

# Defence Current Affairs

## 27 October 2023

### US Strikes Two Syrian Facilities After Attacks By Iran-Backed Militia

- U.S. President Joe Biden ordered strikes on two facilities in Syria following attacks on U.S. troops in the past week, the Pentagon said, warning the U.S. will take additional measures if attacks by Iran's proxies continue.
- U.S. forces have been hit more than a dozen times in Iraq and Syria in the past week by what Washington suspects are Iran-backed groups. Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Lebanon's Hezbollah are all backed by Tehran.
- Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian said at the United Nations on Thursday that if Israel's offensive against Hamas did not stop, the United States will "not be spared from this fire".



## Death Sentence For Eight Indian Ex-navy Personnel in Qatar

- The Court of First Instance in Qatar on Thursday announced a death penalty verdict for eight former Indian Navy personnel who were detained in Doha in August 2022 in an alleged espionage case.
- Reacting strongly to the verdict, India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) expressed "deep shock" and affirmed that it will provide all consular and legal assistance and explore all possible options to rescue the veterans.
- **MEA ON DEATH PENALTY**
- "We have initial information that the Court of First Instance of Qatar has today passed a judgement in the case involving 8 Indian employees of Al Dahra company," the MEA said in an official press release.
- **WHO ARE THE 8 INDIANS SENTENCED IN QATAR?**
- Since August 8, 2022, eight former Indian Navy personnel have been detained in Qatar, **facing accusations of espionage related to a submarine program.**
- The former Indian Navy officers — Captain Navtej Singh Gill, Captain Birendra Kumar Verma, Captain Saurabh Vasisht, Commander Amit Nagpal, Commander Purnendu Tiwari, Commander Sugunakar Pakala, Commander Sanjeev Gupta and Sailor Ragesh — were arrested by Qatar intelligence agency from Doha on August 30, 2022.



## In a first, India, EU carry out joint naval drills in Gulf of Guinea

- India and the European Union carried out their first joint naval exercise in the Gulf of Guinea this week, reflecting growing maritime security cooperation between the two sides. The exercise took place on Tuesday, around three weeks

after the EU-India Maritime Security Dialogue in Brussels deliberated on ways to expand cooperation in the maritime sphere.

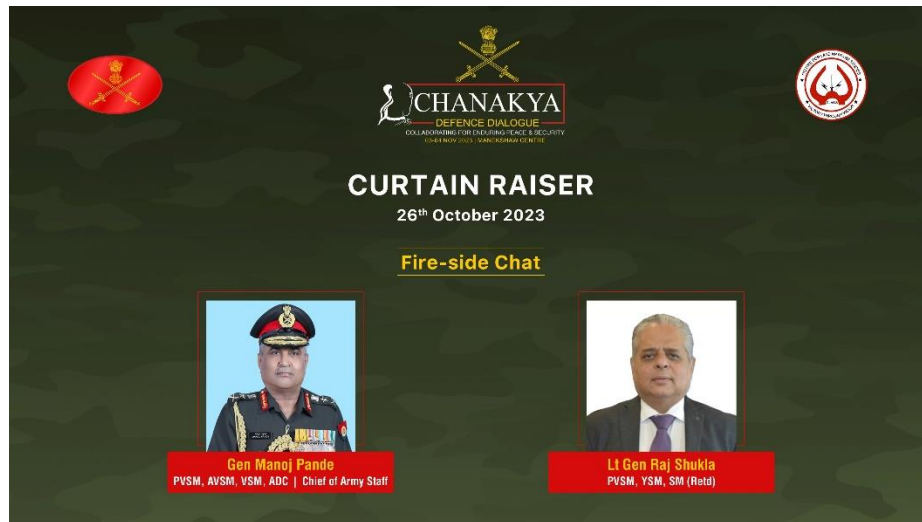
- The defence ministry said Tuesday's exercise reflected the breadth and dynamism of EU-India cooperation on maritime security and signalled the common determination to uphold the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
- "On October 24, the European Union (EU) and India conducted their first joint naval exercise in the Gulf of Guinea," it said.
- During the exercise, Indian Navy's INS Sumedha, an offshore patrol vessel, was joined by ships from three EU member states.



## Curtain Raiser Unveils Chanakya Defence Dialogue

- In an epoch where defence and security paradigms are dynamically evolving, General Manoj Pande, COAS, presided over the curtain raiser event, offering a glimpse of the upcoming two-day defence dialogue, set to navigate the wide canvas of regional and global security.
- The event, 'Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2023' is being organised by the Indian Army in partnership with Centre for Land Warfare Studies. The first edition of Chanakya Defence Dialogue will be held on 3rd & 4th November 2023 in Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi. This is the first event of its kind being organised by the Indian Army.
- The Dialogue will be conducted in six sessions on the following topics: -
  - Neighbourhood First - South Asia Prognosis.
  - Indo Pacific - The Decisive Frontier.
  - Collaborative Partnerships for Security.
  - How Emerging Technologies Impact Defence and Security.

- Indian Defence Industry as Enabler for Collaborative Capacity Building.
- Comprehensive Deterrence: The India Way.



## Israeli Military Raid Gaza To Prepare 'Next Stage'; Report Missile Hit Egyptian Town

- Israel said on Friday military raids into Gaza were preparing "the next stage of the operation", amid fears that a ground invasion of the Palestinian enclave could spark a wider conflict and a media report of a missile hitting an Egyptian border town.
- Egypt's Al Qahera News, citing sources, said a missile struck a medical facility in the Egyptian Red Sea resort town of Taba near the Israeli border early on Friday, injuring six people.
- Al Qahera said the blast was related to fighting between Israel and Gaza's Hamas militants. Israel's military said it was aware of a security incident in the area.
- This week, Israel said a rocket claimed by Hamas hit an area outlying Eilat, the Israeli town across the border from Taba.
- A witness in Taba, which lies some 220 kms (136 miles) from Gaza, reported hearing an explosion and seeing heavy smoke and dust rising.



## Review Questions

**1. Indian Military Academy Is Located At**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**2. Current Raksha Mantri Is**

- A. Rajnath Singh
- B. Ajay Bhatt
- C. Smirti Irani
- D. Anurag Thakur

**ANSWER: A**

**3. Ex 'PRABAL DOSTYK' Conducted b/w India &**

- A. Kazakhstan
- B. Kyrgyzstan
- C. UAE
- D. Maldives

**ANSWER: A**

**4. "Early Intervention Centre- Prayas" Has Been Established At**

- A. ARMY HOSPITAL (R&R)

- B. AIIMS Delhi
- C. Northern Army Command
- D. Eastern Army Command

**ANSWER: A**

**5. The First CHANAKYA DEFENCE DIALOGUE Seminar, Organised In**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**6. 1<sup>st</sup> Indian Army Logistics Seminar Held In**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**7. Aero India Show 2023 Was Held In**

- A. Chennai
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Noida
- D. Kochi

**ANSWER: B**

**8. INS Chennai Is A**

- A. Missile Destroyer
- B. Submarine
- C. Landing Ship Tank
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**9. INS Karmuk Is A**

- A. Destroyer
- B. Missile Corvette
- C. Submarine
- D. Tank

**ANSWER: B**

**10. R&AW Stands For**

- A. Research and Analytical Wing
- B. Raw and Analysis Wing
- C. Research and Analysis Wing
- D. Research and Analysis Wet

**ANSWER: C**

**11. "Sarvatra" (Everywhere) Is The Motto Of**

- A. JKRIF
- B. RR
- C. CORPS OF ENGINEERS
- D. Madras Regiment

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Joint Exercises B/w The India And UK Is Called:**

- A. Yama
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Konkan Shakti

**ANSWER: D**

**13. Where Is The Hq Of The Southwestern Command of The Indian Army?**

- A. Jaipur
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Moroni Is The Capital Of**

- A. Comoros
- B. Costa Rica
- C. Cuba
- D. Dominica

**ANSWER: A**

**15. "An Introduction to Dreamland" Book Is Written By**

- A. Bhagat Singh

- B. Leo Tolstoy
- C. Jules Verne
- D. Gunnar Myrdal

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Current NSA Of India Is**

- A. S Jaishankar
- B. Ajit Doval
- C. R Hari Kumar
- D. V R Chaudhari

**ANSWER: B**

**17. Ex 'AUSINDEX' conducted b/w India &**

- A. Angola
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. Australia

**ANSWER: D**

**18. Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (India) Is**

- A. Satish Namdeo Ghormade
- B. R Hari Kumar
- C. Karambir Lamba
- D. Sunil Singh

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Joint Exercises B/w The India And USA Is Called:**

- A. Yama
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Tiger Triumph

**ANSWER: D**

**20. Where Is The Hq Of The Eastern Command of The IAF?**

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

**ANSWER: C**



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