

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Steel Cutting of 2nd Next Generation Missile Vessel

- 'Steel Cutting' ceremony of the second ship of the Next Generation Missile Vessel (NGMV) project was held at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi on 17 Sep 2026.
- Contract for construction of NGMVs was concluded with CSL in March 2023. The NGMVs are planned to be installed with state-of-the-art weapon and sensors, which would significantly enhance the combat capabilities of the Indian Navy as a **'Future Ready and Combat Ready Force'**.
- The construction of the ships reinforces India's commitment to build a strong and modern Navy, capable of operating in the complex maritime environment of the Indian Ocean Region.
- Further, all the major role defining equipment have been indigenously developed and manufactured, underscoring the Nation's prowess and are in consonance with GoI initiative of **'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'** **'Make In India'** and **'Make for the World'**.



HAL Hands Over Aircrafts To Forces

- HAL handed over two LCA Tejas Final Operational Clearance Twin Seater Trainers & three HTT 40 Basic Trainers to the IAF and four Dhruv Next Generation (NG) helicopters to Pawan Hans Limited (PHL).
- On the HTT-40, Shri Rajnath Singh stated that India had, for years, relied on imported aircraft to meet its basic training requirements, but HAL is now indigenously manufacturing HTT-40 to cater to the needs of IAF.
- The HTT-40 (Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40) is an indigenously designed and developed Basic Trainer Aircraft intended to meet the primary training requirements of the Defence Forces.
- The aircraft is built around a proven turboprop engine and is designed to provide good low-speed handling characteristics and effective training for trainee pilots.
- The Dhruv NG marks an important step in HAL's entry into the civil and commercial rotary-wing segment. Configured for civil operations, the helicopter incorporates enhanced systems, modern avionics and a more powerful engine.



Combined Operational Review and Evaluation Programme 2026 Concludes

- Combined Operational Review and Evaluation Programme 2026, organised by Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff and conducted by the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies concluded at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi.
- The five-day programme, held from September 14 to 18, 2026, brought together senior officers from the three Services and officials from the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs for deliberations on contemporary and emerging national security challenges.
- The programme provided a platform for senior military and civil officials to exchange perspectives on jointness, integration, ongoing conflicts, modern ways of warfighting, non-kinetic aspects of national security, defence production and capability development.
- Discussions also focused on the application of emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and Quantum Computing, along with cognitive warfare, strategic communication and counter-disinformation operations.
- A significant feature of the programme was the participation and direct interaction of senior military leadership with the course participants. The CDS, CONS and CISC interacted with the participants and discussed contemporary issues relating to modern-day warfighting, decision-making at the apex level and prevailing security challenges.
- The programme also witnessed participation from Subject Matter Experts, academia, think tanks and representatives of various Government institutions. The diverse participation facilitated comprehensive discussions on the changing character of warfare and the need for coordinated national responses to emerging security challenges.



Trump Signs Russia Sanctions Bill

- US President Donald Trump has signed the Russia sanctions bill into law, paving the way for up to 100 per cent tariffs on countries buying Russian oil and gas, and putting India and China under threat.
- Trump's nod came two days after the Republican-led House of Representatives passed the sweeping sanctions bill by a vote of 262-159.
- The legislation, 'Lindsey O Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026 ', is named after Senator Lindsey Graham - one of Ukraine's staunch defenders in Washington. He died in July this year shortly after returning from a trip to Kyiv.
- The legislation seeks to reduce the financial resources sustaining Russia's war against Ukraine. It targets Russian officials, banks, energy interests, and foreign entities supporting Moscow's military operations. The law authorises Trump to impose tariffs on countries doing business with Russia to cut their dependence on Russian oil and gas.
- According to the House Ways and Means Committee, the legislation directs tariffs of up to 500 per cent on Russian goods. It also provides for duties of up to 100 per cent on goods from countries covered by its Russian oil and gas purchase provisions - which cover major Russian energy importers and leading facilitators of oil sanctions evasion.
- An amendment introduced by Democratic Congressman Steny Hoyer had called for explicitly naming 10 nations - China, India, the UAE, Turkiye, Singapore, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, and Slovakia - to be eligible for tariffs of up to 100 per cent under the bill's secondary tariff provisions. However, the amendment does not itself impose a 100 per cent duty on India.

- If Trump levies the 100 per cent tariff on India, it would be on top of a 10 per cent tariff that the US currently imposes on imports from New Delhi as a penalty for not doing enough to stop the import of goods made using forced labour.
- India and the US had strained ties last year when Trump imposed an additional 25 per cent tariff on Indian imports of Russian crude, on top of a 25 per cent reciprocal tariff.
- The additional tariffs were, however, removed in February 2026, while the reciprocal tariff was reduced to 18 per cent as part of a US-India trade framework.



US Approves Potential \$2.7 Billion Ukraine Air-Defence Sale

- The US State Department approved a potential \$2.7 billion military sale to Ukraine for air defense development upgrades and related equipment and services, the department said in a congressional notification late on Friday.
- If the purchase is concluded, Ukraine would finance it using a combination of European contributions and US Foreign Military Financing (FMF) appropriated during the administration of former President Joe Biden, the State Department said in the notification
- FMF provides grant assistance that enables countries to purchase weapons and defense equipment produced in the United States.
- "The FMF will be counted as a US capital contribution to the Ukraine Reconstruction Investment Fund via a 1:1.
- The US-Ukraine Reconstruction Investment Fund was established as part of a minerals deal signed between the US and Ukraine last year.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Where was the steel-cutting ceremony of the second Next Generation Missile Vessel (NGMV) held?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kochi
- C. Visakhapatnam
- D. Chennai

Answer: B. Kochi

2. The contract for construction of Next Generation Missile Vessels was concluded with Cochin Shipyard Limited in which year?

- A. 2021
- B. 2022
- C. 2023
- D. 2024

Answer: C. 2023

3. Which of the following is an indigenous basic trainer aircraft developed by HAL?

- A. Dhruv NG
- B. HTT-40
- C. LCA Tejas
- D. C-295

Answer: B. HTT-40

4. The Combined Operational Review and Evaluation Programme 2026 was conducted at which venue?

- A. National Defence College, New Delhi
- B. Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
- C. DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi
- D. Air Force Station, Hindon

Answer: B. Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi

5. Which of the following emerging technologies was discussed during the Combined Operational Review and Evaluation Programme 2026?

- A. Artificial Intelligence
- B. Quantum Computing
- C. Robotics
- D. All of the above

Answer: D. All of the above

6. What was the approximate value of the potential US military sale approved for Ukraine for air-defence development and related equipment?

- A. \$1.2 billion
- B. \$1.8 billion
- C. \$2.7 billion
- D. \$3.5 billion

Answer: C. \$2.7 billion

7. Which mechanism was mentioned as a source of US financing for the proposed Ukraine defence purchase?

- A. Foreign Military Financing (FMF)
- B. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- C. World Bank Development Fund
- D. NATO Security Fund

Answer: A. Foreign Military Financing (FMF)

8. Infantry Day Celebrated Every Year On

- A. 26 October
- B. 27 October
- C. 29 October
- D. 30 October

ANSWER: B

9. India's Shared Vision Of 'SAGAR' Stands For

- A. Security and Grown of All in Region
- B. Security and Growth of All in Rim
- C. Security and Growth of All in Region
- D. None

ANSWER: C

10. Motto of NSG Is

- A. शं नो वरुणः
- B. नभः स्पृशं दीप्तम्
- C. सर्वत्र सर्वोत्तम सुरक्षा
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

11. In Which Operation NSG Didn't Take Part?

- A. Operation Talwar
- B. Black Thunder
- C. Ashwamedh
- D. Vajra Shakti

ANSWER: A

12. INS Tarangini Is A

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

ANSWER: B

13. FGM-148 Javelin Is Made By

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

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