

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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MoD Inks Rs 387.44 Crore Contract

- Ministry of Defence, on October 24, 2024, signed a contract with **Chowgule & Company Pvt. Ltd.**, Goa for procurement of six Air Cushion Vehicles (ACVs) for the Indian Coast Guard at a total cost of **Rs 387.44 crore**.
- These amphibious vessels, also called '**Hovercrafts**', will be procured under the Buy {Indian} category.
- These ACVs will be indigenously manufactured in India for the first time in line with the '**Aatmanirbhar Bharat**' vision of the Government, representing a pivotal step in the nation's shipping landscape. The project will also significantly enhance the technical expertise and growth of indigenous ancillary, especially the MSME sector.
- The procurement of these platforms is aimed to boost the Indian Coast Guard's capability and reinforces the increased focus towards maritime security.



Exercise (MPX) With German Navy

- Indian Navy's Destroyer **INS Delhi**, German Navy's Frigate Baden-Württemberg and Tanker Frankfurt Am Main undertook a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) in the Indian Ocean.
- The exercises conducted include cross deck flying operations, underway replenishment, weapon firing and tactical manoeuvres.
- The maiden **IN – GN Maritime Partnership Exercise** in the **Bay of Bengal** is aimed at further strengthening the maritime connect between the two nations and interoperability between the navies.



Exercise (SIMBEX) 2024

- The **31st edition** of the **Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX)** is scheduled from 23 to 29 Oct 2024, in the Eastern Naval Command at **Visakhapatnam**.
- Republic of Singapore Navy Ship RSS Tenacious with embarked helicopter, arrived at Visakhapatnam on 23 October 24 for participating in SIMBEX2024.
- SIMBEX, which began as '**Exercise Lion King**' in **1994**, has since evolved into one of the most significant bilateral maritime collaborations between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).
- The exercise will be conducted in two phases - the Harbour Phase from 23 to 25 October at Visakhapatnam and the Sea Phase from 28 to 29 October in the Bay of Bengal.

- The opening ceremony to mark the beginning of SIMBEX24 will be conducted on 24 Oct 24, onboard **INS Shivalik** and will be attended by participating units of the Eastern Fleet and the Singapore Navy.



Russia Approves Near 30 % Rise In Defence Spending

- Russian lawmakers voted for a budget that will see defence spending surge by almost 30 percent next year, as the Kremlin diverts huge resources to its Ukraine offensive.
- Moscow had already ramped up military spending to levels not seen since the Soviet Union era, pumping out missiles and drones to fire on Ukraine and paying lucrative salaries to its hundreds of thousands of frontline soldiers.
- The new budget would take defence spending to **13.5 trillion rubles (\$145 billion) in 2025**, more than outlays for welfare and education combined.



2 Soldiers, 2 Porters Killed In Terror Attack

- Two soldiers and two civilian porters working with the Army were killed in a terror attack near the Line of Control in Kashmir's Gulmarg sector. The attack also left three soldiers injured.
- The terror strike came hours after Lt Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a Unified Headquarters (UHQ) meeting in Srinagar to review the security situation in light of back-to-back attacks in the past week. The meeting was attended by top Army, police, paramilitary and intelligence officers.
- This is the fourth militant attack in the Valley this week, and comes four days after terrorists killed seven employees, including a local doctor, of APCO Infratech in an attack on their campsite at Gagangir.



India Blocks Turkey's Path to BRICS

- Ahead of the 16th BRICS summit, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan submitted a request for associate membership in the group. However, during the final press conference on the second day of the summit, no statements were made on the subject.
- According to the former Turkish diplomat, Turkey's entry into BRICS is being blocked by India due to Ankara's close relations with Pakistan, a country hostile to New Delhi.
- Ülgen explained that Erdoğan has several reasons for wanting to join BRICS. Primarily, it would help Turkey strengthen its 'strategic autonomy' through this platform.

- Additionally, Ankara may be trying to express its frustration with the European Union, which has been delaying Turkey's EU membership bid and the modernization of the EU-Turkey customs union.
- The expert also highlighted 'political prestige' as another motive for Erdoğan, who wants to demonstrate that "he can sit at both NATO and BRICS tables simultaneously."
- Recently, **BRICS added new members**, including **Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, the United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia**. Official membership applications have also been submitted by **Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Malaysia**.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **By how much is Russia's defense spending expected to increase next year?**
 - A. 20%
 - B. 25%
 - C. 30%
 - D. 35%

ANSWER: C

2. **Which new countries were added as members of BRICS?**
 - A. Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, UAE, Saudi Arabia

- B. Turkey, Egypt, Ethiopia, Malaysia, Azerbaijan
- C. Iran, Turkey, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia
- D. Egypt, UAE, Azerbaijan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey

ANSWER: A

3. Which edition of the Exercise (SIMBEX) 2024 Is Conducted?

- A. 31st edition
- B. 32nd edition
- C. 33rd edition
- D. 34th edition

ANSWER: A

4. Which Indian Navy ship participated in the maiden Maritime Partnership Exercise with the German Navy?

- A. INS Trikand
- B. INS Delhi
- C. INS Kolkata
- D. INS Chennai

ANSWER: B

5. What is the total cost of procuring six Air Cushion Vehicles (ACVs) for the Indian Coast Guard?

- A. Rs 287.44 crore
- B. Rs 387.44 crore
- C. Rs 487.44 crore
- D. Rs 587.44 crore

ANSWER: B

6. ASMI Pistol Designed By

- A. Col Prasad Bansod
- B. Col Prakash Bansod
- C. Col Manpreet Singh
- D. None

ANSWER: A

7. Drishti 10 Starliner Is A

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

D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: A

7. Current Executive Of Defence Planning Committee

A. Rajnath Singh

B. Narendra Modi

C. Nirmla Sitaraman

D. Ajit Doval

ANSWER: D

8. Field Marshal Of Indian Army Is A

A. 2 Star General

B. 3 Star General

C. 4 Star General

D. 5 Star General

ANSWER: D

9. Defence Space Agency Hq Is Located At

A. New Delhi

B. Bengaluru

C. Chennai

D. Noida

ANSWER: B

10. INS Kochi Is A

A. Guided-missile destroyers

B. Landing ship tank

C. Submarine

D. Frigates

ANSWER: A

11. _ Is Not A G7 member.

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

ANSWER: A

12. The Standard Meridian Of India Is

- A. 82 degrees 30' E
- B. 84 degrees 30' E
- C. 72 degrees 30' E
- D. 92 degrees 30' E

ANSWER: A

13. Army Medical Corps Motto Is

- A. Courage and Valor
- B. Sarve santu niramaya
- C. Service Before Self
- D. Lethal

ANSWER: B

14. Glock 18 Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. Machine Pistol
- C. Assault rifle
- D. Submachine gun

ANSWER: B

15. Which Is The Largest Uranium-producing Country In The World?

- A. USA
- B. India

- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Uzbekistan

ANSWER: C

16. Kaiga Atomic Power Plant Is In

- A. Karnataka
- B. Gujarat
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Uttarakhand

ANSWER: A

17. Who established the Atomic Energy Commission of India in 1948?

- A. P.K. Iyengar
- B. M.R. Srinivasan
- C. Vikram Sarabhai
- D. Homi Bhabha

ANSWER: D

18. Nay Pyi Taw Is The Capital Of

- A. Bhutan
- B. Nepal
- C. Afghanistan
- D. Myanmar

ANSWER: D

19. "India's Women Unsung Heroes" Book Is Written By

- A. Chandrachur Ghose
- B. Ruskin Bond
- C. Dr. Thomas Matthew
- D. Meenakshi Lekhi

ANSWER: D

20. Ex 'Konkan Shakti' conducted b/w India &

A. Qatar

B. UK

C. UAE

D. Japan

ANSWER: B