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Defence Current Affairs

24 March 2023

Maritime Exercise Konkan 2023

- Konkan 2023, the annual bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy, was held from 20 to 22 Mar 23 off the **Konkan coast** in the **Arabian Sea**.
- **INS Trishul**, a guided missile frigate, and HMS Lancaster, a Type 23 guided missile frigate, participated in this edition and undertook multiple maritime drills to enhance interoperability and imbibe best practices.
- The exercise yielded excellent training value to personnel of both navies. A high level of professionalism and enthusiasm was also evident during its conduct.



INAS 310, The Cobras Celebrated Its 62nd Anniversary

- **Indian Naval Air Squadron 310**, The Cobras, a Maritime Reconnaissance Sqn of Indian Navy based at **Goa** is celebrating its **62nd Anniversary** on 21 Mar 23. Commissioned at Hyères, France on **21 Mar 1961**, the Sqn is the most decorated unit of the Indian Navy.

- The INAS 310 is an Indian naval air squadron based at INS Hansa. Earlier it was shifted from INS Hansa to INS Sardar patel but later it was re-shifted to **INS Hansa**.
- INAS 310 has participated in **Operation Vijay (1961), Indo-Pakistani War of 1965, Indo-Pakistani War of 1971, Operation Pawan, Kargil War and Operation Parakram**.



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Pakistan Day Military Parade Postponed

- The Pakistan Day parade, held every year on **March 23**, has been cancelled amid rising **political instability and worsening economic situation** in the country.
- **Pakistan Day** is celebrated every year to commemorate the passage of the 1940 Lahore Resolution, with Pakistan's armed force showcasing its weaponry and military power and displaying the nuclear missiles in the parade.
- **Lahore Resolution** of the Muslim League was also recognized as Pakistan Resolution.
- This resolution proposed demand for a separate Muslim state i.e Pakistan was presented by AK Fazlul Huq.
- The session was held between 22 March and 24 March 1940, at Manto Park (now Iqbal Park), Lahore.
- The welcome address was made by Nawab of Mamdot and it was followed by the speech of Muhammad Ali Jinnah.
- **Capital:** Islamabad
- **Prime Minister:** Shehbaz Sharif
- **Population:** 23.14 crores (2021) World Bank
- **Official languages:** Urdu, English



To Boost IAF's Capabilities, Defence Ministry Signs Contracts Worth Rs 3700 cr with BEL

- The defence ministry signed **two contracts** worth over **Rs 3,700 crore** with **BEL** for **radars and receivers**, which will enhance the operational capabilities of the **Indian Air Force**.

- The first contract worth over **Rs 2,800 crore** pertains to the supply of **Medium Power Radars (MPR) 'Arudhra'** for the IAF, and the second, at an overall cost of around **Rs 950 crore**, relates to 129 DR-118 **Radar Warning Receivers (RWR)**.
- Both projects are under '**Buy Indian-IDMM (Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured)**' category. The projects are aimed at enhancing surveillance, detection, tracking and electronic warfare capabilities of the air force.
- **MPR (Arudhra) radar** has been indigenously designed and developed by the **DRDO** and will be manufactured by BEL. Its successful trials have already been conducted by the IAF.



Arudhra, medium power active aperture phased array radars, worth ₹ 800 crore, are under production

Indian Army, Air Force Conduct Joint Drills Vayu Prahar

- Indian Army and the Air force jointly conducted a Multi Domain Air-Land **Exercise Vayu Prahar** along the **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** in eastern command.
- The exercise validated and refined procedures quintessential for synergized joint operations. Army Formations, **Special Forces** along with Indian Air Force participated in the **96-hour exercise** in the **Eastern Theatre**.
- In the second week of March 2023, the Indian Army and the Air force jointly conducted a Multi Domain Air-Land Exercise Vayu Prahar in the Eastern Theatre to validate joint plans to prosecute synergized multiple domain operations, according to the sources.
- The scope of the joint exercise included rapid mobilization of an earmarked Rapid Reaction Force from the hinterland to undertake air-landed operations in a nominated Advance Landing Ground, according to the sources.



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Review Questions

1. Maritime Exercise Konkan 2023 Conducted At

- A. English Channel
- B. Arabian Sea
- C. IOR
- D. Bay of Bengal

ANSWER: B

2. Ex 'KONKAN' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: D

3. Ex Vayu Prahar Is A

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

ANSWER: A

4. 'Arudhra' Is A

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Radar

ANSWER: D

5. MoD Inks Rs 3,700 Cr Contracts With ___ For Medium Power Radars 'Arudhra'.

- A. DRDO
- B. BEL
- C. HSL
- D. IAI

ANSWER: B

6. Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Headquarters Is In

- A. Mumbai
- B. New Delhi
- C. Chennai
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

7. 'Ikshak', The 3rd Of The Four Survey Vessels (Large) Project, Being Built By

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

ANSWER: B

8. Ex 'Austra Hind' Conducted b/w India &

- A. Austria
- B. Angola
- C. Australia
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: C

9. Current Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee Is

- A. VR Chaudhary
- B. R. Hari Kumar
- C. Anil Chauhan
- D. Manoj Pande

ANSWER: C

10. "Sarvatra Izzat-o-Iqbal" Is The Motto Of

- A. Dogra Scouts
- B. Sikkim Scouts
- C. Regiment Of Artillery
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

11. Which One Of The Following Countries Is Smaller Than India?

- A. Argentina

- B. Canada
- C. China
- D. Brazil

ANSWER: A

12. 'JERUSALEM' Is The Capital Of

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

ANSWER: B

13. "Arabian Nights" Book Written By

- A. Sir Richard Burton
- B. Tolstoy
- C. Kazi Nasrul Islam
- D. Arthur Conan Doyle

ANSWER: A

14. Joint Exercises B/w The India And Japan Is Called:

- A. Shinyuu Maitri
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

15. CIA Stands For

- A. Central Intelligence Agency
- B. Central Investigation Agency
- C. Central Intelligence Accuracy
- D. None

ANSWER: A

16. Ex HARIMAU SHAKTI, Ex IN-RMN BILAT, HOP EX Conducted B/W India &

- A. Malaysia
- B. Mongolia
- C. UAE
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

17. Maintenance Command of The IAF Is In

- A. Nagpur
- B. New Delhi
- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: A

18. Which One Of The Following Is Situated At The Highest Altitude?

- A. Thimphu
- B. Lhasa
- C. Gartola
- D. Kathmandu

ANSWER: B

19. Which Is Not A Member Of SAARC?

- A. Afghanistan
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Bhutan
- D. Madagascar

ANSWER: D

20. SLNS Sayurala Is A Ship Of

- A. Oman
- B. Qatar
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: C

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