

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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IAF Exercise Tarang Shakti

- The Indian Air Force will host the second edition of Exercise Tarang Shakti at Jodhpur in Rajasthan, bringing together air forces from multiple countries for joint aerial operations, tactical training and interoperability drills. The exercise is expected to be held from September 26 to October 12.
- In a post on X, the Indian Air Force said, "Exercise Tarang Shakti is back," describing the 2026 edition as India's premier multinational air exercise and saying global air forces will come together for joint tactical manoeuvres.
- According to officials, foreign nations will join the drills with a wide range of aerial assets. The United States is set to deploy two to three F-35 fifth-generation combat aircraft, France will participate with its Rafale fighters, and the United Arab Emirates will deploy its F-16 fighter jets. Additionally, several participating countries will contribute support assets, including transport aircraft.
- The mega air exercise comes immediately on the heels of the bilateral Indo-Japan air combat exercise, "Veer Guardian," which was also hosted at the Jodhpur airbase. The Indian Air Force will field its major frontline operational platforms for the drills, including Rafale and Sukhoi-30 fighter jets.
- Defence officials added that IAF support platforms, including early warning airborne and control (AEW&C) aircraft, transport planes, and air-to-air refuelling tankers, will also take part in the exercise.
- Announcing the 2026 edition of the exercise, the media coordination centre of the Indian Air Force wrote in a post on X that the exercise will feature global Air Forces together for high-octane joint tactical manoeuvres.
- "Exercise Tarang Shakti is back. Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 returns as India's premier multinational air exercise, bringing global Air Forces together for high-octane joint tactical manoeuvres. Stay tuned as elite aviators take to the skies!" the post read.



‘Exercise Veer Guardian 2026’ Concludes

- The bilateral air exercise ‘Veer Guardian 2026’ between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japan Air Self Defense Force (JASDF) concluded at Air Force Station Jodhpur on 22 September 2026.
- The exercise served as a vital platform for enhancing interoperability and strengthening the strategic partnership between the two Air Forces.
- The exercise also witnessed numerous ground interactions between IAF and JASDF personnel such as SME Exchanges, operational discussions, missions planning conferences, engineering interactions, maintenance practice and aerospace safety briefings wherein various aspects were discussed by both the sides.
- Exercise Veer Guardian 26 concludes as a testament to the enduring friendship and professional camaraderie between the two Air Forces. This engagement continues to pave the way for enhanced collaboration and strategic depth of the defence partnership between India and Japan.



SEMICON India 2026

- For three days, Yashobhoomi in New Delhi served as a showcase of India's growing semiconductor capabilities.
- From chip design and advanced packaging to materials, equipment, artificial intelligence and high-performance computing, SEMICON India 2026 brought together different parts of the semiconductor ecosystem under one roof.
- Held from 17 to 19 September 2026, the fifth edition of SEMICON India was organised around the theme **"Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem"**.
- The 2026 edition featured more than 600 exhibiting companies from various countries, along with a Start-up Pavilion, Workforce Development Pavilion, country and state pavilions, and a hackathon.
- **From Chip Design to Advanced Computing**
- C-DAC showcased its work in high-performance computing and AI, including the AUM HPC-AI Processor and the RUDRA-AUM compute node. These efforts reflect the growing focus on developing indigenous capabilities not only at the chip level but also across computing systems.
- **Chips for Everyday Applications**
- The exhibition also offered visitors a look at how semiconductor technologies can move from laboratories and design centres into everyday products.

- Indian semiconductor companies and start-ups showcased solutions for applications such as smart appliances, connectivity, surveillance, industrial systems, energy management and automotive technologies.
- **RISC-V: Building Indigenous Processor Capabilities**
- C-DAC's indigenous 64-bit RISC-V processor strengthens India's capabilities in homegrown processor design and semiconductor technologies. Based on the open RISC-V architecture, it supports high-performance computing and emerging digital applications.
- InCore Semiconductors showcased its work around indigenous RISC-V processor IPs and SoC design automation tools.
- **AI, Vision and Smart Surveillance**
- The growing convergence of semiconductors and artificial intelligence was another prominent feature of the exhibition. Netrasemi, an Indian semiconductor start-up, showcased its work in AI-capable System-on-Chips for applications including secure surveillance, smart sensors, robotics, drones and mobility.
- **Semiconductor Innovation Across the Value Chain**
- This broader approach is central to Semicon 2.0, approved by the Union Cabinet in July 2026 with an outlay of ₹1,27,500 crore. The programme builds on the foundation laid by Semicon 1.0 and focuses on six strategic pillars - design; machines and materials; more fabs; advanced packaging; research and development; and talent development.



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- Trump soon answered his own question and said that the US would make a deal with Iran after the mid-term elections are held on November 3.
- The high-level general debate is scheduled from September 22 to 26 and on September 28 in New York
- Days after US President Donald Trump told Axios that he is approaching crossroads in the Iran war about whether to restart massive attacks or not, he said that he has a "big decision" to make.
- While addressing the UN General Assembly on Tuesday, Trump said, "I have a big decision to make. Will a deal be made with Iran that lets them rebuild and create a far greater country than it ever was before, maybe one of the greatest in the Middle East or even the world?", he questioned.
- Then added, "Or do I annihilate the Islamic Republic and do it quickly, never giving them a chance to kill and destroy people and countries again?"
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India, V4 Countries Agree To Deepen Political, Economic And Defence Ties

- India and the four-member **Visegrád Group (V4)** have agreed to expand cooperation in several areas, including **politics, economy, technology, defence and people-to-people relations**. The agreement was reached during the first **V4+India Foreign Ministers' Meeting**, held on the sidelines of the **81st United Nations General Assembly in New York**.
- The V4 consists of **Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and the Czech Republic**. External Affairs Minister **S. Jaishankar** participated in the meeting along with foreign ministers and senior representatives from the four Central European countries.
- **Annual Foreign Ministers' Meetings**
- Following the meeting, Jaishankar announced that the five countries had reached a consensus to hold **annual meetings of their Foreign Ministers**. The regular format is intended to provide a structured mechanism for political dialogue and cooperation.
- The countries also agreed to establish an **Annual Business Forum** to promote greater economic engagement and encourage interaction between businesses from India and the V4 countries.
- **Cooperation in Technology and Defence**
- Technology and innovation emerged as important areas for future cooperation. The countries will explore opportunities to strengthen partnerships in **technology, innovation, research and education**.
- Defence cooperation is another significant component of the new V4+India framework. Jaishankar highlighted India's established defence relationships with all four V4 countries and expressed the intention to further strengthen and develop this cooperation.
- **Space, Connectivity and People-to-People Relations**

- The discussions also covered **space, connectivity and people-to-people mobility**. Education and student exchanges were highlighted as areas of interaction, with Indian students present in each of the V4 countries.
- The five countries also agreed to develop **cultural cooperation** and expand people-to-people contacts.
- **Global Issues and Multilateralism**
- The ministers exchanged views on major international developments, including the **Ukraine conflict and the situation in the Gulf**.
- The V4+India format also seeks to support **multilateralism** and provide an additional platform for cooperation on international issues.
- **V4 Support for India's UNSC Bid**
- During the meeting, the four V4 countries expressed support for **India's permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)**. Slovak Foreign Minister **Juraj Blanár** stated that the V4 countries support India's inclusion as a permanent member of the UN's top decision-making body.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 is being hosted by which organisation?

- A. Indian Army
- B. Indian Navy
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. DRDO

Answer: C. Indian Air Force

2. Where is Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 scheduled to be held?

- A. Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- B. Pune, Maharashtra
- C. Bengaluru, Karnataka
- D. Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Answer: A. Jodhpur, Rajasthan

3. Which aircraft is the United States expected to deploy for Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026?

- A. F-16
- B. F-35
- C. F-22
- D. C-17

Answer: B. F-35

4. Exercise Veer Guardian 2026 was conducted between the Indian Air Force and which force?

- A. Royal Australian Air Force
- B. French Air and Space Force
- C. Japan Air Self-Defense Force
- D. Republic of Korea Air Force

Answer: C. Japan Air Self-Defense Force

5. Exercise Veer Guardian 2026 concluded at which Indian Air Force station?

- A. Air Force Station Ambala
- B. Air Force Station Jodhpur
- C. Air Force Station Pune
- D. Air Force Station Kalaikunda

Answer: B. Air Force Station Jodhpur

6. What was the theme of the fifth edition of SEMICON India 2026?

- A. Semiconductor India: The Digital Future
- B. Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem
- C. Make in India: Chip Revolution
- D. From Chips to AI: Digital India

Answer: B. Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem

7. What is the outlay of the Semicon 2.0 programme approved by the Union Cabinet in July 2026?

- A. ₹75,000 crore
- B. ₹95,000 crore
- C. ₹1,00,000 crore
- D. ₹1,27,500 crore

Answer: D. ₹1,27,500 crore

8. Which of the following countries is NOT a member of the Visegrád Group (V4)?

- A. Poland
- B. Hungary
- C. Slovakia
- D. Romania

Answer: D. Romania

9. Who represented India at the first V4+India Foreign Ministers' Meeting?

- A. Rajnath Singh
- B. S. Jaishankar
- C. Amit Shah
- D. Piyush Goyal

Answer: B. S. Jaishankar

10. What new mechanism did India and the V4 countries agree to establish to promote economic engagement?

- A. V4-India Investment Council
- B. Annual Business Forum
- C. India-Europe Trade Council
- D. Central Europe Economic Mission

Answer: B. Annual Business Forum

11. Thales Group Is A Company Of Which Nation

- A. Taiwan
- B. China
- C. USA
- D. France

ANSWER: D

12. Which Country Hosted Multilateral Exercise MILAN 2022?

- A. France
- B. UK
- C. India
- D. Malaysia

ANSWER: C

13. Quito Is The Capital Of

- A. Ecuador
- B. Egypt
- C. UAE
- D. El Salvador

ANSWER: A

14. "Modi @20: Dreams Meeting Delivery" Book Is Written By

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Rajesh Talwar
- C. Venkaiah Naidu
- D. Rasheed Kidwai

ANSWER: C

15. Russia's New Nuclear-capable Intercontinental Missile That Can Strike Any Target In The World Is ____.

- A. Nikita
- B. Mashov
- C. Spike
- D. Sarmat

ANSWER: D

16. What Is The Name Of India's First Indigenously Developed Flying Trainer?

- A. Horn-NG
- B. HANS-NG
- C. HANSA-NG
- D. Hawk-NG

ANSWER: C

17. Sea Dragon Is A

- A. Domestic Ex
- B. Multilateral Ex

- C. Bilateral Ex
- D. None of these

ANSWER: B

18. World's Highest Motorable Road Is In

- A. Sikkim
- B. Ladakh
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Assam

ANSWER: B

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

- A. AJEYA WARRIOR
- B. KONKAN
- C. Indra
- D. Both A&B

ANSWER: D

20. CTBT Treaty Is Related To

- A. Nuclear Test Ban
- B. Dual Use Goods Tech
- C. Spreading Biological Weapons
- D. Both A&B

ANSWER: A