

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Indian Army Plans 300 More K9 Vajra Guns

- The Indian Army signed its first contract for 100 K9 Vajra guns in 2017 for about ₹4,500 crore. Deliveries under that contract were completed in 2021. A second contract for another 100 guns was signed by the Ministry of Defence in December 2023 for about ₹7,600 crore.
- The K9 Vajra is used for long-range artillery support on the western and northern fronts. The system has also undergone cold-weather trials in Ladakh, which is a high-altitude region along the Line of Actual Control with China.
- If approved, the new order would take Larsen & Toubro's cumulative K9 Vajra production mandate beyond 500 guns. The proposed procurement would be one of the largest artillery acquisitions by the Indian Army in recent decades.
- The K9 Vajra-T is based on the South Korean K9 Thunder platform.
- The K9 Vajra is a tracked self-propelled howitzer used for mobile artillery support.
- The Defence Procurement Board is a key body in India's defence acquisition process.
- The Line of Actual Control is the de facto boundary between India and China in several sectors.



MoD inks Rs 449 Crore Contract for Global Navigation Satellite System

- Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with Accord Software and Systems Private Limited, Bengaluru for the procurement of **20 Enhanced Capability Global Navigation Satellite System Jammers** for the Indian Navy at a total cost of Rs 449 crore with minimum **75% indigenous content**.
- The contract, under the Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured) category, was inked in the presence of Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh in New Delhi on June 10, 2026.
- The system's capabilities include degrading the satellite signal acquisition and tracking performance of the adversary **GNSS receiver** and signal spoofing or deceptive jamming. The induction would pave the way for safe operations by the ships of the **Indian Navy** in a multi-threat environment.
- The contract reinforces the Government's commitment to Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make-in-India while bolstering the maritime security architecture of the country. It marks a critical milestone in the ongoing efforts to bolster defence capabilities and indigenise advanced military technology.



QpiAI Builds India's Most Powerful 64-Qubit Quantum Processor 'Kaveri'

- India has achieved a remarkable milestone in the field of quantum computing with the announcement of the country's most powerful indigenous quantum processor.
- Bangalore-based start-up QpiAI has successfully built a 64-qubit superconducting quantum processor named 'Kaveri'.
- This achievement places India in the elite league of nations capable of designing and fabricating such advanced quantum systems, a group that currently comprises only seven countries worldwide. The processor represents a significant leap forward in India's technological sovereignty and innovation capacity.
- The processor crosses the critical 50-qubit threshold, a benchmark recognised globally as the point where quantum systems begin to outperform classical computers in specific problem domains. Kaveri is a testament to the strength and dynamism of Bangalore's innovation ecosystem, which continues to deliver cutting-edge technologies for the nation.
- The processor has been developed by QpiAI, a start-up comprising experts in artificial intelligence, semiconductors, device physics, and related fields. The company's mission, as outlined on its official website, is to transform frontier computational science into reliable, production-grade technologies that provide measurable industrial advantages.

- Quantum processors of this scale are expected to revolutionise fields such as cryptography, materials science, drug discovery, optimisation problems, and artificial intelligence.
- By crossing the 50-qubit threshold, Kaveri positions India to explore these domains with unprecedented computational power, opening opportunities for both academic research and industrial deployment.



India Thanks Oman For Rescue of 24 Seafarers

- India has formally thanked Oman for its swift assistance in rescuing 24 Indian seafarers from the Palau-flagged tanker MT Marivex, which was disabled by a US strike off the Omani coast after allegedly attempting to breach a blockade on Iranian ports.
- The crew was evacuated safely, and the incident underscores rising maritime risks in the Strait of Hormuz.
- The Ministry of External Affairs confirmed on Tuesday that all 24 Indian nationals aboard MT Marivex were rescued without injury after the vessel was struck and caught fire near Masirah, Oman.
- MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated that the Indian embassy in Muscat coordinated closely with Omani authorities to ensure the safety of the crew.
- The tanker, operating under a Palau flag, was reportedly black-listed and sanctioned by the United States for links to Iranian oil shipments. According to US Central Command, the vessel had attempted multiple times to sail towards Iranian ports in violation of the ongoing blockade.

- The incident highlights the growing dangers faced by commercial shipping in the Gulf region. The Strait of Hormuz, through which a significant portion of global oil and gas shipments pass, has witnessed repeated confrontations in recent months.



Tata, Airbus Conduct First Test Flight Of Maiden 'Made In India' C295 Military Transport Aircraft

- Tata Advanced Systems Limited and Airbus completed the first test flight of maiden 'Made in India' Airbus C295 military transport aircraft from the Final Assembly Line in Vadodara. The model marked the first of 40 aircraft to be built in India, advancing the defence programme's objective of delivering the first such aircraft to the Indian Air Force this year.
- Marking a milestone for Indian aviation and defence, the test flight was a crucial step in the aircraft's postproduction testing process.
- Calling it a "game changer", Airbus' Defence division announced that the C295 India programme is the first instance of a military aircraft being manufactured in India by the private sector.
- Indian Air Force Deputy Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti visited the Vadodara facility to assess progress on the first India-made C-295 aircraft.
- The military aircraft will replace the Indian Air Force's ageing Avro-748 fleet. It is a medium tactical transport aircraft designed for troop movement, cargo carriage, medical evacuation, and special operations.

- In October 2024, Tata and Airbus inaugurated the Final Assembly Line (FAL) complex for the Airbus C295 aircraft in Vadodara, Gujarat in India. The collaborative project marks the first instance of the private sector setting up an aircraft facility in India.
- The C295 programme will produce more than 85% structural and final assembly of 40 aircraft along with the manufacturing of 13,000 detail parts in India, for which the two partners certified 21 special processes and onboarded 37 India-based suppliers, both from the private and public sectors.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. The K9 Vajra-T artillery gun used by the Indian Army is based on which foreign platform?

- A) M777 Howitzer
- B) Caesar Howitzer
- C) K9 Thunder
- D) Archer System

Answer: C) K9 Thunder

2. The Ministry of Defence signed a ₹449 crore contract with which company for Enhanced Capability GNSS Jammers?

- A) Bharat Electronics Limited
- B) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- C) Accord Software and Systems Pvt. Ltd.
- D) Tata Advanced Systems Ltd.

Answer: C) Accord Software and Systems Pvt. Ltd.

3. The GNSS Jammers procured for the Indian Navy are intended primarily to:

- A) Improve weather forecasting
- B) Enhance satellite communication
- C) Disrupt enemy navigation signals
- D) Track submarines

Answer: C) Disrupt enemy navigation signals

4. What is the name of India's indigenous 64-qubit quantum processor developed by QpiAI?

- A) Ganga
- B) Narmada
- C) Saraswati
- D) Kaveri

Answer: D) Kaveri

5. QpiAI, the company that developed the Kaveri quantum processor, is based in:

- A) Hyderabad
- B) Bengaluru
- C) Chennai
- D) Pune

Answer: B) Bengaluru

6. Crossing which qubit threshold is generally considered a major milestone where quantum computers begin outperforming classical computers in certain tasks?

- A) 25 Qubits
- B) 40 Qubits
- C) 50 Qubits
- D) 100 Qubits

Answer: C) 50 Qubits

7. India thanked which country for rescuing 24 Indian seafarers from the tanker MT Marivex?

- A) Saudi Arabia
- B) United Arab Emirates
- C) Oman
- D) Qatar

Answer: C) Oman

8. The MT Marivex incident occurred near which strategically important maritime region?

- A) Malacca Strait
- B) Strait of Hormuz
- C) Bab-el-Mandeb Strait
- D) Suez Canal

Answer: B) Strait of Hormuz

9. The first test flight of the India-manufactured C295 military transport aircraft was conducted from:

- A) Bengaluru
- B) Nagpur
- C) Kanpur
- D) Vadodara

Answer: D) Vadodara

10. The Airbus C295 aircraft being manufactured in India will replace which ageing aircraft fleet of the Indian Air Force?

- A) AN-32
- B) IL-76
- C) Avro-748
- D) Dornier-228

Answer: C) Avro-748

11. Berlin Is The Capital Of

- A. France
- B. Qatar
- C. Germany
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: C

12. "Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings in the BCCI" Book Is Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Sitaram Yechuri
- C. Vinod Rai
- D. Anurag Thakur

ANSWER: C

13. Where Is The Hq Of The Southern Western Command of The Indian Army?

- A. Jaipur
- B. Jabalpur
- C. Pune
- D. Mumbai

ANSWER: A

14. Sea Dragon Exercise Hosted By

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

ANSWER: A

15. India Purchased C 130 J from

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

ANSWER: A

16. Ex KHANJAR Conducted B/W India &

- A. Qatar
- B. Oman

- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Kyrgyzstan

ANSWER: D

17. OPEC Hq Is In

- A. Vienna
- B. New York
- C. Chennai
- D. Abu Dhabi

ANSWER: A

18. Gangtok Is The Capital Of

- A. Sikkim
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Telangana
- D. Tripura

ANSWER: A

19. What Is The Full Form Of JCB?

- A. Joseph Cyril Bamford
- B. Joseph Cyrus Bamford
- C. Joseph Cyril Bofors
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

20. Lt Gen. Rank Of Indian Army Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of IAF?

- A. Vice Admiral
- B. Air Commodore
- C. Commodore
- D. Air Marshal

ANSWER: D