

# Defence Current Affairs

## 16 November 2023

### "We're Reassuming Military-to-military Contacts, Direct Contacts With China": Biden

- US President Joe Biden has confirmed the re-establishment of direct military-to-military contacts with China. He emphasised the importance of maintaining open and clear channels of communication to avoid potential miscalculations that could lead to serious consequences in relations b/w the two major powers.
- Biden also highlighted the necessity of direct and transparent communication to prevent "vital miscalculations."
- "Vital miscalculations on either side can cause real trouble with a country like China or any other major country. So, I think we've made real progress there as well," Biden said.
- The meeting, held on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), followed efforts between the US and China to increase high-level communication amid continued tensions.



## Exercise 'Sagar Kavach'

- The coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' will be conducted in Kerala and Mahe on November 16-17, 2023. It is a half-yearly exercise with the objective to check coastal security mechanisms and validate standard operating procedures.
- The exercise is conducted and coordinated by the Indian Coast Guard with active participation from the Indian Navy, Coastal Police/State Police, Intelligence Bureau, Customs, CISF, Department of Port, Department of Fisheries, DGLL and Kadalora Jagiratha Samithi.
- The exercise covers the entire Kerala and Mahe coast (590 km). Fishermen play an important role in coastal security. During exercise, fishermen are advised to inform any unknown vessel operating close to the coast, to the Indian Coast Guard,” stated the press release from Indian Coast Guard. During the conduct of the last coastal security exercise in the month of Apr 2023, all attacks were successfully neutralised by the Coastal Security Group (Blue Force).



## Indian Army Plans To Deploy 500 Drones To Replace Mules

- The Indian Army is set to deploy around 500 drones developed by MIT, Chennai, in challenging terrains such as the North-East and high-altitude landscapes. These drones will replace mules and helicopters to a certain extent.
- Union home minister Amit Shah praised the project team and announced that these drones will be utilized for delivering medicines and essential items to remote **Border Observation Posts (BOPs)**, addressing security gaps in difficult terrains.

- The drones, weighing 100kg, have the capability to carry 15kg to 20kg of supplies, including medicines, food, provisions, or oil, across different altitudes. Equipped with proximity sensors, these drones can fly through fog, rain, and gusty winds, ensuring smooth landing and takeoff.
- The guided navigation system, developed by the research team using GPS technology, allows the drones to travel up to 20 km round trip at an altitude of 1km.



## **Infantry Commanders' Conference Concluded**

- 37th Infantry Commanders' Conference was successfully conducted on 14th and 15th November 2023 at Infantry School, Mhow. This biennial conference was presided over by General Manoj Pande, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS).
- During the conference, the Infantry showcased its latest acquisitions in various arenas of lethality, mobility, battlefield transparency, situational awareness and survivability.
- The COAS complimented the participants for the dedicated and unflinching efforts being made at all levels towards infusion and adoption of latest technology to transform the Infantry into a formidable force for the future.



## Talks On In Armed Forces On Possible Entry Of Transgender Persons

- The Indian Armed Forces are looking at possible employment opportunities for transgenders and the roles they could perform, while examining the **Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019** and its implications.
- A **joint study group** constituted by the **Principal Personnel Officers Committee** was tasked with suggesting a way forward for the implementation of the Act in the defence forces. The PPOC is made up of senior officers from all three services as well as the AFMS, the Armed Forces' tri-service medical organisation.
- The group was entrusted with discussing the implications of the Act and proposing a course of action for its implementation in the defense forces. It was led by a senior officer in the **Directorate General of Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS)**.
- **The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019**
- In 2014, the SC in **NALSA v. Union of India** held that all persons have the constitutional right to self-identify their gender.
- Further, it directed Union and State Governments to allow transgender persons **to access reservations in public education and employment**.
- Following the judgement and the recommendation of the **Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice**, the 2019 Act was enacted and came into force.
- The Act is under the overall supervision of the **Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India**.



## Review Questions

**1. INFANTRY SCHOOL Is Located At**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**2. Infantry Commanders' Conference Concluded At**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**3. Ex Sagar Kavach Will Be Conducted By**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**4. Indian National Committee for Space Research Was The Former Name of Which Organisation?**

- A. DRDO

- B. ISRO
- C. CSIR
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: B**

**5. IAI Harpy Is A**

- A. Drone
- B. Tank
- C. Submarine
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**6. Operation Safed Sagar Was Launched In**

- A. 1997
- B. 1998
- C. 1999
- D. 2000

**ANSWER: C**

**7. INS Kadamba Is An Indian Navy Base Located At**

- A. Karwar in Karnataka
- B. Mumbai, M.H.
- C. Marmugao, Goa
- D. Kochi, Kerala

**ANSWER: A**

**8. KONKAN Ex Conducted B/W India And**

- A. Oman
- B. Qatar
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. UK

**ANSWER: D**

**9. L-HAV Stands For**

- A. Lance Havildar
- B. Loco Havildar
- C. Lake Havildar
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**



**10. The Hawker Siddeley HS 748 is a**

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Transport Aircraft

**ANSWER: D**

**11. Duty, Honour, Courage Is The Motto Of**

- A. Maratha Light Infantry
- B. The Grenadiers
- C. Rajput Regiment
- D. Jat Regiment

**ANSWER: A**

**12. Prahaar Missile Manufactured By**

- A. MDL
- B. BDL
- C. CSL
- D. DRDO

**ANSWER: B**

**13. SCALP Missile Is Developed By**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**14. India Purchased Sako .338 TRG-42 Sniper Rifles From**

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. Finland

**ANSWER: D**

**15. Who Became The First Woman Combat Aviator In The Indian Army? “**

- A. Major Payal Goyal

- B. Flight Lt. Bhavana Singh
- C. Flight Lt. Avani Chaturvedi
- D. Captain Abhilasha Barak

**ANSWER: D**

**16. "Old Man and the Sea" Book Is Written By**

- A. Cervantes
- B. Ruskin Bond
- C. Goethe
- D. Ernest Hemingway

**ANSWER: D**

**17. Challenger 2 Is A Tank Of**

- A. Oman
- B. Qatar
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. UK

**ANSWER: D**

**18. Havana Is The Capital Of**

- A. Cuba
- B. Qatar
- C. Chad
- D. Maldives

**ANSWER: A**

**19. India Purchased Jaguar Fighter Aircraft from**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**20. Full-Form of ATAGS Is**

- A. Adventure Towed Artillery Gun System
- B. Advanced To Artillery Gun System
- C. Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System
- D. Advanced Towed Artillery Gum System

**ANSWER: C**



 **SSBCrack**  
EXAMS