

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. For the first time, six women officers clear Defence Services Staff College examination ( Nov. 17, 2022 )**

six women officers cleared DSSC examination.

**For the first time** in the history of the Indian Army **six women officers** have cleared the **Defence Services Staff College (DSSC) examination.**

#### **Important facts**

- Of the 15 women officers who appeared in this year's DSSC exam, six cleared it.
- Every year, 1,500-1,600 officers appear for this prestigious exam but only around 300 get selected.
- Six women officers will join the prestigious War College in Wellington, a move that comes after the Army granted permanent commission to women officers last year.
- They will start their academic session from April 2023.
- The DSSC course is run for Major and Lt Col equivalent ranks of the three Services.
- After the completion of the DSSC course, officers will be eligible for important staff appointments to higher ranks of the Indian Army as well as for foreign postings.

#### **About Defence Services Staff College (DSSC)**

- It is one of the oldest military institutions in India. It was set up in India in 1905 as the Army Staff College at Deolali and was relocated to Quetta, now in Pak, in 1907.
- It was shifted to Wellington in 1947 after the partition of the subcontinent.
- Many army officers have done the DSSC course, including former Chief of Defense Staff General Bipin Rawat.

### **2. INDO - US Joint training Exercise "YUDH ABHYAS 2022" to commence in Uttarakhand ( Nov. 15, 2022 )**

Yudh Abhyas 22

The **18th edition** of Indo-US joint training exercise "**Yudh Abhyas 22**" will be held in **Auli, Uttarakhand** in November 2022.

#### **Important facts**

- The 'Yudh Abhyas' between **India and the US** is held annually with the aim of exchanging best practices, strategies, techniques and procedures between the armies of the two countries.

- The previous edition of this exercise was conducted in **October 2021** at **Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Alaska (USA)**.
- The US Army soldier from the **2nd Brigade** of the **11th Airborne Division** and **Indian Army soldier** from the **Assam Regiment** will participate in the exercise.
- The training schedule focuses on employment of an integrated battle group under **Chapter VII of the UN Mandate**.
- The training program will cover all functions related to **peacekeeping and peace enforcement**.
- Soldiers of both the countries will work together to achieve common objectives. The joint exercise will also focus on **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** operations.
- Troops of both the countries will practise launching quick and coordinated relief efforts in the wake of any natural calamity.
- The exercise was **started in 2004** under the **US Army Pacific Partnership Program**.

### **Other Exercises between India and the USA**

- **Exercise Tiger Triumph** - Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief exercise
- **Exercise Vajra Prahar** - Special Forces' Exercise
- **Cope India** - Air Force
- **Malabar Exercise** - Quadrilateral naval exercise of India, USA, Japan and Australia
- **Red Flag** - US' multilateral air exercise

### **3. The third edition of Coastal Defence Exercise 'Sea Vigil-22' began on 15 November ( Nov. 15, 2022 )**

The **third edition** of the two-day '**Sea Vigil-22**' is commencing on the **eastern seaboard** from November 15 as part of an all-India coastal defence exercise.

#### **Important facts**

- The exercise was conceptualised in the **year 2018** among various measures initiated to enhance maritime security since the **26/11 Mumbai attacks**.
- The exercise will be conducted along the country's 7,516 km long coastline covering India's **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)**.
- The exercise will involve all coastal states, union territories and other maritime stakeholders including fishing and coastal communities.

- The exercise is being conducted by the **Indian Navy** in coordination with the **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** and the ministries tasked with maritime activities.
- This exercise is a build-up towards the major **Theatre Level Readiness Operational Exercise (TROPEX)**, which is conducted by the Indian Navy every two years.
- **'Sea Vigil' and 'TROPEX'** together will cover the entire spectrum of maritime security challenges.
- Assets from the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, Customs and other maritime agencies will participate in the 'Sea Vigil' exercise.
- Apart from the Defense Ministry, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Customs and other Central/State agencies are also assisting in the conduct of this exercise.
- The exercise will provide a realistic assessment of **India's strengths and weaknesses**, which will help further strengthen maritime and national security.

#### **4. Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande embarks on 4-day official visit to France ( Nov. 14, 2022 )**

Manoj Pande embarks on 4-day official visit to France

The Chief of Army Staff (COAS) **General Manoj Pande** left on a 4 day (14-17 November) official visit to France on 14 November 2022. General Pande will hold a meeting with his French counterparts and senior military leadership with the aim to strengthen defence ties between the two nations.

His visit is aimed to give impetus to the ever growing Indo-French defence ties. During his visit he will lay a wreath at **Neuve Chapelle Indian Memorial**, which commemorates the sacrifices of 4,742 Indian soldiers during the First World War.

Earlier on November 7, Army Chief General Manoj Pande held a meeting with French Chief of Staff of Air and Space Force, **General Stephane Mille**. During the meeting, both sides discussed various aspects of defence cooperation between France and India.

The seventh edition of the bilateral exercise between the Indian Air Force and the French Air and Space Force, '**Exercise Garuda-VII**' concluded at Air Force Station in **Jodhpur** on 12 November 2022.

**General Manoj Pande** is the 29th Chief of Army Staff in India .He is the first officer from the Corps of Engineers to become the Chief of Army.

#### **5. Indian Navy conducts an offshore security exercise 'Prasthan' off Mumbai coast ( Nov. 12, 2022 )**

The Indian Navy's **Western Command** conducted an exercise 'Prasthan' on 12 November 2022 to evaluate organizational effectiveness in protecting offshore assets off Mumbai on an Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) platform 150 km into the sea.

The Prasthan' is conducted twice a year under the Western Naval Command. It aims to assess various measures and protocols conceived to address security threats and other contingencies that may arise in offshore oil production platforms.

The Indian Navy is the lead agency and has been entrusted with the responsibility of protecting the oil production platforms off the coasts of India.

### **Mumbai High and Sagar Samrat**

Mumbai High or earlier known as Bombay High is an offshore oilfield located in the Arabian Sea, approximately 160 km west of the Mumbai coast, Maharashtra.

It is one of the **largest** oil and gas fields in India. It was discovered in **1974**, by the Russian and Indian team from seismic exploration vessel Academic Arkhangel'sky while mapping the Gulf of Cambay between 1964 and 1967.

The oil field commenced production in 1976 and is operated by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

**Sagar Samrat** is India's first oil rig platform that drilled the first offshore oil well offshore in Mumbai High.

The new **One Rupee note** issued by the Government of India has the picture of Sagar Samrat on its reserve side.

### **Indian Navy**

The Indian Navy was founded on 26 January 1950.

It comes under the Union Ministry of Defence

President is the supreme commander of the Indian Navy.

Current Chief of Naval Staff: **Admiral R. Hari Kumar**

Navy Day: **4 December**

The Headquarters of the Indian Navy is at **New Delhi**

### **6. Western Air Command Commanders' Conference held at New Delhi ( Nov. 12, 2022 )**

Western Air Command Commanders

**Western Air Command Commanders' Conference** was held in **New Delhi** on 10 and 11 November 2022.

### **Important facts**

- The chief guest of the conference was Air Chief Marshal **VR Chowdhary**, Chief of the Air Staff (CAS).
- VR Choudhary stressed on the need to maintain operational preparedness, ensure serviceability of assets and physical and information security.
- Speaking on the occasion, he directed all the commanders present to ensure operational readiness of all platforms, weapon systems and assets at all times.

### **Air Command in India**

- The **Western Command**, headquartered at **New Delhi**, looks after the Ladakh sector, among other areas.
- There is a standoff between Indian and Chinese troops at several points in eastern Ladakh.
- The Air Force has **seven commands** (Western, Eastern, Southern, Southwestern, Central, Training and Maintenance).

## **7. Army organises Walong Fair on the occasion of Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Battle of Walong ( Nov. 11, 2022 )**

Army organises Walong Fair

The Indian Army organised the **Walong Mela** on 10 November 2022 to mark the **Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Battle of Walong**.

### **Important facts**

- The **Dao Division of Spear Corps** has organised this fair at Walong circle of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- It aims to remember the unsurpassed bravery and sacrifice of the Indian Army while defending Indian territory against the Chinese invasion of **1962**.
- The objective of the Mela was to familiarise the public with the Indian Army and to encourage a sense of belongingness and togetherness.
- The Mela held in Walong included a variety of spectacular sports and sporting events.

### **Battle of Walong**

- Walong is one of the easternmost region of India in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- In the **Indo-China War of 1962**, the Indian Army defended against China in all areas except Walong in Arunachal Pradesh.
- With less ammunition and resources, the **6th Kumaon Infantry Battalion** launched a counterattack between 14 and 16 November 1962 against the Chinese army with the aim of deterring the approaching enemy.

- Indian troops fought the Chinese for more than 20 days in Walong, India's easternmost city, which is adjacent to the Tibet region.

## **8. Indian Army launches single-window facility for welfare, grievance redressal of 'veer naris' ( Nov. 11, 2022 )**

Indian Army launches single-window facility

The Indian Army has launched a single-window facility for welfare and grievance redressal of 'veer naris' on 10 October, 2022.

### **Important facts**

- The project was inaugurated by the **Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA)** at the Indian Army Veterans Directorate (DIAV) campus, **Delhi Cantt.**
- Veerangana Seva Kendra (VSK) will be available as a service on Indian Army Veterans Portal [www.indianarmyveterans.gov.in](http://www.indianarmyveterans.gov.in).
- Veer Nari or Kin will have many means of contact including telephone, WhatsApp, e-mail.
- The widow of a member of the armed forces who sacrificed her life in war or military campaign is called 'Veer Nari'.
- A single window facility named **Veerangana Seva Kendra (VSK)** has been launched for the welfare of '**Veer Naris**' and redressal of grievances with the motto of '**Take Care of Your Own, No Matter What**'.
- The system caters to the applicant for tracking, monitoring and filing complaints with regular feedback.
- Veer Nari or Kin will have multiple means of contacting VSK through Telephone, SMS, WhatsApp, Post, E-mail and Walk-in.
- Stakeholders can monitor the status of complaints through Customer Relationship Management (CRM) software.
- The applicant will receive regular updates of the status through SMS and email.
- The 'Veer Naris' are appointed as VSK staff to maintain in-built engagement and empathy with the beneficiaries.
- The project is spearheaded by the branch of DIAV, AG and the technology solution is developed by **BISAG-N**, while **Hero MotoCorp** has supported the project through its CSR initiatives.

## **9. 26th edition of the Malabar naval exercise begins off the Japanese island of Yokosuka ( Nov. 9, 2022 )**

Indian warships in Japan's Yokosuka island for Malabar 2022

The **27th Malabar naval exercise 2022** featuring the navies of all four [Quad](#) countries India, the US, Australia and Japan began on 9 November 2022 off the **Yokosuka island** of Japan near the East China Sea.

Indian Naval ships **INS Shivalik** and **INS Kamorta** are participating in the 10-day exercise being hosted by the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF). The Japanese Navy is called the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force.

The Indian Naval chief R Hari Kumar witnessed the opening ceremony of the Malabar exercise.

The opening ceremony of the exercise was attended by Commander of Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet Rear Admiral Sanjay Bhalla, Commander in Chief of Self Defense Fleet of Japanese Navy Vice Admiral Yuasa Hideki, Commander of US Navy's Seventh Fleet Vice Admiral Karl Thomas and Commander of Australian Fleet Rear Admiral Jonathan Earley.

### **Background of the Malabar Naval Exercise**

The first Malabar exercise was held between the Indian and the US Navy along the Malabar Coast in Arabian Sea in **1992**.

Japan became the permanent partner of the exercise from 2015 onwards.

Australia participated for the first time in 2007 and again in 2020 and 2021.

The 2021 exercise between the four navies was held in the Philippines Sea and also in the Bay of Bengal.

### **10. Indian Air Force chief and French Air Force chief participates in the Garuda VII exercise ( Nov. 8, 2022 )**

Garuda VII exercise

The Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force (IAF) Air Chief Marshal **VR Chaudhari**, and Chief of the Air Staff of French Air and Space Force (FASF) General **Stéphane Mille** flew aircraft in the ongoing Garuda VII exercise being held at Jodhpur on 8 November 2022.

The 7th '**Garuda VII**' exercise is being held from 26 October to 12 November 2022 at Air Force Station **Jodhpur**.

**Air Chief Marshal** Chaudhari flew the French made Rafale fighter plane while General Stéphane Mille flew the Indian Su-30MKI fighter.

For the first time the **indigenous LCA Tejas and Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Prachand** is participating in an international military exercise.

Apart from the LCA and LCH, the IAF contingent consists of Su-30 MKI, Rafale and Jaguar fighter aircraft, as well as Mi-17 helicopters. The IAF contingent also includes Combat Enabling Assets like Flight Refuelling Aircraft, AWACS, AEW&C and Garud Special Forces.

Four French Air Force Rafale fighters and one A-330 Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT) aircraft are participating in the exercise.

