

## CURRENT AFFAIRS- 2023(DEFENCE)

**1. Defence Ministry signs deal for dual role Surface-to-Surface BrahMos missile with which company?**

- [A] Dassault Aviation
- [B] Dhruv Aerospace
- [C] DRDO
- [D] BAPL

**Correct Answer:** D [BAPL]

**Solution:**

Defence Ministry signed deal for dual role Surface-to-Surface BrahMos missile with BAPL (BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd) The additional dual –role (land and anti-ship) capable BrahMos missiles will be acquired at Rs 1,700 crore under ‘Buy-Indian’ category. BrahMos Aerospace (BAPL) is a joint venture between India and Russia.

**2. What are ‘Nistar and Nipun’, which were released by the Indian Navy recently?**

- [A] Submarines
- [B] Diving Support Vessels
- [C] Patrol craft
- [D] Pollution control vessels

**Correct Answer:** B [Diving Support Vessels]

**Solution:**

The Indian Navy launched two indigenously designed and built Diving Support Vessels (DSVs) – Nistar and Nipun in Visakhapatnam. The vessels were built by Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. The vessels have complex diving support systems and a Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel (DSRV), which will be deployed for deep sea diving and submarine rescue operations.

**3. Which country is the host of the multinational Naval Exercise Kakadu-2022?**

- [A] USA
- [B] Australia
- [C] France
- [D] Italy

**Correct Answer:** B [Australia]

**Solution:**

The multinational Naval Exercise Kakadu-2022 is hosted by the Royal Australian Navy since 1993. This year's theme of the exercise is 'Partnership, Leadership, Friendship.'

It was participated by Shivalik class stealth multi-role frigate, INS Satpura and Australia's P-81 Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

**4. Who has been appointed as the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) in 2022?**

- [A] Lt Gen Anil Chauhan (Retired)
- [B] Lt Gen Hari Kumar
- [C] Lt Gen Manoj Pandey
- [D] Lt Gen Vinod G. Khandare (Retired)

**Correct Answer:** A [Lt Gen Anil Chauhan (Retired)]

**Solution:**

The Government has decided to appoint Lt General Anil Chauhan (Retired) as the next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS).

He shall also function as Secretary to Government of India, Department of Military Affairs. In a career spanning over nearly 40 years, he has served in various positions. Lt General, he became the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Eastern Command in 2019 until he retired in 2021.

**5. Which Indian Armed Force conducts the 'Prasthan' security exercise?**

- [A] Indian Army
- [B] Indian Navy
- [C] Indian Air Force
- [D] Indian Coast Guard

**Correct Answer:** B [Indian Navy]

**Solution:**

The Indian Navy conducts the 'Prasthan' security exercise every six months aims to integrate the efforts of all maritime stakeholders involved in offshore defence.

This time, it was conducted in the Krishna Godavari Basin Offshore Development Area (ODA), under the aegis of Eastern Naval Command. The exercise saw participation from ONGC, RIL, Vedanta, and AP Marine Police, AP fisheries department and the Coast Guard.

**6. A transport aircraft manufacturing facility for the Indian Air Force is set to come up in which city?**

- [A] Hyderabad
- [B] Vadodara
- [C] Gandhi Nagar
- [D] Bengaluru

**Correct Answer:** B [Vadodara]

**Solution:**

The government announced that a transport aircraft manufacturing facility for the Indian Air Force will come up in Vadodara. 40 of the 56 C-295MW transport aircraft being procured from Airbus Defence and Space SA will be manufactured at the new facility in Vadodara. This is for the first time, the C-295 aircraft will be manufactured outside of Europe. They will be manufactured in India by Tata consortium of Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) led by TASL.

**7. Which Indian armed force has registered 'Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)' of its new camouflage pattern uniform?**

- [A] Indian Coast Guard
- [B] Indian Army
- [C] Indian Navy
- [D] Indian Air Force

**Correct Answer:** B [Indian Army]

**Solution:**

The Ministry of Defence said the Indian Army has registered 'Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)' of the new design and camouflage pattern uniform. The new digital pattern combat uniform with a contemporary look and functional design was unveiled for Indian Army soldiers in January 2022. The fabric has been made lighter, stronger, breathable with fast drying features.

8. The Indian Navy began the nationwide Defense Exercise 'Sea Vigil-22' from which state?

- [A] Andhra Pradesh
- [B] Odisha
- [C] Goa
- [D] West Bengal

**Correct Answer:** B [Odisha]

**Solution:**

The Indian Navy began the largest nationwide Coastal Defense Exercise Sea Vigil-22 from the Paradip port of Odisha.

This is the third edition of the 'Pan-India' Coastal Defence Exercise 'Sea Vigil-22' and will be conducted over two days. This national level coastal defence exercise was conceptualized in 2018 towards enhancing maritime security. The exercise is being conducted by the Indian Navy in coordination with the Coast Guard and other related ministries.

9. Which organisation manufactured the Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) Agni-3?

- [A] ISRO
- [B] DRDO
- [C] BEL
- [D] HAL

**Correct Answer:** B [DRDO]

**Solution:**

India carried out a training launch of the nuclear capable Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) Agni-3 from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha.

The two-stage solid propellant powered IRBM is under operational purview of the Strategic Forces Command, which is part of India's Nuclear Command Authority. The missile has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

10. Harimau Shakti -2022 is a bilateral exercise held between India and which country?

- [A] Australia
- [B] Malaysia

- [C] Singapore
- [D] UAE

**Correct Answer:** B [Malaysia]

**Solution:**

India-Malaysia joint military Exercise Harimau Shakti-2022 has recently started at Pulai Klang in Malaysia.

Combat troops of the Garhwal Rifles Regiment of the Indian Army and the Royal Malay Regiment of the Malaysian Army are participating in the exercise. HARIMAU SHAKTI is an annual training event between Indian and Malaysian armies which has been organised since 2012.

**11. Which company built the Indian Navy's survey vessel 'Ikshak'?**

- [A] DRDO
- [B] HAL
- [C] GRSE
- [D] BEL

**Correct Answer:** C [GRSE]

**Solution:**

The Indian Navy launched 'Ikshak', the third of the four survey vessels (Large) project, being built by GRSE/L&T was launched at Kattupalli, Chennai.

Contract for building four SVL ships was signed between Ministry of Defence and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata in 2018 for a total cost of Rs 2435 crore.

**12. Agni Warrior is a bilateral defence exercise held between India and which country?**

- [A] USA
- [B] France
- [C] Singapore
- [D] Sri Lanka

**Correct Answer:** C [Singapore]

**Solution:**

The 12th Edition of Exercise Agni Warrior, a bilateral exercise between the Singapore and Indian Army concluded at Devlali (Maharashtra).

Exercise Agni Warrior, involved joint firepower planning, execution and use of New Generation Artillery Equipment. Indigenously manufactured Artillery guns and howitzers also participated in the final phase of the exercise.

**13. Which institution manufactures the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mk-III squadron- 840 Sqn (CG)?**

- [A] DRDO
- [B] HAL
- [C] Mazagon Dock
- [D] BHEL

**Correct Answer: B [HAL]**

**Solution:**

An Indian Coast Guard Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mk-III squadron- 840 Sqn (CG), was commissioned by DG VS Pathania at ICG Air Station, Chennai.

The ALH Mk-III helicopters are indigenously manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). They feature advanced RADAR, Shakti engines, advanced communication systems, search-and-rescue homer among other equipment for reconnaissance. A total of 16 ALH Mk-III aircraft have been inducted in the Indian Coast Guard in a phased manner.

**14. Which country supplies S-400 air defence missile system to India?**

- [A] USA
- [B] Israel
- [C] Russia
- [D] France

**Correct Answer: C [Russia]**

**Solution:**

Russia will begin supplying India with the third squadron of the S-400 air defence missile system in January or February of next year.

India has already deployed its first two missile system squadrons to patrol the Ladakh sector, West Bengal's Chicken's Neck Corridor and the entire north-eastern region. India and Russia have agreed to a three-year ₹35,000 crore deal to buy five squadrons of S-400 air defence missiles.

**15. Which Armed Force is associated with 'SPRINT Challenges', aimed at giving a boost to the usage of indigenous technology?**

- [A] Indian Army
- [B] Indian Navy
- [C] Indian Air Force
- [D] Indian Coast Guard

**Correct Answer:** B [Indian Navy]

**Solution:**

'SPRINT Challenges' was launched to give a boost to the usage of indigenous technology to Indian Navy

Recently, the Indian Navy has inked an agreement with Sagar Defence Engineering for acquiring armed autonomous boat swarms. This is the 50th contract that has been signed under 'SPRINT' challenge.

**16. The Armed Forces Veterans' Day is celebrated during which month?**

- [A] January
- [B] February
- [C] March
- [D] April

**Correct Answer:** A [January]

**Solution:**

The Armed Forces Veterans' Day is celebrated on 14th January every year. As on this day in 1953, the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of Indian Army Field Marshal KM Cariappa, who led the Indian forces to victory in the 1947 war, retired from the Service.

The seventh Armed Forces Veterans' Day was celebrated across the country, as a mark of respect to the selfless duty of the ex-servicemen and their sacrifices towards the Nation. The Raksha Mantri also launched the 'Soul of Steel' Alpine Challenge, an initiative to promote tourism in border areas.

**17. Which armed force started the 'Ops Alert' exercise to enhance security?**

- [A] Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force
- [B] Border Security Force
- [C] Central Railway Protection Force
- [D] Central Industrial Security Force

**Correct Answer:** B [Border Security Force]



**Solution:**

The Border Security Force has started an 'Ops Alert' exercise to enhance security along the India-Pakistan border.

The 'Ops Alert' exercise will continue along the Indo-Pak international border from Sir Creek to the Rann of Kutch in Gujarat and Barmer district of Rajasthan. The exercise was being carried out to tackle ill designs of anti-national elements during the Republic Day celebrations.

**18. Which institution launched mobile app to book tickets for Wagah border retreat ceremony parade?**

- [A] ITBP
- [B] BSF
- [C] CRPF
- [D] CISF

**Correct Answer: B [BSF]**

**Solution:**

The Border Security Force (BSF) has launched a mobile app to ease the process of booking tickets for tourists from all over the world for the retreat ceremony parade.

The parade is held at the Attari-Wagah border joint check post (JCP) between India and Pakistan in Amritsar. The retreat ceremony at the Wagah-Attari border began in 1959 and has been a routine practice since then.

**19. Israeli Aerospace Industries (IAI) signed MoU with which Indian organisation to form a joint venture related to Armed Forces?**

- [A] HAL
- [B] ISRO
- [C] BEL
- [D] DRDO

**Correct Answer: C [BEL]**

**Solution:**

Israeli Aerospace Industries (IAI) and India's Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), both owned by their respective Governments, entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to form a joint venture firm for extending product support services for Indian Armed Forces. MRSAM is an advanced air and missile defence system that provides protection against a variety of aerial platforms. The MRSAM is used by the Indian Air Force, Indian Army, Indian Navy and Israeli Defence Forces.



**20. Which organisation manufactures the '228-201 LW aircraft' which has been approved by DGCA?**

- [A] BHEL
- [B] HAL
- [C] ISRO
- [D] DRDO

**Correct Answer:** B [HAL]

**Solution:**

The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has been granted approval by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for a new variant of the Hindustan 228-201 LW aircraft.

The recent DGCA approval will enable commercial pilots to fly the aircraft with a reduced qualification requirement, increasing the availability of pilots for the aircraft.

**21. Which institution has designed the 'Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS)'?**

- [A] HAL
- [B] DRDO
- [C] BEL
- [D] ISRO

**Correct Answer:** B [DRDO]

**Solution:**

The Indian Army has proposed the acquisition of an indigenous Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS) to fill critical capability gaps in high altitude regions.

The ATAGS has been designed by the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) to replace the current 155 mm artillery system in service, the Bofors towed guns.

**22. The CISF Raising Day Event 2023 was held in which state, first time outside the National Capital?**

- [A] Sikkim
- [B] Assam
- [C] Telangana
- [D] Goa

**Correct Answer:** C [Telangana]

**Solution:**

CISF Raising Day is celebrated annually on March 10th to recognize the contributions and achievements of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

Established in 1969 with three battalions and 2,800 personnel, the CISF has grown to become one of the largest security forces in India with over 165,000 personnel. The 2023 CISF Raising Day event was held in Hyderabad. This is the first time that it is conducted outside the National Capital.

**23. Union Ministry of Defence has entered a contract with which institution for the purchase of six Dornier-228 aircraft?**

- [A] BHEL
- [B] HAL
- [C] DRDO
- [D] BEL

**Correct Answer:** B [HAL]

**Solution:**

The Union Ministry of Defence has entered into a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the purchase of six Dornier-228 aircraft.

They are procured at the cost of Rs.667 crore. The procurement will boost the operational capability of the IAF in remote areas. The Dornier-228 aircraft will be used by the Indian Air Force (IAF) for communication and transport purposes.

**24. Exercise 'Al-Mohed-Al Hindi-23' is held between India and which country?**

- [A] UAE
- [B] Saudi Arabia
- [C] Israel
- [D] Oman

**Correct Answer:** B [Saudi Arabia]

**Solution:**

Exercise Al-Mohed-Al Hindi-23 is a bilateral exercise between the naval forces of India and Saudi Arabia.

It is planned for May this year, to be held in Saudi Arabia's Jubail. This will be the second such Naval Exercise, while the first one was held in August 2021.

**25. Which Indian firm has partnered with Australia-based AAI, to manufacture 'Albatross Amphibious Aircraft'?**

- [A] BHEL
- [B] HAL
- [C] Hawking Defence Services
- [D] Dhruv Aerospace

**Correct Answer:** C [Hawking Defence Services]

**Solution:**

Albatross Amphibious Aircraft is a 28-seater aircraft capable of landing and taking off from land, snow and water.

An Indian defence firm – Hawking Defence Services – has entered into a procurement cum partnership agreement with Australia-based Amphibian Aerospace Industries (AAI) to manufacture this aircraft.

**26. Which country hosts the Cobra Warrior Air Exercise?**

- [A] India
- [B] UK
- [C] France
- [D] Germany

**Correct Answer:** B [UK]

**Solution:**

Exercise Cobra Warrior, which is organized twice a year, is the largest air exercise hosted by the UK's Royal Air Force.

In the on-going edition of the exercise, 70 aircrafts are taking part, including India's 5 Mirage-2000 aircraft.

**27. Which company signed deal with Indian Army for procuring 'Akash Weapon System'?**

- [A] Bharat Dynamics
- [B] BEL
- [C] BHEL
- [D] DRDO

**Correct Answer:** A [Bharat Dynamics]

**Solution:**

Akash Weapon System is a short-range surface to air missile air defence system. The Indian government has signed a contract to procure this system for the Indian Army.

Defence PSU Bharat Dynamics won orders worth over Rs 8,400 crore for production and supply of Akash Weapon System to two regiments of the Indian Army

**28. Which city is the host of the second edition of 'The Africa-India Field Training Exercise' AFINDEX-2023?**

- [A] Pune
- [B] Panaji
- [C] Cairo
- [D] Nairobi

**Correct Answer:** A [Pune]

**Solution:**

AFINDEX-2023, the second edition of The Africa-India Field Training Exercise concluded recently in Pune.

It was held from March 16 to 29 this year. A total of 25 countries of the African continent with 124 participants and Indian troops from the Sikh, Maratha and Mahar Regiments participated in the multinational exercise.

**29. Which armed force is set to operationalize the Command Cyber Operations and Support Wings (CCOSW)?**

- [A] Indian Navy
- [B] Indian Army
- [C] Indian Coast Guard
- [D] Indian Air Force

**Correct Answer:** B [Indian Army]

**Solution:**

The Indian Army is set to operationalize the Command Cyber Operations and Support Wings (CCOSW) as part of its steps to modernize its online network. The decision to set up the CCOSW was made during the Army Commanders Conference, the biannual event that took place in hybrid format.

**30. What is the name of Indian Navy's 3rd indigenous stealth destroyer of the Project 15B class?**

- [A] INS Dhruv
- [B] INS Imphal
- [C] INS Kattabomman
- [D] INS Vikram

**Correct Answer:** B [INS Imphal]

**Solution:**

INS Imphal is the Indian Navy's 3rd indigenous stealth destroyer of the Project 15B class. The vessel recently took the maiden sea sortie.

INS Imphal is the third ship of the Visakhapatnam-class stealth guided missile destroyer of the Indian Navy. It is being constructed at Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL).

**31. Who became the Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINCAN)?**

- [A] Air Marshal Saju Balakrishnan
- [B] Air Marshal Subroto Mukerjee
- [C] Air Marshal B. Manikantan
- [D] Air Marshal Anil Kumar

**Correct Answer:** A [Air Marshal Saju Balakrishnan]

**Solution:**

Air Marshal Saju Balakrishnan AVSM, VM Takes Over As 17th Commander-In-Chief, Andaman & Nicobar Command (CINCAN) Air Marshal Saju Balakrishnan, AVSM, VM has taken over as the 17th Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINCAN) on 01 May 2023.

**32. Which Sailing vessel is undergoing transoceanic intercontinental expedition?**

- [A] INSV Tarini
- [B] INSV Taman
- [C] INSV Tarang
- [D] INSV Tara

**Correct Answer:** A [INSV Tarini]

**Solution:**

After a 6-month long trans-oceanic intercontinental expedition, the Indian Naval Sailing Vessel Tarini has started the return passage to India.

The vessel will complete 17000 nautical miles of passage once it reaches Goa. The expedition commenced at Goa on 17 Nov 2022.

**33. An outreach programme named “Julley Ladakh” was organized by which organization?**

- [A] Indian Navy
- [B] ISRO
- [C] Indian Oil Limited
- [D] Google

**Correct Answer:** A [Indian Navy]

**Solution:**

The Indian Navy conducted an outreach programme at Ladakh named “Julley Ladakh” (Hello Ladakh), to awareness about the Indian Navy in Ladakh. The programme included a 5000km Motorcycle Expedition.

The core objectives of the programme are to Celebrate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, Conduct Awareness drives at Schools/ Colleges about career opportunities in Indian Navy and to showcase Nari Shakti in the region.

**34. Which country’s Armed Forces is planning for ‘cross-services postings’ of senior officers?**

- [A] Sri Lanka
- [B] Bangladesh
- [C] India
- [D] China

**Correct Answer:** C [India]

**Solution:**

Indian Armed Forces are planning to go ahead with cross-services postings of a large number of senior officers in the ranks of Brigadier and Major General and equivalent.

Recently, the inter-service postings of a large batch of around 40 officers of the rank of Major and Lieutenant Colonel and equivalent were announced.

**35. ‘Tiger Triumph’ is an exercise conducted between India and which country?**

- [A] USA
- [B] France

- [C] Sri Lanka
- [D] Australia

**Correct Answer:** A [USA]

**Solution:**

India and United States conducted 'Tiger Triumph' humanitarian assistance exercise at India's Eastern Naval Command in Visakhapatnam.

The three-day exercise was a tabletop simulation during which military and diplomatic representatives of both the countries coordinated a joint response to provide disaster relief services to a hypothetical third country hit by a super-cyclone.

**36. 'Garuda VII' is a bilateral exercise conducted by the Air Force of India and which country?**

- [A] Sri Lanka
- [B] France
- [C] Japan
- [D] Australia

**Correct Answer:** B [France]

**Solution:**

Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FASF) are participating in a bilateral exercise, named 'Garuda VII' at Air Force Station Jodhpur.

In this exercise, the IAF is participating with Su-30 MKI, Rafale, LCA Tejas and Jaguar fighter aircraft, as well as the Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) and Mi-17 helicopters. This is the seventh edition of the bilateral exercise.

**37. Which country is the host of 26th International Malabar Naval Exercise in 2022?**

- [A] Australia
- [B] Japan
- [C] India
- [D] USA

**Correct Answer:** B [Japan]

**Solution:**

India is participating in 26th International Malabar Naval Exercise beginning in Yokosuka of Japan. Australia, Japan and the USA are also participating in the Malabar Naval Exercise.

The MALABAR Exercise was initiated in 1992 between the navies of India and the United States. India is participating in the exercise with Indian Naval Ships (INS) Shivalik and Kamorta.



**38. Indian Navy conducted the 'Naseem Al Bahr' exercise with which country?**

- [A] Australia
- [B] Oman
- [C] Israel
- [D] UAE

**Correct Answer:** B [Oman]

**Solution:**

Navies of India and Oman conducted exercise 'Naseem Al Bahr' off the coast of Oman. The Indian Navy's guided missile stealth frigate, INS Trikand, offshore patrol vessel, INS Sumitra, and Maritime Patrol Aircraft, (MPA) Dornier, participated in the 13th Edition of the exercise.

The Indian Navy (IN) – Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) bilateral exercise 'Naseem Al Bahr' (Sea Breeze) had three phases: harbour phase, sea phase and debrief.

**39. Parakram Diwas is celebrated at Longewala War Memorial, situated in which state?**

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Punjab
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Maharashtra

**Correct Answer:** A [Rajasthan]

**Solution:**

To mark the 51st anniversary of India's victory in the Longewala battle during the India-Pakistan war, Parakram Diwas was celebrated at Jaisalmer Military Station and Longewala War Memorial in Rajasthan. The Longewala battle between India and Pakistan was held in 1971.

**40. India received Rafale aircraft from which country?**

- [A] France
- [B] Australia
- [C] Germany
- [D] Israel

**Correct Answer:** A [France]

**Solution:**

India has received all 36 Rafale aircraft from France, with the last aircraft landing in the country recently.

India and France signed the inter-government agreement in 2016, under which France agreed to provide 36 Rafale fighter jets at a cost of around 60,000 crore rupees to India.

**41. Which state hosted the 'Tri-services Amphibious Exercise, AMPHEX 2023'?**

- [A] West Bengal
- [B] Andhra Pradesh
- [C] Sikkim
- [D] Jammu and Kashmir

**Correct Answer:** B [Andhra Pradesh]

**Solution:**

The biennial Tri-Services Amphibious Exercise, AMPHEX 2023 was conducted at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.

The exercise witnessed the participation of a amphibious ships from the Indian Navy, 900 troops which included Special Forces, Artillery and Armoured vehicles of Indian Army and Jaguar fighters and C 130 aircraft from the Indian Air Force.



**42. IIT-Kharagpur has handed over 'iWeld' software to detect defects to which institution?**

- [A] ISRO
- [B] DRDO
- [C] GRSE
- [D] BARC

**Correct Answer:** C [GRSE]

**Solution:**

IIT-Kharagpur has handed over 'iWeld' software to Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE).

The new software detects the defects in welding from the radiography images taken of an object, by using artificial intelligence. The software, tested over a large number of samples at GRSE, was found to provide results that were 93.18 per cent accurate

**43. 'Varuna' is a bilateral naval exercise between India and which country?**

- [A] USA
- [B] France
- [C] UAE
- [D] Sri Lanka

**Correct Answer:** B [France]

**Solution:**

The "Varuna" bilateral naval exercise between India and France is being conducted on the Western Seaboard.

The exercise began in 1993 and was given its name in 2001. This 21st edition of the exercise will include advanced air defence exercises and other

maritime operations. The exercise has been regarded as a symbol of the strategic relationship between the countries.

**44. Korwa ordnance factory is manufacturing AK-203 assault rifles in a joint venture with which country?**

- [A] Japan
- [B] Russia
- [C] USA
- [D] France

**Correct Answer:** B [Russia]

**Solution:**

The AK-203 Kalashnikov is a modern assault rifle that is being manufactured at the Korwa ordnance factory in UP's Amethi district.

The AK-203 project is carried out through a joint venture called Indo-Russia Rifles Pvt Ltd. The project seeks to manufacture over six lakh rifles over a 10-year period for a cost of Rs 5,124 crore. The first lot of 5,000 rifles will be delivered to the Indian army by March.

**45. Indian Army launched a joint Training exercise 'Cyclone – I' with which country?**

- [A] USA
- [B] Egypt
- [C] France
- [D] Sri Lanka

**Correct Answer:** B [Egypt]

**Solution:**

The first ever joint exercise between the special forces of the Indian Army and the Egyptian Army named 'Exercise Cyclone-I'.

The Joint Training Exercise is in progress at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. This is the first exercise of its kind bringing the special forces of both the nations on a common platform.

**46. Which country supplies the Apache attack helicopters to India?**

- [A] Japan
- [B] France
- [C] USA
- [D] Israel

**Correct Answer:** C [USA]

**Solution:**

The United States supplies Apache attack helicopters to India. The first fuselage out of six AH-64E Apache attack helicopters, which is the main body of an aircraft, was dispatched by TBAL to Arizona in the U.S. for final

assembly.

The first fuselage for the Indian Army's contract for six AH-64E Apache attack helicopters has rolled out of the Tata Boeing Aerospace Limited (TBAL) facility in Hyderabad. It is the Joint Venture between Tata Advanced Systems Limited and aircraft manufacturer Boeing.

**47. Which Indian Armed Force is set to hold command-level exercise named 'Pralay'?**

- [A] Indian Army
- [B] Indian Navy
- [C] Indian Air Force
- [D] Indian Coast Guard

**Correct Answer:** C [Indian Air Force]

**Solution:**

The Indian Air Force will carry out Exercise Pralay involving all its major air bases in the northeast including the recently moved drone squadrons in the northeast amid the ongoing standoff with China.

The Indian Air Force has deployed and activated the S-400 air defence squadron in the area which can take on any enemy aircraft or missile from a distance of up to 400 km. This is the second such command-level exercise carried out by the IAF in recent months.

**48. India's largest helicopter manufacturing facility was inaugurated in which state?**

- [A] Andhra Pradesh
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Uttar Pradesh
- [D] Maharashtra

**Correct Answer:** B [Karnataka]

**Solution:**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Helicopter Factory at Tumakuru in Karnataka.

The factory is India's largest helicopter manufacturing facility and will initially produce LUHs. He also unveiled the Light Utility Helicopter (LUH). Initially, this factory will produce around 30 helicopters per year and can be enhanced to 60 and then 90 per year in a phased manner.

**49. Which organisation opened the strategic Zojila Pass located on the Greater Himalayan Range?**

- [A] Indian Army
- [B] Border Roads Organisation
- [C] Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force
- [D] Indian Air Force

**Correct Answer:** B [Border Roads Organisation]

**Solution:**

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) opened the strategic Zojila Pass located on the Greater Himalayan Range at an altitude of 11,650 feet which acts as a gateway between Union Territories of Ladakh, and Jammu & Kashmir.

It remained closed for only 68 days this year as compared to 73 days last year and 160-180 days in the past.

**50. The inaugural edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference-2023 is being organized aboard which ship?**

[A] INS Kattabomman

[B] INS Shivaji

[C] INS Vikrant

[D] INS Viraat

**Correct Answer:** C [INS Vikrant]

**Solution:**

The INS Vikrant is an aircraft carrier currently in use by the Indian Navy. It is the first carrier to be built indigenously in India, and was built by the Cochin Shipyard Limited in Kerala.

The vessel is named after India's inaugural aircraft carrier, the INS Vikrant (1961). The inaugural edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference-2023 is being organized aboard INS Vikrant.

**51. With reference to defence, what is Vayulink, which was seen in the news recently?**

[A] Missile

[B] Military Exercise

[C] Data link system

[D] Submarine

**Correct Answer:** C [Data link system]

**Solution:**

The Vayulink, system developed by Wing Commander Vishal Mishra of the Indian Air Force (IAF), has completed operational trials and is set to be deployed in all forward areas.

This data link system enhances battlefield transparency and aids in effective decision-making by integrating inputs from multiple sources to provide real-time data to operators.

**52. Which paramilitary force is responsible for guarding the Indo-Myanmar border? [A] ITBP**

[B] Assam Rifles

- [C] CISF
- [D] BSF

**Correct Answer:** B [Assam Rifles]

**Solution:**

Assam Rifles' 188th raising day ceremony was held on March 24, 2023 in Shillong. This central paramilitary force responsible guarding the Indo-Myanmar border.

In this year, the personnel of the Force were awarded one Shaurya Chakra, seven Sena Medals, and 411 Presidential and Governors Medals.

**53. Which state is the host of the 'Cope India Exercise'?**

- [A] Sikkim
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] West Bengal
- [D] Punjab

**Correct Answer:** C [West Bengal]

**Solution:**

The Air Forces of India and the U.S. are set to conduct the Cope India exercise from April 10 to 21 at the Kalaikunda airbase in West Bengal.

The exercise will see intense air manoeuvres aimed at improving interoperability. Japan will be the observer of the exercise.

**54. 'Prasthan Exercise' the bi-annual coordinated exercise, held near which city in 2023?**

- [A] Chennai
- [B] Panjim
- [C] Mumbai
- [D] Kolkata

**Correct Answer:** C [Mumbai]

**Solution:**

Prasthan Exercise is a bi-annual coordinated exercise held among Indian defence, state and civilian agencies twice a year.

It was conducted recently in the offshore development area off Mumbai. It validates the measures to address contingencies that may occur in oil production platforms.

**55. Exercise Balikatan is a defence exercise between which two countries?**

- [A] India – Philippines
- [B] USA – Philippines
- [C] India – Bhutan
- [D] USA – China

**Correct Answer:** B [USA – Philippines]

**Solution:**

The United States of America and the Philippines have launched their largest combat exercise named Balikatan, meaning shoulder-to-shoulder. The exercise is launched in waters across the South China Sea and the Taiwan Strait.

The exercise would witness participation of more than 17,600 military personnel and the drills will include live-fire exercises and a boat-sinking rocket assault.

**56. Which Indian Armed Force acquired the ‘Nagastra 1’ an indigenous drone developed in India?**

- [A] Indian Army
- [B] Indian Navy
- [C] Indian Air Force
- [D] Indian Coast Guard

**Correct Answer:** A [Indian Army]

**Solution:**

Nagastra 1 is an indigenous drone developed by the Economic Explosives Limited. It was acquired recently by the Indian Army to increase its operations at the LOC.

Nagastra 1 can strike targets within 15-30 km, using GPS-enabled precision. It is also designed to loiter over enemy territory in search of moving personnel, military vehicles or an enemy position before being taken down.

**57. Which country is the host of the ‘Multilateral Naval Exercise Komodo’?**

- [A] Indonesia
- [B] Myanmar
- [C] Nepal
- [D] Bangladesh

**Correct Answer:** A [Indonesia]

**Solution:**

The 2023 Multilateral Naval Exercise Komodo will be organized by Indonesia from June 4 to 8 in Makassar.

This event will mark the fourth iteration of the exercise since its inception in 2014. The previous edition of this exercise took place in 2018 before it was suspended because of COVID-19.

**58. “Sanshodhak” vessel which was launched recently, belongs to which class of sea vessels?**



- [A] Kalvari Class Vessels
- [B] Survey Vessels
- [C] P15B Class
- [D] Khukri Class

**Correct Answer:** B [Survey Vessels]

**Solution:**

The fourth vessel named Sanshodhak belonging to Survey Vessels (Large) SVL Project of Indian Navy was recently launched at Kattupalli, Chennai. The vessel was built by L &T/ GRSE for Indian Navy.

The launch ceremony was presided Chief guest of Launch Ceremony was Vice Admiral Adhir Arora, Chief Hydrographer to Government of India. The ship named 'Sanshodhak', meaning 'Researcher', signifies primary role of ship as a Survey Vessel.

**59. Which country is the host of the 'Ex Khaan Quest 2023' multilateral peacekeeping joint exercise?**

- [A] India
- [B] Sri Lanka
- [C] Mongolia
- [D] Israel

**Correct Answer:** C [Mongolia]

**Solution:**

Ex Khaan Quest 2023 is a multilateral peacekeeping joint exercise that is currently being held in Mongolia. It involved the participation of military contingents and observers from around 20 countries.

President of Mongolia inaugurated the Exercise, which is co-sponsored by Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) and United States Army Pacific Command (USARPAC).

**60. Recently, which Indian Naval vessel was handed over to Vietnam People's Navy?**

- [A] INS Kirpan
- [B] INS Talwar
- [C] INS Vikrant
- [D] INS Vikram

**Correct Answer:** A [INS Kirpan]

**Solution:**

INS Kirpan is the indigenously built Khukri class missile corvette, which will be handed over to Vietnam People's Navy. The vessel commenced its final journey from Visakhapatnam, which on arrival at Vietnam shall be handed over to Vietnam People's Navy.

This is the first time India has presented such a vessel to a friendly foreign country, aligning with India's vision of global unity and regional security

**61. What is the name of the Project 17A frigate recently inaugurated by the Indian President in 2023?**

- [A] Vindhyagiri
- [B] Kailashgiri
- [C] Arunagiri
- [D] Shivgiri

**Correct Answer:** A [Vindhyagiri]

**Solution:**

President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated Vindhyagiri, a Project 17A frigate, at the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited in Kolkata.

Named after a mountain range in Karnataka, it is the sixth vessel in the series of Project 17A frigates. Seven Project 17A Frigates are under various stages of construction at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) and GRSE.

**62. Which institution has developed India's first Wheeled Armoured Amphibious Platform (WhAP) vehicles?**

- [A] DRDO and Tata Advanced Systems
- [B] DRDO and L&T
- [C] DRDO and HAL
- [D] DRDO and BHEL

**Correct Answer:** A [DRDO and Tata Advanced Systems]

**Solution:**

Two Wheeled Armoured Amphibious Platform (WhAP) vehicles have been deployed in south Kashmir to aid anti-militancy operations by CRPF. The 8-by-8 vehicle is a state-of-the-art platform. It is India's first vehicle that can be driven on road, marshy terrain, water and mountainous terrain.

The vehicle has been developed by Vehicle Research and Development Establishment (DRDO lab) and Tata Advanced Systems Limited.

**63. Which organisation has announced plans to build World's Highest Fighter Airfield, at Ladakh?**

- [A] Indian Airforce
- [B] Airports Authority of India
- [C] National Highways Authority of India
- [D] Border Roads Organisation

**Correct Answer:** D [Border Roads Organisation]

**Solution:**

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has announced its plans to construct

the world's highest fighter airfield in the Nyoma region of Ladakh at a staggering altitude of approximately 13,700 feet.

On 12 September 2023, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh laid the foundation stone for the airfield. This is a part of BRO's vision to enhance India's infrastructure along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

**64. What is the name of the first indigenous aircraft carrier of India?**

- [A] Vikrant
- [B] Bhim
- [C] Virat
- [D] Akash

**Correct Answer:** A [Vikrant]

**Solution:**

The Indian Navy has submitted a proposal to the government for the construction of its second indigenous aircraft carrier, known as the Indigenous Aircraft Carrier-2 (IAC-2).

Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) delivered the first indigenously built Aircraft Carrier (IAC-1) INS Vikrant to the Indian Navy in July 2022.

**65. Indian Navy recently organised its inaugural trilateral exercise with the navies of which countries from 20 - 21 Sep 2023?**

- [A] Indonesia and Australia
- [B] Sri Lanka and Australia
- [C] France and Australia
- [D] USA and Canada

**Correct Answer:** A [Indonesia and Australia]

**Solution:**

The maiden India-Indonesia-Australia Trilateral Maritime Exercise was organized this year. Indian Navy's indigenously built warship INS Sahyadri took part in this exercise.

The trilateral exercise provided an opportunity for the three maritime nations to strengthen their partnership and improve their collective capability to support a secure Indo-Pacific region. INS Sahyadri, the indigenously designed ship, participated in the exercise.

**66. Which country is the host of 'Exercise Bright Star'?**

- [A] India
- [B] Egypt
- [C] USA
- [D] Australia

**Correct Answer:** B [Egypt]

**Solution:**

The Indian Air Force's (IAF) MiG-29 fighter jets participated in the Exercise

Bright Star in Egypt.

It was a biennial multilateral tri-services exercise held at the Cairo Air Base in Egypt. The exercise involved nine countries, including India, in combat training and demonstrations.

**67. 'Gerald R Ford' is the carrier strike group of which country?**

- [A] Israel
- [B] USA
- [C] Russia
- [D] France

**Correct Answer: B [USA]**

**Solution:**

In response to a surprise attack by Hamas on Israel, the U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin instructed the USS Gerald R Ford carrier strike group to head to the Eastern Mediterranean, with the intention of providing assistance to Israel if necessary.

United States Navy's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Gerald R Ford is considered as one of the world's biggest and strongest Warships.

**68. When is the 'Shaurya Diwas' celebrated in India?**

- [A] October 25
- [B] October 27
- [C] October 29
- [D] October 31

**Correct Answer: B [October 27]**

**Solution:**

'Shaurya Diwas' is being celebrated in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir on October 27. The day aims to commemorate the 75th year of air landed operations of Indian Army at Budgam Airport in 1947.

Indian Army also celebrates the Infantry Day on October 27. On October 27, 1947, the Indian Army was inducted by the Indian Air Force at Budgam Airport to evict Pakistan's forces from Jammu and Kashmir, after the 'Instrument of Accession' was signed.

**69. Which country is the host of the first edition of India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise?**

- [A] India
- [B] Mozambique
- [C] Tanzania
- [D] Maldives

**Correct Answer:** C [Tanzania]

**Solution:**

The first edition of the India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise has recently commenced at Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

Indian Navy is represented by the guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, a Chetak helicopter and MARCOS (Special Forces). The exercise has three objectives: capability development to address common threats through training and sharing of best practices, enhancing interoperability, and strengthening maritime cooperation.

**70. What is the name of India's first privately developed rocket?**

- [A] Akash
- [B] Vikram- S
- [C] Vikrant- S
- [D] Surya

**Correct Answer:** B [Vikram- S]

**Solution:**

India's first privately developed rocket, named Vikram-S is set to be launched on a sub-orbital mission with three payloads.

Hyderabad-based space startup Skyroot Aerospace will become the first private space company in India to launch a rocket into space. The mission named 'Prarambh' will carry payloads of two Indian and one foreign customer and is set for launch from ISRO's launchpad at Sriharikota.

**71. India-US joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas-2022' is held in which Indian state?**

- [A] Goa
- [B] Andhra Pradesh
- [C] Uttarakhand
- [D] Sikkim

**Correct Answer:** C [Uttarakhand]

**Solution:**

The 18th edition of the India-US joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' is being held in Uttarakhand.

The military exercise is conducted annually between India and the US. As the exercise is held about 100 km from the Line of Actual Control (LAC), China said it was opposed to the military exercise.

