

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026

- Following the inaugural ceremony held yesterday, the IAF is set to commence the operational phase of Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 at Air Force Station Jodhpur.
- Being conducted from 26 September to 12 October 2026, the multilateral air exercise is themed “**Power in Partnership**”, underscoring the strength that comes from working together, sharing expertise and building interoperability among partner air forces.
- Seven Friendly Foreign Countries (FFCs) — Australia, the United States of America, the United Arab Emirates, France, Germany, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh — are participating in the exercise.
- The foreign aircraft taking part include the F-35 Lightning II, Rafale, F-16, A400M, MRTT, C-130, C-130J and KC-30A, bringing together a diverse mix of combat, airlift and air-to-air refuelling capabilities.
- Building on the successful inaugural edition in 2024, Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 provides participating air forces an opportunity for advanced joint training, exchange of operational expertise and consolidation of professional experience.
- The exercise will facilitate professional interaction among aircrew, mission planners and operational support personnel, with emphasis on interoperability, mutual learning, aerospace safety and enhanced understanding of operational procedures.
- The exercise reaffirms India's commitment to constructive defence engagement and enhanced military cooperation in support of regional peace, security and stability, while strengthening partnerships and fostering greater strategic cooperation through shared operational experience.



ADMM-PLUS Maritime Security Joint Cooperation Activity

- Indian Navy's frontline stealth frigate, INS Sahyadri, and missile corvette, INS Kulish, concluded their participation in the 23rd ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Maritime Security Joint Cooperation Activity (EWG-MS JCA) at Subic Bay, Philippines, with the Closing Ceremony held on 25 Sep 2026.
- The activity commenced on 21 Sep 2026 with the Opening Ceremony at Naval Operating Base Subic, hosted by the Philippine Navy and co-chaired by Japan.
- On 22 Sep 2026, Indian Naval personnel participated in Operational Synchronisation and a Tabletop Exercise, followed by a Pre-Sail Conference to coordinate the Sea Phase. A community engagement programme was also conducted at the Shepherds of the Hill Center, Zambales.
- The Sea Phase comprised coordinated serials including Search and Rescue, Hydrographic Survey, Casualty and Medical Evacuation, Deck Landing Qualification and assistance to vessels aground.
- These activities provided valuable opportunities to enhance operational coordination and interoperability at sea.



QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission

- As part of the QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission, ICG Ship Shaunak sailed from Chennai on September 25, 2026, for Perth, Australia. This marks an important step in advancing maritime cooperation and interoperability among QUAD nations - India, **Australia, Japan, and the United States**.
- Six Sea Riders - two officers each from India and Japan, and one officer each from Australia and the United States - embarked onboard Shaunak to participate in shipboard activities and professional exchanges designed to enhance interoperability, strengthen coordination, and build mutual trust.
- The initiative, aligned with the Quad Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement of May 26 2026, reflects the shared commitment of the QUAD countries to uphold a free, open, inclusive and rules-based maritime order in the Indo-Pacific.
- This mission underscores India's maritime vision of **MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions)** and ICG's dedication to collective engagement, professional linkages, and a secure maritime environment across the Indo-Pacific.



Operation Drishti

- Surgeons of the AFMS carried out 220 sight-restoring surgeries during the 10th edition of first-of-its-kind Mega Eye Surgical Camp, held under Operation Drishti, at an underground operation theatre in Tangdhar in Kupwara, a shelling prone zone, in Jammu & Kashmir along the Line of Control on September 24 & 25, 2026.
- Most interventions were cataract surgeries, along with selective retinal procedures and minimally invasive glaucoma surgery.
- AFMS' series of mega surgical eye camps envisaged by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh have, so far, screened over 1.50 lakh patients. Over 3,500 surgeries have been conducted across 10 cities. The 11th camp in this series will be held in Srinagar from September 27 to 29, 2026.



General Dhiraj Seth Spells Out 'SAMARTH' Vision

- Indian Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth said an army should have the capability to endure long-drawn conflicts, while technology must make soldiers faster and better informed, as he put forth the vision of 'SAMARTH' to enhance the operational readiness of the force.
- In his address, Gen Seth also said that an effective force should be capable of adapting and upgrading its capabilities faster than evolving threats, while modernising itself and remaining mission-ready in the era of "transformative wars".
- Explaining each letter of the coinage, he said 'S' stands for sustainability - the ability to endure long-drawn conflicts, 'A' stands for adaptation, while 'M' represents modernisation to be mission-ready.
- "That is what 'SAMARTH' means - being a capable force, having endurance and an ability to adapt, and stay ahead of others in this era of transformative wars," he said.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the theme of Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026?

- A. Strength Through Unity
- B. Power in Partnership
- C. Partnership for Peace
- D. Together for Security

Answer: B. Power in Partnership

2. Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 is being conducted at which Indian Air Force station?

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

Answer: C. Air Force Station Jodhpur

3. Which two Indian Navy ships participated in the ADMM-Plus Maritime Security Joint Cooperation Activity at Subic Bay?

- A. INS Vikrant and INS Chennai
- B. INS Sahyadri and INS Kulish
- C. INS Kolkata and INS Shivalik
- D. INS Kavaratti and INS Jyoti

Answer: B. INS Sahyadri and INS Kulish

4. Indian Coast Guard Ship Shaunak sailed from Chennai for which destination under the QUAD-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission?

- A. Tokyo, Japan
- B. Darwin, Australia
- C. Perth, Australia
- D. Singapore

Answer: C. Perth, Australia

5. How many sight-restoring surgeries were performed during the 10th Mega Eye Surgical Camp under Operation Drishti?

- A. 120
- B. 180
- C. 220
- D. 250

Answer: C. 220

6. Operation Drishti's 10th Mega Eye Surgical Camp was conducted at which location?

- A. Srinagar
- B. Tangdhar, Kupwara
- C. Leh
- D. Poonch

Answer: B. Tangdhar, Kupwara

7. In General Dhiraj Seth's 'SAMARTH' vision, what does the letter 'S' represent?

- A. Security
- B. Strategy
- C. Sustainability
- D. Strength

Answer: C. Sustainability

8. Which of the following correctly represents the first three components of the 'SAMARTH' vision?

- A. Security, Adaptation, Modernisation
- B. Sustainability, Adaptation, Modernisation
- C. Sustainability, Agility, Management
- D. Strategy, Adaptation, Mission-readiness

Answer: B. Sustainability, Adaptation, Modernisation

9. Ex GARUDA SHAKTI, IND-INDO CORPAT, IND-INDO BILAT Conducted b/w India &

- A. Qatar
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Indonesia
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: C

10. SIMBEX Series Of Exercises Began In 1994 And Were Initially Known As

- A. Exercise Lion King
- B. Exercise Asia King
- C. Exercise Jungle King
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

11. WNC Hq Is In

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

ANSWER: A

12. Northrop Grumman Is The Defence Manufacturing Company Of Which Nation?

- A. USA
- B. UK
- C. Israel
- D. Russia

ANSWER: A

13. The Unending Game Book Is Written By

- A. Vikram Sood
- B. Shivshankar Menon
- C. Ravi Shastri
- D. Salman Rushdie

ANSWER: A

14. What Is The Capital Of Andorra?

- A. Maseru
- B. Andorra la Vella
- C. Yamoussoukro
- D. Addis Ababa

ANSWER: B

15. "The School for Good Mothers " Book Is Written By

- A. Jessamine Chan
- B. Beatrice Hitchman
- C. Hew Strachan
- D. Nikki May

ANSWER: A

16. Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration Is In

- A. H.P
- B. U.P
- C. U.K
- D. M.H

ANSWER: C

17. **“Discipline and united action are the real sources of strength for the nation.”**

Said By

- A. Gandhi Ji
- B. Lal Bahadur Shastri
- C. Pt. Nehru
- D. Gopal Krishna Gokhale

ANSWER: B

18. **PVSM Stands For**

- A. Param Vishisht Seva Medal
- B. Param Vishisht Sainik Medal
- C. Param Vishishttm Seva Medal
- D. None

ANSWER: A

19. **Commodore Rank Of Indian Navy Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of IAF?**

- A. Air Commodore
- B. Air Marshal
- C. Wing Commander
- D. Major

ANSWER: A

20. **The Wings of Fire Book Is Written By**

- A. APJ Kalam
- B. Shivshankar Menon
- C. Ravi Shastri
- D. Salman Rushdie

ANSWER: A