

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 29 April 2025

### India Signs Rs 63,000 Crore Rafale Marine Aircraft Deal

- India and France signed a **Rs 63000 crore** defence deal for the acquisition of 26 Rafale Marine combat aircraft.
- The government-to-government contract includes 22 single-seater and four twin-seater Rafale M jets, customised for Indian requirements and carrier integration.
- The contract also encompasses a comprehensive package for maintenance, logistics, training, and indigenous component manufacturing.
- The Rafale M jets will operate from **INS Vikrant** and support the existing **MiG-29K** fleet.
- The new deal will raise the total number of Rafale jets in India to 62, significantly boosting the country's fleet of **4.5-generation fighter aircraft**.



## IAF to Get New Vice Chief, Tri-services To Get New CISC

- The IAF will get a new **Vice Chief** as **Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari** would be succeeding incumbent **Air Marshal SP Dharkar** on May 1.
- Dharkar is superannuating on April 30 after an illustrious career of 40-plus years in the force.
- Air Marshal Tiwari is presently commanding the South Western Air Command in Gandhinagar.
- He would be succeeded by the present Training Command chief. The tri-services integrated Defence Staff will get a new Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC)
- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit has been approved to take over as the new CISC in place of Lt Gen JP Matthew, who is superannuating on April 30.
- The CISC is responsible for coordination among the three services and is part of the Chief of Defence Staff team in managing the tri-services affairs.



## Rajnath Singh Meets PM Modi, Discusses Security Situation

- Defence minister Rajnath Singh met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday to discuss the security situation, even as firing by Pakistani forces on the Line of Control (LoC) continued for the fourth successive day.

- Sources said the minister held a 40-minute meeting with the PM on the prevailing security situation. The preparedness of the armed forces is likely to have been on the agenda.
- The minister has earlier held meetings with the top military leadership as military options are being weighed to target the perpetrators and backers of the terrorists who targeted civilians, mostly tourists, in Pahalgam.
- The situation on the LoC remains fragile as reports of small arms firing by Pakistani Army posts continue. Officials said the firing is being responded to and has not yet scaled up to heavy firing involving artillery or mortars.
- The continued firing by Pakistani troops has shattered the **ceasefire arrangement that has been standing since 2021**. India has also been flexing its muscles with a range of live firing drills and exercises over the past few days.



## Putin declares 3-day Ceasefire In Ukraine For Next Month

- President Vladimir Putin of Russia said on Monday that he had ordered a three-day ceasefire in Ukraine next month as a goodwill gesture.
- Putin said in a statement posted on the Kremlin's website that Russian forces would stop fighting May 8 for 72 hours for "humanitarian reasons." There was no immediate comment from Ukraine about the announcement.
- Russia has refused to abide by a 30-day unconditional ceasefire that Ukraine previously agreed to at the urging of the Trump administration. A one-day truce announced by Putin to mark Easter did not hold, with both sides accusing the other of continuing to fight.



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## Xi Jinping unveils economic plan to counter US tariffs

- Chinese President Xi Jinping has announced new measures to shore up China's economy amid ongoing challenges posed by the US trade war, a struggling housing sector, and high youth unemployment. At a Friday meeting of the politburo, Xi called for strengthening "bottom-line thinking" and "fully preparing emergency plans" to support economic recovery, according to a readout published by Xinhua, China's official news agency.
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- The statement acknowledged a "positive trend" in 2025 with growing social confidence but warned that "the impact of external shocks has increased."

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- In a veiled reference to US trade actions, the politburo vowed to “actively uphold multilateralism and oppose unilateral bullying practices.”
- Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump claimed in an interview with Time magazine that Xi had reached out to him about tariffs. “He’s called,” Trump said. “And I don’t think that’s a sign of weakness on his behalf.” However, China’s foreign affairs ministry refuted these claims, with spokesperson Guo Jiakun saying, “None of that is true,” according to The Guardian.
- Amid these conflicting statements, reports from Bloomberg and Reuters suggested that China was considering tariff exemptions for certain US goods, including semiconductors, medical equipment, and industrial chemicals like ethane. A Shenzhen-based supplier indicated that eight semiconductor products had already been exempted from the 125% duties.
- China shifts focus
- The politburo readout outlined a series of initiatives aimed at boosting domestic demand, protecting businesses, and ensuring economic stability. Plans include raising unemployment insurance payouts, increasing low and middle incomes, supporting the service sector, and encouraging consumption.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. How many Rafale-M fighter jets are part of the ₹63,000-crore deal between India and France?**

- A. 26
- B. 22
- C. 36
- D. 30

**ANSWER: A**

**2. Which organization successfully tested an advanced scramjet combustor as part of India's hypersonic technology development?**

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. HAL
- D. BHEL

**ANSWER: A**

**3. Under the IOS Sagar Mission, INS Sunayna made a port call at which country's Port Nacala?**

- A. Seychelles
- B. Kenya
- C. Mozambique
- D. Sri Lanka

**ANSWER: C**

**4. Who is responsible for coordination among the three services in India?**

- A. Vice Chief of Air Force
- B. Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)
- C. Commander-in-Chief
- D. Defence Secretary

**ANSWER: B**

**5. Who will succeed Air Marshal SP Dharkar as the new Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force?**

- A. Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- B. Air Marshal Rajesh Kumar
- C. Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari

D. Air Marshal Anil Chopra

**ANSWER: C**

**6. 'Desh Pukare Jab Sab Ko' Is The March Past Song Of**

A. IAF

B. ICG

C. BSF

D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**7. Hitler was the dictator of which country?**

A. Russia

B. Egypt

C. France

D. Germany

**ANSWER: D**

**8. On which dates did the US drop atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki respectively?**

A. Aug 6, 1945 & Aug 9, 1945

B. Aug 6, 1945 & Sept 12, 1945

C. Aug 5, 1946 & Aug 8, 1946

D. Aug 9, 1946 & Aug 12, 1946

**ANSWER: A**

**9. What was the name given to World war I by historians?**

A. First War

B. European war

C. The Great war

D. Seven-year War

**ANSWER: C**

**10. With reference to Madanapalle of Andhra Pradesh, which one of the following statements is correct?**

A. Pingali Venkayya designed the tricolour Indian National Flag here.

B. Pattabhi Sitaramaiah led the Quit India Movement of Andhra region from here.

C. Rabindranath Tagore translated the National Anthem from Bengali to English here.

D. Madame Blavatsky and Colonel Olcott set up headquarters of Theosophical Society first here.

**ANSWER: C**

**11. Cairo Is The Capital Of**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**12. Indian Army Has How Many Operational Commands?**

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6

**ANSWER: D**

**13. SALVEX (Salvage) Ex Conducted B/W India And**

- A. USA
- B. UK
- C. Uganda
- D. European Union

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Mil Mi-35 Is A**

- A. Attack Helicopter
- B. Fighter Jet
- C. Tank
- D. UAV

**ANSWER: A**

**15. The Training Command of The IAF Is In**

- A. Bengaluru
- B. New Delhi
- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

**ANSWER: A**



**16. "Good Economics for Hard Times" Book Is Written By**

- A. Abhijit V. Banerjee
- B. Thomas Sowell
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. APJ Abdul Kalam

**ANSWER: A**

**17. Germany Borders With The**

- A. Netherlands
- B. Belgium
- C. Czech Republic
- D. All of the above

**ANSWER: D**

**18. "Jat balwan, jai bhagwan" Is The War Cry Of**

- A. JKRF
- B. RR
- C. CORPS OF ENGINEERS
- D. JAT REGIMENT

**ANSWER: D**

**19. Sub Lieutenant Rank of Indian Navy Is Equivalent to which rank of Indian Army?**

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

**ANSWER: D**

**20. Ex 'Nomadic Elephant' conducted b/w India &**

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

**ANSWER: B**