

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 10 July 2025

### India to Fastrack Rs 20,000 crore 87 MALE Drone Project

- At a time when Operation Sindoor against Pakistan is still ongoing, India is looking to fast-track the project for acquiring 87 **medium-altitude long-endurance (MALE)** drones to further enhance its surveillance capabilities both over sea and land borders.
- A tri-service proposal of around Rs 20,000 crore, with the Indian Air Force (IAF) in the lead, is expected to be discussed by the defence ministry at a high-level meeting soon, the sources said.
- The drones would be required to have more than 60 per cent indigenous content, and various major defence players are expected to be part of it, the sources added.
- The likely contenders for the programme would include Adani Defence, Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited, Raphe mPhibr, Tata Advanced Systems, Larsen & Toubro, and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
- The drones would be required to be capable of flying for over 30 hours at a stretch at an altitude of over 35,000 feet.



## Keel Laying of Third Fleet Support Ship For Indian Navy

- 'Keel Laying' ceremony of third **Fleet Support Ships (FSS)** was held at M/s L&T Shipyard, Kattupalli on 09 Jul 25, in the presence of VAdm Rajaram Swaminathan, Controller Warship Production & Acquisition and senior officials from the **Indian Navy, HSL and M/s L&T**.
- Indian Navy had signed a contract with HSL for acquisition of Five Fleet Support Ships (FSS) in Aug 2023, with deliveries commencing mid-2027.
- These ships, with a displacement of more than 40,000 tons will carry fuel, water, ammunition and stores that enable prolonged and sustained operations.
- The ships will be equipped for **Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR)** operations for evacuation of personnel and expeditious delivery of relief material during natural calamities



## Delivery of First Indigenous DSV

- 'Nistar', the first indigenously designed and constructed Diving Support Vessel, was delivered by Hindustan Shipyard Limited to the Indian Navy on 08 Jul 2025 at Visakhapatnam.
- The ship is highly specialised and can undertake Deep Sea Diving and Rescue Operations – a capability with select Navies across the globe.
- The ship's name, 'Nistar', originates from Sanskrit and means liberation, rescue or salvation.
- The ship, measuring 118 m with a tonnage of nearly 10,000 tons, is installed with state-of-the-art Diving Equipment and has the capability to undertake Deep Sea Saturation Diving up to 300 m depth.
- The ship also has a Side Diving Stage for undertaking Diving Operations up to 75 m depth.
- The delivery of Nistar, with nearly 75% indigenous content, is yet another milestone in the Indian Navy's quest for indigenous construction.



## Jaguar Fighter Jet Crashes

- Two Indian Air Force pilots lost their lives when a twin-seater Jaguar trainer crashed near Churu in Rajasthan on 9 July 2025. The aircraft had taken off from Suratgarh air base for a routine mission.
- This is the third Jaguar crash this year alone, following incidents in Haryana in March and Jamnagar in April.
- The SEPECAT Jaguar first joined the IAF in 1979, named Shamsher, meaning Sword of Justice. Built to fly under radar, hit deep targets and carry heavy bombs or nuclear payloads, it did exactly that.
- It served in the Kargil conflict and numerous border standoffs. For over four decades, the Jaguar has trained India's strike pilots and guarded the nation's skies.



## India Gets Strong Backing from Brazil in Fight Against Terror

- India and South American giant Brazil have signed a counter-terror pact as New Delhi seeks to deepen its security partnership with Brasilia to counter the menace globally including at various international platforms.
- India and Brazil signed six agreements on Tuesday during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit, covering cooperation in security, digital infrastructure, renewable energy, agriculture, and intellectual property.
- They condemned all forms of terrorism and agreed to deepen action against UN-designated groups such as Lashkar-e-Tayyiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad, including measures at the UN and FATF. An agreement to combat international terrorism and organized crime was also signed, and both leaders pledged support for the UN Convention on Cybercrime at its signing in Hanoi next year.
- They called for UN Security Council reform, backing expansion in permanent and non-permanent seats with fair representation for Asia, Africa and Latin America. Brazil reaffirmed support for India's bid for a non-permanent Council seat in 2028–29, while India endorsed Brazil's aspiration for permanent membership. The two urged a UN Charter review conference in 2025, marking the Organization's 80th anniversary.
- On Middle East peace, both leaders urged a return to diplomacy, endorsing a two-state solution alongside safe humanitarian access in Gaza and backing



UNRWA's mandate. They also called for renewed dialogue to end hostilities in Ukraine.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. What is the primary objective behind India fast-tracking the acquisition of 87 MALE drones?**

- A. Offensive strikes against Pakistan
- B. Enhancing cyber warfare capabilities
- C. Strengthening surveillance over sea and land borders
- D. Replacing aging drone fleet

**ANSWER: C**

**2. Who is leading the tri-service proposal worth around Rs 20,000 crore for acquiring the MALE drones?**

- A. Indian Army
- B. Indian Navy
- C. DRDO
- D. Indian Air Force

**ANSWER: D**

**3. What percentage of indigenous content is required for the MALE drones under the proposed project?**

- A. 50%
- B. 75%
- C. 60%

D. 90%

**ANSWER: C**

**4. What is 'Nistar', recently delivered to the Indian Navy by Hindustan Shipyard Limited?**

- A. Amphibious assault ship
- B. Drone carrier vessel
- C. Diving Support Vessel
- D. Fleet Oil Tanker

**ANSWER: C**

**5. Which organization is in advanced discussions for a potential ₹35,000-crore deal to acquire additional Kalvari-class (Scorpene) submarines?**

- A. Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- B. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- C. Mazagaon Dockyard Limited (MDL)
- D. Larsen & Toubro (L&T)

**ANSWER: C**

**6. CSL Hq Is In**

- A. Kochi
- B. Noida
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: A**

**7. India Conducted Vajra Prahar Exercise With\_\_.**

- A. Qatar
- B. Maldives
- C. USA
- D. Oman

**ANSWER: C**

**8. Who Is The Chairman Of The NHRC?**

- A. Chief Justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court
- B. Governor
- C. PM

D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**9. UDHR Stands For**

- A. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- B. Universal Declaration of Human Riot
- C. Universal Declared of Human Rights
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**10. Which one of the following statements is/are correct regarding BRICS?**

**1. It was set up with the sole purpose of countering the NATO influence and emerging as its substitute.**

**2. The New Development Bank is one of the initiatives of BRICS.**

**Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

**ANSWER: B**

**11. World Economic Forum Hq Is In**

- A. Geneva, Switzerland
- B. Lausanne, Switzerland
- C. The Hague, The Netherlands
- D. Gland, Switzerland

**ANSWER: A**

**12. \_\_\_\_ Is The Landlocked Country.**

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. Pakistan
- C. Bhutan
- D. China

**ANSWER: C**

**13. Which Is Not An Asian Country?**

- A. Singapore
- B. Brunei
- C. UAE



D. Peru

**ANSWER: D**

**14. GPMG Stands For**

- A. General Purple Machine Gun
- B. General Purpose Machine Gun
- C. General Purpose Machine Gum
- D. None

**ANSWER: B**

**15. 'Ex Zapad' Conducted B/W India &**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**16. Padma Vibhushan Award Was Instituted on**

- A. 2nd January 1954
- B. 2nd January 1955
- C. 2nd January 1956
- D. 2nd January 1957

**ANSWER: A**

**17. Hq Of Department of Space Is In**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Kochi
- D. Kolkata

**ANSWER: B**

**18. CAIR Stands For**

- A. Centre for Artificial Intelligence & Robotics
- B. Centre for Artificial Intelligent & Robotics
- C. Centre for Artillery Intelligence & Robotics
- D. Centre form Artificial Intelligence & Robotics

**ANSWER: A**

**19. "An Odyssey in War and Peace" Book Is Written By**

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. SHF Manekshaw
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Lt Gen J.F.R. Jacob

**ANSWER: D**

**20. With reference to the Project 15B warships, consider the following statements:**

1. They are equipped with BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles and long-range Surface-to-Air Missiles.
2. 'INS Surat' was the first-ever ship of Project 15B Destroyers.
3. Project 15B warships are completely indigenous.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

**ANSWER: A**