

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Foreign Secretary's Meeting With The Acting Foreign Minister Of Afghanistan

- Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri had a meeting with the Acting Foreign Minister of Afghanistan, Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi, in Dubai. The two sides discussed various issues pertaining to bilateral relations as well as regional developments.
- 2. Foreign Secretary underlined India's historic friendship with the Afghan people and the strong people to people contacts between the two countries. In this context, he conveyed India's readiness to respond to the urgent developmental needs of the Afghan people.
- The two sides evaluated the ongoing Indian humanitarian assistance programmes. The Afghan minister appreciated and thanked the Indian leadership for continuing to engage and support the people of Afghanistan. In view of the current need for development activities, it was decided that India would consider engaging in development projects in the near future, in addition to the ongoing humanitarian assistance programme.
- It may be recalled that in response to the needs of the Afghan people, India decided to extend humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan. India has so far dispatched several shipments consisting of 50,000 MTs of wheat, 300 tons of medicines, 27 tons of earthquake relief aid, 40,000 litres of pesticides, 100 million polio doses, 1.5 million doses of COVID Vaccine, 11,000 units of hygiene kits for the drug de-addiction programme, 500 units of winter clothing and 1.2 tons of stationery kits, etc.
- In response to the request from the Afghan side, India will provide further material support in the first instance to the health sector and for the rehabilitation of refugees. The two sides also discussed strengthening of sports (cricket) cooperation, which is highly valued by the young generation of Afghanistan. It was also agreed to promote the use of Chabahar port for

supporting trade and commercial activities, including for the purpose of humanitarian assistance for Afghanistan.

- The Afghan side underlined its sensitivities to India's security concerns. The two sides agreed to remain in touch and continue regular contacts at various levels.



Delivery of Yard 82

- Induction ceremony of the seventh Missile Cum Ammunition Barge (MCA) Barge, LSAM 14 (Yard 82) was held on 07 Jan 25 at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
- The contract for construction and delivery of eight MCA Barges was concluded with a **MSME Shipyard, M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt. Ltd.**, Visakhapatnam on 19 Feb 21.
- These Barges have been indigenously designed by the shipyard in collaboration with an Indian Ship Designing firm and successfully model tested at Naval Science and Technological Laboratory, Visakhapatnam to ensure their seaworthiness.
- Six of these MCA Barges have already been inducted and are providing an impetus to the 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.



Indigenously Manufactured Vehicles to reach Lebanon

- In a boost for 'Make in India' initiative, 62 indigenously manufactured vehicles are set to reach Lebanon for utilisation by the Indian contingent deployed in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).
- The fleet comprises high mobility troop carriage vehicles, utility vehicles (one tonne and 2.5 tonne), medium and light ambulances, fuel bowsers and recovery vehicles, they said.

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India Hands Over Defence Equipment, Stores To Maldives

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held bilateral discussions with the Defence Minister of Maldives Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon in New Delhi on Wednesday. During the meeting, India handed over defence equipment and stores to the Maldives, as per the island nation's request.
- The Ministry of Defence said, "On the Government of Maldives' request, India handed over defence equipment and stores to the Maldives." Sources told The Indian Express that these included "utility vehicles" and "berthing equipment" worth Rs 35 crore.
- The two sides, sources said, also discussed extending the lease of aviation platforms expiring this year – two Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH), gifted by India, are being used by the Maldives for medical evacuation purposes.
- They also discussed the frequent docking of foreign vessels in Maldivian maritime territory and the implications of permissions granted to the vessels by foreign agencies, including the Chinese.



Antony Blinken rejects a Donald Trump Greenland Grab

- Despite bellicose language from President-elect Donald Trump, a US takeover of Greenland will never occur, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Wednesday in Paris.
- “The idea expressed about Greenland is obviously not a good one, but maybe more important: it’s obviously one that’s not going to happen, so we probably shouldn’t waste a lot of time talking about it,” President Joe Biden’s top diplomat told reporters in a rare direct criticism of an idea Trump floated in the weeks before he reclaims the presidency.
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- In a free-form news conference in Florida on Tuesday, Trump called for the US to absorb Canada and declined to rule out using military force to seize the Panama Canal and Greenland, saying “we need them for economic security.”
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- In a less direct rebuff of Trump’s combative “America First” approach, Blinken said the Biden administration has operated under the belief “that we’re stronger, we’re more effective, we get better results when we’re working closely with our allies — not saying or doing things that may alienate them.”
- The top US diplomat also argued that Biden’s outgoing team has set up the incoming one for success globally, from negotiations to secure a ceasefire and hostage deal in Gaza to boosting Trump’s position in potential negotiations over Ukraine.
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- “There are so many things happening in real time that I want to make sure the administration that’s coming in is fully prepared to engage from day one,” Blinken said. “We’re handing over a lot of positive opportunities, initiatives, work, and if the next administration chooses to carry it forward, I think that will be clearly in the interests of the United States.”
- On Ukraine, where Trump has vowed to end the war rapidly, Blinken said, “I believe that the incoming administration will want to make sure that they negotiate the best possible deal. And the best possible deal has to be one that builds into it real deterrence against Russia repeating its aggression — six months, a year, two years, you name it.”



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **Which company was contracted for the construction and delivery of eight MCA Barges?**
 - A. M/s L&T Shipyard
 - B. M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt. Ltd.
 - C. M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt. Ltd.
 - D. M/s Goa Shipyard Limited**ANSWER: C**

2. **Where is Chabahar Port located?**
 - A. Northern Iran, Caspian Sea
 - B. Southeastern Iran, Gulf of Oman
 - C. Western Iran, Persian Gulf
 - D. Central Iran, Lake Urmia

ANSWER: B

3. Which organization launched the Fast Patrol Vessels Amulya and Akshay for the Indian Coast Guard?

- A. Goa Shipyard Limited
- B. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- C. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers
- D. Hindustan Shipyard Limited

ANSWER: A

4. Where was the 18th edition of the India-Nepal joint military exercise SURYA KIRAN held?

- A. Nepal
- B. India
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Bangladesh

ANSWER: A

5. Ex CYCLONE Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: D

6. Deputy National Security Adviser of India Is

- A. Ajit Doval
- B. TV Ravichandran
- C. Pawan Kapoor
- D. Both b & c

ANSWER: D

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

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

ANSWER: C

8. 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

9. Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) Is Located In

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

ANSWER: B

10. Central Air Command of IAF Is Located In

- A. Shillong
- B. Gandhinagar
- C. Prayagraj
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

11. 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

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

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

ANSWER: D

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

- A. 700 km
- B. 500 km

- C. 400 km
- D. 200 km

ANSWER: A

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. Western Air Command (WAC) Is In

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

ANSWER: B

20. Range of K-9 Vajra Howitzer is

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

ANSWER: B