

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Iran's Security Chief Ali Larijani Says It Will Not Negotiate with the United States

- Iran's security chief Ali Larijani, who was also an adviser to the country's former Supreme Leader, said in a post on X on Monday that Tehran will not negotiate with the U.S., in response to a report that Iran is trying to revive negotiations with Washington.
- The Iran vs Israel-US war entered its third day on Monday with intensified aerial bombardment, mounting civilian casualties, retaliatory missile strikes across the Gulf, and growing fears of a prolonged regional conflict.
- The killing of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has triggered a dramatic military escalation, drawing in the United States, Israel, Hezbollah and Gulf nations, while sending shockwaves through global energy and financial markets -- including India.
- The United States and Israel pounded targets across Iran on Sunday, dropping massive bombs on ballistic missile sites and wiping out warships in what officials described as an intensifying campaign.
- Blasts rattled windows across Tehran, with plumes of smoke rising over the capital. Iranian leaders said more than 200 people have been killed since the start of the strikes that eliminated Khamenei and other senior figures.
- The US military confirmed that B-2 stealth bombers struck Iran's ballistic missile facilities with 2,000-pound bombs. President Donald Trump said nine Iranian warships had been sunk and that the Iranian navy's headquarters had been "largely destroyed."
- In a six-minute video message, Trump vowed to "avenge" the deaths of three US service members killed in Iran's counteroffensive, calling them "true American

patriots who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation, even as we continue the righteous mission for which they gave their lives.”

- Israel suffers worst civilian toll so far
- Iran vowed revenge for Khamenei’s killing and fired missiles at Israel and Gulf Arab states.
- In central Israel, an Iranian missile struck a residential district in Beit Shemesh, about 18 miles west of Jerusalem, killing at least nine people — the worst casualty toll in the country since the conflict began. Israel’s overall death toll rose to 11.
- The strike hit near a makeshift synagogue and a communal bunker. Some victims were shelt .



President Murmu Flies ‘Prachand’

- Honorable President of India Droupadi Murmu made history on 27 February 2026 by flying a 25-minute sortie in the Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) ‘Prachand’ near the India-Pakistan border in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- Clad in an olive green flying suit, she flew as co pilot from the Jaisalmer Air Force Station. With this flight, she became the first Indian President to undertake a sortie in an attack helicopter, marking a significant moment for India’s defence and indigenous military capabilities.
- The LCH Prachand is the India’s first indigenously designed and developed combat helicopter. It has been built by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- Key features of LCH Prachand include,

- Advanced avionics and stealth characteristics
- Night attack capability
- Air to air and air to ground missiles
- 20 mm turret gun and rockets
- High altitude operational capabilities



DRDO Carries Out Successful Flight Trials of VSHORADS

- The defence ministry on Friday said three flight-trials of a very short-range air defence missile system were conducted successfully from Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.
- It said the trials were carried out to "revalidate" the capability of the VSHORADS (Very Short-Range Air Defence System) missile system in neutralising high-speed threats flying at varying speed, range, and altitude.
- The VSHORADS is a man-portable air defence system designed and developed indigenously by Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in collaboration with other DRDO (DRDO) laboratories and Indian industry partners.
- "The flight data captured by various range instruments like telemetry, electro-optical tracking system and radars deployed by Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, validated the effectiveness of VSHORADS against a wide range of aerial threats," the ministry said.



Indian Army Conducts Artillery Exercise in Arunachal

- The Indian Army, along with the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Arunachal Scouts, Para Special Forces and the newly raised Bhairav Battalion, successfully carried out a three-day joint artillery field firing exercise at Tezu in Lohit district.
- The exercise, held from February 23 to 25, significantly enhanced inter-agency coordination and operational preparedness in high-altitude terrain.
- The exercise was specifically aimed at strengthening inter-organisation synergy and boosting operational readiness in mountainous regions, which remain strategically sensitive.
- The training emphasised the integration of advanced technologies, next-generation equipment and refined procedures in the application of artillery firepower, he said.
- Officials said the successful conduct of the exercise reaffirms the Indian Army's commitment to integrated war-fighting capability, enhanced inter-agency cooperation and realistic combat training to address evolving operational challenges, particularly in high-altitude environments like Arunachal Pradesh.



Indian Army Upgrades 'Make in India' 96 T-72 Tanks

- The Indian Army has completed the installation of indigenously manufactured Thermal Imaging Fire Control Systems (TIFCS) on 96 of its T-72 tanks, with the systems clearing firing validation trials ahead of induction.
- The T-72 remains a key component of the Army's armoured fleet, and the upgrade is aimed at enhancing its operational effectiveness, particularly in low-visibility and night conditions where legacy optical systems face limitations. The new system incorporates thermal imaging and automatic target tracking to improve accuracy and engagement capability.
- The upgrade has been carried out by Alpha-Elsec Defence & Aerospace Systems Pvt Ltd, a joint venture between Bengaluru-based Alpha Design and Israel's Elbit Systems. The Army signed a contract in 2023 for the supply and installation of 96 TIFCS units.
- Alpha-Elsec CEO Nataraj Krishnappa said the MSME, which employs around 120 skilled professionals, has been expanding its footprint in advanced opto-electronic equipment for the armed forces. A portion of its products are also exported to its joint venture partner for onward global supply.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. The Light Combat Helicopter 'Prachand' has been developed by:

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. Bharat Electronics Limited
- D. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

ANSWER: D

2. Who became the first Indian President to undertake a sortie in an attack helicopter?

- A. Pratibha Patil
- B. Ram Nath Kovind
- C. Droupadi Murmu
- D. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

ANSWER: C

3. VSHORADS missile system has been developed by which organisation?

- A. Indian Navy
- B. DRDO
- C. ISRO
- D. Bharat Electronics Limited

ANSWER: B

4. The joint artillery exercise in February 2026 was conducted in which state?

- A. Sikkim

- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Uttarakhand

ANSWER: C

5. The Thermal Imaging Fire Control Systems (TIFCS) were installed on which tank?

- A. T-90
- B. Arjun
- C. T-72
- D. BMP-2

ANSWER: C

6. Which Force Is Deployed At India, Nepal And Bhutan Border?

- A. Sashastra Seema Bal
- B. Central Industrial Security Force
- C. National Security Guard
- D. Indo-Tibetan Border Police

ANSWER: A

7. Who Among The Following Has Become The First Ever Woman Pilot Of The Indian Navy?

- A. Chhavi Rajawat
- B. Shubhangi Swaroop
- C. Sita Sahu
- D. Asha Roy

ANSWER: B

8. What Is The Code Name Of The First Nuclear Test Of India?

- A. Chagai 1-1
- B. Smiling Buddha
- C. Project 596
- D. Shakti 1 – 1

ANSWER: B

9. Which Is The Smallest Unit Of The Indian Army?

- A. Corps
- B. Section
- C. Battalion

D. Platoon

ANSWER: B

10. What Is The Highest Military Honour Of India?

A. Param Vir Chakra

B. Bharat Ratna

C. Maha Vir Chakra

D. Padma Bhushan

ANSWER: A

11. When Was The Indian Air Force Founded?

A. 30th October 1934

B. 27th October 1932

C. 8th October 1933

D. 8th October 1932

ANSWER: D

12. What Is SRBM Developed By DRDO?

A. Static-Random Ballistic Missile

B. Scientific-Range Ballistic Missile

C. Short-Range Ballistic Memory

D. Short-Range Ballistic Missile

ANSWER: D

13. What Is The India-China Border Line Called?

A. McMahon Line

B. Marginal Line

C. Mannerheim Line

D. Medicine Line

ANSWER: A

14. The "Ladakh Scouts" Is Also Known As -

A. Snow Lions

B. Snow Warriors

C. Snow Leopards

D. Snow Jackals

ANSWER: B

15. Shenyang FC-31 Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: D

16. Armed Forces Medical College Is Located At

- A. Mumbai
- B. Pune
- C. Nashik
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

17. "White Darkness: And Other Stories," Authored By

- A. Lt Gen Y K Joshi
- B. Sitaram Yechuri
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Lt Col Ramesh Menon (Retd)

ANSWER: D

18. Where Is The Hq Of The Southwestern Command of The Indian Army?

- A. Kochi
- B. Vishakhapatnam
- C. Pune
- D. Jaipur

ANSWER: D

19. Super Hornet Fighter Aircraft Is Made By

- A. Dassault
- B. Boeing
- C. Airbus
- D. HAL

ANSWER: B

20. Brigadier Rank of Indian Army Is Equivalent to which rank of Indian Navy?

- A. Commodore
- B. Captain
- C. Commander
- D. Lieutenant

ANSWER: A

