

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025

- The largest-ever war-fighting drills in Australia, Exercise Talisman Sabre, are underway and expected to attract the attention of Chinese spy ships.
- Talisman Sabre began in 2005 as a biennial joint exercise between the United States and Australia.
- This year, more than 35,000 military personnel from 19 nations, including Canada, Fiji, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Tonga, and the United Kingdom, will take part over three weeks.
- The exercise will also take place in Papua New Guinea, Australia's nearest neighbor. It is the first time Talisman Sabre activities have been held outside Australia.



India Plans to Buy Javelin missiles, Stryker Vehicles

- The supply of **GE F404-IN20 engines** for India's Tejas Mk1A fighter jets has resumed, and General Electric will increase deliveries to two engines per month until March 2026, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh said.
- One engine was delivered in April, and another is expected by the end of July. India signed a \$716 million agreement with General Electric in 2021 to procure 99 F404-IN20 engines.
- Singh also commented on the **US Stryker armoured fighting vehicle**, which was recently sent to India for trials. He stated that the tested model did not meet Indian Army needs. "The Indian Army is looking for an amphibious version of the system, which the U.S. will showcase in a future joint exercise with India," he said.
- India aims to replace its ageing **BMP-2 infantry combat vehicles** under the **Future Infantry Combat Vehicle (FICV)** programme.



Kanpur's MKU Wins Major Helmet Supply Contract

- Kanpur-based MKU Limited has achieved a major milestone by securing a multi-year contract to supply over 200,000 advanced ballistic helmets to an undisclosed Southeast Asian country, marking one of the largest such deals in the region's defence sector.
- MKU's helmets, certified to the NIJ Level IIIA standard, were chosen for their lightweight construction, comfort, and proven reliability in field conditions.

- The contract includes specialised helmet configurations for paratrooper and airborne units, tailored to meet the specific operational needs of the client's military forces. These features highlight MKU's ability to customise solutions for demanding military applications.



Romania to Become First European Country to Acquire Iron Dome

- In a landmark move, Romania has confirmed plans to acquire Israel's Iron Dome system, becoming the first European country to integrate the combat-tested, short-range missile defense platform into its arsenal.
- Valued at over €2 billion (2.34 billion USD), the deal will deliver a comprehensive Very Short and Short Range Air Defense system, intended to plug a critical gap in Romania's layered air defense network.
- Romania's Iron Dome acquisition will include multiple batteries, each consisting of Tamir interceptor missiles, EL/M-2084 radar units, and advanced battle management systems.
- While Romania already fields US-made **Patriot systems** for medium- and long-range threats, it has lacked an effective counter to short-range projectiles, drones, and cruise missiles.



Jaishankar's First China Visit in 5 Years

- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is set to travel to China, his first visit to the country in five years as India and China aim to resolve ties that soured in 2020 with the Galwan Valley clash.
- The visit is also crucial as it comes weeks after China's military support to Pakistan during the India-Pakistan conflict triggered by the Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 civilians dead.
- Jaishankar, who is on a two-nation tour, was reportedly scheduled to arrive in Beijing on Sunday evening after wrapping up his Singapore visit.
- While in China, Jaishankar will attend a meeting of foreign ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers' in Tianjin on Tuesday and will also hold bilateral talks with his counterpart Wang Yi.
- As Jaishankar visits China, a look back at five years of India-China relations:
- **Galwan Valley clashes**
- The bilateral relationship between India and China hit a six-decade low with a military stand-off along the Line of Actual Control in May 2020.
- A seven-hour deadly conflict on June 15 led to the deaths of 20 Indian soldiers, including a commanding officer. While Beijing initially only acknowledged casualties without disclosing numbers, reports said the Chinese army possibly suffered more than twice the casualties as India.
- It was the first deadly conflict between Indian and Chinese along the LAC in 45 years, plummeting the bilateral ties significantly.
- Over four years after the clashes began, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping reportedly decided to reactivate several mechanisms to resolve the border issues when they met on the sidelines of a summit in Kazan in October 2024.

- Soon after, India and China announced a breakthrough in terms of patrolling along the LAC arrangements along eastern Ladakh to resolve their stand-off in Depsang and Demchok, negotiating an agreement to resolve their military dispute.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. When did Exercise Talisman Sabre first begin?

- A. 1999
- B. 2005
- C. 2010
- D. 2015

ANSWER: B

2. What is the primary goal of India's Future Infantry Combat Vehicle (FICV) programme?

- A. Increase exports of military equipment
- B. Develop missile defence systems
- C. Replace ageing BMP-2 infantry combat vehicles
- D. Manufacture light combat helicopters

ANSWER: C

3. Which Indian company has secured a major ballistic helmet supply contract?

- A. Bharat Electronics Limited
- B. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

- C. MKU Limited
- D. Larsen & Toubro

ANSWER: C

4. Romania is the first European country to acquire which Israeli defence system?

- A. Arrow-3
- B. David's Sling
- C. Iron Dome
- D. Barak-8

ANSWER: C

5. What type of system is the Iron Dome?

- A. Surface-to-air long-range radar
- B. Short-range missile defense system
- C. Infantry combat vehicle
- D. Anti-submarine warfare system

ANSWER: B

6. Home Port of The INS Satpura Is In Joint Exercises B/w

- A. ENC
- B. WNC
- C. SNC
- D. None

ANSWER: A

7. INS Satpura Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Frigate

ANSWER: D

8. INS Satpura Is Manufactured By

- A. DRDO & ISRO
- B. DRDO & Israel Aerospace Industries
- C. CSL
- D. MDL

ANSWER: D

9. Cho La Incident Was Done In

- A. 1967
- B. 1988
- C. 1998
- D. 1980

ANSWER: A

10. VL-SRSAM Is A Quick Reaction Surface-to-air Missile Developed By

- A. NASA
- B. BEL
- C. DRDO
- D. ISRO

ANSWER: C

11. Peacetime Gallantry Award Is/Are

- A. Param Vir Chakra
- B. Maha Vir Chakra
- C. Vir Chakra
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: D

12. WNC Hq Is In

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kochi
- C. Chennai
- D. Panaji

ANSWER: A

13. Mitra Shakti Ex Held B/w India &

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. USA
- C. UK
- D. Nepal

ANSWER: A

14. SLNS Sayurata Is A Ship Of

- A. Oman
- B. Qatar

- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: C

15. "The Blue Book: A Writer's Journal" Book Is Written By

- A. Amitava Kumar
- B. Vikas Kumar Jha
- C. Usha Uthup
- D. Richa Mishra

ANSWER: A

16. CONAKRY Is The Capital Of

- A. GUINEA
- B. GUATEMALA
- C. GRENADA
- D. GREECE

ANSWER: A

17. IRBM Stands For

- A. Intermediate Resource Ballistic Missile
- B. Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile
- C. Intermediate Range of Ballistic Missile
- D. Intermediated Range Ballistic Missile

ANSWER: B

18. BEL HQ Is In

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

ANSWER: A

19. Major Rank Of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of The Indian Navy?

- A. Captain
- B. Inspector
- C. Lt Commander
- D. Vice-admiral

ANSWER: C

20. War Cry of ASSAM REGIMENT

- A. Parakramo Vijayate
- B. Rhino Charge
- C. Jai Bajrangbali
- D. Duty, Honour, courage

ANSWER: B