

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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CAPSS-HQ Maintenance Command Joint Aerospace

- Headquarters Maintenance Command of the Indian Air Force, in collaboration with the Centre for Airpower and Strategic Studies (CAPSS), an autonomous defence think tank, successfully conducted a one-day Joint Aerospace Power Seminar at Nagpur.
- The seminar, centred on the theme "Efficient Maintenance and Atmanirbharta Enablers of Airpower," brought together senior military leaders, domain experts, and distinguished participants to deliberate on the critical role of maintenance efficiency and self-reliance in enhancing aerospace capability.
- The seminar featured insightful presentations and panel discussions focusing on emerging maintenance practices, technological advancements, indigenisation initiatives and policy frameworks aimed at bolstering India's airpower.
- Experts from the Indian Air Force and CAPSS exchanged perspectives on aligning maintenance strategies with the nation's vision of self-reliance in defence production.



Kalam & Kavach 3.0

- Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Sanjay Seth will inaugurate the third edition of Kalam & Kavach at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi on May 14, 2026.
- The conference will serve as a premier strategic platform bringing together senior policy makers, military leadership, defence industry stakeholders, diplomats, innovators, start-ups, academia & strategic experts to deliberate on India's evolving defence transformation, indigenous capability development, and future warfighting preparedness.
- The event is centred around the strategic vision of Jointness, Aatmanirbharta and Innovation (JAI), along with emphasis on Indigenisation and International Collaboration (I²).
- It seeks to advance discussions on integrated military capability development, technological innovation, and strategic partnerships in line with the national security objectives and the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
- The event includes a series of high-level strategic sessions, keynote addresses, fireside conversations, and industry engagements focusing on the future of India's defence and security landscape.
- Key thematic discussions include future-proofing India's warfighting edge, focusing on AI-enabled warfare, autonomous systems, hypersonic technologies, quantum-enabled **Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR)** capabilities, emerging space and low-earth orbit threats, and Tri-service integration.



Rolls-Royce, HAL Joint Venture Doubles Down On India Manufacturing

- International Aerospace Manufacturing Private Ltd (IAMPL), the high-stakes joint venture between Rolls-Royce and HAL unveiled a massive 12-acre expansion of its manufacturing hub at Tamil Nadu's Hosur in line with its aim to bolster aviation supply chain.
- This state-of-the-art facility aims to become a critical nerve centre for the production of sophisticated jet engine components to power the company's domestic and international aerospace markets.
- The production hub will strengthen advanced aerospace manufacturing capabilities in India and enhance IAMPL's capacity to produce world-class compressor and turbine components, Rolls-Royce said.
- IAMPL, a 50:50 joint venture between Rolls-Royce and HAL, has been manufacturing high-precision machined and special-processed parts for technologically advanced jet engines since 2012, according to Rolls-Royce.
- IAMPL has been playing a critical role in supporting Rolls-Royce's global supply chain as well as the requirements of other leading engine manufacturers.



Drishti Satellite: India's Game-Changing Eye in the Sky

- The launch of Mission Drishti, the world's first OptoSAR satellite, has been hailed as a landmark in India's space journey and a defining moment for the country's private sector.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasised that the achievement is a testament to the youth's passion for innovation and nation-building, congratulating the founders and the team of GalaxEye for their breakthrough.
- The satellite, weighing 190 kilograms, is India's largest privately built spacecraft and represents a technological leap by fusing electro-optical imaging with Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) on a single platform. This dual capability allows persistent, all-weather, day-and-night Earth observation, overcoming the limitations of conventional systems.
- The launch took place a little after noon on 3 May, when a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket lifted off from Vandenberg, California, carrying Mission Drishti into orbit. For India, this marks not only a technological milestone but also a strategic one, as the satellite provides unmatched surveillance capabilities.



S Jaishankar Welcomes Iran's Araghchi

- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday welcomed his Iranian counterpart Seyed Abbas Araghchi with a handshake and a brief exchange of words at the Brics Foreign Ministers' meeting in New Delhi, amid heightened geopolitical tensions in West Asia.

- Araghchi arrived in New Delhi on Wednesday for a three-day official visit, marking the first high-level diplomatic engagement from Tehran since the outbreak of the US-Israel war with Iran more than two months ago.
- Araghchi landed aboard an Iranian aircraft named "Minab168", a symbolic reference to the 168 girls killed in a US missile strike on a school in the southern city of Minab during the US-Israel war on Iran. The aircraft name has become a powerful symbol inside Iran, where officials frequently invoke the Minab attack as evidence of US-Israeli attack on civilians.
- Foreign ministers and senior delegations from BRICS member and partner countries are expected to attend the gathering, which comes at a volatile moment for the grouping as divisions deepen over the Iran conflict and the future direction of the bloc.
- **WEST ASIA CONFLICT LOOMS OVER BRICS TALKS**
- Iran has been pushing BRICS members, particularly India as the current chair, to take a stronger diplomatic position against the US-Israel military campaign. Tehran had earlier urged New Delhi to use its "independent role" within BRICS to help halt hostilities.
- But divisions inside the grouping remain sharp.
- Last month, BRICS officials failed to issue a joint statement on the conflict after disagreements emerged between Iran and the United Arab Emirates over accusations tied to attacks on energy infrastructure in the Gulf. Diplomats familiar with the talks said those disagreements complicated India's efforts to forge a consensus position ahead of the foreign ministers' conclave. It remains unclear whether the current meeting will produce a unified statement on the war.
- **CHINA'S WANG YI TO MISS MEETING**
- China's top diplomat Wang Yi will skip the BRICS gathering because of US President Donald Trump's ongoing state visit to Beijing, which overlaps with the meeting in New Delhi. Beijing has instead deputed Chinese Ambassador to India Xu Feihong to attend on China's behalf.

- Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov is among the senior officials who have confirmed participation. The foreign ministers are also scheduled to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the visit.
- **INDIA PUSHES BROADER BRICS AGENDA**
- According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the meeting will focus on "global and regional issues of mutual interest".
- One session will centre on the theme "BRICS@20: Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability", while another will focus on reforming global governance and multilateral institutions.
- The meeting is also expected to test how far BRICS can maintain internal cohesion as geopolitical tensions increasingly divide member states on security, energy and diplomatic priorities.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. The Joint Aerospace Power Seminar at Nagpur was organised by the Headquarters Maintenance Command of the Indian Air Force in collaboration with which organisation?

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. CAPSS
- D. HAL

Answer: C. CAPSS

Explanation: The seminar was jointly conducted by the Indian Air Force's Headquarters Maintenance Command and the Centre for Airpower and Strategic Studies (CAPSS).

2. The theme of the Joint Aerospace Power Seminar was:

- A. Space Warfare and Cyber Security
- B. Efficient Maintenance and Atmanirbharta Enablers of Airpower
- C. Future Naval Technologies
- D. Drone Warfare and Border Security

Answer: B. Efficient Maintenance and Atmanirbharta Enablers of Airpower

Explanation: The seminar focused on improving maintenance efficiency and promoting self-reliance in aerospace capability.

3. Kalam & Kavach 3.0 is centred around which strategic vision?

- A. SMART
- B. VIKAS
- C. JAI
- D. SURAKSHA

Answer: C. JAI

Explanation: JAI stands for Jointness, Aatmanirbharta, and Innovation.

4. Which of the following technologies is expected to be discussed during Kalam & Kavach 3.0?

- A. Quantum-enabled C4ISR
- B. Green Revolution Techniques
- C. Agricultural Robotics
- D. Deep Sea Mining

Answer: A. Quantum-enabled C4ISR

Explanation: The conference includes discussions on advanced defence technologies including AI warfare, hypersonic systems, and quantum-enabled C4ISR.

5. IAMPL is a joint venture between Rolls-Royce and which Indian company?

- A. Bharat Electronics Limited
- B. Tata Advanced Systems
- C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- D. Bharat Dynamics Limited

Answer: C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

Explanation: IAMPL is a 50:50 joint venture between Rolls-Royce and HAL.

6. The expanded aerospace manufacturing facility of IAMPL is located in:

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Hosur
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Pune

Answer: B. Hosur

Explanation: The manufacturing hub expansion was announced in Hosur, Tamil Nadu.

7. Mission Drishti is described as the world's first:

- A. Military Navigation Satellite
- B. Hypersonic Spacecraft
- C. OptoSAR Satellite
- D. Quantum Communication Satellite

Answer: C. OptoSAR Satellite

Explanation: Mission Drishti combines electro-optical imaging with Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) technology.

8. Mission Drishti was launched aboard which rocket?

- A. PSLV
- B. GSLV Mk III
- C. Falcon Heavy
- D. Falcon 9

Answer: D. Falcon 9

Explanation: The satellite was launched using a Falcon 9 rocket from California.

9. Which country's Foreign Minister, Seyed Abbas Araghchi, attended the BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting in New Delhi?

- A. Saudi Arabia
- B. Iran
- C. UAE
- D. Egypt

Answer: B. Iran

Explanation: Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi attended the BRICS meeting amid West Asia tensions.

11. Which one of the following statements is/are correct regarding BRICS?

- 1. It was set up with the sole purpose of countering the NATO influence and emerging as its substitute.
- 2. The New Development Bank is one of the initiatives of BRICS.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

ANSWER: B

12. World Economic Forum Hq Is In

- A. Geneva, Switzerland
- B. Lausanne, Switzerland
- C. The Hague, The Netherlands
- D. Gland, Switzerland

ANSWER: A

13. ___ Is The Landlocked Country.

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. Pakistan
- C. Bhutan
- D. China

ANSWER: C

14. Which Is Not An Asian Country?

- A. Singapore
- B. Brunei
- C. UAE
- D. Peru

ANSWER: D

15. GPMG Stands For

- A. General Purple Machine Gun
- B. General Purpose Machine Gun
- C. General Purpose Machine Gum
- D. None

ANSWER: B

16. 'Ex Zapad' Conducted B/W India &

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

ANSWER: B

17. Padma Vibhushan Award Was Instituted on

- A. 2nd January 1954
- B. 2nd January 1955
- C. 2nd January 1956
- D. 2nd January 1957

ANSWER: A

18. Hq Of Department of Space Is In

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Kochi
- D. Kolkata

ANSWER: B

19. CAIR Stands For

- A. Centre for Artificial Intelligence & Robotics
- B. Centre for Artificial Intelligent & Robotics
- C. Centre for Artillery Intelligence & Robotics
- D. Centre form Artificial Intelligence & Robotics

ANSWER: A

20. With reference to the Project 15B warships, consider the following statements:

1. They are equipped with BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles and long-range Surface-to-Air Missiles.
2. 'INS Surat' was the first-ever ship of Project 15B Destroyers.
3. Project 15B warships are completely indigenous.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

ANSWER: A