

Daily Defence Current Affairs

30 May 2025

DRDO Chief, Dr. Samir Kamat's Tenure Extended

- The Central Government has given a one-year extension to Dr. Samir V Kamat, the Chief of DRDO. He will now stay in the post till May 2026. This is his second extension. The government approved it under a special rule that allows such extensions in public interest, showing the importance of his work.
- Samir V Kamat is a senior scientist and an important figure in India's defence research. He became the Chairman of DRDO and Secretary of the Department of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D) on August 25, 2022. He has made many contributions to the country's defence technologies.
- Dr. Kamat received his first extension on May 2023, 2023. That extension was for one year and was scheduled to end in May 2025.
- Now, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved a second one-year extension. This means Dr. Kamat will continue as DRDO Chief from June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026, or until further orders.
- "These Rules are a critical enabler for the functioning of the ISOs and establish a comprehensive framework for discipline, administrative control, and operational synergy," the statement said.



India, EU Set To Carry Out Joint Naval Exercise

- India and the European Union (EU) will conduct a three-day joint naval exercise in the Indian Ocean from June 1 to June 3, reflecting their growing defence and strategic cooperation.
- The joint exercise will focus on advanced counter-piracy operations, interoperability, tactical manoeuvres, and enhanced communication protocols, reflecting the growing maritime security cooperation between the two sides.
- The exercise will involve Indian Navy ships and two frigates of the European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) Operation ATALANTA, Italian ship Antonio MARCEGLIA and Spanish ship REINA SOFIA, along with their respective air assets.
- Launched in 2008 to tackle piracy and armed robbery in the **Gulf of Aden**, **Operation ATALANTA's** mandate has evolved. It encompasses a broad range of security challenges, including counter-narcotics, arms smuggling, and combating illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in the **Horn of Africa** and **western Indian Ocean**.



MoD Approves Miniratna Status to Three DPSUs

- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has approved the grant of "Miniratna" status Category-I for **Munitions India Limited (MIL)**, **Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL)** & **India Optel Limited (IOL)**.
- Congratulating these DPSUs for their transformation from a government organization to a profit-making corporate entity in a short span of three years,

- Raksha Mantri expressed his satisfaction over the initiatives taken by the management of MIL, AVNL and IOL to increase the turnover of the company, maximize indigenisation and meet other performance parameters for grant of Miniratna (Category-I) status.
- Munitions India Limited has achieved significant milestones after inception, including stellar growth in sales from Rs. 2571.6 Cr in 2021-22 (H2) to Rs. 8282 Cr (provisional) in FY 2024-25. On the Export front, MIL has achieved a growth from Rs. 22.55 Cr in FY 2021-22 (H2) to Rs. 3081 Cr in FY 2024-25 (Provisional).
- Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited has witnessed a significant growth in sales from Rs. 2569.26 Cr in 2021-22 (H2) to Rs. 4986 Cr (provisional) in FY 2024-25. AVNL has also achieved 100% indigenization of Engines for all the 3 platforms viz. T-72, T-90 and BMP-II.
- The main products of **India Optel Limited** include Opto-Electronic systems and vision equipment which are used in land system platforms & weapons like battle tanks T-90, T-72, Infantry Combat Vehicle BMP-II, Artillery Guns, Naval Guns etc.



Shangri-La Dialogue 2025

- Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan will visit Singapore from May 30, 2025 to June 01, 2025 to attend the 22nd edition of the Shangri-La Dialogue, hosted annually by the International Institute for Strategic Studies.
- During the visit, General Anil Chauhan will hold bilateral meetings with Chiefs of Defence Forces and senior military leadership from several foreign countries including those from Australia, European Union, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, UK and USA.

- The Chief of Defence Staff will address the Academia, Think Tanks and Researchers and speak on the topic '**Future Wars and Warfare**'. He will also participate in the simultaneous special sessions as part of the event and address on the topic '**Defence Innovation Solutions for Future Challenges**'.
- Shangri-La Dialogue is Asia's premier defence and security summit that brings together defence ministers, military chiefs, policy makers and strategic experts across the globe.



Tata-Airbus to Build India's First Private Helicopter

- India's aviation manufacturing capabilities are set to soar higher as Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) and European aerospace giant **Airbus** join hands to establish the country's first privately-led helicopter **Final Assembly Line**.
- The strategic move places India on the global aerospace map, boosting its ambition of becoming an indigenous defence and aviation manufacturing hub.
- The proposed helicopter manufacturing facility, to be located in Karnataka's Kolar district, will assemble **Airbus' H125 helicopters**, a globally popular light helicopter model known for its versatility and performance in high-altitude and hot conditions.
- This facility will be only the fourth H125 assembly plant worldwide, joining existing Airbus facilities in **France, the United States, and Brazil**.
- Karnataka emerged as the front-runner for the project, outpacing other contenders such as **Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh**, thanks to its established aerospace ecosystem and policy incentives.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which two companies are collaborating to set up India's first privately-led helicopter Final Assembly Line ?

- A. HAL and Boeing
- B. Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) and Airbus
- C. DRDO and Lockheed Martin
- D. Mahindra Aerospace and Dassault

ANSWER: B

2. Until when will Dr. Samir V Kamat serve as the Chief of DRDO after his extension?

- A. May 2025
- B. December 2025
- C. May 2026
- D. June 2026

ANSWER: C

3. Which of the following companies has NOT been granted "Miniratna" Category-I status?

- A. Munitions India Limited (MIL)
- B. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- C. Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL)
- D. India Optel Limited (IOL)

ANSWER: B

4. Where will CDS General Anil Chauhan be visiting to attend the Shangri-La Dialogue in 2025?

- A. Tokyo
- B. New Delhi
- C. Paris
- D. Singapore

ANSWER: D

5. PADMA Stands For

- A. Pay Roll Automation for Disbursement of Monthly Allowances
- B. Pay Roll Automation for Digital Monthly Allowances
- C. Pay Roll Automated for Disbursement of Monthly Allowances
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

6. India's One and Only Tri-Services Command

- A. New Delhi
- B. Northern Army Command
- C. Andaman & Nicobar Command
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

7. The ALH MK III Helicopters Have Been Indigenously Manufactured By__.

- A. Boeing
- B. HAL
- C. DRDO
- D. Dassault Aviation

ANSWER: B

8. INS Satpura Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Guided Missile Stealth Frigate

ANSWER: D

9. HEAT Stands For ____.

- A. Highly Explosive Anti-Tank
- B. Highest Explosive Anti-Tank
- C. High Explosive Anti-Tank
- D. High Explore Anti-Tank

ANSWER: C

10. Current Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Is__.

- A. Dr. Samir Kamath
- B. Dr. Rakesh
- C. Dr. Rajiv Kumar
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

11. The Hawker Siddeley HS 748 Is A

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Transport Aircraft

ANSWER: D

12. Juba Is The Capital Of

- A. South Sudan
- B. Spain
- C. Sweden
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

13. "Legend of Suheldev: The King Who Saved India" Book Is Written By

- A. Urjit Patel
- B. Stephen King
- C. J.K Rowling
- D. Amish Tripathi

ANSWER: D

14. Duty, Honour, Courage Is The Motto Of

- A. Maratha Light Infantry

- B. The Grenadiers
- C. Rajput Regiment
- D. Jat Regiment

ANSWER: A

15. Prahaar Missile Manufactured By

- A. MDL
- B. BDL
- C. CSL
- D. DRDO

ANSWER: B

16. Regimental Centre of GARHWAL RIFLES Is In

- A. Happy Valley, Shillong, Meghalaya
- B. Ranikhet, Uttarakhand
- C. Lansdowne, Uttarakhand
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

17. INS Jalashwa Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Amphibious transport dock

ANSWER: D

18. Exercises B/w The India And UK Is Called:

- A. Desert Eagle
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Indradhanush

ANSWER: D

19. How Many Countries Are In SAARC?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 8
- D. 6

ANSWER: C

20. Current CDS of Indian Armed Forces Is

- A. Gen Anil Chauhan
- B. Gen Bipin Rawat
- C. Gen M M Narravane
- D. None

ANSWER: A