

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Gen Naravane's New Book

- Former Indian Army Chief Manoj Mukund Naravane has added another dimension to military literature with his latest non-fiction book, ***The Curious and the Classified: Unearthing Military Myths and Mysteries***. The work explores lesser-known stories, traditions, and folklore of India's armed forces, offering readers a blend of history, culture, and intriguing anecdotes.

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- **Overview of the Book**
 - The book delves into **military myths, legends, and unexplored narratives** associated with the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force. Rather than focusing on strategy or operations, it highlights the human, cultural, and historical aspects that shape military traditions.
 - It is designed to be **engaging and accessible**, aiming to bridge the gap between civilian understanding and military life through storytelling.

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- **Key Themes and Stories**
 - One of the most striking features of the book is its wide range of fascinating topics:
 - **Origin of "Chak De Phatte"**
The book traces this popular Punjabi battle cry back to Sikh military history, explaining its deeper cultural and martial roots.
 - **Legend of Baba Harbhajan Singh**
A revered figure in military folklore, often associated with spiritual protection of soldiers.
 - **Story of Badluram and Battle of Kohima (1944)**
Connects a wartime incident with the famous marching song "Badluram ka Badan."
 - **Fate of INS Khukri**
Revisits the tragic sinking of INS Khukri during the 1971 Indo-Pak war, highlighting naval bravery and sacrifice.

- **Unusual Military Anecdotes**

Includes stories about airmen's call signs and even a brave military mule named Pedongi, reflecting the diversity of military experiences.

- **Purpose and Significance**

- The book serves multiple important purposes:

- **1. Demystifying Military Life**

It simplifies complex and often misunderstood aspects of the armed forces by presenting them through relatable stories.

- **2. Preserving Military Heritage**

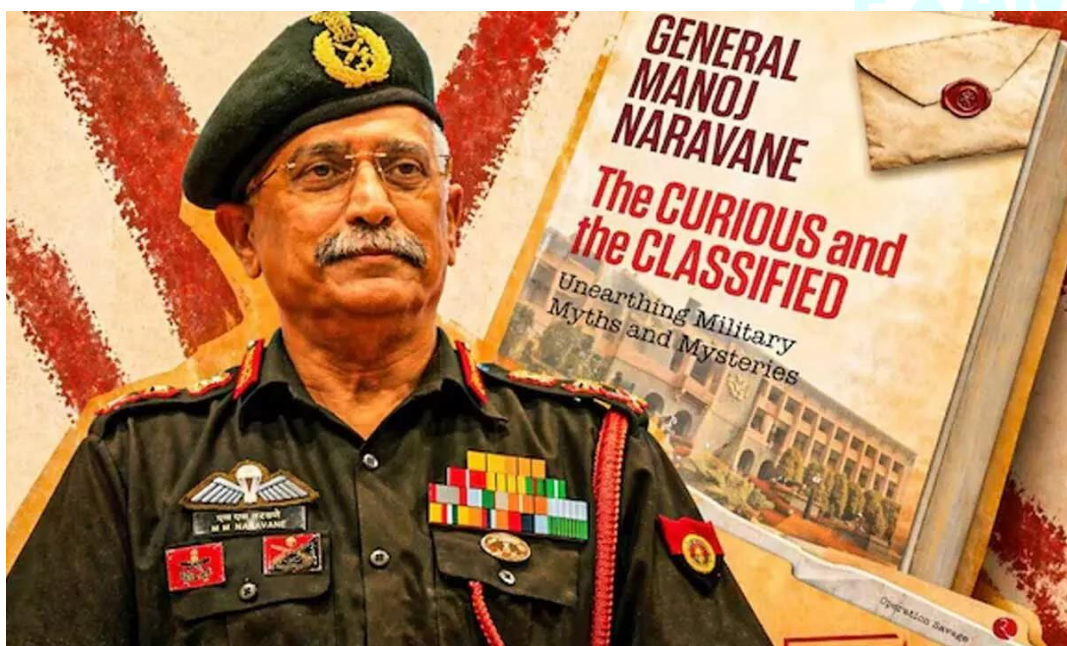
By documenting folklore and traditions, it helps preserve the cultural identity of India's armed forces.

- **3. Civil-Military Connect**

Naravane aims to make military history more accessible to the general public, strengthening awareness and appreciation.

- **Context: After the Memoir Controversy**

- The release comes after controversy surrounding Naravane's unpublished memoir *Four Stars of Destiny*. Unlike that work, his new book avoids sensitive political or strategic issues and instead focuses on **shared heritage and lighter, narrative-driven themes**.



DRDO–Indian Navy Hydrodynamic Testing Milestone

- India has achieved a significant advancement in its maritime defence sector with the successful completion of advanced hydrodynamic testing for a frontline warship project by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in collaboration with the Indian Navy. This milestone reflects the country's growing expertise in indigenous warship design and development.

- **Key Highlights of the Achievement**

- The project involved **hydrodynamic performance assessment and model testing** of a frontline naval warship.
- The work was led by DRDO's Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL) in collaboration with the Navy's Warship Design Bureau.
- The testing demonstrated advanced capabilities in:
 - Hull hydrodynamics
 - Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations
 - Experimental model testing
- These capabilities are critical for designing efficient, stable, and high-performance warships.

- **What is Hydrodynamic Testing?**

- Hydrodynamic testing evaluates how a ship behaves in water. It focuses on aspects such as:
 - Resistance and propulsion efficiency
 - Stability and maneuverability
 - Performance under different sea conditions
- By using simulation tools and scaled models, scientists can optimize ship design before actual construction, reducing costs and improving operational effectiveness.

- **Significance of the Milestone**

- **1. Strengthening Indigenous Defence Capability**

This achievement aligns with India's push for *Aatmanirbhar Bharat* (self-reliance), reducing dependence on foreign technologies in warship design.

- **2. Global Competitiveness**

The testing standards and accuracy achieved are comparable to leading international benchmarks, enhancing India's credibility in naval engineering.

- **3. Enhanced Naval Readiness**

Better hydrodynamic design leads to:

- Improved speed and fuel efficiency
- Reduced detectability (stealth features)
- Greater operational endurance

- **4. Support for Future Warship Projects**

The expertise gained will contribute to upcoming advanced naval platforms, including destroyers, frigates, and other frontline vessels.

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- **Strategic Context**

- India aims to build a **modern, technologically advanced navy** capable of safeguarding its maritime interests across the Indian Ocean region and beyond. Achievements like this play a crucial role in:
 - Expanding blue-water naval capabilities
 - Strengthening maritime security
 - Supporting defence exports in the long term



Pakistan Tests Taimur Anti-ship Missile

- The Pakistan Navy carried out a successful live firing of the **Taimoor air-launched cruise missile** just ahead of **operation Sindoor anniversary**, demonstrating an indigenous system designed to strike surface vessels at ranges of up to **600 km**.

- The Taimoor missile has been developed by **Global Industrial and Defence Solutions**, a state-run Pakistani defence organisation, as part of the Ra'ad family of cruise missiles. The programme reflects efforts to expand indigenous, modular
- Taimoor is described as a non-nuclear export variant of the Ra'ad-II air-launched cruise missile, with a reported range of up to 600 km. It is intended for deployment from platforms such as the **JF-17 Thunder**, indicating a shift from older Mirage aircraft.



Vikram VT21 Wheeled Platform

- The DRDO has achieved a notable milestone with the rollout of the Vikram VT21 Advanced Armoured Platform in its wheeled configuration.
- The platforms were flagged off at the Vehicle Research and Development Establishment in Ahilyanagar in the presence of senior officials, including DRDO Chairman Samir V Kamat.
- The Vikram VT21 platform has been designed and developed by DRDO's Vehicle Research Development Laboratory in collaboration with **Tata Advanced Systems Limited and Bharat Forge Limited**.
- The Advanced Armoured Platform has been built to meet the evolving operational needs of the Indian Armed Forces, with capabilities suited for both Infantry Combat Vehicle and Armoured Personnel Carrier roles.
- Both the tracked and wheeled variants are equipped with an indigenously developed **30 mm crewless turret, along with a 7.62 mm PKT gun**. The system is also configured to launch **anti-tank guided missiles**, enhancing its combat versatility.



Adani To Set Up ₹2,500 Crores Defence Plant In Kolaras

- Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has announced a ₹2,500 crore Adani Group defence manufacturing plant in **Kolaras, Madhya Pradesh**. The facility will be set up within two months and is expected to generate around 2,000 direct jobs while strengthening India's defence production capabilities.
- **Location:** Kolaras, about 70 km from Shivpuri, at the junction of Kota Highway and Mumbai–Gwalior Highway
- **Investment Size:** ₹2,500 crore by the Adani Group
- **Timeline:** Construction to begin within two months
- **Jobs Created:** Approximately 2,000 direct jobs
- **Purpose:** Manufacturing defence equipment to protect India's borders and reduce reliance on imports
- **Strategic Significance**
- **Boost to Defence Manufacturing:** Strengthens India's push for self-reliance in defence production under Atmanirbhar Bharat
- **Regional Development:** Kolaras, traditionally known for agriculture and tomato production, will now emerge as a defence industry hub
- **Industrial Growth:** Addresses the long-pending demand for industrial development in the Shivpuri–Kolaras region



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who is the author of *The Curious and the Classified: Unearthing Military Myths and Mysteries*?

- A. Bipin Rawat
- B. Manoj Mukund Naravane
- C. Anil Chauhan
- D. Dalbir Singh Suhag

Answer: B

2. The book *The Curious and the Classified* primarily focuses on:

- A. Military strategies and war tactics
- B. Defence budget analysis
- C. Military myths, folklore, and traditions
- D. Nuclear policy of India

Answer: C

3. The phrase “Chak De Phatte” discussed in the book is associated with:

- A. Mughal administration
- B. Sikh military history
- C. British Army traditions
- D. Maratha warfare

Answer: B

4. The sinking of INS Khukri mentioned in the book occurred during:

- A. Kargil War
- B. 1965 Indo-Pak War
- C. 1971 Indo-Pak War
- D. Operation Blue Star

Answer: C

5. Hydrodynamic testing of warships primarily evaluates:

- A. Radar systems
- B. Weapon systems
- C. Ship behavior in water
- D. Satellite communication

Answer: C

6. The hydrodynamic testing milestone was achieved by Defence Research and Development Organisation in collaboration with:

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

Answer: C

7. Which DRDO laboratory led the hydrodynamic testing project?

- A. ARDE
- B. DRDL
- C. NSTL
- D. LRDE

Answer: C

8. The Taimur (Taimoor) missile tested by Pakistan belongs to which category?

- A. Ballistic missile
- B. Surface-to-air missile
- C. Air-launched cruise missile
- D. Anti-tank missile

Answer: C

9. The Vikram VT21 Advanced Armoured Platform is designed for:

- A. Naval warfare
- B. Air combat

- C. Infantry Combat Vehicle and Armoured Personnel Carrier roles
- D. Space defence

Answer: C

10. The ₹2,500 crore defence manufacturing plant in Kolaras is being set up by:

- A. Tata Group
- B. Mahindra Defence
- C. Adani Group
- D. DRDO

Answer: C

11. Exercise 'SADA TANSEEQ' Conducted b/w India &

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman
- C. UAE
- D. SAUDI ARABIA

ANSWER: D

12. INS Karmuk Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. Missile Corvette
- C. Submarine
- D. Tank

ANSWER: B

**13. Combat Air Teaming System (CATS) Is An Indian Unmanned & Manned
Combat Aircraft Air Teaming System Developed By**

- A.** HAL
- B.** DRDO
- C.** JAXA
- D.** Boeing

ANSWER: A

14. Ex 'Ekuverin' Conducted B/W India &

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

ANSWER: D

15. Safran Manufactures Aircraft Engines, Rocket Engines MNC Comes From

- A. Germany
- B. France
- C. Nepal
- D. UK

ANSWER: B

16. 'Praia' Is The Capital Of

- A. Costa Rica
- B. Comoros
- C. Cameroon
- D. Cape Verde

ANSWER: D

17. "Roller Coaster: An Affair with Banking" Book Written By

- A. Tamal Bandyopadhyay
- B. Ranjan Gogoi
- C. Manish Tiwari
- D. Neha Sharma

ANSWER: A

18. UNDP Was Established In

- A. 1965
- B. 1975
- C. 1985
- D. 1995

ANSWER: A

19. Lamitye Exercise Held B/W India And___?

- A. Thailand
- B. USA
- C. Qatar
- D. Seychelles

ANSWER: D

20. War Cry of THE MAHAR REGIMENT

- A. Bharat Mata ki Jai

- B. Bolo Hindustan Ki Jay
- C. Jai Hind
- D. Durga Mata Ki Jai

ANSWER: B



SSBCrack
EXAMS