

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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India May Be First To Fly France's Rafale F4.1

- France is positioning India to be the launch customer for its upgraded Rafale fighter jet, a move that could significantly deepen Indo-French defence ties and redefine India's air power capabilities.
- Dassault Aviation is preparing to offer an enhanced Rafale variant incorporating next-generation radar systems—likely an improved AESA (Active Electronically Scanned Array) with greater detection range and electronic warfare resilience.
- The cockpit suite is also expected to receive a major overhaul, introducing advanced sensor fusion interfaces, AI-assisted decision-making aids, and improved pilot situational awareness systems designed for modern high-intensity combat.
- When positioned against China's frontline Chengdu J-20 stealth fighter, the upgraded Rafale presents a distinct balance of proven versatility and technological modernisation.



EAM Jaishankar Meets Putin in Moscow

- In a pointed diplomatic signal amid escalating US pressure, EAM S Jaishankar met Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow on Thursday, reinforcing India's

strategic ties with Moscow even as Washington presses ahead with tariffs and warnings over New Delhi's energy trade with Russia.

- The high-level meeting, part of efforts to finalise President Putin's year-end visit to India, came just hours after Jaishankar held wide-ranging talks with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.
- "We are not the biggest purchasers of Russian oil, that is China. We are not the biggest purchasers of LNG, that is the European Union. We are not the country which has the biggest trade surge with Russia after 2022; I think there are some countries to the South," he said.
- Lavrov said: "We see a special importance in our relations as we see the emergence of a new architecture of international relations."



China Calls US 'a bully', Backs India

- Chinese Ambassador to India Xu Feihong came out strongly against Washington's decision to impose steep tariffs on Indian goods, terming the United States 'a bully'.
- He said China 'firmly opposed' the move and vowed that Beijing would stand with India, while also calling for deeper economic and strategic cooperation between Asia's two biggest neighbours.
- Xu accused Washington of hypocrisy, arguing that the US had long benefited from free trade but was now weaponising tariffs as bargaining tools.

- “US has long benefited from free trade but now uses tariffs as bargain chips. US imposed tariffs of up to 50% on India. China firmly opposes it. Silence only emboldens the bully. China will firmly stand with India,” Xu said.
- The envoy added that India and China, as major powers with independent foreign policies, should not allow external pressure to dictate their choices.



Conclusion of SLINEX-2025

- The **12th edition** of the India - Sri Lanka bilateral naval exercise SLINEX-25 successfully concluded at Colombo on 18 Aug 2025, reaffirming shared commitment and maritime security.
- The current edition saw the participation of Indian naval ships **INS Jyoti** and **INS Rana** from the Eastern Fleet and Sri Lankan Naval Ships **SLNS Gajabahu** and **SLNS Vijayabahu** (both Advance Offshore Patrol Vessels).
- The exercise was conducted in two phases, the harbour phase at Colombo from 14 to 16 Aug 25 and the sea phase from 17 to 18 Aug 25.



INS Tamal Arrived At Souda Bay

- INS Tamal, the latest stealth frigate, arrived at Souda Bay, Greece, on 19 Aug 2025 during her return passage to India post commissioning in Russia.
- The engagements during the port call include a range of professional and cultural activities focused on fostering Indo-Greek bilateral relations, such as discussions with senior Hellenic Navy functionaries,
- familiarisation of operations and procedures at the NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre in Souda Bay, and a walk around of NATO and Hellenic Navy facilities, culminating in a passage exercise on departure.
- The Indian and Hellenic Navies have engaged with each other on multiple fronts including training courses, passage exercises, port calls of warships and delegation-level military visits. Recently, Hellenic Navy Ship Psara, a MEKO 200 class frigate, called at Mumbai from 11 - 13 Jul 2025.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

Q1. The 12th edition of the India–Sri Lanka bilateral naval exercise SLINEX-2025 concluded at which location on 18 August 2025?

- a) Trincomalee
- b) Mumbai

c) Colombo

d) Chennai

Answer: c) Colombo

Q2. Which Indian naval ships participated in SLINEX-2025 from the Eastern Fleet?

a) INS Talwar and INS Shivalik

b) INS Jyoti and INS Rana

c) INS Vikrant and INS Satpura

d) INS Kolkata and INS Chennai

Answer: b) INS Jyoti and INS Rana

Q3. INS Tamal, the latest stealth frigate, made a port call at Souda Bay in which country on 19 August 2025?

a) Italy

b) France

c) Greece

d) Spain

Answer: c) Greece

Q4. Recently, which Hellenic Navy ship visited Mumbai in July 2025 as part of Indo-Greek naval engagements?

a) HS Hydra

b) HS Psara

c) HS Spetsai

d) HS Salamis

Answer: b) HS Psara

Q5. India may become the launch customer for which upgraded fighter jet variant being developed by Dassault Aviation?

a) Rafale F3R

b) Rafale F4.1

c) Mirage 2000-9

d) Rafale M

Answer: b) Rafale F4.1

6. 'Ex KOMODO' Hosted By

A. Qatar

B. Oman

- C. UAE
- D. Indonesia

ANSWER: D

7. Zaporizhzhia Plant Is Located On Bank Of

- A. Moskva River
- B. Volga River
- C. Dnieper River
- D. Thames River

ANSWER: C

8. Yuan Wang 5 Is A

- A. Indian Fighter Jet
- B. Chinese Spy Ship
- C. Korean Submarine
- D. None

ANSWER: B

9. Motto of CISF Is

- A. Protection and Security
- B. Duty unto Death
- C. We Protect
- D. Service Before Self

ANSWER: A

10. In 2024 Which Nations Will Preside the Presidency of G 20?

- A. India
- B. Russia
- C. Brazil
- D. UK & Uganda

ANSWER: C

11. INS Imphal Manufactured By

- A. CSL
- B. MDL
- C. HSL
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

12.INS Nishank Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Veer class corvette

ANSWER: D

13. INS Shivaji Is An Indian Naval Station Located In

- A. Nagpur
- B. Nashik
- C. Pune
- D. Lonavala

ANSWER: D

14. Ex Samudra Shakti Is Held B/W India &

- A. Italy
- B. Indonesia
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. None

ANSWER: B

15. NIMAS Stands For

- A. National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports
- B. National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Source
- C. National Indus of Mountaineering and Allied Sports
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

16. DIPR Stands For

- A. Defence Institute of Psychological Research
- B. Disaster Institute of Psychological Research
- C. Defence Institute of Psychological Rate
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

17. MORONI Is The Capital Of

- A. COMOROS
- B. Qatar

- C. UAE
- D. CROATIA

ANSWER: A

18. "Blind Beauty" Book Is Written By

- A. Boris Pasternak
- B. Habib Tanveer
- C. Jawaharlal Nehru
- D. J.K. Galbraith

ANSWER: A

19. INS Utkrosh Naval Air Station Is Located At

- A. A&N
- B. Lakshadweep
- C. Puducherry
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

20. Javelin Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Anti Tank Weapon System

ANSWER: D

