

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 08 August 2024

### Centre Refuses To Share Details On Personnel Shortage In Army

- On August 5, Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth addressed the Rajya Sabha in a written reply, stating that the requested information was "a sensitive operational matter concerning national security" and that revealing such details would not be in the national interest.
- This response was given in answer to a question posed by Member of Parliament Anil Kumar Yadav Mandadi, who had inquired whether the government was aware of shortages in various categories, including officers, soldiers, and medical officers, within the armed forces and what steps were being taken to address these vacancies.
- Traditionally, the MoD has provided updates on personnel shortages. For example, on March 13, 2023, then Minister of State in the Defence Ministry Ajay Bhatt reported that, as of March 10, 2023, the Army had 8,070 officer vacancies and 127,673 vacancies among Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs) and Other Ranks (ORs).
- Additionally, Bhatt mentioned that between January 1, 2023, and March 10, 2023, 613 officer positions and 19,065 JCO/OR positions were filled.
- The recent policy shift comes after the introduction of the Agnipath scheme on June 14, 2022. This new recruitment initiative, which replaces the previous process, enlists soldiers for a four-year term, with a maximum intake of 1.75 lakh personnel until 2026. Upon completion of their term, up to 25% of Agniveers may join the regular cadre through a further recruitment process.



## MPX With Sea Lynx Of German Navy

- Indian Navy's frontline frigate, INS Tabar during her return leg from St Petersburg, Russia conducted Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with German Navy off Kiel Canal on 05 Aug 24.
- INS Tabar had earlier visited Hamburg, Germany from 17 - 20 July 24. These engagements are aimed at strengthening the maritime relations between both the nations.
- The conduct of MPX between Indian Navy and German Navy off Kiel Canal signifies Indian Navy's outreach and sustenance efforts also marking a significant milestone in the maritime cooperation between the two countries.
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## Ex Mitra Shakti 2024

- Next week the Indian Army and the Sri Lankan Army will kick off the **10<sup>th</sup> edition** of their joint exercise, “Mitra Shakti,” at Maduruoya in Sri Lanka’s Southern Province. This annual event is crucial for fostering cooperation and enhancing interoperability between the two nations’ armed forces.
- A unit of 120 soldiers from the Indian Army’s Rajputana Rifles (Raj Rif) will travel to Sri Lanka for the exercise starting Aug 12, 2024. They will join an equal number of troops from the Sri Lanka Army’s Gajaba Regiment, an elite infantry unit known for its operational expertise.



## UK, Egypt Ask Airlines To Avoid Iranian Airspace

- Egypt and Britain asked their airlines on Wednesday to avoid Iranian and Lebanese airspace amid growing fears of a possible broader conflict in the region after the killing of senior members of militant groups Hamas and Hezbollah.
- Britain's advisory to its airlines to avoid the Lebanese airspace came hours after Egypt instructed all of its airlines to avoid Iranian airspace for three hours in the early morning on Thursday.
- Similarly, Egyptian airlines have already been avoiding the Iranian airspace. Thursday's directive, however, would apply to all Egyptian carriers, including charter operators, other smaller airlines, said Mark Zee, founder of OPSGROUP - a membership-based organization that shares flight-risk information.
- So far, on Thursday, no other country had issued such a directive about the Iranian airspace, Zee said.
- The Egyptian NOTAM, a safety notice provided to pilots on Wednesday, said the instruction would be in effect from 0100 to 0400 GMT.
- "All Egyptian carriers shall avoid overflying Tehran (Flight Information Region). No flight plan will be accepted overflying such territory," the notice said, referring to the three-hour period specified.
- Egypt's civil aviation ministry later confirmed on Wednesday the notice was intended to reduce flight-safety risks in light of a notification it received from Iranian authorities.
- "Military exercises will be conducted over Iranian airspace on Aug. 7 from 11:30 to 14:30 and from 4:30 to 7:30 on Aug. 8 Tehran time," the statement said.



## BSF DG Reviews Preparedness At Tripura Border

- Director General Border Security Force Daljit Singh Chawdhary accompanied by ADG Ravi Gandhi arrived on a one day visit to Frontier Headquarters BSF Salbagan, Agartala, Tripura to review the security and operational preparedness of BSF on Indo-Bangladesh border.
- DG BSF landed at the Agartala Airport on Wednesday where he was received by Patel Piyush Purusottam Das, IG BSF Tripura Frontier.
- DG BSF was given an operational briefing by IG Tripura Frontier and further DG BSF chaired a meeting with senior officers of BSF and discussed the ongoing law and order situation in Bangladesh and its implications on the security scenario.
- BSF is on high alert following turmoil in Bangladesh. The Indo-Bangladesh international border spans 4096 Kilometres.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **What is the focus of the Indian Army's strategic military exercise 'Parvat Pahaar' conducted in Ladakh?**
  - A. Desert warfare
  - B. Urban warfare
  - C. High-altitude warfare and operations
  - D. Naval operations

**ANSWER: C**

2. **Where will the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the joint exercise "Mitra Shakti" be held?**
  - A. Colombo, Sri Lanka
  - B. Maduruoya, Sri Lanka's Southern Province

- C. New Delhi, India
- D. Kandy, Sri Lanka

**ANSWER: B**

**3. With which navy did INS Tabar conduct a MPX off Kiel Canal on 05 Aug 24?**

- A. Russian Navy
- B. French Navy
- C. German Navy
- D. British Navy

**ANSWER: C**

**4. NDA Academy Is Located At**

- A. Agra
- B. Mumbai
- C. Pune
- D. Nagpur

**ANSWER: C**

**5. Ex CYCLONE Conducted b/w India &**

- A. France
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. Egypt

**ANSWER: D**

**6. Deputy National Security Adviser of India Is**

- A. Ajit Doval
- B. Pankaj Kumar Singh
- C. S. Jaishankar
- D. Rajiv Kumar

**ANSWER: B**

**7. Infantry Day of Indian Army In India Is Observed On**

- A. 13 Sep
- B. 14 Sep
- C. 27 Oct
- D. 16 Sep

**ANSWER: C**

**8. India's Largest Floating Solar Power Project Commissioned In**

- A. Pune, M.H.
- B. Chennai, T.N
- C. Ranikhet, UK
- D. Ramagundam, Telangana

**ANSWER: D**

**9. Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) Is Located In**

- A.** New Delhi
- B.** Bengaluru
- C.** Chennai
- D.** Kochi

**ANSWER: B**

**10. Central Air Command of IAF Is Located In**

- A. Shillong
- B. Gandhinagar
- C. Prayagraj
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**11. The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) motto is**

- A. Always be there
- B. Service for Nation
- C. 24\*7
- D. Disaster Service Forever

**ANSWER: D**

**12. Third-generation anti-tank missile is \_\_\_\_\_?**

- A. Prithvi
- B. Akash
- C. Trishul
- D. Nag

**ANSWER: D**

**13. Range of the K-15 Sagarika missile is-**

- A. 700 km
- B. 500 km
- C. 400 km
- D. 200 km

**ANSWER: A**

**14. The Headquarters and Secretariat of the SAARC Is In**

- A. Kathmandu
- B. Dhaka
- C. New Delhi
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**15. Bangui Is The Capital Of**

- A. Cape Verde
- B. Qatar
- C. Central African Republic
- D. Maldives

**ANSWER: C**

**16. "Arms and the Man" Book Is Written By**

- A. George Bernard Shaw
- B. Jules Verne
- C. Gunnar Myrdal
- D. Lewis Wallace

**ANSWER: A**

**17. The Port Duqm is in**

- A. Yemen
- B. Iran
- C. Iraq
- D. Oman

**ANSWER: D**

**18. Regimental Centre Of THE BRIGADE OF THE GUARDS**

- A. Kamptee, Maharashtra
- B. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra



- C. Delhi Cantonment
- D. Fatehgarh, Uttar Pradesh

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Western Air Command (WAC) Is In**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**20. Range of K-9 Vajra Howitzer is**

- A. 40km
- B. 38km
- C. 20km
- D. 55km

**ANSWER: B**

