

Daily Defence Current Affairs

01 February 2025

IAF Officer Set To Take Bharat to ISS

- IAF group captain **Shubhanshu Shukla** is set to represent the country as the first Indian astronaut to travel to the **International Space Station** (ISS) aboard a **SpaceX Dragon spacecraft** from the **space station in Florida** soon.
- Shubhanshu Shukla is designated as pilot of the **Axiom Mission 4** to the ISS, as part of a joint effort between **NASA and the ISRO**. The US space agency announced that the spaceflight will lift off "no earlier than spring 2025".
- IAF Group captain Shubhanshu Shukla said he is looking forward to sharing his experience with "**Bharatvaasis**", adding that he plans to take items representing the country on his spaceflight and hopes to perform some yoga poses aboard the orbital laboratory.
- Apart from India, the Axiom Mission 4 or Ax-4 mission will "realize the return" to human spaceflight for **Poland, and Hungary**, with each country's first government-sponsored flight in more than 40 years.
- While Ax-4 marks these countries' second human spaceflight mission in history, it will be the first time all **three nations** will execute a mission on board the ISS.
- "This historic mission underscores how Axiom Space is redefining the pathway to low-Earth orbit and elevating national space programs globally".



INSV Tarini Crosses Point Nemo

- In a remarkable milestone for maritime exploration INSV Tarini, sailed by Lt Cdr Dilna K and Lt Cdr Roopa A of the Indian Navy, successfully crossed Point Nemo, at 0030h (IST) on 30 Jan 25.
- Point Nemo, located at coordinates **48°53'S 123°24'W**, is the Oceanic Pole of Inaccessibility, the most remote location on Earth, situated approximately **2,688 kilometers** from the nearest landmass.
- This isolated point in the South Pacific is famous for its extreme remoteness.



ICG 49th Raising Day

- PM Modi- Today, on their Raising Day, we laud the Indian Coast Guard for safeguarding our vast coastline with bravery, dedication and relentless vigilance. From maritime security to disaster response, from anti-smuggling operations to environmental protection, the Indian Coast Guard is a formidable guardian of our seas, ensuring the safety of our waters and people.
- Indian Coast Guard is a maritime law enforcement and search and rescue agency of India with jurisdiction over its territorial waters including its contiguous zone and exclusive economic zone.
- Founded: 1 February 1977
- Abbreviation: ICG
- Agency executive: Paramesh Sivamani, Director General;
- Anniversary: Coast Guard Day: 1 February
- Employees: 13,842 sanctioned strength (2018–19)
- Formed: 18 August 1978
- Headquarters: Indian Coast Guard Headquarters, New Delhi



INDIAN COAST GUARD
49th Raising Day
01 Feb 2025

"वयम रक्षामः"
"We Protect"

General Anil Chauhan, CDS
& All Ranks of Indian Armed Forces
convey their greetings & best wishes to
All Rank, Veterans & Families of
INDIAN COAST GUARD
& wish them Success & Glory always

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CSL lays keel of 7th Anti-Submarine craft

- The Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) said that it has laid the keel for the seventh Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Watercraft (ASW SWC) as part of a contract to build eight such vessels for the Indian Navy.
- "The Mahe-class ships will replace the in-service Abhay-class ASW Corvettes and are designed to perform anti-submarine operations in coastal waters, Low-Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO), mine-laying tasks, and subsurface surveillance," the release stated.
- Equipped with state-of-the-art, indigenously developed SONARS, these vessels have a maximum speed of 25 knots and an endurance of 1800 nautical miles, it said. The first ship in the series is scheduled to be delivered by March 2025.



ICG Poised To Achieve Its Target Force Levels

- ICG is on track to achieve its ambitious target of expanding its fleet to **200 surface platforms** and **100 aircraft** by the year 2030. This goal marks a significant enhancement in India's maritime security capabilities, reinforcing the ICG's position as one of the leading coast guard services globally.
- As of now, the ICG operates **151 ships and 76 aircraft**, a remarkable increase from its inception in 1977, when it started with just seven surface platforms.
- The ICG maintains a vigilant presence, deploying between **55 to 60 surface platforms** and **10 to 12 aircraft** daily to monitor and protect India's extensive maritime domain, which covers approximately 4.6 million square kilometers.

- In addition to rescue operations, the ICG has played a crucial role in maritime law enforcement, seizing contraband worth over **₹52,560 crores**, including significant narcotics seizures.



Joint Phase of TROPEX 25

- Senior officers from the Indian Armed Forces have embarked on the INS Vikrant to observe the Joint Phase of TROPEX 25 (**Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise**).
- This significant event, which took place on January 31, 2025, aims to enhance operational readiness and jointmanship among the military branches. The visit provides senior officials with first hand insights into the exercise's execution and objectives.
- TROPEX 23, the Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise conducted by the Indian Navy, took place from November 2022 to March 2023 in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).



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REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. By which year does the ICG aim to expand its fleet to 200 surface platforms and 100 aircraft?

- A. 2025
- B. 2030
- C. 2040
- D. 2050

ANSWER: B

2. When the Indian Coast Guard celebrate its 49th Raising Day?

- A. January 31, 2025
- B. February 1, 2025
- C. March 15, 2025
- D. April 10, 2025

ANSWER: B

3. Which aircraft carrier was visited by senior officers to observe the Joint Phase of TROPEX 25?

- A. INS Vikrant
- B. INS Vikramaditya
- C. INS Viraat
- D. INS Chakra

ANSWER: A

4. The keel for the seventh Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) was recently laid at which shipyard?

- A. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE)
- B. Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL)
- C. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL)
- D. Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)

ANSWER: B

5. Which Indian Navy vessel successfully crossed Point Nemo during the Navika Sagar Parikram II expedition?

- A. INS Sumitra
- B. INS Tarini
- C. INS Astradharini
- D. INS Vagir

ANSWER: B

6. Who is set to become the first Indian astronaut to travel to the ISS aboard a SpaceX Dragon spacecraft?

- A. Rakesh Sharma
- B. Gagandeep Singh
- C. Shubhanshu Shukla
- D. Sunita Williams

ANSWER: C

7. The Uttam AESA, Developed By

- A. DRDO
- B. HAL
- C. BEL
- D. NASA

ANSWER: A

8. 'Ex Zapad' Conducted B/W India &

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

ANSWER: B

9. Hq Of Department of Space Is In

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Kochi
- D. Kolkata

ANSWER: B

10. "An Odyssey in War and Peace" Book Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. SHF Manekshaw
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Lt Gen J.F.R. Jacob

ANSWER: D

11. Where Is The Hq Of The Eastern Command of The Indian Army?

- A. Kochi
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Pune
- D. Kolkata

ANSWER: D

12. Ex KHANJAR Conducted B/W India And

- A. France
- B. China
- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Kyrgyzstan

ANSWER: C

13. Group Captain Rank Of IAF Is Equivalent to Which Rank of Indian Navy?

- A. Colonel
- B. Captain
- C. Commander
- D. Major

ANSWER: B

14. Male Is The Capital Of

- A. Oman

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

ANSWER: D

15. "The Bubble" Book Written By

- A. Ismat Chughtai
- B. Mulk Raj Anand
- C. Khushwant Singh
- D. Anne Frank

ANSWER: B

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

- A. Desert Eagle
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Indradhanush

ANSWER: D

17. Rajputana Rifles Hq Is In

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

ANSWER: D

18. "Jat balwan, jai bhagwan" Is The Motto Of

- A. JKRIF
- B. RR
- C. CORPS OF ENGINEERS
- D. JAT REGIMENT

ANSWER: D

19. Joint Exercises B/w The India And Maldives Is Called:

- A. Ekatha
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: a

20. The Hawker Siddeley HS 748 is a

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Transport Aircraft

ANSWER: D