

Defence Current Affairs

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NAVAL EXERCISE 'VARUNA' – 2023

- Phase II of the **21st edition** of Varuna (Varuna-23) bilateral exercise between Indian and French Navy was conducted in the Arabian Sea. The exercise witnessed participation of guided missile frigates, tanker, Maritime Patrol Aircraft and integral helicopters from the two sides.
- The exercise was conducted over three days and witnessed joint operations. Units of both navies endeavoured to enhance and hone their war fighting skills, improve interoperability and demonstrate their ability to promote, peace, security and stability in the region.
- The first phase of 'Varuna-2023' was conducted off India's Western Seaboard from 16 to 20 Jan 23
- Indian & French Navy bilateral naval exercise was initiated in 1993. The exercise was later christened as 'Varuna' in 2001 and has since become a hallmark of robust India-France strategic bilateral relationship.



DCOAS Flies The Hindustan Turbo Trainer HTT-40

- **Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit** Deputy Chief of the Air Staff flew the HTT-40 Basic Trainer Aircraft, today at Bengaluru. Manufactured by HAL, the aircraft has been indigenously designed and developed by the Aircraft Research & Design Centre of HAL and is based on the training requirements.
- The HTT-40 is a fully aerobatic aircraft, powered by a four bladed turbo-prop engine. It is fitted with a state-of-the-art glass cockpit, modern avionics and latest safety features, including a zero-zero ejection seat. The trainer has a maximum speed of 450 km per hour and a maximum service ceiling of six km.
- The HTT-40 first flew on 31 May 2016 and obtained system level certification on 06 June 2022. Clearance by Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification for the full aircraft is currently underway.



'India Will Be Much Ahead Of China On Border Infra In Next 2-3 Years': BRO DG

- India will beat China in the next two to three years as the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led NDA government is proactively working towards developing infrastructure along the 3,488 Km stretch of the LAC as 295 projects have been completed worth Rs 11,000 crore, BRO chief Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry said.

- Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry said that China started their push for infra development all along LAC much before India and a decade ago our thinking about infrastructure development along the 3,488 Km stretch was a little bit defensive.
- Taking note of the budget earmarked for the development of infrastructure along the LAC by the Central government in recent years, Chaudhry said, "In 2008, our budget used to be approximately Rs 3,000 crore.
- In 2017 it increased to Rs 5000-6000 crore. In 2019, it went up to Rs 8,000 crore and increased thereafter. And in the last year around Rs 12,340 crore were spent."



IAF To Get First Airbus C-295 Transport Aircraft This Month

- India will get its first Airbus C-295 tactical military transport aircraft this month, an official of the European aircraft manufacturer said. "The first C-295 aircraft will be delivered to the Indian Air Force this month only," Remi Maillard, Airbus India President and Managing Director.
- India had inked an agreement with Airbus for supply of **56 C-295** military transport aircraft in September 2021.
- As per the agreement, 40 aircraft will be built at the facility set up by Tata Advanced Systems Limited in partnership with Airbus at Vadodara.
- Airbus will supply 16 aircraft in fly away condition from its facility in Spain.
- The C-295, having 5-10 tonne capacity, is used for tactical transport of up to 71 troops or 50 paratroopers, and for logistic operations to locations that are not

accessible to current heavier aircraft. It also has a proven capability of operating from short or unprepared airstrips.



'Nabh Shakti': Indian Army, Air Force Participate In Joint Training Exercise

- 'Nabh Shakti', a joint training exercise, was conducted in the Indian Army's elite **Brahmastra Corps** in the Northeast states. Both Indian Army and Indian Air Force participated in the joint exercise.
- 'Nabh Shakti', a joint training exercise, was conducted in the Indian Army's elite Brahmastra Corps in the Northeast states.
- "Joint Training Exercise 'Nabh Shakti' was conducted in the Indian Army's Brahmastra Corps (Mountain Strike Corps) with the participation of the Indian Army and IAF to validate rapid response to dynamic operational scenarios and enhance joint acumen in multimodal operations“.
- 17 Mountain Strike Corps has been raised by the Indian Army to carry out strike operations in enemy territory during conflicts with the adversary in eastern parts of the country.



Titagarh Rail Systems Launches Diving Support Craft For Indian Navy

- TRSL launched the first diving support craft for the Indian Navy at its shipyard in Titagarh, West Bengal. TRSL is building five such vessels for the Indian Nav, the company said in a release. According to officials, the total contract value of all five DSCs was about **Rs 175 crore**.
- The DSC is a state-of-the-art vessel equipped with advanced technological capabilities to facilitate diving operations in any possible underwater environment. The DSC is a major boost to the Indian Navy's capabilities and will help it maintain its edge in the maritime domain.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Ex 'Varuna' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: D

2. Which Edition of Varuna Naval Exercise Is Conducted?

- A. 20th
- B. 21st
- C. 22nd
- D. 23rd

ANSWER: B

3. Which of the following Corps Conducted 'Nabh Shakti' Exercise?

- A. Brahmastra Corps
- B. Desert Corps
- C. Chinar Corps
- D. None

ANSWER: A

4. Rajputana Rifles Hq Is In

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kochi
- C. Chennai
- D. Delhi

ANSWER: D

5. GAIL Stands For

- A. Gas Author of India Limited
- B. Gas Authority of Indo Limited
- C. Gas Authority of India Limited
- D. None

ANSWER: C

6. "OPERATION KHUKRI" Book Is Written By

- A. Khushwant Singh
- B. Abraham Lincoln
- C. Sudha Murty
- D. Rajpal Punia & Ms Damini Punia

ANSWER: D

7. The Training Command of The IAF Is

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

ANSWER: A

8. Dublin Is The Capital Of

- A. Ireland
- B. UAE
- C. Maldives
- D. Italy

ANSWER: A

9. "The Naked Don't Fear the Water" Book Is Written By

- A. Matthieu Aikins
- B. Amy Bloom
- C. Jessamine Chan
- D. APJ Abdul Kalam

ANSWER: A

10. 'Rifle Company' In Indian Army Headed By__

- A. Major
- B. Lt. Colonel
- C. Colonel
- D. Both A & B

ANSWER: D

11. What is the highest commissioned rank awarded in the Indian Army?

- A. Major General
- B. Lt Gen

- C. Colonel
- D. Flying Officer

ANSWER: B

12. Ex 'HARIMAU SHAKTI' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: C

13. HFSDR Stands For

- A. High Frequency Man Packed Software Defined Radio
- B. High Frequency Meta Packed Software Defined Radio
- C. High Frequency Multi Packed Software Defined Radio
- D. None

ANSWER: A

14. UIDAI Stands For

- A. Unique Identification Author of India
- B. Unique Identity Authority of India
- C. Unique Identification Authority of Indonesia
- D. Unique Identification Authority of India

ANSWER: D

15. Air Commodore Rank Of IAF Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of Indian Army?

- A. Brigadier
- B. Lt. Gen
- C. Captain
- D. Major General

ANSWER: A

16. Chairman Of The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet(ACC) Is

- A. PM
- B. NSA
- C. CDS
- D. Home Minister

ANSWER: A

17. ___ Is The Largest Defense Contractors in the World.

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

ANSWER: A

18. "If you win, you need not have to explain...If you lose, you should not be there to explain!" Said By___

- A. Winston Churchill
- B. Adolf Hitler
- C. Subhas Chandra Bose
- D. Bhagat Singh

ANSWER: B

19. National Crime Records Bureau Was Set up In

- A. 1986
- B. 1987
- C. 1988
- D. 1989

ANSWER: A

20. Which Of The Following Ports Is/Are Located In T.N?

- A. Kochi
- B. Chennai
- C. Ennore
- D. Both B&C

ANSWER: D