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Defence Current Affairs

02 March 2023

Union Cabinet Approves Procurement of 70 HTT-40 Basic Trainer Aircraft

- The Union Cabinet has approved procurement of 70 HTT-40 Basic Trainer Aircraft from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the Indian Air Force at a cost of Rs 6,828.36 crore. The aircraft will be supplied over a period of six years.
- The HTT-40 is a turbo prop aircraft and is designed to have good low speed handling qualities and provide better training effectiveness. This fully aerobatic tandem seat turbo trainer has air-conditioned cockpit, modern avionics, hot refueling, running change over and zero-zero ejection seats. The aircraft will meet the shortage of basic trainer aircraft of IAF for training of newly inducted pilots. The procurement will include associated equipment and training aids including simulators. Being an indigenous solution, the Aircraft is configurable for upgrades to incorporate the futuristic requirements of the Indian Armed Forces.
- The HTT-40 contains approx. 56% indigenous content which will progressively increase to over 60% through indigenisation of major components and subsystems. The HAL would engage Indian private industry, including MSMEs, in its supply chain. The procurement has the potential to provide direct employment to approx. 1,500 personnel and indirect employment for up to 3,000 people spread over more than 100 MSMEs.
- The acquisition of the HTT-40 provides fillip to the Indian Aerospace Defence ecosystem and boosts efforts towards 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.



Union Cabinet Approves Contract Signing With L&T for 3 Cadet Training Ships

- The Union Cabinet has accorded approval to sign a contract with Larsen & Toubro Limited (L&T) for acquisition of three Cadet Training Ships, at an overall cost of Rs 3,108.09 crore, under Buy {Indian-IDD (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured)} category. The delivery of ships is scheduled to commence from 2026.
- These ships will cater to the training of officer cadets, including women, at sea after their basic training to meet the future requirements of the Indian Navy. The ships would also provide training to cadets from friendly countries with the aim to strengthen diplomatic relations. The ships can also be deployed for evacuation of people and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR).
- The ships will be indigenously designed, developed and constructed at L&T shipyard in Kattupalli, Chennai. The project will generate an employment of 22.5 lakh man-days over a period of four-and-half years. This will encourage active participation of Indian shipbuilding and associated industries, including MSMEs. With the majority of the equipment and systems sourced from indigenous manufacturers, these vessels will be a proud flag bearer of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' in consonance with the 'Make in India' initiative of the Government.



EXERCISE SHINYUU MAITRI 2023

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in Exercise Shinyuu Maitri with the Japan Air Self Defence Force (JASDF). The exercise is being organised on the side-lines of the Indo-Japan Joint Army Exercise, Dharma Guardian, which is being conducted from 13 February 2023 to 02 March 2023 at Komatsu, Japan.
- The IAF contingent is participating in Exercise Shinyuu Maitri 23 with one C-17 Globemaster III aircraft. The Exercise is being conducted on 01 and 02 March 2023. The first phase of the exercise consists of discussions on transport operations and tactical manoeuvring, followed by the second phase of flying drills by IAF's C-17 and JASDF C-2 transport aircraft. The exercise gives an opportunity for the respective subject matter experts to interact and study each other's operational philosophies and best practices. The exercise shall also enhance mutual understanding and interoperability between the IAF and the JASDF.
- Exercise Shinyuu Maitri 23 will be yet another step in the expanding defence cooperation between the two countries; as well as for the IAF to operate in diverse environments across the globe. The exercise is being conducted at a time when the IAF's heavy lift transport aircraft fleet is also taking part in Exercise Desert Flag VIII in UAE and Exercise Cobra Warrior in the UK.



Lt. Gen MV Suchindra Kumar Takes Over As VCOAS

- Lieutenant General MV Suchindra Kumar has assumed the appointment of the Vice Chief of the Army Staff on 01 March 2023. The General officer has taken over the appointment from Lieutenant General BS Raju who has taken over the reins of Jaipur based Sapta Shakti Command today.
- Prior to taking over as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff, Lieutenant General MV Suchindra Kumar was tenanted the appointment of Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Strategy) at Army HQ. He has experience in intelligence, operations, force structuring, operational logistics and tech infusion in his recent appointments.
- An alumnus of Sainik School Bijapur and National Defence Academy, the General Officer was commissioned into 1 ASSAM REGIMENT in June 1985. He has commanded 59 Rashtriya Rifles Battalion (ASSAM), an Infantry Brigade and an Infantry Division on the Line of Control and the highly active White Knight Corps in Northern Command.
- The General Officer has held various staff and instructional appointments to include an instructional tenure at Infantry School, Mhow, Senior Operations Officer in the United Nations Sector in Cambodia, Colonel (Policy) in Military Secretary Branch, Indian Army Training Team at Lesotho, Brigadier General Staff (Operations) of a Corps in the Eastern Theatre, Additional Director General Military Intelligence and Director General Military Intelligence at Army HQ.
- The Officer has attended the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Higher Command Course, Mhow and the National Defence College, New Delhi. He has also attended courses on 'Cooperative Security in South Asia' in Sri Lanka and 'United Nations Senior Mission Leaders Course' in Egypt. His military papers have been published in a number of professional journals.



Indian Navy Participation Women20@g20

- Women Officers of the Indian Navy and a spouse of a senior serving Naval Officer shared their experiences and association with the Indian Navy at the Women 20 inception meet under the aegis of G20 at Aurangabad on 28 Feb 2023. Speaking to the audience under the theme Breaking the Barriers : Stories of Unconventional Women , their thoughts and stories were reflective of gender empowerment and inclusivity in both letter and spirit in the Indian Navy. Each had something unique and special to say.
- Lieutenant Commander Swati Bhandari spoke about overcoming her fear of heights and becoming a proficient aircrew, who has flown both operational and search and rescue missions. She has been felicitated by the Ministry of Civil Aviation on Women's Day 2022 for her achievements. Surgeon Commander Shazia Khan a superspecialist in Gynaecological surgery shared her experiences as a medical professional and the thrills of yachting, sailing and her recent car rally to Rajasthan all of which has helped to shape her confident personality.



Indian Army To Buy 307 ATAGS Howitzers For Deployment Along China, Pak Border

- In a major stride towards the 'Make-in-India' in the defence sector, the Ministry of Defence has received a proposal from Indian Army to buy 307 Advanced Towed Artillery Gun Systems for deployment along the borders with China and Pakistan.
- The proposal worth over USD 1 billion has been received from the Indian Army and is under discussion. It is expected to be cleared soon and sent for clearance by the Cabinet Committee on Security.
- This would be the first order for the indigenous howitzer which can strike targets at around 50 kms and is believed to be the best gun in its class.
- The trials of the 155mm/52 caliber ATAGS were completed at the Pokhran Field Firing Range (PFFR) between April 26 and May 2.



Review Questions

1. HTT-40 Is A

- A. Basic Trainer Aircraft
- B. Fighter Aircraft
- C. Helicopter
- D. None

ANSWER: A

2. Cadet Training Ships Will Be Manufacture By

- A. CSL
- B. MDL
- C. L & T
- D. GRSE

ANSWER: C

3. Ex 'SHINYUU MAITRI' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: C

4. EXERCISE SHINYUU MAITRI 2023 Is Conducted At

- A. Komatsu
- B. Tokyo
- C. Chennai
- D. Auli

ANSWER: A

5. Current VCOAS Of The Indian Army Is

- A. Lt. Gen BS Raju
- B. Lt. Gen MV Suchindra Kumar
- C. Lt. Gen V.K. Singh
- D. None

ANSWER: B

6. Indian Navy Participation Women20@g20 At

- A. Aurangabad (Shambhajinagar)
- B. Thane
- C. New Delhi
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

7. National Biathlon Championship 2023 Held At

- A. Jammu
- B. Gulmarg
- C. Leh
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

8. Captain Rank of Indian Navy Equivalent to Which rank of IAF?

- A.** Flying Officer
- B.** Flight Lieutenant
- C.** Group Captain
- D.** None

ANSWER: C

9. Ex Sampriti X Held In

- A. Jashore, Bangladesh
- B. Ranikhet, UK
- C. Dhaka, Bangladesh

D. None

ANSWER: A

10. SPYDER Air-defense System New Laser-based Air Defence System Made By

A. USA

B. UK

C. Israel

D. Russia

ANSWER: C

11. Barrett M82 Is A

A. Sniper Rifle

B. Machine Gun

C. Missile

D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: A

12. The IAI Harpy Is A

A. Helicopter

B. Machine Gun

C. UAV

D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: C

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

A. Bold Kurukshetra

B. SLINEX

C. Indra

D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

14. 'Banjul' Is The Capital Of

A. Gambia

B. Gabon

C. UAE

D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

15. "A Horse Walks Into a Bar" Book Written By

- A. David Grossman
- B. Rajdeep Sardesai
- C. Rajiv Dogra
- D. Dan Brown

ANSWER: A

16. War Cry of ASSAM REGIMENT

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

ANSWER: B

17. Department of Military Affairs Headed By

- A. CDS
- B. NSA
- C. COAS
- D. Defence Minister

ANSWER: A

18. SITMEX Ex Is Done Among

- A. India, Singapore, and Thailand
- B. India, Sri Lanka and Thailand
- C. Indonesia, Singapore, and Thailand
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

19. Gwadar Port Is Located In

- A. Israel
- B. Iran
- C. Pakistan
- D. Iraq

ANSWER: A

20. Kaiga Atomic Power Plant Is In

- A. Karnataka
- B. Gujarat

- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Uttarakhand

ANSWER: A



SSBCrack
EXAMS

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