

Daily Current Affairs

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Exercise Garuda Shakti 2026

- The **11th edition** of the India-Indonesia Joint Special Forces Exercise GARUDA SHAKTI has commenced at Banyuwangi, Indonesia. The exercise is being conducted from 27 October to 06 November 2026.
- The Indian contingent comprises troops from the **Parachute Regiment (Special Forces)**, while the Indonesian contingent comprises personnel from the Indonesian Special Forces.
- The exercise aims to strengthen mutual understanding, cooperation and interoperability between the Special Forces of the two nations.
- The training focuses on tactics, techniques and procedures for special operations in jungle environments, including obstacle crossing, combat marksmanship, mountaineering, air assault training and combat-hardening sessions. It also includes the exchange of expertise and information on weapons, equipment and operational practices.
- The joint training will culminate with a validation exercise designed to simulate realistic operational scenarios and assess the endurance, coordination and combat readiness of both contingents.



Launch of Next Generation OPV

- Yard 1283 (Srishti), Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV), was launched at Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Goa on 27 Oct 2026 by Smt Sandeepa Sahay, in the presence of Shri Vishvajit Sahay, Secretary (Defence Finance). The event reflected the rich traditions and ethos of the Indian Navy.
- These indigenously designed and built ships will augment the existing OPVs/ NOPVs for multi domain operations, such as maritime surveillance, Search and Rescue, protection of offshore assets, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) and anti-piracy missions.
- The construction of NGOPVs is concurrently being undertaken at two shipyards (**GSL, Goa & GRSE, Kolkata**).
- These ships derive their names from India's rich heritage, with this ship being named as 'Srishti', meaning 'Creation' or 'Act of Creating' in Sanskrit.
- The launch marks yet another significant milestone in Indian Navy's pursuit towards indigenous shipbuilding and is in consonance with Government of India's vision of **Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India** initiatives.



Launch of Yard 142, Keel Laying of Yard 144 And 148

- Launching of first Sullage Barge (Yard 142), Keel Laying of third Sullage Barge (Yard 144), and Keel Laying of first Bottom Opening Dumb Barge (Yard 148) were held on 26 Oct 2026 at **M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd, Thane**.
- The contract for construction of Four 300T Sullage Barge and Three Bottom Opening Dumb Barge was concluded with M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd, Thane, an MSME Shipyard, in Nov 2024 and Jan 2026 respectively.
- These Barges have been indigenously designed and built by the shipyard in collaboration with an Indian Ship Design firm and Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) respectively. The Barges will aid in operations of Indian Navy platforms and compliance with MARPOL regulations.
- These Barges are proud flag bearers of Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiatives of Govt of India.



Conclusion of SIMBEX-2026

- The 33rd edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX-2026), hosted by the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam, concluded on 26 Oct 2026.
- The exercise further strengthened the longstanding maritime cooperation and operational engagement between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).
- SIMBEX-2026 was conducted in two phases. The Harbour Phase featured Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEEs), cross-deck visits, professional interactions, sporting engagements and planning conferences, facilitating the exchange of operational knowledge and enhancing mutual understanding.
- The Sea Phase in the Bay of Bengal involved Maritime Interdiction Operations, Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), Anti-Air Warfare and Anti-Surface Warfare drills, seamanship evolutions and cross-deck flying operations, enhancing coordination and interoperability between the participating forces.
- The exercise witnessed the participation of RSN ship RSS Supreme, a Formidable-class stealth frigate with an embarked SH-70B helicopter.
- The Indian Navy was represented by the indigenously built stealth frigate INS Nilgiri, ASW corvette INS Kamorta and participating aviation assets, including P-8I and Dornier maritime patrol aircraft, Hawk Advanced Jet Trainers and MH-60R helicopters.



BRO Celebrates Project ARUNANK'S 19th Raising Day

- Project Arunank of the Border Roads Organisation celebrated its 19th Raising Day at Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh, on October 24, 2026, marking nearly two decades of dedicated service in strengthening strategic infrastructure and improving connectivity across the challenging terrain of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Raised in 2008, Project Arunank has been instrumental in developing and maintaining vital border infrastructure amid rugged mountains, dense forests and difficult climatic conditions.
- Its efforts have contributed to enhancing the operational preparedness of the Armed Forces while improving accessibility, mobility and opportunities for communities residing in remote areas.
- The Project continues to focus on engineering excellence and sustainable infrastructure development through the adoption of modern technologies and innovative construction practices.
- The use of alternative construction materials, geocells, slope-protection measures and other engineering solutions has helped improve the durability, resilience and long-term performance of infrastructure in demanding terrain.



IAF Clears Plan for 24 VVIP Helicopters

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to procure 24 Special Utility Helicopters to support the secure transportation of the country's highest constitutional dignitaries, including the President, Vice-President and Prime Minister.
- The acquisition proposal received clearance from the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, during its recent meeting in New Delhi.
- The project is expected to be valued at around ₹10,000 crore and is intended to replace the Mi-17-V5 helicopters currently employed for VVIP transport duties across India.
- Officials indicated that the principal contenders for the contract are Airbus with its H225M/H-725 platform and a US offering associated with Lockheed Martin.
- The new helicopters will be configured specifically to meet the operational and security requirements of VVIP movements, reflecting the specialised nature of the role.
- The requirement has emerged as the IAF seeks a dedicated long-term replacement for the Mi-17-V5 fleet used for transporting senior national leaders on domestic missions.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. The 11th edition of Exercise GARUDA SHAKTI 2026 is being conducted between which two countries?

- A) India and Malaysia
- B) India and Indonesia
- C) India and Singapore
- D) India and Thailand

Answer: B) India and Indonesia

2. Which Indian Army unit is participating in Exercise GARUDA SHAKTI 2026?

- A) Gorkha Rifles
- B) Rajput Regiment
- C) Parachute Regiment (Special Forces)
- D) Assam Rifles

Answer: C) Parachute Regiment (Special Forces)

3. Yard 1283, named Srishti, is which type of vessel?

- A) Guided-missile destroyer
- B) Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel
- C) Aircraft carrier
- D) Submarine rescue vessel

Answer: B) Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel

4. Which shipyard launched the Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel Srishti on 27 October 2026?

- A) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- B) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers
- C) Goa Shipyard Limited
- D) Cochin Shipyard Limited

Answer: C) Goa Shipyard Limited

Q5. The 33rd edition of SIMBEX-2026 was conducted between the Indian Navy and which navy?

- A) Royal Malaysian Navy
- B) Republic of Singapore Navy
- C) Royal Australian Navy
- D) Indonesian Navy

Answer: B) Republic of Singapore Navy

6. Which Singaporean naval vessel participated in SIMBEX-2026?

- A) RSS Supreme
- B) RSS Formidable
- C) RSS Independence
- D) RSS Valiant

Answer: A) RSS Supreme

7. Project ARUNANK is associated with which organisation?

- A) Indian Coast Guard
- B) Border Roads Organisation
- C) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- D) Military Engineer Services

Answer: B) Border Roads Organisation

8. According to the supplied article, how many Special Utility Helicopters does the Indian Air Force plan to procure for VVIP transportation?

- A) 12
- B) 18
- C) 24
- D) 36

Answer: C) 24

9. Indian Coast Guard Formed On

- A. August 18, 1978
- B. September 18, 1978
- C. March 18, 1976
- D. April 18, 1976

ANSWER: A

10. 'MBT Bhishma' Is The Name Of :

- A. Fighter aircraft
- B. Tank
- C. Armoured vehicles
- D. Infantry regiments

ANSWER: B

11. Barak Is A

- A. Surface-to-air Missile
- B. Surface-to-Surface Missile
- C. Air-to-air Missile
- D. Surface-to-Sea Missile

ANSWER: A

12. "Ordnance Factory Day" in India Is Observed On

- A. 14 March
- B. 15 March
- C. 16 March
- D. 18 March

ANSWER: D

13. INS Valsura Located At

- A. Jamnagar, Gujrat
- B. Mumbai, M.H
- C. Kochi, Kerala
- D. A & NC

ANSWER: A

14. Exercise Maitree Conducted B/w India &

- A. Thailand
- B. Nepal

- C. Bangladesh
- D. Bhutan

ANSWER: A

15. Infantry School of Indian Army Is At

- A. Mhow
- B. Bhopal
- C. Gwalior
- D. Jammu

ANSWER: A

16. Officers Training Academy Is At

- A. Chennai
- B. Bhopal
- C. Gaya
- D. Both A & C

ANSWER: D

17. Northern Army Command Headquarters Is in

- A. Jaipur
- B. Udhampur
- C. Pune
- D. Lucknow

ANSWER: B

18. DF-41 ICBM Is A Missile Of

- A. India
- B. Russia
- C. China
- D. North Korea

ANSWER: C

19. The IAI Heron UAV Developed By

- A. USA
- B. South Korea
- C. Israel
- D. China

ANSWER: C

20. Which Is Not The Commissioned Ranks In The Army Service?

- A. Brigadier
- B. Colonel
- C. General
- D. Commander

ANSWER: D