# Daily Defence Current Affairs 21 March 2025

# CCS Clears Rs 7,000 crore Deal

- The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has cleared a Rs 7,000 crore deal to acquire new indigenous artillery guns, with the order set to be split between Bharat Forge and Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL).
- The Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS) has been developed by DRDO in partnership with the private sector and has already been exported to Armenia.
- The Army will now advance in the procurement of the ATAGS a state-of-the-art 155mm howitzer developed indigenously. The acquisition of 307 ATAGS guns, will now be done after the go-ahead by the CCS.
- These guns boast a range of up to 48 kilometres and are being adapted into Mounted Gun Systems (MGS) by integrating them onto trucks. Trials for the MGS are slated to conclude by 2026.
- The DRDO began the ATAGS project in 2013 to replace older army guns with a modern 155mm artillery gun system. Bharat Forge and Tata Advanced Systems Limited have manufactured the gun.
- Additionally, the Army plans to bolster its fleet of K9 Vajra self-propelled artillery systems. The existing 100 K9 Vajra guns, which have proven their effectiveness in desert, plain, and high-altitude conditions such as Ladakh, will be complemented by an additional 100 units by the end of 2025.



# Paras Defence & Space Technologies bags Rs 142-cr Order

- Defence engineering company Paras Defence & Space Technologies Ltd on Thursday said it has secured a contract worth Rs 142.31 crore from DRDO arm CHESS to develop a high-powered anti-drone laser system. Centre for High Defence Systems & Sciences (CHESS) is a part of the DRDO.
- The development roadmap for the project is set to be executed in 24 months.
   Paras Defence is proud to be the first company in India to develop such a state-of-the-art system, the company said in a statement.
- High-power laser technology represents a pivotal advancement in modern warfare, offering precise, cost-effective and rapid-response solutions to emerging aerial threats, according to Shah.
- The project involves development of a laser source module and integration with beam control system on mobile platform, meant for anti drone/UAV and antimissile applications, the company said.
- The total addressable market (TAM) for high-power laser defence systems is estimated to be Rs 25,000 crore, positioning the company for substantial future growth, it said.



# Rs 54,000 Crore Defence Boost

- India is moving forward with a major defence upgrade. The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), led by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, has approved eight major capital acquisition proposals worth over Rs 54,000 crore. These procurements will enhance the capabilities of the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- For the Army, the DAC has granted the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for acquiring **1,350 horsepower** (HP) engines for **T-90 tanks**, replacing the current **1,000 HP engines**. The upgrade is expected to improve the tanks' mobility in high-altitude regions by enhancing the power-to-weight ratio.
- The Navy will receive additional Varunastra torpedoes, an advanced shiplaunched anti-submarine weapon. Designed by the Naval Science & Technological Laboratory, this indigenous system will boost India's underwater combat capabilities against enemy submarines.
- The Air Force is set to strengthen its aerial defence with new Airborne Early Warning & Control (AEW&C) aircraft systems. These high-tech aircraft enhance battlefield awareness and coordination, significantly improving combat effectiveness.



# AFMS and NIMHANS, Bengaluru Ink MoU

- The AFMS and the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences
   (NIMHANS) have signed a MoU for collaborative research and training aimed at
   enhancing mental health support and care for the Armed Forces.
- The key objectives of the MoU include collaborative research, faculty exchange and academic activities.
- NIMHANS, with its expertise in Neuropsychiatry, will provide help in conducting research on advanced Psychiatric care and support to military personnel, addressing common issues such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD), Anxiety, and Depression.



# 30 Naxals Killed In Separate Encounters In Chhattisgarh

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday commended the security forces for their remarkable achievement in neutralizing 30 Naxalites in two separate operations in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur and Kanker districts.
- He said that this significant milestone marks a major success in the direction of 'Naxal Mukt Bharat Abhiyan', a campaign aimed at making India Naxal-free.
- In two separate encounters with Naxalites in Chhattisgarh, security forces recovered 30 bodies of Naxalites along with a large cache of firearms during search operations, as per a senior official.
- One personnel of the Bijapur District Reserve Guard also lost his life during the encounter, police added.
- "In the last 13 months, more than 300 Naxalists have been killed. Naxalism is the biggest hindrance in the development of this state and country," he further added.





# **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. What is the range of the ATAGS cleared by the CCS?
- A. 35 kilometres
- B. 40 kilometres
- C. 48 kilometres
- D. 55 kilometres

**ANSWER: C** 

- 2. Which companies have manufactured the ATAGS for the Indian Army?
- A. Larsen & Toubro and Mahindra Defence
- B. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and BEL
- C. Bharat Forge and Tata Advanced Systems Limited
- D. DRDO and BEML

**ANSWER: C** 

- 3. What is the purpose of the high-powered anti-drone laser system contract awarded to Paras Defence & Space Technologies Ltd?
- A. To track enemy satellites
- B. To destroy hostile drones
- C. To improve missile guidance systems
- D. To enhance radar detection

**ANSWER: B** 

- 4. How many major capital acquisition proposals were approved by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)?
- A. Five
- B. Six
- C. Seven
- D. Eight

**ANSWER: D** 

- 5. Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses Is Located At
- A. New Delhi
- B. Chennai
- C. Wellington
- D. Noida

**ANSWER: A** 

- 6. Infantry Day Celebrated Every Year On
- A. 26 October
- B. 27 October
- C. 29 October
- D. 30 October

**ANSWER: B** 

#### 7. India's Shared Vision Of 'SAGAR' Stands For

- A. Security and Grown of All in Region
- B. Security and Growth of All in Rim
- C. Security and Growth of All in Region
- D. None

**ANSWER: C** 

#### 8. Motto of NSG Is

- A. शं नो वरुणः
- B. नभः स्पृशं दीप्तम्
- C. सर्वत्र सर्वोत्तम सुरक्षा
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C** 

# 9. In Which Operation NSG Didn't Take Part?

- A. Operation Talwar
- B. Black Thunder
- C. Ashwamedh
- D. Vajra Shakti

**ANSWER: A** 

#### 10.SAG & SRG Stands For

- A. Special Act Group & Special Ranger Group
- **B.** Special Action Group & Special Roger Group
- C. Special Action Game & Special Ranger Group
- **D.** Special Action Group & Special Ranger Group

**ANSWER: D** 

# 11. The Highest Rank Structure In NSG Is

- A. Director General
- B. Inspector General
- C. Deputy Inspector General
- D. Group Commander

**ANSWER: A** 

# 12. INS Tarangini Is A

- A. Helicopter
- B. Sailing Ship
- C. UAV
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: B** 

# 13. FGM-148 Javelin Is Made By

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

**ANSWER: C** 

# 14. Q.M.HAV Stands For

- A. Quarter Havildar
- B. Quartermaster Havildar
- C. Quartermaster Hawadar
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: B** 



# 15. Santiago Is The Capital Of

- A. Oman
- B. Colombia
- C. UAE
- D. Chile

**ANSWER: D** 

# 16. "Vahana Masterclass" Book Is Written By

- A. Alfredo Covelli
- B. Sitaram Yechuri
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. R. Kaushik

**ANSWER: A** 

#### 17. "Balidanam Vir Lakshanam" Is The Motto Of

- A. JKLI
- **B. THE MAHAR REGIMENT**

- C. THE BIHAR REGIMENT
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A** 

#### 18. Prithvi III Is A

- A. Air to Air Missile
- B. Surface to Air Missile
- C. Surface to Surface Missile
- D. Air to Sea Missile

**ANSWER: C** 

#### 19. Shishumar Is a

- A. Air to Air missile
- B. Sniper Rifle
- C. Anti-tank Guided missile
- D. Submarine

**ANSWER: D** 

# 20. Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (DLRL) Centre Is Located In

- A. Hyderabad, Telangana
- B. Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- C. Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
- D. Tezpur, Assam

**ANSWER: A**