

Daily Current Affairs

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Indian Navy Commissioned 'Samarthak'

- Indian Naval Ship Samarthak, the first of class Multi-Purpose Vessels (MPVs), was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 16 Oct 2026. The ceremony was presided over by the Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan, in the presence of Adm Krishna Swaminathan, Chief of the Naval Staff.
- Designed and constructed by L&T Shipyard, INS Samarthak marks a significant milestone in India's indigenous shipbuilding journey as the first major warship to be built by an Indian private shipyard. The commissioning is a powerful testament to the growing maturity and capability of the nation's private shipbuilding industry and reflects the deepening synergy between the Indian Navy and the Indian shipbuilding industry in advancing the national vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
- Conceived as a versatile platform for trials and evaluation, INS Samarthak embodies the enhanced technological and operational capabilities of the Indian Navy in the 21st century. With over 75% indigenous content, the Ship incorporates extensive modular construction and pre-outfitting, significantly optimising the build process and construction timelines.
- Aptly named Samarthak, meaning 'The Proponent', the ship represents the spirit of a dependable enabler, capable of supporting multiple missions and has been designed with inherent versatility and adaptability, enabling it to undertake diverse range of operational and developmental tasks.
- The induction of INS Samarthak significantly strengthens India's ability for testing and training new sensors and weapons developed indigenously by domestic industry. The ship's versatility is an advantage in an unpredictable maritime environment, given the rise of non-traditional maritime threats.



MoD inks Rs 4,106 Crore Contracts For satellite & Varunastra

- The Ministry of Defence has signed contracts worth a total of approximately Rs 4,106 crore for the acquisition of a dedicated communication satellite capability, GSAT-7C for the **IAF Varunastra Heavy Weight Torpedoes** for the Indian Navy.
- The contract for GSAT-7C, valued at **Rs 2,563 crore**, was inked with New Space India Limited, Bengaluru.
- This indigenously designed, developed & manufactured satellite will enhance the secure, resilient & seamless communication capabilities for the assets of the Indian Air Force, thereby strengthening operational effectiveness.
- The contract for Varunastra was signed with **Bharat Dynamics Limited**, Hyderabad worth **Rs 1,543 crore**. Varunastra is an indigenous ship-launched anti-submarine torpedo developed by the Naval Science and Technological Laboratory.
- Equipped with advanced maneuvering capabilities, it is capable of engaging enemy submarines at long ranges, thereby enhancing the anti-submarine warfare capability of the Indian Navy.



14th India-Mongolia Joint Working Group Meeting

- The 14th Joint Working Group meeting between the Defence Ministries of India and Mongolia took place in Ulaanbaatar on October 16, 2026.
- Both sides undertook a comprehensive review of ongoing bilateral defence cooperation activities, assessed the progress of existing initiatives and deliberated on measures to expand cooperation in mutually identified areas, reaffirming the commitment to further strengthen the longstanding partnership through sustained dialogue.
- The two sides appreciated the successful conclusion of the Nomadic Elephant exercise showcasing India and Mongolia's commitment to strengthening bilateral defence cooperation.
- The Indian delegation also visited National Defence University, where they reviewed the functioning of the Cyber Security Training Centre established with the Indian assistance.
- The Mongolian side appreciated India's continued support in language training and cyber security, underscoring the value of capacity building, knowledge-sharing and deeper defence cooperation in strengthening the Strategic Partnership.



Indian Navy To Hand Over Command Of Combined Task Force 154

- The Indian Navy is scheduled to relinquish Command of Combined Task Force 154 (CTF 154) during a ceremony at Manama, Bahrain, on 14 Oct 2026. The ceremony will mark the completion of the Indian Navy's maiden command of a Task Force of the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF).
- CTF 154 is CMF's dedicated multinational maritime Training Task Force and facilitates professional training and capacity building aimed at strengthening interoperability and operational readiness across the 47 nation CMF partnership.
- India joined CMF as an Associate Partner in 2022 and became a full member in 2023. The Indian Navy assumed Command of CTF 154 on 11 Feb 2026, marking its first command of a CMF Task Force.
- The tenure included 20 Staff Enhancement Training engagements, Operation Compass Rose 26-1, Operation Southern Readiness 26-2 and the inaugural Subject Matter Expert Exchange on Piracy and Armed Robbery (SPAR 2026), collectively generating over 7,800 training hours, with personnel from 39 countries participating across CTF 154 activities.
- The tenure also widened CTF 154's professional engagement with operational Task Forces, regional partners and specialist institutions in support of multinational training and future capacity building.



ICG With First DHRUV MK-III At Ratnagiri

- The Indian Coast Guard has inducted the indigenous Advanced Light Helicopter DHRUV MK-III, designated CG 875, into its Western Region at Ratnagiri, Maharashtra.
- The helicopter is the first of five DHRUV MK-III aircraft allocated to 831 Squadron (CG) and marks a significant enhancement of the Coast Guard's aerial capabilities along India's western seaboard.
- Manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), the DHRUV MK-III is a versatile multi-role helicopter designed to undertake a wide spectrum of maritime missions. Its induction reflects India's continued emphasis on indigenous aerospace manufacturing and operational self-reliance.
- The induction of CG 875 is particularly important because it is the first of the five helicopters earmarked for Ratnagiri. As additional aircraft join the squadron, the Coast Guard is expected to achieve greater persistence in aerial surveillance and faster response across the strategically significant western maritime region.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

Q1. Which shipyard designed and constructed INS Samarthak?

- A. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- B. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers
- C. L&T Shipyard
- D. Goa Shipyard Limited

Answer: C. L&T Shipyard

Q2. What percentage of indigenous content does INS Samarthak incorporate?

- A. More than 50%
- B. More than 60%
- C. More than 75%
- D. More than 90%

Answer: C. More than 75%

Q3. What is the total value of the Ministry of Defence contracts for GSAT-7C and Varunastra?

- A. ₹3,106 crore
- B. ₹4,106 crore
- C. ₹5,106 crore
- D. ₹2,563 crore

Answer: B. ₹4,106 crore

Q4. Which organisation signed the contract for the GSAT-7C communication satellite?

- A. Bharat Electronics Limited
- B. Bharat Dynamics Limited
- C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- D. NewSpace India Limited

Answer: D. NewSpace India Limited

Q5. Varunastra is an indigenous heavyweight torpedo developed by which organisation?

- A. Defence Research and Development Laboratory
- B. Naval Science and Technological Laboratory

- C. Armament Research and Development Establishment
- D. Electronics and Radar Development Establishment

Answer: B. Naval Science and Technological Laboratory

Q6. Where was the 14th India–Mongolia Joint Working Group meeting held on 16 October 2026?

- A. New Delhi, India
- B. Astana, Kazakhstan
- C. Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- D. Dhaka, Bangladesh

Answer: C. Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Q7. Exercise Nomadic Elephant is associated with defence cooperation between which two countries?

- A. India and Mongolia
- B. India and Nepal
- C. India and Kazakhstan
- D. India and Uzbekistan

Answer: A. India and Mongolia

Q8. Combined Task Force 154 (CTF 154) functions under which multinational partnership?

- A. ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting
- B. Combined Maritime Forces
- C. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation
- D. Indian Ocean Rim Association

Answer: B. Combined Maritime Forces

Q9. In which year did India become a full member of the Combined Maritime Forces?

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

Answer: C. 2023

Q10. Which company manufactures the Dhruv Mk-III helicopter inducted by the Indian Coast Guard at Ratnagiri?

- A. Bharat Electronics Limited
- B. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- C. Bharat Dynamics Limited
- D. NewSpace India Limited

Answer: B. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

11. Group Captain Rank Of IAF Is Equivalent to Which Rank of Indian Navy?

- A. Colonel
- B. Captain
- C. Commander
- D. Major

ANSWER: B

12. F 18 Super Hornet Fighter Aircraft Manufactured By

- A. Boeing
- B. Lockheed Martin
- C. Airbus
- D. HAL

ANSWER: A

13. Which of the following is the Parent Agency of MOD?

- A. DRDO
- B. Delhi Police
- C. NIA
- D. NHRC

ANSWER: A

14. 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

15. IAI Harpy Is A

- A. Drone
- B. Tank
- C. Submarine
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A

16.INS Kadamba Is An Indian Navy Base Located At

- A. Karwar in Karnataka
- B. Mumbai, M.H.
- C. Marmugao, Goa
- D. Kochi, Kerala

ANSWER: A

17. CID Stands For

- A. Crime Investigation Depo
- B. Crime Investigate Department
- C. Crime Investigation Department
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: C

18. Aizawl Is The Capital Of

- A. Mizoram
- B. Manipur
- C. Odisha
- D. Punjab

ANSWER: A

19. "Search of the Divine: Living Histories of Sufism in India" Book Is Written By

- A. Supriya Sule
- B. Amit Singh
- C. Rana Safvi
- D. Akash Jain

ANSWER: C

20. India Meteorological Department Comes Under The Ministry Of__.

- A. MHA
- B. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- C. Ministry of I&T
- D. MOD

ANSWER: B