

Daily Current Affairs

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Exercise Konkan-26 Concludes

- KONKAN-26, the India-UK bilateral maritime exercise, concluded off Plymouth, UK, on 15 Oct 2026. Conducted from 08-15 Oct 2026, the exercise enabled the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy to engage across a wide range of professional and operational domains.
- The Indian Navy was represented by the stealth **frigate INS Trishul**, while the Royal Navy deployed **HMS Sutherland**, a Duke-class anti-submarine warfare frigate. The exercise was conducted by **Fleet Operational Standards and Training (FOST), Royal Navy**.
- The intensive four-day Sea Phase, conducted from 12-15 Oct 2026, encompassed advanced seamanship manoeuvres, joint tactical exercises, communication procedures, anti-surface asymmetric warfare, anti-submarine warfare and weapon firings in a multi-threat maritime environment.
- Through the exchange of professional expertise and Best Practices, KONKAN-26 reinforced the ability of the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy to operate together across complex maritime scenarios, furthering the enduring maritime partnership between India and the UK.



Rajnath Singh To Represent India at SCO Council of Heads of Government Meet

- Rajnath Singh will visit Dushanbe, Tajikistan to represent India at the 25th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (CHG) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), scheduled to be held on October 19-20, 2026.
- The meeting will focus on strengthening multilateral cooperation among SCO Member States, particularly in the areas of trade, economy, investment, connectivity, innovation and cultural-humanitarian exchanges.
- It is also expected to review the progress of ongoing cooperation initiatives and consider decisions relating to the Organisation's financial and institutional functioning.
- India remains actively engaged in various SCO mechanisms and continues to contribute to regional cooperation through initiatives in areas such as start-ups and innovation, digital public infrastructure, and people-to-people exchanges.
- The meeting will provide an opportunity for India to exchange views with other SCO Member States on advancing practical and mutually beneficial cooperation within the Organisation.
- The previous CHG meeting was held in Moscow, Russia, on November 18, 2025, where India was represented by External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar.



IAF Conducts Short-notice Casualty Evacuation

- An Indian Air Force (IAF) C-130J aircraft undertook a short-notice casualty evacuation late at night, airlifting a critically ill 30 years old civilian patient from Leh to Palam for further medical care.
- The mission was carried out in darkness and challenging weather conditions, requiring a high degree of operational preparedness, professional coordination and timely execution.
- The patient was subsequently transferred to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) for further treatment.
- The mission reflects the IAF's operational readiness and its ability to respond promptly to critical humanitarian requirements, including medical evacuation under challenging conditions.
- The Indian Navy's three-masted sail training ship INS Sudarshini departed Salalah, Oman, post her visit from 14- 17 Oct 2026, continuing her historic transoceanic deployment, Lokayan-2026.
- The voyage reflects the Indian Navy's rich maritime heritage and its commitment to nurturing professional seamanship, resilience and leadership among naval trainees.
- During the port call, professional interactions and sporting engagements fostered camaraderie and reinforced bonds of friendship between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of Oman, further strengthening people-to-people ties.
- As Lokayan-2026 progresses through its tenth month, INS Sudarshini's voyage exemplifies the Indian Navy's spirit of exploration, professional excellence and commitment to maritime diplomacy.



HAL Targets First 12 LUH Deliveries

- HAL is preparing to deliver the first batch of its indigenously developed Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) during the 2027-28 financial year, marking a significant milestone in India's efforts to modernise its light helicopter fleet and strengthen aerospace self-reliance.
- The initial Limited Series Production batch will comprise 12 helicopters.
- Of these, six helicopters are earmarked for the Indian Army, while the remaining six will be delivered to the Indian Air Force.
- The LUH is currently in the final phase of certification, with the Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification carrying out the military airworthiness assessment required before the helicopter can enter operational service.
- Developed as a 3-ton-class utility helicopter, the aircraft represents one of HAL's key indigenous rotary-wing projects.
- The platform has been designed to replace the ageing Aérospatiale Cheetah and Chetak helicopter fleets that have served the Indian Armed Forces for decades.
- These older helicopters have long been used for transport, reconnaissance, logistics support and high-altitude operations in some of the country's most challenging environments.
- The LUH has specifically been engineered to operate in mountainous regions, high-altitude sectors and rugged terrain where reliability and performance are critical.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Exercise KONKAN-26 was conducted between which two countries?

- A) India and France
- B) India and the United Kingdom
- C) India and Australia
- D) India and the United States

Answer: B) India and the United Kingdom

2. Which Indian Navy ship participated in Exercise KONKAN-26?

- A) INS Vikrant
- B) INS Kolkata
- C) INS Trishul
- D) INS Sudarshini

Answer: C) INS Trishul

3. Where was the 25th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government scheduled to take place in October 2026?

- A) Moscow, Russia
- B) Beijing, China
- C) Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- D) Astana, Kazakhstan

Answer: C) Dushanbe, Tajikistan

4. Who was scheduled to represent India at the 25th SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting?

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

Answer: B) Rajnath Singh

5. Which aircraft did the Indian Air Force use for the emergency medical evacuation from Leh to Palam?

- A) C-17 Globemaster III
- B) C-130J
- C) Dornier 228
- D) An-32

Answer: B) C-130J

6. The critically ill civilian evacuated by the IAF from Leh was transferred to which hospital for further treatment?

- A) Safdarjung Hospital
- B) Apollo Hospital
- C) AIIMS
- D) Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital

Answer: C) AIIMS

7. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) plans to deliver the first batch of Light Utility Helicopters (LUH) in which financial year?

- A) 2025–26
- B) 2026–27
- C) 2027–28
- D) 2028–29

Answer: C) 2027–28

8. How many helicopters are planned for the initial LUH production batch?

- A) 6
- B) 10
- C) 12
- D) 18

Answer: C) 12

9. Ex 'KAZIND' & 'KHANJAR' Conducted b/w India &

- A.** Kazakhstan
- B.** Kyrgyzstan
- C.** Both a & b
- D.** None of the above

ANSWER: C

10. Munitions India Limited Is An Indian State-owned Defence Company, HQ in

- A.** Pune
- B.** Mumbai
- C.** Noida
- D.** Chennai

ANSWER: A

11. Current CDS Of India Is

- A.** Gen NS Raja
- B.** Gen Bipin Rawat
- C.** Gen M M Naravane
- D.** None of the above

ANSWER: A

12. War Cry Of Mechanised Infantry Regiment Is

- A.** Durga Mata K Jai
- B.** Raja Ram Chandra K Jai
- C.** Bolo Bharat Mata Ki Jai
- D.** Bajrang Bali K Jai

ANSWER: C

13. Ex 'BLUE FLAG' Conducted b/w India &

- A.** Qatar
- B.** Oman
- C.** UAE
- D.** Israel

ANSWER: D

14. Operation Devi Shakti Was Conducted In

- A.** 2016

- B. 2017
- C. 2018
- D. 2021

ANSWER: D

15. Always Alert Is The Motto Of

- A. RAW
- B. IB
- C. DRDO
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: B

16. Which Is Not An OPV?

- A. INS Saryu
- B. INS Sunayna
- C. INS Gomati
- D. INS Sumitra

ANSWER: C

17. Only Five-star Rank Officer Of The IAF Is

- A. K.M Karippa
- B. V R Chaudhary
- C. R K S Bhadauria
- D. Arjan Singh

ANSWER: D

18. SPYDER Is A

- A. Destroyer
- B. OPV
- C. Submarine
- D. Air defence system

ANSWER: D

19. Vilnius Is The Capital Of

- A. Lithuania
- B. Qatar
- C. Malawi
- D. Maldives

ANSWER: A

20. **"Making of a General-A Himalayan Echo" Book Is Written By**

- A. Ramesh Kandula
- B. Meghna Pant
- C. Hunter Biden
- D. Lt. Gen. Konsam Himalay Singh

ANSWER: D