

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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COAS Embarks On Official Visit To Bhutan

- General Upendra Dwivedi, COAS Indian Army, departed for Bhutan on a four-day official visit aimed at further enhancing the enduring defence cooperation between the two countries.
- During the visit, the COAS will call on His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, the King of Bhutan. He will also hold discussions with Lieutenant General Batoo Tshering, Chief Operations Officer of the Royal Bhutan Army.
- The COAS will also interact with senior officials of the Indian Embassy, Indian Military Training Team (IMTRAT) and **Project DANTAK**.
- Project Dantak, established in 1961 by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), is an infrastructure development project focused on road construction and other developmental works in Bhutan. It was initiated following an agreement between the third King of Bhutan and the then Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru. Project Dantak's primary goal is to enhance connectivity and contribute to the socio-economic and strategic development of Bhutan.



Rear Admiral V Ganapathy Assumes Charge as Commandant of MIT

- Rear Admiral V Ganapathy, an accomplished Flag Officer of the Indian Navy, has assumed the command of the Military Institute of Technology (MIT), Pune, under the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff.
- As the head of India's premier Tri-services technical training institution, he now helms the mission of preparing mid-career officers from the Army, Navy, Air Force and friendly nations in cutting-edge military technologies.
- His leadership is poised to further strengthen MIT's role as a hub of excellence in joint technical education, with a renewed emphasis on niche and emerging domains that are reshaping modern warfare.



QUAD Nations Launch First-Ever 'At Sea Observer Mission'

- In a significant stride toward strengthening maritime security and interoperability in the Indo-Pacific, the Coast Guards of India, Japan, the United States, and Australia have launched the first-ever 'QUAD at Sea Ship Observer Mission' under the Wilmington Declaration.
- The cross-embarkation mission marks an unprecedented step in QUAD Coast Guard collaboration, enhancing joint readiness, operational coordination, and

domain awareness in support of a Free, Open, Inclusive, and Rules-Based Indo-Pacific.

- The mission reflects the vision laid out at the QUAD Leaders' Summit in September 2024 and signifies a deepening of operational ties between the ICG, Japan Coast Guard, US Coast Guard, and Australian Border Force.
- India's participation reinforces its strategic maritime vision of SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) and complements national efforts under the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI), with an emphasis on capacity-building, humanitarian outreach, and maritime rule of law.
- The QUAD at Sea initiative thus sets the foundation for a '**QUAD Coast Guard Handshake**,' fostering stronger trust, coordination, and collective resilience amid evolving maritime challenges in the region.



India's DRDO Advances Conventional Agni-V ICBM with 7.5-Ton Airburst

- India is undertaking a significant strategic initiative to develop a conventional, non-nuclear variant of its Agni-V intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), marking a transformative shift in its missile doctrine and tactical capabilities.
- DRDO aims to equip the Agni-V platform with a massive 7.5-ton conventional warhead, a move that dramatically enhances India's ability to deliver high-impact, precision strikes against a range of strategic targets.
- While the nuclear-capable Agni-V can target locations beyond 5,000 kilometres, the conventional version will have an estimated range of 2,000 to 2,500 kilometres.



India Plans To Fast-track The Launch Of 52 Satellites

- With the need for 'deep' as well as 'persistent' surveillance of enemy territory being reinforced by Operation Sindoor, India plans to fast-track the launch of 52 dedicated satellites for the armed forces. It is also in the process of finalising a comprehensive military space doctrine.
- Phase 3 of Space-Based Surveillance (SBS) programme, which was approved by the PM-led cabinet committee on security in Oct last year at a cost of Rs 26,968 crore, involves the construction and launch of 21 satellites by Isro and 31 by three private companies.
- The first of these satellites is to be launched by April next year, with all 52 to be deployed before 2029-end, as part of the project being spearheaded by Defence Space Agency (DSA) under the Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) of defence ministry.
- "The aim of SBS-3 is to cover much larger areas of China and Pakistan, as well as the Indian Ocean Region, with shorter revisit times (interval between two consecutive surveillance sweeps of the same location) and much better resolution.
- Parallely, IAF is pursuing the case for three **high-altitude platform system** (HAPS) aircraft, which are basically unmanned aerial vehicles or 'pseudo-satellites' that operate in the stratosphere for long durations on ISR (intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance) missions.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the primary purpose of the High-Altitude Platform System aircraft being pursued by the Indian Air Force?

- A. Aerial combat missions
- B. Cargo transportation in remote regions
- C. Intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) missions
- D. Pilot training exercises

ANSWER: C

2. How many dedicated satellites does India plan to launch for its armed forces?

- A. 25
- B. 40
- C. 52
- D. 60

ANSWER: C

3. What is the main goal of the 'QUAD at Sea Ship Observer Mission' launched under the Wilmington Declaration?

- A. Conduct trade negotiations among QUAD countries
- B. Promote tourism in the Indo-Pacific region

- C. Enhance maritime security and interoperability among QUAD Coast Guards
- D. Train navy personnel in joint warfare

ANSWER: C

4. Who has recently assumed command of the Military Institute of Technology (MILIT) in Pune?

- A. Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar
- B. Rear Admiral V Ganapathy
- C. Lieutenant General Anil Chauhan
- D. Air Marshal Sandeep Singh

ANSWER: B

5. What is the key advancement in the new DRDO project related to the Agni-V missile platform?

- A. Deployment from submarines
- B. Inclusion of nuclear warheads only
- C. Equipping it with a 7.5-ton conventional warhead
- D. Replacing it with BrahMos-II

ANSWER: C

6. Which Force Is Deployed At India, Nepal And Bhutan Border?

- E. Sashastra Seema Bal
- F. Central Industrial Security Force
- G. National Security Guard
- H. Indo-Tibetan Border Police

ANSWER: A

7. Who Among The Following Has Become The First Ever Woman Pilot Of The Indian Navy?

- A. Chhavi Rajawat
- B. Shubhangi Swaroop
- C. Sita Sahu
- D. Asha Roy

ANSWER: B

8. What Is The Code Name Of The First Nuclear Test Of India?

- A. Chagai 1-1
- B. Smiling Buddha
- C. Project 596

D. Shakti 1 – 1

ANSWER: B

9. Which Is The Smallest Unit Of The Indian Army?

- A. Corps
- B. Section
- C. Battalion
- D. Platoon

ANSWER: B

10. What Is The Highest Military Honour Of India?

- A. Param Vir Chakra
- B. Bharat Ratna
- C. Maha Vir Chakra
- D. Padma Bhushan

ANSWER: A

11. When Was The Indian Air Force Founded?

- A. 30th October 1934
- B. 27th October 1932
- C. 8th October 1933
- D. 8th October 1932

ANSWER: D

12. What Is SRBM Developed By DRDO?

- A. Static-Random Ballistic Missile
- B. Scientific-Range Ballistic Missile
- C. Short-Range Ballistic Memory
- D. Short-Range Ballistic Missile

ANSWER: D

13. What Is The India-China Border Line Called?

- A. McMahon Line
- B. Marginal Line
- C. Mannerheim Line
- D. Medicine Line

ANSWER: A

14. The "Ladakh Scouts" Is Also Known As -

- A. Snow Lions
- B. Snow Warriors
- C. Snow Leopards
- D. Snow Jackals

ANSWER: B

15. Shenyang FC-31 Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: D

16. Armed Forces Medical College Is Located At

- A. Mumbai
- B. Pune
- C. Nashik
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

17. "White Darkness: And Other Stories," Authored By

- A. Lt Gen Y K Joshi
- B. Sitaram Yechuri
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Lt Col Ramesh Menon (Retd)

ANSWER: D

18. Where Is The Hq Of The Southwestern Command Of The Indian Army?

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

ANSWER: D

19. Super Hornet Fighter Aircraft Is Made By

- A. Dassault
- B. Boeing
- C. Airbus
- D. HAL

ANSWER: B

20. Brigadier Rank of Indian Army Is Equivalent to which rank of Indian Navy?

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

ANSWER: A