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Defence Current Affairs

24 January 2023

COMMISSIONING OF FIFTH KALVARI CLASS SUBMARINE 'VAGIR'

- Indian Navy's fifth stealth Scorpene class Submarine INS Vagir was commissioned into the Indian Navy today, 23 Jan 2023 at the Naval Dockyard Mumbai in the presence of Adm R Hari Kumar, Chief of the Naval Staff, the Chief Guest for the ceremony. Six Scorpene Class submarines are being built in India by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France. INS Vagir would form part of the Western Naval Command's Submarine fleet and would be another potent part of the Command's arsenal.
- Vagir was launched on 12 Nov 20, under Project 75 (P75) and was delivered to Indian Navy on 20 Dec 22 post completion of sea trials. Vagir has the distinction of having the lowest build time among all indigenously manufactured submarines till date.
- Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command VAdm AB Singh, Chairman & Managing Director, MDL VAdm Narayan Prasad (Retd) and other senior civil & military officials of Ministry of Defence were present during the commissioning ceremony. The crew of the erstwhile 'Vagir', a Russian origin Foxtrot Class Submarine which was decommissioned in 2001 were special invitees for the ceremony and the then commissioning Commanding Officer RAdm K Raja Menon (Retd) was also present.
- The Scorpene Submarines are extremely potent platforms, they have advanced stealth features and are also equipped with both long range guided torpedoes as well as anti-ship missiles. These submarine have a state of the art SONAR suite and sensor suite permitting outstanding operational capabilities.



DRDO's Fuel Cell-based Air Independent Propulsion System To Soon Be Fitted Onboard INS Kalvari

- In a major boost to 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', Fuel Cell-based Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) system of DRDO's Naval Materials Research Laboratory (NMRL) will soon be fitted onboard INS Kalvari. An agreement was signed between senior officials of NMRL and Naval Group France in Mumbai on January 23, 2023 to extend cooperation to enter into the detailed design phase for integration of indigenous AIP in the Kalvari class submarines. As part of the agreement, Naval Group France will certify the AIP design for integration in the submarines.
- The AIP has a force multiplier effect on lethality of a diesel electric submarine as it enhances the submerged endurance by several folds. It has merits in performance compared to other technologies and is unique as the hydrogen is generated onboard. This technology has been successfully developed by NMRL with the support of Indian industry partners. The technology has now reached the stage of maturity for industrialisation.
- It is worth mentioning that the land-based prototype of the NMRL's AIP has been tested successfully. This new endeavour will be a significant step towards the detailed design certification of the energy module, which will be performed by NMRL along with Indian industry and design of the platforms impacted by the integration of the indigenous AIP inside the Indian submarine by Naval Group. These actions will seamlessly lead the way to start of localisation and industrialization of AIP including the hull fabrication by the Indian industry for future fitment on-board the submarines.

- Speaking on the occasion, Chairman & CEO at Naval Group France Mr Pierre Eric Pommellet said, they are proud to cooperate with Indian stakeholders to safely integrate the AIP in the Kalvari class submarines, which have been built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited. This is a natural extension of strategic bilateral cooperation shared between India and France in the field of underwater defence & deterrence and in line with Naval Group's continued commitment towards the Government's 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' policy.
- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has complimented DRDO, Indian Navy and MDL for taking Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative forward in underwater domain. Secretary Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat also congratulated NMRL, Indian Navy, MDL and Naval Group France for this strategic partnership.



Aujas Cybersecurity Receives DSCI Excellence Award 2022

- Aujas Cybersecurity - An NSEIT Group Company and a leader in cybersecurity transformation services and solutions were awarded the **Data Security Council of India Excellence Award 2022** as the 'Cybersecurity Services Company of the Year' India geography for its strategic, proactive, and innovative security and privacy efforts.
- The award emphasizes the significance of the security function and its contribution to the overall business ecosystem, which was presented at the Annual Information Security Summit (AISS) 2022, organized by NASSCOM-DSCI in Gurugram, Haryana (India), last month.

- Vinayak Godse, CEO - Data Security Council of India (DSCI), said, "As per DSCI's report on Cybersecurity Services Landscape, Cybersecurity Services Industry is expected to grow to ~13.6 Billion by 2025. The Indian Services Industry is playing an important role in securing enterprises in India and the globe from continuously evolving cyber threats.
- Every year, the DSCI Excellence Awards recognizes 'Security Services Company' for its efforts to provide top-notch security competencies. I congratulate Aujas Cybersecurity for winning the DSCI Excellence Awards 2022 in the category 'Cybersecurity Service Company of the Year' and extend my best wishes."



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EXAMS

Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2023

- For the year 2023, **Odisha State Disaster Management Authority and Lunglei Fire Station**, Mizoram, both in the Institutional category, have been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2023 for their excellent work in Disaster Management.
- The Government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has instituted an annual award known as Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar to recognize and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organizations in India in the field of disaster management.
- The award carries a cash prize of **Rs. 51 lakhs** and a certificate in the case of an institution and **Rs. 5 lakhs** and a certificate in the case of an individual.

Following Is A Summary Of The Outstanding Work Of The Winners Of 2023 Award

- Odisha State Disaster Management Authority was established in 1999 in the aftermath of the Super Cyclone. OSDMA embarked on multiple initiatives including raising of the Odisha Disaster Response Action Force Multi-hazard Early Warning Service framework, and a cutting-edge technology-enabled web/smartphone-based platform called "SATARK" (System for Assessing, Tracking, and Alerting Disaster Risk Information based on Dynamic Risk Knowledge).
- Lunglei Fire Station, Mizoram, responded efficiently and effectively to a massive forest fire reported on 24 April 2021 in the uninhabited forest areas surrounding Lunglei town and spread to more than 10 village council areas. Lunglei Fire Station personnel assisted by local civilians worked continuously for more than 32 hours during which they motivated and provided on-the-spot training to residents.



PM Names 21 Largest Islands In Andaman And Nicobar After 21 Indian Heroes

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi named the 21 largest unnamed islands of Andaman and Nicobar Islands after Param Vir Chakra awardees in a ceremony on Monday on the occasion of Parakram Diwas.
- The largest unnamed island was named after the first Param Vir Chakra awardee, Major Somnath Sharma, who lost his life in action on November 3, 1947, while fighting Pakistani infiltrators near Srinagar Airport.

- The second largest unnamed island will be named after the second Param Vir Chakra awardee, Subedar and Honorary Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh. He earned his Param Vir Chakra in the Indo-Pakistani War of 1947 where battles were fought for control of the Tithwal sector.
- The PMO said the move comes as part of efforts by the Prime Minister to provide due respect to the real-life heroes of the country.
- The 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees, after whom the islands will be named are as follows, Major Somnath Sharma; Subedar and Honorary Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh, MM; 2nd Lt. Rama Raghoba Rane; Nayak Jadunath Singh; Company Havildar Major Piru Singh; Capt GS Salaria; Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Dhan Singh Thapa; Subedar Joginder Singh; Major Shaitan Singh; CQMH. Abdul Hamid; Lt Col Ardeshir Burzorji Tarapore; Lance Naik Albert Ekka; Major Hoshiar Singh; 2nd Lt. Arun Khetrapal; Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon; Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran; Naib Subedar Bana Singh; Captain Vikram Batra; Lt Manoj Kumar Pandey; Subedar Major (then Rifleman) Sanjay Kumar; and Subedar Major Retd (Honorary Captain) Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav.



#	Param Vir Chakra awardees	Islands Name
1.	Major Somnath Sharma	Somnath Island
2.	Subedar and Hony Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh, MM	Karam Singh Island
3.	2nd Lt. Rama Raghoba Rane	Rane Island
4.	Nayak Jadunath Singh	Jadunath Island
5.	Company Havildar Major Piru Singh	Piru Island
6.	Capt GS Salaria	Salaria Island
7.	Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Dhan Singh Thapa	Dhan Singh Island
8.	Subedar Joginder Singh	Joginder Island
9.	Major Shaitan Singh	Shaitan Singh Island
10.	COMH. Abdul Hamid	Hamid Island
11.	Lt Col Ardeshir Burzorji Tarapore	Tarapore Island
12.	Lance Naik Albert Ekka	Ekka Island
13.	Major Hoshiar Singh	Hoshiar Island
14.	2nd Lt. Arun Khetrapal	Khetrapal Island
15.	Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon	Sekhon Island
16.	Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran	Ramaswamy Island
17.	Naib Subedar Bana Singh	Bana Island
18.	Captain Vikram Batra	Batra Island
19.	Lt Manoj Kumar Pandey	Pandey Island
20.	Subedar Major (then RifleMan) Sanjay Kumar	Sanjay Island
21.	Subedar Major Retd (Hony Captain) Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav	Yogendra Island

Exercise TARKASH 2023

- NSG and US Special Operations Forces (SOF) train together to share expertise in urban counter-terrorism, combat shooting, and long-range marksmanship during the ongoing Joint Exercise at Chennai.
- 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.
- **Jurisdiction:** India
- **Abbreviation:** NSG
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Agency executive:** M A Ganapathy IPS, DG of NSG



Review Questions

1. Ex 'Tarkash 2023' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: B

2. Neta Ji Subhas Chandra Was Born On

- A. 23rd Jan 1896
- B. 23rd Jan 1897
- C. 23rd Jan 1898
- D. 23rd Jan 1899

ANSWER: B

3. Exercise AMPHEX 2023 Is Conducted At

- A. Kochi
- B. Kakinada
- C. Konkan Coast
- D. Kalam Island

ANSWER: B

4. Indian Navy 5th Stealth Scorpene-Class Submarine ___ Was Commissioned Into The Indian Navy

- A. INS Vela
- B. INS Vagsheer
- C. INS Vagir
- D. INS Arighat

ANSWER: C

5. ___ & ___ Have Been Selected For The Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2023.

- A. Odisha State Disaster Management Authority
- B. Lunglei Fire Station
- C. Both A & C
- D. Both A & B

ANSWER: D

6. Fuel Cell-based AIP system of DRDO's ___ Will Soon Be Fitted Onboard INS Kalvari.

- A. Naval Materials Research Laboratory
- B. Advanced Centre for Energetic Materials
- C. Advanced Systems Laboratory
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

7. ___ Committee Had Recommended The Appointment Of The Chief of Defence Staff.

- A. Kargil War Committee
- B. Lodha Committee
- C. Abhijeet Sen Committee
- D. KV Kamath Committee

ANSWER: A

8. 'Service And Loyalty' Is The Motto Of

- A.** CRPF
- B.** BSF
- C.** NSG
- D.** ITBP

ANSWER: A

9. The Hambantota Port Is In

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. Qatar
- C. Iran
- D. Austria

ANSWER: A

10. "Nischay Kar Apni Jeet Karon" is The Motto Of____

- A. RAJPUT REGIMENT
- B. RAJPUTANA RIFLES
- C. THE BRIGADE OF THE GUARDS
- D. SIKH REGIMENT

ANSWER: D

11. CH-47 Chinook Is A

- A. Air to Air Missile
- B. Stealth guided-missile destroyer
- C. Tandem rotor helicopters
- D. Aircraft Carrier

ANSWER: C

12. Ennore Port Is At

- A. Kerala
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. West Bengal
- D. Gujarat

ANSWER: B

13. C-17 Globemaster Manufactured By

- A. Airbus
- B. Lockheed Martin
- C. Dassault
- D. Boeing

ANSWER: D

14. Bridgetown Is The Capital Of

- A. Barbados
- B. Belarus

- C. Belgium
- D. Benin

ANSWER: A

15. "Advantage India: The Story of Indian Tennis" Book Is Written By

- A. Anindya Dutta
- B. Anant Vijay
- C. Kabir Bedi
- D. Nitin Gokhale

ANSWER: A

16. International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Hq Is At

- A. London, United Kingdom
- B. Vienna, Austria
- C. Paris, France
- D. Geneva, Switzerland

ANSWER: A

17. Air Commodore Rank Of IAF Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of Indian Army?

- A. Brigadier
- B. Lt. Gen
- C. Captain
- D. Major General

ANSWER: A

18. "It Is Our Duty To Pay For Our Liberty With Our Own Blood." Said By__

- A. Pandit Nehru
- B. Mahatma Gandhi
- C. Subhas Chandra Bose
- D. Bhagat Singh

ANSWER: C

19. AUKUS Stands For

- A. Azerbaijan, the United Kingdom, & the United States
- B. Australia, the United Kingdom, & the United States
- C. Australia, the United Kingdom, & Uganda
- D. Argentina, the United Kingdom, & the United States

ANSWER: B

20. Madagascar Is In

- A. Pacific Ocean
- B. Indian Ocean
- C. Black Sea
- D. Arctic Ocean

ANSWER: B



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