

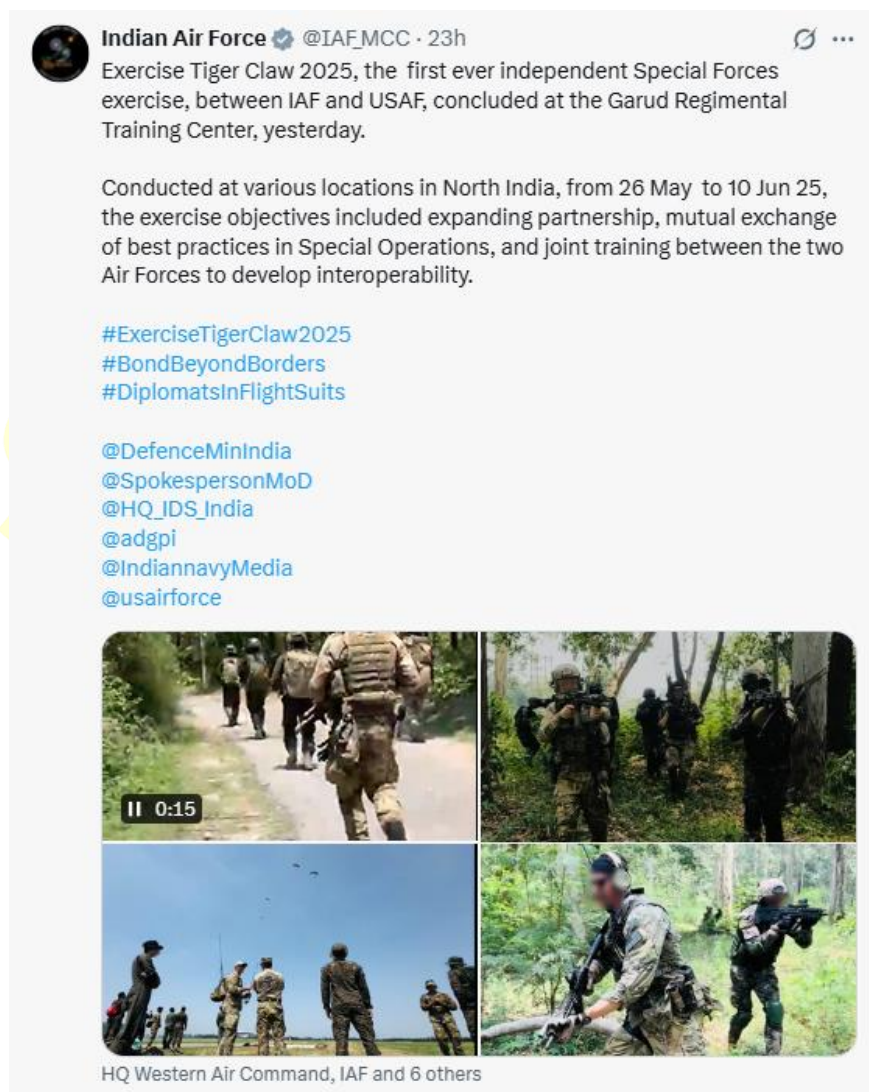
Daily Defence Current Affairs

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India, US Conduct Maiden Special Forces Drill ‘Tiger Claw’

- In a first-of-its-kind independent Special Forces exercise between India and the United States, the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the United States Air Force (USAF) have successfully conducted Exercise "Tiger Claw" across North India.
- The IAF on Wednesday said the exercise, aimed at strengthening the partnership between the two Air Forces, began on May 26 and concluded at the Garud Regimental Training Centre (GRTC).
- During the two-week-long joint exercise, the two forces engaged in mutual exchange of best practices in special operations, conducted joint training, and built interoperability capabilities, the IAF added.
- Conducted at various locations in North India from 26 May to 10 June, the IAF said, “The objective of the exercise included expanding partnership, mutual exchange of best practices in special operations, and joint training between the two Air Forces to develop interoperability.”
- It must be noted that tigers are revered in many cultures for their strength and dominance, making their “claws” a potent symbol of power and authority.
- The GRTC is a crucial facility for training the IAF's elite Special Forces unit, the Garud Commandos, and is situated at Air Force Station, Chandinagar, in Uttar Pradesh.
- There are institutional exchanges and training programmes between the armed forces of the two countries at various levels. As far as the two air forces are concerned, they also conduct several air exercises, including the bilateral Cope India, and participate in other multinational drills such as Tarang Shakti and Red Flag.

- Commando integration exercises are currently underway to develop common operational procedures. Given the sensitivity and significance of the Special Forces, it will take some time to reach a highly specialised level, sources added.
- The AFSOD, approved in 2019, comprises Special Forces from the Army, Navy, and Air Force. As reported by this newspaper earlier, AFSOD will initially consist of about 3,000 commandos drawn from the Army's Parachute Regiment, the Navy's MARCOS, and the Air Force's Garud Commandos. It is expected to be based in Agra, which already houses the Parachute Brigade.



Army Successfully Tests Rudrastra

- The Army has undertaken successful trials of indigenous vertical take off and landing (VTOL) drones being developed for cross-border strikes to take down enemy artillery positions.

- The trials have been conducted at the Pokhran firing range, with the drones demonstrating their ability to take down targets at a range of over 50 km.
- Equipped with precision-guided warheads that can be used in an anti-personnel role, the drones can relay back live video and return to the launch position in automated mode.
- The Army is looking to acquire the drones in significant numbers as a stand off weapon that can target enemy firing positions, including artillery guns placed well inside enemy territory.



Exercise Shakti 2025

- The 8th edition of Exercise Shakti-2025, a joint military exercise between India and France, will be held from 18th June to 1st July at La Cavalerie in France, aiming to enhance the joint military capability of both sides to undertake multi-domain operations, the Indian Army said.
- "The aim of the exercise is to enhance joint military capability of both sides to undertake Multi Domain Operations in a Sub Conventional scenario," it said.
- The joint exercise will facilitate developing interoperability, bonhomie and camaraderie between armies of both the nations, the officials said.



India's Shatrunash and Agniastra Systems

- The Indian Army has achieved a significant milestone in indigenous defence technology with the induction of two ground breaking weapons systems, Shatrunash and Agniastra, developed by Major Rajprasad R.S. of the Corps of Engineers.
- These cutting-edge technologies represent a paradigm shift in military operations, offering enhanced capabilities for both conventional warfare and counter-insurgency operations while reinforcing India's commitment to self-reliance in defence manufacturing.
- Shatrunash, aptly named "destroyer of enemies," is a handheld electromagnetic pulse (EMP) gun that represents a revolutionary advancement in directed-energy weapons.
- Agniastra, meaning "weapon of fire," is a sophisticated multi-target portable remote detonation system that significantly enhances the Indian Army's demolition capabilities.



Project Vishnu

- India is preparing to test a long-range hypersonic cruise missile developed under a classified Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) initiative known as '**Project Vishnu**'.
- If successful, the test would mark a significant milestone in the country's indigenous missile development programme.
- Named the **Extended Trajectory-Long Duration Hypersonic Cruise Missile (ET-LDHCM)**, the system reportedly reaches speeds up to Mach 8 or about 11,000 kmph and can carry conventional or nuclear warheads weighing up to 2,000 kg.
- Its speed, altitude-hugging flight profile, and mid-air manoeuvrability are designed to evade modern radar and air defence systems, enabling deep strikes into adversary territory.
- Powered by a scramjet engine that uses atmospheric oxygen to sustain high speeds, the missile marks a major propulsion breakthrough.
- DRDO has already completed a successful 1,000-second ground test of the engine.
- Unlike ballistic missiles, the ET-LDHCM flies at low altitudes and is capable of course correction mid-flight.
- Built with heat- and oxidation-resistant materials, it can withstand extreme temperatures exceeding 2,000 degree celsius
- Designed for launch from land, sea, or air, the missile enhances India's flexibility across strike platforms and mission types.
- Once operational, it will place India among the handful of nations, including the US, China, and Russia, to field hypersonic weapon systems.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the name of the hypersonic cruise missile being developed under DRDO's classified initiative?

- A. Agni-VI
- B. ET-LDHCM
- C. BrahMos-II
- D. Shaurya-II

ANSWER: B

2. Under which DRDO initiative is the ET-LDHCM missile being developed?

- A. Project Kaveri
- B. Project Akash
- C. Project Vishnu
- D. Project Surya

ANSWER: C

3. What is the maximum speed the ET-LDHCM missile is reported to reach?

- A. Mach 2
- B. Mach 5
- C. Mach 8
- D. Mach 10

ANSWER: C

4. Where will the 8th edition of Exercise Shakti-2025 be held?

- A. Pune, India
- B. La Cavalerie, France
- C. Washington D.C., USA
- D. Toulouse, France

ANSWER: B

5. Hq Of NITI Aayog Is In

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

ANSWER: D

6. Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Udan Akademi

- A. Amethi
- B. Chennai
- C. Jammu
- D. Jalandhar

ANSWER: A

7. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Hq Is At

- A. Vienna, Austria
- B. Washington, DC, USA
- C. Geneva, Switzerland
- D. Rome, Italy

ANSWER: C

8. War Cry Of Mechanised Infantry Regiment Is

- A.** Durga Mata K Jai
- B.** Raja Ram Chandra K Jai
- C.** Bolo Bharat Mata Ki Jai
- D.** Bajrang Bali K Jai

ANSWER: C

9. Motto Of the Mechanised Infantry Regiment Is

- A. Service Before Self
- B. Warrior
- C. Always Brave
- D. Valour & Faith

ANSWER: D

10. Dornier 228 Is A

- A. Submarine
- B. Missile
- C. Utility Aircraft
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

11. Which Nation Has to Give the Largest Funding To UN Peacekeeping Force?

- A. Russia
- B. USA
- C. China
- D. Canada

ANSWER: B

12. NASSCOM Stands For

- A. National Association of Software and Servant Companies
- B. National Association of Sewak and Service Companies
- C. National Associate of Software and Service Companies
- D. National Association of Software and Service Companies

ANSWER: D

13. Corps of Military Police (CMP) Centre and School Is At

- A. Imphal
- B. Pachmarhi
- C. Chennai
- D. Bangalore

ANSWER: D

14. Army School of Physical Training Is At

- A. Pune
- B. Pachmarhi
- C. Chennai
- D. Bangalore

ANSWER: A

15. Army Airborne Training School Is At

- A. Pune
- B. Agra
- C. Chennai
- D. Noida

ANSWER: B

16. Where Is The Hq Of The Eastern Command of The Indian Army?

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

ANSWER: C

17. Joint Exercises B/w India And Indonesia Is Called:

- A. Garuda Shakti
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

18. BSF Was Formed On

- A. 1 December 1965
- B. 10 December 1975
- C. 11 December 1985
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

19. Operation Pawan Was Conducted In

- A. 1978
- B. 1987
- C. 1998
- D. 1980

ANSWER: B

20. Hq of PARA SF Is At

- A. Chennai

- B. Bengaluru
- C. Nagpur
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: B



SSBCrack
EXAMS