

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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MoD Inks MoU With Four Banks To Onboard Them As SPARSH Service

- Defence Accounts Department, Ministry of Defence has signed MoUs with Bank of India, Canara Bank, Central Bank of India and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank in New Delhi to onboard them as SPARSH [System for Pension Administration (Raksha)] Service Centres across 1,128 branches of the four banks across the country.
- The MoUs will provide last-mile connectivity to pensioners, especially in remote areas where they do not have technical wherewithal to log on to SPARSH.
- These Service Centres will become an interface for pensioners for SPARSH, providing an effective medium to update their profile; register grievances; digital annual identification; data verification, besides fetching detailed information regarding their monthly pension.
- With these MoUs, SPARSH Services would now be available at over 26,000 branches of a total of 15 banks across the country. This is in addition to 199 dedicated service centres of DAD, and more than 3.75 lakh Common Service Centers across the country.



सत्यमेव जयते

रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

Two-day 'Varshik Niti Samvad Shivir' of NCC

- A two-day 'Varshik Niti Samvad Shivir' of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) took place in New Delhi on June 04-05, 2024. The conference's primary focus was to review the progress of the ongoing expansion plan of NCC as per the Government directives to meet the aspirations of the youth.
- During the meeting, DG NCC highlighted the substantial efforts made in the last one year to enhance training, infrastructure and logistics functions of the NCC.
- The National Cadet Corps is the youth wing of the Indian Armed Forces with its headquarters in New Delhi, India. It is open to school and college students on voluntary basis as a Tri-Services Organisation, comprising the Army, the Navy and the Air Force.
- **Founder:** H. N. Kunzru
- **Founded:** 16 April 1948
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Active:** July 16, 1948; 75 years ago – present
- **Director General:** Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh
- **Motto(s):** एकता और अनुशासन; Unity and Discipline



US NSA Sullivan Prepares For India Visit

- US President Joe Biden and PM Narendra Modi discussed US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan's upcoming visit to New Delhi during the call made by President Biden to congratulate PM Modi on his electoral win in Lok Sabha polls.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a telephonic conversation with US President Joe Biden on Wednesday. PM Modi said that he "deeply values his warm words of felicitations and his appreciation for the Indian democracy."
- Mr. Biden also commended the people of India for participating in the elections, with nearly 650 million going to the polls to vote, the readout said.
- The two leaders emphasised their commitment to deepening the US-India Comprehensive and Global Strategic Partnership and to advancing their shared vision of a free, open and prosperous Indo-Pacific region, it said.

INDIA USA Relationship

- India and the United States cooperate closely at multilateral organizations, including the United Nations, G-20, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and World Trade Organization.
- The United States welcomed India joining the UN Security Council in 2021 for a two-year term and supports a reformed UN Security Council that includes India as a permanent member.
- India is also one of twelve countries partnering with the United States on the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF).
- India is a member of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), at which the United States is a dialogue partner.
- In 2021, the United States joined the International Solar Alliance headquartered in India, and in 2022 the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
- The armed forces of India and the US engage in extensive bilateral military exercises (Yuddha Abyas, Vajra Prahar) and minilateral ones with the four partners in the Quad Forum (Malabar).

- Another grouping in the Middle East - I2U2 involving India, Israel, UAE and the US is being termed as the new Quad.



ISRO Chairman Inaugurates HAL Facilities

- ISRO Chairman S Somnath inaugurated state-of-the-art propellant tank production and computer numerical control (CNC) machining facilities at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's Aerospace Division here, boosting rocket manufacturing capacity .
- HAL said the facilities would provide a major boost to ISRO's ability to meet its growing production needs, particularly for the Launch Vehicle Mark-3, India's heaviest and most powerful rocket.
- During the inauguration, Somanath said HAL has enormous capacities and this potential should be explored in the larger interest of both the organisations.
- The propellant tank production facility will specialize in manufacturing of high-performance fuel and oxidizer tanks, critical components for the LVM3 launch vehicle of size 4m in diameter and up to 15m in length.



US Flies B-1B Bomber For First Precision Bomb Drill In 7 Years

- The United States flew a long-range B-1B bomber over the Korean Peninsula on Wednesday for its first precision-guided bombing drill with South Korea in seven years, the South's military said.
- The drill - seen as a show of force against North Korea - comes as tensions are rising over the North's recent launches of rubbish-carrying balloons toward South Korea and other provocations.
- A B-1B is capable of carrying a large conventional weapons payload. North Korean has previously called the bomber's deployment proof of U.S. hostility. North Korea has responded to past flights of B-1Bs and other powerful U.S. aircraft in South Korea with its own missile tests.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What was the primary focus of the 'Varshik Niti Samvad Shivir' of the NCC held in New Delhi on June 04-05, 2024?

- A. Conducting military training exercises
- B. Reviewing the progress of the ongoing expansion plan of NCC
- C. Celebrating NCC's achievements
- D. Discussing recruitment strategies for the youth

ANSWER: B

2. Which banks signed MoUs with the Defence Accounts Department to onboard them as SPARSH Service Centres?

- A. State Bank of India, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, ICICI Bank
- B. Bank of India, Canara Bank, Central Bank of India, Utkarsh Small Finance Bank
- C. Punjab National Bank, Indian Bank, Bank of Baroda, UCO Bank
- D. Yes Bank, IDFC First Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, RBL Bank

ANSWER: B

3. Who inaugurated the state-of-the-art propellant tank production and CNC machining facilities at HAL Aerospace Division?

- A. Prime Minister of India
- B. Defence Minister of India
- C. Chief of Defence Staff
- D. ISRO Chairman S Somanath

ANSWER: D

4. Rajnath Singh Inaugurates First All-girls Sainik School At

- A. Pune
- B. Lucknow
- C. Vrindavan
- D. None

ANSWER: C

5. Ex 'Desert Cyclone Conducted b/w India &

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman

- C. UAE
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: C

6. IRBM Stands For

- A. Intermediate-range Ballast Missile
- B. Intermediate-range Ballistic Mobile
- C. Intermediate-range Ballistic Missile
- D. None

ANSWER: C

7. Major General Rank of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of IAF?

- A. Flying Officer
- B. Flight Lieutenant
- C. Squadron Leader
- D. Air Vice Marshal

ANSWER: D

8. Valour and faith Is The Motto Of

- A. Mechanised Infantry Regiment
- B. JKLI
- C. Rajput Regiment
- D. Ladakh Scouts

ANSWER: A

9. Regimental Centre of RAJPUT REGIMENT Is In

- A. Sultanpur
- B. Noida
- C. New Delhi
- D. Fatehgarh

ANSWER: D

10. Defence Acquisition Council Headed By

- A. Defence Minister
- B. CDS
- C. COAS
- D. PM

ANSWER: A

11. INS Sindhukirti Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Tank

ANSWER: C

12. Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) is a shipyard located in

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kochi
- C. Chennai
- D. Visakhapatnam

ANSWER: D

13. INS Brahmaputra (F31) Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Guided missile frigate

ANSWER: D

14. World's Highest Battlefield Is In

- A. Drass
- B. Kishtwar
- C. Jaipur
- D. Siachen

ANSWER: D

15. Ulaanbaatar Is The Capital Of

- A. Oman
- B. Mozambique
- C. Mongolia
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: C

16. "Kashmiri Century: Portrait of a Society in Flux" Book Is Written By

- A. Kavitha Rao
- B. Bimal Jalan

- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Khemlata Wakhlu

ANSWER: D

17. AFV Stands For

- A. Armoured Fighting Vehicle
- B. Armoured Furious Vehicle
- C. Army Fighting Vehicle
- D. None

ANSWER: A

18. Where Is The Hq Of The Southern Command of The Indian Navy?

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

ANSWER: A

19. Exercises B/w The India And Mongolia Is Called:

- A. Nomadic Elephant
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

20. India Purchased Rafale Jet from

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

ANSWER: C