

Daily Defence Current Affairs

04 March 2025

Defence Secretary Presents Report on IAF Capability Enhancement

- The **Empowered Committee for Capability Enhancement** of the IAF headed by Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, in its report presented to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has suggested short, medium and long-term measures to achieve desired capability enhancement goals of IAF in an “optimal manner.”
- Rajnath Singh had constituted the empowered committee following concerns being raised on acquisition timelines, including by IAF Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, who has on multiple occasions openly raised his voice over severe capacity deficiency at a time when the country faces two hostile neighbours.
- On February 27, the Chief of Air Staff stated that the force needs 35-40 jets each year to overcome lower than the required fighter aircraft fleet strength, which will continue in future with the phasing out of ageing Mirages, MiG-29s and Jaguars.
- The Ministry of Defence said the report also underscores the need for impetus to enhance ‘Aatmanirbharta’ in the Aerospace domain with the private sector complementing the effort of DPSUs and DRDO, hinting that private players may be roped to help HAL in the production of LCA Tejas Mk-1A and subsequent fighters in the assembly line.



Defence Ministry Forms Committee To Fast-track Defence Procurement

- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has set up a committee to address delays in the defence procurement process and expedite the delivery of weapons and equipment to the armed forces.
- The committee, led by the Additional Secretary and Director General (Acquisition), is working on reforms in the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020 to streamline the procurement system.
- The committee will engage with all stakeholders, including representatives from the armed forces, public and private sector industries, to shorten the defence acquisition timeline.
- The objective is to significantly reduce the multi-level process, which currently takes 5-7 years even for special military equipment. The committee aims to finalise these reforms within the next six months.
- In the Union Budget for FY 2025-26, the Ministry of Defence has been allocated Rs 6,81,000 cr, with Rs 1,80,000 (26.43%) earmarked for capital outlay on defence services. Of this, Rs 1,49,000 cores is dedicated to capital acquisition.
- However, the capital outlay increase of just 4.65 per cent over the previous budget indicates the need for optimal resource utilisation through procurement reforms.



CDS Anil Chauhan to Visit Australia To Deepen Defence Ties

- Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Anil Chauhan will embark on an official visit to Australia from March 4 to 7.
- The Ministry of Defence stated that the visit reflects the deepening ties between India and Australia in the realm of defence cooperation.
- CDS is slated to engage in wide-ranging discussions with senior officials from the Australian Department of Defence and military leadership of the Australian Defence Force during his visit.
- In the series of steps taken towards strong ties, India and Australia upgraded their bilateral relationship from a 'strategic partnership' in 2009 to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership' in 2020.
- Australia's successive policy documents in recent years have highlighted that its relationship with India is a foreign policy priority for the country.



Rajnath Singh Discusses Defence Ties With Princess Astrid of Belgium

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh discussed the possibility of defence engagements in the **Indo-Pacific** with Princess Astrid of Belgium and Defence Minister Theo Francken.
- Both sides also interacted on ways and means to enhance defence industrial cooperation between the two countries, a statement said.
- Welcoming investment in the defence sector, Rajnath Singh suggested that Belgian companies could play an important role by expanding their footprint in India and integrating Indian vendors with their supply chains.
- The two countries also agreed to explore an institutionalised defence cooperation mechanism.
- India currently ranks 18th among Belgium's export destinations. Around 200 Belgian companies are operating in India.



Trishakti Corps Conducts Month-Long Live Firing Exercise

- The Indian Army's Trishakti Corps recently completed a month-long live-firing exercise featuring the T-90 tanks. This extensive drill aimed to enhance combat preparedness and validate armoured warfare strategies across various operational scenarios.
- The exercise focused on strengthening high-altitude warfare capabilities and integrating advanced technologies to address modern battlefield challenges.
- The T-90 tank, a cornerstone of the Indian Army's arsenal, is equipped with advanced fire control systems, superior mobility, and enhanced protection. It

can fire anti-tank guided missiles with pinpoint accuracy and is highly effective in night operations due to its thermal imaging sights and advanced sensors.

- This exercise aligns with the Army's broader strategy of enhancing multi-domain warfare capabilities by leveraging cutting-edge technology and evolving tactical doctrines to meet emerging security challenges.



SSB

Crack

EXAMS

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who is heading the Empowered Committee for Capability Enhancement of the Indian Air Force (IAF)?

- A. Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari
- B. Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh
- C. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
- D. Chief of Defence Staff Anil Chauhan

ANSWER: B

2. Where did the Army Chief pay tribute to Indian soldiers who fought in World War I?

- A. Germany
- B. France
- C. United Kingdom
- D. Belgium

ANSWER: B

3. What is India's current rank among Belgium's export destinations?

- A. 10th
- B. 12th
- C. 15th
- D. 18th

ANSWER: D

4. In which year did India and Australia upgrade their bilateral relationship to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership'?

- A. 2015
- B. 2018
- C. 2020
- D. 2023

ANSWER: C

5. What is the purpose of the committee set up by the MoD regarding defence procurement?

- A. To develop new weapon systems
- B. To address delays and streamline the acquisition process
- C. To negotiate defence deals with foreign countries
- D. To train armed forces personnel in procurement procedures

ANSWER: B

6. Which armoured vehicle was featured in the Indian Army's Trishakti Corps live-firing exercise?

- A. Arjun MBT
- B. T-90 tanks
- C. BMP-2 Infantry Combat Vehicle
- D. K9 Vajra-T

ANSWER: B

7. The Gaganyaan mission aims to send astronauts to which orbit?

- A. Geostationary Orbit
- B. Low Earth Orbit
- C. Medium Earth Orbit
- D. Lunar Orbit

ANSWER: B

8. Which of the following is NOT a key focus area of the India-Japan 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue?

- A. Defence Cooperation
- B. Economic Partnership
- C. Space Collaboration
- D. Maritime Security

ANSWER: C

9. Operation Polo, conducted in 1948, aimed to incorporate which state into the Indian Union?

- A. Kashmir
- B. Goa
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Punjab

ANSWER: C

10. Which operation led to the annexation of Goa, Daman, and Diu into India?

- A. Operation Polo
- B. Operation Vijay
- C. Operation Cactus Lilly
- D. Operation Trident

ANSWER: B

11. Operation Cactus Lilly, carried out in 1971, aimed to support the liberation struggle of which region?

- A. Tibet
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Nepal

ANSWER: C

12. Colonel Rank of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Rank Of Indian Navy Is

- A. Commander
- B. Captain
- C. Group Captain
- D. Lieutenant

ANSWER: B

13. War Cry of NAGA REGIMENT

- A. Bharat Mata ki Jai
- B. Ki ki so so Lhargyalo
- C. Jai Durga Naga
- D. Durga Mata Ki Jai

ANSWER: C

14. Regimental Centre Of The Rajput Regiment Is In

- A. Fatehgarh, Uttar Pradesh
- B. Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh
- C. Awantipora, J&K.
- D. Ranikhet, Uttarakhand

ANSWER: A

15. National Cadet Corps Was Established In

- A. July 16, 1948
- B. July 16, 1958
- C. July 26, 1968
- D. July 26, 1988

ANSWER: A

16. Ex 'Ekuverin' conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: D

17. Mitra Shakti Ex Held B/w India &

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. USA
- C. UK
- D. Nepal

ANSWER: A

18. From Which Country Has India Purchased Its Apache Helicopters?

- A. U.K.
- B. Sweden
- C. France

D. USA

ANSWER: D

19. World's Highest Motorable Road Is In

A. Sikkim

B. Ladakh

C. Himachal Pradesh

D. Assam

ANSWER: B

20. The National Cadet Corps (NCC) HQ, is at___

A. New Delhi

B. Mumbai

C. Lucknow

D. Pune

ANSWER: A

