

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 02 February 2024

### Record Over Rs 6.21 Lakh Crore Allocation To MoD

- In the current geopolitical scenario and with the twin objective of promoting self reliance and exports, the **Defence Budget** has touched **Rs 6,21,540.85 crore** in the Financial Year 2024-25. This comes out to be **13.04%** of total Union Budget, which was presented by **Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman**.
- The MoD continues to receive the highest allocation among the Ministries. The budgetary allocation to Defence for FY 24-25 is higher by approx. **one lakh crore (18.35%)** over the allocation for the FY 2022-23 and **4.72% more than** allocation of FY 23-24.
- Of this, a major share of **27.67% goes to capital**, **14.82% for revenue expenditure** on sustenance and operational preparedness, **30.68% for Pay and allowances**, **22.72%** for defence pensions and **4.11% for civil organisations** under MoD.

### Upward trend continues in Defence Capital Expenditure promoting 'Aatmanirbharta'

- Budgetary allocation for capital expenditure in Defence for FY 24-25 is **Rs 1.72 lakh crore** which is **20.33% higher than the actual expenditure of FY 22-23** and **9.40 % more than the Revised Allocation of FY 23-24**.
- As per the **Economic Survey of India report 2023**, in the ship-building sector, the investment multiplier is around **1.82**, which means that an infusion of approx. **Rs 1.5 lakh crore** in naval ship-building projects would accrue a circulation of **Rs 2.73 lakh crore** in the ship building sector due to the multiplier effect.

### Enhanced higher allocation sustained for operational readiness under Revenue Expenditure

- Allocation to the Armed Forces for revenue expenditure (Other than Salary) meant for sustenance and operational commitment for FY 24-25 continues to be high at **Rs 92,088 crore**, which is **48% higher than** the budgetary allocation of **FY 2022-23**.
- During the mid-year review, the allocation on this head was **increased by 82% over the budgetary allocation of FY 22-23** crossing the figure of **Rs one lakh crore for the first time**.

#### **Defence Pension Budget increased to Rs 1.41 lakh crore**

- Total Budgetary allocation on account of Defence pensions is **Rs 1,41,205 crore** which is **2.17% higher than** the allocation made during **2023-24**. It will be incurred on monthly pension to approx. **32 lakh pensioners** through **SPARSH** and through other pension disbursing authorities.

#### **Unprecedented Allocation to ECHS ensuring better healthcare facilities to Veterans**

- The total allocation to **Ex-Servicemen Welfare Scheme** for FY 2024-25 is **28% higher than** the allocation for **FY 23-24** (From **Rs 5,431.56 crore to Rs 6,968 crore**).
- This is in addition to the unprecedented allocation at revised estimate stage during the current year where the budgetary allocation to ECHS was enhanced by 70% over BE of 2023-24 and was made to **Rs 9,221.50 crore**.

#### **Strengthening the need of improving Border Infrastructure for strategic requirements**

- In the light of the continued threat perception faced at the **Indo-China border**, there continues a jump in the Capital Budget allocation to the Border Roads Organisation. The allocation for BE 2024-25 is **Rs 6,500 crore**, which is **30% higher than the allocation for FY 23-24** and **160% higher over** the allocation of **FY 2021-22**.

#### **Strengthening the Multi Mission Service led by Indian Coast Guard**

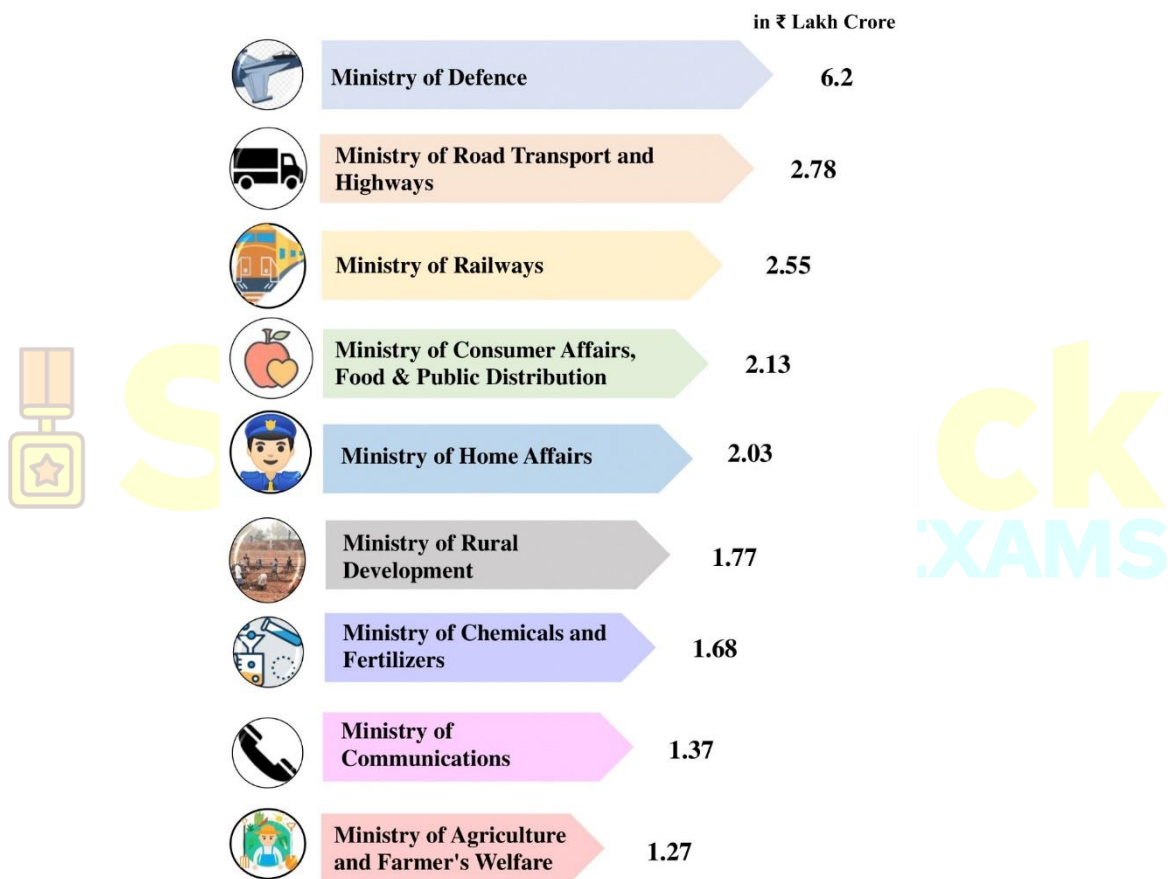
- Allocation to the ICG for this FY 2024-25 is **Rs 7,651.80 crore** which is 6.31% higher over the allocation of FY 2023-24. Of this, **Rs 3,500 crore** is to be incurred only on capital expenditure, adding teeth to the arsenal of the ICG to address

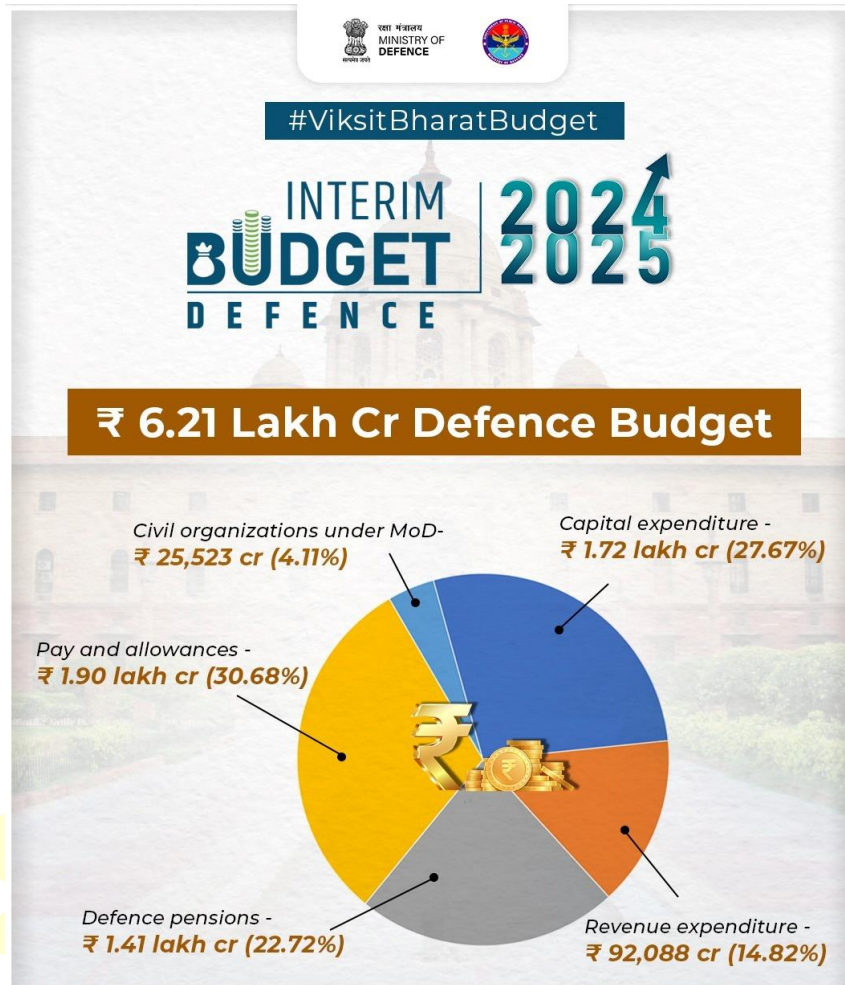
the emerging challenges posed in water and provide humanitarian assistance to other nations.

**DRDO**

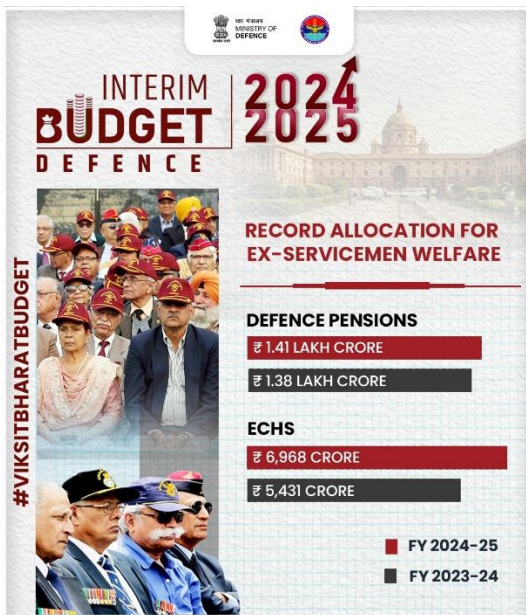
- The budgetary allocation to DRDO has been increased to **Rs 23,855 crore** in FY 2024-25 from **Rs 23,263.89 crore** in FY 2023-24. Of this allocation, a major share of Rs 13,208 crore is allocated for capital expenditure.

**Allocation for Specific Ministries**





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## Central Forces, Border, Intel, Census Focus of MHA Budget

- A substantial amount has been allocated for improving infrastructure along the international border, women's safety, police infrastructure and modernisation of police forces.
- For the **vibrant village programme** along the **China border**, **₹1,050 crore** has been allocated as compared to **₹300 crore in 2023-24**. For the modernisation of police forces, **₹3,720 crore** has been allocated. The decadal exercise has been postponed for the past two years due to Covid-19. The newly created UTs of **Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh** have been allocated **₹43,235 crore**.
- Central Reserve Police Force, which is mostly deployed during the general elections, internal security duties and fighting militancy in Jammu and Kashmir, has been allocated **₹32,809.65 crore** in comparison to **₹31,772.23 crore in 2023-24**.
- **Border Security Force**, which guards India's border with **Pakistan and Bangladesh**, besides handling internal security assignments, has been given **₹25,027.52 crore** as compared to **₹24,771.28 crore** in the previous budget.
- **CISF**, which protects vital installations such as nuclear projects, airports and metro networks, has been given **₹13,655.53 crore** as compared to **₹3,214.68 crore** allocated earlier.



## US Approves Sale Of 31 Predator Drones To India

- The US on Thursday approved the sale of **31 MQ-9B armed drones** to India at an estimated cost of **USD 3.99 billion**, an American defence agency announced here. The proposed mega drone deal was announced during the historic State Visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi here in June 2023.
- Under the deal, India will **get 31 High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) UAVs**, of which the Navy will get **15 Sea Guardian drones**, while the Army and the Indian Air Force will get eight each of the land version – **Sky Guardian**.



## Indian Navy Declares 2024

- Indian Navy has declared 2024 as '**Year of Naval Civilians**' to improve administration, efficiency and well-being of Naval Civilians by addressing all facets of Civilian HR Management in a time bound manner.
- Major focus areas towards maximising administrative efficiency, digital initiatives, generic and specific training programmes and welfare activities have been identified for implementation in 2024.

- Naval Civilian Personnel constitute about a third of the Indian Navy's total workforce and contribute significantly to its operational effectiveness across all domains. Civilian personnel impact the overall performance of Naval formations such as Command Headquarters, Dockyards, Material Organisations, Naval Armament Depots, Naval Armament Inspectorates, Training Establishments and several other types of support units.



## Indian Navy To Induct Survey Vessel Sandhayak

- The Indian Navy is all set to commission its **latest survey vessel Sandhayak in Vizag** on Saturday and the ship is expected to boost the force's surveillance apparatus in the strategic waterways.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar and Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Eastern Naval Command will be among the distinguished guests to grace the occasion.
- "The event will mark the formal induction into the Navy of the first of four-survey vessel (large) ships under construction at M/s Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata," a Navy spokesperson said.
- Sandhayak was delivered to the Indian Navy on December 4 after completing a rigorous and comprehensive trial programme both in the harbour and at sea.
- "Measuring 110 metres in length, displacing 3400 tons and with 80 per cent indigenous content, Sandhayak is a true testament of India's growing shipbuilding prowess in pursuit of the national vision of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat," the Navy said in a statement.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. What is the % of the Defence Budget in the Financial Year 2024-25 compared to the total Union Budget?**

- A. 18.35%
- B. 4.72%
- C. 13.04%
- D. 30.68%

**ANSWER: C**

**2. How much higher is the budgetary allocation for Defence in FY 24-25 compared to FY 2022-23?**

- A. Rs 1,341 crore
- B. 30.68%
- C. One lakh crore (18.35%)
- D. 4.11%

**ANSWER: C**

**3. What is the major focus area for the 'Year of Naval Civilians' in 2024?**

- A. Digital Initiatives
- B. Defence Pensions
- C. CRPF Spending
- D. Civil HR Management

**ANSWER: D**

**4. Which ministry has been allocated ₹2.03 lakh crore in the interim budget, with a majority for CAPF?**



- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Union Home Ministry
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. None

**ANSWER: B**

**5. What percentage of the Defence budget goes to capital expenditure?**

- A. 27.67%
- B. 14.82%
- C. 30.68%
- D. 22.72%

**ANSWER: A**

**6. Which naval vessel is set to be commissioned in Vizag to boost the Indian Navy's surveillance apparatus?**

- A. Sandhayak
- B. Delhi
- C. Imphal
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**7. ICGS Saksham Is A**

- A, Destroyer
- B. Aircraft Carrier
- C. OPV
- D. Refueling Ship

**ANSWER: C**

**8. "Nuclearization of Asia" Book Written By**

- A.** Rene Naba
- B.** VR Chaudhari
- C.** Gen Parvez Musharraf
- D.** APJ Abdul Kalam

**ANSWER: A**

**9. Indian Coast Guard Formed On**

- A. August 18, 1978

- B. September 18, 1978
- C. March 18, 1976
- D. April 18, 1976

**ANSWER: A**

**10. 'MBT Bhishma' Is The Name Of :**

- A. Fighter aircraft
- B. Tank
- C. Armoured vehicles
- D. Infantry regiments

**ANSWER: B**

**11. Barak Is A**

- A. Surface-to-air Missile
- B. Surface-to-Surface Missile
- C. Air-to-air Missile
- D. Surface-to-Sea Missile

**ANSWER: A**

**12. "Ordnance Factory Day" in India Is Observed On**

- A. 14 March
- B. 15 March
- C. 16 March
- D. 18 March

**ANSWER: D**

**13. INS Valsura Located At**

- A. Jamnagar, Gujrat
- B. Mumbai, M.H
- C. Kochi, Kerala
- D. A & NC

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Exercise Maitree Conducted B/w India &**

- A. Thailand
- B. Nepal
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Bhutan

**ANSWER: A**

**15. Infantry School Of Indian Army Is At**

- A. Mhow
- B. Bhopal
- C. Gwalior
- D. Jammu

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Officers Training Academy Is At**

- A. Chennai
- B. Bhopal
- C. Gaya
- D. Both A & C

**ANSWER: D**

**17. Northern Army Command headquarters Is in**

- A. Jaipur
- B. Udhampur
- C. Pune
- D. Lucknow

**ANSWER: B**

**18. DF-41 ICBM Is A Missile Of**

- A. India
- B. Russia
- C. China
- D. North Korea

**ANSWER: C**

**19. The IAI Heron UAV Developed By**

- A. USA
- B. South Korea
- C. Israel
- D. China

**ANSWER: C**

**20. Which Is Not The Commissioned Ranks In The Army Service?**

- A. Brigadier
- B. Colonel
- C. General
- D. Commander

**ANSWER: D**