

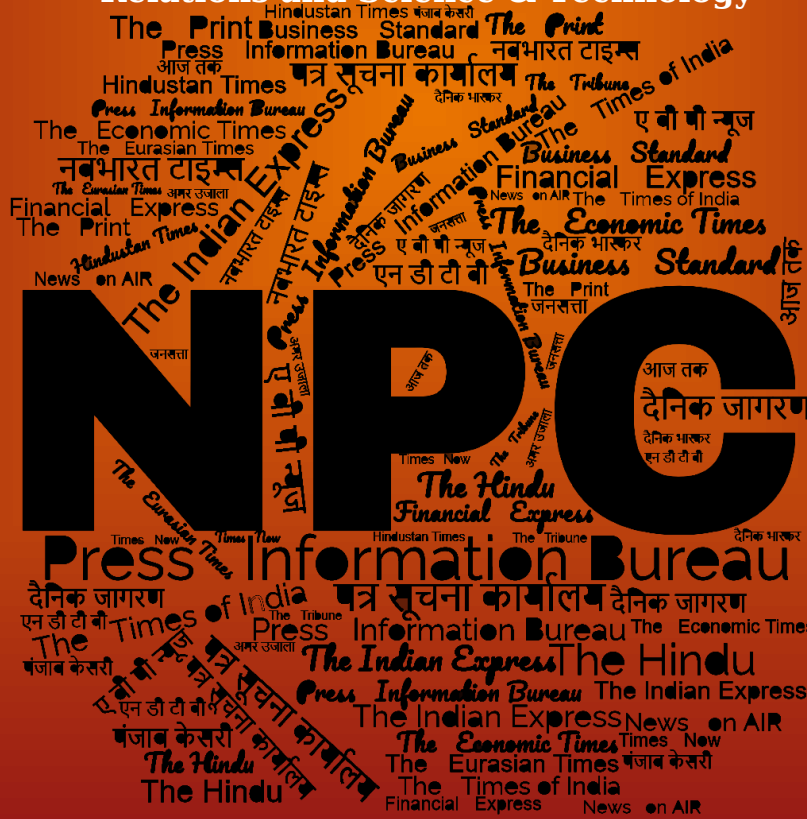
जनवरी
Jan
2024

खंड/Vol. : 49 अंक/Issue : 12
16/01/2024

समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

डीआरडीओ समुदाय को डीआरडीओ प्रौद्योगिकियों, रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकियों, रक्षा नीतियों, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंधों और विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी की नूतन जानकारी से अवगत कराने हेतु दैनिक सेवा

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CONTENTS

S. No.	TITLE	Page No.
DRDO News		1-5
DRDO Technology News		1-5
1.	गजब! अब डिब्बाबंद नहीं, 'अहाते' में उगाई ताजी सब्जियां खा रहे हैं चीन सीमा पर तैनात जवान, ऐसे हुआ संभव	न्यूज़ 18 1
2.	भारतीय वायुसेना को मिली पहली स्वदेशी मिसाइल 'Astra', हवा में ही दुश्मन को तबाह करने में सक्षम	TV 9 भारतवर्ष 2
3.	DRDO: 'तापस ड्रोन परियोजना बंद नहीं होगी, क्षमता बढ़ाने पर जोर'; डीआरडीओ बोला- 30 हजार फीट से ऊपर भी संचालन	अमर उजाला 3
4.	DRDO to Continue with Tapas Drone Project, to Expand its Capabilities to Operate above 30,000 ft	ANI 3
5.	With an Eye on Ladakh, DRDO Begins Testing an Indigenous Light Tank	Business Standard 4
Defence Strategic: National/International		5-13
6.	Vice Admiral AN Pramod Assumes Charge as Director General Naval Operations	Press Information Bureau 5
7.	Maiden Indian Navy – Royal Thai Navy Bilateral Exercise and 36th Edition of Indo-Thai Coordinated Patrol	Press Information Bureau 6
8.	Govt's Unwavering Resolve is to Strengthen the Armed Forces & Ensure Ex-servicemen Welfare: Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh at 'Shaurya Sandhya' on 76th Army Day in Lucknow	Press Information Bureau 7
9.	Situation in J&K under Control, Increase in Terror Activities in Rajouri-Poonch: Army Chief	Financial Express 8
10.	PM Modi, Putin Agree to Develop Roadmap to Strengthen India-Russia Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership	The Print 10
11.	North Korea Says it Tested Solid-fuel Missile Tipped with Hypersonic Weapon	The Hindu 11
12.	Russia to Build on Putin-Kim Agreements as North Korean Minister Visits Moscow	The Times of India 12
Science & Technology News		13-14
13.	IISF 2023 Presents the New Age Technology Show: A Glimpse into India's Technological Brilliance	Press Information Bureau 13



Mon, 15 Jan 2024

गजब! अब डिब्बाबंद नहीं, 'अहाते' में उगाई ताजी सब्जियां खा रहे हैं चीन सीमा पर तैनात जवान, ऐसे हुआ संभव

कठिन से कठिन परिस्थितियों में सेना के जवान बॉर्डर पर तैनात रहते हैं, ताकि दुश्मनों के मंसूबों को नाकाम कर सकें. उन्हें न तो किसी से शिकवा होती है और ना ही कोई शिकायत. हमारे कई ऐसे बॉर्डर्स भी हैं, जहां विषम परिस्थितियों की वजह से मजबूरी में सेहत से भी कई बार फौजियों को समझौता करना पड़ता था, लेकिन अब भारत-चीन सीमा पर तैनात जवान खुद की सेहत को लेकर सजग हो गए हैं. राजस्थान पत्रिका में छपी रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (डीआरडीओ) की पहल से हमारे जवान डिब्बाबंद भोजन से तौबा कर 'अहाते' में ताजा फल-सब्जियों का सेवन कर रहे हैं.

दरअसल, अरुणाचल प्रदेश से सटे भारत-चीन सीमा पर ठंडे व पहाड़ी क्षेत्र होने के कारण सेना के जवानों को डिब्बाबंद भोजन पर ही निर्भर रहना पड़ता था. इस वजह से उन्हें सेहत संबंधी दिक्कतें भी हो रही थीं. इस मामले को देखते हुए असम के तेजपुर स्थित डीआरडीओ केंद्र ने साल 2014 में अनूठी पहल की थी, जिसके तहत अरुणाचल के तवांग और सलारी क्षेत्र में डीआरडीओ (DRDO) की दोनों अनुसंधान केंद्रों में ग्रीनहाउस स्थापित किए गए. इसके जरिए इन क्षेत्रों में सफलतापूर्वक फल और सब्जियों का उत्पादन किया गया. इसके लिए बाद में जवानों को भी प्रशिक्षण दिया गया और उन्होंने सीमा क्षेत्रों में कई ग्रीनहाउस स्थापित किए. अब इन सभी में फल-सब्जियां उगा रहे हैं. इतना ही नहीं, स्थानीय लोगों को भी जवानों द्वारा फल-सब्जियां निःशुल्क उपलब्ध करवाई जा रही है.

जवानों द्वारा मूली, गोभी, टमाटर, ब्रोकली, ककड़ी आदि सब्जियों का उत्पादन किया जा रहा है. इतना ही नहीं, इस प्रोजेक्ट के तहत ग्रामीणों को भी प्रेरित किया जा रहा है. उन्हें भी ग्रीनहाउस का प्रशिक्षण दिया जा रहा है, जिससे उन्हें रोजगार भी मिल रहा है. इतना ही नहीं, स्थानीय लोगों को इससे सालभर ताजी फल-सब्जियां भी मिल जाती हैं.

क्या होता है ग्रीन हाउस?

ग्रीनहाउस एक तरह से पौधों के लिए सुरक्षित आश्रय स्थल होता है. इसके तहत कांच या प्लास्टिक के फ्रेम वाले ग्रीनहाउस का इस्तेमाल फलों, सब्जियों, फूलों और किसी भी अन्य पौधों के उत्पादन के लिए किया जाता है, जिससे बहुत अधिक गर्मी और सर्दी से पौधे सुरक्षित रहते हैं. इन पर धूल, बर्फ, बारिश और कीटों का भी असर नहीं होता. प्रकाश और तापमान नियंत्रण की वजह से ग्रीनहाउस कृषि के अयोग्य भूमि को कृषि योग्य भूमि में बदल देता है.

<https://hindi.news18.com/news/nation/indian-soldiers-deployed-on-india-china-border-eating-fresh-vegetables-grown-in-yard-do-you-know-7988223.html>



Mon, 15 Jan 2024

भारतीय वायुसेना को मिली पहली स्वदेशी मिसाइल 'Astra', हवा में ही दुश्मन को तबाह करने में सक्षम

भारतीय वायुसेना को पहली स्वदेशी अस्त्र मिसाइल (Astra Missile) मिल गई है. रक्षा राज्यमंत्री अजय भट्ट ने हरी झंडी दिखाकर रवाना किया. इस मिसाइल को हवा से हवा में ही दागी जा सकती है. बड़ी बात यह है कि जहां से पायलट भी देख नहीं सकता है, वहां भी यह मिसाइल सटीक हमलाकर तबाही मचा सकती है. पिछले साल ही तेजस लड़ाकू विमान से इस अस्त्र मिसाइल की टेस्टिंग की गई थी.

अस्त्र मिसाइल हवा से हवा में मार करने वाली स्वदेशी मिसाइल है जिसे रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO) ने तैयार किया है. यह मिसाइल बेयॉन्ड विजुअल रेंज में भी हमला करने में सक्षम है यानी जहां से किसी फाइटर जेट या हेलिकॉप्टर का पायलट अटक नहीं देख सकता है, उसके बाद भी यह सटीक निशाना लगाने में माहिर है. हाल ही में तेजस फाइटर जेट से इसकी फायरिंग की गई थी.

अभी इस मिसाइल के पहले वैरिएंट को मिग-29 यूपीजी मिग-29 के, सुखोई सू-30 एमकेआई, तेजस एमके.1-1A में लगाया गया है. भविष्य में इस मिसाइल को टेडबीएफ फाइटर जेट्स, एएमसीए और तेजस एमके 2 में भी लगाया जाएगा. भारतीय वायुसेना पुरानी माइका मिसाइल की जगह स्वदेशी अस्त्र पर भरोसा जता चुकी है.

अस्त्र मिसाइल में ढेरों खासियत

अस्त्र मिसाइल अपने में कई खासियत समेटे हुए है. इस मिसाइल को करीब 20,000 फीट की ऊंचाई से भी दागा जा सकता है. इसमें ऑप्टिकल प्रॉक्सीमिटी फ्यूज लगा हुआ है. यानी यह मिसाइल लगातार टारगेट पर नजर बनाए रखती है. हवा में दुश्मन कितना भी दाएं-बाएं हो, उससे टकराकर ये मिसाइल फट जाती है, या फिर जैसे ही टारगेट तय दूरी से नजदीक आता है. वहां धमाका कर देती है.

मिसाइल का वजन करीब 154 किलोग्राम तक है और यह 12.6 फीट लंबी है जबकि इसका व्यास 7 इंच है. इसमें हाई-एक्सप्लोसिव या प्री-फ्रैगमेंटेड एचएमएक्स हथियार भी लगा सकते हैं. यह मिसाइल अपने साथ करीब 15 किलोग्राम तक का हथियार भी ले जा सकती है. मिसाइल में ड्यूल थ्रस्ट पल्स्ड रॉकेट मोटर लगा हुआ है, जिससे इसकी स्पीड बढ़ाई जा सकती है. इस अस्त्र मिसाइल की रेंज 160 किलोमीटर है.

स्टैंड ऑफ रेंज भी संभव

मिसाइल के पास 66 हजार फीट तक की उड़ान भरने की क्षमता है. यह 5556.6 किमी प्रति घंटा की रफ्तार से दुश्मन की ओर जाती है. इसकी स्पीड इतनी तेज है कि दुश्मन को बचने का मौका भी नहीं मिलेगा. एक अच्छी बात यह है कि इसे टारगेट की ओर छोड़ने के बाद बीच हवा में ही इसकी दिशा भी बदली जा सकती है.

यह मिसाइल फाइबर ऑप्टिक गाइरो बेस्ट इनशियल नेविगेशन सिस्टम पर काम करती है. मतलब यह हुआ कि इसे डेटा लिंक के जरिए निर्देश देकर मिड कोर्स अपडेट कर सकते हैं. इस तरह की मिसाइलें फाइटर जेट को स्टैंड ऑफ रेंज मुहैया कराते हैं. स्टैंड ऑफ रेंज का अर्थ यह हुआ कि दुश्मन पर मिसाइल दाग करके खुद उसके हमले से बचने का समय निकाल लेता है.

<https://www.tv9hindi.com/india/iaf-acquire-indigenously-developed-astra-missile-beyond-visual-range-air-to-air-missile-drdo-2362164.html>

DRDO: 'तापस ड्रोन परियोजना बंद नहीं होगी, क्षमता बढ़ाने पर जोर'; डीआरडीओ बोला- 30 हजार फीट से ऊपर भी संचालन

रक्षा अनुसंधान और विकास संगठन (DRDO) ने कहा है कि तापस ड्रोन परियोजना को बंद नहीं किया जाएगा। डीआरडीओ के मुताबिक मध्यम ऊंचाई, लंबे समय तक ऑपरेशन में इस्तेमाल किए जा सकने वाले इस ड्रोन का इस्तेमाल अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह और उसके आस-पास के इलाकों में भी किया जा सकता है। डीआरडीओ ने बताया है कि नई क्षमता से लैस किए जा रहे तापस ड्रोन, आने वाले समय में 24 घंटे से अधिक समय तक 30,000 फीट की ऊंचाई पर उड़ान भरने में सक्षम होंगे।

डीआरडीओ सूत्रों ने कहा, सुरक्षाबलों ने अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह में ऑपरेशन के लिए तापस ड्रोन का उपयोग करने में रुचि दिखाई है। उस क्षेत्र में इसका उपयोग निगरानी के लिए किया जा सकता है। सूत्रों के मुताबिक तापस ड्रोन का रक्षा बलों ने सफल परीक्षण भी किया है। DRDO के मुताबिक, परीक्षणों के दौरान ड्रोन 28,000 फीट की ऊंचाई तक पहुंचने में कामयाब रहा। इसे 18 घंटे से अधिक समय तक उड़ाने का ट्रायल भी सफल रहा है।

रिपोर्ट्स के मुताबिक तापस ड्रोन को कर्नाटक के चित्रदुर्ग में एक हवाई क्षेत्र से उड़ान भरने के बाद कुछ घंटों के लिए अरब सागर के ऊपर भी सफलतापूर्वक संचालित किया जा चुका है। भारतीय नौसेना के अधिकारियों ने तापस ड्रोन का सफल संचालन किया था। सूत्रों ने कहा कि तापस ड्रोन को उड़ान भरने के लिए लंबा रनवे नहीं चाहिए। इसे द्वीप क्षेत्रों के कुछ छोटे हवाई क्षेत्रों से भी संचालित किया जा सकता है। ऐसे में इसकी मांग और बढ़ने की उम्मीद है।

डीआरडीओ के अधिकारियों ने बताया कि तापस परियोजना के लिए बन लैब, इस ड्रोन की डिजाइन में सुधार और इसकी क्षमता बढ़ाने पर काम करेगी। इसका मकसद तापस ड्रोन को और अधिक ऊंचाई तक ऑपरेट करने में सक्षम बनाना है। परियोजना से जुड़े वैज्ञानिक लंबे समय तक लगातार संचालन की जरूरतों के मुताबिक बदलावों पर भी काम कर रहे हैं। गौरतलब है कि डॉ. समीर वी कामत के नेतृत्व वाला DRDO तापस के अलावा कई और ड्रोन परियोजनाओं पर भी काम कर रही है। इसमें घातक जैसे मानव रहित लड़ाकू ड्रोन और आर्चर जैसी परियोजनाएं प्रमुख हैं।

<https://www.amarujala.com/india-news/drdo-tapas-drone-project-continue-capabilities-expansion-operation-above-30000-ft-2024-01-15>



DRDO to Continue with Tapas Drone Project, to Expand its Capabilities to Operate above 30,000 ft

The DRDO is continuing with its project to further develop the Tapas medium-altitude, long endurance (MALE) drone in which one of the three services has shown interest to use them around the Andaman and Nicobar Islands for operations.

The Tapas drones being developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment Laboratory have not been able to fully meet the Joint Services Qualitative Requirements of flying at 30,000 feet for over 24 hours at a stretch and have been excluded from the category of mission mode projects. "One of the defence forces has shown interest in using the Tapas drones for operations in

the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, where it can be used for surveillance and reconnaissance," sources in the Defence Research and Development Organisation said.

The Tapas drones have been tested by the defence forces and during the trials, it managed to reach 28,000 feet altitude and could fly for over 18 hours, they said. In one of the trials, the drone was also operated by Indian Navy officials over the Arabian Sea for a few hours after it flew from an airfield in Chitradurga, Karnataka. The sources said that the runway length required for the Tapas drone to take off is not very long and can be used from some of the small airfields in the island territories. DRDO officials said the laboratory concerned would be working on improving designs and increasing the power in the drone to make it more suitable for service requirements of altitude and endurance, which it was not able to meet in the recent evaluations.

The premier defence research agency led by Dr Samir V Kamat has been working on major drone projects, including unmanned combat aerial vehicles like Ghatak and other projects like Archer.

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/drdo-to-continue-with-tapas-drone-project-to-expand-its-capabilities-to-operate-above-30000-ft20240115215258/>

Business Standard

Mon, 15 Jan 2024

With an Eye on Ladakh, DRDO Begins Testing an Indigenous Light Tank

During April and May, an indigenous light tank that the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) is developing, will commence "development trials" in the brutal summer heat of Rajasthan's Thar desert. These trials which will be followed by "user trials" are to confirm whether the Indian tank is a match for the Chinese ZTQ-15 light tank, which it could face in battle in the high-altitude deserts of Eastern Ladakh and Sikkim.

The tank has been named Zorawar, after the 19th-century general who conquered Ladakh and Baltistan for his Dogra overlords.

New Delhi decided in 2020 to design, develop and manufacture some 300-500 light tanks after hundreds of Chinese soldiers of the People Liberation Army (PLA), supported by tanks and artillery, intruded into Indian territory in Ladakh. They remain there even after 20 rounds of talks between senior military commanders from both sides.

The Indian Army has airlifted close to 200 tanks to Ladakh but the PLA enjoys an advantage. Indian tank units struggle to move their underpowered, Russian-origin T-72 tanks over 17,500-foot-high passes. In contrast, China's ZTQ-15 light tanks, which weigh just 33-tonnes (36 tonnes with additional slap-on armour), move through the 14,000-foot-high valleys with far greater ease.

The ZTQ -15's 1,000 Horse Power (HP) Norinco engines, generate power-to-weight ratios of more than 30 HP per tonne – adequate even for that oxygen-depleted altitude. In contrast, India's 42-tonne T-72s, with their underpowered 780 HP engines, offer a power-to-weight ratio of just 18.5 HP per tonne. The mobility of the larger T-72s is further constrained by Ladakh's narrow roads and small bridges. India's tank designers envisioned two options for a light tank. Both would have hulls and engines based on the K-9 Vajra – a 28-tonne, tracked gun that L&T built for the army at its Talegaon plant near Pune with technology transferred from South Korea's Hanwha Defence. After L&T delivered the 100 guns on order, the army ordered another 100. There were two options, however, for the light tank's turret. In one, the K-9 Vajra's 155 mm artillery gun turret would be

replaced by a T-90 tank turret with a heavy 125 mm tank gun. However, the 8-9-tonne T-90 tank turret, mounted on the 28-tonne chassis, took the weight of the light tank to an unacceptable 36-37 tonnes.

The second option involved replacing the K-9 Vajra's turret with a smaller one, fitted with a 105 mm direct-firing, 105 mm gun. This would be procured, ready-built, from Belgian firm John Cockerill, violating the defence ministry's "Make in India" norms. With the defence ministry insisting on going indigenous, the DRDO decided to build its own hull and to import engines from MTU Germany. But the German government, after first giving permission to export the engines to India, then withheld the licence, causing a one-year delay in the project.

Eventually, the DRDO decided to power the Zorawar light tank with an indigenous, 750 HP Cummins engine, which would be coupled with a German Renk transmission. If the weight of the Zorawar is kept below 25 tonnes, the power-to-weight ratio will be 30 HP per tonne – meeting the Indian Army's norms. Furthermore, with the Cummins engine being manufactured in India, the "Make in India" norm would be met. The turret of the Zorawar light tank presented an even more challenging task. But DRDO officials say that, once it was decided to indigenise the turret, their experience in designing the Arjun tank turret proved invaluable.

Furthermore, designing the 105 mm tank gun proved well within the capabilities of the Kalyani Group. The Pune-based forgings giant is growing its metallurgical expertise, along with its role in developing the indigenous 155 mm Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System. So far, the army has placed orders for only 59 light tanks, some of which will be employed in user trials. These tanks will be manufactured by Larsen & Toubro which is playing the role of DRDO's Design Cum Production Partner (DCPP) to the DRDO.

https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/with-an-eye-on-ladakh-drdo-begins-testing-an-indigenous-light-tank-124011500820_1.html

Defence News

Defence Strategic: National/International



Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Defence

Mon, 15 Jan 2024

Vice Admiral AN Pramod Assumes Charge as Director General Naval Operations

Vice Admiral AN Pramod assumed charge as the Director General Naval Operations (DGNO) on 15 Jan 2024. An alumnus of the 38th Integrated Cadet Course, Naval Academy, Goa, he was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 01 July 1990. The Flag Officer is a CAT 'A' Sea King Air

Operations Officer and a Communication & Electronics Warfare Specialist. He did the Staff Course at DSSC Wellington (Nilgiris) and the Naval Higher Command Course at NWC, Goa.

His important afloat appointments include Fleet Operations Officer, Western Fleet, Command of IN ships Abhay, Shardul and Satpura, Executive Officer Rajput, SCO Sujata and GO II Kirpan. He commanded the Naval Air Station, Utkrosh at Port Blair and was also the Directing Staff at DSSC, Wellington. He has also held important staff appointments that include Joint Director, Naval Air Staff & Joint Director, Director and the Principal Director Aircraft Acquisition. He has also been the member of Indian Strategic & Operational Council (INSOC) and Tactical Audit Group (TAG) from 2016-19 and 2006-09 respectively.

The Flag Officer has tenanted the appointments of Deputy Commandant, INA, ACNS (Air) at Naval Headquarters and Flag Officer Commanding Maharashtra Naval Area. The Flag Officer is married to Mrs Ambili Pramod. They have two children Chitranjali and Siddhanta.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1996396>



Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Defence

Mon, 15 Jan 2024

Maiden Indian Navy – Royal Thai Navy Bilateral Exercise and 36th Edition of Indo-Thai Coordinated Patrol

The maiden Bilateral Maritime Exercise between the Indian Navy (IN) and Royal Thai Navy (RTN) was conducted from 20 to 23 December 2023.

Indigenously built Indian Naval ships Kulish and IN LCU 56 participated in the inaugural edition of the exercise. The RTN side was represented by His Thai Majesty's Ship (HTMS) Prachuap Khiri Khan. The 36th edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) was also conducted along with the maiden bilateral exercise. Maritime Patrol Aircraft from both navies participated in the Sea Phase of the exercise.

With the institution of a Bilateral Exercise, both navies have taken a step towards strengthening operational synergy and progressively increasing the exercise complexity. During the maiden edition of the exercise, participating units from both navies conducted surface and anti-air exercises including weapon firing, seamanship evolutions and tactical manoeuvres.

As part of Government of India's vision of SAGAR (Security And Growth for All in the Region), the Indian Navy has been proactively engaging with countries in the Indian Ocean Region towards enhancing regional maritime security. The Indian Navy and Royal Thai Navy have maintained a close and friendly relationship which has strengthened over the years. The conduct of maiden IN-RTN Bilateral Exercise along with Indo-Thai CORPAT is a testimony to the growing bilateral relations between the two maritime neighbours and has enabled in enhancing interoperability between the two navies.

The Indo-Thai Bilateral Exercise is being named as 'Ex-Ayutthaya', which literally translates to 'The Invincible One' or 'Undefeatable', and symbolises the significance of two of the oldest cities Ayodhya in India and Ayutthaya in Thailand, the historic legacies, rich cultural ties and shared historical narratives dating back to several centuries.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1996344>



**Press Information Bureau
Government of India**

Ministry of Defence

Mon, 15 Jan 2024

**Govt's Unwavering Resolve is to Strengthen the Armed Forces
& Ensure Ex-servicemen Welfare: Raksha Mantri Shri
Rajnath Singh at 'Shaurya Sandhya' on 76th Army Day in
Lucknow**

**“Idea of celebrating Army/Navy/Air Force Day outside Delhi is to take the country's tradition
& military progress to the people”**

**“Our military focusses on tradition, along with bringing a positive change through new
innovations”**

A military and combat display 'Shaurya Sandhya' was organised at Lucknow Cantonment in Uttar Pradesh, as part of the 76th Army Day celebrations on January 15, 2024. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Pande, civil invitees and military personnel graced the event, which featured Martial Arts displays such as Kalaripayattu, Gatka, and a performance by North East Warriors.

A thrilling display by the Daredevils motorcycle team of the Indian Army as well as Tent pegging & trick riding by eight horses of the Remount Veterinary Corps also enthralled the spectators. The static display included Akash Missiles, K9 Vajra, Anti-Drone equipment, Bofors guns, artillery weapons systems and other equipment and technology used by the Indian Army. A combat free fall from 8,000 feet was carried out by 12 Indian Army personnel. Su-30 MKI, Surya Kiran aerobatic team and Advanced Light Helicopters lit up the skies during 'Shaurya Sandhya'.

In his address, the Raksha Mantri spoke about the unique character of an Indian soldier, which is rooted in the cultural values of the country. He described patriotism, courage, humanity and loyalty towards the Indian constitution as the four most important qualities of a soldier. “A soldier who protects the motherland, with the spirit of ‘Whether I live or not, my country must remain safe’, is an exemplary patriot. It is this patriotism that gives courage to the soldier. The contribution of our soldiers in UN peacekeeping operations and relief & rescue during disasters, as well as the respect with which they treated 90,000 Pakistani troops during the 1971 war is proof that they possess humanity. In our own neighbourhood, we can witness the disconnect between the military and their constitutional values. But, the Indian military's devotion towards the constitutional values is incomparable and recognised by all,” he said.

Shri Rajnath Singh highlighted the fact that the Indian military is not only focussing on tradition, but is also bringing about a positive change through new innovations and ideas. He was of the view that tradition cannot be set in a state of inertia; it should flow continuously and mould according to the changing times.

The Raksha Mantri asserted that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi-led Government's decision to organise Army/Navy/Air Force Day outside Delhi is based on the idea of taking the celebrations, a symbol of the country's tradition, as well as the military progress to the people. “The country is now witnessing how our military is continuously being equipped with modern weapons/technologies powered by drones and artificial intelligence, as well as the growing role of

women in the Armed Forces. Not every person gets the opportunity to join the military, but those who witnessed today's event were able to experience the preparedness of our military to protect the nation. This has brought people closer to our soldiers. It will definitely inspire our youth to join the Armed Forces or serve the nation with the same dedication and commitment as our soldiers," he said.

Shri Rajnath Singh voiced the Government's unwavering resolve of strengthening the Armed Forces and said that the Ministry of Finance, without any hesitation, releases funds sought by the Ministry of Defence, which symbolises the Government's dedication towards the soldiers. He added that not only the serving soldiers, the Government is fully committed to the welfare of the ex-servicemen. Be it 'One Rank One Pension' scheme or providing health care & re-employment opportunities, all possible efforts are being made for the well-being of veterans, he said. The Raksha Mantri described it as a moral and national responsibility of the people to acknowledge and respect the contribution of the ex-servicemen in safeguarding the country. Shri Rajnath Singh also launched a first day postal cover on the occasion.

Earlier in the day, the 76th Army Day Parade was held at Thakur Sheodatt Singh Parade Ground, 11 GRRC, Lucknow. The Chief of the Army Staff reviewed the parade & presented gallantry awards. The Chief of Defence Staff and other senior military personnel attended the parade.

The Army Day is celebrated on January 15 every year to commemorate the achievements of the first Commander in Chief of the Indian Army General (later Field Marshal) KM Cariappa. On this day in 1949, Gen Cariappa, who led Indian forces to victory in the 1947 war, took over the command of the Indian Army from General Sir FRR Bucher, the last British Commander-in-Chief and became the first Commander-in-Chief of Independent India.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1996310>



Mon, 15 Jan 2024

Situation in J&K under Control, Increase in Terror Activities in Rajouri-Poonch: Army Chief

Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande said on Monday that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is under control but there has been an uptick in terrorist activities in the southern region of Pir Panjal and Rajouri-Poonch over the last few months.

He, however, asserted that due to the efforts of the security forces, there has been a significant drop in violence in the interior areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing the 76th Army Day parade in Lucknow, General Pande said, "The situation in Jammu and Kashmir is under control. But in the past few months, there has been an increase in terrorist activities in the southern region of Pir Panjal and Rajouri-Poonch." "There is a ceasefire along the Line of Control (LoC), but from the attempts made to infiltrate, it is clear that the terror infrastructure across the border is intact. Attempts to infiltrate have been foiled by the Army," he said.

The Army chief underlined that the number of terror-related incidents has seen a significant drop in the interior areas of Jammu and Kashmir due to the continuous efforts of the security forces."We

are working with all the stakeholders in a committed manner to uproot the terror network from the country,” he said.

General Pande also said important peace accords have been signed and peace dialogues held with insurgent groups in the northeast in the recent past. “As a result of this, there has been a positive development in the region. The proactive policies of the government have played a major role in restoring peace,” he said.

The Army chief said the situation in ethnic strife-torn Manipur has been brought under control as the government was proactive and due to the efforts of the Army. He said the soldiers have shown maturity in a sensitive atmosphere, adding that “concrete efforts are on to establish peace and harmony in the state”.

The Army is “fully ready and competent to deal with any situation” on the northern borders, he added. “To develop our capability on the northern borders, we have taken a number of concrete steps. Through the provisions of emergency procurement, we have got a number of modern equipment, including arms and weapons with niche technology. Special attention has been paid to develop critical infrastructure in border areas and good progress has been made,” General Pande said.

“Today, we pay tributes to those bravehearts who made the supreme sacrifice of laying down their lives for the country’s security. The tales of their sacrifice and bravery will always inspire us. I would like to assure their family members that they are an important part of the armed forces family and their welfare is our priority,” he said.

The Army chief pointed out that last year onwards, the Army Day parade is being held outside Delhi and expressed happiness that this year, Lucknow was chosen as its venue. “The history of this city and region is full of tales of bravery of bravehearts, who had contributed in the freedom struggle. This programme is dedicated to the struggle and sacrifice of those soldiers,” he said.

General Pande also said the efforts to make the Indian Army a more powerful (“prabal”), competent (“saksham”) and alert (“tatpar”) force will continue. He said the Army has focused on force restructuring and optimisation, technology infusion, and making systems, processes and functions more effective.

The Army chief also mentioned other initiatives of the armed forces, such as the Agnipath scheme and women empowerment through posting women officers in operational theatres like Siachen. General Pande concluded his address by saying the Army has established a position of trust for itself in every citizen’s heart and called upon all personnel to rededicate themselves to “Naam, Namak, Nishaan” and the service of the nation.

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan and other senior military personnel attended the parade. The Army Day celebrations commenced with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Smritika War memorial here to honour the soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice for the country.

Twenty-three foreign service attaches from 19 countries attended the parade, which was also witnessed by veterans, NCC cadets, school children, soldiers and their families. Around 500 soldiers of the Indian Army were part of the parade.

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the Army personnel on the occasion of Army Day. “Greetings to the Army personnel, veterans and their families on Army Day! The Indian Army has a long tradition of exemplary bravery, guarding the nation’s borders with utmost dedication. Their patriotism remains a great source of inspiration for all citizens,” Murmu said on X.

“On Army Day, we honour the extraordinary courage, unwavering commitment and sacrifices of our Army personnel. Their relentless dedication in protecting our nation and upholding our

sovereignty is a testament to their bravery. They are pillars of strength and resilience,” Modi said on the microblogging platform.

The Army Day is celebrated on January 15 every year to commemorate the achievements of the first Indian commander-in-chief of the Army, General (later Field Marshal) K M Cariappa. On this day in 1949, General Cariappa, who led the Indian forces to victory in the 1947 war, took over the command of the Army from General Sir FRR Bucher, the last British commander-in-chief.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/business/defence-situation-in-jamk-under-control-increase-in-terror-activities-in-rajouri-poonch-army-chief-3365401/>

ThePrint

Mon, 15 Jan 2024

PM Modi, Putin Agree to Develop Roadmap to Strengthen India-Russia Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that he had “good conversation” with Russian President Vladimir Putin and both leaders agreed to develop a roadmap for future initiatives to further strengthen the India-Russia Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership.

He also exchanged views on various regional and global issues, including Russia’s Presidency of the BRICS.

“Had a good conversation with President Putin. We discussed various positive developments in our Special & Privileged Strategic Partnership and agreed to chalk out a roadmap for future initiatives. We also had a useful exchange of views on various regional and global issues, including Russia’s Presidency of the BRICS,” said PM Modi in a post on X.

In a telephone conversation held today, the two leaders reviewed progress on a number of issues of bilateral cooperation in follow-up to recent high-level exchanges between the two countries.

“They positively assessed the developments in bilateral relations and agreed to develop a roadmap for future initiatives to further strengthen the India-Russia Special & Privileged Strategic Partnership,” the PMO added.

Notably, during Putin’s visit to India in December 2010, the Strategic Partnership was elevated to the level of a “Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership.”

They also exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual interest.

The PM also conveyed his best wishes for Russia’s presidency of BRICS in 2024 and assured Russia of India’s full support. The two leaders agreed to remain in touch.

As Russia has begun the 2024 BRICS chairmanship, Putin has emphasised that, under the motto “Strengthening Multilateralism for Equitable Global Development and Security,” they will act precisely in this manner and focus on positive and constructive cooperation with all countries concerned.

“On January 1, Russia was passed the baton of the BRICS chairmanship, an association that, according to the decision adopted by the 15th BRICS Summit in August 2022, now includes 10 countries,” Russian President Putin said in his remarks on January 2.

Furthermore, as Russia assumes its chairmanship, it looks forward to working productively with all countries in the BRICS orbit.

Russia has been a longstanding and time-tested partner for India. Development of India-Russia relations has been a key pillar of India's foreign policy, according to the Ministry of External Affairs. Since the signing of "Declaration on the India-Russia Strategic Partnership" in October 2000 during the India visit of Russian President Putin, India-Russia ties have acquired a qualitatively new character with enhanced levels of cooperation in almost all areas of the bilateral relationship including political, security, trade and economy, defence, science and technology, and culture.

<https://theprint.in/world/pm-modi-putin-agree-to-develop-roadmap-to-strengthen-india-russia-special-and-privileged-strategic-partnership/1924902/>



Mon, 15 Jan 2024

North Korea Says it Tested Solid-fuel Missile Tipped with Hypersonic Weapon

North Korea on January 15 claimed it flight-tested a new solid-fuel intermediate-range missile tipped with a hypersonic warhead as it pursues more powerful, harder-to-detect weapons designed to strike remote U.S. targets in the region.

The report by North Korea's state media came a day after the South Korean and Japanese militaries detected the launch from a site near the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, in what was the North's first ballistic test of 2024. The launch came two months after North Korea said it successfully tested engines for a new solid-fuel intermediate-range missile, which reflected a push to advance its lineup of weapons targeting U.S. military bases in Guam and Japan.

The North's official Korean Central News Agency said January 14th's launch was aimed at verifying the reliability of the missile's solid-fuel engines and the manoeuvrable flight capabilities of the hypersonic warhead. It described the test as a success.

KCNA did not mention whether North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was present at the test, which it said was part of the country's regular weapons development activities.

"The test-fire never affected the security of any neighboring country and had nothing to do with the regional situation," KCNA said.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missile flew about 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) before landing in the waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan. The North's existing intermediate-range missiles, including the Hwasong-12 that may be able to reach the U.S. Pacific territory of Guam, are powered by liquid-fuel engines, which need to be fueled before launch and cannot stay fueled for long periods of time.

Missiles with built-in solid propellants can be made ready to launch faster and are easier to move and conceal, which theoretically makes it harder for adversaries to detect and preempt the launch in advance. The North since 2021 has also been testing hypersonic weapons, which are designed to fly at speeds in excess of Mach 5, or five times the speed of sound. If perfected, such systems could potentially pose a challenge to regional missile defense systems because of their speed and maneuverability. Hypersonic weapons were part of a wish-list of sophisticated military assets Mr. Kim unveiled in 2021, along with multi-warhead missiles, spy satellites, solid-fuel long-range

missiles and submarine-launched nuclear missiles. The North last year tested a solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time, which added to its arsenal of weapons targeting the U.S. mainland, and also launched its first military reconnaissance satellite in November.

Tensions on the Korean Peninsula are at their highest point in years after Mr. Kim in recent months ramped up his weapons demonstrations. The United States and its allies Seoul and Tokyo responded by strengthening their combined military exercises and sharpening their nuclear deterrence strategies.

There are also concerns about an alleged arms cooperation between North Korea and Russia as they align in the face of separate, intensifying confrontations with Washington. In their latest sign of diplomacy, a North Korean delegation led by Kim's foreign minister, Choe Sun Hui, left Pyongyang on January 14 for a visit to Russia at the invitation of Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, KCNA said. The report did not specify what would be discussed.

The U.S. and South Korean governments have claimed that North Korea has been providing Russia with arms supplies, including artillery and missiles, to help prolong its invasion of Ukraine.

The Biden administration said it has evidence that missiles provided by North Korea to Russia had been used in the war in Ukraine. In a joint statement last week, the U.S., South Korea and their partners said the missile transfer supports Russia's war of aggression and provides North Korea with valuable technical and military insights.

Some experts say that the North could try to further dial up pressure in an election year in South Korea and the United States.

North Korea earlier this month fired a barrage of artillery shells near the disputed western sea boundary with South Korea, prompting the South to conduct similar firing exercises in the area. Kim has also released verbal threats, using a political conference last week to define South Korea as the North's "principal enemy" and threatened to annihilate it if provoked.

Experts say Kim likely wants to see South Korean liberals win a crucial parliamentary election in April to deal a blow to conservative President Yoon Suk Yeol, who has taken a hard line on the North. They say Kim may also want former U.S. President Donald Trump to be elected again, possibly thinking that would give him an easier shot at winning U.S. concessions over the nuclear standoff.

Mr. Trump met Mr. Kim three times during his term, but their diplomacy never recovered from the collapse of their second meeting in 2019, when the Americans rejected North Korea's demand for major sanctions relief in exchange for a partial surrender of its nuclear capabilities.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/north-korea-says-it-tested-solid-fuel-missile-tipped-with-hypersonic-weapon/article67742522.ece>

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Mon, 15 Jan 2024

Russia to Build on Putin-Kim Agreements as North Korean Minister Visits Moscow

The Kremlin on Monday said Russia was developing relations with "our partner" North Korea in all areas and would build on agreements reached between their leaders when they met at a Russian space launch centre last year.

In September, President Vladimir Putin welcomed North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to the Vostochny space launch facility in Russia's far east and promised to help North Korea build satellites.

"North Korea is our closest neighbour and partner, with whom we are developing and intend to further develop partnerships in all areas," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said as North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui began a visit to Moscow.

"The visit is a development of the agreements that were reached at the Vostochny cosmodrome when Kim visited it, and based on the results of the negotiations that he had with Putin. Dialogue at all levels will continue...We look forward to intense and fruitful negotiations."

Russia has stepped up ties with North Korea and other countries hostile to the United States such as Iran since the start of the war with Ukraine - relations that are a source of concern to the West.

The United States and Ukraine this month accused Russia of firing North Korean-supplied short-range ballistic missiles at Ukraine, something Russia declined to confirm or deny.

Peskov said Russia hoped a Putin visit to North Korea, at Kim's invitation, would take place "in the foreseeable future", but he said no date had yet been agreed.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/times-study-abroad/europe/russia-to-build-on-putin-kim-agreements-as-north-korean-minister-visits-moscow/articleshow/106863179.cms>

Science & Technology News



Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Science & Technology

Mon, 15 Jan 2024

IISF 2023 Presents the New Age Technology Show: A Glimpse into India's Technological Brilliance

In the era defined by technological leaps, India emerges as a global frontrunner, showcasing its unparalleled prowess on the international stage. From the ground-breaking Mars Orbiter Mission to the awe-inspiring Chandrayaan expeditions, India isn't just keeping pace with technological advancements; it's leading the charge.

Recognizing India's remarkable technological achievements, the India International Science Festival (IISF) is thrilled to present the New Age Technology Show. This cutting-edge event is set to take place at the DBT-THSTI-RCB Campus in Faridabad, Haryana, from the 17th to the 20th of January 2024.

The New Age Technology Show promises an immersive experience, featuring exciting sessions on 5G and 6G Communication Technologies, hands-on training on Drones, interactive talks on Robotics, and much more. This isn't just an event; it's a promise of engaging discussions, enlightening panel sessions, and live demonstrations that offer a glimpse into the future of technology.

Key Highlights of the event:

5G and 6G Communication Technologies: Explore the evolution of communication technologies and delve into the future of connectivity with expert-led sessions.

Hands-on Drone Training: Experience the thrill of drone technology first-hand with hands-on training sessions led by industry professionals.

Interactive Talk on Robotics: Engage with thought leaders and experts in the field of robotics, gaining insights into the latest advancements and future possibilities.

For those eager to be part of this technological extravaganza and stay at the forefront of innovation, participation details can be found on the official website: www.scienceindiafest.org.

Mark your calendars for the New Age Technology Show at the DBT-THSTI-RCB Campus in Faridabad, Haryana, from the 17th to the 20th of January 2024. Don't miss the opportunity to witness India's technological brilliance and explore the frontiers of the future.

About IISF: The Indian Institute of Science Festival (IISF) is a prestigious event that celebrates India's scientific achievements and technological advancements. With a focus on fostering scientific curiosity and innovation, IISF brings together experts, researchers, and enthusiasts to showcase the nation's prowess in the realm of science and technology.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1996325>

