

Current Affairs search results for tag: defence

1. Army Commanders' Conference to take place from November 7 in New Delhi (Nov. 5, 2022)

Army Commanders' Conference

The **Army Commanders' Conference** will be held in **New Delhi** from 7-11 November to deliberate on the current and emerging security and administrative aspects and to chart the future for the Indian Army.

Important facts

- During the conference, the top leadership of the Indian Army will deliberate on current/emerging security and administrative aspects to chart the future for the Indian Army.
- Other activities planned during the conference will also include talks by eminent subject matter experts on "**Contemporary India-China Relations**" as well as "**Technical Challenges to National Security**".
- During the conference, Defense Minister **Rajnath Singh** will address and interact with Army Commanders on 10 November 2022.
- The Chief of Defense Staff and the Chiefs of the Indian Navy and Indian Air Force will also address the senior leadership of the Indian Army to promote tri-services synergy.

About Army Commanders' Conference

- It is an apex level biennial event which is an institutional forum for ideological level discussions and helps in taking important policy decisions for the Indian Army.
- It is an apex level **biennial event** which is an institutional forum for ideological level discussions and helps in taking important policy decisions for the Indian Army.
- It is also a formal forum for the senior leadership of the Indian Army to interact with senior officials from the Department of Military Affairs and the Department of Defence.

2. Joint Military Training-2022 With Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) at Air Force Station Kalaikunda (Nov. 5, 2022)

11th edition of the annual Joint Military Training

Singapore Air Force (RSAF) began their six-week-long **11th annual Joint Military Training (JMT)** on 3 November, 2022, at **Air Force Station, Kalaikunda**.

Important facts

- The air forces of these two countries have resumed this training after a **gap of two years**.

- This training could not take place during the last two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The bilateral phase of the exercise will be conducted from November 9 to 18, 2022 and both the air forces will engage in advanced air warfare exercise.
- RSAF is participating with **F-16 aircraft** in JMT- 2022.
- Apart from this, the IAF will field **Su-30 MKI, Jaguar, MiG-29 and LCA Tejas** aircraft in this exercise.
- The exercise underlines the strong and long standing ties between India and Singapore in the field of defence cooperation.

Objective of Joint Military Training

- It aims to provide an opportunity to the participating crews to share valuable operational knowledge, experience and best practices while strengthening the professional relationship between the two Air Forces.

India's Joint Military Exercise with other countries

- **Mitra Shakti** - India & Sri Lanka
- **Maitree Exercise** - India & Thailand
- **Yudh Abhyas** - India and US
- **Vajra Prahar** - India and US
- **Garuda Shakti** - India & Indonesia
- **Nomadic Elephant** - India & Mongolia
- **Shakti Exercise** - India & France
- **Surya Kiran** - India and Nepal
- **SIMBEX** - India and Singapore
- **CORPAT** - India and Thailand

3. Bhutan Army Chief Lt Gen Batoo Tshering meets Indian Army chief General Pande during his visit to India (Nov. 3, 2022)

Bhutan Army Chief Lt Gen Batoo

The visiting Bhutanese Army Chief officially known as Chief Operations Officer, Royal Bhutan Army **Lt Gen Batoo Tshering** met his Indian counterpart, Indian Army Chief General Manoj Pande. He also met the defence secretary Giridhar Aramane in New Delhi.

Lt Gen Batoo Tshering was on an official visit to India from 28 October to 02 November 2022. Earlier in the month of July this year the Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande visited Bhutan.

India Bhutan Special military Relationship

India and Bhutan share a special relationship and it is governed by the Treaty **of Friendship and Cooperation of 1949** signed between the two countries and updated during the visit to India of Bhutan's [King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck](#) in February 2007.

Under the treaty India is responsible for Bhutanese security.

For this purpose India has stationed its **Indian Military Training Team** in Bhutan to provide training to Bhutanese security forces.

Regular India-Bhutan security and border management meetings take place between the two countries to discuss a number of key issues, including threat perceptions, security and border management issues.

Kingdom of Bhutan

King of Bhutan: Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck

Prime Minister: Lotay Tshering

Capital: **Thimphu**

Currency: **ngultrum**

Bhutan is known as "**Druk Yul,**" or "**Land of the Thunder Dragon**".

4. First successful flight test of phase -II ballistic missile defence interceptor (Nov. 2, 2022)

Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) Interceptor

Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) conducted the first successful flight test of **Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) Interceptor AD-1 missile** with Large Kill Altitude Bracket from **APJ Abdul Kalam Island** off the **coast of Odisha** on November 2, 2022.

Interceptor AD-1 Missile

- It is a long-range interceptor missile designed for both low **exo-atmospheric and endo-atmospheric interception of long-range ballistic missiles as well as aircraft.**
- It is driven by a **two-phase solid motor.**
- It is equipped with indigenously developed advanced control system, navigation and guidance algorithms to accurately guide the missile to the target.
- It has the ability to hit many different types of targets.
- During this flight-test, all sub-systems performed as expected.

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

- It is a premier defence research and development agency under the **Ministry of Defence**, Government of India.
- It aims to make India self-reliant in critical defence technology and systems.
- It was set up in **1958**.
- Headquarters - **New Delhi**
- Chairman - **Samir V Kamat**

5. Zojila Day commemorated at Zojila War Memorial, Drass (Nov. 2, 2022)

Zojila Day

Zojila Day was observed on **1 November 2022** at the **Zojila War Memorial near Dras** to celebrate the gallant action taken by the Indian soldiers in 'Operation Bison'. '**Operation Bison**' was launched on the icy heights of **Zojila Pass**, the gateway to **Ladakh in 1948**.

Important facts

- The Commander of Drass Warriors of Leh's Fire and Fury Corps paid floral tributes to the soldiers who were martyred in liberating the Zojila Pass from Pakistani infiltrators.
- Zojila Day is an indomitable symbol of the bravery of the Indian Army.
- This battle is considered historic as tanks were used for the first time at such a height.
- Zojila Day is a symbol of the indomitable spirit of bravery and 'Never Say Die' of the Indian Army.

About Zojila Pass

- It is a high mountain pass in Jammu and Kashmir, located on **National Highway 1**.
- It connects Srinagar in **Kashmir Valley to Leh** in Ladakh region.
- It has an elevation of about **3,528 metres (11,575 ft)**, and is the **second highest pass** on the Srinagar-Leh National Highway after **Photu La**.
- This is known as the '**Icy Storm Pass**'.
- The Zojila Tunnel project was started in the year **2018**. It is the longest and strategic bi-directional tunnel in Asia.

About The battle of Zojila

- During the Indo-Pakistani War of **1947**, Zojila was seized by Pakistani-backed invaders in **1948** in their campaign to capture Ladakh.

- On **November 1, 1948**, the Zojila Pass was recaptured by the Indian Army in an attack called **Operation Bison**.
- The Battle of Zojila was one of the first battles of the Indian Army in the high altitude region.

6. Second edition of Naval Commanders' Conference (Nov. 1, 2022)

Naval Commanders' Conference

The **second edition** of **Naval Commanders' Conference** of 2022 begins on 1 November, 2022 in **New Delhi**.

Important facts

- During the four-day conference, Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** will address and interact with naval commanders on matters related to national security.
- Chief of Defence Staff General **Anil Chauhan** and the Chiefs of Indian Army and Indian Air Force will also interact with the Naval Commanders.
- During the conference, the Chief of Naval Staff, along with other Naval Commanders, will review major operations, material, logistics, human resource development, training and administrative activities undertaken by the Indian Navy over the past few months.
- They will deliberate on plans for important future activities and initiatives.
- The conference will also focus on the dynamics of the geo-strategic situation in the region and the Navy's readiness to deal with it.

Chief of Defence Staff - **General Anil Chauhan**

Chief of Indian Air Force - **V. R. Chaudhari**

Chief of Indian Army - **General Manoj Pande**

Chief of Indian Navy - **Admiral R Hari Kumar**

7. Goa Maritime Symposium (Nov. 1, 2022)

Goa Maritime Symposium

The **fourth edition of the Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS)** is being conducted by the **Naval War College (NWC) at Goa** from 31 October to 1 November 2022.

Important facts

- **The theme of GMS-2022** is Maritime Security Challenges in the Indian Ocean Region: Converting Common Maritime Priorities into Collaborative Mitigation Frameworks.
- The Symposium was inaugurated by **Rear Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar**, Commandant, Naval War College.

- The participants of the symposium include Captains/ officers of the rank of Commander or equivalent from navies/ maritime forces from friendly countries like Bangladesh, Comoros, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand besides India.

About Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS)

- It was conceptualised and instituted by the Indian Navy in **2016**.
- It is a forum for promoting collaborative thinking, cooperation and mutual understanding between India and the major maritime countries of the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**.
- The Symposium is organised **biennially by NWC, Goa** and so far three editions of the event have been organised.

8. Indian Navy participates in the first Trilateral Naval exercise with Mozambique and Tanzania Navies (Oct. 29, 2022)

first trilateral naval exercise

The first trilateral naval exercise (**IMT TRILAT**) between Indian, **Mozambican** and **Tanzanian** navies commenced at **Dar Es Salaam**, Tanzania on 27 Oct 2022. It is the first time that the Indian Navy is participating in an exercise with these navies.

The exercise will be held from 27 to 29 October 2022 which includes harbour and sea phases.

The Indian Navy is being represented by the guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, a Chetak helicopter and special commando unit of the Indian Navy, MARCOS (Marine Commandos).

9. Indian Ministry of Defence is the largest employer in the world: Statista (Oct. 29, 2022)

Union Defence Ministry

According to the German Statista infographic, the **Union Defence Ministry** is the world's biggest employer with 2.92 million people as employees. The Statista report on 'Employers with the largest workforce worldwide 2022' has included the active service personnel, reservists and civilian staff in the Defence ministry personnel list.

Statista is a Hamburg-based private organisation that provides data and statistics about various issues worldwide.

The **American Department of Defense** which employs 2.91 million personnel comes second in the list.

The Chinese Military Commission which is equivalent to the Defence ministry in India employs around 6.8 million people. But it was not included in the list as there was doubt over its data.

Largest private sector employer

According to Statista, amongst the private sector, **Walmart** is the largest employer with 2.3 million personnel.

Amazon is the second largest employer with 1.6 million personnel.

World's largest armed forces

According to Statista the largest military personnel based on active services personnel is China.

The top 10 largest militaries based on active personnel:

1. China - 2,000,000
2. India - 1,450,000
3. United States - 1,390,000
4. North Korea - 1,200,000
5. Russia - 850,000
6. Pakistan - 640,000
7. Iran - 575,000
8. South Korea - 555,000
9. Vietnam - 470,000
10. Egypt - 450,000

10. 7th India France bilateral Air exercise 'Garuda VII' commences in Jodhpur (Oct. 28, 2022)

7th India France bilateral Air exercise

The Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FASF) are participating in a bilateral exercise, named '**Garuda VII**', from 26 October to 12 November 2022 at Air Force Station **Jodhpur**.

This is the **seventh edition** of the bilateral exercise. The first, third and fifth editions were conducted in India in 2003, 2006 and 2014 at Air Force Stations Gwalior, Kalaikunda and Jodhpur, respectively. The second, fourth and sixth editions were conducted in France in 2005, 2010 and 2019.

In this exercise, FASF will participate with four Rafale fighter aircraft, one A-330 Multi Role Tanker Transport aircraft and a contingent of 220 personnel. The IAF is participating with Su-30 MKI, Rafale, Tejas and Jaguar fighter aircraft, as well as the Light Combat Helicopter and Mi-17 helicopters.

Participation of the IAF and FASF in this exercise will promote professional interaction, exchange of experiences and enhancement of operational knowledge, besides strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries.