

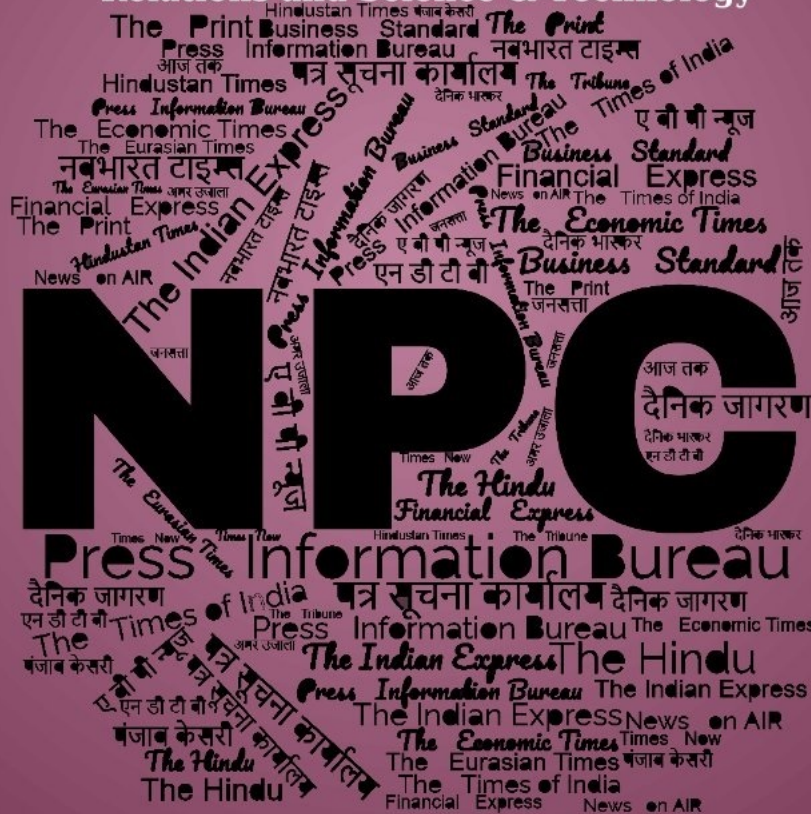
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समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

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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Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Ministry of Defence

Thu, 26 Oct 2023

Gulf of Guinea: EU and India carry out Maiden Joint Naval Exercise

India and EU ships conducted joint activities in the Gulf of Guinea, in an effort to reinforce naval maritime security cooperation in support of the region.

On 24 Oct 23, the European Union (EU) and India conducted their first joint naval exercise in the Gulf of Guinea. The exercise followed the third meeting of the EU-India Maritime Security Dialogue on 5 Oct 23 in Brussels.

During the exercise, Indian Navy's INS Sumedha, an Offshore Patrol Vessel, was joined by three EU Member States' ships in the Gulf of Guinea: Italian Navy Ship ITS Foscarei, French Navy Ship FS Ventôse, and Spanish Navy Ship Tornado.

The four ships practiced a series of tactical manoeuvres in international waters off the coast of Ghana, including a boarding exercise, a flying exercise using the helicopters embarked on French Ship Ventôse and Indian Naval Ship Sumedha, and transfer of personnel between ships.

This exercise was followed by a knowledge sharing session in Accra, Ghana which built on the joint experience at sea to improve operational know-how. The session also helped deepen ties between Ghanaian officials and representatives of the Indian, EU and EU Member States missions to Ghana.

These activities underlined the shared commitment of India and the EU to supporting coastal States and the Yaoundé Architecture in ensuring maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea.

They reflected the breadth and dynamism of EU-India cooperation on maritime security, and signalled the common determination to uphold the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1971391>

भारत-EU ने पहली बार गिनी की खाड़ी में किया संयुक्त नौसैनिक अभ्यास, मजबूत होगा समुद्री सुरक्षा सहयोग

भारत और यूरोपीय संघ ने इस सप्ताह गिनी की खाड़ी में अपना पहला संयुक्त नौसैनिक अभ्यास किया, जो दोनों पक्षों के बीच बढ़ते समुद्री सुरक्षा सहयोग को दिखाता है। ब्रसेल्स में यूरोपीय संघ-भारत समुद्री सुरक्षा वार्ता में समुद्री क्षेत्र में सहयोग बढ़ाने के तरीकों पर विचार-विमर्श के लगभग तीन सप्ताह बाद मंगलवार को यह अभ्यास हुआ।

रक्षा मंत्रालय की ओर से एक बयान में कहा गया कि मंगलवार का अभ्यास समुद्री सुरक्षा पर यूरोपीय संघ-भारत सहयोग की व्यापकता और गतिशीलता को दिखाता है, और समुद्र के कानून पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र सम्मेलन (यूएनसीएलओएस) को बनाए रखने के लिए आम दृढ़ संकल्प का संकेत देता है। इसमें कहा गया है कि अभ्यास का उद्देश्य क्षेत्र के समर्थन में नौसैनिक समुद्री सुरक्षा सहयोग को मजबूत करना था।

इसमें कहा गया है, '24 अक्टूबर को यूरोपीय संघ (ईयू) और भारत ने गिनी की खाड़ी में अपना पहला संयुक्त नौसैनिक अभ्यास किया। अभ्यास के दौरान, भारतीय नौसेना के आईएनएस सुमेधा, एक अपतटीय गश्ती पोत, यूरोपीय संघ के तीन सदस्य देशों के जहाजों के साथ शामिल हुए। इतालवी नौसेना के जहाज आईटीएस फोस्करी, फ्रांसीसी नौसेना जहाज एफएस वेन्टोस और स्पेनिश नौसेना जहाज टॉरनेडो ने यूरोपीय संघ का प्रतिनिधित्व किया।'

मंत्रालय ने एक बयान में कहा, 'चार जहाजों ने घाना के तट पर अंतरराष्ट्रीय जल क्षेत्र में कई सामरिक युद्धाभ्यास किए, जिसमें बोर्डिंग अभ्यास, फ्रांसीसी जहाज वेन्टोस और भारतीय नौसेना के जहाज सुमेधा पर शुरू किए गए हेलीकॉप्टरों का उपयोग करके एक उड़ान अभ्यास और जहाजों के बीच कर्मियों का स्थानांतरण शामिल है।'

अभ्यास के बाद अकरा, घाना में एक ज्ञान साझा करण सत्र आयोजित किया गया। मंत्रालय ने कहा, 'सत्र ने घाना के अधिकारियों और घाना में भारतीय, यूरोपीय संघ और यूरोपीय संघ के सदस्य देशों के मिशनों के प्रतिनिधियों के बीच संबंधों को गहरा करने में भी मदद की।'

बयान में कहा गया है, 'इन गतिविधियों ने गिनी की खाड़ी में समुद्री सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने में तटीय राज्यों और याउंडे वास्तुकला का समर्थन करने के लिए भारत और यूरोपीय संघ की साझा प्रतिबद्धता को रेखांकित किया।'

<https://www.amarujala.com/india-news/in-a-first-india-eu-carry-out-joint-naval-drills-in-gulf-of-guinea-2023-10-26?pageId=4>



Thu, 26 Oct 2023

Analyse & Learn from Emerging Air Warfare Trends to Strengthen Defence Preparedness: Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh to Air Force Commanders

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the two-day Air Force Commanders' Conference in New Delhi on October 26, 2023. During the session, the Raksha Mantri was briefed on the operational preparedness of the Indian Air Force (IAF) by Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari.

In his address to the Commanders, Shri Rajnath Singh emphasised on the need to enhance operational preparedness and highlighted the importance of joint planning & execution of operations by the three services. He urged the IAF commanders to examine the rapidly changing global geopolitical situation and assess them in the Indian context.

The Raksha Mantri pointed out that new trends have emerged in the field of air warfare and there is a need to analyse & learn from them to strengthen the defence preparedness.

He exhorted the IAF to focus on strengthening the air defence systems; use of drones and making headway in the field of aerospace to protect India's air domain. "There are new challenges emanating from the global security scenario. We must always be ready to deal with them," he said.

Shri Rajnath Singh praised the stellar role played by the IAF during the recent Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) missions in Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and other flood affected areas.

He also congratulated the IAF for successfully organising the Air Force Day Parade and Air Display at Prayagraj, which was well appreciated by the people. Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt and Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan were among those present on the occasion.

The conference, which is held bi-annually, involves discussions on charting IAF's way ahead, given the current geo-political environment and technological imperatives.

Eminent national security experts and accomplished personalities from various fields are invited to present their views during the conference.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1971310>



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Ministry of Defence

Thu, 26 Oct 2023

Curtain Raiser Unveils Chanakya Defence Dialogue: Setting the Course for Collaborative Security in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific

In an epoch where defence and security paradigms are dynamically evolving, General Manoj Pande, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), presided over the curtain raiser event, offering a glimpse of the upcoming two-day defence dialogue, set to navigate the wide canvas of regional and global security.

The event, 'Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2023' is being organised by the Indian Army in partnership with Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS). The first edition of Chanakya Defence Dialogue will be held on 3rd & 4th November 2023 in Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi. This is the first event of its kind being organised by the Indian Army.

This Dialogue will carry out a comprehensive analysis of security challenges in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific. It will focus on crafting a roadmap for collaborative security measures in the region to fortify India's position as a ready, resurgent, and relevant stakeholder among the nations of this region.

Envisaged as a powerful platform, it aspires to meticulously analyse the multifaceted security challenges in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific and define a roadmap for collective security within the region.

The Curtain Raiser witnessed a Fireside Chat with the COAS moderated by Lieutenant General Raj Shukla (Retired), unveiling themes and aspirations behind this noble initiative. General Manoj Pande remarked that unprecedented trends are shaping the current geo-strategic landscape. He highlighted that India's rise in stature brings recognition, additional responsibilities, opportunities and challenges. He emphasised that the centrality of national interests remains paramount amidst the ongoing flux wherein the salience of national security is continuously increasing in the international system. The COAS also mentioned that technology is the new strategic arena of geo-political competition and self-reliance has emerged as a key imperative.

Highlighting the significance of self-reliance or Atmanirbharta, General Manoj Pande mentioned that recent conflicts reveal that security of the nation can neither be outsourced nor be dependent on the largesse of others. While highlighting enabling actions undertaken by the Government to encourage self-reliance, the COAS cited examples of Positive Indigenisation List; Earmarking R&D Budget; Corporatisation of Ordnance Factories; Emphasis on Defence Exports and Establishment of Defence Corridors.

Highlighting the strides of Indian Army towards Atmanirbharta, General Manoj Pande brought out that the Indian Army has been closely working with 340 indigenous defence industries towards fructification of 230 contracts by the year 2025. The COAS also mentioned that Indian Army has identified 45 niche technologies in the field of military applications. Underscoring the importance accorded to niche technologies, the COAS highlighted that Centres of Excellence have been established by the Indian Army including 5G Test Bed, Artificial Laboratory and Quantum Laboratory.

The Chief of the Army Staff commented that the Indian Army is operating as part of a larger defence and security eco-system and is proactively reaching out to other Government Departments and Ministries, to enhance outcomes. He mentioned that linkages with all Ministries are being leveraged to achieve common objectives. He cited examples such as PM Gati Shakti Project and National Logistics Policy wherein the infrastructure requirements of Indian Army have been aligned and synergised with the overall national logistics requirements.

Fireside Chat by the COAS was followed by an engaging Round Table Discussion on the topic “Securing India and Indo-Pacific Region-Collaborating for Comprehensive Security”, moderated by Lieutenant General Raj Shukla (Retired). The panellists were astute minds like Vice Admiral Anil Chopra (Retired), Ambassador Gautam Mukhopadhyaya alongside Mr Jayadeva Ranade. The discussion germinated the seeds for the upcoming dialogue, shedding light on pivotal areas like the new security paradigms, lessons from ongoing conflicts, collaborative partnerships and comprehensive security, imperatives for a secure South Asia and Indo-Pacific, whilst maintaining an air of anticipation for the forthcoming event.

Chanakya Defence Dialogue is planned to be a regular event steered by the Indian Army in the years ahead. The Dialogue will be conducted in six sessions on the following topics: -

Neighbourhood First - South Asia Prognosis.

Indo Pacific - The Decisive Frontier.

Collaborative Partnerships for Security.

How Emerging Technologies Impact Defence and Security.

Indian Defence Industry as Enabler for Collaborative Capacity Building.

Comprehensive Deterrence: The India Way.

Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2023 will witness a congregation of eminent speakers from India and abroad. The galaxy of Indian speakers includes Dr. Arvind Virmani (Niti Aayog), Prof Ajay Kumar Sood (PSA to Govt of India), Ambassador V Misri (Deputy NSA), Ambassador DB Venkatesh Varma, Lieutenant General Subrata Saha (Retired), Lieutenant General DS Hooda (Retired), Lieutenant General Prakash Menon (Retired), Ambassador Vijay K Gokhale, Ambassador Ashok K Kantha and Admiral Sunil Lanba (Retired) besides some other distinguished luminaries.

Some of the panellists from abroad will be Ms Lisa Curtis (Senior Fellow and Director of the Indo-Pacific Security Program at CNAS), Dr. Satoru Nagao (Japan), Dr Paco Milhiet (France), Ambassador Shamsher M Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Mr. Asanga Abeyagoonasekera (Sri Lanka), Mr Chi-

ran Jung Thapa (Nepal), Vice Admiral Amarulla Octavian (Indonesia), Dr. R De Castro (The Philippines).

With this pioneering initiative, the Indian Army has embarked on a journey where defence, strategy, and collaborative partnership converge to forge a secure, stable, and prosperous future in the vibrant landscape of South Asia and the Indo-Pacific.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1971648>



Thu, 26 Oct 2023

Global conflicts Reminder Country's Security can't be Outsourced: Army chief

Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Pande on Thursday said that recent global conflicts were a reminder that the country's security can neither be outsourced nor be dependent on the largesse of others while highlighting the importance of self-reliance in the defence manufacturing sector.

Speaking at a curtain-raiser to Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2023, General Pande also enumerated the steps taken by the government to boost 'Atma Nirbharta' (self-reliance), including bringing out positive indigenisation lists, earmarking budget for research and development, corporatisation of ordnance factories, emphasis on defence exports and setting up of defence corridors.

The army chief's comments came weeks after India slapped an import ban on 98 weapons and systems, including futuristic infantry combat vehicles, shipborne unmanned aerial systems, medium-range precision kill systems, a variety of ammunition, radars, sensors, and equipment for fighter jets, maritime surveillance planes, warships, helicopters and tanks.

The fifth positive indigenisation list, released by Union defence minister Rajnath Singh on October 4, took the number of major defence items placed under an import ban during the last three years to 509.

The previous lists banned the import of different types of weapons and platforms, including light-weight tanks, naval utility helicopters, artillery guns, missiles, destroyers, ship-borne cruise missiles, light combat aircraft, light transport aircraft, long-range land-attack cruise missiles, basic trainer aircraft, airborne early warning and control systems, and multi-barrel rocket launchers.

These platforms are expected to be indigenised during the next five to six years.

Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2023 is being organised by the army in partnership with the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS). The first edition of the dialogue will be held on November 3-4 at Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi.

It seeks to carry out a comprehensive analysis of security challenges in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific and will focus on crafting a roadmap for collaborative security measures in the region to

fortify India's position as a ready, resurgent, and relevant stakeholder in the region, officials aware of the matter said.

General Pande said the army was closely working with 340 indigenous defence industries for 230 contracts that will materialise by next year. He added that the army had identified 45 niche technologies in the field of military applications.

Unprecedented trends are shaping the current geo-strategic landscape, the army chief said, adding that India's rise in stature brings recognition, additional responsibilities and opportunities.

He said the centrality of national interests remains paramount amidst ongoing flux wherein the salience of national security is continuously increasing in the international system.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/global-conflicts-reminder-country-s-security-can-t-be-outsourced-army-chief-101698327664828.html>

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Fri, 27 Oct 2023

India ramps up Border Drone Defense after Hamas Attack on Israel

India is setting up a surveillance system with drones across its borders to wade off surprise attacks like the one from Hamas in Israel, according to people familiar with the matter. The country's defense officials met with six home-grown vendors of surveillance and reconnaissance drones over the past week and an order is expected to be announced as soon as next month, the people said, asking not to be named as the information isn't public.

The military is looking to have the system up and running across some parts of the border as early as May, the people added.

The move to monitor the borders all the time comes as tensions with neighboring China and Pakistan persist, especially along the Himalayas. While the war in Ukraine has made Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government reevaluate its armory, preparedness for war and priorities on the battlefield, the surprise Hamas attack has pushed the nation to implement some of the suggested measures quickly. India has been caught out by surprise attacks in the past. In 2008, attackers from Pakistan, armed with assault weapons and grenades, infiltrated Mumbai by sea and laid siege to key landmarks in the city for three days, killing 166 people.

Also, India has said that drones are being used to move weapons and drugs across its western border. It might take almost 18 months to have the system cover the entire stretch of borders, and could cost as much as \$500 million annually, the people said. So-called High-Altitude Pseudo Satellites, which are solarpowered drones that can operate for prolonged durations without landing, will be used for the system, they said. The 24/7 high-altitude long endurance drones will also act as a back-up to the traditional radar network along the borders, directly beaming images to local command centers. A spokesperson for the defense ministry didn't respond to a request for

comment. The drones deployed and the software backing them will be developed locally, the people said. The Indian military, which is heavily dependent on Russia for weapon platforms, is trying to boost local production amid a 10- year, \$250 billion military modernization effort. The entire 14,000 miles (22,531 kilometers) that make up India's land borders and coastline will be under constant surveillance once the system is up, the people said. Earlier, New Delhi had hired two drones from the US when the current round of border tensions first flared with Beijing in the summer of 2020, for surveillance and reconnaissance.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/israel-hamas-war-india-ramps-up-border-drone-defense-after-hamas-attack-on-israel/articleshow/104742389.cms?from=mdr>



Thu, 26 Oct 2023

Indian Navy keeps Close Watch on Chinese Warships moving for Engagement with Pakistan Navy

Amid the ongoing global unrest, Chinese warships and submarines are reportedly heading towards Pakistan for possible wargames and are being closely monitored by the Indian Navy assets including the P-8I surveillance planes and MQ-9B Predator drones. The Indian Navy closely monitors the actions of Chinese naval forces in the Indian Ocean Region - which is widely regarded as the area of responsibility of India.

"Three Chinese Navy warships including a destroyer and frigate along with a tanker are in the Persian Gulf region and are likely to be joined by the Pakistan Navy for maritime exercises," news agency ANI reported citing sources in the security establishment.

Anti-Piracy Escort Force

The three warships were part of the 44th Anti-Piracy Escort Force (APEF) since May 2023 and have now handed over the responsibility of anti-piracy roles to the 45th APEF in the Gulf of Aden. The 45th APEF entered the Indian Ocean Region in the IOR in October and has been there since then.

The 45th APEF entered in the Indian Ocean Region in October and has remained there ever since. According to the agencies concerned, there is a possibility that Chinese and Pakistani warships will advance towards the Persian Gulf regions in order to observe American deployments following the onset of the Israel-Hamas conflict. A Song Class submarine and the submarine Support Vessel Chang Dao (ASR 847) have joined the Chinese warships.

When will wargames with Pakistan take place?

These vessels were monitored closely by the Indian Navy's assets. The Indian Navy has been deployed in the areas surrounding the Malacca Straits and flies its P-8I anti-submarine warfare planes and the Predator drones very extensively. The wargames with the Pakistan Navy are planned to be held in mid or end of November and will see the participation of Pakistani assets.

The Indian naval assets have also tracked a Chinese quasi-military research vessel, Shi Yan 6 in the IOR since the middle of September. The research vessel is currently undertaking Joint Scientific Research in Sri Lankan EEZ, sources said. Indian Navy also has a major presence in the Persian Gulf as well as the Gulf of Aden and keeps its surveillance against any movement of adversaries in the region.

<https://www.indiatvnews.com/news/india/indian-navy-keeps-a-close-eye-on-chines-warships-moving-for-engagement-with-pakistan-navy-wargames-anti-piracy-escort-force-2023-10-26-899761>



Thu, 26 Oct 2023

Eight Former Indian Navy Officers get Death Penalty in Qatar

Eight former Indian Navy personnel, who had been employed by a company in Doha, were handed the death penalty by a local court in Doha on October 26 in an alleged case of espionage. The Indian government expressed its shock at the verdict, and said all legal options were being explored.

The eight men have been in the custody of Qatari authorities since August 2022. The Court of First Instance of Qatar passed the judgment against them, according to a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs.

“We are deeply shocked by the verdict of death penalty and are awaiting the detailed judgement. We are in touch with the family members and the legal team, and we are exploring all legal options. We attach high importance to this case, and have been following it closely. We will continue to extend all consular and legal assistance,” the MEA statement said, adding that India would take up the matter with the Qatari authorities.

Breaching sensitive secrets

The Indian nationals, who were employed by the Al Dahra company in Doha, were allegedly accused of breaching sensitive secrets at the time of their arrest last year. In their work with Dahra Global Technologies and Consultant Services, the former navy personnel were reportedly involved in training various security-related service providers of the State of Qatar. The company was also involved in producing high-tech Italian-origin submarines that are known for stealth capabilities.

The first trial in the case was held in March this year, followed by another in June. The men were granted consular access on multiple occasions and the Indian ambassador to Qatar met them as recently as October 1. Both sides, however, have maintained a veil of secrecy over the case in view of the sensitivities involved.

High stakes relationship

Former Indian ambassador to Qatar Deepa Gopalan highlighted the important role that a large number of Indian migrants play in fostering India-Qatar relations. “This verdict could very adversely affect relations between the two countries. There are over seven lakh Indians in Qatar and we have close economic ties. The Indian government has been following the case closely without doubt, but would need to take it up at the highest level to ensure their lives are saved,” she said.

The verdict is the first major crisis to hit the India-Qatar relationship, which has generally remained steady so far. Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Doha in June 2016, followed by his meeting with the Emir of Qatar on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York in September 2019. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar also visited Qatar in February 2022. According to the MEA, Qatar is the largest supplier of LNG to India, which accounts for over 48% of India’s global LNG imports. India also imports ethylene, propylene, ammonia, urea, and polyethylene from Qatar.

The verdict drew strong reactions from Opposition political parties as well. “The Indian Congress has noted with the greatest anguish, distress and shock the most disturbing development in Qatar regarding 8 former officers of the Indian Navy,” said Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh. “It hopes and expects that the Govt of India will use its diplomatic and political leverage with the Qatar government to the maximum to ensure that the officers have full recourse to appeals and also do the utmost to get them released at the earliest,” he added.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/qatar-court-hands-death-sentence-to-eight-former-indian-navy-officials-deeply-shocked-mea-exploring-all-legal-options/article67461365.ece>

The Statesman

Fri, 27 Oct 2023

Chief of Defence Staff lays wreath at National War Memorial on 77th Infantry Day

On the occasion of the 77th infantry day, Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan on Friday laid a wreath at the National War Memorial here in the national capital.

The Infantry Day is commemorated every year on October 27 to honour the sacrifices and contributions made by the largest arm of the Indian army. On 27th Oct 1947, the Indian Army landed at Budgam to defend Kashmir from Pakistani invaders. This day is since commemorated as Infantry Day.

It recognises the supreme sacrifices of the soldiers who lost their lives while protecting the country from the Pakistan Army’s invasion of Kashmir during independence.

Earlier today, Union Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh, extended his greetings to the Indian army on the occasion of the Infantry Day.

“Warm greetings to all #IndianArmy personnel on the 77th #InfantryDay. They are the epitome of bravery, sacrifice, selfless devotion to duty, and professionalism”, Singh wrote in a post on ‘X’.

“Let us remain undeterred in our commitment to preserve the integrity and sovereignty of our Nation”, he added.

Meanwhile, General Manoj Pande also greeted the Indian Army on the occasion.

“General Manoj Pande #COAS and All Ranks of #IndianArmy convey best wishes to All Ranks, #Veterans and Families of the #Infantry on the occasion of 77th #InfantryDay”, wrote the Indian Army in a post on ‘X’, quoting General Manoj Pande.

Union Minister and former Army Chief General VK Singh (Retd) also extended his wishes to the troops on the occasion of Infantry Day.

“On 27th Oct 1947, #IndianArmy landed at Budgam to defend Kashmir from Pakistani invaders. This day is commemorated as #InfantryDay. I salute the Infantry men who give their all to protect the Nation” General VK Singh (Retd) said in his post on X.

<https://www.thestatesman.com/india/chief-of-defence-staff-lays-wreath-at-national-war-memorial-on-77th-infantry-day-1503235071.html>

The Statesman

Fri, 27 Oct 2023

Infantry Day: Rajnath Singh, Army Chief to attend Event in J-K Today

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande will be attending an event in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday to mark the 75th anniversary of Infantry Day.

Celebrated to commemorate the arrival of the Indian Army at Budgam airfield on October 27, 1947, Infantry Day marks the first military operation of Independent India to protect Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistani forces.

The Army reached at the airfield after the ‘instrument of accession’ was signed on October 26, 1947, between the then Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir Hari Singh and the Union of India.

“The defence minister and the Army chief will take part in the Infantry Day anniversary event in Jammu and Kashmir. And, a number of other top officers of the armed forces will also be present,” a senior official was quoted saying to PTI.

One of the major scenes scheduled for the events are historic Budgam landings will be reenacted, among other events planned to be held on Thursday to mark the landmark occasion.

In New Delhi, Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan will pay homage at the National War Memorial to commemorate the historic day. The reenactment of the historic event (Budgam landings) to be held at Old Air Field, Srinagar, and is aimed to pay tribute to the brave soldiers and

people of Jammu and Kashmir who laid down their lives, and also to honour the next of family of war heroes who participated in the 1947-48 war.

The Indian army under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Dewan Ranjit Rai, who later lost his life at Baramulla, modified the course of the war, wherein people and soldiers of State Forces of Jammu and Kashmir and the Indian Army fought alongside valiantly, to put the Pakistani forces behind, driving them out of most of Jammu and Kashmir till ceasefire on January 5, 1949.

<https://www.thestatesman.com/india/infantry-day-rajnath-singh-army-chief-to-attend-event-in-j-k-today-1503125499.html>

Science & Technology News



Press Information Bureau
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Ministry of Science & Technology

Thu, 26 Oct 2023

TDB-DST backs M/s Lekha Wireless Solutions, Bengaluru in Advancing India's Wireless Communication Technology

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has aptly stated that "India's progress hinges on our ability to embrace technology and innovation." These words resound with the Government of India's dynamic initiatives in the field of wireless communication technology. These endeavours encompass a multifaceted approach, including the promotion of research and development in emerging wireless technologies, the encouragement of domestic production of wireless communication equipment, and the facilitation of the adoption of cutting-edge wireless solutions across crucial sectors, including Defence, Healthcare and Telecommunications. This robust commitment exemplifies India's dedication to advancing technology and attaining self-reliance in the realm of wireless communication, making significant contributions to the nation's prosperity and security.

Building upon this vision, the Technology Development Board (TDB) has announced its support for M/s Lekha Wireless Solutions Pvt Limited, Bengaluru for their innovative project "Tactical Advanced SDR for Space, Defence and Aviation Applications." This agreement shows a significant stride towards promoting innovation and technological advancement in India, particularly in the realm of wireless communication. TDB has approved financial assistance of Rs. 4.17 Crores out of Rs. 17.92 Crores.

This ambitious initiative holds great potential for strengthening India's capabilities in the field of wireless communication technology. The project's primary aim is to bring to market an array of cutting-edge products under the brand name "Antares." These products encompass:

a. Handheld SDR: A versatile handheld SDR designed to operate in L, S and C bands for tactical applications, specifically intended for Non 3G PP applications. This unit features essential components such as Baseband Processing, Power Amplifier, and an Integrated Antenna. Critical parameters for this unit include weight, form-factor, communication range, and battery management. Certification for both ESS and EMI/EMC is imperative.

b. Multi-Channel SDR: Similar to the handheld version but designed in a manpack form, with a 50 W RF capability to facilitate extended communication ranges.

c. Satcom SDR: Tailored for Satcom applications and operational within the S & C Band.

d. High Power Add-On: This unit offers various add-on power modules, allowing flexibility in selecting the appropriate module to meet the RFP requirements of tenders.

The proposed Tactical SDR represents a unified radio system that accommodates multiple form factors, including vehicle mount, pole mount, and handheld radios. It operates within both licensed and unlicensed bands, supports frequency hopping, and is compatible with both legacy and advanced digital waveforms. This indigenous technology-based radio system serves as an import substitute for the Indian Armed Forces, offering eight different form factors to address a wide range of use cases.

The project places strong emphasis on rigorous testing and certification. All trials involve end-user participation and certification by NABL-approved agencies. The products undergo Environmental Stress Screening (ESS) and EMI/EMC Testing, ensuring compliance with international standards.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Rajesh Kumar Pathak, Secretary, TDB, said, "TDB is happy to support this ambitious project. This collaboration perfectly embodies TDB's vision of promoting innovation and technology-driven solutions. We firmly believe that this project will not only enhance India's technological prowess but also strengthen our national defence capabilities. TDB eagerly anticipates the positive impact that this project will bring to the wireless communication landscape in India and beyond."

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1971629>



Fri, 27 Oct 2023

ISRO Analysing Results from Gaganyaan's Saturday Test

Scientists at the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) said they have started analysing data from the crew escape system, and are also studying the crew module recovered from the ocean, after Saturday's successful first test vehicle development flight (TV-D1) for India's maiden human spaceflight – Gaganyaan.

A senior Isro official said that teams have started the process of analysing data from test flight to understand how various systems performed. They are also assessing how the systems within the crew module survived the landing into the Bay of Bengal.

“We have achieved results that are very close to nominal conditions, but we are analysing the data to ensure that that we are absolutely ready before the crewed Gaganyaan mission,” said the official.

Isro on Saturday morning successfully performed TV-D1 test flight, braving multiple weather delays and a temporary computer glitch. It was the first of the many safety tests scheduled to be performed by the space agency ahead of India’s first human spaceflight.

The primary aim behind Saturday’s test flight was to demonstrate and evaluate the sub-systems of the test vehicle, crew escape systems including various separation systems, to conduct crew module characteristics and the demonstration of deceleration systems at higher altitude and its recovery.

“Isro will conduct in-flight abort demonstration of Crew Escape System (CES) at Mach number 1.2 with the newly developed test vehicle followed by crew module separation and safe recovery,” Isro’s test flight brochure read.

The Gaganyaan, India’s first human spaceflight mission, envisages to demonstrate of human spaceflight capability by launching a crew of three members to an orbit of 400km for a three-day mission and bringing them back safely. Leading up to the actual manned mission, the space agency will be conducting several rounds of tests to ensure the systems are safe to carry and bring back astronauts safely to Earth.

The liquid propelled single stage test vehicle, or TV-D1, uses a modified VIKAS engine with crew module and crew escape system mounted at its fore end.

After the TV-D1 test flight demonstration, the space agency will also be carrying out a test flight with a robot, “Vyomitra”, a humanoid astronaut, and an unmanned flight before the manned mission, possibly scheduled for 2025, according to officials from the department of space.

The prerequisites for Gaganyaan mission include development of many critical technologies including human rated launch vehicle for carrying crew safely to space, life support system to provide an earth like environment to crew in space, crew emergency escape provision and evolving crew management aspects for training, recovery and rehabilitation of crew.

For Saturday’s test flight, the crew escape system consisted of five types of quick acting solid motors namely crew escape system jettisoning motor (CJM), high-altitude escape motor (HEM), low-altitude escape motor (LEM), low-altitude pitch motor (LPM) and high-altitude pitch motor (HPM), which generate required acceleration for varying mission requirements.

Indian Navy team lead the recovery of TV-D1 crew module after touchdown, around 10km from Sriharikota coast. Recovery ships, positioned at a safe range in sea waters approached the crew module and a team of divers attached a buoy, hoist the crew module using a ship crane and brought it ashore.

S Sivakumar, mission director of the TV-D1 test, said that this test was a bouquet of three experiments put together — testing the safety of the test vehicle, crew escape system and the crew module.

“All systems performed well and such a test has never been done before. This was a penance for us for the last three-four years and we are glad that everything has performed as per plan, minus the minor initial glitch, which was immediately rectified,” Sivakumar said on Saturday.

Senior officials from the space agency also said that another round of tests including in-flight abort test and a pad abort test is also expected to be scheduled for later this year.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/isro-analysing-results-from-gaganyaan-s-saturday-test-101698345067660-amp.html>

