

Daily Defence Current Affairs

14 August 2026

Exercise Udara Shakti 2026

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) commenced the bilateral air exercise Udara Shakti 2026 on 10 August 2026. The five-day exercise is being conducted at Subang Air Base, Malaysia, and concludes on 14 August 2026.
- The exercise is designed to strengthen operational cooperation and exchange expertise between the two air forces. The IAF has deployed four Rafale fighter aircraft from No. 101 Squadron and two C-17 Globemaster III strategic transport aircraft from No. 81 Squadron.
- The RMAF has participated with two Su-30MKM fighters from No. 12 Squadron, two F/A-18D fighters from No. 18 Squadron and one A400M transport aircraft from No. 8 Squadron.
- The exercise includes complex air-combat manoeuvring, air-to-air refuelling and strategic airlift operations. Joint field training and Subject Matter Expert Exchanges have also been conducted to facilitate the exchange of operational procedures, tactics and best practices.
- Key Points
 - Exercise: Udara Shakti 2026
 - Countries: India and Malaysia
 - Venue: Subang Air Base, Malaysia
 - Duration: 10–14 August 2026
 - IAF: 4 Rafale + 2 C-17
 - RMAF: 2 Su-30MKM + 2 F/A-18D + 1 A400M
 - Major activities: Air combat, air-to-air refuelling, strategic airlift



Indian Army Trains CISF Personnel at Agartala

- The Indian Army conducted a 14-day specialised training programme for personnel of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport in Agartala, Tripura.
- The programme was conducted from 27 July to 8 August 2026 under the Spear Corps and Red Shield Division. It focused on tactical skills, aviation security and contingency-response procedures.
- The training covered areas such as Quick Reaction Team drills, vital-area protection, access control, perimeter security and high-speed contingency responses. Army instructors conducted both practical and theoretical sessions as part of a military-civil fusion initiative.
- The CISF, which functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs, provides security to airports, industrial establishments, metro systems and other critical infrastructure.
- Key Points
 - Location: Agartala, Tripura
 - Airport: Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport
 - Training duration: 14 days
 - Participants: CISF personnel
 - Focus: Aviation security and contingency response
 - Important drills: QRT, access control, perimeter protection
 - CISF ministry: Ministry of Home Affairs



Pakistan's First Lunar Rover Named 'Jinnah-1'

- Pakistan has named its first-ever lunar rover 'Jinnah-1'. The rover has been named by SUPARCO (Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission) and is planned to travel to the Moon aboard China's Chang'e-8 mission in 2029.
- The rover is intended to operate in the Moon's south polar region. SUPARCO, Pakistan's national space agency, was established in 1961 and works in areas including satellite development, space science and remote sensing.
- The name Jinnah-1 honours Muhammad Ali Jinnah, who founded Pakistan in 1947. The name was selected through a nationwide public competition that received more than 4,000 submissions.
- Pakistan's participation in the mission follows a Memorandum of Understanding signed between SUPARCO and the China National Space Administration (CNSA) in Beijing on 5 February 2025.
- Key Points
 - Rover: Jinnah-1
 - Country: Pakistan
 - Space agency: SUPARCO
 - Planned launch: 2029
 - Mission: China's Chang'e-8
 - Target region: Moon's south polar region
 - MoU with CNSA: 5 February 2025



India Optel Launches Indigenous 'GARUD' Binoculars

- India Optel Limited (IOL) has launched 'GARUD' High Resolution Binoculars for the civilian market. IOL is a Mini Ratna Category-I Defence Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Defence Production.
- The binoculars have been developed and manufactured by Ordnance Factory, Dehradun, an IOL unit. The product reflects India's focus on indigenous design and manufacturing under Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
- GARUD provides 8× magnification and a 7.6-degree field of view. It also features ± 5 diopter adjustment, soft-touch eyecups and an ergonomic grip.
- The binoculars weigh approximately 610 grams and can be used for birdwatching, wildlife observation, travel, sports, forestry, marine activities and security-related applications.
- Key Points
 - Product: GARUD High Resolution Binoculars
 - Company: India Optel Limited
 - Manufacturing unit: Ordnance Factory, Dehradun
 - Magnification: 8×
 - Field of view: 7.6°
 - Weight: About 610 grams
 - Theme: Aatmanirbhar Bharat



India to Celebrate 80th Independence Day

- India is set to celebrate its 80th Independence Day on 15 August 2026. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lead the celebrations from the Red Fort in Delhi.
- The celebrations will commemorate 150 years of the National Song 'Vande Mataram' and highlight the role of Yuva Shakti in India's journey towards Viksit Bharat by 2047.
- The Guard of Honour will include one officer and 24 personnel each from the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force and Delhi Police. The Indian Army is the coordinating service for this year's Independence Day celebrations.
- Captain Sonia Singh Chauhan will assist the Prime Minister during the flag-hoisting ceremony. The flag hoisting will be synchronised with a 21-gun salute by the 1721 Field Battery (Ceremonial).
- Key Points
- Independence Day: 15 August 2026
- Edition: 80th Independence Day
- Venue: Red Fort, Delhi
- National Song: Vande Mataram
- Milestone: 150 years of Vande Mataram
- Theme focus: Yuva Shakti and Viksit Bharat 2047
- Coordinating service: Indian Army



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Exercise Udara Shakti 2026 is being conducted between India and which country?

- A) Indonesia
- B) Japan
- C) Malaysia
- D) Singapore

Answer: C) Malaysia

2. Pakistan's first lunar rover, planned for China's Chang'e-8 mission, has been named:

- A) Chandrayaan-1
- B) Jinnah-1
- C) SUPARCO-1
- D) Pakistan-1

Answer: B) Jinnah-1

3. 'GARUD' High Resolution Binoculars have been developed and manufactured by which organisation?

- A) DRDO
- B) HAL

- C) Bharat Electronics Limited
- D) India Optel Limited

Answer: D) India Optel Limited

4. India will celebrate its 80th Independence Day on:

- A) 26 January 2026
- B) 15 August 2025
- C) 15 August 2026
- D) 15 August 2027

Answer: C) 15 August 2026

5. Consider the given statements with reference to the Joint Military Exercise LAMITIYE 2026. 1. It is a military exercise between India and Seychelles that has been conducted annually since 2001. **2.** The 2026 edition marked a significant milestone with the participation of all three services of the Indian Armed Forces. **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. Both 1 and 2
- B. 2 only
- C. Neither 1 nor 2
- D. 1 only

ANSWER: B

6. Which of the following armed forces of India was established on 8 October 1932 and later had Subroto Mukerjee as its first Indian Chief?

- A. Central Reserve Police Force
- B. Indian Airforce
- C. Indian Army
- D. Border Security Force

ANSWER: B

7. As part of the Nuclear Energy Mission, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) is developing a High-Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactor (HTGCR) primarily for

- A. Thorium fuel reprocessing
- B. Hydrogen generation
- C. Medical isotope production
- D. Commercial electricity generation

ANSWER: B

8. Helicopter Training School Is Located At

- A. Hakimpet, Telangana
- B. Chennai, T.N.
- C. Noida, U.P.
- D. None

ANSWER: A

9. Wing Commander Rank of IAF Is Equivalent to __ Rank of Indian Navy.

- A. Commander
- B. Lieutenant
- C. Admiral
- D. Captain

ANSWER: A

10. Joint Exercise B/w India And Japan Is Called:

- A.** Shinyuu Maitri
- B.** SLINEX
- C.** Indra
- D.** Yudha Abhyas

ANSWER: A

11. "Home in the World" Book Is Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Sitaram Yechuri
- C. Amartya Sen
- D. APJ Abdul Kalam

ANSWER: C

12. Motto Of the Territorial Army Is

- A. Rhino Charge
- B. Duty Unto Death
- C. Valour
- D. Savdhani Va Shoorta

ANSWER: D

13. Army Dental Corps Centre Located At

- A. Lucknow
- B. Pune

- C. Mumbai
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

14. Veera Madrassi, Adi Kollu, Adi Kollu Is The War Cry Of

- A. MECHANISED INFANTRY REGIMENT
- B. THE BRIGADE OF THE GUARDS
- C. MADRAS REGIMENT
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

15. RATS Stands For

- A. Regional Anti-Terrorist Student
- B. Regional Anti-Terror Structure
- C. Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure
- D. Regional Anti-Tourist Structure

ANSWER: C

16. Raytheon Technologies Is A Company of Which Nation

- A. Taiwan
- B. China
- C. USA
- D. None of the Above

ANSWER: C

17. Mundra Port Is In

- A. M.H.
- B. Kerala
- C. UP
- D. Gujrat

ANSWER: D

18. Air India One Manufactured By

- A. India
- B. Japan
- C. France
- D. USA

ANSWER: D

19. World Economic Forum Hq Is In

- A. Geneva, Switzerland
- B. Lausanne, Switzerland
- C. The Hague, The Netherlands
- D. Gland, Switzerland

ANSWER: A

20. Helicopter Training School Is Located At

- A. Hakimpet, Telangana
- B. Chennai, T.N.
- C. Noida, U.P.
- D. None

ANSWER: A