

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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HFCL To Establish ₹230 Crore Defence Manufacturing Facility

- HFCL Group has announced a significant investment initiative aimed at strengthening India's defence manufacturing ecosystem. The telecom gear maker revealed that it will invest approximately ₹230 crore to establish a new defence manufacturing facility in Andhra Pradesh.
- The plant will be located in the Sri Satya Sai District, a region that is rapidly emerging as a hub for defence and aerospace industries.
- In a filing to the stock exchanges, HFCL confirmed that its Board of Directors has approved the establishment of this facility, which will focus on the manufacture of Multi-Mode Hand Grenades (MMHG) and similar advanced defence products.
- The company stated that the project is expected to be completed by December 2027. The ₹230 crore capital outlay will be funded through a combination of internal accruals, debt financing, and proceeds from a preferential issue of convertible warrants.



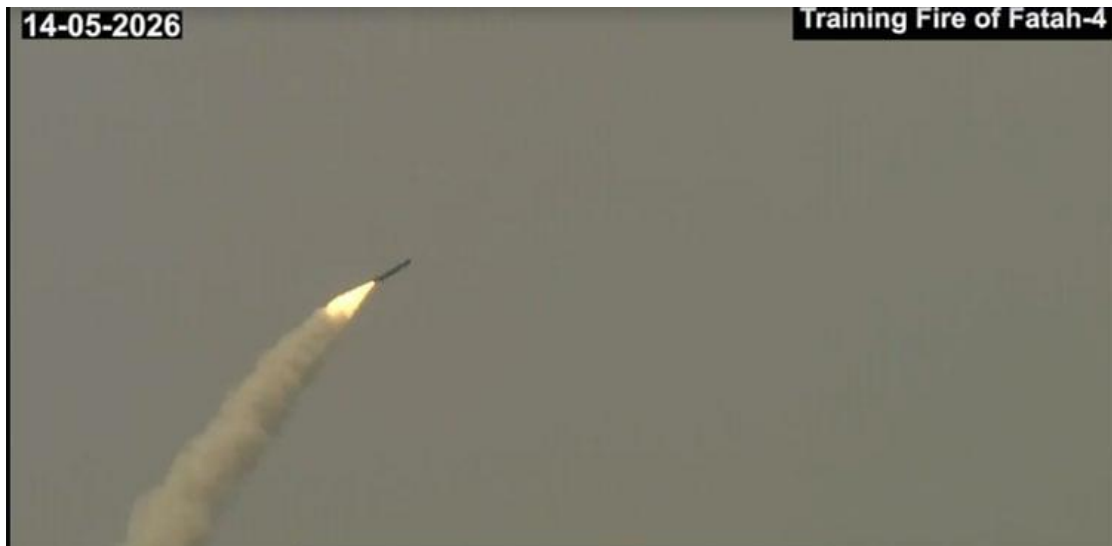
India Condemns Attack On Indian-Flagged Vessel Off Oman

- India has strongly condemned the recent attack on an Indian-flagged commercial vessel off the coast of Oman, describing the incident as unacceptable and reiterating its firm stance on safeguarding freedom of navigation and civilian maritime activity amid the ongoing conflict in West Asia.
- The Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal issued a statement deploring the continued targeting of commercial shipping and civilian mariners in regional waters, stressing that such actions undermine international maritime security and stability.
- The Ministry confirmed that all Indian crew members aboard the vessel are safe following rescue efforts carried out by Omani authorities. India expressed gratitude to Oman for its swift intervention, noting that the safety of Indian seafarers remains a paramount concern.
- The incident comes against the backdrop of rising tensions in the Gulf region, where maritime security has become increasingly fragile near key international shipping lanes.
- Earlier in the day, the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) reported a separate maritime security incident in the Gulf, involving the reported seizure of a vessel near the coast of the United Arab Emirates.



Pakistan Conducts Training Launch of Fatah-4

- Pakistan has claimed that the Fatah-4 missile has a reported range of approximately 750 kilometres, as demonstrated in earlier training launches conducted in September 2025. The latest test builds upon a series of missile trials under the Fatah program.
- In May 2025, Pakistan tested a surface-to-surface missile with a range of 120 kilometres during heightened tensions with India.



K-5 SLBM Clears Underwater Ejection Trial

- India has achieved a significant milestone in its strategic weapons program with the successful completion of the "pop-up" ejection trial of the K-5 Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM).
- This test, conducted in the final week of March, represents a crucial step forward in strengthening the maritime component of the nation's nuclear triad, according to India Today defence journalist Sandeep Unnithan.
- By advancing towards longer-range and more sophisticated sea-based deterrence systems, India is steadily reinforcing its second-strike capability, a cornerstone of credible nuclear deterrence.
- The K-5 missile, weighing approximately 20 tonnes, is set to become the most powerful submarine-launched ballistic missile developed under India's indigenous strategic weapons program. It is strategically positioned as the underwater counterpart to the land-based Agni-V intercontinental ballistic
- The final induction of the K-5 into active service is projected to coincide with the commissioning of the first S-5 class submarine, expected around 2032. This timeline underscores the complexity of integrating such a sophisticated strategic asset into India's deterrence architecture.



Operation Heavenly Hind

- The charge sheet filed by the National Investigation Agency in the 2025 Red Fort blast case has revealed the use of Triacetone Triperoxide (TATP) in the vehicle-borne improvised explosive device, which killed 11 persons and injured several others.
- TATP, according to the charge sheet, was manufactured by the accused clandestinely after procuring materials and conducting experiments to perfect the mixture.
- The 7,500 page charge sheet filed in a special court at Patiala House courts in Delhi names four doctors — Muzamil Shakeel, Adeel Ahmed Rather, Shaheen Saeed, and Bilal Naseer Malla. It also names other co-conspirators Jasir Bilal Wani, Aamir Rashid Mir, Yasir Ahmad Dar, Soyab (one name only) and Mufti Ahmad Wagay, who allegedly played a key role in the radicalisation of the module members. The charges against Dr Umar un-Nabi, who was driving the car, have been proposed to be abated since he died in the blast.
- The charges include the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), the Explosives Act, the Arms Act, and the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act.
- “All 10 accused, including the main perpetrator, Dr Umer Un Nabi (deceased), were linked to the organisation Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind (AGuH) – an offshoot of the al-Qaida in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS),” NIA said in a statement. AQIS and all affiliated organisations were notified as terrorist organisations by the ministry of home affairs in June 2018.
- AGuH was formed in July 2017 by Zakir Rashid Bhat alias Zakir Musa, once a close aide of Burhan Wani, after parting ways with Hizbul Mujahideen. In the initial days, the AGuH coordinated with other outfits in Jammu and Kashmir, but a continuous crackdown by the security forces led to its activities coming to an end. Officials in the intelligence community said AGuH was not widely accepted in Kashmir. And after the killing of Musa by the security forces in May 2019, it became defunct.



Kaal Bhairava to be Manufactured in Europe under Operation 777

- Flying Wedge Defence & Aerospace (FWDA), an Indian AI warfare company, on Thursday announced the establishment of its first international manufacturing node in Portugal for its flagship autonomous combat aircraft, Kaal Bhairava.
- Positioned as India's first AI-powered combat aircraft, Kaal Bhairava will be manufactured in Portugal through a partnership with SKETCHPIXEL LDA, a European technology firm known for developing advanced fighter jet simulation systems for aircraft including the F-16.
- The company described the facility as the first overseas production node for an Indian-designed autonomous combat aircraft.
- Under the agreement, SKETCHPIXEL will provide simulation technologies, AI integration, communications systems, and interoperability capabilities for the platform, while FWDA will retain intellectual property rights over the aircraft's core autonomous systems and airframe design.
- The Portugal facility will serve as the first international node under Operation 777, a long-term strategic initiative conceptualised by Suhas Tejaskanda, Founder and CEO of FWDA. First unveiled during the launch of the Kaal Bhairava platform in 2025, the initiative aims to establish manufacturing, integration, and deployment partnerships for Indian-origin autonomous warfare systems across seven continents and 77 countries.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which company announced a ₹230 crore investment for a new defence manufacturing facility in Andhra Pradesh?

- A) BEL
- B) HAL
- C) HFCL
- D) DRDO

Answer: C) HFCL

Explanation: HFCL announced the establishment of a defence manufacturing facility in Andhra Pradesh with an investment of approximately ₹230 crore.

2. The new HFCL defence manufacturing plant will be located in which district of Andhra Pradesh?

- A) Chittoor
- B) Sri Sathya Sai District
- C) Visakhapatnam
- D) Kurnool

Answer: B) Sri Sathya Sai District

Explanation: HFCL's upcoming defence manufacturing facility will be established in the Sri Sathya Sai District.

3. The K-5 missile recently cleared which important stage of testing?

- A) Air launch trial

- B) Hypersonic test
- C) Underwater ejection trial
- D) Satellite guidance test

Answer: C) Underwater ejection trial

Explanation: India successfully completed the “pop-up” underwater ejection trial of the K-5 Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM).

4. **The K-5 missile is considered the underwater counterpart of which Indian missile system?**

- A) BrahMos
- B) Agni-V
- C) Prithvi-II
- D) Akash

Answer: B) Agni-V

Explanation: The K-5 SLBM is strategically positioned as the underwater equivalent of the Agni-V intercontinental ballistic missile.

5. **Which country partnered with Flying Wedge Defence & Aerospace for manufacturing the Kaal Bhairava combat aircraft?**

- A) France
- B) Germany
- C) Portugal
- D) Israel

Answer: C) Portugal

Explanation: FWDA announced its first international manufacturing node in Portugal for the Kaal Bhairava autonomous combat aircraft.

6. **C295 Aircraft Manufactured By**

- A. Boeing
- B. Airbus
- C. HAL
- D. None

ANSWER: B

7. Indian Space Science Data Centre Is Located At

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

ANSWER: B

8. ___ Becomes Indian Army's First Woman Sky Diver

- A. Roop Rai
- B. Lance Naik Manju
- C. Corporal Manju
- D. None

ANSWER: B

9. ___ Plans To Establish The National Government Cloud To Store Sensitive Data.

- A. MOD
- B. MEA
- C. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

10. The Hawker Siddeley HS 748 Is A

- A. Helicopter
- B. Machine Gun
- C. UAV
- D. Transport Aircraft

ANSWER: D

11. 'Swift and Sure' Is The Motto Of

- A.** Army Aviation Corps
- B.** Sikh Regiment
- C.** Rajput Regiment
- D.** Gorkha

ANSWER: A

12. Which Regiment Has Motto: "Veer Bhogya Vasundhara"?

- A. RAJPUTANA RIFLES
- B. RAJPUT REGIMENT
- C. DOGRA REGIMENT
- D. SIKH REGIMENT

ANSWER: A

13. ICMF Stands For

- A. Integrated Cryogenic Engine Manufacturing Facility
- B. Integrated Cry Engine Manufacturing Facility
- C. Integrated Cryogenic Engine Make Facility
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

14. "Bolo Shri Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj ki jai" Is The War Cry Of

- A. Maratha Light Infantry Regiment
- B. Grenadiers
- C. Punjab Regiment
- D. Parachute Regiment

ANSWER: A

15. Rabat Is The Capital Of

- A. Morocco
- B. Montenegro
- C. Monaco
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

16. "Without Fear or Favour" Book Written By

- A. R K Narayan
- B. Khushwant Singh
- C. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy
- D. APJ Abdul Kalam

ANSWER: C

17. Exercises B/w The India And Bangladesh Is Called:

- A. GARUDA SHAKTI
- B. SLINEX
- C. SAMPRITI

D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: C

18. **__Is The Legal Branch Of The Indian Army.**

A. Army Court

B. Supreme Court

C. Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Department

D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

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

A. KHANJAR

B. SLINEX

C. NOMADIC ELEPHANT

D. Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

20. **What Is SARVATRA In The Context Of The Indian Army's Defence Capabilities?**

A. Special Operations Force

B. Tactical Reconnaissance System

C. Rapid Deployment Platform

D. Mobile Bridging System

ANSWER: D