

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 21 December 2024

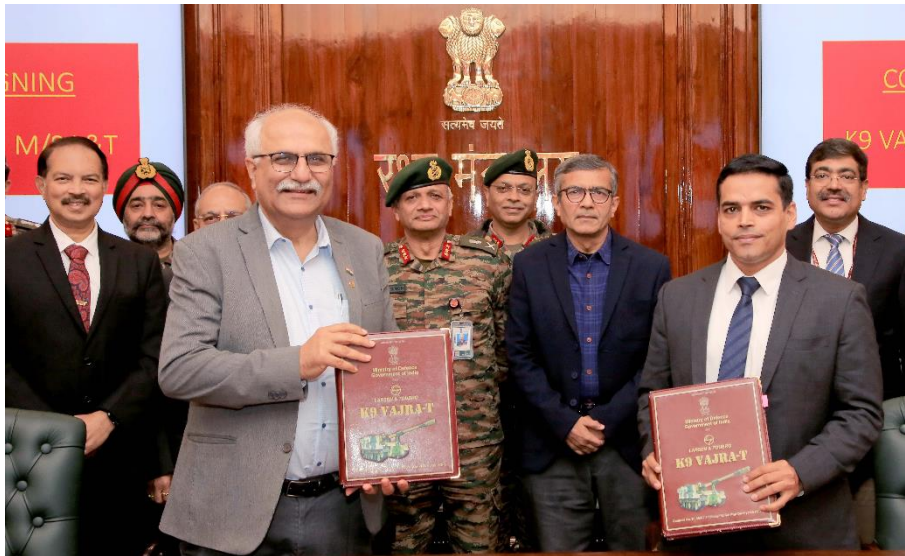
### 61<sup>st</sup> Raising Day of Sashastra Seema Bal

- Amit Shah attended the 61st Raising Day function of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) at Siliguri in West Bengal.
- Shri Shah said that in 61 years, SSB has received 4 Padma Shri, 1 Kirti Chakra, 6 Shaurya Chakra, 2 President's Gallantry Medals, 25 Police Gallantry Medals and 35 Gallantry Medals.
- He said that since its foundation in **1963**, SSB has generated a great sense of patriotism and attachment with India in the border villages.
- Agency executive: Amrit Mohan Prasad, IPS, Director General
- Headquarters: Udaipur
- Abbreviation: SSB
- Annual budget: ₹7,428.33 crore (US\$890.1 million) (2024–25)
- Employees: 94,261 active personnel
- Formed: 20 December 1963; 60 years ago
- Governing body: Ministry of Home Affairs



## MoD Inks Rs 7,629 crore contract with L&T for K9 VAJRA

- Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with Larsen & Toubro Limited for procurement of **155 mm/52 calibre K9 VAJRA-T** Self-Propelled Tracked Artillery Guns for the Indian Army under Buy (Indian) category at a total cost of Rs 7,628.70 crore.
- The procurement of K9 VAJRA-T will catalyse the artillery modernisation and enhance overall operational readiness of the Indian Army.
- The new artillery systems will feature upgrades for high-altitude deployment, ensuring India's readiness to counter challenges in regions like Ladakh, where temperatures can decrease to -20°C.
- The range of these artillery guns is over **40 km**, and they can launch projectiles at a speed of around 65 kilometres per hour. The artillery guns should be operated by five personnel and can carry upto **49 rounds onboard**. It is enhanced to function effectively in freezing conditions.
- The Vajras are part of India's massive military restructuring along the northern borders. The 100 new guns will join the existing fleet of **100 Vajras**. These upgrades include advanced fire-control systems and specially designed lubricants and batteries for sub-zero temperatures.
- This deployment underlines India's shift to focus its artillery strength against potential threats from China, complementing other advanced systems like Dhanush and the ultra-light **M777 howitzers** already stationed in the area.
- The K9 Vajra is a product of Larsen and Toubro (L&T), manufactured at its Hazira plant in Gujarat and has over **18,000 components** from Indian suppliers.



## President's Colours to College of Defence Management

- The President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu awarded the President's Colours to the **College of Defence Management (CDM), Secunderabad**.
- The premier defence institute is dedicated to shaping senior leadership of the Indian Armed Forces.
- Motto : Victory Through Excellence
- Type: Defence Service Training Institute
- Established: December 1970; 54 years ago



## Surat & Nilgiri Delivered

- Two warships, a destroyer (Surat) and a frigate (Nilgiri) were delivered to the Indian Navy on 20 Dec 24.
- The ships have been designed and constructed indigenously by the **Warship Design Bureau of Indian Navy** and M/s MDL, respectively.
- Yard 12707 (Surat), the fourth and final **Project 15B** stealth guided missile destroyer, follows in the wake of her predecessors IN Ships Visakhapatnam, Mormugao and Imphal commissioned in the past three years.
- The delivery of Surat culminates the iconic indigenous destroyer building project of the Indian Navy, which began with the Project 15 (three Delhi class, 1997-2001), followed by Project 15A (three Kolkata class, 2014-2016) and Project 15B (four Visakhapatnam class, 2021-2024).
- Being a guided missile destroyer with a displacement of **7,400 tons** and an overall length of **164 meters**, Surat is a potent and versatile platform.
- Powered by a Combined Gas and Gas (COGAG) propulsion set, comprising four gas turbines, she has achieved speeds in excess of **30 knots (56 km/h)** during her sea trials.
- Yard 12651 (Nilgiri), the first **Project 17A** stealth frigate is a follow-on of the Shivalik class (Project 17) frigates active in service. Nilgiri is first among the seven P17A frigates under construction and MDL, Mumbai and GRSE, Kolkata.
- In keeping with the current thrust on nation building through self-reliance the vessels have 75% indigenisation content with orders on a myriad of indigenous firms including MSMEs (more than 200 in each shipyard).



## Elon Musk says German chancellor should resign after attack at Christmas Market

- Billionaire Elon Musk, set to join U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's administration as an outside adviser, on Friday called on German Chancellor Olaf Scholz to resign in response to a deadly attack at a German Christmas market.
- Musk was responding in a thread about reports of the incident, in which a car rammed into a crowd of revellers in the German city of Magdeburg. At least two people were killed and dozens injured, local government officials said.
- Earlier on Friday, Musk waded into Germany's election campaign, calling the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) the country's saviour.
- The AfD is running second in opinion polls and might be able to thwart either a centre-right or centre-left majority, but Germany's mainstream, more centrist parties have vowed to shun support from the AfD at national level.
- Europe's leading power is expected to vote on Feb. 23 after a centre-left coalition government led by Scholz collapsed.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. Which two warships were delivered to the Indian Navy on December 20, 2024?**

- A. INS Vikrant and INS Kamorta
- B. INS Surat and INS Nilgiri
- C. INS Talwar and INS Shivalik
- D. INS Kolkata and INS Sahyadri

**ANSWER: B**

**2. Which institution was awarded the President's Colours by the President of India?**

- A. Indian Naval Academy
- B. College of Defence Management (CDM), Secunderabad
- C. National Defence Academy (NDA), Pune
- D. Officers Training Academy (OTA), Chennai

**ANSWER: B**

**3. What is the total cost of the contract signed with Larsen & Toubro Limited for K9 VAJRA-T?**

- A. Rs 6,500 crore
- B. Rs 7,000 crore
- C. Rs 7,628.70 crore
- D. Rs 8,000 crore

**ANSWER: C**

**4. SSB Day Celebrated Every Year On**

- A. 26 October
- B. 20 December
- C. 29 October
- D. 30 October

**ANSWER: B**

**5. Motto of NSG Is**

- A. शं नो वरुणः
- B. Wisdom and valour
- C. Service, Security and Brotherhood
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**6. Op Ajay Launched By Bharat To Rescue People From**

- A. USA
- B. Israel
- C. UK
- D. Iran

**ANSWER: B**

**7. DGAQA Stands For**

- A. Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance
- B. Directorate General of Aeronautical Query Assurance
- C. Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assured
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**8. Ex AL NAGAH, NASEEM-AL-BAHR, Ex EASTERN BRIDGE Conducted b/w India &**

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. Maldives

**ANSWER: B**

**9. The Douglas C-47 Skytrain or Dakota Is A**

- A. UAV
- B. Military Transport Aircraft
- C. Fighter Aircraft
- D. None

**ANSWER: B**

**10. Infantry Day Is Always Observed On**

- E. 26 Oct
- F. 27 Oct
- G. 28 Oct
- H. 29 Oct

**ANSWER: B**

**11. PBG The Oldest Regiment In The Indian Army, Having Been Raised In**

- A. 1773
- B. 1774
- C. 1779
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**12. INSAS Rifle Manufactured By**

- A. ARDE
- B. HAL
- C. IAI
- D. ISRO

**ANSWER: A**

**13. ISRO Hq Is In**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kochi
- C. Chennai
- D. Bangalore

**ANSWER: D**

**14. Brahmos Is A**

- A. Hypersonic Cruise Missile
- B. Supersonic Cruise Missile
- C. Subsonic Cruise Missile
- D. Ballistic Missile

**ANSWER: B**

**15. Where Is The Hq Of The Central Command of The Indian Army?**

- A. Kochi
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Pune



D. Lucknow

**ANSWER: D**

**16. Sarmat Missile Is A**

A. Nuclear-Capable Missile

B. Cruise Missile

C. Submarine Launched Ballistic Missiles

D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**17. "The Broken Earth" Book Written By**

A. Shashi Tharoor

B. N.K. Jemisin

C. Hew Strachan

D. Philip Pullman

**ANSWER: B**

**18. What Is The Capital Of Nigeria?**

A. Oslo

B. Abuja

C. Cape Town

D. Warsaw

**ANSWER: B**

**19. Ex 'Ajeya Warrior' conducted b/w India &**

A. Qatar

B. Oman

C. UAE

D. UK

**ANSWER: D**

**20. Operation Ganga Was Conducted By IAF In**

A. UK

B. USA

C. Ukraine

D. Afghanistan

**ANSWER: C**