

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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MoD Floats ₹1 Lakh Crore Tender for Military Transport Aircraft

- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has initiated a major procurement programme for 60 new military transport aircraft, with the project estimated at around ₹1 lakh crore. The initiative is aimed at strengthening the Indian Air Force's transport capabilities and expanding indigenous aircraft manufacturing.
- The programme is expected to involve an Indian defence company working with a global Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). Four Indian companies—Tata, Adani, Mahindra and HAL—have been invited to participate.
- The competition is expected to involve Lockheed Martin of the United States and Embraer of Brazil. Mahindra Defence has partnered with Embraer to offer the C-390 Millennium, while Tata has joined hands with Lockheed Martin to propose the C-130, which is already operated by the IAF.
- The Indian Air Force currently operates 12 C-130J Super Hercules aircraft, which are used for special operations, humanitarian missions and tactical transport. India is also expanding its transport-aircraft ecosystem through the C-295 programme with Airbus, with around 70 aircraft planned for induction.



Government Advances 'PRAHAAR' Counter-Terrorism Strategy

- The Government of India has reaffirmed its commitment to the phased implementation of 'PRAHAAR', described in the PPT as India's first comprehensive National Counter Terrorist Policy and Strategy.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs stated that the strategy provides a national framework for preventing and responding to terrorism and radicalisation through a coordinated whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach.
- PRAHAAR was unveiled on 23 February. Its framework includes preventing terrorist attacks, ensuring swift and proportionate responses, strengthening coordination among government agencies, protecting human rights and the rule of law, addressing radicalisation, strengthening international counter-terrorism cooperation, and building recovery and resilience.
- The strategy also emphasises real-time intelligence sharing through the Multi Agency Centre (MAC), protection of critical infrastructure and coordination between state police forces and specialised central forces such as the National Security Guard (NSG).
- Key Points
 - Strategy: PRAHAAR
 - Area: Counter-terrorism
 - Approach: Whole-of-government + whole-of-society
 - Important mechanism: Multi Agency Centre
 - Specialised force mentioned: NSG
 - Focus: Prevention, response, intelligence, resilience and counter-radicalisation



Indian Navy Plans Medium-Range Loitering Munition

- The Ministry of Defence is advancing plans to induct a Medium-Range Loitering Munition designed specifically for ship-based operations by the Indian Navy.
- The initiative reflects the growing importance of unmanned systems in maritime warfare. The proposed munition is intended to provide precision strike capability against both sea-based and land-based targets.
- According to the requirements outlined in the PPT, the system is expected to have a minimum strike range of 1,000 km. Its loiter speed is specified at at least 75 knots, while its attack speed is expected to exceed 200 knots.
- The proposed system would have an operational ceiling of 15,000 feet and would use both RF and SATCOM data links for communication and control in contested electromagnetic environments.
- Key Specifications
 - Platform: Indian Navy
 - Type: Medium-range loitering munition
 - Minimum strike range: 1,000 km
 - Loiter speed: At least 75 knots
 - Attack speed: More than 200 knots
 - Operational ceiling: 15,000 feet
 - Data links: RF + SATCOM



India Hands Over Five Boats to Seychelles

- India has handed over five laser radial-class boats to the Seychelles Defence Forces, strengthening bilateral maritime cooperation between India and Seychelles.
- The transfer forms part of India's development assistance package announced during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Seychelles in June 2026. The boats are expected to contribute to the development of maritime skills and capabilities of Seychelles Defence Forces personnel.
- The handover highlights India's continuing focus on enhancing the maritime capabilities of partner countries in the Indian Ocean region.
- During the Prime Minister's visit, India and Seychelles signed 19 memoranda of understanding and agreements, including an extradition treaty aimed at tackling transnational crime and arrangements related to development assistance.



Saudi Red Sea Oil Exports Go 'Dark' As Houthi Attack Threat Grows

- Saudi crude exports from the Red Sea are increasingly vanishing from view as tankers switch off tracking signals to avoid attacks by Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis, with analysts saying all recent Yanbu loadings have been conducted "dark".
- The Houthis declared a maritime embargo against Saudi Arabia on July 20, opening a new front against the United States and its allies in the Iran war. Since then, they have claimed attacks on Saudi-linked tankers, Yanbu oil facilities and, most recently, the Jazan refinery on the Red Sea coast, prompting more vessels to operate without publicly visible tracking data.
- The growing use of so-called dark voyages is clouding visibility into Saudi oil exports, making it harder to assess the degree to which the Houthi threats may be disrupting crude flows.
- Ship-tracking firms have produced widely differing export estimates - data which is used by the International Energy Agency, OPEC and traders to assess global oil supply and forecast market trends. In the week beginning August 3, data analytics firm Vortexa estimated Yanbu loadings fell to 2.38 million barrels per day from 2.71 million the previous week, while Kpler estimated a sharper drop to 1.78 million bpd from 4.04 million, and AXSMarine calculated a rise to 850,000 bpd from about 420.
- Shipping traffic through the Bab al-Mandeb Strait at the southern tip of the Red Sea had already been affected by two years of sporadic Houthi attacks on

commercial shipping. An average of 32 vessels a day transited the waterway last week, according to Kpler data, down from about 50 a day before the group announced its latest blockade.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. The Ministry of Defence has floated a tender for how many new militaries transport aircraft?

- A) 40
B) 50
C) 60
D) 80

Answer: C) 60

2. Which Indian company has partnered with Embraer to offer the C-390 Millennium for the Indian military transport aircraft programme?

- A) Tata
B) HAL
C) Adani Defence
D) Mahindra Defence

Answer: D) Mahindra Defence

3. 'PRAHAAR' is associated with India's:

- A) Space strategy
B) Maritime security policy

- C) National Counter-Terrorist Policy and Strategy
- D) Cybersecurity programme

Answer: C) National Counter-Terrorist Policy and Strategy

4. What is the minimum strike range specified for the Indian Navy's proposed Medium-Range Loitering Munition?

- A) 500 km
- B) 750 km
- C) 1,000 km
- D) 1,500 km

Answer: C) 1,000 km

5. India recently handed over five laser radial-class boats to which country?

- A) Mauritius
- B) Maldives
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Seychelles

Answer: D) Seychelles

6. The Bofors gun played a significant role in which Indian military conflict?

- A) 1962 India-China War
- B) 1971 India-Pakistan War
- C) 1999 Kargil War
- D) 1987 Operation Pawan

Answer: C) 1999 Kargil War

7. The ALH MK III Helicopters Have Been Indigenously Manufactured By__.

- A. Boeing
- B. HAL
- C. DRDO
- D. Dassault Aviation

ANSWER: B

8. INS Satpura Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Guided Missile Stealth Frigate

ANSWER: D

9. **HEAT Stands For ____.**

- A. Highly Explosive Anti-Tank
- B. Highest Explosive Anti-Tank
- C. High Explosive Anti-Tank
- D. High Explore Anti-Tank

ANSWER: C

10. **Current Chairman of DRDO Is__.**

- A. Dr. Samir Kamath
- B. Rajesh Kumar Singh
- C. Dr. Rajiv Kumar
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

11. **The Hawker Siddeley HS 748 Is A**

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

ANSWER: D

12. **Juba Is The Capital Of**

- A. South Sudan
- B. Spain
- C. Sweden
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

13. **"Legend of Suheldev: The King Who Saved India" Book Is Written By**

- A. Urjit Patel
- B. Stephen King
- C. J.K Rowling
- D. Amish Tripathi

ANSWER: D

14. Duty, Honour, Courage Is The Motto Of

- A. Maratha Light Infantry
- B. The Grenadiers
- C. Rajput Regiment
- D. Jat Regiment

ANSWER: A

15. Prahaar Missile Manufactured By

- A. MDL
- B. BDL
- C. CSL
- D. DRDO

ANSWER: B

16. Regimental Centre of GARHWAL RIFLES Is In

- A. Happy Valley, Shillong, Meghalaya
- B. Ranikhet, Uttarakhand
- C. Lansdowne, Uttarakhand
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

17. INS Jalashwa Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Amphibious transport dock

ANSWER: D

18. Exercises B/w The India And UK Is Called:

- A. Desert Eagle
- B. SLINEX
- C. Indra
- D. Indradhanush

ANSWER: D

19. How Many Countries Are In SAARC?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 8

D. 6

ANSWER: C

20. Current CDS of Indian Armed Forces Is

- A. Gen Anil Chauhan
- B. Gen Bipin Rawat
- C. N. S. Raja Subramani
- D. None

ANSWER: C