To Get Specialised Ballistic Helmets

- Indian army troops belonging to the Sikh community will now soon be receiving ballistic helmets, designed especially for them to wear on their turbans. Army officials are describing this procurement as the first such order for the Sikh soldiers.
- The Indian Army is planning to purchase as many as 12,730 ballistic helmets under emergency procurement using the fast track mode.
- The Ministry Of Defence will buy two types of helmets including 8,911 large helmets and 3,819 extra-large helmets which will be procured with the condition that their content must include majorly indigenous design as mentioned in the official document of the ministry.
- Sources said that since more than 10% of Indian Army troops are Sikh, the
 government will procure more helmets in the near future after analysis and
 review. Sikh soldiers serve in the Sikh, Jakli, Para and Punjab regiments of the
 Army among others.
- Punjab has the second highest number of soldiers in the Army among all states and Union Territories in the country. Around 90,000 Army personnel are from Punjab.
- A company had last year invented helmets specially for Sikh soldiers. According to reports, the helmet is the first-of-its-kind across the world as till date Sikh

soldiers were unable to use helmets that could be worn over the turban comfortably. This exposed them to injuries, leading to death in some instances.



Bharat Petroleum Launches Low Smoke Superior Kerosene Oil For The Indian Army

- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), a Maharatna and a Fortune Global 500 Company, today announced the launch of Low Smoke Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for the Indian Army in Jammu.
- BPCL has emerged as the first OMC to commence the supply of the new LSLA grade SKO supplies to the Army, which will go a long way in improving the serving environment and alleviate the issues related to smoke and smell in use of SKO.
- Normal Kerosene emits substantial smoke, which poses health hazards to the Army personnel who use it at higher altitudes, where oxygen level is very low. Hence, the low smoke kerosene is a big step towards providing a cleaner fuel to our soldiers operating in very tough terrains.
- Speaking on the occasion, Shri Sukhmal Jain, Director (Marketing) at Bharat
 Petroleum Corporation Limited, said, The courage, valour, and dedication of our
 army, to protect Mother Indias honour is incomparable. For the difficult
 conditions and the height at which they work as a shield to protect and serve
 our motherland and their selfless dedication, we can only salute them!

- Supplying Low Smoke Superior Kerosene Oil to the army at a high altitude is our way to thank them for their service to the nation and a small gesture to make their life a bit easy.
- Speaking on the occasion, Shri S Jena, Executive Director (Industrial & Commercial), BPCL said, Currently BPCL has a share of about 16% with the Indian Army, supplying close to 70 TKL of petroleum products annually and BPCL has partnered with Indian Army in provision of over 100 consumer pumps and Scattered Storage locations at strategic locations besides actively pursuing key initiatives.



India Deploys Its "Largest Single Unit Of UN Women Peacekeepers"

- India will deploy a platoon of women peacekeepers to UN Mission in Sudan. This
 will be India's largest single unit of women Peacekeepers in a UN Mission since it
 deployed the first-ever all-women contingent in Liberia in 2007.
- The Indian contingent, comprising two officers and 25 Other Ranks, will form part of an Engagement platoon and specialize in Community outreach, though they will be performing extensive security-related tasks as well.
- As of October 31, 2022, India is the **second largest** contributor to UN peacekeeping missions with 5,887 troops and personnel deployed across 12 missions, after Bangladesh (7,017).

What is the U.N. Peacekeeping mission?

- The U.N. Peacekeeping mission is a joint effort between the Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Operational Support and aims to assist host countries to transition from situations of conflict to peace.
- The U.N. began its Peacekeeping efforts in 1948 when it deployed military observers to West Asia. The Peacekeeping mission's role was to monitor the Armistice Agreement between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

• U.N. Peacekeepers provide security as well as political and peacebuilding support to conflict-ridden countries.



Review Questions

- 1. 14th Aero India Show 2023 Will Be Held In
- A. New Delhi
- B. Kolkata
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Noida

ANSWER: C

- 2. __Is The Apex Body Of The Legislatures In India That Completed Its Hundred Years In 2021.
- A. All India Presiding Officers' Conference
- B. All India President Officers' Conference
- C. All India Presiding Officers' Council
- D. None

ANSWER: A

3. TEDBF Stands For

- A. Twin End Deck Based Fighter
- B. Twin Engine Deck Based Fighter
- C. Twin Engine Dock Based Fighter

D. None

ANSWER: B

- 4. __Of The Corps Of Engineers Is The First Female Army Officer To Be Sent To A Frontline Post In Siachen Glacier.
- A. Captain Shivangi Chauhan
- B. Captain Shiva Chauhan
- C. Captain Shiva Singh
- D. Captain Avani Chaturvedi

ANSWER: B

- 5. Commander-in-Chief Of The Indian Armed Forces Is
- A. P.M.
- B. NSA
- C. The President
- D. Defence Minister

ANSWER: C

- 6. __Has Announced The Launch Of Low Smoke Superior Kerosene Oil For The Indian Army In Jammu.
- A. DRDO
- B. NASA
- C. IOCL
- D. BPCL

ANSWER: D

- 7. BPCL Hq Located In
- A. Mumbai
- B. Jammu
- C. Marmugao
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

- 8. Havildar Achinta Sheuli Is Related With
- **A.** Archery
- B. Weightlifting
- C. Judo

D. Football

ANSWER: B

9. Ex SHAKTI, Ex VARUNA, GARUDA India conducted with

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

ANSWER: C

10. India Purchased Sig Sauer Assault Rifles From

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

ANSWER: A

11. War Cry Of The BIHAR REGIMENT

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

ANSWER: C

12. __Is India's 3rd Highest Military Decoration Award.

- A. PVC
- B. MVC
- C. Veer Chakra
- D. Kirti Chakra

ANSWER: C

13. Where Is The Hq Of The Southern Command of The IAF?

- A. Kochi
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Pune
- D. Thiruvantpuram

ANSWER: D

14. Libreville Is The Capital Of

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

ANSWER: A

15. "Revolutionaries" Book Is Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Anil Deshmukh
- C. Ajit Agarkar
- D. Sanjeev Sanyal

ANSWER: D

16. The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited is Located In

- A. Mumbai
- B. Chennai
- C. Kochi
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

17. Armaments Research & Development Establishment (ARDE) Is Located In

- A. Pune, Maharashtra
- B. Bengaluru, Karnataka
- C. Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

18. Joint Ex B/w India And Singapore Is Called:

- A. Bold Kurukshetra
- **B. SLINEX**
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

19. INS Sahyadri Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Frigate

ANSWER: D

20. Where Is The Hq Of The EAC Of The IAF?

- A. Kochi
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Shillong
- D. Thiruvananthapuram

ANSWER: C





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