

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 17 January 2025

### Celebration of 'Year Of Naval Civilians'

- The Indian Navy is proudly celebrating the 'Year of Naval Civilians' on 17 Jan 25 at Dr DS Kothari Auditorium, DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi. The event will be graced by Hon'ble Raksha Mantri as the Chief Guest.
- The ceremony will showcase the remarkable achievements and contributions of Naval Civilians through an inspiring agenda including a curated exhibition featuring photographs and paintings highlighting the work, lives and stories of Naval Civilians.
- The Chief Guest will be introduced to recipients of the Prime Minister's Shram Awards who have demonstrated exceptional skills, dedication and innovation in their respective fields.



### MoD inks Rs 2,960 crore Contract with BDL

- Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with **Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)** for the supply of **Medium-Range Surface-to-Air Missiles (MRSAM)** for the Indian Navy at a cost of approximately **Rs 2,960 crore**.
- The MRSAM system is a standard fit, onboard multiple Indian Naval Ships and is planned to be fitted on the majority of the future platforms planned for acquisition.

- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) is one of India's manufacturers of ammunitions and missile systems. It was founded in **1970 in Hyderabad, India.**



## ALH-Dhruv, Tejas will not feature in Republic Day

- The indigenously designed and developed **Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH-Dhruv)** will not be part of the upcoming Republic Day flypast as the entire fleet of the military choppers has been grounded following a crash of one of them this month.
- The Army, the Indian Air Force, the Navy and the Coast Guard are operating around 330 ALHs.
- A Coast Guard ALH crashed at Gujarat's Porbandar on January 5 following which the armed forces grounded the entire fleet of the twin-engine choppers.
- The ALH Dhruv will not be part of the Republic Day flypast over Kartavya Path on January 26, an IAF official told.
- The official cited above also said that locally developed single engine LCA Tejas will also not feature at the Republic Day flypast.
- The IAF has stopped flying single engine aircraft at the R-Day parade.



## India Targets Global Defence Market With Dornier 228 Offer For Malaysia

- India has offered domestically produced Dornier 228 aircraft for a requirement of the Malaysian Coast Guard, differentiating itself from the competition with a proposal that will include setting up of maintenance facilities and technology transfer.

### **Strengthening Naval Capabilities**

- The MRSAM system, a standard feature on multiple Indian naval ships, will also be integrated into most future vessels. This contract marks a critical step towards enhancing the Navy's operational strength while promoting indigenous military technology. "The MRSAM contract represents our commitment to building domestic defence capabilities," the Ministry of Defence stated in its official release.

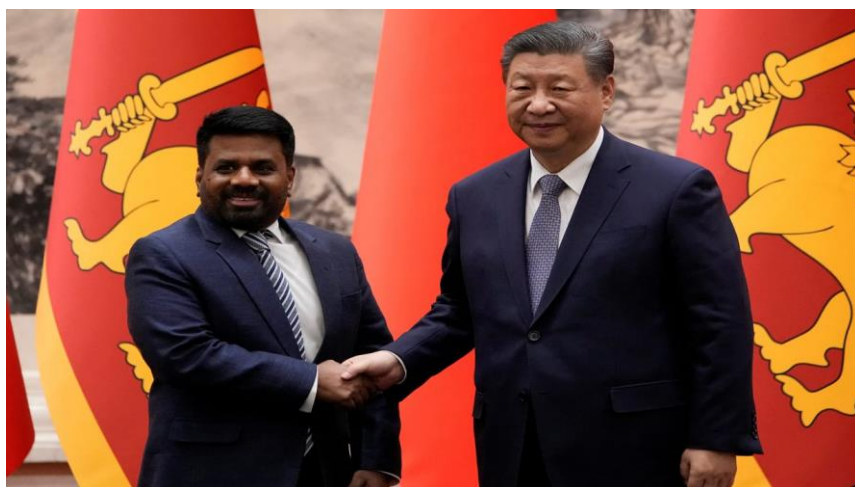
### **Boost to Employment and Local Industry**

- In line with the 'Buy (Indian)' procurement category, the missiles will feature substantial indigenous content. The initiative is expected to create approximately 3.5 lakh man-days of employment in the defence industry, benefitting various Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) involved in the production chain.



## China Has Offered To Invest \$3.7 Billion In Sri Lanka

- Dissanayake held talks with his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping following which the two sides signed 15 agreements.
- The refinery will have a capacity of two lakh barrels.
- China has secured the strategic **Hambantota port** in the Indian Ocean on a **99-year lease as a debt swap**
- Dissanayake incidentally was a critic of the Hambantota port deal for its long-term lease while he was in the opposition.
- It was seen as a balancing act as last year India and Sri Lanka inked a deal to jointly develop 85 World War II-era oil storage tanks at the strategic Trincomalee port in the eastern region of the country.
- As Dissanayake concluded his visit, his second foreign tour after his last month's visit to New Delhi where he committed not to allow Sri Lanka's territory to be used against the interest of India, there is no word from both sides yet whether Sri Lanka would permit the controversial research ships of China, regarded as spy ships by India, to be berthed at Hambantota port.
- India has flagged its concerns to Sri Lanka about the recurring visits of the Chinese vessels.
- Sri Lanka's one-year ban on foreign research ships visiting its ports ended last month, and there is no official announcement about its status.



## 8th Pay Commission Approved by GOI

- The Union Cabinet approved to set up 8th Pay Commission to revise salaries of central government employees and allowances of pensioners. The decision to set up the 8th Pay Commission was taken at a meeting of the Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said. The minister also informed that the chairman and two members of the Commission will be appointed soon.
- A pay commission is constituted by the central government once every decade to revise the salary structure of its employees. In addition to revising the salary structure, each pay commission has a term of reference, which broadly defines its focus. Pay commissions also decide pension payments. The 7th Pay Commission was set up in 2016, and its term will end in 2026.
- According to the 7th Pay Commission, central government employees are all persons in the civil services of the central government and those who are paid salaries out of the consolidated fund of India, which is the account in which government collects its revenues. Employees of public sector undertakings (PSU) and autonomous bodies, and gramin dak sevaks are not under the remit of the 7th Pay Commission. This would mean someone working in Coal India will not be covered.
- PSU employees have separate pay scales depending on the undertaking they are working for.
- **What were the changes in the 7th Pay Commission?**
- Employee unions demanded a 3.68 fitment factor when it came to salary revision for the 7th Pay Commission, but the government decided on a fitment factor of 2.57. The fitment factor is a multiplier used for calculating salaries and pensions. This led the minimum basic pay to become ₹18,000 per month,

compared to the ₹7,000 in the 6th Pay Commission. The minimum pension also rose from ₹3,500 to ₹9,000. The maximum salary became ₹2,50,000 and the maximum pension became ₹1,25,000.

## CABINET MEET OUTCOME

- **8th Central Pay Commission Gets Cabinet Nod**
- **There Will Be Consultations Within Centre, States & PSUs For 8th Pay Commission**

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which organization signed a contract with the Ministry of Defence for supplying MRSAM to the Indian Navy?

- A. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- B. Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- C. Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)
- D. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

**ANSWER: C**

2. What is the approximate cost of the MRSAM contract signed by the Ministry of Defence?

- A. Rs 1,500 crore
- B. Rs 2,960 crore
- C. Rs 4,000 crore
- D. Rs 5,200 crore

**ANSWER: B**

3. Which Indian-made aircraft has been offered to the Malaysian Coast Guard by India?

- A. Tejas MK-1A
- B. Dornier 228

- C. C-295 Transport Aircraft
- D. An-32 Aircraft

**ANSWER: B**

**4. The Motto Of AMC, "सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः" Which Is Derived From The**

- A. Brihadaranyaka Upanishad
- B. Mundak Upanishad
- C. Taittiriya Upanishad
- D. Katha Upanishad

**ANSWER: A**

**5. Which of the following is DRDO Technology Demonstration Vessel?**

- A. INS Delhi
- B. INS Virat
- C. INS Vagir
- D. INS Anvesh

**ANSWER: D**

**6. Ex 'SPITTING COBRA' Conducted b/w India &**

- A. USA
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. Russia

**ANSWER: A**

**7. Hq Of Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) Is In**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**8. First & Largest Defence Equipment Manufacturer In India Is**

- A. BDL
- B. HAL
- C. BEL
- D. AMPL

**ANSWER: B**

**9. V. O. Chidambaranar Port Trust Is Located In**

- A. T.N
- B. M.H
- C. Goa
- D. A.P

**ANSWER: A**

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

- A. Lucknow
- B. Agra
- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

**ANSWER: A**

**11. "Prashata Ranvirta" Is A Motto Of**

- A. Jammu And Kashmir Rifles
- B. Gorkha Regiment
- C. Punjab Regiment
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**12. Bongosagar Ex Conducted B/W Bangladesh And**

- A. UK
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Nepal
- D. None

**ANSWER: D**

**13. Heron TP Is a**

- A. Air to Air missile
- B. Sniper Rifle
- C. Anti-tank Guided missile
- D. Drone

**ANSWER: D**

**14. "Balidanam Vir Lakshanam" Is The Motto Of**

- A. Corps of Signals
- B. RR
- C. AAD



D. JKLI

**ANSWER: D**

**15. Vice Admiral Rank of Indian Navy Is Equivalent To Which Rank of Indian Army?**

- A. Air Marshal
- B. Flight Lt.
- C. Captain
- D. Lt. General

**ANSWER: D**

**16. Range of Astra Missile Mk 2 Is**

- A. 110 km
- B. 160 km
- C. 170 km
- D. 250 km

**ANSWER: B**

**17. Ex Samudra Shakti Is Held B/W India &**

- A. Italy
- B. Indonesia
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. None

**ANSWER: B**

**18. Tirana Is The Capital Of**

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

**ANSWER: D**

**19. 'Paradise Lost' Book Is Written By**

- A. John Milton
- B. Jane Austen
- C. Issac Newton
- D. Daniel Defoe

**ANSWER: A**

**20. South-Western Air Command Hq Is In**

- A. Gandhinagar
- B. New Delhi
- C. Prayagraj
- D. Nagpur

**ANSWER: D**

