

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 12 July 2025

### Successful Flight-Test of Astra

- DRDO & IAF successfully conducted the flight-test of indigenous Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air missile (BVRAAM) 'Astra' equipped with indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker from Su-30 Mk-I platform off the **coast of Odisha** on July 11, 2025.
- During the tests, two launches were carried out against high-speed unmanned aerial targets at different ranges, target aspects and launch platform conditions. In both the cases, the missiles destroyed the targets with pin-point accuracy.
- Astra BVRAAM has a range exceeding 100 kms and is equipped with state-of-the-art guidance and navigation system.
- In addition to various laboratories of DRDO, more than 50 public and private industries including HAL have contributed towards successful realisation of the weapon system.



## Operation Baam

- Operation Baam (Dawn), launched by the Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF), represents the most extensive and coordinated militant offensive in Balochistan's recent history, crippling large parts of the province through over 70 simultaneous attacks across multiple districts.
- The operation, named after the Balochi word for "dawn," marks a strategic shift for the BLF from traditional hit-and-run tactics to open, frontal assaults on military posts, police checkpoints, and critical infrastructure.
- The attacks disrupted internet connectivity, halted train services, and blocked major highways, including key sections of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)—a central feature of China's Belt and Road Initiative.
- Telecom towers were destroyed, and major roads such as the Quetta-Sibi Road and Kalat-Manguchar stretch were blocked, causing widespread paralysis of movement and commerce.



## India to fast-track Israeli decoy system for Rafale

- India is looking to expedite deliveries of a decoy system that would strengthen the Rafale fighter jet fleet and provide it additional protection against enemy missiles.
- The X Guard fibre optic towed decoy system had been ordered by the Air Force as an enhancement to the fighter jets and enables them to operate in contested airspace.

- Sources said that the system -- manufactured by Israel's Rafael -- has been integrated and demonstrated on the fighter jets but deliveries have been impacted due to supply chain issues and the current turmoil in West Asia.



## Indian Bases Untouched, All Terror Camps Hit: NSA

- India successfully neutralised all its targeted nine terrorist camps in Pakistan with precision, missing none, during Operation Sindoor, NSA Ajit Doval said while dismissing Pakistan's claim of hitting Indian military bases.
- He said the terrorist hideouts were located in the interiors of Pakistan, far from the border areas.
- Doval also emphasised on the criticality of developing indigenous defence technologies, as he spoke further about the operation.
- He said satellite images clearly showed that 13 airbases in Pakistan were destroyed in strikes carried out before and after May 10 — whether in Sargodha, Rahim Yar Khan, Chaklala, or Bholari, which houses Pakistan's Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS).
- Emphasising India's growing self-reliance in defence technology, Doval said, "It is the technology we have to develop — our indigenous technology. We are proud of systems like BrahMos and our battlefield surveillance capabilities."
- He used the platform to underscore the critical need for technological advancement. "If India fails to master critical technologies today, we may miss the opportunity for centuries to come," he said, urging young engineers and scientists to become 'technology warriors'.
- Doval identified artificial intelligence, quantum computing, semiconductors and space sciences as key areas where India must lead globally to secure its future.



## Iran's attack on Qatar Air Base

- An Iranian attack on an air base in Qatar that's key to the U.S. military hit a geodesic dome housing equipment used by the Americans for secure communications, satellite images analyzed Friday by The Associated Press show.
- Hours after the publication of this AP report, Pentagon spokesperson Sean Parnell acknowledged that an Iranian ballistic missile had hit the dome. Qatar did not respond to requests for comment about the damage.
- The Iranian attack on Al Udeid Air Base outside of Doha, Qatar's capital, on June 23 came as a response to the American bombing of three nuclear sites in Iran - and provided the Islamic Republic a way to retaliate that quickly led to a ceasefire brokered by U.S. President Donald Trump ending the 12-day Iran-Israel war.
- In the U.S., Trump described the Iranian attack as a “very weak response.” He had said that Tehran fired 14 missiles, with 13 intercepted and one being “set free” as it was going in a “nonthreatening” direction.
- “I want to thank Iran for giving us early notice, which made it possible for no lives to be lost, and nobody to be injured,” he wrote on his website Truth Social.
- The White House had no immediate comment after Parnell’s acknowledgment Friday. Trump visited Al Udeid Air Base on May 15 as part of his Mideast tour.
- After the attack, Iran’s paramilitary Revolutionary Guard insisted that the air base had been the “target of a destructive and powerful missile attack.” Iran’s Supreme National Security Council also said that the base had been “smashed,” without offering any specific damage assessments



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the purpose of the X Guard fibre optic towed decoy system ordered by the Indian Air Force?
  - A. To enhance radar capabilities of Rafale
  - B. To increase the speed of fighter jets
  - C. To provide protection against enemy missiles
  - D. To improve aerial refueling systems

**ANSWER: C**

2. From which aircraft platform was the indigenous BVRAAM 'Astra' tested by DRDO and IAF?
  - A. Mirage-2000
  - B. Rafale
  - C. Tejas Mk1A
  - D. Su-30 Mk-I

**ANSWER: D**

3. What key feature was integrated into the Astra missile during the recent test?
  - A. Infrared Seeker
  - B. Optical Guidance System
  - C. Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker
  - D. Laser Targeting System

**ANSWER: C**

**4. What does Operation Baam signify in the context of Balochistan?**

- A. A counter-terrorism drill by Pakistan
- B. A diplomatic peace mission
- C. A major coordinated offensive by Balochistan Liberation Front
- D. A humanitarian aid operation

**ANSWER: C**

**5. When did Iran become a new permanent member of the SCO?**

- A. 2017
- B. 2001
- C. 2023
- D. 2007

**ANSWER: C**

**6. MALABAR Exercise Was Initiated In Which Year**

- A. 1991
- B. 1992
- C. 1993
- D. 1994

**ANSWER: B**

**7. Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Comes Under**

- A. MOD
- B. MHA
- C. MEA
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: B**

**8. Hambantota Port Is In**

- A. Indonesia
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. India
- D. China

**ANSWER: B**

**9. The Indian Government Plans To Construct A 2,500-metre-long Airstrip On Minicoy Island In**

- A. Goa
- B. Mumbai
- C. Lakshadweep
- D. Kochi

**ANSWER: C**

**10. Pakyong Airport is located in -**

- A. Sikkim
- B. Assam
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Nagaland

**ANSWER: A**

**11. Which port is also known as the New Mangalore Port?**

- A. Mormugao Port
- B. Panambur Port
- C. Kandla Port
- D. Tuticorin Port

**ANSWER: B**

**12. Port Blair Is Located On Which Island?**

- A.** The Little Andaman
- B.** The Great Nicobar
- C.** The South Andaman
- D.** The North Andaman

**ANSWER: C**

**13. Author Of The Book 'Kerala: God's Own Country'**

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Jeet Thayil
- C. Sudha Murthy
- D. Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai

**ANSWER: A**

**14. AUSINDEX Ex Conducts B/W**

- A. India & Indonesia
- B. India & Australia
- C. India & Sri Lanka



D. India & Thailand

**ANSWER: B**

**15. "Poverty and Un-British Rule in India" Is Written By**

- A. Mahadevi Verma
- B. Premchand
- C. Dadabhai Naoroji
- D. Ratan Tata

**ANSWER: C**

**16. Havana Is The Capital Of**

- A. Cuba
- B. Qatar
- C. UAE
- D. Cyprus

**ANSWER: A**

**17. Who Was The Prime Minister Of India During Indo-PAK War In 1965?**

- A. Jawaharlal Nehru
- B. Indira Gandhi
- C. Lal Bahadur Shastri
- D. Rajiv Gandhi

**ANSWER: C**

**18. Who Was The PM Of India During The Indo-Pak War In 1999?**

- A. Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- B. Indira Gandhi
- C. Lal Bahadur Shastri
- D. Rajiv Gandhi

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Ex 'Jal Prahar' Conducted In**

- A. Pune
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Mumbai
- D. Kakinada

**ANSWER: D**



**20.Current DG of The ICG Is**

- A. VS Pathania
- B. Rakesh Pal
- C. Paramesh Sivamani
- D. None

**ANSWER: C**



SSBCrack  
EXAMS