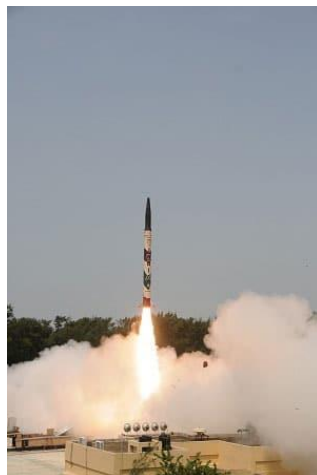


Defence Current Affairs

08 December 2023

Successful Training Launch of SRBM 'Agni-1'

- Training launch of Short-Range Ballistic Missile 'Agni-1' was carried out successfully from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha on December 07, 2023. Agni-1 is a proven very high precision missile system.
- The user training launch, carried out under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command, successfully validated all operational and technical parameters.
- The Agni-I is 15 m long, 1 m in diameter, and has a launch weight of 12,000 kg. It has a range of 700 km with an estimated payload of 1,000 kg, which allows it to carry nuclear warheads.5 With reduced payloads, the Agni-I may be capable of ranging up to 1,200 km, a distance which encompasses all of Pakistan.
- The Agni-I employs a 1 m-diameter solid-propellant booster modified from the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) SLV-3. Unlike the SLV-3, the motor employs HTPB composite propellant and produces roughly 48,000 kg of thrust. The missile employs a strapdown inertial guidance system and uses thrust vectoring and control surfaces on its wingtips to maneuver.



IAF's C-17 Aircraft Successfully Airdrops Heavy Platform

- A C-17 transport aircraft of the IAF on Thursday airdropped in a military zone in Agra an indigenously developed heavy platform that can carry a maximum load of 16 tonnes, officials said.
- It is for the first time that a platform having a dimension of 24 feet by eight feet with 16 tonnes load capacity was airdropped from an IAF plane, they said. The **Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE)** is a premier defence research laboratory.
- "The first stage involved inspecting the load outside the aircraft. The second stage involved loading checks of the platform in C17 aircraft and the third stage involved airdrop of the entire system over a selected drop zone," said an official, explaining the process.
- "All the stages were completed successfully. The cargo was released as planned and landed safely as desired," he said.



FBI Director Christopher Wray To Visit India Next Week

- FBI Director Christopher Wray will visit India next week against the backdrop of Washington's allegations about an Indian link to a foiled plot to kill a Sikh separatist on American soil.
- US ambassador to India Eric Garcetti referred to Wray's upcoming visit at an event on Wednesday while talking about the strength of US-India relationship and frequency of visits to New Delhi by top Biden administration officials.
- The Washington Post last week reported that the Biden administration was so concerned after discovering the plot to **kill Sikh separatist Gurbatwant Singh**

Pannun that it sent CIA Director William J Burns and Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines to India in August and October respectively to demand investigation and hold those responsible to account.



Armed Forces Flag Day 2023

- Every year, December 7 is observed as the Armed Forces Flag Day in India to honour the martyrs, veterans and serving personnel of the defence forces. The day has been observed annually since 1949 to remember the services of the Army, Navy and IAF, & collect funds to ensure their and their family's well-being.
- Soon after India achieved independence, a need arose to support and encourage the welfare of the defence personnel. On August 28, 1949, a committee was set up under the then Defence Minister of India, which decided to observe Flag Day annually on December 7.
- In 1993, India's Defence Ministry combined all related welfare funds, including those for war victims and the Kendriya Sainik Board Fund, into one, named the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund (AFFDF).
- The idea behind observing this day was to distribute small flags to people and collect donations from them.



UAE Armed Forces' Climate Change Strategy Launched at COP28

- The UAE's Ministry of Defence launched the UAE Armed Forces' Climate Change Strategy, the first of its kind in the region on the sidelines of the COP28 at Expo City Dubai.
- The strategy focuses on five main pillars that are built on the best global and national practices and the expectations of stakeholders. It aims to strengthen the UAE Armed Forces' commitment to reduce carbon emissions and encourage active participation at all levels in the transition to sustainability.
- Based on the main objectives, targets have been identified and initiatives have been put in place that will contribute to the implementation and achievement of the strategy.



Review Questions

1. Armed Forces Flag Day Observed On

- A. 5 Dec
- B. 6 Dec
- C. 7 Dec
- D. 8 Dec

ANSWER: C

2. India and Maldives, both are members of which of the following groupings?

1. SAARC, 2. SCO, 3. Colombo Security Conclave, 4. SASEC

Select the correct answer by using the codes given below?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 3 and 4 only

ANSWER: C

3. Which of the Central Armed Police Force is called “Crown Representative Police”?

- A. Central Reserve Police Force
- B. Indo-Tibetan Border Police
- C. Border Security Force
- D. Central Industrial Security Force

ANSWER: A

4. Consider the following statements regarding ‘Left Wing Extremism (LWE)’:

1. LWE basically intended to bring change through violent revolution.

2. SAMADHAN doctrine is the one-stop solution for the LWE problem by the Ministry of Defense.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct.

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

ANSWER: A

5. Who became India's first ever track and field athlete to take the silver medal in the World Championships?

- A. Neeraj Chopra
- B. Anju Bobby George
- C. Rohit Yadav
- D. None

ANSWER: A

6. Israeli 'Non-Line of Sight (NLOS) Is A

- A. Ballistic Missile
- B. ATGM
- C. Helicopter
- D. Tank

ANSWER: B

7.Is Referred To As The First Citizen Of India.

- A. The President
- B. The Prime Minister
- C. Governor
- D. Chairman of the Rajya Sabha

ANSWER: A

8. INS Sukanya Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Tank Landing Ship

ANSWER: B

9. The 164th Anniversary Of Income Tax Day Was Observed On

- A. 23rd July
- B. 24th July
- C. 25th July
- D. None

ANSWER: B

10. The "Ladakh Scouts" also known as -

- A. Snow Lions
- B. Snow Warriors

- C. Snow Leopards
- D. Snow Jackals

ANSWER: B

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

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

ANSWER: D

12. What is the highest commissioned rank awarded in the IAF?

- A. Air Marshal
- B. Air Chief Marshal
- C. Wing Commander
- D. Admiral

ANSWER: B

13. India and Sri Lanka are separated by -

- A. Palk Strait
- B. Indian Ocean
- C. Lakshadweep
- D. Arabian Sea

ANSWER: A

14. Exercises B/w India And Nepal Is Called:

- A. Yama
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Surya Kiran

ANSWER: D

15. Gaborone Is The Capital Of

- A. Botswana
- B. Brazil
- C. Brunei
- D. Bulgaria

ANSWER: A

16. "The Carnival Is Over" Book Is Written By

- A. Greg Woodland
- B. Sanjay Dixit
- C. Ashok Kumar
- D. Ruskin Bond

ANSWER: A

17. Dornier 228 Is A

- A. Air to Air missile
- B. Sniper Rifle
- C. Utility Helicopter
- D. Communication satellite

ANSWER: C

18. Current CDS Is

- A. M M Naravane
- B. R Hari Kumar
- C. V R Chaudhary
- D. Place is Vacant

ANSWER: D

19. Air Marshal Rank of IAF Is Equivalent to which rank of Indian Navy?

- A. Commodore
- B. Captain
- C. Commander
- D. Vice Admiral

ANSWER: D

19. World Nature Conservation Day Is Observed On

- A. 18th July
- B. 26th July
- C. 28th July
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

20. Air Marshal Rank of IAF Equivalent to Which rank of Indian Navy

- A. Flying Officer
- B. Vice Admiral

- C. Admiral
- D. None

ANSWER: B