

Defence Current Affairs

01 September 2023

Army To Buy 130 Tethered Drones

- The Indian Army in a message confirmed the signing of a contract for the procurement of **130 tethered drones** and **19 tank-driving simulators**. “The induction of the new equipment will enhance the overall operational preparedness of the Army,” said the force.
- Contract for the drone system for long-distance surveillance and intelligence gathering along the borders was signed with indigenous company **New space Research Technologies Pvt Ltd**. The contract for the other equipment was signed with **Zen Technologies Limited**, which will also involve skill development.
- The Request for Technical and Commercial Proposals for the drones was issued by the armoured branch of the Integrated Headquarters of the Ministry of Defence in January this year, under the fast-track procedure.
- As per the RFI, these systems are sought to fly not less than **six hours** in tethered mode and around **45 minutes** in un-tethered mode.
- These drones are connected to a ground-based tethered system with a flexible wire or cable for power and communications and can provide surveillance of beyond-line-of-sight targets for a prolonged period.
- Tethered drone systems are ideal for extended surveillance and security overwatch missions such as border control. Traditional drones have a greater range allowing them to perform missions the sensor cannot capture from a distance.



Indian Navy Steps Up Preparations For Sagar Parikrama IV

- The Indian Navy signalled the formal commencement of its preparations for Sagar Parikrama IV at Goa on 27 Aug 23. As part of the same, the Ocean Sailing Node signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Cdr Abhilash Tomy (Retd), to be Mentor and Lt Cdr Dilna and Lt Cdr Roopa, who will form the team undertaking the circumnavigation sailing expedition on Indian Naval Sailing Vessel Tarini next year.
- VAdm Swaminathan congratulated the two women officers for their impressive ocean sailing feats and wished them the very best for their preparation for Sagar Parikrama IV. He also thanked Cdr Abhilash Tomy on behalf of the Indian Navy for his steadfast support to its ocean sailing endeavour.
- Over the coming months, the two officers will train rigorously for the challenging mission under Cdr Tomy's tutelage, including undertaking several short and long sailing voyages in the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean. Cdr Tomy would also be mentoring participants of other sailing expeditions and share his experiences at the training establishments through motivational talks with the trainees.
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- Sagar Parikrama IV will be a never-attempted-before venture and a significant step in India's ocean sailing enterprise.



Curtain Raiser: Launch Of Y - 12654 (Mahendragiri)

- Mahendragiri, the last **Project 17A Frigate**, will be launched by Dr (Smt.) Sudesh Dhankhar, wife of Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, at M/s **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited**, Mumbai on 01 Sep 23.
- Mahendragiri, named after a mountain peak in Eastern Ghats located in the state of Orissa, is the seventh ship of the Project 17A Frigates. These warships are follow-ons of the **Project 17 Class Frigates** (Shivalik Class), with improved stealth features, advanced weapons and sensors and platform management systems.
- Under the **Project 17A program**, a total of four ships by **M/s MDL** and three ships by M/s GRSE are under construction. The first six ships of the project have been launched so far by **MDL & GRSE**, between 2019-2023.
- Project 17A ships have been designed in-house by Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau, the pioneer organization for all warship design activities. Aligning with the country's resolute commitment to 'Aatma Nirbharata', a substantial 75% of the orders for equipment and systems of Project 17A ships have been ordered on indigenous firms, including MSMEs.



LAUNCH OF 'DSC A 20 (YARD 325)' First Ship Of 05 X Diving Support Craft (DSC)

- 'DSC A 20' (Yard 325), the first ship of Five (05) Diving Support Craft (DSC) project being built by **M/s Titagarh Rail Systems Ltd (TRSL)**, Kolkata (formerly known as M/s Titagarh Wagons Ltd (TWL)) for Indian Navy, was launched on 31 Aug 23 at Titagarh, Kolkata (WB) onto **Hooghly River**.
- These ships are designed to undertake operational/ training diving operations in harbours and coastal waters. They are 30 m long catamaran hull ships, with a displacement of approx 300 tons. All five (05) DSC are anticipated to be delivered to Indian Navy in FY 2024-25.
- DSC are being fitted with state-of-the-art diving equipment and tools for performing diving operations. These ships are indigenously designed and built under relevant Naval Rules and Regulation of Indian Register of Shipping .
- The hydrodynamic analysis/ model testing of the ships during design stage were undertaken at Naval Science and Technological Laborator, Visakhapatnam.



China Objects To Former Indian Service Chiefs Attending Security Conference In Taiwan

- China on Thursday said it firmly opposed all forms of official interaction between the Taiwan authorities and countries having diplomatic relations with Beijing.
- Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman **Wang Wenbin** said that China firmly opposes all forms of official interaction with Taiwan.
- China, which considers self-ruled Taiwan as part of its mainland, routinely objects to any high-level visits to Taipei, saying that it is a violation of the one-China principle.
- **Admiral Karambir Singh, General M M Naravane and Chief of Air Staff R K S Bhaduria** - the former Navy, Army and Indian Air Force chiefs respectively - recently attended Ketagalan Forum's 2023 Indo-Pacific Security Dialogue held in Taiwan.



Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam And Taiwan Join India In Rejecting China's New Map

- Governments in the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam and Taiwan on Thursday joined India in rejecting China's new national map, issuing strongly worded statements accusing Beijing of claiming their territory.
- China published a new version of its national map on Monday to correct what Beijing has in the past referred to as "problematic maps" that it claims misrepresent its territorial borders.

- India lodged a strong protest with China over its so-called "standard map" laying claim over Arunachal Pradesh and the Aksai Chin and asserted that such steps only complicate the resolution of the boundary question.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. 'DSC A 20' (Yard 325), The First Ship Of Five (05) Diving Support Craft (DSC) Project Being Built By

- A. CSL
- B. GSL
- C. Titagarh Rail Systems Ltd
- D. None

ANSWER: C

2. OROP Stands For

- A. One Rank One Portal
- B. One Road One Pension
- C. One Rank One Pension
- D. None

ANSWER: C

3. Ex DUSTLIK Conducted b/w India &

- A. Uzbekistan
- B. Vietnam

- C. UAE
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

4. Exercise "KAZIND-22" Is Conducted At

- A. Auli
- B. Umroi
- C. Jaipur
- D. Shillong

ANSWER: B

5. G20 Was Founded On

- A. 26 September 1996
- B. 27 September 1997
- C. 28 September 1998
- D. 26 September 1999

ANSWER: D

6. Motto Of Integrated Defence Staff

- A. Victory Through Jointness
- B. Victory Everywhere
- C. Always Ahead
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

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

- A. Bold Kurukshetra
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

8. Quad Was Founded On

- A.** 2017
- B.** 2018
- C.** 2019
- D.** 2020

ANSWER: A

9. Where Is The Hq Of The Training Command of The IAF?

- A. Kochi
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: C

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

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

ANSWER: D

11. 'Ex Zapad' Conducted B/W India &

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

ANSWER: B

12. IBSAMAR Trilateral Naval Exercise Held Between India, Brazil And ___?

- A. North Korea
- B. Switzerland
- C. Singapore
- D. South Africa

ANSWER: D

13. The Port Duqm Is In

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

ANSWER: D

14. Madrid Is The Capital Of

- A. Spain
- B. Sri Lanka

- C. UAE
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

15. "Fit At Any Age" Book Is Written By

- A. Ajay Bhatt
- B. Sitaram Yechuri
- C. Vikram Sampath
- D. Retd. Air Marshal PV Iyer

ANSWER: D

16. Lamitye Exercise Held B/W India And___?

- A. Thailand
- B. USA
- C. Qatar
- D. Seychelles

ANSWER: D

17. Which Of The Following Is Not Main Organ Of United Nations?

- A. International Court of Justice
- B. Economic and Social Council
- C. Secretariat
- D. International Monetary fund

ANSWER: D

18. "Badri Vishal Lal Ki Jai" Is The War Cry Of

- A. GARHWAL RIFLES
- B. MARATHA LIGHT INFANTRY REGIMENT
- C. THE GRENADIERS
- D. PUNJAB REGIMENT

ANSWER: A

19. NAMICA Stands For

- A. Nag Missile Cart
- B. Nag Missile Carrier
- C. Nag Missile Corn
- D. None

ANSWER: B

**20. Akash Is A Medium-range Mobile Surface-to-air Missile System Developed By
The____**

- A. HAL
- B. TATA
- C. Mahindra
- D. DRDO

ANSWER: D

