

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 15 February 2025

### Launch of Eighth Missile Cum Ammunition (MCA) Barge

- Launch ceremony of eighth MCA Barge, LSAM 11 (Yard 79) was held on 14 Feb 25 at Mira Bhayandar, Maharashtra, launch site of M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd Visakhapatnam. Chief Guest for the launching ceremony was Cmde N Gopinath, AGM (PL), ND (Mbi).
- The contract for construction of eighth Missile Cum Ammunition Barges was concluded with **MSME Shipyard, M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd**, Visakhapatnam on 19 Feb 21.
- The Shipyard has successfully delivered seven of these Barges till date and are being utilized by Indian Navy for its operation evolutions by facilitating Transportation, Embarkation and Disembarkation of articles/ ammunition to IN platforms both alongside jetties and at outer harbours.



## US Army to no Longer Allow Transgender People To Enlist In Military

- The US Army has announced that it will no longer allow transgender people to enlist in the military and will stop facilitating procedures related to gender transformation for service members.
- US Army wrote, "The US Army will no longer allow transgender individuals to join the military and will stop performing or facilitating procedures associated with gender transition for service members. Stay tuned for more details."
- During his first administration, Donald Trump had banned transgender Americans from serving in the armed forces in 2017.



## PM Modi, President Trump Boost Bilateral Ties with 'Mission 500'

- India and the US bolstered their ties during two-day visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with a series of initiatives across domains including 'Mission 500', 10-year framework for major defence partnership and decisions concerning energy trade and civil nuclear cooperation.

- President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Modi launched a new initiative - 'U.S.-India **COMPACT (Catalyzing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology)** for the 21st Century' - to drive transformative change across key pillars of cooperation.
- The leaders welcomed the significant integration of U.S.-origin defence items into India's inventory to date, including **C-130J Super Hercules, C-17 Globemaster III, P-8I Poseidon aircraft; CH-47F Chinooks, MH-60R Seahawks, and AH-64E Apaches; Harpoon anti-ship missiles; M777 howitzers; and MQ-9Bs.**
- They announced plans to pursue this year new procurements and co-production arrangements for "**Javelin**" Anti-Tank Guided Missiles and "**Stryker**" Infantry **Combat Vehicles in India** to rapidly meet India's defence requirements.
- To this end, the leaders set a bold new goal for bilateral trade - "Mission 500" - aiming to more than double total bilateral trade to **\$500 billion by 2030.**



## India To Be Hit Hard By Trump's Reciprocal Tariffs

- President Trump's recent announcement of reciprocal tariffs on all US trading partners has sparked widespread concern and uncertainty globally. This move, made ahead of his meeting with PM Modi, aims to address the long-standing imbalance in trade relationships where other countries impose high tariffs on US goods while the US maintains a relatively open economy.

- According to Cousin's analysis, India charges US imports more than 10 percentage points higher than US levies on Indian goods.
- India's high tariff rates, which average **9.5%** on US exports compared to the US's **3%** tariff rate on Indian goods, make it vulnerable to retaliatory tariffs.
- The impact of these tariffs is expected to be far-reaching, with India's food products, vegetables, textiles, and clothing sectors likely to be hit the hardest.
- Electrical machinery, gems and jewelry, pharma products, autos, iron and steel are also among the key commodities that India exports to the US, which could be affected by the tariffs.
- As Mr Trump pushes ahead with his reciprocal tariff plans, **India, Japan, and the European Union** are expected to be among the hardest hit.



## India Seen Seeking Global Bids This Year For 114 Fighters

- India is likely to seek bids this year for 114 multi-role fighters, two sources said, marking a major step in a process to bolster the country's stock of combat aircraft that has gone on for nearly two decades.
- The project is critical for the Indian Air Force, whose squadrons of mainly Russian and ex-Soviet aircraft have fallen to 31 from an approved strength of 42 at a time when rival China is expanding its air force rapidly.
- On the sidelines of the Aero India aerospace exhibition in Bengaluru, many of the companies who expressed interest in 2018 - when the government last sought planemakers for the project - said they were still in the hunt.
- Potential competitors for the Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) contract include U.S. defence firms Lockheed Martin and Boeing, Russia's United Aircraft

Corporation (UAC), France's Dassault Aviation, Sweden's Saab AB , and Germany's Eurofighter.

- Companies are preparing supply chain blueprints, scouting for local partners, and ensuring cost effectiveness of their offerings, two executives and three sources told Reuters this week at the exhibition.
- Lockheed Martin is trying to sell its F-21, an India-specific variant of its widely used F-16 fighter, to New Delhi for the MRFA, which will be a 4.5 generation aircraft made in India with a local partner.



SSB Crack  
EXAMS

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. What is the new name of the Hindustan Jet Trainer (HJT-36) after modifications?**

- A. Vajra
- B. Dhruv
- C. Rudra
- D. Yashas

**ANSWER: D**

**2. Which country is participating with India in the joint military exercise 'Cyclone 2025'?**

- A. Saudi Arabia
- B. UAE
- C. Egypt
- D. France

**ANSWER: C**

**3. In which region is the TROPEX-25 military exercise conducted?**

- A. Pacific Ocean
- B. Arabian Sea
- C. Bay of Bengal
- D. Indian Ocean

**ANSWER: D**

**4. Which country recently announced that it will no longer allow transgender people to enlist in the military?**

- A. United Kingdom
- B. Russia
- C. United States
- D. France

**ANSWER: C**

**5. What is the name of the initiative launched by India and the US to enhance military partnership, commerce, and technology?**

- A. U.S.-India Defence Accord
- B. U.S.-India COMPACT
- C. Indo-US Strategic Alliance
- D. Mission 500

**ANSWER: B**

**6. What is 'Mission 500' related to in the India-US partnership?**

- A. A long-term trade agreement
- B. A space exploration project
- C. A 10-year framework for major defence partnership
- D. A nuclear energy collaboration

**ANSWER: C**

**7. Range of Scalp Missile Is**

- A. 250 kilometers
- B. 260 kilometers
- C. 270 kilometers
- D. 280 kilometers

**ANSWER: A**

**8. INS IMPHAL Is A**

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Destroyer

**ANSWER: D**

**9. 'Ex KOMODO' Hosted By**

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. Indonesia

**ANSWER: D**

**10. Zaporizhzhia Plant Is Located On Bank Of**

- A. Moskva River
- B. Volga River
- C. Dnieper River
- D. Thames River

**ANSWER: C**

**11. Yuan Wang 5 Is A**

- A. Indian Fighter Jet
- B. Chinese Spy Ship
- C. Korean Submarine
- D. None

**ANSWER: B**

**12. Motto of CISF Is**

- A. Protection and Security
- B. Duty unto Death
- C. We Protect
- D. Service Before Self

**ANSWER: A**

**13. INS Imphal Manufactured By**

- A. CSL
- B. MDL

- C. HSL
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: B**

**14.INS Nishank Is A**

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Veer class corvette

**ANSWER: D**

**15. INS Shivaji Is An Indian Naval Station Located In**

- A. Nagpur
- B. Nashik
- C. Pune
- D. Lonavala

**ANSWER: D**

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

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

**ANSWER: B**

**17. NIMAS Stands For**

- A. National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports
- B. National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Source
- C. National Indus of Mountaineering and Allied Sports
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**18. DIPR Stands For**

- A. Defence Institute of Psychological Research
- B. Disaster Institute of Psychological Research
- C. Defence Institute of Psychological Rate
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**



**19. MORONI Is The Capital Of**

- A. COMOROS
- B. Qatar
- C. UAE
- D. CROATIA

**ANSWER: A**

**20. "Blind Beauty" Book Is Written By**

- A. Boris Pasternak
- B. Habib Tanveer
- C. Jawaharlal Nehru
- D. J.K. Galbraith

**ANSWER: A**

