

Daily Defence Current Affairs

24 February 2025

General Upendra Dwivedi On An Official Visit To France

- General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), departed on an official visit to France from 24th to 27th February 2025, as part of efforts to bolster India-France defence cooperation.
- On 24th February 2025, the COAS will engage with senior military leadership of France at Les Invalides, Paris. The day will begin with a Guard of Honour followed by discussions with General Pierre Schill, CEMAT (Chef d'État-Major de l'Armée de Terre – the French Army Chief).
- The aim of the meeting will be to foster stronger military ties between the two nations.
- On 25th February 2025, General Dwivedi will travel to **Marseille**, where he will visit the 3rd Division of the French Army and will be briefed on the mission and role of the 3rd Division, the **bilateral exercise SHAKTI**, India-France training cooperation, and the French Army modernisation programme (Scorpion).
- General Dwivedi's visit aims to strengthen the military collaboration between India and France, exploring new avenues of cooperation and enhancing strategic partnerships between the two nations' armed forces.



Manipur: Indian Army, Assam Rifles Recover Arms

- Eight weapons, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), ammunition and war-like stores were seized while two cadres were apprehended during a joint operation of the Indian Army and Assam Rifles.
- "Indian Army and Assam Rifles formation under Spear Corps launched intelligence-based operations in the Tengnoupal, Imphal East and Churachandpur districts on Saturday. It apprehended two cadres from hill and valley-based groups and recovered eight weapons, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), ammunition and war-like stores," an official statement read.
- "The apprehensions and recoveries in operations being conducted in the hill and valley areas highlight the efforts of security forces to return peace and normalcy to Manipur as soon as possible," the statement added.



French Nuclear-powered Carrier Makes First Visit To Philippines

- Rising tensions in the South China Sea have made freedom of navigation exercises "even more important", France's ambassador to the Philippines said Sunday, as the nuclear-powered Charles De Gaulle made its first port visit to the country.
- The aircraft carrier strike group, which includes a trio of destroyers, joined the Philippine Navy on Friday for drills in the disputed waterway that Manila said were aimed at enhancing "interoperability, communication, and defense capabilities".
- France, which has nearly 2 million citizens in its Pacific territories, has been seeking to reassert its importance in the region, where China and the United States are battling for influence.
- France is one of a handful of European countries that regularly conduct freedom of navigation patrols in the South China Sea.
- China claims most of the sea including waters close to the shores of the Philippines and several other neighbours, ignoring an international tribunal ruling that its claims are without legal basis.

- The Philippines and France have also been discussing a visiting forces agreement that would allow them to deploy troops on each other's territory.



Avantel Bags Contract From ISRO's Commercial Arm NSIL

- Avantel Limited has secured a significant contract from **New Space India Limited (NSIL)**, the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- The contract, valued at ₹43.25 Crores, involves the supply, installation, and commissioning of devices for Xponders. This announcement led to a notable increase in Avantel's stock price, rising by 8.73% to ₹116.40.
- In addition to this contract, Avantel has also received a **Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (CAMC)** worth ₹5.81 Crores for the maintenance of Wind Profiler Radar systems at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre. This contract is scheduled for execution until January 2030.
- Avantel specialises in various high-tech solutions including satellite communications, HF communications, and radar systems, catering primarily to defence and aerospace sectors. The company is actively expanding its portfolio with new developments in software-defined radios and other advanced communication technologies.



Indian Navy Hands Over INS Guldar To Maharashtra Tourism

- In a landmark initiative, the Indian Navy has handed over decommissioned Landing Ship Tank **INS Guldar** to the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation for conversion into India's first underwater museum and artificial reef.
- This significant initiative marks the first time in India that a decommissioned naval vessel will be transformed into an underwater museum and artificial reef, located near the Nivati Rocks off the coast of Vengurla in Sindhudurg District.
- INS Guldar was built at Gdynia Shipyard in Poland and commissioned into the Indian Navy on December 30, 1985. It served for nearly 39 years, participating in over 490 beaching operations and various military operations before its decommissioning on January 12, 2024.
- By transforming INS Guldar into an underwater museum, its historical legacy will be preserved for future generations, allowing them to learn about its role in India's naval history.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. Which company projected the 8th Missile Cum Ammunition Barge, LSAM 11?**
 - A. SECON Engineering
 - B. L&T Shipbuilding
 - C. Mazagon Dock Limited
 - D. Cochin Shipyard

ANSWER: A

- 2. Which country is set to acquire a \$200 million Akash missile system from India?**
 - A. Vietnam
 - B. Sri Lanka
 - C. Bangladesh
 - D. Philippines

ANSWER: D

- 3. Which company partnered with Safran Electronics & Defense to manufacture the HAMMER weapon in India?**
 - A. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

- B. Tata Motors
- C. Bharat Electronics Limited
- D. Larsen & Toubro

ANSWER: C

4. Which company has secured a contract from New Space India Limited (NSIL) for Xponder devices?

- A. Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- B. Avantel Limited
- C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- D. Larsen & Toubro (L&T)

ANSWER: B

5. Which decommissioned Indian Navy ship is being converted into India's first underwater museum?

- A. INS Vikrant
- B. INS Guldar
- C. INS Kalvari
- D. INS Shankul

ANSWER: B

6. Which nuclear-powered aircraft carrier made its first port visit to the Philippines amid South China Sea tensions?

- A. USS Nimitz
- B. HMS Queen Elizabeth
- C. Charles De Gaulle
- D. Admiral Kuznetsov

ANSWER: C

7. Air Commodore Rank of IAF Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of Indian Army?

- A. Brigadier
- B. Lt. Gen
- C. Captain
- D. Major General

ANSWER: A

8. International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Hq Is At

- A. London, United Kingdom
- B. Vienna, Austria

- C. Paris, France
- D. Geneva, Switzerland

ANSWER: A

9. Chairman Of The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) Is

- A. PM
- B. NSA
- C. CDS
- D. Home Minister

ANSWER: A

10.CBI Hq Is In

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

ANSWER: A

11. ___ Is The Largest Defense Contractors in the World.

- A. Lockheed Martin
- B. Boeing
- C. Raytheon Technologies
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

12. Air Marshal Rank Of IAF Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of Indian Army?

- A. Brigadier
- B. Lt. Gen
- C. Captain
- D. Major General

ANSWER: B

13.Current Secretary-General Of NATO Is___.

- A. Jens Stoltenberg
- B. Admiral Rob Bauer
- C. General Tod D. Wolters
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

14. "It Is Our Duty To Pay For Our Liberty With Our Own Blood." Said By__

- A. Pandit Nehru
- B. Mahatma Gandhi
- C. Subhas Chandra Bose
- D. Bhagat Singh

ANSWER: C

15. 'The Communist Manifesto' Book Written By__.

- A. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels
- B. Alexis
- C. Thomas Paine
- D. Niccolo Machiavelli

ANSWER: A

16. OPEC Hq Is In

- A. Budapest, Hungary
- B. New York, USA
- C. Luanda, Angola
- D. Vienna, Austria

ANSWER: D

17. IPCC Was Created By

- A. WMO & UNEP
- B. IMO& UNESCO
- C. IMF& WTO
- D. UNO& UNFCCC

ANSWER: A

18. Madagascar Is In

- A. Pacific Ocean
- B. Indian Ocean
- C. Black Sea
- D. Arctic Ocean

ANSWER: B

19. Which Is Not The Member Of SAARC?

- A. Bangladesh
- B. Myanmar
- C. India

D. Pakistan

ANSWER: B

20. Mitra Shakti Ex Conducts B/W

A. India & Indonesia

B. India & UK

C. India & Sri Lanka

D. India & Thailand

ANSWER: C

