

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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India AI Summit 2026

- The Embassy of Israel in New Delhi has revealed that a prominent Israeli delegation will attend the India AI Impact Summit 2026, commencing on 16 February in the capital. This high-level group arrives amid growing bilateral ties, spotlighting opportunities in artificial intelligence and related fields.
- Leading the delegation is Ilan Fluss, a former ambassador and the EDTs Policy Coordinator at Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His team comprises senior government officials, technology pioneers, researchers, and policy specialists, all intent on bolstering Israel-India cooperation.
- Key focus areas include artificial intelligence, climate resilience, ESG investment, digital governance, and responsible innovation. These domains reflect shared priorities as both nations navigate the transformative potential of advanced technologies.
- During the summit, Israeli delegates will engage in high-level panels and bilateral meetings. Topics will span AI applications for climate adaptation, precision agriculture, digital public infrastructure, workforce transformation, and ethical oversight of emerging technologies.



Safran Pledges Indian Engine

- Safran, the French engine manufacturer renowned for powering Dassault Aviation's Rafale fighter jets, has signalled its willingness to establish an engine assembly line in India. This move comes amid ongoing negotiations between the French and Indian governments for the acquisition of 114 additional Rafale aircraft.
- The M-88 engines, which equip the Rafale jets, form the core of this prospective partnership. Safran not only plans to assemble these engines on Indian soil but also intends to source components from local suppliers. This strategy aims to bolster India's burgeoning aerospace sector, fostering technology transfer and indigenous manufacturing capabilities.
- India's defence ministry took a significant step forward on Thursday by granting initial clearance for several high-value procurements. Among these are the Rafale jets and Boeing P-8I maritime patrol aircraft. The approvals pave the way for accelerated discussions, timed perfectly ahead of French President Emmanuel Macron's forthcoming visit to India next week.
- The Rafale program has already proven transformative for the Indian Air Force. The initial 36 jets, inducted in 2020, have enhanced operational readiness along tense borders with China and Pakistan. Expanding the fleet to over 150 aircraft would significantly bolster air superiority, especially amid rising regional threats.



DAC Gives Nod For 288 S-400 Missiles

- The Defence Acquisition Council chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, has granted Acceptance of Necessity for procuring 288 S-400 missiles from Russia at

an estimated cost of ₹10,000 crore. This decision marks a significant step to replenish stocks depleted during Operation Sindoor last year.

- IAF is advocating for five more complete S-400 squadrons, paired with Pantsir short-range systems. This push aims to fortify a robust two-layer air defence architecture capable of neutralising incoming aerial threats, including armed and Kamikaze drones from adversarial borders.
- The Indian Army secured AoN for Vibhav anti-tank mines and overhauls of Armoured Recovery Vehicles (ARVs), T-72 tanks, and BMP-II Infantry Combat Vehicles, ensuring mechanised fleet readiness.
- Naval approvals covered a 4 MW Marine Gas Turbine-based Electric Power Generator and additional P-8I Long Range Maritime Reconnaissance Aircraft, bolstering maritime patrol and power redundancy.



Bangladesh's Tarique Rahman Set To Become PM

- After 17 years in exile in the United Kingdom, Tarique Rahman, the leader of Bangladesh's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), is on the cusp of becoming the country's next prime minister following a resounding victory in the national election held.
- Unofficial results from the Election Commission and party sources indicate that Rahman, aged 60, secured victories in both Dhaka-17 and Bogura-6 constituencies.
- The BNP, under Rahman's stewardship, contested 292 of the 300 parliamentary seats, sharing the remainder with smaller allies, and emerged as the clear frontrunner against an 11-party alliance spearheaded by Jamaat-e-Islami.

- BNP election committee spokesman Mahdi Amin projected that the party would claim at least two-thirds of the seats, underscoring the scale of their success.
- He is often called the "dark prince" and is said to have been the de facto boss from 2001 to 2006 during a coalition government led by the BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami, while Khaleda Zia was prime minister. At the time, Rahman worked out of Hawa Bhaban, a two-floor building with a "wind tunnel," described as a "shadow PMO."
- **What Rahman Said About India**
- One of the biggest geopolitical challenges facing the new government will be rebuilding relations with India. Under Sheikh Hasina, India was Bangladesh's closest ally, but ties severely frayed after her government fell and have become outwardly hostile in recent months.
- Rahman acknowledged that there were "issues" with India and said he would only want "a relationship of mutual respect, mutual understanding," The Guardian reported.
- Questioned on whether India and Bangladesh could rebuild a friendship while Delhi continued to give a safe haven to Hasina and hundreds of her party members, Rahman said, "That depends." "It has to be on them too."
- One of the most immediate tests for a new BNP-led government will be managing this relationship with India, which was closest to Bangladesh under Hasina but has deteriorated in recent months.



India, Japan, Indonesia Conduct Trilateral Naval Exercise

- The Indian Navy, along with Japan and Indonesia, conducted a trilateral exercise in the Andaman Sea on Friday (February 13).
- The exercise aimed to enhance joint operational readiness, improve interoperability, and strengthen maritime cooperation for a safe and stable region.
- In a post on X, Spokesperson of the Indian Navy shared, "Ships from the navies of India, Japan and Indonesia undertook a trilateral exercise in the Andaman Sea on 13 Feb 26, enhancing combined operational readiness, interoperability and reinforcing maritime cooperation towards a safe, secure and stable region."
- Earlier, on Thursday, the Indian Navy assumed command of Combined Task Force (CTF) 154, a key multinational training task force under the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF).
- According to the release, CTF 154 is specifically oriented toward training and capacity building for member nations of the CMF. It reflects the region's growing trust in India's professional expertise, operational experience, and role as a Preferred Security Partner among the 47 nations of the CMF. CTF 154, established in May 2023, is dedicated to enhancing maritime security through multinational training programs across the Middle East and the wider region.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. The Israeli delegation attending the India AI Impact Summit 2026 is led by whom?
 - A. Benjamin Netanyahu
 - B. Ilan Fluss

- C. Emmanuel Macron
- D. Rajnath Singh

ANSWER: B

2. Safran has proposed setting up an engine assembly line in India for which fighter jet engine?

- A. F404 Engine
- B. AL-31FP Engine
- C. M-88 Engine
- D. Kaveri Engine

ANSWER: C

3. The Defence Acquisition Council approved the procurement of how many S-400 missiles?

- A. 200
- B. 288
- C. 150
- D. 350

ANSWER: B

4. Tarique Rahman is the leader of which political party in Bangladesh?

- A. Awami League
- B. Jamaat-e-Islami
- C. Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)
- D. Jatiya Party

ANSWER: C

5. India conducted a trilateral naval exercise in the Andaman Sea with which two countries?

- A. USA and Australia
- B. France and UK
- C. Japan and Indonesia
- D. Russia and China

ANSWER: C

6. India's One and Only Tri-Services Command

- A. New Delhi
- B. Northern Army Command
- C. Andaman & Nicobar Command

D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

7. The ALH MK III Helicopters Have Been Indigenously Manufactured By__.

A. Boeing

B. HAL

C. DRDO

D. Dassault Aviation

ANSWER: B

8. INS Satpura Is A

A. Destroyer

B. OPV

C. Submarine

D. Guided Missile Stealth Frigate

ANSWER: D

9. HEAT Stands For ____.

A. Highly Explosive Anti-Tank

B. Highest Explosive Anti-Tank

C. High Explosive Anti-Tank

D. High Explore Anti-Tank

ANSWER: C

10. Current Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Is__.

A. Dr. Samir Kamath

B. Dr. Rakesh

C. Dr. Rajiv Kumar

D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

11. The Hawker Siddeley HS 748 Is A

A. Helicopter

B. Machine Gun

C. UAV

D. Transport Aircraft

ANSWER: D

12. Juba Is The Capital Of

- A. South Sudan
- B. Spain
- C. Sweden
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

13. "Legend of Suheldev: The King Who Saved India" Book Is Written By

- A. Urjit Patel
- B. Stephen King
- C. J.K Rowling
- D. Amish Tripathi

ANSWER: D

14. Duty, Honour, Courage Is The Motto Of

- A. Maratha Light Infantry
- B. The Grenadiers
- C. Rajput Regiment
- D. Jat Regiment

ANSWER: A

15. Prahaar Missile Manufactured By

- A. MDL
- B. BDL
- C. CSL
- D. DRDO

ANSWER: B

16. Regimental Centre of GARHWAL RIFLES Is In

- A. Happy Valley, Shillong, Meghalaya
- B. Ranikhet, Uttarakhand
- C. Lansdowne, Uttarakhand
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

17. INS Jalashwa Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine

D. Amphibious transport dock

ANSWER: D

18. Exercises B/w The India And UK Is Called:

- A. Desert Eagle
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Indradhanush

ANSWER: D

19. How Many Countries Are In SAARC?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 8
- D. 6

ANSWER: C

20. Current CDS of Indian Armed Forces Is

- A. Gen Anil Chauhan
- B. Gen Bipin Rawat
- C. Gen M M Narravane
- D. None

ANSWER: A