

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 23 May 2025

### President Droupadi Murmu confers six Kirti Chakras & 33 Shaurya Chakras

- President Droupadi Murmu conferred six Kirti Chakras, including four posthumous, and 33 Shaurya Chakras, including seven posthumous, to the personnel of the Armed Forces, CAPF and State/UT Police during Phase-I of Defence Investiture Ceremony 2025 at Rashtrapati Bhawan.
- The bravery, for which the Armed Forces professionals have been awarded, was displayed during various operations related to counter-terror/counter-insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir and North-East. Terrorists were neutralised & apprehended during these operations, and arms & ammunition were recovered, the Ministry of Defence said in a statement.
- The statement added that the awardees from the Indian Air Force showed utmost courage in life-threatening circumstances during rescue of aircraft while maneuvering away from civilian areas to avoid any loss of life/property.
- The gallant act of CRPF officers were performed in various operations in areas affected by Left-Wing Extremism. Maoist insurgents were apprehended and weapons recovered, it added.



## Reliance Defence Signs Pact For Artillery Shells

- Anil Ambani's Reliance Defence Ltd has entered into a strategic partnership with German arms manufacturer Rheinmetall AG to supply artillery shells, explosives, and propellants, marking a significant development in India's private defence manufacturing sector.
- The two companies have signed a memorandum of understanding that outlines a collaboration focused on the supply of explosives and propellants for medium and large calibre ammunition, with plans to jointly market selected products and potentially expand cooperation in the future.
- To support this partnership, Reliance Defence will establish a greenfield manufacturing facility in the Watad Industrial Area of Ratnagiri, Maharashtra.

- This facility, set to become one of the largest in South Asia, will have an annual production capacity of up to 200,000 artillery shells, 10,000 tonnes of explosives, and 2,000 tonnes of propellants.
- This agreement is the third major defence tie-up for Reliance Defence, following joint ventures with Dassault Aviation and Thales of France. The partnership aligns with the Indian government's 'Make in India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives, aiming to boost indigenous defence manufacturing and position India as a leading global defence exporter.



## Bangladesh Has Cancelled with GRSE

- Amid the nose-dive in bilateral ties, Bangladesh has cancelled an order worth \$21 million (around Rs 180 crore) inked with Kolkata-based defence shipyard Garden Reach Shipbuilding & Engineers (GRSE) last year for the construction of an 800-tonne advanced ocean-going tug.
- The contract, which included design, construction and delivery of a 61-metre-long tug in 24 months, was the first major deal inked under the \$500-million line of credit for defence purchases extended by New Delhi to Dhaka that was operationalised in 2023.
- The deal for the tug, with the maximum speed with a full load of at least 13 knots, was signed by officials of the Bangladesh Navy's directorate general of defence purchases and GRSE in Dhaka in July last year.
- The ouster of the then PM Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh in Aug last year, however, has hit bilateral ties. India had earlier steadily stepped-up military ties with Bangladesh, which incidentally acquired its first-ever diesel-electric submarines from China a few years ago, to counter Beijing's strategic inroads into the country.



## Foreign Secretary Misri Meets Senior Japan Officials

- Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met senior Japan officials on Thursday with the two sides reviewing the salient issues in the multi-dimensional bilateral ties including defence and security and economic cooperation.
- Misri met his counterpart Vice Foreign Minister Takehiro Funakoshi and exchanged views on issues of topical importance.

- "The two sides reviewed the salient issues in the multi-dimensional bilateral ties between India and Japan, including political relations, defence and security, economic cooperation and people to people exchanges," a Ministry of External Affairs release said.
- Foreign Secretary also met National Security Advisor of Japan Masataka Okano, and Senior Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Hiroyuki Namazu to discuss regional and international issues of mutual interest.
- Misri appreciated the support to and solidarity with India demonstrated by the government and the people of Japan following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam.
- Foreign Secretary's visit and his meetings today provided yet another opportunity to reflect on and reaffirm the two countries' shared determination to fight terrorism in all forms and manifestations as well as the support infrastructure behind acts of terror, the release said.
- During the visit, the Foreign Secretary delivered the spotlight address at the 2nd edition of the Raisina Tokyo Dialogue, organized by the Observer Research Foundation, ORF America, Japan Bank for International Cooperation and Keizai Doyukai (Japan Association of Corporate Executives).
- The release said that Foreign Secretary's visit was in continuation of the regular high-level contacts between the two sides in effort to further deepen the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership.



## 'If Bangladesh Attacks Our Chicken's Neck... Warns Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma

- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has issued a forceful warning to Bangladesh amid escalating regional tensions, particularly regarding the strategically crucial Siliguri Corridor—often referred to as the "Chicken's Neck"—which serves as the vital land link between mainland India and its north-eastern states.
- Sarma's remarks come in the context of reports that China is aiding Bangladesh in reviving a World War II-era airbase at Lalmonirhat, situated close to the Indian border and approximately 100 km from the Siliguri Corridor, raising significant security concerns for India.
- Sarma directly addressed Bangladesh's growing interest in the Siliguri Corridor, cautioning that any attempt by Bangladesh to threaten or target this narrow, 22-kilometer-wide land bridge would be met with decisive retaliation.
- He highlighted that while India has one vulnerable corridor, Bangladesh possesses two equally, if not more, precarious "Chicken's Necks." The first is a slender strip connecting the Chittagong port to the rest of Bangladesh through an area near Meghalaya, which Sarma emphasized is even thinner and more susceptible than India's own corridor.
- The second corridor, though not always explicitly named, is believed to be a narrow stretch in the Rangpur division, linking northern Bangladesh to the rest of the country.
- Sarma's message to Bangladesh was unequivocal: any attempt to compromise India's territorial integrity via the Siliguri Corridor would provoke a swift and forceful response, targeting Bangladesh's own vulnerable corridors. His remarks were not only a warning but also a clear assertion of India's strategic advantages and military superiority in the region, intended to deter any hostile ambitions and reinforce India's commitment to safeguarding its north-eastern connectivity.





## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which country's order was cancelled with Garden Reach Shipbuilding & Engineers (GRSE)?

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

**ANSWER: B**

2. What was the value of the cancelled defence contract between Bangladesh and GRSE?

- A. \$15 million
- B. \$30 million
- C. \$21 million
- D. \$10 million

**ANSWER: C**

3. Which Indian company partnered with Rheinmetall AG for defence manufacturing?

- A. Tata Advanced Systems
- B. Bharat Forge Ltd
- C. Anil Ambani's Reliance Defence Ltd
- D. Mahindra Defence Systems

**ANSWER: C**

**4. How many Kirti Chakras were conferred by President Droupadi Murmu during the Defence Investiture Ceremony 2025 Phase-I?**

- A. Four
- B. Six
- C. Eight
- D. Ten

**ANSWER: B**

**5. Current Executive of Defence Planning Committee**

- A. Rajnath Singh
- B. Narendra Modi
- C. Nirmala Sitaraman
- D. Ajit Doval

**ANSWER: D**

**6. Field Marshal Of Indian Army Is A**

- A. 2 Star General
- B. 3 Star General
- C. 4 Star General
- D. 5 Star General

**ANSWER: D**

**7. Defence Space Agency Hq Is Located At**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Chennai
- D. Noida

**ANSWER: B**

**8. INS Kochi Is A**

- A. Guided-missile destroyers



- B. Landing ship tank
- C. Submarine
- D. Frigates

**ANSWER: A**

**9. \_ Is Not A G7 member.**

- A. China
- B. USA
- C. UK
- D. France

**ANSWER: A**

**10. The Standard Meridian Of India Is**

- A. 82 degrees 30' E
- B. 84 degrees 30' E
- C. 72 degrees 30' E
- D. 92 degrees 30' E

**ANSWER: A**

**11. Army Medical Corps Motto Is**

- A. Courage and Valor
- B. Sarve santu niramaya
- C. Service Before Self
- D. Lethal

**ANSWER: B**

**12. Glock 18 Is A**

- A. Destroyer
- B. Machine Pistol
- C. Assault rifle
- D. Submachine gun

**ANSWER: B**

**13. Which Is The Largest Uranium-producing Country In The World?**

- A. USA
- B. India
- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Uzbekistan

**ANSWER: C**

**14. Kaiga Atomic Power Plant Is In**

- A. Karnataka
- B. Gujarat
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Uttarakhand

**ANSWER: A**

**15. Who established the Atomic Energy Commission of India in 1948?**

- A. P.K. Iyengar
- B. M.R. Srinivasan
- C. Vikram Sarabhai
- D. Homi Bhabha

**ANSWER: D**

**16. Nay Pyi Taw Is The Capital Of**

- A. Bhutan
- B. Nepal
- C. Afghanistan
- D. Myanmar

**ANSWER: D**

**17. "India's Women Unsung Heroes" Book Is Written By**

- A. Chandrachur Ghose
- B. Ruskin Bond
- C. Dr. Thomas Matthew
- D. Meenakshi Lekhi

**ANSWER: D**

**18. Ex 'Konkan Shakti' conducted b/w India &**

- A. Qatar
- B. UK
- C. UAE
- D. Japan

**ANSWER: B**

**19. "Kartavyam Anvatma" (Duty before death) Is The Motto Of**

- A. RAJPUT REGIMENT
- B. DOGRA REGIMENT
- C. SIKH REGIMENT
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: B**

**20. Which Country Isn't the member of NSG?**

- A. USA
- B. China
- C. Pakistan
- D. France

**ANSWER: C**