

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Joint Submarine Rescue Support

- In a significant step towards strengthening maritime security, India and Vietnam signed a Memorandum of Agreement on Mutual Submarine Search and Rescue Support and Cooperation.
- This development took place during the 15th India–Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue held in Hanoi, co-chaired by India’s Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh and Vietnam’s Deputy Defence Minister Sr Lt Gen Hoang Xuan Chien.
- The agreement aims to ensure prompt assistance in submarine emergencies, while a Letter of Intent (LoI) was also signed to boost defence industry collaboration.
- This includes,
 - Coordinated search and rescue operations
 - Deployment of personnel, equipment and technical expertise
 - Shared protocols and training to ensure operational readiness



World Science Day 2025

- Every year on **10 November**, the world comes together to celebrate the World Science Day for Peace and Development. Established by **UNESCO in 2001**, this global observance promotes the crucial role science plays in fostering peace, solving pressing global challenges, and improving human life.
- The 2025 theme, **"Trust, transformation, and tomorrow: The science we need for 2050."**
- The day emphasizes,
- The impact of science on global challenges such as climate change, public health, and resource management
- The need for collaboration between nations and cultures to advance scientific knowledge
- The role of science education in promoting peace, tolerance, and sustainable development



Bangladesh Becomes First Nation to Join UN Water Convention

- In a landmark move, Bangladesh has officially acceded to the UN Water Convention in 2025, becoming the first South Asian country to do so.
- This decision signals a significant shift in the region's approach to transboundary water governance and could impact existing bilateral water-sharing dynamics, particularly with India. As global water stress intensifies, Bangladesh's accession represents a strategic step to secure its interests through a multilateral legal framework.
- Bangladesh shares 54 rivers with India, including the Teesta and Ganga, which are vital for its agriculture, drinking water, and ecosystem sustainability.
- India has not joined the UN Water Convention. It continues to rely on bilateral treaties like,
- Indus Waters Treaty (1960) with Pakistan
- Ganga Water Sharing Treaty (1996) with Bangladesh



India Quietly Withdraws from Ayni Airbase in Tajikistan

- India has withdrawn from the Ayni airbase in Tajikistan, its only full-fledged overseas military facility. The move, which took place in 2022, has recently come to light and marks a major recalibration in India's Central Asia posture.
- With this closure, India no longer operates any functional military base outside its territory, reducing its physical military presence in a region critical to its strategic interests.
- Originally a Soviet-era airbase, Ayni was in a state of disrepair after the collapse of the USSR. India stepped in as a strategic partner in 2002, investing nearly \$80 million to modernize the facility.
- Located just 20 km from Afghanistan's Wakhan Corridor, Ayni offered India a vantage point near Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and China's Xinjiang province, placing it in close proximity to multiple volatile zones and power competition areas.



23rd National Maritime SAR Board Meet

- ICG organised the 23rd National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) Board meeting on Nov 10, 2025, in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The meeting focused on enhancing inter-agency coordination and collaboration among stakeholders to strengthen India's overall search and rescue (SAR) framework.
- Discussions centred on leveraging technology and modern communication systems to improve operational efficiency and maritime safety standards.
- **Following are the awards:**
- MV He Yuan Shun 89, a Panama-flagged vessel, received the award in the Merchant Vessel category
- Indian Fishing Boat Kedarnath Bhole was awarded in the Fishing Boat category
- ICG Ship Rajveer received the award for the Government-owned SAR Unit category
- Vessel Traffic System (VTS), Mumbai Port Authority and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) were jointly felicitated in the Ashore Unit category.

Winners for 6th National Water Awards Declared

- Hon'ble Union minister of Jal Shakti Shri CR Paatil announced the list of winners of 6th National Water Awards, today, at Shram Shakti Bhawan New Delhi.

6th National Water Award, 2024 - Winners			
SN	Winner	State	Rank
	1. BEST STATE		
1	Maharashtra	Maharashtra	First

2	Gujarat	Gujarat	Second
3	Haryana	Haryana	Third

2. BEST DISTRICT			
	East Zone		
4	Rajnandgaon	Chhattisgarh	First
	West Zone		
5	Khargone	Madhya Pradesh	First
	North Zone		
6	Mirzapur	Uttar Pradesh	First
	South Zone		
7	Tirunelveli	Tamil Nadu	First
	North East Zone		

8	Sepahijala	Tripura	First

3. BEST ULB

9	Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra	First
10	Bhavnagar	Gujarat	Second
11	Nabadiganta Industrial Township	West Bengal	Third - Joint Winner
12	Agra	Uttar Pradesh	Third - Joint Winner

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. When is the World Science Day for Peace and Development celebrated every year?

- A) 5 October
- B) 10 November
- C) 20 December
- D) 12 August

Answer: B) 10 November

2. Which organization established the World Science Day for Peace and Development?

- A) WHO
- B) UNEP
- C) UNESCO
- D) UNDP

Answer: C) UNESCO

3. In which year was the World Science Day for Peace and Development established?

- A) 1999
- B) 2001
- C) 2005
- D) 2010

Answer: B) 2001

4. What is the theme of World Science Day for Peace and Development 2025?

- A) Science for Sustainable Future
- B) Innovation and Humanity
- C) Trust, Transformation, and Tomorrow: The Science We Need for 2050
- D) Science and Global Harmony

Answer: C) Trust, Transformation, and Tomorrow: The Science We Need for 2050

5. India and Vietnam signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on which area of cooperation?

- A) Defence Manufacturing
- B) Mutual Submarine Search and Rescue Support
- C) Renewable Energy Partnership
- D) Space Research Collaboration

Answer: B) Mutual Submarine Search and Rescue Support

6. Which country became the first South Asian nation to accede to the UN Water Convention in 2025?

- A) Nepal
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Bangladesh
- D) Bhutan

Answer: C) Bangladesh

7. Which of the following statements about India and the UN Water Convention is correct?

- A) India signed the UN Water Convention in 2023
- B) India has not joined the UN Water Convention
- C) India and Pakistan jointly joined the Convention
- D) India withdrew from the Convention in 2022

Answer: B) India has not joined the UN Water Convention

8. Which of the following water treaties does India rely on instead of the UN Water Convention?

- A) Brahmaputra Treaty and Sutlej Treaty
- B) Indus Waters Treaty (1960) and Ganga Water Sharing Treaty (1996)
- C) Mahanadi Water Treaty and Cauvery Water Agreement
- D) Mekong River Cooperation Treaty

Answer: B) Indus Waters Treaty (1960) and Ganga Water Sharing Treaty (1996)

9. From which airbase did India withdraw, marking a shift in its Central Asia posture?

- A) Farkhor Airbase
- B) Ayni Airbase
- C) Bagram Airbase
- D) Termez Airbase

Answer: B) Ayni Airbase

10. Where was the 23rd National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) Board meeting held in 2025?

- A) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- B) Kochi, Kerala
- C) Gandhinagar, Gujarat

D) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

Answer: C) Gandhinagar, Gujarat

