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मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

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KEY EVENTS

Prime Minister lays foundation stone for C-295 transport aircraft manufacturing facility

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the [C-295 transport aircraft](#) manufacturing facility in Vadodara, Gujarat on 30 October 2022. It is the country's first private-sector aircraft manufacturing facility in India. The C-295 aircraft for the Indian Air Force (IAF) will be manufactured by Tata Advanced Systems Limited in collaboration with Airbus Defence and Space S.A., Spain. The total cost of the project is Rs 21,935 crore. The C-295 is a multi-role aircraft that can operate under all weather conditions. The Prime Minister noted that the facility will transform the defence and transport sector and noted that India is moving forward with the mantra of 'Make in India, Make for the World'. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh termed the event a major milestone in the journey of 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence

India-Africa Defence Dialogue held

The [India-Africa Defence Dialogue \(IADD\)](#) was held on the side lines of Def Expo 2022 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat on 18 October 2022. The theme for this year's IADD was 'Adopting Strategy for Synergizing and Strengthening Defence and Security Cooperation'. Emphasising that India and Africa share a multi-faceted defence and security cooperation relationship, the Raksha Mantri reiterated India's support for Africa to deal with challenges of conflict, terrorism and violent extremism. The Gandhinagar Declaration was adopted to enhance cooperation in the field of training, capability building, exercises and humanitarian assistance during natural disasters. India offered fellowship for experts from African

countries through Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis (MP-IDSA). Fifty African countries, including 20 Defence Ministers, seven CDS/Service Chiefs and eight Permanent Secretaries, participated in the Dialogue

Def Expo 2022 saw 451 MoUs and ToT agreements

Four hundred and fifty one (451) [Memoranda of Understanding \(MoUs\)](#), Transfer of Technology agreements and product launches took place during the Bandhan ceremony of the 12th Def Expo on 20 October 2022. These include 345 MoUs, 42 Major Announcements, 46 Product Launches and 18 ToTs, with investment cumulatively worth Rs 1.5 lakh crore. The IAF and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited concluded a contract for 70 HTT-40 indigenous trainer aircraft worth Rs 6,800 crore. The Raksha Mantri stated that the government will fulfil the twin objectives of promoting self-reliance and increase in defence exports. He expressed confidence that the country will achieve the defence export target of Rs 35,000 crore by 2025.

US companies urged to set up manufacturing units in India

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, while addressing a seminar on 'New Frontiers in US-India Defence Cooperation: Next Generation Technology, Innovation & Make in India', organised by the [US-India Business Council \(USIBC\)](#) and the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) at the 12th Def Expo in Gandhinagar on 20 October 2022, invited US companies to set up manufacturing units in India and develop technology collaborations with Indian industries to create a global supply chain free from vulnerabilities and uncertainties. The RM noted that as India's defence base grows, private sector

companies from the US can explore the vast potential for 'Creating in India' and 'Exporting from India'. The RM welcomed the project agreement to co-develop Air-Launched UAVs, under the auspices of the India-US Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI). He stated that industries from both sides can explore additional DTTI projects, such as a counter unmanned aerial systems and an Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) platform.

Eastern Naval Command conducts Exercise Prasthan

An [offshore security exercise, 'Prasthan'](#) was conducted in the Krishna Godavari Basin Offshore Development Area (ODA) on 11-12 October 2022, under the aegis of Headquarters, Eastern Naval Command. The exercises are conducted every six months, and integrate all maritime stakeholders involved in ensuring offshore security. Among the participants were various oil operators, like ONGC, RIL, Vedanta, and other stakeholders in the domain of maritime security including AP Marine Police, AP fisheries department and the Coast Guard. The two-day exercise saw various drills such as terrorist intrusion, bomb explosion, casualty evacuation, search and rescue, major fire, oil spill and mass evacuation.

73rd Raising Day of the Territorial Army Celebrated

The 73rd Raising Day of the Territorial Army (TA) was celebrated on 9 October 2022. The [Territorial Army](#) was raised by the first Governor General Shri C Rajagopalachari on this day in 1949. The Ecological task forces of TA have so far planted more than 8.5 crore trees in various parts of the country. The TA has 10 Ecological Battalions promoting afforestation in rugged and inhospitable

terrains, reviving wetlands, restoring water bodies and contributing to the Clean Ganga project. TA Battalions also perform specialist tasks as part of Indian Railways and Oil Sector Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).

76th Infantry Day Celebrated

The Udhampur-based Northern Command on 27 October 2022 celebrated the [76th Infantry Day](#) to commemorate the operations launched by the Indian Army on this day in 1947 to thwart the Pakistani aggression in Jammu and Kashmir. The day was celebrated with a traditional wreath-laying ceremony at the Dhruva War Memorial in the Command headquarters. Bike rallies from four cardinal directions commenced their journey from Udhampur (J&K), Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Wellington (TN) and Shillong (Meghalaya) to commemorate the 76th year of Srinagar landings.

ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

Indigenously Designed and Developed Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Inducted

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh formally inducted the [Light Combat Helicopter \(LCH\) 'Prachanda'](#) into the IAF's newly raised No. 143 Helicopter Unit on 3 October 2022. The LCH is the first indigenous multi-role combat helicopter designed and developed by HAL with potent ground attack and aerial combat capability. The RM noted that the induction 'underlines the fact that just as the country trusts the Indian Air Force, the IAF equally trusts the indigenous equipment'. The helicopter possesses modern stealth characteristics, robust armour protection, formidable night attack capability and is capable of carrying out precision strike at high altitude targets.

DPSUs indigenise 72 Items before timelines

In a major achievement, 72 items out of a total of 214 items mentioned in the 1st and 2nd [Positive Indigenisation List \(PIL\)](#) have been indigenised by Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) well before their original indigenisation timelines of December 2023, December 2024 and December 2025, respectively. Some of the main sub-systems/Line Replacement Units (LRUs) indigenised include Magazine Fire Fighting Systems for Ships, Pressurised containers for Akash Missiles, KOE charge for Konkurs Missiles and Electric Motors, Prism optical instruments for Battle Tanks. Earlier, the MoD had notified three indigenisation lists of LRUs/ sub-systems in December 2021, March 2022 and August 2022, respectively. The 1st list contained 351 items, the 2nd 107 items and the 3rd 780 items for indigenisation.

Weapon Systems branch created in the Indian Air Force

The government approved the creation of a new branch, the [Weapon Systems \(WS\) branch](#), for the IAF, on 8 October 2022. The move unifies weapon system operators under one entity dedicated to the operational employment of all ground-based and specialist airborne weapon systems. It encompasses four specialised streams – Surface-to-Surface missiles, Remotely Piloted Aircraft, Surface-to-Air missiles, and Weapon System Operators in twin/multi-crew aircraft. The step will contribute to enhancing the war-fighting capability of the IAF.

DRDO displays strategic and tactical weapon systems at Def Expo 2022

[Defence Research and Development Organization](#) (DRDO) displayed a wide range of 430 products encompassing strategic and tactical weapon systems,

defence equipment and technologies at Def Expo 2022 held at Gandhinagar from 18–22 October 2022. The theme for DRDO participation was based on the 3D (DRDO, Designed and Developed) ecosphere. DRDO provided numerous static displays, live demonstrations, seminars as well as immersive experience zones spread across three locations. At India Pavilion in the Helipad Exhibition Centre, for instance, DRDO displayed high-value products including VIBHAV (Anti-Tank Point Attack Munition), VISHAL (Anti-Tank Bar Mine), MBT Arjun Mk-1A, ASTRA Mk-I, LCA Mk2, among other equipment. Outdoor static exhibits (actual products) included Border Surveillance System (BOSS), Laser Fence System (LFS), BrahMos Air Version Missile, Mobile Autonomous Launcher (MAL) for BrahMos, CBRN Water Purification System, among others. A seminar on ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Defence R&D: Synergistic Approach’ was held on 20 October 2022, chaired by Raksha Mantri. MoU’s for seven new DRDO Industry Academia Centre of Excellence (DIA-CoE) were signed during the event. The DRDO also transferred ten technologies to 12 industries, during the Bandhan ceremony.

Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile test carried out by INS Arihant

INS Arihant, India’s indigenous nuclear submarine, carried out a successful launch of a [Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile](#) (SLBM) on 14 October 2022. The Ministry of Defence in a statement noted that the successful user training launch is significant to prove crew competency and validate the SSBN programme, a key element of India’s nuclear deterrence capability. It noted that a robust, survivable and assured retaliatory capability is in keeping with India’s policy to have ‘Credible Minimum Deterrence’ that underpins its ‘No First Use’ commitment.

DEFENCE DIPLOMACY

First Naval Training Squadron ships at Kuwait Port

The ships of the [First Training Squadron \(1TS\)](#) comprising INS Tir, Sujata and CGS Sarathi arrived at Port Al-Shuwaikh, Kuwait on 4 October 2022. The three-day port call included professional engagements, cross-ship visits, community outreach and social interactions. The ships of the 1TS, based at Kochi, are part of the Southern Naval Command, the Indian Navy's Training Command.

INS Tarkash participates in IBSAMAR VII

INS Tarkash, the Teg class guided missile frigate, participated in the [joint multinational maritime exercise IBSAMAR VII](#) from 10-11 October 2022, at Port Gqberha (Port Elizabeth), South Africa, along with the Brazilian and South African Navies. IBSAMAR VI was previously held at Simons Town, South Africa in October 2018. The frigate also had a Chetak helicopter and personnel from the Marine Commando Force (MARCOS). The exercise is aimed at strengthening maritime security, joint operational training, sharing of best practices and building interoperability to address common maritime threats.

Singapore-India exercise 'SIMBEX' 2022 conducted at Visakhapatnam

The Indian Navy hosted the 29th edition of the [Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise \(SIMBEX\)](#) from 26 to 30 October 2022 at Visakhapatnam. RSS Stalwart (a Formidable Class Frigate) and RSS Vigilance (a Victory Class Corvette) represented the Republic of

Singapore Navy in the exercise. The SIMBEX series of exercises began in 1994 and their scope and complexity has risen substantially over the past two decades to include advanced naval drills covering a wide spectrum of maritime operations.

Indo-French joint air Exercise Garuda-VII conducted at Jodhpur

The IAF and French Air and Space Force (FASF) participated in the '[Garuda VII](#)' bilateral air exercise, from 26 October to 12 November 2022 at Jodhpur. Four Rafale fighter aircraft, one A-330 Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT) aircraft and a contingent of 220 personnel from the FASF participated in the exercises. The IAF contingent included Su-30 MKI, Rafale, LCA Tejas and Jaguar fighter aircraft, as well as the Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) and Mi-17 helicopters. While the first, third and fifth editions of the Indo-French exercises were held in India in 2003, 2006 and 2014, the second (2005), fourth (2010) and sixth (2019) editions were held in France.

Trilateral naval exercise among India, Mozambique, and Tanzania held

The first edition of the [India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise \(IMT TRILAT\)](#), a joint maritime exercise among the Indian, Mozambique, and Tanzanian navies, was conducted at Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania from 27-29 October 2022. The guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, a Chetak helicopter, and MARCOS (Special Forces) participated in the exercise. The exercises reflected the Indian Navy's commitment to enhancing maritime security and cooperation with maritime neighbours in the Indian Ocean Region and promoting SAGAR, Safety and Growth for All in the Region.

'The Newsletter is a compilation of media reports and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Manohar Parrikar IDSA or the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.'