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Cabinet Approves Two-Year Extension for Agniveers

- The Union Cabinet approved a two-year service extension for Agniveers on 4 November 2026. Chief of Defence Staff General N.S. Raja Subramani announced that the extension will be offered to the 75% who were previously due to leave after their initial four-year tenure.
- Continuing for the additional period is an individual choice. Agniveers who opt in can seek absorption into regular service after the extension, subject to the armed forces' selection criteria. Those serving the extra two years will receive higher remuneration and an increased Seva Nidhi package.
- The Agnipath scheme, launched on 14 June 2022, originally provided a four-year engagement, with up to 25% of each batch eligible for permanent absorption. The extension is based on positive military feedback on Agniveers' performance.
- It creates three personnel categories: those completing four years, those undertaking the extension and those absorbed into the regular cadre.
- The first batch, recruited in 2022, is due to complete service in phases: the Indian Navy cohort on 21 November 2026, the Indian Air Force cohort on 21 December and the Indian Army cohort on 31 December.



India & Canada Hold Their Inaugural Defence Dialogue

- The inaugural edition of India–Canada Defence Dialogue was held virtually on 3 November 2026. The meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Amit Telang, Joint Secretary (International Cooperation), Ministry of Defence, and Mr. Scott Millar, Assistant Deputy Minister (Policy), Department of National Defence, Canada.
- The Dialogue provided an opportunity to exchange views on respective defence policies and strategic outlooks, and to explore avenues for enhancing bilateral defence cooperation.
- Defence industrial cooperation emerged as an important area of engagement, alongside military-technical cooperation and defence research and development, which were identified as priority areas for further collaboration.
- The Dialogue reaffirmed the shared commitment at the leadership level to expand defence and strategic engagement between the two countries, as reflected in the Joint Statement issued on 2 March 2026 by PM Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Mr. Mark Carney.
- Both sides also discussed specific deliverables to advance and strengthen the partnership in a comprehensive manner. The two sides exchanged perspectives

on regional and global issues. They agreed to remain in touch to take forward the discussions and proposals for enhancing bilateral defence cooperation.



IIT-Delhi, DRDO Develop Indigenous 2.2 Kg Lightweight Firefighter Suit

- Firefighters routinely work in some of the most hazardous environments, battling intense heat while wearing bulky protective gear that can significantly hinder mobility.
- In a major indigenous breakthrough, IIT Delhi and the DRDO have jointly developed a lightweight fire protection suit weighing just 2.2 kg, offering a combination of enhanced safety, comfort and operational efficiency.
- Designed to withstand temperatures of up to 1,300 degrees Celsius, the newly developed suit is expected to provide substantial relief to firefighters who currently rely on protective equipment weighing anywhere between 6 kg and 10 kg.
- Another major advantage is affordability. While many firefighting suits currently available in the market are imported and typically cost between ₹1 lakh and ₹3 lakh, the indigenous suit is expected to be priced between ₹30,000 and ₹40,000. This could make advanced protective equipment far more accessible to fire services across the country.

- The suit demonstrates strong thermal protection credentials. Its Thermal Protective Performance rating exceeds 50, indicating a high level of resistance to heat exposure. In addition, the suit has a heat loss comfort value of more than 205, reflecting the emphasis placed on reducing heat stress and improving wearer comfort during prolonged operations.



Iran Reaffirms Free Passage For Indian Shipping Vessels

- Iran has reaffirmed that Indian shipping vessels remain exempt from the transit restrictions it has imposed in the Strait of Hormuz, underscoring the importance of its commercial relationship with New Delhi amid escalating regional tensions.
- China, Iraq and Qatar have also been afforded the same status, allowing their vessels to move through the strategically significant waterway without limitations from Tehran's perspective.
- Hayat-Moghaddam emphasised that the exemptions reflect Iran's economic and political interests. He explained that India had been granted favourable treatment to facilitate the import of medicines into Iran, while China's exemption was linked to both political backing and economic considerations.
- At the same time, senior Iranian political leaders are pressing the country's military establishment to consider a diplomatic path amid mounting fears of a renewed confrontation with the United States. Internal assessments in Tehran

reportedly suggest that a direct conflict with Washington is increasingly viewed as the most likely future scenario.



Army Chief To Shift To Shaurya Bhavan

- A major transition is under way within India's higher military leadership, with the offices of the Indian Army and Indian Navy chiefs set to move out of New Delhi's historic South Block, ending a long-standing arrangement that has been in place for decades.
- Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth is expected to relocate to the newly built **Shaurya Bhavan in Delhi Cantonment**. The move will also include the Vice Chief of the Army Staff and the Army Headquarters' seven Principal Staff Officers, bringing much of the service's senior leadership under one roof.
- At the same time, Navy Chief Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, along with the Vice Chief and other senior naval officers, is set to shift from South Block to Sena Bhavan, situated behind the iconic government complex.
- The relocation forms part of a broader reorganisation of defence establishments linked to the government's ongoing administrative restructuring and redevelopment efforts in the national capital.
- The Army's operational infrastructure will also be affected. The office of the **Director General of Military Operations** (DGMO) and the Army War Room are expected to move from **South Block** as part of the transition.
- The future location of the Navy War Room remains unclear. Its relocation is considered more complex due to the extensive technological systems, secure communications architecture and specialised infrastructure required to support naval operations.

- The Navy had already established a significant presence in Delhi Cantonment with the inauguration of Nausena Bhavan in March 2024. The facility was designed to consolidate naval offices that had previously operated from multiple locations across the capital, improving efficiency and coordination.
- The move comes amid wider changes across the Ministry of Defence. The ministry has already shifted temporarily to Kartavya Bhavan 2 and is expected to move permanently to Kartavya Bhavans 6 and 7 once construction is completed.
- Until then, senior military leaders based in Delhi Cantonment will need to travel to Kartavya Bhavan for meetings with the Defence Minister and other top government officials.
- The forthcoming relocation marks the end of an era for South Block, which has long served as the administrative heart of India's military leadership. Once completed, the shift is expected to support greater modernisation, enhanced operational integration and improved working infrastructure for the armed forces' senior command structure.



CRPF Goes a Year Without Losing Personnel in Operations for First Time In 47 Years

- The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) completed 12 consecutive months without a single operational fatality for the first time in 47 years, with its last recorded combat death on October 30, 2025.
- Timeline: The milestone spans from October 30, 2025, to November 2026, marking the first such zero-fatality streak since the period between February 1977 and January 1979.

- Active Theatres: The achievement took place while personnel remained heavily deployed across high-risk zones, including Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, and former Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) regions.
- Contributing Factors: CRPF Director General G. P. Singh attributed the record to better protective equipment, improved strategic planning, and faster emergency medical evacuation (such as routine air-ambulances) that prevent injuries from turning fatal.
- Broader Context: The landmark coincides with a significant decline in Maoist insurgency following intensive security operations and India being declared LWE-free in early 2026.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Under the original Agnipath scheme, what percentage of each batch could be selected for permanent absorption into the regular cadre?

A) 10%
B) 15%
C) 25%
D) 50%

Answer: C) 25%

2. Who co-chaired the inaugural India–Canada Defence Dialogue on behalf of India?

A) Dr. Amit Telang
B) General Anil Chauhan
C) Rajesh Kumar Singh
D) Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi

Answer: A) Dr. Amit Telang

3. Which Canadian official co-chaired the inaugural India–Canada Defence Dialogue?

A) Mark Carney
B) Scott Millar
C) Justin Trudeau
D) David Morrison

Answer: B) Scott Millar

4. IIT Delhi collaborated with which organisation to develop the 2.2 kg lightweight firefighter suit?

A) ISRO
B) HAL
C) DRDO
D) BARC

Answer: C) DRDO

5. What is the maximum temperature that the indigenous lightweight firefighter suit is designed to withstand?

A) 800°C
B) 1,000°C
C) 1,200°C
D) 1,300°C

Answer: D) 1,300°C

6. Which of the following countries has been granted an exemption from Iran's transit restrictions in the Strait of Hormuz, according to the supplied report?

A) Japan
B) India
C) Australia
D) Germany

Answer: B) India

7. Where is Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth expected to relocate his office?

A) Sena Bhavan
B) Nausena Bhavan
C) Shaurya Bhavan
D) Kartavya Bhavan 2

Answer: C) Shaurya Bhavan

8. In which month and year was Nausena Bhavan inaugurated?

A) March 2023
B) March 2024
C) January 2025
D) August 2024

Answer: B) March 2024

9. Parachute Regiment Training Centre Is At
A. Bangalore
B. New Delhi
C. Nagpur
D. Chennai
ANSWER: A

10. **Thales Group Is a Company of Which Nation**
A. Taiwan
B. China
C. USA
D. France
ANSWER: D

11. Which Country Hosted Multilateral Exercise MILAN 2026?
A. France
B. UK
C. India
D. Malaysia
ANSWER: C

12. **Quito Is the Capital Of**
A. Ecuador
B. Egypt

C. UAE
D. El Salvador
ANSWER: A

13. **“Modi @20: Dreams Meeting Delivery" Book Is Written By**
A. Shashi Tharoor
B. Rajesh Talwar
C. Venkaiah Naidu
D. Rasheed Kidwai
ANSWER: C

14. **Russia's New Nuclear-capable Intercontinental Missile That Can Strike Any Target In The World Is___.**
A. Nikita
B. Mashov
C. Spike
D. Sarmat
ANSWER: D

15. What Is The Name of India's First Indigenously Developed Flying Trainer?
A. Horn-NG
B. HANS-NG
C. HANSA-NG
D. Hawk-NG
ANSWER: C

16. **Sea Dragon Is A**
A. Domestic Ex
B. Multilateral Ex
C. Bilateral Ex
D. None of these
ANSWER: B

17. **World's Highest Motorable Road Is In**
A. Sikkim
B. Ladakh
C. Himachal Pradesh
D. Assam
ANSWER: B

18. **Exercises B/w The India and UK Is Called:**

A. AJEYA WARRIOR
B. KONKAN
C. Indra
D. Both A&B

ANSWER: D

19. **CTBT Treaty Is Related To**

A. Nuclear Test Ban
B. Dual Use Goods Tech
C. Spreading Biological Weapons
D. Both A&B

ANSWER: A

20. **Exercises B/w The India and USA Is Called:**

A. AJEYA WARRIOR
B. KONKAN
C. Indra
D. Tiger Triumph

ANSWER: D