

# Defence Current Affairs

## 16 October 2023

### Unfortunate Death of Agniveer Amritpal Singh

- There has been some misunderstanding and misrepresentation of facts related to unfortunate death of Agniveer Amritpal Singh.
- Further to the initial information given out by White Knight Corps on 14 Oct 2023, following additional details are shared to clear the perspective.
- It is a grave loss to the family and the Indian Army that Agniveer Amritpal Singh committed suicide by shooting himself while on sentry duty.
- In consonance with the existing practice, the mortal remains, after conduct of medico - legal procedures, were transported under Army arrangements alongwith an escort party to the native place for the last rites.
- Armed Forces do not differentiate between the soldiers who joined prior to or after implementation of the Agnipath Scheme as regards entitled benefits and protocols.
- Unfortunate instances of death arising out of suicide/ self inflicted injury, irrespective of the type of entry, are accorded due respect by the Armed Forces along with deep and enduring empathy with the family. Such cases, however, are not entitled Military Funerals as per the extant Army Order of 1967, in vogue. Policy on the subject has been consistently followed ever since, without any discrimination.
- As per data held, there has been an average yearly loss ranging between 100 - 140 soldiers since 2001 where deaths occurred due to suicides / self-inflicted injuries, and Military Funeral in such cases was not accorded. The disbursement of financial assistance / relief, as per entitlement, is given due priority including immediate financial relief for conduct of funerals.
- Such unfortunate instances of loss bear heavy on the family and the Forces as a fraternity. During such times, it is important and incumbent on the society to

uphold the respect, privacy and dignity of the family while empathising with them in their moment of grief.

- Armed Forces are known for adherence to the policies and protocols and will continue to do so hitherto fore. The Indian Army requests support of all sections of the society while it follows its established protocols.



## Gaza Border Crossing Set To Reopen

- An Egyptian-controlled border crossing into Gaza is expected to reopen amid diplomatic efforts to get aid into the Hamas-controlled strip that has been under intense Israeli bombing since the group's rampage that killed 1,300 people on Oct. 7.
- Shocked by the assault on towns and villages, Israel is carrying out the most intense bombardment Gaza has ever seen, has imposed a strict blockade, and is preparing a ground invasion.
- "Rafah will be reopened. We're putting in place with the United Nations, with Egypt, with Israel, with others, a mechanism by which to get the assistance in and to get it to people who need it," U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said after a meeting with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi on Sunday.
- Authorities in Gaza said at least 2,670 people had so far been killed by Israel's retaliatory strikes, a quarter of them children, and nearly 10,000 wounded. Another 1,000 people were missing and believed to be under rubble.



## Iran Warns Israel Of Regional Escalation If 'Aggressions Do Not Stop'

- Iran warned Israel of escalation if it failed to end aggressions against Palestinians, with its foreign minister saying other parties in the region were ready to act, the semi-official Fars news agency reported on Sunday.
- Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed on Sunday to "demolish Hamas" as his military prepared to move into the Gaza Strip in search of Islamist militants whose deadly rampage through Israeli border towns shocked the world.
- Earlier, Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi urged France to help "prevent oppression" of Palestinians in a phone call with his counterpart Emmanuel Macron.



## SAGAR KAVACH 02-23

- A two-day comprehensive Coastal Security Exercise Sagar Kavach 02/23 involving all maritime security agencies was conducted by the Indian Navy in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and the UT of Puducherry from 11-12 Oct 2023.
- About 2500 personnel from the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, State and U/T Administration, Marine Police, Fisheries, Customs, Intelligence Agencies, Light Houses, Ports Forest etc were engaged in the exercise.
- The exercise witnessed close coordination and synergy among all coastal security stakeholders. Lessons learnt from the exercise would be incorporated to strengthen the coastal security architecture.



## ARMY COMMANDERS CONFERENCE

- The Army Commanders' Conference is scheduled from 16th to 20th October 2023 in New Delhi. An apex-level biannual event, it is an institutional platform for deliberations at the conceptual level, facilitating important policy decisions for the Indian Army.
- In continuation with the new format adopted this year, the upcoming Army Commanders' Conference is also being conducted in a Hybrid format wherein Army Commanders and other senior functionaries will meet virtually on the first day followed by remaining deliberations being conducted in a physical format.
- Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri is scheduled to attend the conference on 18th October 2023. General Anil Chauhan, Chief of Defence Staff, General

Manoj Pande, Chief of the Army Staff and Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of the Air Staff will address the gathering.



## Review Questions

**1. Ex Sagar Kavach Conducted By**

- A. Indian Navy
- B. IAF
- C. ICG
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**2. Current Prime Minister of Israel Is**

- A. Benjamin Netanyahu
- B. Yair Lapid
- C. Sara Netanyahu
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**3. Ex 'Vostok' Is A**

- A. Domestic Ex
- B. Bi lateral Ex
- C. Multinational Ex
- D. None

**ANSWER: C**

**4. INS Vikramaditya Is A Modified \_\_\_ Aircraft Carrier.**

- A. Kiev-Class
- B. Surya- Class
- C. Kalashnikov-Class
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**5. Operational Range of Barak 8 Missile Is**

- A. 70Km
- B. 80Km
- C. 90Km
- D. 100Km

**ANSWER: A**

**6. Defence Services Staff College Is Located At**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**7. Motto of DSSC Is**

- A. To War with Wisdom
- B. Valour and Courage
- C. Fight With Determination
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**8. Who Assumed The Appointment Of Commandant, Defence Services Staff College?**

- A. Lt Gen Virendra Vats
- B. Lt Gen Vikram Singh
- C. Rear Admiral Anil Sen
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**9. Cabinet Committee on Security Is Headed By**

- A. PM
- B. NSA

- C. The President
- D. COAS Indian Army

**ANSWER: A**

**10. Air Marshal Rank of IAF Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of Indian Army?**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**11. How Many States In India Have A Coastline?**

- A. Seven
- B. Eight
- C. Nine
- D. Ten

**ANSWER: C**

**12. OPEC Hq Is In**

- A. Budapest, Hungary
- B. New York, USA
- C. Luanda, Angola
- D. Vienna, Austria

**ANSWER: D**

**13. AUKUS Stands For**

- A. Azerbaijan, the United Kingdom, & the United States
- B. Australia, the United Kingdom, & the United States
- C. Australia, the United Kingdom, & Uganda
- D. Argentina, the United Kingdom, & the United States

**ANSWER: B**

**14. RIYADH Is The Capital Of**

- A. SAUDI ARABIA
- B. SENEGAL
- C. SERBIA
- D. SEYCHELLES

**ANSWER: A**

**15. "2001 Space Odyssey" Book Is Written By**

- A. C. Clarke
- B. Abhijit Chavda
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. APJ Abdul Kalam

**ANSWER: A**

**16. DRDO Lakshya Is A**

- A. Fighter Jet
- B. Ship
- C. Tank
- D. UAV

**ANSWER: D**

**17. Captain Rank of Indian Navy Equivalent to Which rank of IAF?**

- A. Flying Officer
- B. Flight Lieutenant
- C. Group Captain
- D. None

**ANSWER: C**

**18. Predator B (MQ-9 Reaper) Is A**

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Fighter Jet

**ANSWER: C**

**19. International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Hq Is At**

- A. London, United Kingdom
- B. Vienna, Austria
- C. Paris, France
- D. Geneva, Switzerland

**ANSWER: A**

**20. "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: A**