

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 04 October 2024

### Safran Set To Launch Its First Electronics Unit In India

- French defence conglomerate **Safran Group** is planning to set up its first Defence Electronics unit outside France, with India chosen as the strategic location.
- This development came to light during a two-day strategic dialogue held between India's **NSA Ajit Doval** and top French officials, including Emmanuel Bonne, diplomatic advisor to **President Emmanuel Macron**, and Fabien Mandon, Macron's chief military advisor.
- France has also agreed to collaborate with India on advanced materials and metallurgy, which are critical for the manufacturing of key components in both military and civilian engines.
- This unit will be focused on producing sensors and vital electronics components essential for supporting various military platforms. While the exact location of this facility is still undecided, Safran's commitment signals a growing bond in the defence sector between the two countries.
- Alongside Safran, French aircraft manufacturer Dassault Aviation SA is also expanding its footprint in India. Dassault has acquired land in **Javar, Uttar Pradesh**, to establish a full-fledged maintenance, overhaul, and repair (MRO) facility.
- This new MRO hub will service **Rafale fighters and civilian aircraft**, further underscoring the long-term partnership between India and France in defence and aerospace sectors.



## Launch Of 25t Bollard Pull Tug, Ashva

- Third 25T Bollard Pull (BP) Tug, Ashva (Yard 337) was launched by Cmde Ajay Yadav, NOIC (WB) on 03 Oct 24 at **M/s Titagarh Rail Systems Limited Kolkata**. This Tug is a proud flag bearer of “Make in India” initiative of Govt of India.
- Contract for construction and delivery of six 25T BP Tug was concluded with M/s Titagarh Rail Systems Limited (TRSL) in consonance with “Atmanirbhar Bharat” initiative of the Government of India.



## Army Documenting Weapons of US Origin Reaching Kashmir

- The Army is documenting weapons of American origin which might have reached Kashmir via Afghanistan, a top Army officer in the valley said. **Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, GoC of the Army's strategic Srinagar-based Chinar Corps**, told reporters that efforts are being made to pursue the issue with the US to track such weapons.

- "The process still takes place, and it happens immediately after such a weapon is recovered. As far as the trail is concerned, I think to most people who are discernible, the trail is clear.
- Security forces have recovered M4 carbine assault rifles from terrorists killed in encounters in Jammu and Kashmir. The weapons left behind by the US Army after their withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021 appear to have reached the terrorists through Pakistani handlers.



## Bharat Forge Partners with US Defence

- Bharat Forge has announced that its subsidiary, **Kalyani Strategic Systems**, will sign an agreement with US-based defence companies **AM General and Mandus Group**. The collaboration focuses on the development and production of advanced artillery gun platforms designed to meet the evolving needs of modern armies.
- The companies aim to create compact, robust, lightweight, ruggedized, and mobile artillery systems capable of operating in all weather conditions and terrains.
- India's defence production sector has achieved notable milestones. defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced that defence production has reached an all-time high of **₹1.27 lakh crore** in value for the **2023-24 fiscal year**.



## UK Hands Over Sovereignty Of Chagos Islands To Mauritius

- Britain's government said it agreed to hand sovereignty of the long-contested **Chagos Islands**, an archipelago of more than 60 islands in the Indian Ocean, to Mauritius, in a deal that secures the future of a strategically important UK-US military base there.
- British Foreign Secretary David Lammy said the agreement secures the vital military base at **Diego Garcia**, the largest in the chain of islands, for the future.
- The UK government said without the deal the secure operation of the military base would be under threat, with contested sovereignty and legal challenges, including through various international courts and tribunals. As part of the deal, the UK will retain sovereignty of Diego Garcia for an initial period of 99 years.



## IIT Delhi, IAF Join Hands For AI-Powered Research On Aviation Textile

- IIT Delhi and Headquarters Maintenance (HQ) Command, Indian Air Force, Nagpur, have signed an MoU to collaborate on advancing innovative technologies for aviation textiles focusing on parachutes and other safety equipment.
- IIT and HQ Maintenance will cooperate, collaborate and promote research and development in areas of obsolescence management, self-reliance, upgradations and digitisation through indigenisation in the field of aviation-grade textiles.
- According to Group Captain Prashant Pathak, Commanding Officer 16 BRD, AF, some of the areas of interest for collaboration include raw material selection for various parachutes and safety equipment.



## Lokesh Machines Delivers First Indigenous Submachine Guns

- In a landmark achievement for India's private defence manufacturing sector, **Lokesh Machines Limited** has delivered its first major order of the indigenously developed **Asmi submachine gun** (SMG) to the Indian Army's Northern Command.
- This order, consisting of 550 SMGs, represents a significant milestone in India's push toward domestic production of advanced military hardware.
- The **Asmi SMG**, which stands for "**pride**" in Sanskrit, marks **Lokesh Machines'** entry into the defence sector, specifically small arms production. The gun was developed by Lokesh Machines based on the design provided by the **Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE) Pune**.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. The Third 25T Bollard Pull (BP) Tug, Ashva, launched on 03 Oct 24, is a part of which initiative?**

- A. Global Power
- B. Make in India
- C. Digital India
- D. Startup India

**ANSWER: B**

**2. Which company is collaborating with AM General and Mandus Group to develop advanced artillery gun platforms?**

- A. Bharat Electronics Limited
- B. Tata Advanced Systems
- C. Kalyani Strategic Systems
- D. Larsen & Toubro

**ANSWER: C**

**3. Which archipelago, consisting of over 60 islands in the Indian Ocean, will Britain hand over sovereignty to Mauritius?**

- A. Lakshadweep Islands
- B. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- C. Chagos Islands
- D. Seychelles

**ANSWER: C**

**4. Which institution has signed an MoU with the Indian Air Force's HQ Maintenance Command to advance aviation textiles?**

- A. IIT Bombay
- B. IIT Delhi
- C. IIT Madras
- D. IISc Bangalore

**ANSWER: B**

**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. Pavan Kapoor
- 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 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**