

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Exercise “Agni Warrior - 2024”

- The **13th edition** of Joint Military Exercise AGNI WARRIOR (XAW-2024), a bilateral exercise between the Indian Army and Singapore Armed Forces, concluded at Field Firing Ranges, Devlali (Maharashtra) on 30th November 2024.
- The three-day exercise conducted from 28th to 30th November 2024, witnessed participation by the Singapore Armed Forces contingent comprising 182 personnel from the Singapore Artillery and the Indian Army contingent comprising 114 personnel from the Regiment of Artillery.
- The aim of XAW-2024 was to maximise mutual understanding of drills and procedures to achieve jointness as a multinational force under the United Nations Charter.



Autumn Term 2024 – Passing Out Parade

- In a spectacular Passing Out Parade (POP) held at the Indian Naval Academy (INA), Ezhimala, on Saturday, 30 Nov 24, a total of 239 trainees, comprising Midshipmen of the 107th Indian Naval Academy Course, cadets of the 38th and 39th Naval Orientation Course (Extended),

- the 39th Naval Orientation Course (Regular), and the 40th Naval Orientation Course (Coast Guard and Foreign), graduated with flying colours, marking the successful culmination of their ab-initio training. The Passing Out Trainees included eight foreign cadets from four countries and 29 women trainees.
- The following awards were presented to recognise outstanding achievements: -
- (a) The President's Gold Medal for the Indian Naval Academy B.Tech Course was awarded to Midshipman Ayush Kumar Singh.
- (b) The CNS Silver Medal and FOC-in-C South Bronze Medal for the same course were conferred upon Midshipman Karan Singh and Midshipman Kartikey V Vernekar respectively.
- (c) SLt Ritwik Mishra received the CNS Gold Medal for the Naval Orientation Course (Extended), while Cadet Srajan Jain and SLt Bodekar S Subhash were awarded the FOC-in-C South Silver Medal and Commandant INA Bronze Medal, respectively.
- (d) SLt Isha Shah received the CNS Gold Medal for 39 NOC Reg, Commandant INA Silver medal and Zamorin Trophy for best all round woman cadets was awarded to SLt Mathi Nesiga T and SLt Isha Shah respectively.
- (e) Director General Coast Guard Best Assistant Commandant Award was presented to Assistant Commandant Akash Tiwari.



MoD inks contract worth ₹1207 Cr with CSL

- The Ministry of Defence signed a contract with M/s **Cochin Shipyard Limited** on 30th Nov 2024 for Short Refit and Dry Docking (SRDD) of INS Vikramaditya at an overall cost of Rs. 1207.5 Cr.
- INS Vikramaditya is an Indian Aircraft Carrier commissioned in the Indian Navy in November 2013. After completion of the Refit, INS Vikramaditya will join the active fleet of the Indian Navy with upgraded combat capability.
- This project is an important step towards development of Cochin Shipyard Limited as Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul (MRO) Hub for supporting the industrial ecosystem of India. The project envisages the involvement of nearly 50 MSMEs and would lead to employment generation for more than 3500 personnel.



Exercise CINBAX 2024

- The **1st edition** of Joint Table Top Exercise, CINBAX, between the Indian Army and the Cambodian Army commenced at Foreign Training Node, Pune today. The exercise will be conducted from 1st to 8th December 2024.
- Exercise CINBAX is a planning exercise aimed to wargame conduct of joint Counter Terrorism (CT) operations under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.
- The exercise will be conducted in three phases. Phase-I will focus on preparations and orientation of participants for CT operations during UN peace keeping missions. Phase-II will involve conduct of the Table Top exercises and Phase-III will involve finalisation of plans and summing up.



PM Hails BSF on its Raising Day

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday lauded the Border Security Force on its raising day, saying it stands as a critical line of defence, embodying courage, dedication and exceptional service.
- The Border Security Force is celebrating its **60th Raising Day** on 1 December after it came into being in **1965**.
- The BSF is the world's largest border-guarding force securing the **6,386.36 km** long International Borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh.
- On the occasion of its Raising Day, the Border Security Force reiterated its commitment to the nation and its motto 'lifelong duty'.
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founder: Khusro Faramurz Rustamji
- Founded: 1 December 1965
- Abbreviation: BSF
- Agency executive: Daljit Singh Chaudhary, IPS, Director General
- Annual budget: ₹25,027.52 crore (US\$3.0 billion) (2024–25)
- Constituting instrument: Border Security Force Act, 1968



World's Top 100 Defence Groups Boost Arms Sales by 4% in 2023

- The world's 100 biggest defence equipment makers increased their arms sales by 4.2% in 2023 to \$632 billion, fuelled by wars and regional tensions, a leading think-tank said on Monday.
- The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) said in a report U.S. groups on the list grew sales by 2.5% in total compared to the year before to \$317 billion. Market leaders Lockheed Martin and RTX however saw slightly lower arms sales.
- Revenues had dipped in 2022 as global weapons makers struggled to meet the increase in demand, but many of them managed to increase production last year, the authors of the report noted.
- In a sign of this surge in demand, all 100 companies tracked achieved sales in excess of **\$1 billion** last year for the first time.

- "There was a marked rise in arms revenues in 2023, and this is likely to continue in 2024," Lorenzo Scarazzato, a researcher with the SIPRI Military Expenditure and Arms Production, said in a statement.
- Sales from the world's top 100 arms companies "still did not fully reflect the scale of demand, and many companies have launched recruitment drives, suggesting they are optimistic about future sales," Scarazzato added.
- Smaller producers have been more effective in meeting the demand linked to the wars in Gaza and Ukraine, growing tensions in East Asia and rearmament programmes in other regions, the institute said.



US Navy destroys Houthi missiles and drones targeting American ships in Gulf of Aden

- U.S. Navy destroyers shot down seven missiles and drones fired by Yemen's Houthi rebels at the warships and three American merchant vessels they were escorting through the Gulf of Aden. No damage or injuries were reported.
- U.S. Central Command said late Sunday that the destroyers USS Stockdale and USS O'Kane shot down and destroyed three anti-ship ballistic missiles, three drones and one anti-ship cruise missile. The merchant ships were not identified.
- The Houthis claimed the attack in a statement and said they had targeted the U.S. destroyers and "three supply ships belonging to the American army in the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden."
- Houthi attacks for months have targeted shipping through a waterway where \$1 trillion in goods pass annually over the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza and Israel's ground offensive in Lebanon. A ceasefire was announced in the latter last week.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. By what percentage did the arms sales of the world's 100 biggest defense equipment makers increase in 2023?

- A. 2.5%
- B. 3.8%
- C. 4.2%
- D. 5.5%

ANSWER: C

2. What is the name of the joint military exercise between the Indian Army and Singapore Armed Forces?

- A. AGNI WARRIOR
- B. YUDH ABHYAS
- C. GARUDA SHAKTI
- D. HAND-IN-HAND

ANSWER: A

3. What is the cost of the contract signed for Short Refit and Dry Docking of INS Vikramaditya with Cochin Shipyard Limited?

- A. Rs. 950 Cr
- B. Rs. 1207.5 Cr
- C. Rs. 1500 Cr
- D. Rs. 1000 Cr

ANSWER: B

4. Foreign Secretary of India Is

- A. Ajit Doval
- B. Vikram Misri
- C. S. Jaishankar
- D. Rajiv Kumar

ANSWER: B

5. Ex CYCLONE Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: D

6. Infantry Day of Indian Army In India Is Observed On

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

ANSWER: C

7. 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

8. Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) Is Located In

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

ANSWER: B

9. Central Air Command of IAF Is Located In

- A. Shillong
- B. Gandhinagar

- C. Prayagraj
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

10. 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

11. Third-generation anti-tank missile is _____?

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

ANSWER: D

12. Range of the K-15 Sagarika missile is-

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

ANSWER: A

13. SLNS Sayurala Is A Ship Of

- A. Oman
- B. Qatar
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: C

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. Range of K-9 Vajra Howitzer is

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

ANSWER: B

20. Ex Tiger Triumph Conducted B/W India &

- A. UK
- B. Oman

C. Sri Lanka

D. USA

ANSWER: D