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Defence Current Affairs

19 October 2022

India, Oman Agree To Jointly Fight All Manifestations Of Terror

- India and its oldest strategic partner in the Gulf Oman on Wednesday condemned in the strongest terms all forms and manifestations of terrorism and underscored the need to work collectively to fight this menace.
- At a dialogue between two National Security Councils both sides discussed that expansion of terrorist propaganda, misuse of new and emerging technologies, arms and drugs trafficking and abuse of cyber space for recruitment, fundraising and disinformation.
- Both sides agreed to hold the next round of the strategic dialogue in Oman in 2024. Oman is a strategic partner and an important interlocutor for India at the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Arab League, and Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) fora.
- India is among Oman's top trading partners. For Oman, India was the third largest (after UAE and China) source for its imports and the third largest market (after UAE and Saudi Arabia) for its non-oil exports in 2019.
- The JMCC is the highest forum of engagement between India and Oman in the field of defence.
- The JMCC is expected to meet annually, but could not be organised since 2018 when the meeting of the 9th JMCC was held in Oman.
- The 10th JMCC is expected to comprehensively evaluate the ongoing defence exchanges and provide a roadmap for further strengthening defence ties in the coming years.

Military Exercises:

- Army exercise: Al Najah
- Air Force exercise: Eastern Bridge

- Naval Exercise: Naseem Al Bahr



Series Of New Events Being Organised As Part Of Republic Day celebrations 2023

- The Nation will celebrate its 74th Republic Day on January 26, 2023. The celebrations include the traditional march past at Kartavya Path comprising a grand parade by the contingents of the Armed Forces & Paramilitary Forces; tableaux display by the States and Central Ministries/Departments; cultural performances by children; acrobatic motorcycle rides and a fly-past, besides Beating the Retreat ceremony at the Vijay Chowk and PM's NCC rally.
- Addressing a press conference in New Delhi on January 18, 2023, Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane said that celebrations have been planned reflecting the Prime Minister's vision of Jan Bhagidari. The Republic Day celebrations are going to be week-long commencing on 23rd January, the birth anniversary of great national icon Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and culminate on 30th January which is observed as Martyrs' Day. The celebrations will be a tribute to INA veterans, people and tribal communities who participated in freedom movement.
- Many new events are being organised as part of the Republic Day celebrations this year. These include Military Tattoo & Tribal dance festival; Veer Gatha 2.0; second edition of Vande Bharatam dance competition; performances of Military & Coast Guard bands at the National War Memorial; an All-India School Band

Competition at the NWM; a Drone Show and projection mapping during Beating the Retreat ceremony. The details of the events are as follows:

Military Tattoo & Tribal Dance festival

- As part of Republic Day celebrations and to mark the 126th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose (celebrated as Parakram Diwas), a Military Tattoo and Tribal Dance festival 'Aadi-Shaurya - Parv Parakram ka' will be held at Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi on January 23 & 24, 2023. The Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Tribal Affairs are jointly organising the event, with Indian Coast Guard being the coordinating agency. It will witness 10 Military Tattoo performances and 20 Tribal Dances.
- Over 1,200 performers are fine tuning their art forms each day in rehearsals with their unique and colorful costumes, headdresses, musical instruments and rhythmic dance beats. The traditional dance forms to be presented during the main event include Gaurr Maria, Gaddi Nati, Siddi Dhamal, Baiga Pardhoni, Purulia, Bagurumba, Ghusadi, Balti, Lambadi, Paika, Rathwa, Budigali, Songimukhawate, Karma, Mangho, Ka Shad Mastieh, Kummikali, Palaiyar, Cheraw & Rekham Pada.
- The Indian Armed Forces will showcase Horse Show, Khukuri Dance, Gatka, Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Thang-ta, Motorcycle Display, Air Warrior Drill, Navy Band and martial arts. 20 Tribal dance troupes from all across the country will perform during military tattoo event. Approximately 60,000 spectators are expected to attend the event.
- The grand finale will showcase a performance by famous playback singer Shri Kailash Kher. The entry for the event is free. The tickets are available at www.bookmyshow.com.

Vande Bharatam 2.0

- The second edition of Vande Bharatam dance competition was organised as part of RDC 2023. Entries were sought from October 15 - November 10, 2022 from the participants in the age group of 17-30 years in the genres of Folk/Tribal, Classical and Contemporary/ Fusion. State/UT-level and Zonal-level competitions were conducted from November 17 to December 10, 2022 by the seven Zonal Cultural Centres under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture.

- The Grand finale was held in New Delhi on December 19 & 20, 2022 which witnessed participation of 980 dancers. Of those, 503 dancers were selected by a jury. These dancers will put up a grand cultural show during the RD parade on the theme of 'Nari Shakti'.

Veer Gatha 2.0

- Veer Gatha, one of the unique projects launched as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' last year, was organised to inspire and spread awareness among children about the gallant deeds and sacrifices of the Armed Forces. This year too, the Tri-Services organised virtual and face-to-face interaction of school children with Gallantry Award winners and the students (from 3rd to 12'h Standard) submitted their entries in the form of poem, essay, painting, multimedia presentation etc. These were evaluated by a national Committee, which selected Super-25. The winners are scheduled to be felicitated by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh in New Delhi on January 25, 2023. These winners will also attend the RD parade.

Tableaux

- Twenty-three tableaux – 17 from States/Union Territories and six from various Ministries/Departments, depicting the nation's rich cultural heritage, economic and social progress and strong internal and external security will roll down the Kartavya Path during RD Parade.

Bharat Parv

- Reflecting the Janbhagidari theme, 'Bharat Parv' will be organised at Gyan Path in front of Red Fort, Delhi from January 26-31, 2023 by the Ministry of Tourism. It will showcase Republic Day Tableaux, performances by the Military bands, cultural performances, Pan India Food Courts and Crafts Bazaar.

E-invitation

- This year, physical invitation cards for guests and spectators have been replaced by e-invitations. For this purpose, a dedicated portal www.amantran.mod.gov.in has been launched. Sale of tickets, admit cards, invitation cards and car parking labels are being issued online through this portal. This will ensure the whole process to be more secure & paperless and enable people from all parts of the country to attend this national event.

Special Invitees

- This year invites have been sent to common people from all walks of the society such as Shramyogis involved in construction of Central Vista, Kartvya Path, New Parliament Building, milk, vegetable vendors, and street vendors etc. These Special Invitees will be prominently seated at Kartvya Path.

School Band Performance at NWM

- An All-India School Band competition was organised for various schools to compete and perform in the run up to the Republic Day to encourage values of discipline, teamwork & national pride among the children. Over 300 schools participated in the competition organised by Ministry of Defence in coordination with Ministry of Education. Eight school bands were selected, which began performing at the National War Memorial from 15th January onwards. The performances will continue till 22nd January.

Drone Show

- The biggest Drone Show in India, comprising of 3,500 indigenous drones, will light up the evening sky over the Raisina hills, weaving myriad forms of national figures/events through smooth synchronisation. It depicts the success of start-up ecosystem, technological prowess of the country's youth and pave the way for future path-breaking trends. The event will be organised by M/s Botlabs Dynamics.

Anamorphic Projection

- For the first time, a 3-D anamorphic projection will be organised during Beating Retreat Ceremony 2023 on the façade of North and South Block.



BSF Ex-DG Pankaj Kumar Singh Appointed Deputy NSA

- Retired Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF) Pankaj Kumar Singh has been appointed as the Deputy National Security Adviser in National Security Council Secretariat for a period of two years.
- As per a National Security Council of Secretariat order issued on January 15, Singh a 1988-batch Indian Police Service officer of the Rajasthan cadre has been appointed on a re-employment contract, for a period of two years with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- When Singh took charge of the BSF on August 31, 2021, he had created a history of a son and a father holding the top post of a paramilitary force during their services. His father and retired IPS officer of the 1959 batch, Prakash Singh, had also headed the BSF from June 1993 to January 1994.



NSG To Procure Robots For Surveillance Purposes

- The National Security Guard (NSG) will procure surveillance robots to reduce human intervention and provide seamless surveillance in a hazardous environment where continuous supervision and security are necessary.
- The 13 four-wheeled day and night robots will be procured by the NSG. The robots will have easy manoeuvrability through a remote control and instantaneous audio and video reconnaissance within indoor and outdoor environments.
- These robots will be equipped with **360-degree** cameras with infrared that can easily detect objects and the presence of a human in and around them. The robots will have a feature of manoeuvrability in a variety of rough terrain and will have to self-right properly when flipped over.
- The National Security Guard, commonly known as Black Cats, is a counter-terrorism unit of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs. It was founded on 16 October 1984, following Operation Blue Star, for combating terrorist activities and protect states against internal disturbances.
- Founded: 22 September 1986
- Jurisdiction: India
- Abbreviation: NSG
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Agency executive: M A Ganapathy IPS, Director General of NSG
- Employees: 10,000 active personnel
- Annual budget: ₹1,293 crore (US\$161.9 million) (2022–23)



IL 38 Aircraft of Indian Navy To Fly First And Last Time Over Kartavya Path On Republic Day

- After completing 44 glorious years of service to the nation, IL 38 aircraft of the Indian Navy will be flying over the Kartavya Path for the first and last time on Republic Day this year.
- The Republic Day fly-past will comprise 45 Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft, one from the Indian Navy and four helicopters from the Indian Army, said Wing Commander Indranil Nandi.
- IL 38SD aircraft of the Indian Navy was decommissioned on January 17, 2022, after completing 44 glorious years of service to the nation. The aircraft was commissioned into the Indian Navy in 1977 and remained a formidable air asset throughout its service life. The IL 38 was an all-weather aircraft with long endurance and substantial operating range.



Review Questions

1. Who Has Been Appointed As The Deputy National Security Adviser?

- A. Janak Singh
- B. R.S. Saxena
- C. Ajit Doval
- D. Pankaj Kumar Singh

ANSWER: D

2. Which Force Will Procure Surveillance Robots To Reduce Human Intervention?

- A. Indian Army
- B. Indian Navy
- C. NSG
- D. BSF

ANSWER: C

3. Ex 'EASTERN BRIDGE' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: B

4. Which Aircraft of Indian Navy flew first and last time over Kartavya Path on Republic Day?

- A. Mig29K
- B. Rafale-M
- C. IL 38
- D. IL 78

ANSWER: C

5. MSDF Stands For

- A. Multi-Sensor Data Fusion
- B. Multi-Sensor Data Future
- C. Multi-Sensor Daily Fusion
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

6. AESA Stands For

- A. Activated Electronically Scanned Array
- B. Active Electronically Scanned Array
- C. Active Electronics Scanned Array
- D. None

ANSWER: B

7. The Uttam AESA, Developed By

- A. DRDO
- B. HAL
- C. BEL
- D. NASA

ANSWER: A

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

- A.** Colonel
- B.** Captain
- C.** Commander
- D.** Major

ANSWER: B

9. In Colonial Era CRPF Was Known As

- A. Crown Representative's Police

- B. Crown Response Force
- C. Queens Protection Force
- D. None

ANSWER: A

10. Pangong Tso lake Is Located In

- A. Kashmir
- B. Ladakh
- C. Odisha
- D. Kochi

ANSWER: B

11. First Submarine Developed Under P-75 Is

- A. INS Kalvari
- B. INS Khanderi
- C. INS Karanj
- D. INS Vela

ANSWER: A

12. Central Statistical Organization Hq Is In

- A. New Delhi
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: A

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

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

ANSWER: C

14. 'Yaounde' Is The Capital Of

- A. Cameroon
- B. Qatar
- C. UAE
- D. Cambodia

ANSWER: A

15. "Divorce and Democracy: A History of Personal Law in Post-Independence India" Book Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Sitaram Yechuri
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Saumya Saxena

ANSWER: D

16. Army Airborne Training School Is Located At

- A. Agra
- B. Mumbai
- C. Pune
- D. Nagpur

ANSWER: A

17. Range of RS-28 Sarmat Missile Is

- A. 12000 km
- B. 14000 km
- C. 16000 km
- D. 18000 km

ANSWER: D

18. What Was The Theme Of Exercise Kakadu-22?

- A. Free Indo-Pacific Region
- B. Partnership, Leadership, Friendship
- C. Always Ahead
- D. None

ANSWER: B

19. INS Chennai Is A

- A. Missile Destroyer
- B. Submarine
- C. Landing Ship Tank
- D. None

ANSWER: A

20. 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



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