

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 13 January 2025

### DRDO Successfully Flight-tests Man Portable ATGM

- A new version of a man portable anti-tank guided missile was successfully test-fired at a firing range in Maharashtra's Ahilya Nagar.
- The defence ministry said the weapon system with "top attack capability" was tested against a moving target.
- "The third generation fire and forget man portable anti-tank guided missile (MPATGM) with top attack capability was flight-tested successfully against a moving target in KK Ranges, Ahilya Nagar," it said.
- The test-firing was carried out by the DRDO on Sunday.
- The warhead is capable of defeating modern main battle tanks, the ministry said. The missile can be launched from a tripod or military vehicle launcher, it said in a statement.



## Indian Sailing Vessel 'Kaundinya'

- A fortnight after Indian Navy's 'Kaundinya' embarked on her maiden overseas voyage from Porbandar in Gujarat, the sailing vessel, which does not have an engine and was built using an over 2000-year-old stitching technique, has entered Oman waters.
- Economist and Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council member Sanjeev Sanyal, who is on board the vessel on Monday morning said that the vessel is "well inside Omani waters, North of Sur."
- The ship had embarked on her first voyage from Porbandar in Gujarat to Muscat, Oman on December 29, 2025, along the ancient maritime trade route.
- On Sunday, Sanyal had posted on his social media, "INSV Kaundinya flying the tricolour across the Arabian Sea: Ship of Wood with Men of Steel."
- Kaundinya refers to several significant figures and concepts, most notably Ajnata Kaundinya, an early disciple of Buddha who became the first to attain enlightenment (arahant), and Kaundinya I (Preah Thong), a legendary Indian mariner who co-founded the ancient Kingdom of Funan in Southeast Asia by marrying Queen Soma.
- The name also signifies a prominent Hindu rishi (seer), a clan (Gotra), and lends its name to India's INSV Kaundinya (a heritage ship) and the Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary.



## PSLV-C62 Fails To Place EOS-N1 Satellite Into Orbit

- The PSLV-C62/EOS-N1 mission, launched on 12 January 2026 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, has encountered a significant anomaly towards the end of its PS3 stage, marking another setback for ISRO's workhorse rocket.
- A detailed data analysis is now underway to pinpoint the root cause of this issue. The PSLV, a four-stage rocket comprising two solid propellant stages and two liquid ones, relies on precise sequencing for successful payload injection.
- The vehicle lifted off at 10:18 a.m. IST following a 22.5-hour countdown, carrying the primary EOS-N1 earth observation satellite and 15 co-passenger payloads developed by start-ups, academia, and international partners.
- EOS-N1, developed under the commercial auspices of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), serves strategic earth observation needs, underscoring its importance to India's defence and surveillance ecosystem. The mission's co-passengers reflect growing international collaboration and private sector involvement in Indian space launches.



## Prime Minister Modi Holds Delegation-Level Talks With German Chancellor

- PM Narendra Modi held delegation-level talks with German Chancellor Friedrich Merz in Gandhinagar, marking a significant step in bolstering India-Germany

relations. The meeting took place at the Mahatma Mandir in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, during the Chancellor's inaugural official visit to India.

- The talks reviewed progress in trade, investment, technology, education, skilling, and mobility. Leaders also explored fresh avenues for collaboration in defence, security, science, innovation, research, and sustainable development.
- Defence cooperation emerges as a focal point, aligning with India's push for indigenous capabilities and global supply chain diversification. Discussions likely touched on joint ventures in aerospace and maritime security, given mutual strategic interests.
- Security dialogues address shared concerns over regional stability, supply chain resilience, and counter-terrorism. As QUAD and Indo-Pacific partners, India and Germany align on upholding a rules-based international order.



## Russia Launches Year's Most Concentrated Barrage On Ukraine's Two Largest Cities

- Russian forces launched the year's most intense wave of missile attacks on Ukraine's two largest cities early on Tuesday, Ukrainian officials and media said, killing four people in the northeastern city of Kharkiv.
- The head of Kyiv's military administration, Tymur Tkachenko, said the capital came under a short but intense attack from missiles.
- Reuters witnesses heard explosions in the city, but there was no immediate word on casualties or damage.
- Telegram channels monitoring Ukraine said about 20 ballistic missiles were launched within about an hour overnight, in what they described as the most sustained strike on Ukraine so far this year.
- Reuters could not independently verify the Telegram reports. Ukraine's armed forces did not immediately comment on the full scale of the attack. There was no comment from Russia about the strikes.
- In Kharkiv, 30 km (18 miles) from the border and also a frequent Russian target, Regional Governor Oleh Syniehubov said four people had died in a strike on the outskirts of the city. Syniehubov said six people were injured. Russia has

repeatedly struck Ukrainian cities with missiles and drones since launching its invasion in February 2022, targeting energy infrastructure and leaving millions without power and heating in winter, as Kyiv's defences strain to intercept attacks.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. The recently tested Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) developed by DRDO is best described as:**

- A. A first-generation wire-guided missile
- B. A third-generation “fire-and-forget” missile with top-attack capability
- C. A long-range surface-to-air missile
- D. A cruise missile for naval warfare

**ANSWER: B**

**2. The Indian Navy's sailing vessel Kaundinya is unique because it:**

- A. Uses nuclear propulsion
- B. Is India's first steel-hulled warship
- C. Has no engine and is built using an ancient stitching technique
- D. Is the fastest naval ship in the Indian Ocean

**ANSWER: C**

**3. The EOS-N1 satellite, which failed to reach its intended orbit, was launched aboard which mission?**

- A. Gaganyaan-1
- B. LVM3-X
- C. PSLV-C62

D. SSLV-D2

**ANSWER: C**

**4. PM Modi held delegation-level talks in Gandhinagar with the leader of which country?**

- A. France
- B. Japan
- C. Germany
- D. Australia

**ANSWER: C**

**5. Russia's most intense missile attack of the year reportedly targeted which two major Ukrainian cities?**

- A. Odesa and Lviv
- B. Kyiv and Kharkiv
- C. Kherson and Mariupol
- D. Dnipro and Zaporizhzhia

**ANSWER: B**



**6. Which organization collaborated with the Indian Navy to successfully test the Multi-Influence Ground Mine (MIGM)?**

- A. Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- B. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- C. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- D. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)

**ANSWER: B**

**7. Consider the following statements with reference to 'Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)':**

1. It was established in the wake of a nuclear test conducted by India in 1974.
2. This group is an organization of nuclear states that aims to proliferate the spread of nuclear weapons.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

**ANSWER: A**

**8. Which of the following are the components of Indian Foreign exchange reserves?**

1. Foreign Currency Assets
2. Gold Reserves
3. Special Drawing Rights
4. Reserve Position in the International Monetary Fund
5. External Commercial Borrowings

**Select the correct answer by using the codes given below:**

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 2, 3, 4 and 5 only

**ANSWER: C**

**9. 'Operation Sankalp', is associated with which armed force?**

- A. Indian Navy
- B. Indian Air Force
- C. Indian Army
- D. Indian Coast Guard

**ANSWER: A**

**10. 'INS Nirdeshak' Vessel has been launched by which company?**

- A. BHEL
- B. BEML
- C. NHPC
- D. GRSE

**ANSWER: D**

**11. What are 'Surat' and 'Udaygiri'?**

- A. Fighter Jets
- B. Space Launch Vehicles
- C. Warships
- D. Missiles

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Which Of The Following Missiles Is Air To Air Missile?**

- A. Astra missile
- B. Maitri missile
- C. Nag
- D. Nirbhay

**ANSWER: A**

**13. Southwestern Air Command of IAF Is In**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kochi
- C. Gandhinagar
- D. Panaji

**ANSWER: C**

**14. MSME Stands For**

- A. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- B. Micro, Small and Medium Enter
- C. Micro, Small and Media Enterprises
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**15. M61 Vulcan Is A**

- A. Six- barrelled Gatling gun
- B. Heavy machine gun
- C. Pistol
- D. Rocket

**ANSWER: A**

**16. INSAT-2A Is a**

- A. Air to Air missile
- B. Sniper Rifle
- C. Multipurpose communication & meteorology
- D. Communication satellite

**ANSWER: C**

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

- A. Yama
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra

D. SIMBEX

**ANSWER: D**

**18. The Northrop Grumman E-2 Hawkeye Is A/AN**

- A. Sniper Rifle
- B. Missile
- C. Airborne Early Warning Plane
- D. Bomber

**ANSWER: C**

**19. Hanoi Is The Capital Of**

- A. Vietnam
- B. Venezuela
- C. Yemen
- D. Maldives

**ANSWER: A**

**20. "By God's Decree" Book Is Written By**

- A. Kapil Dev
- B. Mahatma Gandhi
- C. Rabindranath Tagore
- D. Mulk Raj Anand

**ANSWER: A**