

Defence Current Affairs

21 December 2023

First Marshal Of Air Force Arjan Singh Annual Lecture

- IAF and the United Services Institution of India (USI) jointly conducted the first Marshal of the Air Force Arjan Singh Annual Lecture at USI, Shankar Vihar today. The inaugural lecture was delivered by former Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria PVSM AVSM VM (Retd).
- The lecture was conceptualised by the IAF to honour the legend of Arjan Singh, and will give the IAF and USI an opportunity to commemorate his momentous achievements and extraordinary life story.
- Marshal of the Air Force Arjan Singh DFC was born on 15 April 1919, in Lyalpur (now Faisalabad) in present day Pakistan. He joined RAF Cranwell in 1938. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1944 for his outstanding leadership, great skill and courage during the Burma Campaign in World War II. On 01 August 1964, he took over as the Chief of the Air Staff in the rank of Air Marshal.
- The Marshal successfully commanded the Air Force to a resounding victory in the 1965 Indo – Pak War. Subsequently, in recognition of the Air Force's contribution in the war, the rank of the CAS was upgraded to that of Air Chief Marshal and Arjan Singh became the first Air Chief Marshal of the IAF.
- He was also conferred with the Presidential Award of Padma Vibhushan in recognition of his contributions in the 1965 war. On completion of five years as the Chief of the Air Staff in two ranks, Arjan Singh retired on 16 Jul 1969.



MoD Signs Rs 1,614.89 Crore Contract With MDL

- The Ministry of Defence signed a contract with Mazagon Dockyard Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL), Mumbai, on December 20, 2023, for the procurement of six Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).
- The contract was made under the Buy (Indian-IDDMM) category at a total cost of Rs1614.89 Crore. Out of the six vessels being procured, four would replace the existing aging OPVs and the other two would augment the ICG fleet.
- The acquisition of these major ICG platforms is aimed to boost the ICG's capability and reinforces the increased focus of the Government towards Maritime Security.

- These modern and high-tech Ships will play a critical role in enhancing surveillance, Law enforcement, Search and Rescue, Maritime Pollution Response, and other important capabilities including humanitarian assistance by



France Submits Bid For Indian Tender To Buy 26 Rafale M

- In a significant development, France has submitted its response to India's tender for buying 26 Rafale Marine jets for the Indian Navy's aircraft carriers - **INS Vikrant and INS Vikramaditya**.
- A team of French government officials dealing with military sales to foreign countries has flown over from Paris to submit the response to Indian tender, they said.
- The Indian side will carry out a detailed study of the French bid for the Indian deal including the commercial offer or price for the aircraft, along with other details of the contract, they said.
- India will now negotiate the deal with French government officials, as it is a government-to-government contract.



Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill Widens Definition Of Terrorism

- The redrafted criminal law bill **set to replace the Indian Penal Code, 1860**, has widened the definition of "terrorism" and left it to an officer, not below the rank of Superintendent of Police, to invoke section 113 of Bharatiya Nyaya (2nd) Sanhita Bill (BNSB), 2023, or the Unlawful Activities (Prevention Act), 1967.
- In the redrafted Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill, the definition of terrorism now includes the word "**economic security**", amongst other changes.
- As per the bill, the terrorism offence would include "**any act with the intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, sovereignty, security, or economic security of India or with intent to strike terror or likely to strike terror in the people or any section of the people in India or in any foreign country**".
- Damage to the monetary stability of India by way of "**production or smuggling or circulation of counterfeit Indian paper currency, coin**" would also be considered "**terrorist acts**", as per the bill.

Key changes in the bills



ADDITIONS

- Definition of terrorist acts expanded to include threats to "monetary stability" and "economic security" among other things
- Clear definition clause for "cruelty" against women in a marital relationship
- Penalises publication of court proceedings that may disclose identity of rape victims

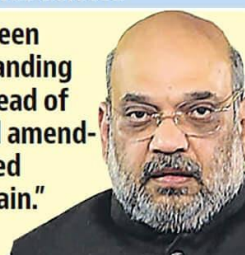
OMISSIONS

- Panel's recommendation on adultery and non-consensual gay sex not accepted
- A key provision that proposed 7 yrs in jail for mob lynching was deleted

WHAT'S NEXT?

Debate on the bills will take place on Thursday and Union home minister Amit Shah will give his reply on Friday.

"The bills had had been examined by the standing committee and instead of coming with official amendments, it was decided to bring the bills again."
— AMIT SHAH



Indian Warship Docks In Thailand

- INS Kadmatt docked at Thailand's Bangkok port on Tuesday to bolster the Indo-Thai maritime cooperation in the North Pacific Ocean and the South China Sea and enhance interoperability between both the navies, Ministry of Defence said.
- Additionally, Adm R Hari Kumar, Chief of the Naval Staff, will be visiting INS Kadmatt on December, 21 to interact with the crew of the ship, said Ministry.
- INS Kadmatt is the second of the four indigenous ASW corvettes of the Indian Navy. Commissioned on Jan 7, 2016, the ship has participated in numerous joint naval exercises with friendly nations, contributing to regional security and fostering maritime ties.



Review Questions

1. In January 2002 the GoI Conferred The Rank Of The Marshal Of The Air Force Onto

- A. Arjan Singh
- B. RKS Bhadauria
- C. VR Chaudhari
- D. None

ANSWER: A

2. Ministry of Defence signs Rs 1,614.89 crore contract For six Next Generation OPVs With

- A. GSL
- B. HSL
- C. MDL
- D. GRSE

ANSWER: C

3. RIMPAC Stands For

- A. Rim of the Pacific
- B. Rim of the Peace
- C. Rome of the Pacific
- D. None

ANSWER: A

4. RIMPAC Harbour Phase Is Conducting In

- A. Denmark
- B. Hawaii Island
- C. Kochi
- D. Pearl Harbour

ANSWER: B

5. P8I Maritime Patrol Aircraft Manufactured By

- A. Boeing
- B. Lockheed Marin
- C. Dassault Aviation
- D. HAL

ANSWER: A

6. Safran manufactures aircraft engines, rocket engines MNC Comes From

- A. Germany
- B. France
- C. Nepal
- D. UK

ANSWER: B

7. Indian Army Installs First Windmill On LOC In

- A. Jammu
- B. Kashmir
- C. Jaipur
- D. Amritsar

ANSWER: B

8. Which Of The Indian Army Has Been Appointed As New Force Commander Of The UMNIS?

- A. Lt Gen Mohan Subramanian
- B. Lt Gen Shailesh Tinaikar
- C. Lt Gen Sulabh Mani
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

9. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees HQ Is In

- A. Geneva
- B. Berlin
- C. New York
- D. Moscow

ANSWER: A

10. Peacetime Distinguished Service Medal Is

- A. PVC
- B. MVC
- C. VSM
- D. YSM

ANSWER: C

11. Major Rank of the Indian Army Is Equivalent To Rank Of IAF Is

- A. Commander
- B. Squadron Leader
- C. Group Captain
- D. Lieutenant

ANSWER: B

12. UNDP Was Established In

- A. 1965
- B. 1975
- C. 1985
- D. 1995

ANSWER: A

13. Lamitye Exercise Held B/W India And ___?

- A. Thailand
- B. USA
- C. Qatar
- D. Seychelles

ANSWER: D

14. Nomadic Elephant Exercise Held B/W India And ___?

- A. Australia
- B. USA
- C. Mongolia
- D. Singapore

ANSWER: C

15. Defence Services Staff College Is At

- A. Wellington
- B. Bangalore
- C. Pune
- D. Dehradun

ANSWER: A

16. Amman Is The Capital Of

- A. Oman
- B. Jordan

- C. Kiribati
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: B

17. "The Upside-Down King" Book Is Written By

- A. Sudha Murthy
- B. Nadia Murad
- C. Naseeruddin Shah
- D. APJ Abdul Kalam

ANSWER: A

18. War Cry of THE MAHAR REGIMENT

- A. Bharat Mata ki Jai
- B. Bolo Hindustan Ki Jay
- C. Jai Hind
- D. Durga Mata Ki Jai

ANSWER: B

19. Southwestern Air Command Of IAF Is In

- A. Prayagraj
- B. Gandhinagar
- C. Shillong
- D. New Delhi

ANSWER: B

20. Bagram Air Base Located In

- A. Pakistan
- B. Iraq
- C. Afghanistan
- D. Qatar

ANSWER: C