

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

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### Army Plans To Acquire Indigenous Pinaka MBRLs

- Recent reports indicate that the Defence Ministry has approved a substantial deal worth approximately ₹10,200 crore, which will include the acquisition of 6,400 rockets specifically designed for the Pinaka system.
- The Pinaka MBRL is an advanced artillery system developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India.
- The system is capable of launching a salvo of 12 rockets within 44 seconds, effectively targeting enemy positions and troop concentrations over a range of up to 75 kilometers with precision-guided capabilities.
- In December 2023, the Defence Acquisition Council cleared a proposal for acquiring 6,400 rockets at a cost of ₹2,800 crore.

## Army pushes for desi Pinaka rockets, to ink ₹10,200cr deals within this fiscal

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**New Delhi:** The Army is now putting its full weight behind the indigenous Pinaka multi-launch artillery rocket systems, with orders worth Rs 10,200 crore for its ammunition to be cleared soon, even as India is also exporting the systems to other countries.

Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi said two Pinaka contracts — Rs 5,700 crore for high-explosive pre-fragmented ammunition and Rs 4,500 crore for area denial munitions — are all set to be inked before the current fiscal ends on March 31.

These orders will cater for the 10 Pinaka regiments already ordered by the over 11-lakh strong Army, which also has three Russian-origin Smerch and five Grad rocket regiments.

While the force has inducted four Pinaka regiments, with some of the launchers also deployed in high-altitude areas along the northern borders with China, the other six are in the process of being inducted to add "more punch and lethality" to its arsenal. "The Pinaka is one of the best rocket systems in the world. Its regiments have been high-altitude enabled," a senior officer said.



DRDO has developed a variety of ammunition for Pinaka, including rockets with 45-km extended range and 75-km guided extended range

The high-explosive pre-fragmented ammunition has a strike range of 45 km, while the aerial denial munitions can be launched to a distance of 37 km. The latter have the capability to saturate a target area with multiple bomblets, including anti-tank and anti-personnel minelets.

DRDO has developed a variety of ammunition for the Pinaka, including rockets with 45-km extended range and 75-km guided extended range. With the plan underway to further enhance the range first to 120 km and then to 300 km, Gen Dwivedi said, "As soon as we get longer ranges, we might drop plans for other alternate long-range weapons we are looking at and concentrate on

it (Pinaka)."

The six new Pinaka regiments, under contracts inked with defence PSU Bharat Earth Movers Ltd and private sector companies Tata Advanced Systems and Larsen & Toubro, comprise 114 launchers with automated gun aiming and positioning systems and 45 command posts, along with 330 vehicles. "They are equipped with electronically and mechanically improved weapon systems capable of firing a variety of ammunition over longer ranges," another officer said.

India is also stepping up plans to export the Pinaka system, along with other products like BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles and Akash air

### India part of naval drill hosted by France

India and eight other countries are taking part in a naval exercise hosted by France around the Malacca, Sunda and Lombok straits between the Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean, demonstrating their commitment to a rules-based international order in the maritime domain.

India has deployed guided-missile destroyer INS Mumbai for the 'La Perouse' exercise, which includes French carrier strike group (CSG) led by nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Charles De Gaulle. TNN

defence missile systems, to 'friendly' countries.

The former Soviet republic of Armenia, for instance, is importing both Pinaka and Akash systems, as earlier reported by TOI. Some Asean, African and European countries have also shown interest in acquiring the Pinaka systems. Another major deal to be inked within this fiscal for the Army's Regiment of Artillery will be the Rs 8,500 crore one for 307 indigenous advanced towed artillery gun systems, which is touted to have a strike range of 48 km.

## DRDO To Conduct Environmental Test of Anti Jamming Antenna

- DRDO is set to conduct environmental tests for an Anti-Jamming Antenna, which is likely intended for use in Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs).
- This initiative is part of a broader effort to enhance the resilience of UAVs against jamming, which can disrupt Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) signals crucial for navigation and positioning.
- Anti-jamming technologies are essential for UAVs, as they are vulnerable to GNSS signal disruption.



## Exercise Devil Strike

- The Indian Armed Forces have successfully concluded Exercise Devil Strike, a high-intensity joint military exercise held from January 16 to 19, 2025.
- This collaborative effort involved the elite airborne troops of the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force, showcasing their operational excellence and readiness to tackle diverse challenges in demanding environments.
- Cutting-edge technologies and state-of-the-art equipment were deployed to ensure efficient and accurate delivery of forces to remote locations, enhancing operational capabilities.



## **US will recognize only two genders - male and female: Trump**

- **In Short**
- Donald Trump to sign order recognising only two genders
- Transgender rights a contentious issue in US politics
- Donald Trump took oath as 47th President of United States
- 47th United States President Donald Trump, soon after taking the oath of office, announced that he would soon sign an executive order ending gender diversity, proclaiming that the American federal government will only recognise two sexes -- male and female.
- Transgender rights have become a contentious political topic in the United States in recent years. In the last election campaign, many Republicans batted on reversing transgender laws with a particular focus on transgender women participating in sports.
- During a pre-inauguration rally a day ahead of taking the oath as US President, Donald Trump said that he will take action to "keep all men out of women's sports". He's also pledged to restrict gender-affirming care.
- In his first term as US President, Donald Trump declared a ban on transgender troops serving in the military and halted the recruitment of transgender personnel. However, the policy was reversed by Joe Biden after he took office in 2021.



## Maritime Drill In Indian Ocean On As Quad Foreign Ministers Set To Meet

- While the maritime forces of the Quad nations are together exercising in the Indian Ocean as part of a multinational exercise, the foreign ministers of India, Australia and Japan are expected to meet a day after Donald Trump takes oath as the 47th US President on January 20.
- The Indian Navy's indigenously designed and built guided missile destroyer, INS Mumbai, is participating in the fourth edition of the multinational exercise, La Perouse. It is a France-led biennial multinational maritime exercise.
- The informal grouping of India, the US, Japan and Australia is called QUAD. The exercise aims to develop common maritime situational awareness by enhancing cooperation in surveillance, maritime interdiction operations and air operations among these nations.





## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. What is the primary purpose of the Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan App launched by the Defence Minister?**

- A. Promote battlefield tourism
- B. Facilitate online booking for army camps
- C. Provide training material for defence aspirants
- D. Showcase India's cultural heritage

**ANSWER: A**

**2. Which organization has signed a contract with the Ministry of Defence for the supply of MRSAM for the Indian Navy?**

- A. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- B. Defence Research and Development Organisation
- C. Bharat Electronics Limited
- D. Bharat Dynamics Limited

**ANSWER: D**

**3. What is DRDO's HIMKAVACH system designed for?**

- A. Cold weather clothing
- B. Bulletproof Jacket
- C. Tactical vehicles
- D. Communication systems

**ANSWER: A**

**4. The military exercises SIMBEX (Navy), SINDEX (Air Force), and Bold Kurukshetra (Army) are conducted between which pair of countries?**

- A. India and Singapore
- B. India and Australia
- C. India and the United States
- D. India and Japan

**ANSWER: A**

**5. Which submarine is the second boat of the Arihant class indigenous nuclear submarines?**

- A. INS Chakra
- B. INS Khanderi
- C. INS Arighat
- D. INS Kalvari

**ANSWER: C**

**6. 14,18 SSB Board Is At**

- A. Kapurthala
- B. Gandhinagar
- C. Bhopal
- D. Allahabad

**ANSWER: D**

**7. 'Operation Khatma' Book Written By**

- A. Robert De Cook
- B. Amit Kumar
- C. RC Ganjoo and Ashwini Bhatnagar
- D. Roger Faligot

**ANSWER: C**

**8. Barrett M82 Is A**

- A. Sniper Rifle
- B. Machine Gun
- C. Missile
- D. Fighter Jet

**ANSWER: A**

**9. "The Direction of War" Book Written By**

- A. Jhon Neil
- B. Napoleon
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Nathaniel Fick

**ANSWER: C**

**10. Armaments Research & Development Establishment (ARDE) Is Located In**

- A. Pune, Maharashtra
- B. Bengaluru, Karnataka
- C. Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

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

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

**ANSWER: C**

**12. The IAI Harpy Is A**

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Fighter Jet

**ANSWER: C**

**13. Motto Of Integrated Defence Staff**

- A. Victory Through Jointness
- B. Victory Everywhere
- C. Always Ahead
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Hq Is In**

- A. Queenstown, Singapore
- B. Berlin, Germany
- C. Abu Dhabi (UAE)
- D. Kathmandu, Nepal

**ANSWER: A**

**15. C-130J Super Hercules Is A**

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV

- C. Submarine
- D. Transport Aircraft

**ANSWER: D**

**16. ADDIS ABABA Is The Capital Of**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**17. College of Air Warfare Is At**

- A. Pune
- B. Gurugram
- C. Wellington
- D. Secunderabad

**ANSWER: D**

**18. "The Living Mountain" Book Written By**

- A. Amitav Ghosh
- B. Anant Vijay's
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Anindya Dutta

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Captain Rank of Indian Navy Equivalent to Which rank of IAF?**

- A. Flying Officer
- B. Flight Lieutenant
- C. Group Captain
- D. None

**ANSWER: C**

**20. Joint Ex B/w The India And Singapore Is Called:**

- A. Bold Kurukshetra
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

**ANSWER: A**



 **SSBCrack**  
EXAMS