

# Defence Current Affairs

## 13 October 2023

### ICG Conducts 21<sup>st</sup> NMSAR Meeting

- The 21st National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) Board meeting was held at Kolkata on 12 October 2023. The meeting was chaired by Director General Rakesh Pal, ICG in his capacity as Chairman, NMSAR Board. ICG is the coordinating and executing agency for Maritime Search and Rescue in Indian Search and Rescue Region.
- The meeting was attended by representatives from stakeholders and resource agencies including Navy, Indian Air Force, ISRO, Customs, Coastal Police, DGCA, AAI, SCI, IMD, Fisheries, DG Shipping, Maritime boards, Port authorities, coastal States/UTs and other agencies, which are NMSAR Board members.
- The United Kingdom Flag vessel MV Furious was awarded in the merchant vessel category, Indian Fishing Boat New Aparajita from West Bengal was awarded in fishing boat category, ICG Ship Sujeet & ICG Air Squadron 835 Sqn(CG) in Govt owned SAR unit category while Gujrat Maritime Board and INMCC received the award in the ashore unit category.
- The NMSAR Board was formed in 2002 and since the Board meeting is being held annually to discuss policy issues, formulate guidelines/ procedures and consider recommendations for reviewing the National Search and Rescue plan. Speaking on the occasion, the Chairman emphasised on synergy amongst the stakeholders to ensure safer sea for all seafarers.



## DRDO's Vessel 'INS Sagardhwani' Embarks on Sagar Maitri Mission-4

- **INS Sagardhwani**, an oceanographic research vessel of Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory of DRDO, embarked on a two-month long Sagar Maitri Mission-4 from South Jetty, Southern Naval Command, Kochi on October 12, 2023.
- Sagar Maitri is a novel initiative of DRDO that supports the broad objective of PM Narendra Modi's policy declaration 'Safety and Growth for All in the Region' to promote closer cooperation in socio-economic aspects as well as more significant scientific interaction, especially in ocean research among Indian Ocean Rim (IOR) countries.
- INS Sagardhwani is a marine acoustic research ship designed and developed by NPOL, Kochi and constructed indigenously by GRSE Ltd. It was launched in July 1994.



## Israel Defence Forces admits military failed in preventing Hamas attack

- The Israel Defence Forces, in a first since the war between Israel and Hamas began, have acknowledged failures that aided Hamas' infiltration and attacks leading to mass killings on Saturday, The Times of Israel reported.
- The death toll in Israel since the Hamas attack on October 7 has jumped to 1,300 with nearly 3,300 injured. On the estimated 200 Israelis and foreigners held captive by the terror group in the Gaza Strip, Halevi says: "We will do everything to return the hostages back home."
- The soldiers have rescued around 250 hostages alive, it said, adding that more than 60 Hamas terrorists were neutralised and 26 were apprehended, "including Muhammad Abu A'ali the Deputy Commander of the Hamas Southern Naval Division".



## Indian Army Veterans' Half Marathon Announced, All Citizens Invited For Event

- The Indian Army veterans' half marathon- Honour Run was unveiled in the national capital on Thursday.
- The curtain raiser event held at the Manekshaw Centre showcased this initiative's vision: To build a strong bridge between our gallant soldiers, veterans, and the citizens of India.
- Indian Army has extended an invitation to all citizens to register and join in this event. Participation of maximum citizens will play a direct role in supporting the welfare of our veterans and their next of kin.



## Army establishes first-ever BSNL BTS on world's highest battlefield Siachen Glacier

- The Indian Army, in collaboration with the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited on Thursday established the first-ever BSNL base transceiver station (BTS) on the world's highest battlefield, Siachen Glacier.
- "Siachen Warriors in collaboration with BSNL established first ever BSNL BTS at forward posts of the highest battlefield on October 6, to extend mobile communication for the soldiers deployed at more than 15,500 feet," posted the Fire and Fury Corps of the Indian Army on X.
- A **base transceiver station** (BTS) is a fixed radio transceiver in any mobile network. The BTS connects mobile devices to the network. It sends and receives radio signals to mobile devices and converts them to digital signals that it passes on the network to route to other terminals in the network or to the Internet.



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## EAM Jaishankar's Security Upgraded From Y to Z Category

- The Central government has upgraded the security cover of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar from the 'Y' category to 'Z', official sources said on Thursday.
- The decision was taken by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs based on a threat analysis report from the Intelligence Bureau (IB).

- The MHA, following the IB report, has directed the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) to take charge of his security which was so far being covered by the Delhi Police.



## Review Questions

1. **What is the primary objective of the INS Sagardhwani's Sagar Maitri Mission-4?**
  - A. To establish communication infrastructure on Siachen Glacier
  - B. To facilitate maritime search and rescue operations
  - C. To conduct oceanographic research
  - D. To coordinate and execute Indian Coast Guard operations

**ANSWER: C**

2. **Where is the world's highest battlefield, Siachen Glacier, located?**
  - A. Near the Indo-Pak Line of Control
  - B. On the Indian Peninsula
  - C. In the Southern Naval Command (SNC) region
  - D. In the Indian Search and Rescue Region (ISRR)

**ANSWER: A**

3. **Who Chaired the 21<sup>st</sup> National Maritime Search and Rescue Board meeting?**
  - A. Secretary, Department of Defence R&D
  - B. Chairman DRDO, Dr. Samir V Kamat

- C. Rear Admiral Upal Kundu
- D. Director General Rakesh Pal

**ANSWER: DS**

**4. The Douglas C-47 Skytrain or Dakota Is A**

- A. UAV
- B. Military Transport Aircraft
- C. Fighter Aircraft
- D. None

**ANSWER: B**

**5. Infantry Day Is Always Observed On**

- A. 26 Oct
- B. 27 Oct
- C. 28 Oct
- D. 29 Oct

**ANSWER: B**

**6. Manufacturing Facility For Production Of Airbus C295 Aircraft To Come Up In \_\_\_\_.**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Chennai
- C. Vadodara
- D. Noida

**ANSWER: C**

**7. On 1 Apr 1954, the President's Colours Were Presented To The IAF By Which President Of India?**

- A. Rajendra Prasad
- B. V.V. Giri
- C. Radhakrishnan
- D. Pratibha Singh Patil

**ANSWER: A**

**8. Ex GARUDA SHAKTI, IND-INDO CORPAT, IND-INDO BILAT Conducted b/w India &**

- A. Qatar
- B. Sri Lanka

- C. Indonesia
- D. Maldives

**ANSWER: C**

**9. SIMBEX Series Of Exercises Began In 1994 And Were Initially Known As**

- A. Exercise Lion King
- B. Exercise Asia King
- C. Exercise Jungle King
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**10. WNC Is In**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**11. Northrop Grumman Is The Defence Manufacturing Company Of Which Nation?**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**12. Exercise PASCHIM LEHAR (XPL-2022) Conducted At**

- A. Bay of Bengal
- B. West Coast, India
- C. Moscow, Russia
- D. IOR

**ANSWER: B**

**13. The Unending Game Book Is Written By**

- A. Vikram Sood
- B. Shivshankar Menon
- C. Ravi Shastri
- D. Salman Rushdie

**ANSWER: A**



**14. What Is The Capital Of Andorra?**

- A. Maseru
- B. Andorra la Vella
- C. Yamoussoukro
- D. Addis Ababa

**ANSWER: B**

**15. "The School for Good Mothers " Book Is Written By**

- A. Jessamine Chan
- B. Beatrice Hitchman
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Nikki May

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration Is In**

- A. H.P
- B. U.P
- C. U.K
- D. M.H

**ANSWER: C**

**17. "Discipline and united action are the real sources of strength for the nation."**

**Said By**

- A. Gandhi Ji
- B. Lal Bahadur Shastri
- C. Pt. Nehru
- D. Gopal Krishna Gokhale

**ANSWER: B**

**18. PVSM Stands For**

- A. Param Vishisht Seva Medal
- B. Param Vishisht Sainik Medal
- C. Param Vishishttm Seva Medal
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Commodore Rank Of Indian Navy Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of IAF?**

- A. Air Commodore

- B. Air Marshal
- C. Wing Commander
- D. Major

**ANSWER: A**

**20.The Wings of Fire Book Is Written By**

- A. APJ Kalam
- B. Shivshankar Menon
- C. Ravi Shastri
- D. Salman Rushdie

**ANSWER: A**

