

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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V Narayanan New Chief of ISRO

- V Narayanan will succeed S Somanath as the chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation, the Union government announced. V Narayanan will also take charge as the secretary of the department of space.
- V Narayanan will assume office on January 14, succeeding the current ISRO chief. V Narayanan will serve in these roles for the next two years or until further notice.



Who is V Narayanan, new ISRO chairman?

- V Narayanan is a distinguished scientist with nearly four decades of experience in rocket and spacecraft propulsion.
- He is a Rocket and SpaceCraft Propulsion expert and joined the **ISRO** in 1984 and functioned in various capacities before becoming director of Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC).
- During the initial phase, he worked in the Solid Propulsion area of Sounding Rockets and Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV) and Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).
- V Narayanan further contributed to the process planning, process control and realisation of Ablative nozzle systems, composite motor cases and composite Igniter cases.
- Currently, Narayanan is the director of the LPSC, one of the major centres of the ISRO having its headquarters at Valiamala in Thiruvananthapuram, with a unit in Bengaluru.
- The ISRO has been in the news recently for launching **SpaDex**, an indigenously built **space docking technology** crucial for ambitious missions like Chandrayaan 4 and Gaganyaan. It has put India in an elite list of countries who have that technology. The other countries are the United States, Russia and China. (With inputs from ANI)



Iran Begins Military Drills Near Natanz Nuclear Site

- Iran's military has begun drills near the Natanz nuclear enrichment plant in the centre of the country, state media reported Tuesday, as part of exercises planned nationwide.
- "The first phase of the **joint Eqtedar exercises** in the air defense zone of the Natanz nuclear facility has commenced under the orders of the air defense headquarters commander," state TV said.
- Iran has in recent years increased its manufacturing of enriched uranium, and it is the only non-nuclear weapons state to possess uranium enriched to 60 percent, the **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)** nuclear watchdog said.
- The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an intergovernmental organization that promotes the safe, secure, and peaceful use of nuclear science and technology.
- **Location:** The IAEA's headquarters are in Vienna, Austria.
- **History:** The IAEA was established in 1957 as the world's "Atoms for Peace" organization. The current Director General is **Rafael Mariano Grossi**



IAEA

Delivery of Yard 132

- Induction ceremony of eighth Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile (ACTCM) Barge, LSAM 22 (Yard 132) was held on 06 Jan 25 at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
- The contract for construction and delivery of eleven ACTCM Barges was concluded with **M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt. Ltd.**, Thane on 05 Mar 21, a MSME Shipyard.
- Induction of these Barges would provide impetus to operational commitments of Indian Navy by facilitating Transportation, Embarkation and Disembarkation of articles/ ammunition to Indian Navy platforms both alongside jetties and at outer harbours.



Rajnath Singh to meet Defence Minister of Maldives

- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh will hold a bilateral meeting with the Defence Minister of Maldives Mr Mohammed Ghassan Maumoon in New Delhi on January 08, 2025.
- During the talks, the two Ministers will review the various facets of bilateral defence cooperation including training, regular exercises, defence projects, workshops and seminars to enhance the capability of the Maldives National Defence Forces as well as supply of defence equipment & stores.
- The Maldives occupies a special place in India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy, which aims to bring stability and prosperity in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).



North Korea says New Hypersonic Missile Will 'Contain' Rivals

- North Korea has claimed it fired a new intermediate-range ballistic missile tipped with a hypersonic warhead which "will reliably contain any rivals in the Pacific region".
- The launch on Monday - Pyongyang's first in two months - came as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken was in Seoul for talks with some of South Korea's key leaders.
- Hypersonic weapons are more difficult to track and shoot down, as they are able to travel at more than five times the speed of sound.
- North Korea is claiming their missile flew 12 times the speed of sound, for about 1,500km.
- South Korea's military earlier said the missile flew 1,100km before falling into the sea, adding that it "strongly condemns" this "clear act of provocation".
- North Korea has previously test-fired hypersonic missiles. Pictures published by KCNA showed that Monday's missile resembled one that was launched in April last year.
- But Pyongyang claims its new hypersonic missile features a new "flight and guidance control system" and a new engine made of carbon fibre.
- The country's leader Kim Jong Un said Monday's launch "clearly showed the rivals what we are doing and that we are fully ready to use even any means to defend our legitimate interests", state news agency KCNA said

- While hypersonic weaponry has existed for decades, in recent years new missiles have been developed that are much more agile, can re-enter the atmosphere much quicker and conduct evasive manoeuvres, according to the Center for Arms Control and Non-proliferation.
- Hypersonic missiles can be detected by space-based sensors. Various reports suggest there is existing technology that can intercept hypersonic missiles despite their unpredictable trajectories. These are most likely to be deployed at the final phase of their flight, where they would be flying at a lower speed after a long flight through the atmosphere.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. Who will succeed S Somanath as the chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)?**
 - A. K Sivan
 - B. V Narayanan
 - C. A S Kiran Kumar
 - D. Radhakrishnan Nair**ANSWER: B**
- 2. What is the name of the military drills conducted by Iran near the Natanz nuclear enrichment plant?**
 - A. Azadi
 - B. Eqtedar

- C. Basij
- D. Pasdaran

ANSWER: B

3. What type of missile did North Korea claim to test recently?

- A. Hypersonic Intermediate-Range Missile
- B. Intercontinental Ballistic Missile
- C. Short-Range Tactical Missile
- D. Cruise Missile

ANSWER: A

4. In which year was the DRDO founded?

- A. 1947
- B. 1965
- C. 1971
- D. 1958

ANSWER: D

5. What has the Defence Ministry designated 2025 as?

- A. Year of Innovation
- B. Year of Modernization
- C. Year of Reforms
- D. Year of Integration

ANSWER: C

6. Who has been appointed as the officiating Director General of the CRPF?

- A. Anish Dayal Singh
- B. Vitul Kumar
- C. Sanjay Arora
- D. Deepak Mishra

ANSWER: B

7. R&AW Stands For

- A. Research and Analytical Wing
- B. Raw and Analysis Wing
- C. Research and Analysis Wing
- D. Research and Analysis Wet

ANSWER: C

8. "Sarvatra" (Everywhere) Is The Motto Of

- A. JKRIF
- B. RR
- C. CORPS OF ENGINEERS
- D. Madras Regiment

ANSWER: C

9. Joint Exercises B/w The India And UK Is Called:

- A. Yama
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Konkan Shakti

ANSWER: D

10. Where Is The Hq Of The Southwestern Command of The Indian Army?

- A. Jaipur
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: A

11. Moroni Is The Capital Of

- A. Comoros
- B. Costa Rica
- C. Cuba
- D. Dominica

ANSWER: A

12. "An Introduction to Dreamland" Book Is Written By

- A. Bhagat Singh
- B. Leo Tolstoy
- C. Jules Verne
- D. Gunnar Myrdal

ANSWER: A

13. Current NSA Of India Is

- A. S Jaishankar

- B. Ajit Doval
- C. R Hari Kumar
- D. V R Chaudhari

ANSWER: B

14. Ex 'AUSINDEX' conducted b/w India &

- A. Angola
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. Australia

ANSWER: D

15. Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (India) Is

- A. Satish Namdeo Ghormade
- B. R Hari Kumar
- C. Karambir Lamba
- D. Sunil Singh

ANSWER: A

16. Joint Exercises B/w The India And USA Is Called:

- A. Yama
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Tiger Triumph

ANSWER: D

17. Where Is The Hq Of The Eastern Command of The IAF?

- A. Kochi
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Shillong
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: C

18. Indian Military Academy Is Located At

- A. Pune
- B. Mumbai
- C. Pune
- D. Nagpur

ANSWER: A

19. Current Raksha Mantri Is

- A. Rajnath Singh
- B. Ajay Bhatt
- C. Smirti Irani
- D. Anurag Thakur

ANSWER: A

20. Ex 'Indra' Conducted b/w India &

- A. Russia
- B. Kyrgyzstan
- C. UAE
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A