

Daily Defence Current Affairs

09 October 2024

Exercise IBSAMAR VIII

- Indian Navy's frontline stealth frigate, **INS Talwar**, arrived at Simon's Town, South Africa, on 06 Oct 24 to participate in the eighth edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise among Indian, Brazilian, and South African Navy scheduled from 06 to 18 October 2024.
- The exercise aims to enhance interoperability and strengthen cohesion between the three navies. The broad concept is based on Blue Water Naval Warfare, encompassing the dimensions of Surface and Anti-Air Warfare.
- Operational Sea Training and Submarine Rescue Support have been commenced between both navies since the **12th edition** of Navy-to-Navy talks held on 26-28 August 2024 at New Delhi.
- INS Talwar was commissioned on 18 June 2003 and is a part of the Indian Navy's Western Fleet, based in Mumbai under the Western Naval Command. The ship is commanded by Captain Jithu George.



Exercise Malabar 2024

- The Opening Ceremony of MALABAR 2024 under the aegis of Eastern Naval Command was held onboard **INS Satpura at Visakhapatnam** on 09 Oct 24.
- The **28th edition** of the multi-national maritime exercise that commenced on 08 Oct 24, would extend till 18 Oct 24. MALABAR, which was initiated in 1992 as a bilateral exercise between India and the US.
- The exercise will be conducted in two distinct phases both at Harbour and at Sea. MALABAR 2024 will witness live weapon firings, complex surface, anti-air and anti-submarine warfare drills and joint manoeuvres.



US Approves \$175 Million Sale of MK-54 Torpedoes to India

- The United States government has approved the sale of **53 MK-54 lightweight torpedoes to India**. These torpedoes, valued at **\$175 million**, are intended for use with the **MH-60R Seahawk** helicopters that the Indian Navy is currently bringing into service.
- The Biden administration notified the US Congress on Monday about this sale. The notification mentioned that the sale aligns with Washington's foreign policy and national security goals.
- It is aimed at strengthening the strategic relationship between the US and India, a key partner in ensuring political stability, peace, and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific and South Asia regions.

- The Indian Navy commissioned its first squadron of six MH-60R Seahawk helicopters in March at **INS Garuda in Kochi**. These helicopters are equipped with Hellfire missiles, MK-54 torpedoes, and precision-kill rockets.
- India plans to have all **24 Seahawks**, which include multi-mode radars and night-vision devices, by next year. This is part of a **\$2.13 billion** contract signed with the US in February 2020.



CCS Clears Proposal To Make Nuclear-powered Attack Submarines Locally

- The government has cleared a landmark **₹35,000 crore** project to construct nuclear-powered attack submarines for the Indian Navy and has given the go ahead to sign a **₹34,500 crore** deal to acquire long-range drones from the US.
- Sources said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Cabinet Committee on Security has given the go ahead for the construction of two nuclear-powered attack submarines that will be designed and constructed indigenously.
- These are in addition to the Arihant class of nuclear-powered and nuclear-armed submarines that are already in service.



AFSPA Extended In Four Assam Districts

- The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act or AFSPA was extended in four districts of Assam for six months in view of the "recent disturbances" in Bangladesh and its potentially inimical effect on the law-and-order situation.
- The districts of Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Charaideo and Sivasagar will remain "disturbed area" under the AFSPA.
- The AFSPA was **first imposed in Assam in November 1990** and has been extended every six months since then.
- The Act empowers security forces to conduct operations anywhere and arrest anyone without any prior warrant. It also gives a certain level of immunity to the security forces in case of an operation going wrong.



France Launches Development Of New Stealth Combat Drone To Complement Rafale F5

- The French Ministry of the Armed Forces has announced the launch of a new unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV) project, which is set to complement the Rafale F5 fighter jet after 2030.
- The new stealth combat drone is expected to significantly boost the technological and operational capabilities of the French Air Force by 2033.
- Designed to work alongside the Rafale F5 fighter jet, the UCAV will feature advanced stealth technology, autonomous control systems (with human oversight), and versatile payload options.
- It aims to enhance collaborative combat operations and adapt to evolving threats in the future.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the new UCAV project launched by the French Ministry intended to complement after 2030?
 - A. Mirage 2000
 - B. Rafale F5 fighter jet
 - C. Eurofighter Typhoon
 - D. Dassault Falcon

ANSWER: B

2. Where was the Opening Ceremony of MALABAR 2024 held?

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

ANSWER: B

3. Which Indian Navy vessel arrived at Simon's Town, South Africa, to participate in the IBSAMAR exercise?

- A. INS Vikrant
- B. INS Talwar
- C. INS Satpura
- D. INS Kolkata

ANSWER: B

4. When was the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) first imposed in Assam?

- A. 1985
- B. 1990
- C. 1995
- D. 2000

ANSWER: B

5. How many MK-54 lightweight torpedoes has the United States approved for sale to India?

- A. 53
- B. 60
- C. 45
- D. 50

ANSWER: A

6. Where was the first squadron of six MH-60R Seahawk helicopters commissioned by the Indian Navy?

- A. BINS Vikrant
- B. INS Viraat
- C. INS Garuda
- D. INS Shikra

ANSWER: C

7. LEMOA Agreement Is A Military Ties B/W India And

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

ANSWER: A

8. Motto of IMA Is

- A. Valour and Wisdom
- B. Always Brave
- C. Service Before Self
- D. None

ANSWER: A

9. ASBM Stands For

- A. Anti-Ship Ballistic Magnet
- B. Anti-Ship Ballistic Missile
- C. Anti-Ship Ballast Missile
- D. None

ANSWER: B

10. Securities and Exchange Board of India Hq Is In

- A. Mumbai
- B. Noida
- C. New Delhi
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

11.INS Valsura Is Located In

- A. Balasore
- B. Chennai
- C. Trombay
- D. Jamnagar

ANSWER: D

12. Where Is The Hq Of The Southern Command of The Indian Army?

- A. Kochi
- B. Lucknow

- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: C

13. Commander Rank of Indian Navy Is Equivalent To Which Rank of IAF?

- A. Air Marshal
- B. Flight Lt.
- C. Captain
- D. Wing Commander

ANSWER: D

14. Regimental Centre of MADRAS REGIMENT Is In

- A. Wellington, Tamil Nadu
- B. Kamptee, Maharashtra
- C. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

15. Operation Parakram Was Launched In

- A. 2000
- B. 2001
- C. 2004
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

16. Shaurya Missile Is A Type Of

- A. Surface to Surface
- B. Air to Air
- C. Sea to Air
- D. Air to Surface

ANSWER: A

17. IAF's 1st Woman Rafale Fighter Pilot Is

- A. Flying Officer Anjali Mishra
- B. Flight Lieutenant Avani Chaturvedi
- C. Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

18. Colonel Rank of Indian Army Is Equivalent to which rank of IAF?

- A. Captain
- B. Group Captain
- C. Flying Officer
- D. Air Marshal

ANSWER: B

19. The T-90 Bhisma Is A

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Tank

ANSWER: D

20. 'Ex AUSTRALIA HIND' Conducted b/w India &

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman
- C. Australia
- D. Austria

ANSWER: C