

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Spear Corps Nears Mt Gorichen Summit

- The Indian Army's Spear Corps has entered the final stretch of its challenging mountaineering expedition to **Mount Gorichen**, the highest peak in Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh at **6,488 metres**, with the summit bid expected to commence shortly.
- The mission, flagged off on August 20, aims to promote adventure, resilience and team spirit while reflecting the indomitable character of the Indian soldier, he said.
- Mt Gorichen, located in the **Tawang sector** of the Eastern Himalayas, is revered by the local **Monpa community** as a sacred peak.
- Each phase has been meticulously planned to test physical fitness, mental resilience and seamless teamwork under extreme high-altitude conditions, embodying the Army's ethos of professionalism and preparedness.



HAL To Deliver 156 Upgraded Indigenous Combat Helicopters

- India's ambitious plan to upgrade and mass-produce the Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Prachand marks a decisive step in strengthening the country's rotary-wing combat capability.
- Attack helicopter Prachand is going to get many upgrades, which will make it the best attack helicopter in the world.
- Approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security and inked in March 2025, the ₹62,700 crore project entrusts HAL with manufacturing and delivering 156 LCHs by 2033—90 for the Indian Army and 66 for the Indian Air Force.
- Most of the new systems and upgrades will be indigenously developed, advancing India's self-reliance in defence technology. These upgrades will significantly enhance the LCH's combat capabilities and survivability, particularly for high-altitude and contested battlefield environments.



Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2025 Ends

- The **21st edition of Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2025** concluded on September 14 after two weeks of intensive engagement between India and the US at Fort Wainwright and the Yukon Training Area in Alaska.

- The exercise involved approximately 450 Indian Army personnel from a battalion of the Madras Regiment and US soldiers from the 11th Airborne Division, focusing on joint command and field training in challenging sub-arctic conditions.
- Yudh Abhyas 2025 further enhanced the comprehensive global strategic partnership between India and the US by improving interoperability, tactical planning, and joint operational readiness.



Bofors 2.0 Modern Engine Power

- The Indian Army's Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (EME) has successfully re-powered the FH-77B Bofors howitzers with modern Cummins engines.
- These are the same engines used in the indigenous 155 mm Dhanush howitzer, highlighting a critical step towards standardisation and modernisation of artillery power plants.
- The upgrade replaces the ageing Auxiliary Power Units (APUs) of the Bofors guns, which were originally Volvo B20 engines now obsolete and with spare parts hard to procure. This re-powering ensures improved reliability, fuel efficiency, and easier maintenance for the howitzers.
- This project reflects the Indian Army's commitment to maintain combat readiness by modernising proven weapons with contemporary technology.



Indian Army Planning To Procure 60,000 Thermal Imaging Sights

- The Indian Army is undertaking a significant procurement drive to acquire 60,000 Thermal Imaging (TI) sights and 200,000 day sights as part of its ongoing modernisation and capability enhancement efforts.
- This procurement is aimed at upgrading the optics and targeting systems on infantry weapons and vehicles, thereby substantially improving battlefield lethality, target acquisition, and soldier effectiveness both during day and night operations.
- The thermal imaging sights will greatly enhance the Army's ability to conduct all-weather, day-night surveillance and precision targeting, particularly under adverse visibility conditions such as darkness, smoke, fog, and battlefield obscurants.
- This procurement aligns with India's broader push under the Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) initiative, heavily emphasizing indigenisation and the development of domestic defence manufacturing capabilities.



Pakistan, Saudi Arabia Ink Defence Pact

- Pakistan and Saudi Arabia on Wednesday signed a defence pact under which any aggression against either country shall be considered as an act of aggression against both.
- The 'Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement' was signed during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's state visit to Riyadh, where he was received by Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman at Al-Yamamah Palace.
- PM's office announced the signing of the pact, which stated that any aggression against either country shall be considered an act of aggression against both.
- "Building on a partnership extending nearly eight decades, and grounded in bonds of brotherhood, Islamic solidarity and shared strategic interests, the two sides signed the Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement," a joint statement released after the signing ceremony said.
- The pact reflects a joint commitment to enhance bilateral security ties and contribute to regional and global peace, the statement said.
- He earlier visited Qatar twice, on Thursday and Monday, to express solidarity with Doha following Israel's attack on the Hamas leadership in the Gulf country and to attend an emergency meeting of Arab-Islamic nations on the issue.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **The Indian Army is procuring 60,000 Thermal Imaging sights and 200,000 day sights as part of which initiative?**
 - A. Indigenous Missile Development
 - B. Modernisation and Capability Enhancement
 - C. Make in India Defence Project
 - D. Infantry Weapons Upgrade

ANSWER: B

2. **The FH-77B Bofors howitzers have been re-powered with which modern engine?**
 - A. Rolls Royce Engine
 - B. Cummins Engine
 - C. Caterpillar Engine
 - D. General Electric Engine

ANSWER: B

3. **The 21st edition of Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2025 conducted at which location?**
 - A. California & Nevada
 - B. Fort Wainwright and Yukon Training Area, Alaska
 - C. Texas & Colorado
 - D. Hawaii & Guam

ANSWER: B

4. Under the ₹62,700 crore project approved in March 2025, HAL will manufacture how many LCHs by 2033?

- A. 120
- B. 140
- C. 156
- D. 180

ANSWER: C

5. What does SCO stand for?

- A. Shanghai Cooperative Organization
- B. Shanghai Coordination Organization
- C. Shanghai Collaboration Organization
- D. Shanghai Coalition Organization

ANSWER: A

6. Which country is not a founding member of the SCO?

- A. Russia
- B. China
- C. India
- D. Kazakhstan

ANSWER: C

7. The Douglas C-47 Skytrain or Dakota Is A

- A. UAV
- B. Military Transport Aircraft
- C. Fighter Aircraft
- D. None

ANSWER: B

8. Defence Industrial Corridor (DICs) Is/Are Located In

- A. UP
- B. T.N
- C. M.H
- D. Both A & B

ANSWER: D

9. Solomon Islands Is Located On

- A. Indian Ocean

- B. Pacific Ocean
- C. Arctic Ocean
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

10. Saab AB Is An Aerospace Company of

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. China

ANSWER: B

11. C-130J Super Hercules Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Transport Aircraft

ANSWER: D

12. "Secure Application for Internet (SAI)" Has Been Developed By

- A. IAF
- B. Indian Army
- C. ICG
- D. NSG

ANSWER: B

13. Joint Exercises B/w The India And Nepal Is Called:

- A. Surya Kiran
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

14. Hq Of Mazagaon Dockyard Limited Is In

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

ANSWER: B

15. "Battle Ready for 21st Century" Book Is Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Geetanjali Shree's
- C. Richa Mishra
- D. Lt Gen AK Singh and Brig. Narendra Kumar

ANSWER: D

16. Where Is The Hq Of The Eastern Command of The Indian Navy?

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

ANSWER: B

17. Joint Exercises B/w The India And USA Is Called:

- A. Surya Kiran
- B. Vajra Prahar
- C. Yudha Abhyas
- D. Both B & C

ANSWER: D

18. In IAF Flights are sub-divisions of squadrons, commanded by a__.

- A. Squadron Leader
- B. Flying Officer
- C. Air Marshal
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

19. DRDO Lakshya Is A

- A. Fighter Jet
- B. Ship
- C. Tank
- D. UAV

ANSWER: D

20. Exercise Samudra Shakti Conducted B/w Indonesia &

- A. India
- B. Nepal

- C. Bangladesh
- D. Bhutan

ANSWER: A