

समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

दैनिक सामयिक अभिज्ञता सेवा

A Daily Current Awareness Service



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Big defence deals likely during PM Modi's Israel visit

Modi's visit coincides with the establishment of 25 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

New Delhi: A raft of mega defence deals, including the procurement of an air defence system for the Indian Navy, are likely to be sealed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Israel, which will be the first by an Indian PM to the Jewish nation.

Ahead of the visit, which is likely to take place in July, Israeli envoy Daniel Carmon said it will be a "big" visit, reflecting the depth of cooperation between the two countries in a range of key areas.

The much-awaited deal for Barak-8 air defence missile systems for the Navy and the procurement of Spike anti-tank missiles for the Indian Army are expected to be firmed up during Mr Modi's visit to Tel Aviv.

"India, Israel relations are big enough. The visit, when it takes place, will be a very very important visit. It will be one of the most important visits that Israel has witnessed in many many years," Israeli ambassador Daniel Carmon told PTI in an interview.

Mr Modi's visit coincides with the establishment of 25 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries. A number of other defence deals are also likely to be discussed.

Asked about specific defence deals, the envoy said only that the relationship has gone beyond buying and selling, and that the two countries were now focussing majorly on joint research and development.

"Israel has very good relations with India and the relationship has various facets including defence," he said.

People familiar with defence relations say the two multi-billion dollar acquisition deals are likely to be finalised during the PM's trip.



Fortifying air defence priority: Army Chief

By Ajay Banerjee

With the Army looking at its biggest-ever addition of helicopters and new generation surface-to-air missiles (SAMs), Army Chief General Bipin Rawat has listed aviation and air defence as "high priority" for modernisation.

He was speaking at the end of five-day biannual Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi last evening.

The Army requires 259 light utility helicopters to replace Cheetah/Chetak fleet of helicopters. The Cheetah/Chetak helicopters are based on the 1950s designed Alouette Aérospatiale 315B Lama of France. It also needs 114 light-combat helicopters. HAL has produced one such helicopter on which weapons are being tested. Production is expected to start this year.

The air-defence mechanism will have a three-pronged approach. The Army is in the process of inducting indigenously built Akash SAM that can hit the target at 25 km. It is also looking at Israeli "spyder" air defence missile system, which is militarily classified as "low-level, quick reaction missile" to neutralise hostile incoming targets up to 15 km away and at height between 20 and 9,000 m. The third are the air defence guns. Around 428 such pieces are needed to take on aerial targets in the immediate vicinity of 4 km. These will replace the Army's obsolete air-defence assets dating back to the 1970s.

During deliberations, Army commanders discussed issues having HR policy ramifications and measures to enhance transparency and inclusiveness. The Army Chief also highlighted the need for a more participative form of policy formulation.

Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa and Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Sunil Lanba also addressed the conference emphasising on evolving a joint operational philosophy.

दैनिक जागरण

Mon, 24 Apr, 2017

तीनों सेनाओं के एक सिद्धांत की वकालत

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। देश के शीर्ष सैन्य कमांडरों ने भारत के आंतरिक और बाहरी सुरक्षा खतरों का विस्तृत विश्लेषण किया है। साथ ही बड़ी सुरक्षा चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए तीनों सेनाओं के एक सिद्धांत की वकालत करने के साथ बल के आधुनिकीकरण पर जोर दिया है। छह दिवसीय वार्षिक कमांडर सम्मेलन में सेना के शीर्ष अधिकारियों ने बल के लिए मानव संसाधन नीति पर भी व्यापक विचार-विमर्श किया।

उन्होंने सहायक प्रणाली के खिलाफ बढ़ती शिकायतों पर भी बात की और इस तरह के मुद्दों से निपटने के लिए और अधिक व्यावहारिक तरीका विकसित करने का भी फैसला किया। सैन्यकर्मियों की पदोन्नति के एक और जटिल मुद्दे पर सम्मेलन में इस बात की ओर इशारा किया गया कि सेना में बहुत ज्यादा पिरामिड वाले ढांचे के कारण 50 प्रतिशत से अधिक श्रमशक्ति को अत्यंत प्रतिस्पर्धी होने के बावजूद पदोन्नत नहीं किया जा रहा है। सम्मेलन में फैसला किया गया कि वृहद समानता लाने के लिए व्यापक पारदर्शिता और समावेशी रवैया अपनाया जाएगा।

विचार-विमर्श के दौरान सेना प्रमुख जनरल बिपिन रावत ने मानव संसाधन के मुद्दे पर ध्यान देने के लिए नीति बनाने के अधिक सहभागितापूर्ण प्रारूप की वकालत की और वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों ने कहा कि संबंधित सेना मुख्यालयों की शाखाओं को इसके अनुसार इस पर व्यापक बातचीत करने का निर्देश दिया गया है। जनरल रावत ने समापन समारोह को संबोधित करते हुए सेना की लड़ाकू क्षमता बनाए रखने के लिए सहयोगात्मक तरीके से काम करने की जरूरत पर जोर दिया और हवाई क्षमता तथा उड़यन क्षमताओं को विस्तार देने पर अधिक ध्यान देने की मांग की। सेना ने एक बयान में कहा, आधुनिकीकरण योजना को तेजी देने का फैसला किया गया है। इस वक्तव्य में शनिवार को समाप्त हुए सम्मेलन में हुई चर्चा का ब्योरा साझा किया गया। सम्मेलन में जम्मू-कश्मीर के हालात समेत अन्य सुरक्षा चुनौतियों पर विस्तार से चर्चा हुई।



Mon, 24 Apr, 2017

Army plans to raise inclusiveness

Commanders' meets says highly pyramidal set-up has been denying promotions to competent officers

The just-concluded Army Commanders' Conference has debated ways of optimum utilisation of personnel as the Service has a "highly pyramidal structure" and hence over "50% personnel are not promoted despite being highly competent". In a statement on Sunday, the Army said its core values had not changed, and rapid "societal changes and discernible impact of socio-economic aspirations on Army" had been a focus area of the conference. Various measures to enhance transparency and inclusiveness were deliberated.

Orderly system

This comes against the backdrop of concerns on the sahayak system in the Army after a series of videos had surfaced on social media recently in which serving personnel alleged that they were forced to do menial jobs. Under the orderly system, jawans are assigned to officers to perform certain specified personal tasks.

The government has promised a full review of the system, but no proposal has been made to abolish it.

“The proposals to make Short Service Commission officers’ entry scheme more popular, streamlining the intake pattern, employment of women officers and grant of honorary ranks to Junior Commissioned Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers have been deliberated with positive road maps,” the statement added.

In his closing address, the Chief of the Army Staff, General Bipin Rawat, expressed confidence at the way the force had been adapting itself to the “dynamic internal and external operational environment”, and stressed the need to work in a collaborative manner for maintaining the combat effectiveness of the Army.

The biannual conference, held from April 17 to 22 this year, gives an opportunity for the top leadership to carry out due diligence on a range of issues and decisions are taken through a “collegiate system” comprising Commanders and other senior officers.

Addressing the conference, the Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Sunil Lanba, and Air Chief Marshal B.S. Dhanoa emphasised the need to evolve a joint operational philosophy.



Mon, 24 Apr, 2017

Rolls-Royce Keen to Make Small Aircraft with India Inc

By Mihir Mishra

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sought to establish the country as a manufacturing hub through the Make-in-India project, and launched the regional connectivity initiative to expand aviation links. Rolls-Royce is now keen to aid both programmes -by making smaller aircraft locally.

The company, which commands a 50% market share of engines that power long-haul aircraft globally, also makes them for smaller aircraft that are crucial to improve connectivity across the South Asian nation, where the surface-transport infrastructure is often considered out of date with the country's rising economic profile.

“We have offerings in that space -50 to 60-seater aircraft -but you need a structural manufacturer, and orders from the market. Yes, we can supply engines made in India. Various Indian companies, including the Tata and Mahindra groups, want to bring an aircraft. We are open to partnerships with any of them in order to bring the right thing,” Kishore Jayaraman, ,“ Kishore Jayaraman, President of Rolls-Roy ce India and South Asia, told ET.

Rolls-Royce has so ught to provide options to local companies, and a lot of groundwork has been done so far with the relevant compani es, he said. Notably, Hindustan Aeronau tics (HAL) has plans to build the first `Made in India' regional civil air craft by 2020-22 through the public-private part nership (PPP) model. Rolls-Royce and HAL are joint venture partners in a firm that produces various components used in aircraft engines.

Jayaraman, however, said that the joint venture with HAL does not bar Rolls-Royce from getting into an agreement with any private company to make regional aircraft in India.

“The JV with HAL stands within its own realms. We just have to inform it, like any partner, whenever we plan to enter into an agreement to make small aircraft,” he further said.

A locally made small aircraft would provide a boost to the government's regional connectivity plan, called Ude Desh ke Aam Nagrik (UDAN) that aims to take flying to smaller airports at a subsidised fare of `2,500 for an hour of flight. The first flight under the scheme will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister in Shimla on April 27, 2017.

Jayraman believes that the UDAN programme is based on a sustainable model.

“It is very doable, and based on a sustainable model. The plan has been arrived at with a certain degree of competition, and with a reasonable fare that would appeal to the crowd below that of the low-cost airline today. The plan will bridge the gap between no flying and the lowest end of the fare band at low-cost airlines,” he said.

THE ASIAN AGE

Mon, 24 Apr, 2017

Army generals agree on shift in HR policies

In the backdrop of many instances of jawans taking to social media to complain about service conditions, the Army commanders meeting, that ended on Saturday, took up “important issues having human relations (HR) policy ramifications” and the need “to evolve a more pragmatic HR plan” as major issues to be addressed. “The core values of the Army though haven’t changed; rapid societal changes and discernible impact of socio-economic aspirations on Army have been a focus area of the just-concluded conference,” said a press release issued by the Army.

In the backdrop of instances of Army jawans taking to social media by posting videos complaining of service conditions, the Army commanders’ meet that ended on Saturday stressed on the need “to evolve a more pragmatic HR plan” considering “rapid” societal changes.

At a six-day annual commanders’ conference, the top brass of the Army deliberated on a broad range of issues, including grievances relating to salary, promotions and anguish among some jawans over the sahayak system, and it was decided to address them while taking a more pragmatic approach.

The top commanders also carried out a detailed analysis of India’s internal and external security threats and decided to push for modernisation of the force. They also pitched for a tri-service doctrine to deal with major security challenges.

“The core values of Army though haven’t changed but rapid societal changes and discernible impact of socio-economic aspirations on Army have been a focus area of the just concluded conference,” said a press release issued by Army PRO Col. Aman Anand.

“The Army, unlike most government departments, has a highly pyramidal structure, which results in over 50 per cent personnel not being promoted despite being highly competent thus necessitating optimum utilisation of this pool of competent personnel. The conference deliberated measures to enhance transparency and inclusiveness leading to greater equability.”

In his closing remarks, Army Chief Gen. Bipin Rawat highlighted the need for a more participative form of policy formulation. “Concerned branches of the Army HQ have accordingly been directed to interact with wide cross-section of offices, branches, and personnel,” it added.

The Statesman
PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT, ALWAYS IN SESSION

Mon, 24 Apr, 2017

Missile misadventure

It must rank as an irony of international relations that last Sunday’s missile misadventure in North Korea has staved off a crisis in the peninsula. Nonetheless, it has been a major loss of face for Pyongyang as the missile ~ part of a military parade ~ exploded seconds after it was launched on the 105th birth anniversary of Kim Il-sung. The failure of a missile-launch isn’t exactly breaking news for the North, but direly embarrassing is that the disaster had marred the ceremonial grandstanding associated with North Korea’s founder. Not that a confrontation with the US was dangerously imminent, but the threat of a catastrophe appears to have receded for now.

Neither Donald Trump nor Kim Jong-un have followed up on their threats; equally neither has compromised on their respective positions, when not a defiant show of belligerence. No wonder the retreat from the brink has been fraught on both sides of the divide. The scaling down of tension is inherently deceptive as there has been no change in the fundamental positions and causes of the friction.

The North Korean regime remains ruthless and firm in its determination to buttress its nuclear programme. President Trump is much too impetuous to even attempt a sober evaluation of the US equation with President Kim Jong-un. A North Korean general's bluster that his country could defeat all its enemies so that there would be nothing left even to sign a ceasefire mirrors the escalating fantasies provoked by tension.

No less belligerent was Trump's tweet ~ "North Korea is looking for trouble. If China decides to help, that would be great. If not, we will solve the problem without them! U.S.A." The war of words has not abated even in the aftermath of the missile misadventure if the caveat of the US Vice-President, Mike Pence is any indication ~ "The era of strategic patience is over."

The nub of the matter must be that strategy and patience are not exactly Mr Trump's forte. The outlook today is more awesome than what it was in 1994, when the Clinton administration had considered a pre-emptive war with North Korea. A war is the worst possible outcome to the crisis; the devastation can be unimaginable both in terms of human suffering and the world economy. North Korea, like perhaps Iran, is loath to give up its nuclear arsenal.

One could even argue that the recent cruise missile attack on Syria has served to strengthen Pyongyang's resolve... though one country is a long way from another and not merely in terms of distance. Given the opaque administration, details of the North's nuclear arsenal may never be known; but it is generally believed that its missile is capable of targeting Japan. However daunting the crisis, a jaw-jaw is better than war-war, as Winston Churchill had once remarked.



Mon, 24 Apr, 2017

North Korea says ready to strike US aircraft carrier

The United States has not specified where the carrier strike group is as it approaches the area.

North Korea said on Sunday it was ready to sink a U.S. aircraft carrier to demonstrate its military might, as two Japanese navy ships joined a U.S. carrier group for exercises in the western Pacific. U.S. President Donald Trump ordered the USS Carl Vinson carrier strike group to sail to waters off the Korean peninsula in response to rising tension over the North's nuclear and missile tests, and its threats to attack the United States and its Asian allies.

The United States has not specified where the carrier strike group is as it approaches the area. U.S. Vice President Mike Pence said on Saturday it would arrive "within days" but gave no other details. North Korea remained defiant.

"Our revolutionary forces are combat-ready to sink a U.S. nuclear powered aircraft carrier with a single strike," the Rodong Sinmun, the newspaper of the North's ruling Workers' Party, said in a commentary.

The paper likened the aircraft carrier to a "gross animal" and said a strike on it would be "an actual example to show our military's force". The commentary was carried on page three of the newspaper, after a two-page feature about leader Kim Jong Un inspecting a pig farm.

North Korea will mark the 85th anniversary of the foundation of its Korean People's Army on Tuesday. It has in the past marked important anniversaries with tests of its weapons. North Korea has conducted five nuclear tests, two of them last year, and is working to develop nuclear-tipped missiles that can reach the United States.

It has also carried out a series of ballistic missile tests in defiance of United Nations sanctions. North Korea's growing nuclear and missile threat is perhaps the most serious security challenge confronting Trump. He has

vowed to prevent the North from being able to hit the United States with a nuclear missile and has said all options are on the table, including a military strike.

Worry in Japan

North Korea says its nuclear programme is for self-defence and has warned the United States of a nuclear attack in response to any aggression. It has also threatened to lay waste to South Korea and Japan. U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said on Friday North Korea's recent statements were provocative but had proven to be hollow in the past and should not be trusted.

"We've all come to hear their words repeatedly, their word has not proven honest," Mattis told a news conference in Tel Aviv, before the latest threat to the aircraft carrier. Japan's show of naval force reflects growing concern that North Korea could strike it with nuclear or chemical warheads.

Some Japanese ruling party lawmakers are urging Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to acquire strike weapons that could hit North Korean missile forces before any imminent attack. Japan's navy, which is mostly a destroyer fleet, is the second largest in Asia after China's. The two Japanese warships, the Samidare and Ashigara, left western Japan on Friday to join the Carl Vinson and will "practice a variety of tactics" with the U.S. strike group, the Japan Maritime Self Defence Force said in a statement.

The Japanese force did not specify where the exercises were taking place but by Sunday the destroyers could have reached an area 2,500 km (1,500 miles) south of Japan, which would be waters east of the Philippines. From there, it could take three days to reach waters off the Korean peninsula. Japan's ships would accompany the Carl Vinson north at least into the East China Sea, a source with knowledge of the plan said.

U.S. and South Korean officials have been saying for weeks that the North could soon stage another nuclear test, something the United States, China and others have warned against. South Korea has put its forces on heightened alert. China, North Korea's sole major ally which nevertheless opposes Pyongyang's weapons programmes and belligerence, has appealed for calm. The United States has called on China to do more to help defuse the tension.

Last Thursday, Trump praised Chinese efforts to rein in "the menace of North Korea", after North Korean state media warned the United States of a "super-mighty preemptive strike".



Mon, 24 Apr, 2017

Xi tells military to be combat-ready

Vows to fight corruption in Army

Chinese President Xi Jinping has underlined the need for building a combat-ready Army and accelerate the building of the theatre joint combat command system, amidst the PLA's flexing of muscles in the disputed South China Sea.

Mr. Xi made the comments while inspecting the Southern Theatre Command of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) on Friday and stressed building a strong Army which should also avoid being corrupt.

Preparing for war

He vowed to fight corruption and enhance the "sense of gain" among officers and soldiers of the 2.3 million-strong People's Liberation Army, the world's largest.

Mr. Xi asked military personnel to strengthen their awareness in preparing for war, closely follow changes in situations and make unremitting efforts to enhance combat capabilities.

He called for an accelerated building of the theatre joint combat command system, vigorous development of a new-type fighting force and simultaneous improvement of national defence strength and economic development, the official Xinhua news agency quoted him as saying.

His comments came amid China's maritime disputes with its South China Sea neighbours.

China claims almost all of the South China Sea.

In his speech, Mr. Xi also urged all military personnel to resolutely safeguard the authority of CPC Central Committee, unswervingly follow the Party's leadership and combat corruption.

दैनिक जागरण

Mon, 24 Apr, 2017

अब हर साल 12 उपग्रह अंतरिक्ष में भेजेगा इसरो

दुनिया में इसरो की धमक

26 मई, 1999 को इसरो ने जर्मनी के डीएलआर-ट्यूबसेट और दक्षिण कोरिया के किटसेट-3 उपग्रहों को पीएसएलवी-सी2 से लांच किया था। इसरो द्वारा भेजे गए ये पहले विदेशी उपग्रह थे। भारत ने इसी दिन समुद्री विश्लेषण करने वाला पहला उपग्रह ओशियनसैट-1 भी लांच किया था।

3.45

करोड़ डॉलर अधिकतम खर्च आता है



23 देश इसरो के मुरीद



इसरो की तकनीक के मुरीद 23 देश हैं। ये देश शामिल हैं - अल्जीरिया, अर्जेंटीना, ऑस्ट्रिया, बेल्जियम, कनाडा, डेनमार्क, फ्रांस, जर्मनी, इंडोनेशिया, इजरायल, इटली, जापान, लक्जमबर्ग, नीदरलैंड, दक्षिण कोरिया, सिंगापुर, कजाखिस्तान, स्विट्जरलैंड, तुर्की, ब्रिटेन और अमेरिका।

दमदार पीएसएलवी

यह इसरो का प्रमुख प्रक्षेपण यान है। यह एक्सपेंडेबल लांच सिस्टम है। दूसरी प्रक्षेपण प्रणालियों से सस्ता है। पीएसएलवी में अमूमन चार स्टेज होते हैं। इन्हीं में पेलोड रखा जाता है। पीएसएलवी ने पहली सफल उड़ान 1994 में भरी थी। 44 मीटर लंबा पीएसएलवी भू-स्थिर कक्षा तक 38 सौ किग्रा तक पेलोड ले जा सकता है।

180 विदेशी उपग्रह लांच

15 फरवरी, 2017 तक इसरो 180 विदेशी उपग्रह लांच कर चुका है। सभी उपग्रह पीएसएलवी से ही लांच किए गए। स्वदेशी उपग्रहों की संख्या 87 है।

कम लागत

आमतौर पर एक उपग्रह को कक्षा में स्थापित करने का अधिकतम खर्च 3.45 करोड़ डॉलर का आता है। इसरो सभी एजेंसियों से दस फीसद कम खर्च पर उपग्रह स्थापित करता है।

104 उपग्रह एक साथ लांच

इस साल 15 फरवरी को इसरो ने पीएसएलवी-सी37 के जरिये 104 उपग्रह एक साथ पृथ्वी की कक्षा में स्थापित कर विश्व रिकॉर्ड बनाया था। इनमें 101 विदेशी और तीन स्वदेशी थे। ऐसा करने वाला भारत पहला देश है।

हैदराबाद, प्रेटर : भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (इसरो) अब हर साल 12 उपग्रहों का प्रक्षेपण करेगा। अभी वह एक वर्ष में सात उपग्रहों को ही अंतरिक्ष में भेजता है। इसरो प्रमुख एस किरण कुमार ने यह जानकारी दी है। बकौल किरण कुमार, 'पहले हम प्रति वर्ष दो से तीन उपग्रहों की ही लांचिंग किया करते थे। बाद में यह संख्या बढ़कर 4 से 5 हो गई। पिछले कुछ वर्षों से हम प्रत्येक वर्ष सात सेटेलाइट को ही लांच कर पा रहे हैं।' उनका कहना है, 'अब हम अधिक उपग्रह बना और प्रक्षेपण लागत खर्च में कटौती कर इस संख्या को बारह करने की कोशिश में हैं।'

इसरो प्रमुख के अनुसार, 'अब हमारी कोशिश है कि हम प्रति वर्ष 8-9 पीएसएलवी, दो जीएसएलवी-एमके 2 और एक जीएसएलवी-एमके 3 को लांच करें। इस प्रकार कुल 12 उपग्रहों का सालाना प्रक्षेपण करने की तैयारी है।' किरण कुमार ने बताया, 'हम अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन बनाना तो चाहते हैं, लेकिन उसके निर्माण संबंधी प्रस्ताव पर विचार होना अभी बाकी है।' उन्होंने कहा कि चंद्रयान-2 मिशन को अगले वर्ष लांच करने की तैयारी है। यह पूरी तरह से स्वदेशी तकनीक पर आधारित है। इसमें रूस की कोई भागीदारी नहीं है।



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Scientists discover new types of white blood cells

Scientists have identified new subtypes of white blood cells in the human immune system.

Researchers, including from New York University, Harvard University and MIT's Broad Institute, have identified two new dendritic cell subtypes and two monocyte subtypes. They have also discovered a new dendritic cell progenitor.

The team used a technique called single-cell genomics to analyse gene expression patterns in individual human blood cells. Previously, different types of immune cells were investigated and defined by the set of marker proteins they express on their surface.

This new technique is much more powerful and can reveal previously unrecognised and rare cell types.

“Two important white blood cell types in our bodies help defend us from infection -dendritic cells and monocytes,” said Divya Shah, from medical research charity Wellcome Trust's infection and immunobiology team.

“In this study, scientists have used cutting-edge technologies to find that there are many more types of cell than we originally thought.

“The next step is to find out what each of these cell types does in our immune system, both when we're healthy and during disease,” said Shah. The finding was published in the journal `Science'.