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# Defence Current Affairs

## 19-20 March 2023

### 4<sup>th</sup> Defence Cooperation Dialogue b/w India & the Maldives

- India and the Maldives conducted the 4th Defence Cooperation Dialogue (DCD) in Male on March 19, 2023. The dialogue was co-chaired by Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane and his Maldivian counterpart, Chief of Defence Force, Maldives National Defence Forces Major General Abdulla Shamaal.
- This DCD is the highest institutionalised interactive mechanism between the two countries. Its significance in chartering the future course of relations between both the Armed Forces was highlighted by the importance given to the talks by the two nations. During the interaction, ongoing bilateral defence cooperation activities were reviewed and both sides expressed satisfaction at the increasing engagements. The talks covered the existing bilateral exercises, with both countries agreeing to increase the complexity of these drills.
- The Armed Forces of India & the Maldives continue to seek bilateral cooperation in multiple fields and the increased engagements are a positive sign for the future of bilateral relations. Shri Giridhar Aramane thanked Major General Abdulla Shamaal and his delegation for a fruitful dialogue and stated that India looks forward to continued engagement based on the common understanding reached at the 4th DCD.
- During his visit to the Maldives, the Defence Secretary also called on Minister of Defence Ms Mariya Ahmed Didi and Minister of State, Foreign Affairs Mr Abdulla Shahid.



## In Lucknow, Defence Minister Unveiled Development Projects Worth Rs 1450 Cr.

- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated 256 development projects and laid the foundation stone of 96 development works worth rupees 1,450 crore in Lucknow on Saturday.
- The Defence Minister said the foundation stone for the first phase of Green Corridor from IIM has been laid. When this corridor is connected with the Shaheed path and Kishan path, this Green coriander will work as a central corridor for New Lucknow.
- **UPDIC**
- It is an aspirational project that intends to reduce foreign dependency of the Indian Aerospace & Defence Sector.
- It will have 6 nodes – **Aligarh, Agra, Kanpur, Chitrakoot, Jhansi and Lucknow.**
- The Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) is the nodal agency to execute this project in conjunction with various other state agencies.



## Indian Army, CLAW Global Receive Over 1400 Applications For Soul of Steel Challenge In Himalayas

- The Indian Army and a private agency CLAW Global have received over 1400 applications for their Soul of Steel - Himalayan Challenge 2023 project, the official said on Sunday.
- Under Soul of Steel, a joint training team of CLAW GLOBAL and the Indian Army will train a select team of 24 boys and girls in rock craft, ice craft and snow craft, besides navigation, communication, self-defence, survival, and emergency medical skills.
- CLAW, a team of Indian Special Forces veterans with multiple specialisations in mountaineering, skydiving, SCUBA diving, unarmed combat, multi-terrain survival tech, and emergency medical response will spearhead the challenge.



## CRPF 84<sup>th</sup> Raising Day 2023

- Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, CAS and all personnel of the IAF convey their greetings & best wishes to all personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on the occasion of their 84<sup>th</sup> Raising Day.
- A very happy 84th raising day to CRPF personnel's and family members!
- The date had been changed (**from 27 July to 19<sup>th</sup> March**)
- This day in 1950, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the then Hon'ble Union Home Minister, presented the President's Colour to CRPF.



## PASSEX Ex 2023

- Indian Naval Ship SUMEDHA made a port call at Port Said, Egypt on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The indigenous New Gen Offshore Patrol Vessel will have several exchanges and also undertake joint exercises (PASSEX) with Egyptian Navy.
- India and Egypt, two of the world's oldest civilizations, have enjoyed a history of close contact from ancient times. Ashoka's edicts refer to his relations with



Egypt under Ptolemy-II. In modern times, Mahatma Gandhi and Saad Zaghloul shared common goals on the independence of their countries, a relationship that was to blossom into an exceptionally close friendship between President Nasser and Prime Minister Nehru, leading to a Friendship Treaty between the two countries in 1955.

- Egypt and India enjoy cordial defence relations. There was close cooperation between the Air Forces, with efforts at jointly developing a fighter aircraft in 1960s. IAF pilots had also trained Egyptian pilots from 1960s until 1984.
- Egypt participated in the Multinational Training Exercise for friendly African countries held at Pune in March 2019. The first ever IAF-EAF Joint Tactical Air Exercise, Desert Warrior, was held from 29-31 October 2021. 5 x Mirage-2000s and 1 tanker (IL-78) participated in the exercise from India. The exercise comprised of advanced manoeuvres, including air-to-air refuelling.
- The first ever Special Forces exercise “Cyclone 1” between India and Egypt conducted in 2023. Two officers from Egyptian Navy participated in Multilateral Indian Naval Exercise MILAN-2022 held from 25 Feb-04 Mar 2022. Due to recent intensified defense exchanges, there is growing enthusiasm among the defence establishments of both countries to have closer cooperation.



## Review Questions

**1. Ordnance Factories Day Every Year Observed On**

- A. March 18
- B. March 19
- C. March 20
- D. March 21

**ANSWER: A**

**2. Which Company Has Successfully Conducted A Flight Test Of The Power Take-Off Shaft On LCA Tejas?**

- A. SAARC
- B. ISRO
- C. NASA
- D. DRDO

**ANSWER: D**

**3. Which Country Has Conducted The Major Operational Level Exercise Called "TROPEX 2023"?**

- A. Iran
- B. Iraq
- C. Indonesia
- D. India

**ANSWER: D**

**4. Between India And Which Country Was The Joint Ex FRINJEX-23 Conducted?**

- A. France
- B. Japan
- C. USA
- D. Australia

**ANSWER: A**

**5. In Which City Did The FRINJEX-23 Indo-France Joint Military Exercise Commence?**

- A. .
- B. Surat
- C. Bhubaneswar

- D. Pune
- E. Thiruvananthapuram

**ANSWER: D**

**6. Which Edition Of The, 'EX DHARMA GUARDIAN', B/W India And Japan Held Recently?**

- A. 2nd
- B. 3rd
- C. 4th
- D. 5th

**ANSWER: C**

**7. 4<sup>th</sup> Defence Cooperation Dialogue between India & the Maldives Held In**

- A. Chennai
- B. Male
- C. Pune
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: B**

**8. NOTAM Stands For**

- A. Noise to Airmen
- B. Nice to Airmen
- C. Notice to Airmen
- D. None

**ANSWER: C**

**9. CRPF Raising Day Observed On**

- A. 17 March
- B. 18 March
- C. 19 March
- D. 20 March

**ANSWER: C**

**10. Motto Of CRPF Is**

- A. Service Before Self
- B. Service and Loyalty
- C. Defence By Offence
- D. Always Alert

**ANSWER: B**



**11. LADAKH SCOUTS Is Also Known As**

- A. Snow Warriors
- B. Fighter
- C. Protector
- D. Veera

**ANSWER: A**

**12. "Sangathan Va Veerta" Is The Motto Of**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**13. SCO Hq Is In**

- A. Beijing
- B. New Delhi
- C. Moscow
- D. Islamabad

**ANSWER: A**

**14. 'Zagreb' Is The Capital Of**

- A. Croatia
- B. Cuba
- C. UAE
- D. Cyprus

**ANSWER: A**

**15. "Bipin: The Man Behind the Uniform" Book Written By**

- A. Manoj Pande
- B. Rachna Biswat Rawat
- C. Bipin Rawat
- D. Rajnath Singh

**ANSWER: B**

**16. Brigadier Rank of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of Indian Navy?**

- A. Commodore
- B. Captain

- C. Commander
- D. Lieutenant

**ANSWER: A**

**17. Which Corps Of Indian Army Handles Military Communications?**

- A. Army Service Corps
- B. Army Aviation Corps
- C. Corps of Signals
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**18. The Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School Is In**

- A. Vairengte, Mizoram
- B. Pune, M.H.
- C. Lucknow, U.P.
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Where Is The Hq Of The Eastern Command of The Indian Army?**

- A. Kochi
- B. Shimla
- C. Pune
- D. Kolkata

**ANSWER: D**

**20. Syria Borders With The**

- A. Turkey
- B. Iraq
- C. Jordan
- D. All of the above

**ANSWER: D**

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