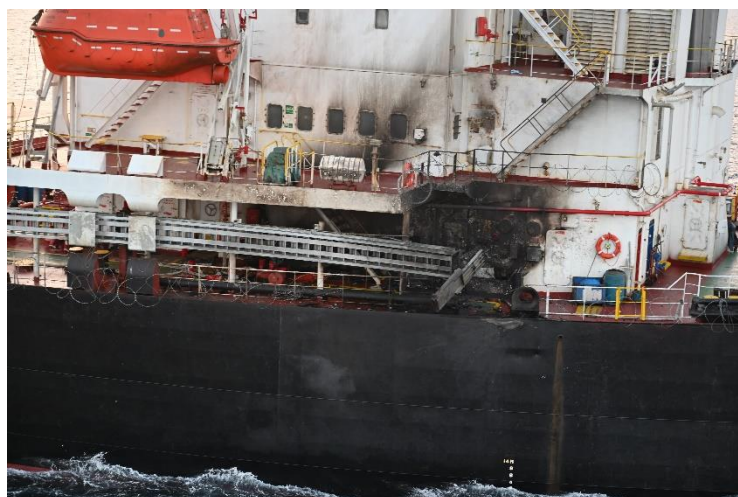


Daily Defence Current Affairs

19 January 2024

Navy Destroyer INS Visakhapatnam Responds To Drone Attack In Gulf of Aden

- In a rapid and effective response, the Indian Navy's mission-deployed guided missile destroyer, INS Visakhapatnam, on Thursday addressed a distress call from the Marshall Island-flagged MV Genco Picardy following a drone attack on the night of January 17.
- The destroyer intercepted the vessels at midnight on January 18, 2024, to provide immediate assistance. MV Genco Picardy, with a crew of 22 (including 9 Indians), reported no casualties, and the fire on board was reported to be under control.
- To ensure the safety and security of the vessel, Indian Naval Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) specialists from INS Visakhapatnam boarded the MV Genco Picardy in the early hours of January 18 to inspect the damaged area.



276 Myanmar Soldiers Who Took Refuge In Mizoram Will Be Repatriated Soon

- Around 276 Myanmar Army personnel, who took refuge in Mizoram's Lawngtlai District after their camps were captured by the Arakan Army (AA) militants, would be repatriated soon.
- An official in Mizoram said 276 Myanmar soldiers with their arms and ammunition reached Bandukbanga Village situated on the Mizoram-Myanmar-Bangladesh border trijunction, in southernmost Lawngtlai district on Wednesday afternoon. They are now being taken care of by the Assam Rifles.
- Assam Rifles has been guarding Mizoram's 510-km-long unfenced mountainous border with Myanmar.
- With the latest influx of Myanmar Army personnel in Mizoram, the number of soldiers who fled Myanmar since November 13 and reached India has touched 636.
- Earlier, Indian Air Force helicopters airlifted the soldiers to Moreh in Manipur and handed them over to the Myanmar Army authority.



Pakistan Launches Retaliatory Strikes Into Iran

- Pakistan said its strikes had hit "terrorist hideouts" in Iran's south-eastern Sistan- Baluchestan province.
- Iran condemned the attack, which it said killed three women, two men and four children who were not Iranian.

- The country's foreign ministry later said it was committed to good neighbourly relations with Pakistan.
- However, it called on Islamabad to prevent the establishment of "bases and armed terrorist groups" on its soil.
- The reciprocal attacks come as tensions in the Middle East are high with several overlapping crises.
- Israel is fighting the Palestinian group Hamas in Gaza and exchanging fire with Iran-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon.
- Meanwhile, Iran-backed groups in Iraq and Syria are targeting US forces, and the US and UK have struck the Iran-backed Houthis in Yemen, who have been attacking shipping.



Global Firepower Rankings 2024

- The United States continues to have the most powerful military in the world, followed by Russia and China, according to the Global Firepower rankings 2024.
- India has the **fourth strongest** military globally, according to the index which evaluated the strength of **145 countries**.
- According to the ranking, **Pakistan** is at number **9** while **Bhutan** has the least powerful military in the world.
- Notably, South Korea overtook UK and became the fifth most powerful country in the world in terms of military strength.
- GFP also analyzed the defence budgets of the 145 countries.
- US spends the most money on its military with a defence budget of **\$831 billion**. It's followed by **China (\$227 billion)**, **Russia (\$107 billion)** and **India (\$74 billion)**.



India Will ‘commission a nuclear power reactor every year’: NPCIL Chief

- India’s largest indigenously developed 700-MWe pressurised heavy water reactor (PHWR) – the fourth unit in **Kakrapar, Gujarat** – attained criticality. Six months earlier, another 700-MWe unit in the same facility had started producing commercial electricity.
- In 2024, another unit with the same capacity is expected to be commissioned in **Rawatbhata, Rajasthan**. Behind all these reactors is the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL). Its CMD B.C. Pathak told NPCIL plans to “commission a nuclear power reactor every year” hence.
- Globally, on an average, the energy composition consists of about 20% electricity and 80% energy from coal, petrol, diesel, gas, lignite, and other components.
- The 80% energy sector consists of fuel that is being directly used as molecules or as a reducing agent. There is a need to decarbonise that sector also.



NDA, India’s Best Defence Institution, Completes 75 Years Of March To Glory

- The National Defence Academy (NDA) in Pune, India, celebrates its 75th anniversary. The NDA has produced over 42,000 officers for the Indian armed forces and trained officers for friendly foreign countries.
- It has also trained the chiefs of staff of all three services from the same batch three times. The NDA is considered one of the country's most prestigious military academies and has played a crucial role in India's battles and wars since independence. The academy has adapted to changing warfare dynamics and continues to strive for excellence and innovation.
- The committee transformed the Indian Military Academy at Dehradun in 1946, naming it the Armed Forces Academy and splitting it into two wings — the “Inter-Services Wing” (later known as the Joint Services Wing) and the “Military Wing”.
- Eventually, the joint-training for all three services began in the Inter-Services Wing in January 1949, working out of Dehradun for exactly six years, before moving to the current NDA in Khadakwasla, near Pune, on the same day in 1955.
- To be sure, though NDA operated out of Dehradun for six years and has been based out of the Khadakwasla complex for 69 years, the army is considering January 16, 1949 as the institution’s foundation day.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. In The 2024 Global Firepower Military Strength Rankings, Which Position Did India Claim?

- A. Fifth
- B. Second
- C. Fourth
- D. Sixth

ANSWER: C

2. In Which Country Did The Indian Navy's P-8I Aircraft Arrived For Exercise Sea Dragon 24?

- A. UAE
- B. United States of America
- C. United Kingdom
- D. Australia

ANSWER: B

3. Ex 'AUSINDEX' conducted b/w India &

- A. Angola
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. Australia

ANSWER: D

4. Which Is The New Recruitment Policy For Indian Armed Forces?

- A. Varuna Yojna
- B. Agnipath Yojna
- C. Yodha Yojna

D. Karambir Yojna

ANSWER: B

5. North-West Region Of ICG Located In

A. Kochi

B. Vishakhapatnam

C. Gandhinagar

D. Mumbai

ANSWER: C

6. Joint Exercises B/w The India And USA Is Called:

A. Yama

B. SLINEX

C. Indra

D. Tiger Triumph

ANSWER: D

7. Department of Defence Production Comes Under

A. Ministry of Culture

B. MHA

C. MOD

D. MEA

ANSWER: C

8. Which Country Is Not The Member Of QUAD

A. USA

B. India

C. Japan

D. Russia

ANSWER: D

9. Dhanush (howitzer) Manufactured By

A. L & T

B. Boeing

C. ISRO

D. Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited

ANSWER: D

10. International Olympic Day Is Observed On

- A. 21 June
- B. 22 June
- C. 23 June
- D. 24 June

ANSWER: C

11. Where Is The Hq Of The Eastern Command of The IAF?

- A. Kochi
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Shillong
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: C

12. PVSM Stands For

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

ANSWER: A

13. Canberra Is The Capital Of

- A. Armenia
- B. Qatar
- C. UAE
- D. Australia

ANSWER: D

14. "Broken Wing" Book Is Written By

- A. Sarojini Naidu
- B. Jawaharlal Nehru
- C. Maithili Sharan Gupt
- D. APJ Abdul Kalam

ANSWER: A

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

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

D. Tank

ANSWER: B

16. Chairman Of NITI Aayog Is

A. Rajiv Kumar

B. Rakesh Asthana

C. R Hari Kumar

D. Narendra Modi

ANSWER: D

17. Blaser R93 Tactical Is Rifle Of

A. Oman

B. Qatar

C. Sri Lanka

D. Germany

ANSWER: D

18. Leclerc Is A

A. Tank

B. Missile

C. Gun

D. Rocket

ANSWER: A

19. Sena Medal Award Is Given To The Soldiers Of

A. Indian Army

B. IAF

C. Indian Navy

D. ICG

ANSWER: A

20. In The 2024 Global Firepower Military Strength Rankings, Which Position Did Russia Claim?

A. Fifth

B. Second

C. Fourth

D. Sixth

ANSWER: B