

Daily Defence Current Affairs

13 July 2024

India Asks Russia To Advance S-400 Missile System Deliveries

- Amid the growing close ties between India and Russia, New Delhi has asked Moscow to expedite and advance the deliveries of the S-400 air defence missile system deliveries.
- The Russian side has told India that they would be able to deliver the fourth and the fifth squadrons of the highly capable system by March 2026 and October 2026 respectively due to delays caused by their ongoing conflict with Ukraine.
- India and Russia signed a contract with Russia in 2019 for buying five squadrons of the highly capable air defence system with ability to hit targets at up to 400 plus kilometres.
- It is capable of firing the following missiles for a layered defence
- 48N6DM: Capable of destroying airborne targets up to 250 km
- 40N6: Claimed to reach a distance of 400 km, it uses active radar homing to intercept air targets at great distances.
- 9M96E: This missile can strike moving targets such as fighter aircraft with great accuracy.
- 9M96E2: A medium range air-to-air missile variant of the 9M96E, it is descended for direct impact. Both the variants of the 9m96 missile is 102 km
- The system is also capable of exchanging data with other defence systems such as SA-12, SA-23, and S-300.



South Korea To Deploy 'Star Wars' Lasers Against North's Drones

- South Korea will begin deploying drone-melting laser weapons designed to shoot down North Korean UAVs this year, the country's arms procurement agency told AFP Friday.
- The new laser weapons -- dubbed the "**Star Wars Project**" by the South -- are invisible and noise-free, require no additional ammunition, operate solely on electricity and cost only about **2,000 won** (\$1.45) per shot, according to the Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA).
- The "**Block-I**" system, developed by **Hanwha Aerospace**, will be "put into operational deployment in the military this year", Lee Sang-yoon, a DAPA official, told AFP.
- The two Koreas remain technically at war because the 1950-53 conflict ended in an armistice, not a peace treaty.
- In December 2022, Seoul said five North Korean drones crossed into the South, the first such incident in five years, prompting its military to fire warning shots and deploy fighter jets, but they failed to shoot any of them down.
- The South's "ability to respond to North Korea's drone provocations will be significantly enhanced" by the laser weapons system, DAPA said in a statement Thursday.



Defence Manufacturer BEL Secures Export Order Worth Rs 230 Crore

- State-owned aerospace and defence electronics company Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has obtained an export order worth Euro 25.75 million (estimated value of Rs 230 crores) from Thales Reliance Defence Systems (TRDS) for the manufacture and supply of transmit-receive (TR) modules, the company informed stock exchanges on Friday.
- The TR modules will be used in the radars of fighter aircraft.
- Additionally, BEL has secured orders valued at Rs 192 crores following the last disclosure on June 28, 2024, which comprises communication equipment, encryptors, spares and services for radars, fire control systems etc.
- With these, BEL has now accumulated orders totalling Rs 5,225 crores in the current financial year.
- Shares of state-owned defence and aerospace company Bharat Electronics have been hitting all-time highs on and off, backed by a series of orders the firm received over the past months.



HAL Now Aiming To Deliver First LCA Mark 1A by August 15

- Amid concerns over delays in the delivery of the first LCA Mark 1A fighter jet to the Indian Air Force, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is now aiming to provide the first plane by August 15 this year.
- Significantly, the delays in the overall delivery schedule are likely to get addressed in some manner as the American engine maker GE has assured to start the supply of its GE-404 engines by September-October this year.
- The LCA Mark 1A project was conceptualised after Prime Minister Narendra Modi took charge. One order worth Rs 48,000 crore for 83 planes has already been placed and another one expected to be worth Rs 65,000 crore is going to be placed for 97 planes by the end of this financial year.



CISF and BSF set aside 10% constable jobs for former Agniveers

- In a significant move aimed at bolstering its security forces, the Indian government has reserved 10% of constable positions in the CISF and BSF for former Agniveers. This decision, announced by CISF Director General Nina Singh and BSF Director General Nitin Agrawal, follows recent debates in Parliament over the Agnipath recruitment scheme.
- The Agnipath scheme, introduced in June 2022, seeks to recruit young individuals aged 17-and-half to 21 into the Army, Navy, and Air Force for short-term engagements. However, its implementation has sparked intense discussions, with opposition parties, including the Congress, questioning its efficacy and future implications.
- "They got four years of experience. They are fully disciplined and trained personnel. This is very good for the BSF as we are getting trained soldiers. After short training, they will be deployed along the border," said Border Security Force (BSF) director general Agrawal.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **How many squadrons of the highly capable air defence system did India and Russia sign a contract for in 2019?**
 - A. Three
 - B. Four
 - C. Five

D. Six

ANSWER: C

2. Which company obtained an export order worth Euro 25.75 million from Thales Reliance Defence Systems (TRDS)?

- A. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- B. Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- C. Larsen & Toubro (L&T)
- D. Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)

ANSWER: B

3. What percentage of constable positions in the CISF and BSF has the Indian government reserved for former Agniveers?

- A. 5%
- B. 7%
- C. 10%
- D. 15%

ANSWER: C

4. ZEUS Is A

- A. Missile
- B. All Terrain – Track-Based Robot
- C. Tank
- D. UAV

ANSWER: B

5. Ex 'SHAKTI' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: B

6. Maritime Partnership Exercise B/w India & South Korea Held At

- A. Nava Sheva Port
- B. Busan Port
- C. Chennai Port
- D. Kandla Port

ANSWER: B

7. AMCA Stands For

- A. Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft
- B. Advanced Medium Cooperation Aircraft
- C. Advanced Media Combat Aircraft
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

8. Operation Safed Sagar Was Launched In

- A. 1997
- B. 1998
- C. 1999
- D. 2000

ANSWER: C

9. SCALP Missile Is Developed By

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

ANSWER: B

10. Range of Sagarika Missile Is

- A. 500 km
- B. 600 km
- C. 700 km
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

11. India Purchased Jaguar Fighter Aircraft from

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

ANSWER: C

12. At Which Of The Following Places Is The Headquarters Of A Naval Command NOT Located?

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

ANSWER: B

13. M61 Vulcan Is A

- A. Six- barrelled Gatling gun
- B. Heavy machine gun
- C. Pistol
- D. Rocket

ANSWER: A

14. Hq Of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Is At

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

ANSWER: D

15. Lusaka Is The Capital Of

- A. Zambia
- B. Venezuela
- C. United Kingdom
- D. Uganda

ANSWER: A

16. "My Life, My Mission" Book Is Written By

- A. Baba Ramdev
- B. Venkaiah Naidu
- C. Meenakshi Lekhi
- D. Dr. Bibek Debroy

ANSWER: A

17. Rashtriya Raksha University Is In

- A. Gandhinagar

- B. Mumbai
- C. New Delhi
- D. Chennai

ANSWER: A

18. The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Is A Project Of

- A. Brazil
- B. Russia
- C. China
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

19. Which Is Not A Member Of SAARC?

- A. Afghanistan
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Bhutan
- D. Madagascar

ANSWER: D

20. THAAD System Designed and Manufactured By

- A. Lockheed Martin
- B. Almaz – Antey
- C. Raytheon
- D. MBDA/ Eurosam

ANSWER: A