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Defence Current Affairs

29-30 January 2023

Exercise Topchi 2023

- Indigenously manufactured weapon systems were the highlight of the Indian Army's 'Exercise Topchi', an annual firepower demonstration and training exercise conducted at the School of Artillery in Devlali here on Sunday.
- The mega event took place under the stewardship of Lt Gen S Harimohan Iyer, AVSM, Commandant School of Artillery and Col Commandant Regiment of Artillery.
- This edition of "Exercise Topchi" showcased the integrated employment of firepower and surveillance assets to include guns, mortars, rockets, drones, and aviation assets.
- In line with the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', the highlight of the exercise was display and firing by indigenously manufactured artillery equipment viz K-9 Vajra, Dhanush, Indian field gun (IFG)/ light field gun (LFG) system and Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers.
- The event was witnessed by student officers of Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Defence Services Technical Staff Course, Pune, Nepal Army Command & Staff College and civil administration officers.



Startup20 Inception Meet – NIIO Showcase

- The Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) showcased medical innovations undertaken by Indian Naval officers during the inception meeting of the Startup20 Engagement Group under India's G20 presidency. Various medical innovations including the 'Aadyant' Oxygen Recycling System (ORS), 'Spandan' low-cost digital stethoscope and 'Nebiro' smart portable nebuliser were displayed.
- Delegates from G 20 countries and senior functionaries including G20 Sherpa Mr Amitabh Kant and CEO Niti Aayog Mr Parameswaran Iyer interacted with the naval officers and praised the innovative work being done by the Indian Navy under the theme "Indian Navy – Innovating towards Nation Building".
- The two-day event, set up under India's G20 presidency is being held on 28-29 Jan 23 at Hyderabad. Startup20 aspires to create a global narrative for supporting start-ups and enabling synergies between start-ups, corporates, investors, innovation agencies and other key ecosystem stakeholders.
- Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) has been launched by the Defence Minister of India in 2020.
- Objective: To foster innovation and indigenisation for self-reliance in defence in keeping with the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- It will put in place dedicated structures for the end-users to interact with academia and industry.

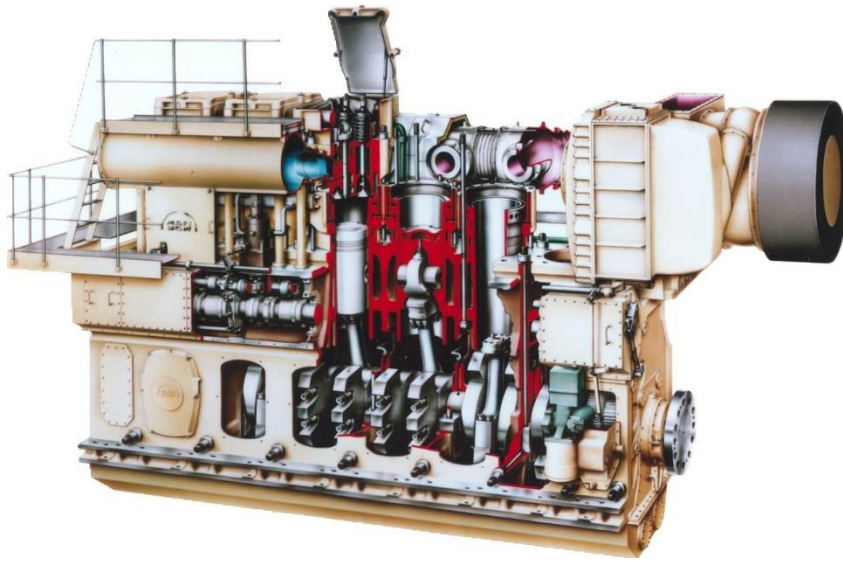
Structure

- Naval Technology Acceleration Council (N-TAC) will bring together the twin aspects of innovation and indigenisation and provide apex level directives.
- Working group under the N-TAC will implement the projects.
- Technology Development Acceleration Cell (TDAC) has been created for induction of emerging disruptive technology in an accelerated time frame.



GRSE Signs Pact With Rolls Royce

- Defence PSU Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd has signed a MoU with Rolls Royce Solutions of Germany for manufacture of high-quality marine diesel engines at the former's plant in Ranchi, an official said here on Saturday. The Indian Navy's Chief of Material Vice Admiral Sandeep Naithani was present at the signing of the MoU.
- "Under the agreement, GRSE and Rolls Royce Solutions will co-operate in the licence production and localisation of the technologically advanced MTU S4000 governmental marine engines," the GRSE official said.
- These engines, which are at present imported, are used for fast patrol vessels, interceptor boats and fast attack crafts built by GRSE and other shipyards in the country, he said.
- The MoU was signed on Friday by GRSE's chairman and managing director Commodore (retd) PR Hari and GS Selwyn, managing director of MTU, a solution brand of Power Systems, a fully-owned subsidiary of Rolls Royce, the official added.



MP Aircraft Crash

- The black box of Mirage 2000 and a part of the flight data recorder of Sukhoi-30MKI jet, which crashed in MP's Morena district, have been found from the wreckage, an official said on Sunday. The two frontline combat aircraft of the IAF crashed during a training mission in Morena on Saturday, resulting in the death of a wing commander while two other pilots ejected safely.
- According to an aviation expert, it was the first Mirage 2000 as well as Sukhoi-30MKI that the IAF lost in a mid-air collision.
- The SU-30MKI is a twin-seater combat jet, while the Mirage 2000, manufactured by French aerospace major Dassault Aviation, is a single-seater aircraft.
- The IAF court of inquiry to establish whether there was a mid-air collision or not. The Su-30 had two pilots, while Mirage 2000 had one pilot during the crash.

Initial reports suggest two pilots are safe, while an IAF chopper reaching the location of the third pilot soon, defence sources told ANI.

- “Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh was briefed by the Chief of Air Staff on the crash of two aircraft of the Indian Air Force. Raksha Mantri enquired about the well-being of the IAF pilots and is monitoring the developments closely,” defence ministry sources told.



SSB Crack
EXAMS



‘Beating the Retreat’ Ceremony 2023

- Indian tunes based on Indian Classical Ragas will be the flavour of ‘Beating the Retreat’ ceremony this year which will be graced by President and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces Smt Droupadi Murmu, at the historic Vijay Chowk in the heart of New Delhi on January 29, 2023. As many as 29 captivating

and foot-tapping Indian tunes will be played by the music bands of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force and the State Police and Central Armed Police Force (CAPF).

- The ceremony, which will have the august presence of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, will also witness the country's biggest Drone Show, comprising of 3,500 indigenous drones. The magnificent drone show will light up the evening sky over the Raisina hills, weaving myriad forms of national figures/events through smooth synchronisation. It will depict 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.
- 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.
- The Ceremony will begin with the massed band's 'Agniveer' tune which will be followed by the enthralling tunes like 'Almora', 'Kedar Nath', 'Sangam Dur', 'Queen of Satpura', 'Bhagirathi', 'Konkan Sundari' by Pipes and Drums band.
- Indian Air Force's band will play 'Aprajey Arjun', 'Charkha', 'Vayu Shakti', 'Swadeshi', while fascinating 'Ekla Cholo Re', 'Hum Taiyyar Hai', and 'Jai Bharati' will be played by the band of Indian Navy.
- The Indian Army's band will play 'Shankhnaad', 'Sher-e-Jawan', 'Bhupal', 'Agranee Bharat', 'Young India', 'Kadam Kadam Badhaye Ja', 'Drummers Call', and 'Ae Mere Watan Ke Logon'.
- The event will come to a close with the ever-popular tune of 'Sare Jahan se Acha'.
- 'Beating the Retreat' ceremony at the Vijay Chowk on January 29th every year marks the culmination of the four-day-long Republic Day celebrations. It has emerged as an event of national pride when the Colours and Standards are paraded.
- The ceremony traces its origins to the early 1950s when Major Roberts of the Indian Army indigenously developed the unique ceremony of display by the massed bands.



India And NATO To Hold Talks On China

- New Delhi will play host to a rare dialogue between North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials in March as per a report in "Live Mint". Officials from India's ministries of defence and external affairs are expected to participate in the strategic dialogue between NATO officials.
- NATO is keen on the rise of the Indian military as a regional power to counterbalance the Chinese military that is showing border aggressions at multiple fronts in Asia.
- NATO fears that by 2025, due to Ukraine's distraction, the Chinese military might plan the invasion of Taiwan. NATO and American Military Industrial Complex have stepped in to provide Ukraine with Military hardware to stop any Russian advancement.
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a military alliance established by the North Atlantic Treaty (also called the Washington Treaty) of April, 1949, by the United States, Canada, and several Western European nations to provide collective security against the Soviet Union.
- There are currently **30** member states.
- Its original members were Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

- Joining the original signatories were Greece and Turkey (1952), West Germany (1955, from 1990 as Germany), Spain (1982), the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland (1999), Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia (2004), Albania and Croatia (2009), Montenegro (2017), and North Macedonia (2020).
- France withdrew from the integrated military command of NATO in 1966 but remained a member of the organization, it resumed its position in NATO's military command in 2009.
- Recently, Finland and Sweden have shown interest to join NATO.
- **Headquarters:** Brussels, Belgium.
- **Headquarters of Allied Command Operations:** Mons, Belgium.



Review Questions

1. **NATO Hq Is In**
 - A. Brussels, Belgium
 - B. Berlin, Germany
 - C. NY, USA
 - D. Paris, France

ANSWER: A

2. By Which Ministry Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation Have Been Launched?

- A. MHA
- B. MEA
- C. MOD
- D. None

ANSWER: C

3. 'Exercise Topchi' 2023 Conducted At Where?

- A. Noida
- B. Pune
- C. Nashik
- D. Auli

ANSWER: C

4. The 15th BRICS Summit Is All Set To Take Place In

- A. Bharat
- B. Brazil
- C. China
- D. South Africa

ANSWER: D

5. 'Beating the Retreat' Ceremony Was First Started In

- A. 1947
- B. 1950
- C. 1955
- D. 1962

ANSWER: B

6. SAGAR Stands For

- A. Secure and Growth for All in the Region
- B. Security and Growth for All in the Region
- C. Security and Grown for All in the Region
- D. None

ANSWER: B

A. Unity of Statue Is Located In

- B. Kevadia

- C. Gandhi Nagar
- D. Surat

ANSWER: A

7. Udarshakti Is A Exercise Held B/W India And Which Other Country?

- A.** Malaysia
- B.** Singapore
- C.** Russia
- D.** Japan

ANSWER: A

8. Motto Of the Territorial Army Is

- A. Rhino Charge
- B. Duty Unto Death
- C. Valour
- D. Savdhani Va Shoorta

ANSWER: D

9. Joint Exercises B/w India And Bangladesh Is Called:

- A. Table-Top Ex
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

10. 'Swathi' Weapon-Locating Radar Developed by the

- A. ISRO
- B. IAI
- C. DRDO
- D. Boeing

ANSWER: C

11. Who Was The First And The Only PVC Recipient Of The IAF?

- A. Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon
- B. Arun Khetarpal
- C. Somnath Sharma
- D. None of these

ANSWER: A

12. Which Is Not The Department of MOD?

- A. Department of Defence
- B. DRDO
- C. Department of Defence Production
- D. Department Of Border Management

ANSWER: D

13. Banjul Is The Capital Of

- A. Georgia
- B. Qatar
- C. Gambia
- D. Grenada

ANSWER: C

14. "Wrist Assured: An Autobiography" Book Written By

- A. Gundappa Ranganatha Vishwanath
- B. Kapil Dev
- C. Sunil Gavaskar
- D. None

ANSWER: A

15. Regimental Center Of PUNJAB REGIMENT Is In

- A. Balasore, Odisha
- B. Chennai, T.N.
- C. Trombay, M.H.
- D. Ramgarh Cantonment, Jharkhand

ANSWER: D

16. "Sangathan Va Veerta" Is The Motto Of

- A. JAT REGIMENT
- B. PARACHUTE REGIMENT
- C. PUNJAB REGIMENT
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

17. 'Desh Pukare Jab Sab Ko' Is The March Past Song Of

- A. IAF
- B. ICG

- C. BSF
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

18. Where Is The Hq Of The Western Command of The Indian Army?

- A. Kochi
- B. Chandi Mandir
- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: B

19. Annexation of Goa, Daman and Diu Done In

- A. 1961
- B. 1971
- C. 1981
- D. 1991

ANSWER: A

20. Armed Forces Medical College Is Located At

- A. Mumbai
- B. Pune
- C. Nashik
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C



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