

Daily Defence Current Affairs

01 October 2025

Lt Gen Virendra Vats assumes charge as 35th DG NCC

- Lieutenant General Virendra Vats has assumed charge as the 35th Director General of the National Cadet Corps. He has taken over as Director General National Cadet Corps from Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh.
- Commissioned into the 19 KUMAON Regiment of the Indian Army on 17 Dec 1988, the General Officer is an alumnus of the NDA, Khadakwasla, IMA, Dehradun, Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, College of Defence Management, Secunderabad and the National Defence College, New Delhi.
- NCC is the National Cadet Corps, a voluntary youth organization in India that provides basic military training and leadership development to school and college students on a voluntary basis. It is a Tri-Services Organisation comprising Army, Navy, and Air Force wings, with the **motto "Unity and Discipline"**. Cadets receive training in areas like small arms and drill, and while they don't have a liability for active military service, their achievements in the NCC are given preference during selections for the armed forces.



Indian Firms Submit Bids For Developing Desi 5th Gen Fighter

- Multiple Indian firms, along with their partner companies, have submitted their bids to tie up with the DRDO for developing and designing the indigenous fifth-generation fighter, the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA).
- September 30 was the last day for submission of bids in response to the Expression of Interest issued by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation.
- Multiple bids have been received from the major Indian firms to partner for a Rs 15,000 crore design and development project for the DRDO. The bids will now be examined by a Committee formed under former BrahMos Aerospace chief A Sivathanu Pillai.
- In this project, **Larsen and Toubro** is partnering with Bharat Electronics Limited, and **Bharat Earth Movers Limited** has partnered with other private sector companies. The biggest aerospace player in the country, HAL, has also submitted its bids for the project.
- The AMCA is expected to be ready for production and induction into the Indian Air Force by the year 2034-35. The design and development partner for the project may also serve as the production partner, with at least 125 aircraft likely to be produced.
- The manufacturing project is expected to be worth around **Rs 2 lakh crores** for producing around seven squadrons of the most advanced indigenous planes.



"Within 10-12 years, we will have an indigenous engine, that is our goal": IAF

- Deputy Chief of the Air Staff, Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti, stressed that India's defence sector is making significant strides towards self-reliance, with the IAF actively pursuing indigenous projects.
- Bharti emphasised the importance of indigenous engine production, stating that within the next 10-12 years, India aims to develop its own engine. This ambitious goal requires concerted efforts from both the defence sector and industry stakeholders.
- The Deputy Chief's comments come as HAL is working with American General Electric (GE) to acquire **GE-404 engines** for the LCA Aircraft Mk-1. The company has reportedly promised to ramp up its manufacturing with the expectation of delivering a total of **12 engines** at the end of the financial year 2025.



Centre Plans Revival of Border Wing Home Guards

- In wake of the recent Ladakh unrest and Pahalgam attack earlier this year, the union government is planning to revive **Border Wing Home Guards (BWHG)** for its active engagement with border guarding forces along the China and Pakistan borders.
- The home guards will consist of locals who will act as eyes and ears of the border guarding forces like Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Border Security Force (BSF), said officials aware of the developments.

- Border Wing Home Guards (BWHG) is a voluntary citizen's force in India that serves as an auxiliary to border security forces, such as the Border Security Force (BSF), to help prevent infiltration, guard vital points, and provide intelligence in vulnerable border areas during times of external aggression. Raised in specific border states like Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Meghalaya, Tripura, and West Bengal, the BWHG recruits locals to act as the "eyes and ears" for the military and police. Recent initiatives aim to revive and expand these guards, particularly along the China border, to enhance national security through local recruitment.
- **Key Roles and Responsibilities**
- **Border Security:** Prevent infiltration and illegal crossings on international borders and coastal areas.
- **Vital Point Protection:** Guard crucial installations, vital points, and lines of communication in sensitive regions.
- **Intelligence Gathering:** Act as an "eyes and ears" for the armed forces and police, providing local information.
- **Auxiliary Support:** Assist border security forces and the police in maintaining internal security and responding to emergencies.
- **Organizational Structure and Recruitment**
- **State-Level Initiative:** Home Guards are raised under the State/Union Territory Home Guards Act and Rules, with specific states authorized to have BWHG battalions.
- **Local Recruits:** BWHGs are recruited from local populations, providing employment and integrating the community into border security.
- **Financial Support:** The Union Government shares the cost of training and financial support for the BWHGs with the states.



Army Conducts 'Drone Kavach' Exercise

- The Army's 'Spear Corps' under the Eastern Command conducted a 'Drone Kavach' exercise in forward areas of eastern Arunachal Pradesh from September 25-28, a defence official said.
- The exercise showcased the Army's combat readiness for next generation of drone warfare, besides validating state-of-the-art drone technologies, he said.
- The four-day exercise saw Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel deployed in the forward areas.
- The 'Drone Kavach' exercise represents a significant step in the Army's commitment towards modernisation, while striving for technology absorption to achieve operational excellence.



US, France Step Up Joint Military Satellite

- France and the United States are planning a second joint mission of coordinated satellite maneuvers in orbit, part of a growing push to sharpen allied spying capabilities as China expands its own military footprint in space.
- The operation would be the Pentagon's third known mission conducted in space with an ally following its first-ever joint maneuver with two spacecraft in orbit late last year, also involving France. The U.S. Space Command conducted a joint mission with the UK earlier this month.
- Space is an increasingly contested military domain, as a soaring number of satellites crucial for communications, missile warning and battlefield intelligence face threats from the world's top space powers.
- China, Russia and the U.S. have demonstrated **anti-satellite weapons** and launched maneuverable spacecraft, raising worries that an attack during conflict could disrupt GPS navigation or sever channels of communication relied upon by forces on Earth.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who has assumed charge as the 35th Director General of the National Cadet Corps (NCC)?
 - A. Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh
 - B. Lt Gen Virendra Vats
 - C. Lt Gen Satish Dua
 - D. Lt Gen Ranbir Singh

ANSWER: B

2. The AMCA project, is expected to be inducted into the Indian Air Force by which year?

- A. 2028-29
- B. 2030-31
- C. 2034-35
- D. 2040-41

ANSWER: C

3. According to Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti, within how many years does India aim to develop its own indigenous engine?

- A. 5–6 years
- B. 8–9 years
- C. 10–12 years
- D. 15 years

ANSWER: C

4. Border Wing Home Guards (BWHG) are primarily recruited from which group?

- A. Retired Army Officers
- B. Local Populations in Border States
- C. Central Reserve Police Force Personnel
- D. Defence Public Sector Employees

ANSWER: B

5. The Indian Army's 'Drone Kavach' exercise was recently conducted in which state?

- A. Sikkim
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Jammu & Kashmir
- D. Rajasthan

ANSWER: B

6. CSL Hq Is In

- A. Kochi
- B. Noida
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Chennai

ANSWER: A

7. India Conducted Vajra Prahar Exercise With__.

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

ANSWER: C

8. Who Is The Chairman Of The NHRC?

- A. Chief Justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court
- B. Governor
- C. PM
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

9. UDHR Stands For

- A. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- B. Universal Declaration of Human Riot
- C. Universal Declared of Human Rights
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

10. Which one of the following statements is/are correct regarding BRICS?

- 1. It was set up with the sole purpose of countering the NATO influence and emerging as its substitute.**
- 2. The New Development Bank is one of the initiatives of BRICS.**

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

ANSWER: B

11. World Economic Forum Hq Is In

- A. Geneva, Switzerland
- B. Lausanne, Switzerland
- C. The Hague, The Netherlands

D. Gland, Switzerland

ANSWER: A

12. ____ Is The Landlocked Country.

A. Sri Lanka

B. Pakistan

C. Bhutan

D. China

ANSWER: C

13. Which Is Not An Asian Country?

A. Singapore

B. Brunei

C. UAE

D. Peru

ANSWER: D

14. GPMG Stands For

A. General Purple Machine Gun

B. General Purpose Machine Gun

C. General Purpose Machine Gum

D. None

ANSWER: B

15. 'Ex Zapad' Conducted B/W India &

A. Qatar

B. Russia

C. UAE

D. Maldives

ANSWER: B

16. Padma Vibhushan Award Was Instituted on

A. 2nd January 1954

B. 2nd January 1955

C. 2nd January 1956

D. 2nd January 1957

ANSWER: A

17. Hq Of Department of Space Is In

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Kochi
- D. Kolkata

ANSWER: B

18. CAIR Stands For

- A. Centre for Artificial Intelligence & Robotics
- B. Centre for Artificial Intelligent & Robotics
- C. Centre for Artillery Intelligence & Robotics
- D. Centre form Artificial Intelligence & Robotics

ANSWER: A

19. "An Odyssey in War and Peace" Book Is Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. SHF Manekshaw
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Lt Gen J.F.R. Jacob

ANSWER: D

20. With reference to the Project 15B warships, consider the following statements:

- 1. They are equipped with BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles and long-range Surface-to-Air Missiles.**
- 2. 'INS Surat' was the first-ever ship of Project 15B Destroyers.**
- 3. Project 15B warships are completely indigenous.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

ANSWER: A