

Daily Defence Current Affairs

02 June 2024

India-US Discussions Underway For \$3.9 Billion MQ-9B Drones Acquisition

- A team from the United States is in India for discussions on the MQ-9B drones being acquired by the armed forces for an estimated \$3.9 billion which is yet to be inked as final talks on technology sharing continue.

Here's your 5-point cheatsheet on the drone deal

- The MQ-9B is a next-generation remotely piloted aircraft that delivers persistent intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance around the globe, says General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc.
- India will buy 31 MQ-9Bs. Of this, the navy will get 15 MQ-9B SeaGuardian drones, and the army and the air force will get eight each of the land attack and reconnaissance version called SkyGuardian.
- The Biden administration yesterday informed the US Congress on its plan to sell 31 MQ-9B long-endurance drones to India. The deal was announced during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US in June 2023.
- The MQ-9B SkyGuardian is the army and air force version. It can fly over the horizon via satellite for up to 40 hours or more in all types of weather, and safely integrate into civil airspace, enabling joint forces and civil authorities to deliver real-time situational awareness anywhere in the world, day or night.
- The MQ-9B SeaGuardian is the maritime-focused sibling of the SkyGuardian. SeaGuardian can also fly over the horizon via satellite for over 30 hours (depending on configuration). This versatile maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft also has a self-contained anti-submarine warfare mission kit.



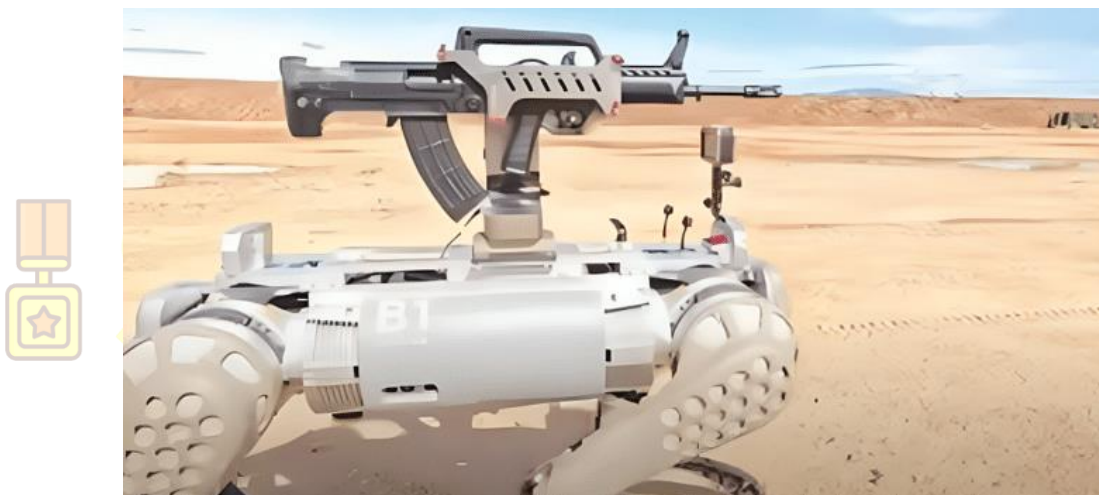
Maj Gen Harsh Chhibber takes over as Commandant, College of Defence Management

- Maj Gen Harsh Chhibber took over as the Commandant, **College of Defence Management, Secunderabad** on 31 May 24 from Rear Admiral Sanjay Datt. An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Major General Harsh Chhibber was commissioned into the Army Service Corps in December 1988.
- Maj Gen Harsh Chhibber holds a PhD on Public Policy along with two M.Phil degrees in Business Management and Public Administration. He has also undertaken Technical Staff Officers Course, Higher Defence Management Course and the Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration.



Chinese Army's Newest Recruit — A Gun-toting 'Robo-dog'

- In a joint military exercise with Cambodia, the Chinese Army debuted its newest recruit this week, a gun-toting robot dog, demonstrating the military's technological foray into replacing humans with machines in combat situations.
- Two versions of the robot-dog were showcased — one that can fire at the enemy and a lighter dog that can be used in identifying targets. Both have a 4D wide-angle perception system, and just like real-life canines, can move forward and backward, jump, and lie down.
- The dog ready for direct combat has an assault rifle attached to its top and weighs 50 kg. The other 15 kg robot is designed to replace human recruits in reconnaissance missions and can identify the enemy by providing real-time transmission of footage to military posts.



Yemen's Houthis target US aircraft carrier, destroyer in Red Sea

- Yemen's Houthis conducted six operations targeting a U.S. aircraft carrier, a U.S. destroyer and three vessels in the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, the Iranian-backed group's military spokesperson Yahya Saree said on Saturday.
- The Houthi fighters' drone and missile strikes have been aimed at the Bab al-Mandab Strait and the Gulf of Aden.
- That has forced shippers since November to re-route cargo on longer and more expensive journeys around southern Africa.
- U.S. Central Command did not address the Houthi claims, but said in a statement Sunday that it shot down multiple Houthi munitions. According to Centcom, it destroyed one Houthi drone and saw two others go down in the Red

Sea, with no damage reported. U.S. forces also engaged and destroyed two anti-ship ballistic missiles that Houthi units launched at the destroyer USS Gravelly. No damage or injuries were reported on any vessel, military or civilian, Centcom said.



Israel Accepts Biden's Gaza Plan But 'Not A Good Deal'

- Israel has accepted a framework deal for ending the Gaza war proposed by US President Joe Biden, an aide to Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told the news agency Reuters on Sunday. However, Netanyahu described it as "flawed" and in need of much more work, his aide stated.
- The US President on May 31 announced that Israel proposed to Hamas a deal involving an initial six-week ceasefire with a partial Israeli military withdrawal and the release of some hostages while "a permanent end to hostilities". The proposal, according to Biden, also "creates a better 'day after' in Gaza without Hamas in power". He said that the deal was being negotiated through mediators.
- Netanyahu was facing growing pressure after Biden's three-stage proposal, the Associated Press stated.
- The six-week-long first phase would include a "full and complete ceasefire" and a withdrawal of Israeli forces from all densely populated areas of Gaza. Additionally, hostages, including women, the elderly, and the wounded, will be released by Hamas in exchange for the release of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who took over as the Commandant of the College of Defence Management, Secunderabad?

- A. Maj Gen Harsh Chhibber
- B. Rear Admiral Sanjay Datt
- C. Maj Gen Anil Chauhan
- D. Rear Admiral Sandeep Mehta

ANSWER: A

2. Which air force base did the IAF contingent reach to participate in the multi-national exercise Red Flag 24?

- A. Nellis Air Force Base
- B. Eielson Air Force Base
- C. Edwards Air Force Base
- D. Tyndall Air Force Base

ANSWER: B

3. What is the name of the anti-radiation missile successfully tested by India?

- A. Rudram-II
- B. Agni-V
- C. BrahMos
- D. Akash

ANSWER: A

4. 'Netra' Is A

- A. Early Warning And Control Aircraft System
- B. Early Warning And Control Atmosphere
- C. Early Warning And Centre Aircraft
- D. None

ANSWER: A

5. 'Samudra Prahari' Is A

- A. Submarine
- B. ICG Pollution-Control Vessel
- C. Destroyer
- D. Frigate

ANSWER: B

6. Dhamma Dipa International Buddhist University (DDIBU) Located At

- A. Tripura
- B. Assam
- C. U.P.
- D. Kerala

ANSWER: A

7. Light Combat Helicopter Is Manufactured By

- A. DRDO
- B. HAL
- C. Boeing
- D. Airbus

ANSWER: B

8. Ex 'KAZIND' & 'KHANJAR' Conducted b/w India &

- A.** Kazakhstan
- B.** Kyrgyzstan
- C.** Both a & b
- D.** None of the above

ANSWER: C

9. Munitions India Limited Is An Indian State-owned Defence Company, HQ in

- A. Pune
- B. Mumbai

- C. Noida
- D. Chennai

ANSWER: A

10. Current Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) Of Indian Navy Is

- A. Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi
- B. Admiral Sunil Lanba
- C. Admiral Karambir Singh
- D. None

ANSWER: A

11. Current CDS Of India Is

- A. Gen Anil Chauhan
- B. Gen Bipin Rawat
- C. Gen M M Naravane
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

12. War Cry Of Mechanised Infantry Regiment Is

- A. Durga Mata K Jai
- B. Raja Ram Chandra K Jai
- C. Bolo Bharat Mata Ki Jai
- D. Bajrang Bali K Jai

ANSWER: C

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

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

ANSWER: D

14. Operation Devi Shakti Was Conducted In

- A. 2016
- B. 2017
- C. 2018
- D. 2021

ANSWER: D

15. Always Alert Is The Motto Of

- A. RAW
- B. IB
- C. DRDO
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

16. Which Is Not An OPV?

- A. INS Saryu
- B. INS Sunayna
- C. INS Gomati
- D. INS Sumitra

ANSWER: C

17. Only Five-star Rank Officer Of The IAF Is

- A. K.M Karippa
- B. V R Chaudhary
- C. R K S Bhadauria
- D. Arjan Singh

ANSWER: D

18. SPYDER Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Air defence system

ANSWER: D

19. Vilnius Is The Capital Of

- A. Lithuania
- B. Qatar
- C. Malawi
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

20. "Prophet Song" Book Is Written By

- A. Ramesh Kandula
- B. Meghna Pant

C. Hunter Biden
Paul Lynch
ANSWER: D