

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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US Carries Out Retaliatory Airstrikes In Iraq And Syria

- The United States carried out retaliatory airstrikes on Friday in Iraq and Syria against more than **85 targets linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guards** and the militias they back, the U.S. military said, after a deadly attack in Jordan that killed three U.S. troops and injured some 40 others.
- After the US airstrikes targeting militia positions in both Iraq and Syria, the spokesman for the commander-in-chief of the Iraqi armed forces said these strikes come at a time when Iraq is "**striving to ensure stability in the region,**" Iraqi News Agency (INA).
- Last week, The Islamic Resistance in Iraq, a coalition encompassing militias like Kata'ib Hezbollah and **Harakat al-Nujaba**, asserted accountability for a drone strike. The attack resulted in the death of three US military personnel and left numerous others injured at a base in northeast Jordan, situated close to the Syrian border.



EXERCISE VAYUSHAKTI-2024

- The Indian Air Force will be conducting Exercise Vayu Shakti-24 on 17 February 2024 at the Pokhran Air to Ground Range, near Jaisalmer. The last edition of exercise Vayu Shakti was held on 16 February 2019.
- As always, Ex Vayu Shakti will be a riveting demonstration of the offensive and defensive capabilities of the IAF, spanning across day and night. The exercise will also showcase joint operations with the Indian Army.
- This year, the exercise will see participation by 121 aircraft, including the indigenous **Tejas, Prachand and Dhruv**. **Other participating aircraft would include the Rafale, Mirage-2000, Sukhoi-30 MKI, Jaguar, Hawk, C-130J, Chinook, Apache and Mi-17.**
- Indigenous Surface to Air Weapon systems **Akash and Samar** will demonstrate their capability to track and shoot down an intruding aircraft.



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Indian Navy Foils Piracy Attempt On Cargo Vessel

- The Indian Navy foiled a piracy attempt on an Iranian-flagged fishing vessel with a crew of 11 Iranian and eight Pakistani nationals along the east coast of Somalia, in the latest in a series of such rescue missions in the region.
- Indian warship INS Sharda came to the rescue of FV Omaril after seven pirates boarded it and took the crew as hostages, officials said on Friday.
- The warship, deployed for anti-piracy mission in the region, was diverted to intercept the boat after Indian Navy's remotely piloted aircraft, undertaking surveillance in the area, successfully located FV Omari, they said.

- **INS Sharda** intercepted the vessel in early hours of Friday and used her integral helo and boats to coerce the pirates for safe release of crew along with the vessel, he said.



Delhi, Male Reach Troop Deal; Pakistan Offers Help

- **India on Friday agreed to replace its military personnel** running various aviation platforms in Maldives with non-uniformed civilians while Pakistan has assured the island country of support to address its "pressing development needs."
- At present, around 80 Indian military personnel are in the Maldives primarily to operate two helicopters and an aircraft which carried out hundreds of medical evacuations and humanitarian missions.
- The two sides decided to set up the core group following a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Maldivian President Muizzu on the sidelines of the COP28 summit in Dubai in December.



Indian Navy Units Being Deployed In Djibouti, Gulf of Aden, East Coast of Somalia

- Indian Navy units are being deployed in strategic waters in Djibouti, Gulf of Aden, East Coast of Somalia as well as in the North and Central Arabian Sea for protection of merchant vessels in view of the regional maritime security situation, the defence ministry said on Friday.
- Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt said in Lok Sabha the Navy deployed its units in the Gulf of Aden and East coast of Africa towards anti-piracy patrols since 2008 and a total of 3,440 ships and over 25,000 seafarers have been "safely escorted".
- There have been growing global concerns over **Iran-backed Houthi militants** attacking various merchant ships in the Red Sea since November, apparently in response to Israel's military offensive in Gaza.
- Bhatt said the Navy's Information Fusion **Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)** has linkages with 25 partner nations and over 40 international multinational organisations for real time exchange of information towards enhancing maritime security.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **EXERCISE VAYUSHAKTI-2024 Will Be Held In**
 - A. Pune
 - B. Jaisalmer
 - C. Mumbai

D. Lucknow

ANSWER: B

2. 83rd Army Dental Corps Day Celebrated On

A. 1 Feb

B. 2 Feb

C. 3 Feb

D. 4 Feb

ANSWER: A

3. TROPEX Stands For

A. Theatre Level Ready Operational Exercise

B. Theatre Level Readiness Operational Exercise

C. Theatre Level Readiness Operation Exercise

D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

4. Which Nation Doesn't Participate In Ex Malabar?

A. Australia

B. Austria

C. Japan

D. USA

ANSWER: B

5. 'Ex AL NAGAH, NASEEM-AL-BAHR, Ex EASTERN BRIDGE' Conducted b/w India &

A. Qatar

B. Oman

C. UAE

D. Maldives

ANSWER: B

6. Who Is The Chairman Of The National Command Authority Of India?

A. PM

B. NSA

C. Cabinet Secretary

D. Defence Minister

ANSWER: A

7. 'Ex KOMODO' Hosted By

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. Indonesia

ANSWER: D

8. Operational Range of Rudram-1 Is

- A. 150 km
- B. 250 km
- C. 350 km
- D. 450 km

ANSWER: B

9. Army Air Defence College Is In

- A. Gopalpur, Odisha
- B. Pune, M.H.
- C. Chennai, T.N.
- D. None

ANSWER: A

10. "Sarvatra Izzat-o-Iqbal" Is The Motto Of

- A. Dogra Scouts
- B. Sikkim Scouts
- C. Regiment Of Artillery
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

11. Prahaar Missile Manufactured By

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

ANSWER: B

12. Thales Group Is A Company of ___

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

ANSWER: D

13. Which Of The Following Is Not The Command Location Of The Indian Army?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Lucknow
- C. Pune
- D. Jaipur

ANSWER: A

14. Which Is The 2 Star Rank In The Indian Army?

- A. Brigadier
- B. Major General
- C. Lt Gen
- D. Colonel

ANSWER: B

15. Bratislava Is The Capital

- A. Oman
- B. Serbia
- C. UAE
- D. Slovakia

ANSWER: D

16. "Courts of India" Book Is Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. CJI Ranjan Gogoi (Former)
- C. Roopa Pai
- D. Peter Baker

ANSWER: B

17. World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) Hq Is At

- A. Paris, France
- B. Vienna, Austria
- C. New York, USA

D. Geneva, Switzerland

ANSWER: D

18. UNICEF Stands For

- A. Union Nations Children's Fund
- B. United Nations Children's Fund
- C. United Nations Children's Future
- D. United International Nations Children's Fund

ANSWER: D

19. __ Himalayan pass is situated b/w India and China.

- A. Shenkora
- B. Thalghat
- C. Bhorghat
- D. Shipki La

ANSWER: D

20. Wartime Gallantry Award Is/Are

- A. Param Vir Chakra
- B. Maha Vir Chakra
- C. Vir Chakra
- D. All of the above

ANSWER: D