

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 07 April 2025

### India, Sri Lanka Sign Major Defence Pact

- India and Sri Lanka signed seven MoU across a slew of sectors including defence, energy, digital infrastructure, health and trade as PM Narendra Modi received a grand welcome in Colombo for the first foreign leader hosted by the Dissanayaka government.
- The two countries signed a few more pacts, including one to develop Trincomalee as an energy hub. Another agreement was signed to provide India's multi-sectoral grant assistance to the eastern region of Sri Lanka. The two leaders also virtually inaugurated the Sampur solar power project.
- The talks follow Mr Modi's arrival in the Sri Lankan capital after his visit to Bangkok where he attended a summit of the **BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation)**.
- What are the other 9 agreements signed?
- The two leaders also virtually conducted the groundbreaking ceremony for the Sampur power project, which will be built with Indian support, with a focus on developing Trincomalee as an energy hub. "The Sampur Solar Power Plant will help in Sri Lanka's energy security. All the people of Sri Lanka will benefit from the agreements signed for building a multi-product pipeline and developing Trincomalee as an energy hub," Modi said.
- The grid interconnectivity agreement signed between the two countries, Modi said, would allow Sri Lanka to explore the possibility of exporting electricity.
- The two sides also signed an MoU to interconnect their electricity grids to facilitate power trade.
- A tripartite MoU involving the United Arab Emirates (UAE) was also signed, aimed at developing Trincomalee as an energy hub, which includes constructing a multi-product energy pipeline.

- Another MoU will allow India to share its digital solutions with Sri Lanka to support its digital transformation.
- Modi announced a support package of about 2.4 billion Sri Lankan rupees for the social and economic development of Sri Lanka's eastern provinces.
- Additionally, the two leaders virtually inaugurated a project to supply solar rooftop systems to 5,000 religious institutions across Sri Lanka with India's credit assistance of \$17 million. The project will benefit Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, and Muslim shrines and generate 25 MW of green power.
- India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Sri Lanka's Ministry of Health & Mass Media signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate in the field of health and medicine.
- The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission and Sri Lanka's National Medicines Regulatory Authority entered into an MoU to promote cooperation in the area of pharmacopoeial standards and practices.



## **IAF Akash Ganga's Para Jump Instructor Killed**

- A tragic incident occurred on April 5, 2025, when Warrant Officer Ramkumar Tiwari, a 41-year-old para jump instructor from the Indian Air Force's Akash Ganga Skydiving Team, died during a demonstration jump in Agra.
- Tiwari jumped from a helicopter at approximately 9:30 AM, but his parachute failed to open on time due to a technical malfunction, resulting in a fatal fall to the ground.

- The Indian Air Force expressed deep sorrow over the loss and extended heartfelt condolences to Tiwari's family. This incident marks the second fatal accident involving IAF personnel in less than a week, following a Jaguar aircraft crash in Gujarat that resulted in the death of a pilot.



## India's First Privately Built Reusable Satellite Launch Vehicle

- Spaceverse Technologies, a Nagpur-based start-up, is currently developing what they claim to be India's first privately built reusable satellite launch vehicle.
- This innovative space technology venture represents a significant milestone in India's growing private space sector and demonstrates the country's emerging capabilities in developing advanced space launch systems.
- Spaceverse Technologies' reusable satellite launch vehicle incorporates a distinctive design that enables it to take off vertically and return to Earth horizontally, similar to an aircraft.
- The development journey of this reusable launch vehicle has been ongoing for several years, with initial work beginning as early as 2012. By 2014, the preliminary design had been completed, and in 2016, the concept was displayed at an exhibition in Paris.



## Future TEJAS Twin Engine Variant To Replace Sukhoi

- As the world reels from the surprise USA revelation of its 6th Generation aircraft F47 that was earlier called NGAD, it has now become impossible for India to overlook this important and strategic development.
- Most of these will still keep flying till 2035 and 2040 when the world is already looking forward to the 6th Gen fighter like NGAD/F47 (USA), Tempest (UK), and the secretive MiG-41 (Russia) and these will be launched around the same time as 2035 to 2040.
- IAF as yet is still trying to get its hands on a 5th Gen fighter. Its home-grown effort the AMCA is reportedly going to be a 5.5 Gen fighter platform.



## Rajnath Singh Reviews Maritime Security Situation

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday reviewed the maritime security situation, operational readiness of the Indian Navy, and the future outlook during the inaugural phase of the first Naval Commanders' Conference of 2025 in Karwar.
- In the conference, he interacted with the Naval Commanders, with deliberations focusing on addressing contemporary security paradigms, formulating the way ahead to further the combat capability of the Navy, and addressing strategic, operational & administrative aspects.

- He was accompanied by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh and other senior officials.
- Addressing the Commanders, Singh commended the Navy's contribution in strengthening India's maritime security, surpassing the expectations of the people in every situation, and displaying continued commitment towards serving the nation with new energy & innovation.
- He asserted that it is a necessity to reorient the future roles of the Armed Forces amidst the present unpredictable geopolitical landscape. He referred to the acceptance of global experts that 21st century is Asia's century and India will have a crucial role to play, stating, "It is our responsibility to ensure peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific as the region has become a focal point for the world."
- Singh reiterated that India stands for a free, open and rule-based order in accordance with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), urging the Commanders to assess the changing circumstances and ensure planning, resourcing & exercising accordingly, while remaining alert and prepared.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. What is the notable achievement of Spaceverse Technologies, a Nagpur-based start-up?**

- A. Launching India's first communication satellite
- B. Developing India's first privately built reusable satellite launch vehicle
- C. Manufacturing India's first military drone
- D. Collaborating with ISRO for Mars Mission

**ANSWER: B**

**2. Which generation of fighter jets is the Indian Air Force (IAF) currently operating?**

- A. Only 5th Generation
- B. 2nd and 3rd Generation
- C. 3rd, 4th, and 4.5++ Generation
- D. 6th Generation

**ANSWER: C**

**3. BRI Project was Launched in**

- A. 2012
- B. 2013
- C. 2014
- D. 2015

**ANSWER: B**

**4. Rajnath Singh Inaugurates First All-girls Sainik School At**

- A. Pune
- B. Lucknow
- C. Vrindavan
- D. None

**ANSWER: C**

**5. Ex 'Desert Cyclone Conducted b/w India &**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**6. IRBM Stands For**

- A. Intermediate-range Ballast Missile
- B. Intermediate-range Ballistic Mobile
- C. Intermediate-range Ballistic Missile
- D. None

**ANSWER: C**

**7. Major General Rank of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of IAF?**

- A. Flying Officer
- B. Flight Lieutenant
- C. Squadron Leader
- D. Air Vice Marshal

**ANSWER: D**

**8. Valour and faith Is The Motto Of**

- A. Mechanised Infantry Regiment
- B. JKLI
- C. Rajput Regiment
- D. Ladakh Scouts

**ANSWER: A**

**9. Regimental Centre of RAJPUT REGIMENT Is In**

- A. Sultanpur
- B. Noida
- C. New Delhi
- D. Fatehgarh

**ANSWER: D**

**10. Defence Acquisition Council Headed By**

- A. Defence Minister
- B. CDS
- C. COAS
- D. PM

**ANSWER: A**

**11. INS Sindhukirti Is A**

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine

D. Tank

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) is a shipyard located in**

A. Mumbai

B. Kochi

C. Chennai

D. Visakhapatnam

**ANSWER: D**

**13. INS Brahmaputra (F31) Is A**

A. Destroyer

B. OPV

C. Submarine

D. Guided missile frigate

**ANSWER: D**

**14. World's Highest Battlefield Is In**

A. Drass

B. Kishtwar

C. Jaipur

D. Siachen

**ANSWER: D**

**15. Ulaanbaatar Is The Capital Of**

A. Oman

B. Mozambique

C. Mongolia

D. Maldives

**ANSWER: C**

**16. "Kashmiri Century: Portrait of a Society in Flux" Book Is Written By**

A. Kavitha Rao

B. Bimal Jalan

C. Hew Strachan

D. Khemlata Wakhlu

**ANSWER: D**



**17. AFV Stands For**

- A. Armoured Fighting Vehicle
- B. Armoured Furious Vehicle
- C. Army Fighting Vehicle
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**18. Where Is The Hq Of The Southern Command of The Indian Navy?**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Exercises B/w The India And Mongolia Is Called:**

- A. Nomadic Elephant
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

**ANSWER: A**

**20. India Purchased Rafale Jet from**

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**