

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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US Renames Indo-Pacific Command back to Pacific Command

- The United States renamed the **U.S. Indo-Pacific Command** back to the U.S. Pacific Command. The command was first established as the U.S. Pacific Command on January 1, 1947, by **President Harry S. Truman**.
- The command used the name U.S. Pacific Command until May 2018, when it was renamed U.S. Indo-Pacific Command under Defence Secretary Jim Mattis. The 2018 change aligned the command's title with the term Indo-Pacific, which links the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean in strategic geography.
- The U.S. Pacific Command is one of the unified combatant commands of the United States Armed Forces. It is the oldest and largest of these commands and is headquartered at Camp H. M. Smith in Hawaii.
- The command's area of responsibility extends from the U.S. West Coast to the western border of India. Its mission, operational responsibilities, personnel strength, and geographic scope remained unchanged after the renaming.
- The renaming restored the earlier designation used for more than seven decades after the command's creation. The change did not alter the command's troops, military tasks, or Pentagon-wide operational structure.



Logo of US Pacific Command (USPACOM) (Photo: X@INDOPACOM)

US Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) restores name to US Pacific Command (USPACOM)

India & Thailand Agree To Deepen Collaboration

- The **10th Thailand-India Defence Dialogue** took place in Bangkok on June 16, 2026 to review the full spectrum of bilateral defence cooperation and exchange views on regional & global security issues of mutual interest.
- The dialogue was co-chaired by Thailand's Deputy Permanent Secretary for Defence Admiral Nuttapol Diewvanich and Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Government of India Shri Satyajit Mohanty.
- The two sides discussed the evolving security environment in the Indo-Pacific region and exchanged perspectives on regional developments. They reaffirmed the importance of strengthening cooperation to promote peace, stability and prosperity in the region.
- The delegations reviewed the progress made in bilateral defence cooperation since the previous dialogue. Discussions covered the ongoing military-to-military engagements, capacity-building initiatives, training exchanges, maritime cooperation and other areas of mutual interest.
- The delegations exchanged views on cooperation under regional and multilateral defence frameworks, including **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)**-led mechanisms.

- They reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening practical cooperation and addressing shared security challenges through dialogue and collaboration.
- The meeting concluded with discussions on future engagements and the way ahead for bilateral defence cooperation. India and Thailand elevated their bilateral ties to a formal Strategic Partnership in 2025.



Defence Production Soars To A Record Rs 1.78 Lakh Crore ‘

- India’s annual defence production has surged to an all-time high of Rs 1.78 lakh crore in the Financial Year (FY) 2025-26.
- The milestone represents a 15.6% growth over the previous fiscal year’s output of Rs 1.54 lakh crore and a staggering 110% increase since FY 2020-21 when the figure was Rs 84,643 crore. The indigenous defence production has increased almost four times from Rs 43,746 crore in FY 2013-14.
- Defence Public Sector Undertakings and other PSUs accounted for approximately 76% of total production, while the private sector contributed 24%, which is a rise from 22% in FY 2024-25.
- The share of the private sector is at its all-time high of around Rs 42,000 crore in FY 2025-26, reflecting its expanding role in the defence ecosystem. The growth in defence production over the years has tremendously contributed in achieving the record defence exports of Rs 38,424 crore in FY 2025-26.



IAF To Join Exercise Pitch Black 2026 in Australia

- Exercise Pitch Black 2026 is scheduled from 20 July to 7 August 2026 in Australia's Northern Territory. The Indian Air Force is among the participating air forces in this biennial multinational air combat exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force, which is its largest international exercise.
- Exercise Pitch Black is a multinational air combat exercise conducted by the Royal Australian Air Force. It is held every two years and involves complex combat-like scenarios across large training areas in Australia.
- More than 100 aircraft and personnel from 19 allied and partner nations are expected to take part in Pitch Black 2026. The participating countries include Australia, Brunei, Canada, Fiji, Finland, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- The exercise will be conducted from RAAF Base Darwin and RAAF Base Tindal in the Northern Territory, and RAAF Base Amberley in Queensland. The exercise area includes one of the world's largest military training areas, which is used for air combat integration and tactical training.



Bharat Forge Unveils Simha 4×4 Armoured Vehicle

- On 16 June 2026, Kalyani Strategic Systems Limited, a wholly-owned defence subsidiary of Bharat Forge Limited, partnered with Paramount to unveil the Simha 4×4, a Light Armoured Multi-Purpose Vehicle.
- The vehicle was unveiled at Eurosatory 2026 in Paris, France, which is an international exhibition for land and air-land defence and security equipment.
- The Simha 4×4 is an ab initio design developed for armed forces in India, Africa, South Asia, and other markets. An ab initio design is a platform developed from the beginning as a new design rather than as a modification of an existing vehicle.
- The Simha 4×4 has a modular architecture that supports upgrades, customisation, and modifications. The platform is designed to streamline supply chains and maintenance, repair, and overhaul processes. It is built for on-road and off-road mobility.
- The vehicle is designed for urban warfare, reconnaissance missions, internal security, border protection, special operations, command-and-control roles, and troop transport. It is intended for a wide operational spectrum in military and security use.
- Bharat Forge stated that the Simha 4×4 is built around NATO-qualified aggregates and is engineered for rapid industrialisation in partner nations. Paramount stated that modern defence forces require adaptable platforms that can support multiple missions, emerging technologies, and local production.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **The United States restored which name for its military command in June 2026?**
(A) Central Command
(B) Strategic Command
(C) Pacific Command
(D) Northern Command

Answer: (C) Pacific Command

2. **The 10th Thailand-India Defence Dialogue was held in which city?**
(A) New Delhi
(B) Chiang Mai
(C) Phuket
(D) Bangkok

Answer: (D) Bangkok

3. **What was India's total defence production in FY 2025-26?**
(A) ₹1.25 lakh crore
(B) ₹1.54 lakh crore
(C) ₹1.78 lakh crore
(D) ₹2.00 lakh crore

Answer: (C) ₹1.78 lakh crore

4. **Exercise Pitch Black 2026 is hosted by which country's air force?**
(A) India
(B) Australia

- (C) United States
- (D) United Kingdom

Answer: (B) Australia

5. **The Simha 4x4 Light Armoured Multi-Purpose Vehicle was unveiled by which company?**
- (A) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
 - (B) Larsen & Toubro
 - (C) Bharat Electronics Limited
 - (D) Bharat Forge Limited

Answer: (D) Bharat Forge Limited

6. **India and Thailand elevated their bilateral relationship to a Strategic Partnership in which year?**
- (A) 2023
 - (B) 2024
 - (C) 2025
 - (D) 2026

Answer: (C) 2025

7. **Motto of NSG Is**
- A. शं नो वरुणः
 - B. नभः स्पृशं दीप्तम्
 - C. सर्वत्र सर्वोत्तम सुरक्षा
 - D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

8. **In Which Operation NSG Didn't Take Part?**
- A. Operation Talwar
 - B. Black Thunder
 - C. Ashwamedh
 - D. Vajra Shakti

ANSWER: A

9. **SAG & SRG Stands For**

- A.** Special Act Group & Special Ranger Group
- B.** Special Action Group & Special Roger Group

- C. Special Action Game & Special Ranger Group
- D. Special Action Group & Special Ranger Group

ANSWER: D

10. The Highest Rank Structure In NSG Is

- A. Director General
- B. Inspector General
- C. Deputy Inspector General
- D. Group Commander

ANSWER: A

11. INS Tarangini Is A

- A. Helicopter
- B. Sailing Ship
- C. UAV
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

12. FGM-148 Javelin Is Made By

- A. Boeing
- B. Lockheed Martin
- C. Raytheon
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

13. Ex PRABAL DOSTYK Conducted B/W India And

- A. France
- B. China
- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Kyrgyzstan

ANSWER: C

14. Q.M.HAV Stands For

- A. Quarter Havildar
- B. Quartermaster Havildar
- C. Quartermaster Hawadar
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

15. **Santiago Is The Capital Of**

- A. Oman
- B. Colombia
- C. UAE
- D. Chile

ANSWER: D

16. **"Vahana Masterclass" Book Is Written By**

- A. Alfredo Covelli
- B. Sitaram Yechuri
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. R. Kaushik

ANSWER: A

17. **"Balidanam Vir Lakshanam" Is The Motto Of**

- A. JKLI
- B. THE MAHAR REGIMENT
- C. THE BIHAR REGIMENT
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

18. **Prithvi III Is A**

- A. Air to Air Missile
- B. Surface to Air Missile
- C. Surface to Surface Missile
- D. Air to Sea Missile

ANSWER: C

19. **Shishumar Is a**

- A. Air to Air missile
- B. Sniper Rifle
- C. Anti-tank Guided missile
- D. Submarine

ANSWER: D

20. **Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (DLRL) Centre Is Located In**

- A. Hyderabad, Telangana
- B. Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- C. Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh

D. Tezpur, Assam

ANSWER: A