















Courses

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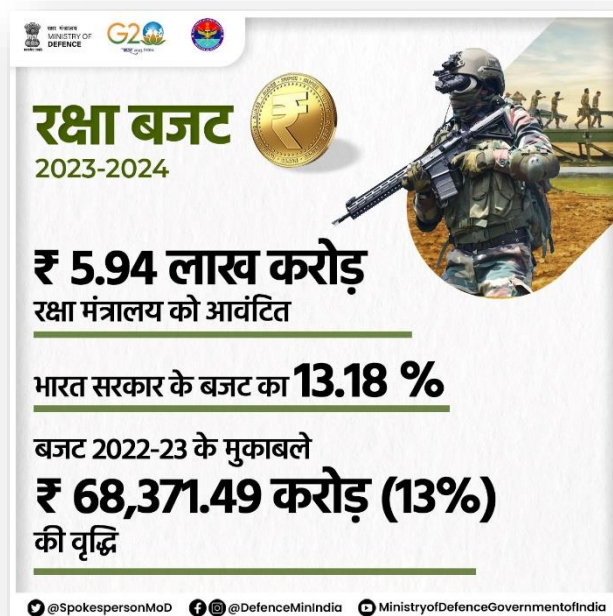


Defence Current Affairs

02 February 2023

Defence Budget 2023-24

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday increased allocation to defence Budget to **Rs 5.94 lakh crore** for 2023-24 from last year's (2022-23) allocation of **Rs 5.25 lakh crore**.
- A total of **Rs 1.62 lakh crore** has been set aside for **capital expenditure** that includes purchasing new weapons, aircraft, warships and other military hardware, stated the Budget report.
- The Armed Forces have to be battle ready to meet any eventuality. Towards that end, Non-Salary revenue outlay has been enhanced significantly from **Rs 62,431 crore** in Budget Estimates (BE) 2022-23 to **Rs 90,000 crore** in BE 2023-24, representing a **44% jump**.
- This expenditure is expected to close critical gaps in the combat capabilities and equip the Forces in terms of ammunition, sustenance of weapons & assets, military reserves etc. This Budget has also sustained the thrust on Modernisation and Infrastructure Development of the Defence Services, by continuing an upward trend in Capital Outlay.
- According to 2023-24 budget documents, an allocation of **₹ 2,70,120 crore** has been made for revenue expenditure that includes expenses on payment of salaries and maintenance of establishments.
- A separate amount of **₹ 1,38,205 crore** has been allocated for defence pensions. The total revenue expenditure including the pension outlay has been estimated at **₹ 4,22,162 crore**.
- According to the budget papers, the total size of the defence budget is **₹ 5,93,537.64 crore**.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday said payment received from Agniveer Corpus Fund has been proposed to be exempted from taxes.
- The proposal was made by Sitharaman while announcing Union Budget 2023-24.



Budget 2023-24: Rs 1.96 Lakh Crore Allocated To Home Ministry

- Sending a clear message about its internal security priorities, the Modi government on Wednesday allocated Rs 1.96 lakh crore to the MHA with a majority of the spending on Central Armed Police Forces such as CRPF and intelligence gathering.
- The 2023-24 budget allocation to the MHA, helmed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, is **Rs 1,96,034.94 crore**. The budget 2022-23 had earmarked Rs **1,85,776.55 crore**.
- The bulk of the amount of the MHA, **Rs 1,27,756.74 crore**, has been allocated to the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) in comparison to **Rs 1,19,070.36 crore** in 2022-23.
- The lion's share of the budget allocation for the MHA has gone to the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), which have been earmarked in excess of Rs 1.27 lakh crore for the coming fiscal. Of this, Rs 11,809 crore has been allocated for capital expenditure. In the 2022-23 budget, the allocation for the police stood at Rs 1.17 lakh crore, with Rs 10,500 crore being capital expenditure. A substantial amount has also been allocated for improving infrastructure along the international border, police infrastructure and modernisation of police forces.

- Of Rs 1.96 crore, the budget allocated for Census 2021 has been slashed from Rs 3,676 crore in the last budget to Rs 1,564 crore in this budget. “Census, survey and statistics/Registrar General of India (RGI), includes provisions for the office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India and various schemes of RGI, including National Population Register and expenditure on Census, 2021. In 2021-22, a budget of Rs 505.12 crore was allocated, and Rs 3,276 was allocated in the last budget, but it was later revised,” according to the budget.
- The Union Territory of J&K has been given Rs 35,581 crore this budget, the same as the last one. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been allocated Rs 5,987 crore in this budget and Ladakh has been allocated Rs 5,958 crore, the same as the last one and the one before that. Rs 1,168 crore has been allocated to Delhi as compared to Rs 977 crore in the last budget.
- Border infrastructure management has been allocated Rs 3,545 crore – which is 29.17 per cent higher than Rs 2,744 crore allocated in the earlier budget. Rs 350.61 crore has been allocated for maintenance of border check posts, which is higher than Rs 22.5 crore allocated last year, according to the budget.



Air Marshal Ap Singh Assumes Appointment Of VCOAS

- Air Marshal AP Singh PVSM AVSM took over as the VCAS on 01 February 2023. On the occasion of taking over the office of VCAS. He was accorded a ceremonial Guard of Honour at Air Hq (Vayu Bhavan).

- An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Defence Services Staff College and National Defence College, the Air Marshal was commissioned into the Fighter Stream of the IAF on 21 December 1984.
- The Air Officer is a Qualified Flying Instructor and an Experimental Test Pilot with more than 5000 hours of flying experience on a variety of fixed and rotary wing aircraft.
- As a test pilot, he led the MiG-29 upgrade project management team at Moscow. He was also the project director (flight test) at the National Flight Test Centre looking after the flight testing of the Light Combat Aircraft Tejas.
- He has held important staff appointments of Air Defence Commander at South Western Air Command and Senior Air Staff Officer at Eastern Air Command.
- Prior to assuming his current appointment, he was the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief at Central Air Command.
- The Air Marshal is a recipient of the Param Vishisht Seva Medal and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal.
- On the occasion of taking over the charge of vice chief, he laid a wreath at the National War Memorial to honour the armed forces personnel who made the supreme sacrifice for the nation.



Major Gen Girish Kalia Takes Charge As GOC of Army's Vajr Division

- Major General Girish Kalia on Wednesday assumed charge as General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the elite Vajr Division from Major General Abhijit S Pendharkar.

- Major Gen Girish Kalia was commissioned on 14 December 1991 from IMA, Dehradun into the MADRAS Regiment.
- An alumnus of the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, the General Officer has attended all-important career courses at Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Army War College, Mhow and National Defence College, New Delhi, he said.
- His higher qualification includes MSc & M Phil in Defence & Strategic Studies. The General Officer has vast operational experience having served in intense Counter Insurgency / Counter Terrorist operations in North East & Jammu and Kashmir.
- For his distinguished service, he has been awarded GOC-in-C Northern Command Commendation Card in 2001, GOC-in-C Southern Command Commendation Card in 2009 and Vishisht Seva Medal in 2020 while commanding a challenging brigade on the Line of Control, the spokesperson said.

**SSBCrack**
EXAMS

Indian Army Organises Integrated Exercise In North Bengal

- A joint training exercise "**Exercise Trishakti Prahar**" was conducted in North Bengal from 21 January to 31 January 2023, aiming at synergizing the firepower assets of the Indian Armed Forces and CAPF to orchestrate an integrated battle.
- The aim of the exercise was to practice battle preparedness of the Security Forces using the latest weapons and equipment in a networked, integrated environment, involving all arms and services of the Army, the Indian Air Force and CAPFs.

- The exercise showcased the joint application of ground and aerial assets to include the latest generation Fighter Aircraft, helicopters, Tanks, Infantry Combat Vehicles, Medium & Field Artillery Guns, Infantry Mortars, and various New Generation Infantry weapons and equipment in a networked environment. The exercise also witnessed the participation of newly inducted weapons and equipment made in India as part of 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan'.
- The firepower exercise was reviewed by Lt Gen RP Kalita, Army Commander, Eastern Command. Senior officers of BSF, ITBP, SSB, and civil administration dignitaries also witnessed the exercise. On termination of the firepower exercise, a display of the major weapons and equipment was also organised.



Review Questions

1. Exercise TRISHAKTI PRAHAR Conducted At

- A. West Bengal
- B. Sikkim
- C. Assam
- D. Mizoram

ANSWER: A

2. ___ Assumes Appointment Of Vice Chief Of The Air Staff.

- A. Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- B. Air Marshal Sameer Dhankad
- C. Air Marshal AP Sinha
- D. Air Marshal AP Singh

ANSWER: D

3. Defence Gets Rs ___ Lakh Crore In Budget 2023-24

- A. Rs 4.94 lakh crore
- B. Rs 5.94 lakh crore
- C. Rs 6.94 lakh crore
- D. None

ANSWER: B

4. COBRA GOLD Is A

- A. Bilateral Exercise
- B. Domestic Exercise
- C. Multilateral Exercise
- D. None

ANSWER: C

5. “Ex VINBAX 2022” Conducted At

- A. Ranikhet
- B. Chandimandir
- C. Mumbai
- D. Noida

ANSWER: B

6. Ex ‘Al Najaf ’ Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: B

7. Exercise Al Najaf IV Concluded At

- A. Noida
- B. Rajasthan

- C. Mumbai
- D. Ranikhet

ANSWER: B

8. INS Ranjit Is A

- A.** Destroyer
- B.** OPV
- C.** Submarine
- D.** Tank

ANSWER: A

9. The IAI Harpy Is A

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: C

10. Which Country Is Not The Member Of QUAD?

- A. USA
- B. India
- C. Japan
- D. Russia

ANSWER: D

11. Dhanush (howitzer) Manufactured By

- A. L & T
- B. Boeing
- C. ISRO
- D. Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited

ANSWER: D

12. Air Marshal Rank of IAF Is Equivalent to which rank of Indian Navy?

- A. Commodore
- B. Captain
- C. Commander
- D. Vice Admiral

ANSWER: D

13. Ex 'Ekuverin' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: D

14. India Conducted the SAMPRITI Exercise With Which Of The Following Countries?

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. Nepal
- D. Bangladesh

ANSWER: D

15. Hq Of Department of Space Is In

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Kochi
- D. Kolkata

ANSWER: B

16. "The Nutmeg's Curse" Book Written By

- A. Anamika Mishra
- B. Amit Sinha
- C. Chetan Bhagat
- D. Amitav Ghosh

ANSWER: D

17. Minuteman III Is A

- A. ICBM
- B. SRBM
- C. SLBM
- D. MRBM

ANSWER: A

18. Which Of The Following Is The Oldest CAPF?

- A. CRPF
- B. BSF
- C. Assam Rifles
- D. BSF

ANSWER: D

19. Prahaar Missile Manufactured By

- A. MDL
- B. BDL
- C. CSL
- D. DRDO

ANSWER: B

20. The Port Salalah Is In

- A. Yemen
- B. Iran
- C. Iraq
- D. Oman

ANSWER: D



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