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# Defence Current Affairs

## 25 March 2023

### Govt Approval To 45 Companies/Jvs With Foreign OEMs

- The government has given approval to "**45 companies/joint ventures**" operating in the defence sector with foreign OEMs (original equipment manufacturers), the Parliament was informed.
- These three lists consist of total 3,738 items, out of which 2,786 items have been indigenised till February 2023. Simplification of industrial licensing process with longer validity period; liberalisation of FDI policy allowing **74%** FDI under automatic route; simplification of make procedure.
- These three lists consist of total **3,738 items**, out of which **2,786 items** have been indigenised till February 2023. Simplification of industrial licensing process with longer validity period; liberalisation of FDI policy allowing 74 percent FDI under automatic route; simplification of make procedure; and launch of Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) scheme involving start-ups and MSMEs, are among the other moves, according to the response.



## Jaisalmer: Missile Misfired During Army Exercise

- A missile was misfired during a firing exercise by the army in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer. The annual exercise of a unit was going on at the Pokran field firing range when the incident occurred. However, no loss of life or property was reported.
- "A case of Missile misfire was reported while a unit was undertaking its annual field firing today," a defence spokesperson said.
- He said the missile detonated safely. However, the debris fell in the adjoining fields.
- **"No damage rendered to any personnel and property. Issue is being investigated,"** he added.



## NSA Meet: India, Iraq To Boost Defence, Counter-terror & Security Related Partnership

- **India** and its traditional Arab world partner **Iraq** have decided to beef up their defence, counter-terror and security related cooperation as Qasem Al-Araji, National Security Adviser of Iraq met **NSA Ajit Doval**.
- The visit of the Iraqi NSA is the first Cabinet Minister-level visit from Iraq to India in the last seven years. The Iraqi NSA was earlier the Minister of Interior in 2016-18. He has been the NSA from July 2020 since the previous government.
- The Pakistan Day parade, held every year on **March 23**, has been cancelled amid rising **political instability and worsening economic situation** in the country.

- The bilateral relations between the Republic of Iraq and the Republic of India have traditionally been friendly and collaborative. Cultural interaction and economic trade between Indus Valley and Mesopotamia date back to 1800 BCE. The **1952 Treaty of Friendship** established and strengthened ties between contemporary India and Iraq. By the 1970s, Iraq was regarded as one of India's closest allies in the Middle East.
- Ties between India and Iraq were disrupted during the Iran–Iraq War, the 1991 Gulf War and the 2003 Iraq War. However, the bilateral relations normalised after the establishment of democratic government in Iraq.



## "Be Drivers Of Change", Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar

- Navy chief Admiral R Hari Kumar visited **Defence Services Staff College (DSSC)**, Wellington on a two-day visit from March 22 to 23, 2023 and encouraged the students to be the 'drivers of change.
- Delivering a lecture on "**important national maritime security challenges and emerging geopolitical issues**" at the DSSC in Wellington, the Navy chief exhorted the students to be the drivers of change for progress and betterment of the future of our Armed Forces.
- The Defence Services Staff College is a defence service training institution of the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.
- **Motto:** Yuddham Pragya (To War with Wisdom)
- It trains officers of all three services of the Indian Armed Forces – (**Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force**), selected officers from the **Paramilitary forces** and the **Civil Services** and officers from **friendly foreign countries** for command and staff appointments.



## It Is The Duty Of Host Country To Protect High Commissions, Vandalism Is Unacceptable: Jaishankar

- **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** said that it is the duty of the host country to provide security to **high commissions** and as a foreign minister he cannot accept the vandalization at the Indian high commission in **London** by **pro-Khalistani elements**.
- Jaishankar said, "We have had conversations with the British government."



- But as a foreign minister we are not going to accept these acts, he said.
- The Khalistan movement is a fight for a separate, sovereign Sikh state in present day Punjab (both India and Pakistan).
- The movement was crushed in India following Operation Blue Star (1984) and Operation Black Thunder (1986 and 1988), but it continues to evoke sympathy and support among sections of the Sikh population, especially in the Sikh diaspora in countries such as Canada, the UK, and Australia.

**What is the Status of the Khalistan movement today?**

- Punjab has long been peaceful, but the movement lives among some Sikh communities overseas.
- The diaspora is composed predominantly of people who don't want to live in India.
- These people include many who remember the bad old days of the 1980s, and thus the support for Khalistan remains stronger there.
- The deep-rooted anger over Operation Blue Star and the desecration of the Golden Temple continues to resonate with some in the newer generations of Sikhs. However, even as Bhindranwale is viewed as a martyr by many and the 1980s remembered as dark times, this has not manifested into tangible political support for the Khalistan cause.
- There is a small minority that is clinging to the past, and that small minority remains significant not because of popular support, but rather because they are trying to keep up their political influence with various political parties both from the left and the right.



## France To Ban Chinese-owned Video-sharing App TikTok

- A growing number of countries in **North America, Europe and Asia-Pacific** have banned the popular video-sharing app **TikTok** from government devices as privacy and cybersecurity concerns increase, with France likely to be the latest.
- India too imposed a nationwide ban on TikTok and dozens of other Chinese apps, including the messaging app WeChat, in 2020 over privacy and security concerns.
- TikTok is already banned on federal government devices, including military devices, and a growing number of states in the US are banning it on state government devices.



## Review Questions

**1. Current NSA Of India Is**

- A. R Hari Kumar
- B. Pankaj Singh
- C. M M Naravane
- D. None

**ANSWER: D**

**2. SPARSH Stands For**

- A. System for Pension Administration (Raksha)
- B. System for Pay Administration (Raksha)
- C. Sonar for Pension Administration (Raksha)
- D. Solar for Pension Administration (Raksha)

**ANSWER: A**

**3. The IMA Was Founded On**

- A. October 1, 1930
- B. October 1, 1931
- C. October 1, 1932
- D. October 1, 1933

**ANSWER: C**

**4. Joint Exercises B/w The India And Vietnam Is Called:**

- A. Yama
- B. VINBAX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

**ANSWER: B**

**5. Which Is Not A Tactical Ballistic Missile?**

- A. Prithvi
- B. Prahar
- C. Pralay
- D. Agni

**ANSWER: D**

**6. INS Gomati Is A**



- A. Frigate
- B. Submarine
- C. Naval Helicopter
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**7. IBSAMAR Is A Type Of**

- A. Army Ex
- B. Air Force Ex
- C. Naval Ex
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**8. FGM-148 Javelin Is Made By**

- A.** Boeing
- B.** Lockheed Martin
- C.** Raytheon
- D.** None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**9. India Shares Its Land Boundaries With Which Countries In The East?**

- A. China, Nepal and Bhutan
- B. Bhutan and Afghanistan
- C. Myanmar and Bangladesh
- D. Pakistan and Afghanistan

**ANSWER: C**

**10. "The Unending Game: Insights into Espionage" Book Written By**

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Vikram Sood
- C. Abhishek Manu Singhvi
- D. Ahmed Saadawi

**ANSWER: B**

**11. Group Captain Rank Of IAF Is Equivalent to Which Rank of Indian Navy?**

- A. Colonel
- B. Captain
- C. Commander

D. Major

**ANSWER: B**

**12. Army Education Corps (AEC) Is At**

A. Imphal

B. Pachmarhi

C. Patiala

D. Vairengte

**ANSWER: B**

**13. India Purchased Kamov Ka-27 From**

A. USA

B. UK

C. Russia

D. France

**ANSWER: C**

**14. Where Is The Hq Of The Southern Command of The Indian Navy?**

A. Kochi

B. Vishakhapatnam

C. Pune

D. Mumbai

**ANSWER: A**

**15. Baghdad Is The Capital Of**

A. Iran

B. Iraq

C. UAE

D. Maldives

**ANSWER: B**

**16. "A Matter of the Heart: Education in India" Book Written By**

A. Shashi Tharoor

B. Devika Rangchari

C. Anurag Thakur

D. Anurag Behar

**ANSWER: D**

**17. India Joined The \_\_\_\_ Member Of The Wassenaar Arrangement.**

- A. 35th
- B. 40th
- C. 42nd
- D. 48th

**ANSWER: C**

**18. One Earth, One Family, One Future Is The Theme Of**

- A. MTCR
- B. NSG
- C. G-20
- D. SAARC

**ANSWER: C**

**19. The \_\_ Edition of Exercise Agni Warrior Conducted b/w Singapore & Indian Army.**

- A. 10<sup>th</sup>
- B. 11<sup>th</sup>
- C. 12<sup>th</sup>
- D. 13<sup>th</sup>

**ANSWER: C**

**20. ALH MK-III Helicopter Manufactured By**

- A. DRDO
- B. Israel Aerospace Industries
- C. Boeing
- D. HAL

**ANSWER: D**

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