

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Indian-Flagged Vessel Attacked in the Red Sea

- An Indian-flagged merchant vessel, **MSV Faize Noore Oliya**, came under attack off the coast of **Yemen** in the Red Sea on **4 August 2026**. The vessel was carrying **13 Indian nationals**, all of whom were rescued safely following the incident. India strongly condemned the attack and reiterated the need to ensure the safety of commercial shipping in international waters.
- **Background**
- The Red Sea is one of the world's busiest maritime trade routes, linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Indian Ocean through the Suez Canal. In recent years, attacks on commercial vessels in the region have increased due to regional conflicts and maritime security challenges.
- **Key Highlights**
- Indian-flagged vessel **MSV Faize Noore Oliya** was attacked off the Yemeni coast.
- The ship reportedly sank after the attack.
- All **13 Indian crew members** were rescued safely.
- The **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** condemned the attack.
- The Indian Embassy in **Riyadh** coordinated with Yemeni authorities to ensure the crew's safety.
- **Significance**
- The incident highlights the growing security risks in the Red Sea and underscores the importance of international cooperation to safeguard global maritime trade and protect merchant vessels.



India And Vietnam Strengthen Air Force Cooperation

- India and Vietnam have reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing defence cooperation during the official visit of **Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh**, Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force, to Vietnam. The visit focused on expanding military engagement, professional exchanges, and strategic collaboration between the two air forces.
- **Background**
- India and Vietnam share a long-standing strategic partnership, with defence cooperation serving as one of its strongest pillars. The relationship is guided by the **2009 Memorandum of Understanding on Defence Cooperation**, the **2015 Joint Vision Statement**, and the **2022 Joint Vision on India–Vietnam Defence Partnership Towards 2030**.
- **Key Highlights**
- Air Chief Marshal **A.P. Singh** met **General Nguyen Tan Cuong** in Hanoi.
- Discussions focused on enhancing **Air Force-to-Air Force cooperation**.
- Both sides reviewed progress in defence collaboration and capacity building.
- The leaders exchanged views on regional and global security issues.
- India and Vietnam reaffirmed their commitment to the **Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**.
- Cooperation will continue under the **Joint Vision Towards 2030** and the **Mutual Logistics Support MoU**.
- **Significance**

- The meeting strengthens defence ties between India and Vietnam, contributes to regional stability in the Indo-Pacific, and promotes closer military cooperation through training, logistics, and strategic dialogue.



Indian Air Force Issues RFI for .50 Calibre Sniper Rifles

- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has issued a **Request for Information (RFI)** for the procurement of **12.7×99 mm (.50 calibre) sniper rifles** for its **Garud Special Forces**. The move aims to enhance the long-range precision strike capability of the elite force during special operations.
- **Background**
- The Garud Special Forces were established in **2004** to protect air bases, conduct counter-terrorism operations, and undertake special missions. The induction of heavy-calibre sniper rifles will significantly improve their capability to engage distant and heavily protected targets.
- **Key Highlights**
- RFI issued for **12.7×99 mm NATO (.50 BMG)** sniper rifles.
- Intended for the **Garud Special Forces**.
- Effective engagement range exceeds **1,500 metres**.
- Capable of neutralising lightly armoured vehicles and fortified positions.
- Complements the existing inventory of assault rifles and sniper systems.
- Globally recognised rifles include **Barrett M82/M107**, **McMillan TAC-50**, and **Steyr HS .50**.
- **Significance**

- The procurement will improve the operational effectiveness of the Garud commandos by providing superior long-range precision firepower for counter-terrorism, strategic security, and special operations.



Thailand Evaluates BrahMos Missiles

- Thailand is considering the acquisition of the **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** to strengthen its coastal defence capabilities. Although discussions are underway, no formal agreement has been signed. If finalised, the deal would represent another major success for India's growing defence export programme.
- **Background**
- Thailand currently lacks land-based anti-ship missile batteries. The acquisition of BrahMos would significantly improve its coastal defence posture and strengthen deterrence against hostile naval forces.
- **Key Highlights**
- Thailand is evaluating the **BrahMos supersonic anti-ship missile**.
- Discussions reportedly followed the **10th India–Thailand Defence Dialogue**.
- No procurement contract has been signed yet.
- Thailand currently operates **Harpoon** and **C-802A** anti-ship missiles.
- BrahMos export version has a **300 km range**.
- Missile travels at speeds approaching **Mach 3**.
- BrahMos carries a **300 kg warhead**.
- **Significance**
- A future BrahMos deal would deepen India–Thailand strategic cooperation, strengthen Thailand's maritime defence capability, and further establish India as

a leading exporter of advanced defence systems under the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** initiative.



'Concerns India': Sheikh Hasina's Son Says Bangladesh Becoming "Another Pakistan"

- Sajeeb Wazed Joy, the son of ousted Bangladesh prime minister Sheikh Hasina and a senior Awami League leader, has warned that Bangladesh has descended into what he called a "failed state" and could become a breeding ground for regional terrorism unless the international community intervenes.
- Joy claimed that foreign intelligence agencies, particularly Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), now operate with what he called "an open hand" in the country.
- He alleged that hundreds of convicted terrorists - men previously arrested and jailed under the Awami League government - have since been released from prison. He further claimed that banned groups such as Hizb ut-Tahrir now march openly and that individuals linked to al-Qaeda have addressed public rallies.
- "What should concern India most is that Bangladesh has become another Pakistan on India's eastern side. You have another Pakistan today on your eastern front... al-Qaeda operatives are speaking at public rallies. This is what is happening in Bangladesh, and this does not portend well for India or the world at large," he told the gathering, framing this as a direct security concern for New Delhi.
- "In the future, the next generation of global terrorists is going to come from Bangladesh unless this is stopped," he added, and appealed directly to the Indian media to give the issue sustained coverage rather than treating it as an occasional headline.

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- Speaking virtually from Maryland in the United States during an address at the Foreign Correspondents' Club in New Delhi on Wednesday, Joy claimed that foreign intelligence agencies, particularly Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), now operate with what he called "an open hand" in the country.
- He alleged that hundreds of convicted terrorists - men previously arrested and jailed under the Awami League government - have since been released from prison. He further claimed that banned groups such as Hizb ut-Tahrir now march openly and that individuals linked to al-Qaeda have addressed public rallies.
- "What should concern India most is that Bangladesh has become another Pakistan on India's eastern side. You have another Pakistan today on your eastern front... al-Qaeda operatives are speaking at public rallies. This is what is happening in Bangladesh, and this does not portend well for India or the world at large," he told the gathering, framing this as a direct security concern for New Delhi.
- "In the future, the next generation of global terrorists is going to come from Bangladesh unless this is stopped," he added, and appealed directly to the Indian media to give the issue sustained coverage rather than treating it as an occasional headline.
- Joy's remarks come roughly six months after Bangladesh's parliamentary elections, in which the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), led by Tarique Rahman, won a decisive majority and formed a government following the end of Muhammad Yunus's interim administration.
- The Awami League, which Yunus's caretaker government had banned from political activity and barred from contesting the election, remains excluded from the political process - a point Joy raised repeatedly to argue that the vote could not be considered fully representative.
- Beyond the security warning, Joy raised several other grievances. He disputed the death count from the July-August 2024 protests that led to Hasina's ouster,

noting a gap of roughly 600 between United Nations estimates (around 1,400) and the government's figure (around 800), and said the UN had not responded to repeated requests from Awami League lawyers for the names behind the higher count.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which Indian-flagged merchant vessel was attacked in the Red Sea off the coast of Yemen in August 2026?

- A) MV Chem Pluto
- B) INSV Tarini
- C) MSV Faize Noore Oliya
- D) MV Ruen

Answer: C) MSV Faize Noore Oliya

2. During his visit to Vietnam, Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh met which senior Vietnamese military leader?

- A) General Phan Van Giang
- B) Admiral Nguyen Van Hien
- C) General Nguyen Tan Cuong
- D) General Luong Cuong

Answer: C) General Nguyen Tan Cuong

3. The Indian Air Force has issued an RFI for procurement of which type of sniper rifles for the Garud Special Forces?

- A) 7.62×51 mm NATO Sniper Rifles
- B) 5.56×45 mm Assault Rifles
- C) 12.7×99 mm (.50 Calibre) Sniper Rifles
- D) 9 mm Carbines

Answer: C) 12.7×99 mm (.50 Calibre) Sniper Rifles

4. The Garud Special Forces of the Indian Air Force were raised in which year?

- A) 1999
- B) 2001
- C) 2004
- D) 2008

Answer: C) 2004

5. Which country is evaluating the acquisition of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile to strengthen its coastal defence capability?

- A) Indonesia
- B) Malaysia
- C) Vietnam
- D) Thailand

Answer: D) Thailand

6. The export version of the BrahMos missile has an approximate maximum range of:

- A) 150 km
- B) 200 km
- C) 300 km
- D) 500 km

Answer: C) 300 km

7. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Garud Special Forces belong to the Indian Air Force.
2. BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile.
3. India and Vietnam are enhancing Air Force-to-Air Force cooperation.

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

8. Ex 'DESERT EAGLE' conducted b/w India &

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

ANSWER: C

9. IORA Stands For

- A. Indian Ocean Rim Associate
- B. Indian Ocean Rome Association
- C. Indian Ocean Recall Association
- D. Indian Ocean Rim Association

ANSWER: D

10. Project 75 Is Related to the Manufacturing Of

- A. Tank
- B. Socrpean Submarine
- C. Sniper Rifle
- D. Fighter Jet

ANSWER: B

11.HELINA Missile Has a Maximum Range Of

- A.** 7 kilometres
- B.** 8 kilometres
- C.** 9 kilometres
- D.** 10 kilometres

ANSWER: A

12.Amman Is the Capital Of

- A. Oman
- B. Qatar
- C. UAE
- D. Jordan

ANSWER: D

13. Training Command of IAF is located at

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bangalore
- C. Gurugram
- D. Lucknow

ANSWER: B

14. ISRO Was Established On

- A. 15 August 1969
- B. 1 September 1965
- C. 1 October 1975
- D. 18 December 1985

ANSWER: A

15. INS Visakhapatnam (D66) Manufactured By

- A. GRSE
- B. MDL
- C. CSL
- D. Boeing

ANSWER: B

16. Rashtriya Rifles Motto Is

- A. Courage and Valor
- B. Always Brave
- C. Service Before Self
- D. Lethal

ANSWER: A

17. Parakram Diwas Celebrated On

- A. December 1
- B. October 8
- C. January 23
- D. March 10

ANSWER: C

18. Amogha Is A

- A. Anti-tank guided missile
- B. Surface-to-surface tactical ballistic missile
- C. Quick reaction surface-to-air missile

D. Multiple rocket launcher

ANSWER: A

19. Operation Green Hunt Launched In

A. 2010

B. 1972

C. 2014

D. 1974

ANSWER: A

20. Mein Kampf Book Written By

A. Mahatma Gandhi

B. Adolf Hitler

C. A.P.J Abdul Kalam

D. Jawaharlal Nehru

ANSWER: B