

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Launch of Agray And Akshay

- 'Agray' and 'Akshay', the 5th and 6th ships of 08 x ASW Shallow Water Craft (SWC) Project being built by M/S GRSE for Indian Navy, were launched on 13 Mar 24 at M/S GRSE, Kolkata.
- The ships have been rechristened as Agray and Akshay, named after erstwhile Abhay Class Corvettes Agray and Akshay of Indian Navy.
- The contract for building eight ASW SWC ships was signed between MOD and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata on 29 Apr 19. Arnala class of ships will replace the in-service Abhay class ASW Corvettes of Indian Navy and are designed to undertake anti-submarine operations in coastal waters, Low Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO) and Mine Laying Operations.



12th Edition Of India-Italy Military Cooperation Group Meeting

- The 12th edition of India-Italy Military Cooperation Group (MCG) Meeting was held on 12-13 Mar 24 in New Delhi. The discussions focused on new initiatives

to further enhance the defence cooperation and military to military level exchange between the two countries.

- Italy and India recently elevated their bilateral relations to the levels of Strategic Partnership during the visit of Italian Prime Minister Ms Giorgia Meloni to India in March 2023. The MoU on Defence Cooperation was also recently renewed during the visit of the Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh to Italy in October 2023.
- The Defence Secretary suggested the integration of Indian vendors in the global supply chains of Italian defence companies to bring value to both sides and improve the supply chain resilience.



MoD inks contract with AVNL for 693 Armament Upgrades

- The Ministry of Defence, on March 13, 2024, signed a contract with Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL) for the procurement of 693 Armament Upgrades of Infantry Combat Vehicle BMP2 to BMP2M.
- This upgrade includes Night Enablement, Gunner Main Sight, Commander Panoramic Sight and Fire Control System with Automatic Target Tracker under Buy {Indian-Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured} Category.
- The AVNL has developed an indigenised solution for providing existing BMP 2/2K with Night Fighting Capabilities and FCS based on the integration of DRDO and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Chennai-developed sight and FCS.



MoD Signs Contracts Worth Rs 8073 Cr with HAL

- Consequent upon approval of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), the Ministry of Defence signed two contracts for a combined value of Rs 8073.17 crore with HAL, Bengaluru on 13 March 2024 for acquisition of 34 Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) Dhruv Mk III along with Operational Role Equipment for Indian Army (25 ALHs) and ICG (09 ALHs) under Buy (Indian-IDDMM - Indigenously Designed, Developed & Manufactured).
- The ALH Dhruv Mk III UT (Utility), the Indian Army version, is designed for Search & Rescue, Troop Transportation, Internal Cargo, Recce/ Casualty Evacuation etc. It has proved its performance in high altitude regions like Siachen Glacier and Ladakh.
- The ALH Mk III MR (Maritime Role), the ICG version, is designed for Maritime Surveillance and Interdiction, Search and Rescue, Rappelling Operations and also for Cargo & Personnel Transportation, Pollution Response using external cargo carrying capability and Medical Casualty Evacuation. It has proved its mettle even in adverse atmospheric conditions over sea and land.



Rajnath Singh Clears Proposal To Expand NCC

- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has approved a proposal for expansion of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) with the addition of three lakh cadet vacancies. This expansion is expected to cater to the increasing demand for the NCC from educational institutions throughout the country.
- From just 20,000 cadets in 1948, the NCC will now have a sanctioned strength of 20 lakh cadets on its rolls making it the largest uniformed youth organisation of the world. With NCC being offered as an elective subject as per the NEP 2020, the expansion will be a step towards meeting the aspirations of the youth towards playing a pivotal role as future leaders of the nation.
- The NCC aims to make a transformative impact, fostering an environment where youth meaningfully contribute towards nation building. The initiative will expand the base of motivated, disciplined and patriotic youth of the 'Amrit Peedhi' who will contribute towards achieving the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which organization signed contracts worth Rs 8073.17 crore for the acquisition of ALH Dhruv Mk III?
 - A. Indian Army
 - B. Indian Coast Guard
 - C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
 - D. Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL)

ANSWER: C

2. What was the focus of the discussions in the 12th edition of India-Italy (MCG) Meeting?

- A. Procurement of armoured vehicles
- B. Enhancing educational cooperation
- C. Increasing the strength of the National Cadet Corps (NCC)
- D. Enhancing defence cooperation and military to military level exchange

ANSWER: D

3. What is the proposed addition of cadet vacancies approved by Raksha Mantri for the expansion of the NCC?

- A. 20,000 cadets
- B. 2,000,000 cadets
- C. 300,000 cadets
- D. 200,000 cadets

ANSWER: C

4. Defence Institute of Physiology & Allied Sciences Is A Operating Agency Of

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

ANSWER: C

5. Ex 'BLUE FLAG' Conducted b/w India &

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman
- C. Israel
- D. Kazakhstan

ANSWER: C

6. Which Organisation Manufactured Tejas Mark-2 Fighter Jets?

- A. BEL
- B. BDL
- C. HAL
- D. DRDO

ANSWER: C

7. Udarshakti Is A Bilateral Exercise Which Is Held Between India And Which Other Country?

- A. Malaysia
- B. Singapore
- C. Russia
- D. Japan

ANSWER: A

8. What Is The Name Of The Submarine Which Has been Decommissioned From The Indian Navy?

- A.** INS Rajput
- B.** INS Nishank
- C.** INS Sindhudhvaj
- D.** INS Ranjit

ANSWER: C

9. Heron MK II Is A

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: C

10. Chabahar Port Is Located In

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. Iran

ANSWER: D

11. SCO Member Countries Contribute About __Of Global GDP.

- A. 30%
- B. 40%
- C. 50%
- D. 60%

ANSWER: A

12. Pratap Chandra Lal Was A Former Chief Of

- A. IAF
- B. Indian Army
- C. Indian Navy
- D. BSF

ANSWER: A

13. Space & Upper Atmosphere Research Commission Is A Space Agency Of

- A. USA
- B. Pakistan
- C. China
- D. Bhutan

ANSWER: B

14. RS-28 Sarmat "Satan 2" is a

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. Missile
- D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: C

15. BELMOPAN Is The Capital Of

- A. BELIZE
- B. BENIN
- C. BHUTAN
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

16. "The Living Mountain" Book Is Written By

- A. JK Rowling
- B. Aakash Ranison
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Amitav Ghosh

ANSWER: D

17. Joint Exercises B/w India And Sri Lanka Is Called:

- A. Ashoka
- B. SLINEX

- C. Indra
- D. MITRA SHAKTI

ANSWER: D

18. India Purchased Sig Sauer assault rifles from

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

19. India Purchased Romeo 64 Helicopter from

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. Russia

ANSWER: A

20. Which Is Not The Member Of BIMSTEC?

- A. Bangladesh
- B. Bhutan
- C. India
- D. Pakistan

ANSWER: D