

Daily Defence Current Affairs

21 August 2025

Successful Test-firing of 'Agni 5'

- Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile 'Agni 5' was successfully test-fired from the ITR, Chandipur in Odisha on August 20, 2025. The launch validated all operational and technical parameters. It was carried out under the aegis of the **Strategic Forces Command**.
- This missile can bring almost the entire continent of Asia, including the northernmost parts of China, and some regions of Europe within striking range.
- The test comes less than four months after a military conflict between India and Pakistan, though officials did not speak of a link with that.
- The missile test-fired on Wednesday is a variant of the Agni-5 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) that can reach around 7,000 kilometres.
- The missile is developed by India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), and it was reported back in June that DRDO is planning an upgrade, expanding its range to 7,500 kilometres.
- Last year, India carried out the maiden flight test of the **Multiple Independently Targetable Reentry Vehicle (MIRV)**-capable Agni-5 missile. This technology helps the weapon system to tackle multiple nuclear warheads.
- India test-fired Agni-5 missile in March last year as well.
- The Agni 1 to 4 missiles have ranges from 700 km to 3,500 km and they have already been deployed.
- Last month, India successfully test-fired nuclear-capable short-range ballistic missiles Prithvi-II and Agni-I.
- The Prithvi-II missile has a range of around 350 kms and it is capable of carrying a payload of up to 500 kgs. It can carry both conventional as well as nuclear warheads.



SSB Crack
EXAMS

INDIA LONG RANGE MISSILE TEST AGNI V | 20 AUGUST 2025



Representation of locations is approximate, list is not exhaustive & subject to change,
image not to scale, boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative

X Damien Symon - @detresfa_

Meeting between ICG and Vietnam Coast Guard

- The 6th High-Level Meeting (HLM) between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the Vietnam Coast Guard (VCG) was held in Hanoi, Vietnam on August 20, 2025, under the framework of the 2015 Memorandum of Understanding on Coast Guard Cooperation.

- The discussions centered on enhancing collaboration in Maritime Search and Rescue, Maritime Law Enforcement, Marine Pollution Response, and Capacity Building. Special focus was placed on tackling transnational maritime crimes, including smuggling, trafficking and illegal fishing.
- The meeting reflected their shared resolve to work together in the spirit of friendship and cooperation for ensuring regional maritime security, safety, and environmental sustainability.

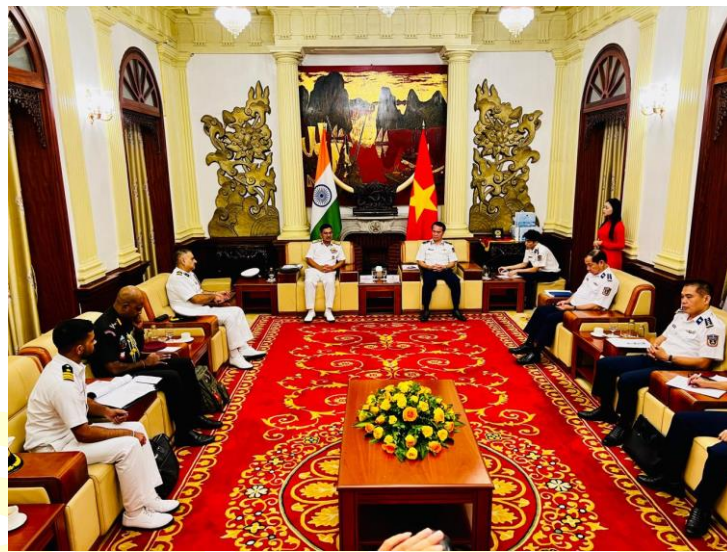


Plate Cutting Ceremony of ICG's Fourth NGOPV

- The Plate Cutting Ceremony of Yard 16404, the fourth in a series of six Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels (NGOPVs) being constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL) for Indian Coast Guard (ICG), took place in Mumbai on August 20, 2025.
- Designed, developed, and built indigenously, these 117-meter-long vessels are capable of speeds up to 23 knots, with an operational range of 5,000 nautical miles.
- Equipped with advanced technologies including AI-based predictive maintenance systems, remote piloted drones, Integrated Bridge System, and Integrated Platform Management System, the NGOPVs will significantly enhance the ICG ability to secure India's vast maritime domain.
- It will also have a capacity to accommodate 11 officers and 110 personnel. The NGOPV project, contracted on December 20, 2023, under the 'Buy (Indian-

IDDM)' category, is fully aligned with the Government's Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision.



CCS Clears Procurement of 6 AEW&C Aircraft

- The GOI has accorded a major boost to the IAF airborne surveillance and command capabilities with the approval of the AWACS India project, which envisages the procurement and development of six Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) aircraft based on the **Airbus A321 platform**.
- The project, with an estimated cost of **₹19,000 crore** (approximately \$2.3 billion), will be spearheaded by the DRDO in partnership with Airbus and select Indian public and private sector firms.
- The choice of the Airbus A321 as the base aircraft marks a strategic shift from earlier projects involving smaller **Embraer platforms**.
- With significantly greater range, payload capacity, and endurance, the A321-based AEW&C aircraft will serve as a next-generation command and control hub.



ISRO To Launch Two Spy Satellites

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is actively preparing to launch two significant military surveillance satellites by the end of 2025: the Technology Demonstration Satellite (TDS) and the GSAT-7R satellite.
- The GSAT-7R is a dedicated military communication satellite intended specifically for the Indian Navy, designed to replace the existing GSAT-7 satellite, also known as Rukmini.
- The GSAT-7, launched in 2013, has been providing multi-band communication capabilities vital for naval operations, including secure real-time networking among warships, submarines, aircraft, and shore-based systems across a wide geographical area—primarily the Indian Ocean region.
- GSAT-7R is envisioned to be a more advanced successor with enhanced capabilities to meet the growing communication needs of the Indian Navy and is expected to weigh approximately 2,650 kg and operate in geostationary orbit.
- Its projected cost is around ₹1,589 crores (approximately US\$225.5 million). The launch of GSAT-7R is planned using ISRO's GSLV MK-II launch vehicle, aiming to provide robust communication support for the Navy's expanding blue-water operations.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. From where was the 'Agni-5' successfully test-fired on August 20, 2025?

- A. Pokhran Test Range
- B. Wheeler Island
- C. ITR, Chandipur in Odisha
- D. Balasore Test Range

ANSWER: C

2. The Agni-5 missile test-fired in August 2025 is capable of striking up to which approximate range?

- A. 3,500 km
- B. 5,000 km
- C. 7,000 km
- D. 7,500 km

ANSWER: C

3. The 6th High-Level Meeting between the ICG and the Vietnam Coast Guard in August 2025 focused mainly on—

- A. Space research cooperation
- B. Maritime security and tackling transnational maritime crimes
- C. Joint submarine development
- D. Nuclear non-proliferation

ANSWER: B

4. The NGOPV being built for the ICG are capable of achieving speeds up to—

- A. 20 knots
- B. 23 knots
- C. 26 knots
- D. 30 knots

ANSWER: B

5. The Government of India approved the procurement of 6 AEW&C aircraft based on which aircraft platform?

- A. Embraer ERJ-145
- B. Boeing 737 MAX
- C. Airbus A321
- D. Sukhoi Superjet

ANSWER: C

6. The GSAT-7R satellite, planned for launch by ISRO in 2025, is primarily intended to serve which branch of the Indian Armed Forces?

- A. Indian Air Force
- B. Indian Army
- C. Indian Navy
- D. Indian Coast Guard

ANSWER: C

7. Defence Research & Development Laboratory Hq Is In

- A. Hyderabad
- B. New Delhi
- C. Kochi
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: A

8. Lieutenant Commander Of the Indian Navy Is Equivalent to Which Rank Of IAF?

- A. Squadron Leader
- B. Major
- C. Group Captain
- D. Flying Officer

ANSWER: A

9. Which Is The Capital Of Uzbekistan?

- A. Moscow
- B. Dodoma
- C. Tashkent
- D. Dushanbe

ANSWER: C

10. Ex 'DESERT EAGLE' Conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: C

11. Naib Subedar Jeremy Lalrinnunga Is Related With

- A. Table Tennis
- B. Cricket
- C. Boxing
- D. Weightlifting

ANSWER: D

12. What Is The Highest Commissioned Rank Awarded In The IAF?

- A. Air Marshal
- B. Air Chief Marshal
- C. Wing Commander
- D. Admiral

ANSWER: B

13. Rashtriya Raksha University Is In

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

ANSWER: A

14. The Zorawar Is A

- A. Tank
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV

D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: A

15. Current Scientific Advisor To The Defence Minister Is

A. Rakesh Sinha

B. S. Somnath

C. G. Sateesh Reddy

D. Samir Kamat

ANSWER: C

16. The Current Chairman Of DRDO Is

A. Rakesh Sinha

B. S. Somnath

C. G. Sateesh Reddy

D. Samir Kamat

ANSWER: D

17. Havildar Achinta Sheuli Is Related With

A. Archery

B. Weightlifting

C. Judo

D. Football

ANSWER: B

18. Ex SHAKTI, Ex VARUNA, GARUDA India conducted with

A. USA

B. Sweden

C. France

D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

19. __ Is India's 3rd Highest Military Decoration Award.

A. PVC

B. MVC

C. Veer Chakra

D. Kirti Chakra

ANSWER: C

20. Motto of THE MARATHA LIGHT INFANTRY REGIMENT

- A. Parakramo Vijayate
- B. Assam Vikram
- C. Yudhaya Krit Nishchaya
- D. Duty, Honour, courage

ANSWER: D