

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 09 May 2026

### Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani (Retd) Appointed as CDS

- The Government has appointed Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd) as the **Chief of Defence Staff**, who shall also function as the Secretary to Government of India, Department of Military Affairs, with effect from the date of assumption of charge and until further orders.
- The present Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM will complete his tenure on May 30, 2026.
- Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani is currently Military Adviser, National Security Council Secretariat w.e.f. September 01, 2025. Prior to that, he was the Vice Chief of the Army Staff from July 01, 2024 to July 31, 2025 and was General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Central Command from March 2023 till June 2024.
- The General Officer is a Graduate of the National Defence Academy and Indian Military Academy. He was commissioned into the 8th Battalion of the Garhwal Rifles on December 14, 1985.
- He is an alumnus of Joint Services Command Staff College, Bracknell (UK), and National Defence College, New Delhi. He holds a Master of Arts Degree from King's College London and an M Phil in Defence Studies from Madras University.
- In his illustrious career spanning over 40 years, Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani has served across a wide spectrum of conflict and terrain profiles and tenanted a host of Command, Staff and Instructional appointments.
- He commanded 16 Garhwal Rifles in Counter-Insurgency in Assam as part of Operation Rhino, 168 Infantry Brigade in Jammu & Kashmir and 17 Mountain Division in the Central Sector during a challenging operational environment.
- He also has the distinction of having commanded 2 Corps, the premier strike Corps of the Indian Army on the Western Front.

- For his distinguished service, the General Officer has been awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Sena Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal.



## Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan Appointed as Chief of the Naval Staff

- The Government has appointed Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, PVSM, AVSM, VSM as the Chief of the Naval Staff. The present Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, PVSM, AVSM, NM will be retiring from service on May 31, 2026.
- Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan assumed charge as the 34th Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command on July 31, 25. The Flag Officer was commissioned into the Indian Navy on July 01, 87 and is a specialist in Communication and Electronic Warfare.
- He is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Khadakvasla; the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham, United Kingdom; the College of Naval Warfare, Karanja; and the United States Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island.
- A recipient of **Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal**, the Admiral has held several key operational, staff and training

appointments in his naval career including the Command of missile vessels **INS Vidyut and Vinash**; the missile corvette **INS Kulish**; the guided missile destroyer **INS Mysore** and the aircraft carrier **INS Vikramaditya**.



## India Procures 83 Indigenous CADET Systems To Transform Mobile Air Defence

- India's procurement of 83 **CADET systems** under the Buy (Indian-IDD) category represents a watershed moment in its air defence doctrine, shifting decisively from static deployments to mobile, network-centric protection for mechanised forces.
- With over 65% indigenous content, CADET embodies the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision while filling a critical operational gap in on-the-move air defence.
- The Ministry of Defence has formally initiated the acquisition of eighty-three Carrier Air Defence Tracked (CADET) systems, a program that underscores India's doctrinal transition towards mobile, integrated air defence.
- Unlike legacy static systems, CADET is designed as a tracked, armoured, and networked platform capable of moving seamlessly with mechanised formations. This ensures that advancing armoured columns are continuously shielded against aerial threats, a capability that has long been absent in India's arsenal.
- The system is deeply integrated with the Akashteer C4ISR framework, which provides sensor fusion, real-time threat evaluation, and shooter coordination.

This transforms CADET from a standalone platform into a vital node within a digitised combat network.

- The tracked configuration allows CADET to maintain pace with tanks and infantry combat vehicles, ensuring protection against drones, loitering munitions, low-altitude aircraft, and attack helicopters throughout all phases of combat.



## Bajrang UAV Successfully Tests Heavy-Lift Cargo

- Ahmedabad-based Bajrang UAV Private Limited has successfully tested its PX4P2300 heavy-lift cargo drone at Shinkula Top in Ladakh, carrying a 30-kg payload under extreme high-altitude conditions.
- This achievement underscores India's growing confidence in indigenous UAV design and signals a major step forward in strategic logistics and defence capabilities.
- The successful trial of Bajrang UAV's PX4P2300 drone at an altitude of approximately 16,400 feet is a remarkable milestone. Operating in such conditions is notoriously difficult due to thin air, freezing temperatures, and strong winds, all of which compromise rotor efficiency and flight stability.
- Despite these challenges, the drone managed to deliver a 30-kg payload with a flight endurance of around 20 minutes, proving its robustness and adaptability.
- Heavy-lift UAV platforms such as the PX4P2300 are poised to transform logistics in challenging environments. Their ability to transport medicines, food packets, communication equipment, ammunition, and emergency supplies to remote

border posts and mountainous regions offers a game-changing solution where traditional infrastructure is limited or absent.



## Maiden Flight-Trial of Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation weapon

- DRDO and the IAF successfully conducted the maiden flight-trial of **Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation (TARA) weapon** off the coast of Odisha on May 07, 2026. TARA, the modular range extension kit, is India's first indigenous glide weapon system to convert unguided warheads into precision guided weapons.
- TARA has been designed and developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad along with other DRDO laboratories to enhance the lethality and accuracy of a low-cost weapon to neutralise ground-based targets.
- It is the first glide weapon to utilise state-of-the-art low-cost systems. The development of the kit has been undertaken with Development cum Production Partners (DcPP) & other Indian industries, which have already started the production activity.
- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has congratulated DRDO, IAF, DcPP, and the Industry for the maiden flight-trial, describing it as a significant development in advancing India's indigenous defence capabilities
- Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat also congratulated the teams associated with the successful flight-trial.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **Who has been appointed as the new Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) of India in 2026?**
  - A) General Anil Chauhan
  - B) Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani
  - C) Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan
  - D) General Manoj Pande

**Answer:** B) Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani

2. **Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan has been appointed as the new:**
  - A) Chief of Army Staff
  - B) National Security Adviser
  - C) Chief of Naval Staff
  - D) Chief of Air Staff

**Answer:** C) Chief of Naval Staff

3. **The CADET system procured by India is mainly related to:**
  - A) Naval warfare
  - B) Space surveillance
  - C) Mobile air defence
  - D) Cyber security

**Answer:** C) Mobile air defence

4. **Bajrang UAV successfully tested its PX4P2300 heavy-lift drone in which region?**
- A) Rajasthan Desert
  - B) Andaman Islands
  - C) Siachen Glacier
  - D) Shinkula Top, Ladakh

**Answer:** D) Shinkula Top, Ladakh

5. **TARA weapon system developed by DRDO is India's first indigenous:**
- A) Ballistic missile
  - B) Glide weapon system
  - C) Anti-submarine drone
  - D) Laser defence system

**Answer:** B) Glide weapon system

6. **The Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation (TARA) weapon was developed by DRDO's:**
- A) DRDL Hyderabad
  - B) ADE Bengaluru
  - C) Research Centre Imarat (RCI)
  - D) ARDE Pune

**Answer:** C) Research Centre Imarat (RCI)

7. **Major General Rank of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of IAF?**
- A. Flying Officer
  - B. Flight Lieutenant
  - C. Squadron Leader
  - D. Air Vice Marshal

**ANSWER: D**

8. **Valour and faith Is The Motto Of**
- A. Mechanised Infantry Regiment
  - B. JKLI
  - C. Rajput Regiment
  - D. Ladakh Scouts

**ANSWER: A**

**9. Regimental Centre of RAJPUT REGIMENT Is In**

- A. Sultanpur
- B. Noida
- C. New Delhi
- D. Fatehgarh

**ANSWER: D**

**10. Defence Acquisition Council Headed By**

- A. Defence Minister
- B. CDS
- C. COAS
- D. PM

**ANSWER: A**

**11. INS Sindhukirti Is A**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) is a shipyard located in**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kochi
- C. Chennai
- D. Visakhapatnam

**ANSWER: D**

**13. INS Brahmaputra (F31) Is A**

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Guided missile frigate

**ANSWER: D**

**14. World's Highest Battlefield Is In**

- A. Drass
- B. Kishtwar
- C. Jaipur
- D. Siachen

**ANSWER: D**

**15. Ulaanbaatar Is The Capital Of**

- A. Oman
- B. Mozambique
- C. Mongolia
- D. Maldives

**ANSWER: C**

**16. "Kashmiri Century: Portrait of a Society in Flux" Book Is Written By**

- A. Kavitha Rao
- B. Bimal Jalan
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Khemlata Wakhlu

**ANSWER: D**

**17. AFV Stands For**

- A. Armoured Fighting Vehicle
- B. Armoured Furious Vehicle
- C. Army Fighting Vehicle
- D. None

**ANSWER: A**

**18. Where Is The Hq Of The Southern Command of The Indian Navy?**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Exercises B/w The India And Mongolia Is Called:**

- A. Nomadic Elephant
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Yudha Abhyas

**ANSWER: A**

**20. India Purchased Rafale Jet from**

- A. USA
- B. Sweden
- C. France
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: C**