

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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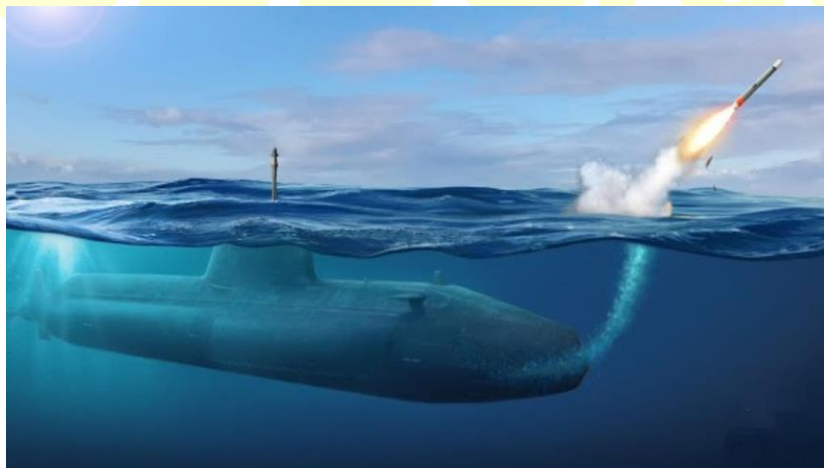
India Advances EO-SAAW Program

- India's indigenous precision-guided weapons program has achieved another milestone with the continued maturation of the Electro-Optical Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon (EO-SAAW).
- Designed by DRDO for the Indian Air Force, EO-SAAW represents a new class of long-range, stand-off, air-launched munitions optimised for disabling enemy runways, command centres, and hardened installations without the need for aircraft to enter hostile airspace.
- Parallel to the cooled seeker track, DRDO is also pursuing an uncooled seeker variant aimed at cost-effective mass production. The uncooled design reduces complexity, enhances maintainability, and extends deployability across multiple aircraft platforms, offering options for both tactical and strategic missions.
- This dual-track approach demonstrates India's strategic planning for flexibility in operational and industrial scalability within its precision weapons ecosystem.
- EO-SAAW, with its modular design, can engage targets at ranges up to 100 kilometres, depending on the release altitude and aircraft type. The weapon integrates seamlessly with several Indian fighter aircraft, including the Jaguar DARIN-III, Su-30MKI, and HAL TEJAS, empowering the IAF with greater stand-off engagement capability.



India Validates Indigenous Submarine-Launched Cruise Missile

- India has taken a decisive step toward strengthening its underwater strike capabilities with the successful development and testing of its indigenous Submarine Launched Cruise Missile (SLCM).
- The weapon system represents a major stride in the country's efforts to create a credible, flexible, and survivable second-strike capability undersea, complementing the nation's existing sea-based deterrence assets.
- The SLCM has been engineered to engage both maritime and land-based targets with high accuracy. Its design allows it to transition smoothly from an underwater launch environment to sustained air flight, combining stealth, precision, and flexibility across operational environments.
- The missile employs a turbojet engine and inertial navigation system augmented by satellite guidance, allowing for long-range precision strikes. Its modular design offers compatibility with both conventional and potentially nuclear payloads.



PRALAY Tactical Missile Nears Induction After Successful Series of Trials

- India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has taken a decisive step towards inducing the PRALAY short-range quasi-ballistic missile, following significant progress in development and evaluation.

- The Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) has been formally granted by both the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force, marking the beginning of the transition from prototype validation to series production.
- Two Defence Production Partners (DcPPs) have already been identified under the Ministry of Defence's Make-in-India framework to commence manufacturing once final user trials conclude.
- Developed as a cost-effective, high-precision tactical missile, PRALAY is designed to neutralise critical targets within the 150–500 kilometre range bracket.
- In terms of mobility and versatility, PRALAY can be launched from an 8x8 high-mobility Transporter-Erector-Launcher (TEL) platform compatible with both Army and Air Force rapid deployment schemes. The fully road-mobile design ensures operational flexibility and launch concealment.



India Unveils First Intelligent-Power SoC ARKA GKT-1

- In a significant step towards semiconductor self-reliance, Azimuth AI and Cyient Semiconductors have jointly launched the ARKA GKT-1, India's first-generation intelligent-power platform-on-a-chip.
- The unveiling, held on 17 November in New Delhi, was officiated by Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw. The initiative strengthens India's ambition to emerge as a global hub for semiconductor design, innovation, and manufacturing.
- The ARKA GKT-1 represents a landmark in India's journey to reduce dependency on imported semiconductor technology.

- Developed through extensive collaboration between Azimuth AI's deep learning and power intelligence expertise and Cyient Semiconductors' design engineering capabilities, the chip embodies India's growing competence in high-performance system-on-chip (SoC) design.
- The ARKA GKT-1 integrates multiple subsystems traditionally distributed across separate silicon components into a single, high-efficiency chip. The SoC combines multi-core custom compute units with advanced analogue sensing modules, integrated memory, and intelligent power management.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. The EO SAAW weapon developed by DRDO is primarily designed to:**
 - A. Protect Indian airbases from drone attacks
 - B. Destroy enemy airfields and strategic installations from stand-off ranges
 - C. Provide close-range support to infantry units
 - D. Intercept enemy fighter aircraft

ANSWER: B

- 2. Which key feature enhances the strategic value of India's Submarine-Launched Cruise Missile (SLCM)?**
 - A. Its ability to engage targets only on the sea surface
 - B. Its capability to transition from underwater launch to air flight
 - C. Its exclusive compatibility with nuclear submarines
 - D. Its use of a solid-fuel propulsion system

ANSWER: B

3. The PRALAY missile is classified as a:

- A. Long-range intercontinental missile
- B. Hypersonic anti-ship missile
- C. Short-range quasi-ballistic tactical missile
- D. Cruise missile for air-to-surface missions

ANSWER: C

4. The ARKA GKT-1 system-on-chip was developed jointly by:

- A. ISRO and BEL
- B. DRDO and TATA Advanced Systems
- C. Azimuth AI and Cyient Semiconductors
- D. Qualcomm India and CDAC

ANSWER: C

5. What is one advantage of the uncooled seeker variant of the EO SAAW?

- A. Higher operational range
- B. Lower production cost and easier maintainability
- C. Exclusive use on SU-30MKI aircraft
- D. Ability to carry heavier warheads

ANSWER: B

6. What is the name of the first privately manufactured PSLV set to launch in 2025?

- A. TDS-1
- B. PSLV-MK3
- C. Gaganyaan-1
- D. Chandrayaan-PSLV

ANSWER: A

7. What is the name of the first ship launched under the Indian Navy's Multi-Purpose Vessel project?

- A. Sahyadri
- B. Vikrant
- C. Samarthak

D. Arighat

ANSWER: C

8. Awardees of PVC IN Kargil War Are

- A. Captain Vikram Batra
- B. Captain Manoj Kumar Pandey
- C. Rifleman Sanjay Kumar
- D. All of the above

ANSWER: D

9. Prevention of Money-Laundering Act Came In

- A. 2000
- B. 2001
- C. 2002
- D. 2004

ANSWER: C

10. 'Desh Pukare Jab Sab Ko' Is The March Past Song Of

- A. IAF
- B. ICG
- C. BSF
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

11. Hitler was the dictator of which country?

- A. Russia
- B. Egypt
- C. France
- D. Germany

ANSWER: D

12. On which dates did the US drop atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki respectively?

- A. Aug 6, 1945 & Aug 9, 1945
- B. Aug 6, 1945 & Sept 12, 1945
- C. Aug 5, 1946 & Aug 8, 1946
- D. Aug 9, 1946 & Aug 12, 1946

ANSWER: A

13. What was the name given to World War I by historians?

- A. First War
- B. European war
- C. The Great war
- D. Seven-year War

ANSWER: C

14. Cairo Is The Capital Of

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

ANSWER: A

15. Indian Army Has How Many Operational Commands?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6

ANSWER: D

16. SALVEX (Salvage) Ex Conducted B/W India And

- A. USA
- B. UK
- C. Uganda
- D. European Union

ANSWER: A

17. Mil Mi-35 Is A

- A. Attack Helicopter
- B. Fighter Jet
- C. Tank
- D. UAV

ANSWER: A

18. The Training Command of The IAF Is In

- A. Bengaluru
- B. New Delhi
- C. Pune

D. Mumbai

ANSWER: A

19. "Good Economics for Hard Times" Book Written By

A. Abhijit V. Banerjee

B. Thomas Sowell

C. Hew Strachan

D. APJ Abdul Kalam

ANSWER: A

20. Germany Borders With The

A. Netherlands

B. Belgium

C. Czech Republic

D. All of the above

ANSWER: D

