Defence Current Affairs 27 September 2023

Indian Predator Drones Help Navy Keep A Close Watch Over IOR

- The Predator drones of the Indian Navy have flown over 13,000 hours of missions across the Indian Ocean Region from INS Rajali, Naval Air Base here and helped the maritime force keep a close watch on the entire area for interest of the country.
- The two drones have been operated by the Indian Navy since November 2020 when the force got them on lease from the American firm General Atomics as part of the emergency procurement powers.
- The aircraft has the capability to cover over 4,000-8,000 kms in one go and can operate for more than 30 hours in one stretch which allows them to cover the entire Indian Ocean Region in one go.
- Asked about the 15 more advanced Predator MQ-9B drones that the force would be getting from the US under a tri-services deal, the first Mission Commander of the Predator drones in the country Lieutenant Commander Varsha said.



China Engaging In Largest Conventional Military Buildup

- A top Australian envoy claimed China is putting together the "largest" conventional military buildup since the Second World War, without clarifying the strategic purpose behind the exercise. Australia has sought to stabilise its relationship with China after a "difficult period", he said.
- China has disputes with almost all its neighbours over maritime and land borders including in the South China Sea, an area of special interest to Australia.
- Green was speaking here at the 'Kolkata Dialogue Australia and India:
 Working Together to Build Island State Resilience', organised by the Australia
 India Institute in partnership with India's Observer Research Foundation.
- The Kolkata Dialogue is happening as the two-day 13th Indo-Pacific Army Chiefs' Conference started in New Delhi.





Indian Army Chief Manoj Pande Emphasizes Indo-Pacific Stability

 In the ever-evolving global landscape, the Indo-Pacific region has emerged as a focal point. Indian Army Chief General Manoj Pande, addressing the Indo-Pacific Army Chiefs' Conference (IPACC), reaffirmed India's dedication to upholding peace and stability in this vital area.

- He emphasized the importance of respecting the sovereignty of all nations, especially in light of mounting concerns regarding China's assertive military activities.
- The Indo-Pacific region isn't just a collection of nations; it's a complex web of interdependencies. These interconnections underscore the need for trust and enhanced cooperation among these nations.
- General Pande outlined India's vision for the Indo-Pacific, which centers on three key pillars: **peaceful dispute resolution**, **avoiding the use of force**, **and adherence to international laws**.
- The geostrategic relevance and geo-economic significance of the Indo-Pacific region are undeniable. With 65% of the world's population, 63% of its GDP, 46% of the global merchandise market, and 50% of maritime trade.



EAM Jaishankar raises concern over "steady increase in Chinese naval presence" in Indian Ocean

- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar raised concern over the "steady increase in Chinese naval presence" in the Indian Ocean and called "to prepare for a far greater presence of Beijing than seen ever before."
- Speaking at the 'Discussion at Council on Foreign Relations' in New York,
 Jaishankar said, "Last 20 -25 years, there has been a steady increase in the
 Chinese naval presence and activity in the Indian Ocean, but there has been a
 very sharp increase in the size of Chinese naval. When you have a very much
 bigger navy, that navy is going to be visible in terms of its deployment
 somewhere."
- He added, "We obviously do watch many of them very carefully for any security implications...From an Indian point of view, it's very reasonable for us to prepare for a far greater Chinese presence than we have seen before."



At 2+2 Dialogue, US-India Emphasise Transformative Momentum In Ties For Indo-Pacific security

Top US Defence and State Department officials co-chaired the seventh 2+2
 Intersessional Dialogue with their Indian counterparts here on September 26
 and laid their emphasis on the transformative momentum in US-India ties and
 reiterated the need to uphold security in the Indo-Pacific region, the Pentagon
 said.

- The US Defence Department said they reviewed progress toward operationalizing major bilateral initiatives on information-sharing, defence industrial cooperation, and joint service engagements.
- The 2+2 Intersessional Dialogue advanced a wide range of ambitious initiatives across the breadth of the US-India partnership, including defence and security, emerging technologies, people-to-people ties, clean energy, and supply chain resilience.





Review Questions

- 1. 13th Indo-Pacific Armies Chiefs' Conference Held In
- A. New Delhi
- B. Noida
- C. Surat
- D. Lucknow

ANSWER: A

- 2. Marine Engineering Training Establishment of the Indian Navy located at
- E. Noida
- F. Kochi
- G. Pune
- H. Wayanad

ANSWER: C

3. Ex 'Nomadic Elephant' conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: B

4. RIMPAC Stands For

- A. Rim of the Pacific Exercise
- B. Rim of the Perfect Exercise
- C. Rim of the Pacific Economy
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

5. Which Edition Of Varuna Naval Ex Conduced In 2022?

- A. 15th
- B. 19th
- C. 20th
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

6. Recently IAF celebrates 60 years of Glorious Service Of

- A. INS Hansa
- B. INS Parundu
- C. Chetak
- D. Dhruv

ANSWER: C

7. 'Iron Beam' New Laser-based Air Defence System Made By

- A. USA
- B. UK
- C. Israel
- D. Russia

ANSWER: C

8. INS Ranjit Is A

- A. Destroyer
- **B.** OPV

- C. Submarine
- **D.** Tank

ANSWER: A

- 9. Which Country Is Not The Member Of G-7?
- A. Germany
- B. France
- C. Russia
- D. USA

ANSWER: A

- 10. Berlin Is The Capital Of
- A. France
- B. Qatar
- C. Germany
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: C

- 11. "Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings in the BCCI" Book Is Written By
- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Sitaram Yechuri
- C. Vinod Rai
- D. Anurag Thakur

ANSWER: C

- 12. Where Is The Hq Of The Southern Western Command of The Indian Army?
- A. Jaipur
- B. Jabalpur
- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: A

- 13. Sea Dragon Exercise Hosted By
- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

14. India Purchased C 130 J from

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

15. Ex KHANJAR Conducted B/W India &

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman
- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Kyrgyzstan

ANSWER: D

16. OPEC Hq Is In

- A. Vienna
- B. New York
- C. Chennai
- D. Abu Dhabi

ANSWER: A

17. Gangtok Is The Capital Of

- A. Sikkim
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Telangana
- D. Tripura

ANSWER: A

18. What Is The Full Form Of JCB?

- A. Joseph Cyril Bamford
- B. Joseph Cyrus Bamford
- C. Joseph Cyril Bofors
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

19. Lt Gen. Rank Of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of IAF?

- A. Vice Admiral
- B. Air Commodore
- C. Commodore

D. Air Marshal

ANSWER: D

20. Which Country Ranked Third Highest In The World Defence Expenditure?

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

ANSWER: D

