

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 25 December 2024

### In a first, Taiwan's Presidential Office runs war games to simulate a China emergency

- Taiwan's Presidential Office conducted its first ever tabletop exercise simulating a military escalation with China, several officials briefed on the matter said, at a time when the island is facing renewed Chinese military threats.
- Dozens of central and local government agencies as well as civil groups participated in the 3-hour exercise on Thursday, the sources said, who requested anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter.
- China has in recent years stepped up military threats, including the large massing of naval forces this month and daily military activities close to democratically Taiwan, which Beijing claims as its own over Taipei's rejection.
- The war game held inside the Presidential Office in Taipei was led by Vice President Hsiao Bi-khim and National Security Council Secretary-general Joseph Wu, the officials familiar with the meeting told Reuters.
- The exercise simulated scenarios including China's "high intensity" grey-zone warfare as well as when the island is "on the verge of conflict" to test response readiness by Taiwan government offices and civil society, a security official familiar with the matter said.
- China has staged two rounds of major exercises around Taiwan this year to pressure Taipei, one in May and one in October, dubbed "Joint Sword - 2024A" and B, respectively.



## Rashtraparv Website & Mobile App

- Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh launched the Rashtraparv Website along with its Mobile App on Dec 25, 2024, on the occasion of **'Good Governance Day'** commemorating the birth anniversary of former PM Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- The website will facilitate access to information related to organization of national events such as **Republic Day, Beating Retreat Ceremony, Independence Day etc.**, live streaming, purchase of tickets, provide information related to seating arrangements & route-maps of events etc.
- Defence Secretary said that the Rashtraparv Website & Mobile App, developed by the Ministry of Defence, also has a system for managing the tableaux proposals and historic data regarding events. It will host a Tableau Management Portal to facilitate States/ UTs, ministries and departments in designing and finalizing their tableaux for Republic Day event.



## Pakistan Air Strikes Kill 46 in Afghanistan, Kabul Says

- Pakistan air strikes in an eastern border region of Afghanistan killed 46 civilians, the Taliban government said Wednesday, whilst a Pakistan security official said the bombardment had targeted "terrorist hideouts".
- The strikes were the latest spike in hostilities on the frontier between Afghanistan and Pakistan, with tensions escalating since the Taliban seized power in 2021.
- But a senior Pakistan security official said the strikes were on "terrorist hideouts" using jets and drones and that they killed at least 20 militants from the **Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP)**, the country's homegrown Taliban group.
- North Waziristan, which borders Paktika, has historically been a hive of militancy and was the target of a long-running Pakistani military offensive and US drone strikes during the post-9/11 occupation of Afghanistan that saw many people flee over the border.
- Islamabad has accused Kabul's Taliban authorities of harboring militant fighters, allowing them to strike on Pakistani soil with impunity. Kabul has denied the allegations.



## After Panama Canal, Trump Threatens To Buy Greenland Again

- President-elect Donald Trump has resurrected his past interest in buying Greenland, which Greenland's Prime Minister Mute Egede has said is "not for sale". Trump cited "national security" reasons behind the need for the purchase of the island.

- “For purposes of National Security and Freedom throughout the World, the United States of America feels that the ownership and control of Greenland is an absolute necessity,” Trump said in a statement.
- As the diplomatic spat between the US and Denmark grew, The New York Times reported that “while Mr. Trump has long derided nation-building, his flirtation with nation-buying turned out to be more serious than many originally thought.
- He has been talking privately about buying Greenland for more than a year and even detailed the National Security Council staff to study the idea.”
- Greenland lies in the northern Atlantic Ocean between Europe and America and has long been a nexus of tensions among global powers. Besides being bigger than Mexico and Saudi Arabia, Greenland has a strategic location straddling the North Atlantic and the Arctic, a region whose vast stores of critical minerals and fossil fuels are coveted by the US, Russia and China.
- Before buying Alaska, the US bought the territory of Louisiana from France for \$15 million in 1803. There’s even a precedent involving Denmark. Under President Andrew Johnson in 1867, the US State Department noted Greenland’s resources and location as ideal for acquisition but made no formal efforts.





## 5 soldiers killed, 5 injured as Army vehicle plunges into gorge in J&K's Poonch

- At least five soldiers died and five others including driver sustained critical injuries after their vehicle veered off the road along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district on Tuesday evening.
- An official statement issued by the army here stated that the vehicle, part of an army convoy, went off the road near the LoC.
- "One 2.5 ton vehicle, part of a convoy of six vehicles, while plying on the operational track near Poonch went off the road and plunged into into a Nullah (rivulet). Operational Track is on the home (Indian) side of the LoC fence," read the statement
- The accident occurred around 1720 hrs (5.20 pm).
- The casualties have been evacuated to Field Hospital at Poonch.
- "The cause of the accident is being ascertained. Possibly driver lost control at a bend (in the road).

- A terrorist-initiated incident was positively ruled out after confirmation from ground sources. Own post was approximately 130 meters from the incident site and a backup vehicle was barely 40 meters away," it read further.



# SSBCrack

EXAMS

## Israel Seized 85,000 Hezbollah Weapons

- Soldiers seized more than 85,000 items of loot from Hezbollah since entering Lebanon, the Israel Defence Forces announced on Wednesday.
- Forces operated in more than 30 villages across southern Lebanon, where weapons caches, rocket launchers and tunnel shafts were repeatedly found in and around civilian areas.
- "The weapons confiscated were used by Hezbollah and were intended to harm the citizens of the State of Israel, as part of the plan to 'conquer the Galilee,'" the IDF said.
- The army's breakdown of captured weapons included 6,840 RPG rocket launchers and anti-tank missiles and launchers; 340 Russian-made Kornet anti-tank missiles and launchers; 20 vehicles, including jeeps and pickup trucks; 9,000 explosives; 60 anti-aircraft missiles; 60,800 electronic devices such as phones, laptops, and communication devices; 2,250 missiles and shells; 2,700 light weapons and 2,860 other miscellaneous weapons.



- Israeli lawmakers are considering authorizing the transfer of captured Russian-made weapons to Ukraine.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. On which occasion was the Rashtraparv Website and Mobile App launched by Defence Secretary on December 25, 2024?**
  - A. Republic Day
  - B. Independence Day
  - C. Good Governance Day
  - D. Armed Forces Day**ANSWER: C**
  
- 2. Which country's PM stated that Greenland is "not for sale" after Donald Trump expressed interest in buying it?**
  - A. Iceland
  - B. Denmark
  - C. Greenland

D. Norway

**ANSWER: C**

**3. ZEUS Is A**

A. Missile

B. All Terrain – Track-Based Robot

C. Tank

D. UAV

**ANSWER: B**

**4. Ex 'SHAKTI' Conducted b/w India &**

A. Qatar

B. France

C. UAE

D. Israel

**ANSWER: B**

**5. Maritime Partnership Exercise B/w India & South Korea Held At**

A. Nava Sheva Port

B. Busan Port

C. Chennai Port

D. Kandla Port

**ANSWER: B**

**6. AMCA Stands For**

A. Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft

B. Advanced Medium Cooperation Aircraft

C. Advanced Media Combat Aircraft

D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**7. Operation Safed Sagar Was Launched In**

A. 1997

B. 1998

C. 1999

D. 2000

**ANSWER: C**

**8. SCALP Missile Is Developed By**



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

**ANSWER: B**

**9. Range of Sagarika Missile Is**

- A. 500 km
- B. 600 km
- C. 700 km
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**10. India Purchased Jaguar Fighter Aircraft from**

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**11. At Which Of The Following Places Is The Headquarters Of A Naval Command NOT Located?**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**12. M61 Vulcan Is A**

- A. Six- barrelled Gatling gun
- B. Heavy machine gun
- C. Pistol
- D. Rocket

**ANSWER: A**

**13. Hq Of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Is At**

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

**ANSWER: D**

**14. Lusaka Is The Capital Of**

- A. Zambia
- B. Venezuela
- C. United Kingdom
- D. Uganda

**ANSWER: A**

**15. "My Life, My Mission" Book Is Written By**

- A. Baba Ramdev
- B. Venkaiah Naidu
- C. Meenakshi Lekhi
- D. Dr. Bibek Debroy

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Rashtriya Raksha University Is In**

- A. Gandhinagar
- B. Mumbai
- C. New Delhi
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: A**

**17. The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Is A Project Of**

- A. Brazil
- B. Russia
- C. China
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**

**18. Which Is Not A Member Of SAARC?**

- A. Afghanistan
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Bhutan
- D. Madagascar

**ANSWER: D**

**19. THAAD System Designed and Manufactured By**

- A. Lockheed Martin
- B. Almaz – Antey
- C. Raytheon
- D. MBDA/ Eurosam

**ANSWER: A**

**20. Indian Naval Academy Is In**

- A. Ezhimala
- B. Mumbai
- C. New Delhi
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: A**

