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Centre for Defence Economics and Industry, MP-IDSA

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KEY EVENTS

C-295 TATA Aircraft Complex Inaugurated

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Spanish counterpart Pedro Sanchez jointly [inaugurated](#) the TATA Aircraft Complex for manufacturing of C-295 aircraft at TATA advanced systems limited (TASL) Campus in Vadodara, Gujarat on 28 October 2024. The Prime Minister noted that it would not only strengthen the relations between the two nations, but also give momentum to the mission of 'Make in India, Make for the World'.

92nd Anniversary Celebrations of IAF Held

To mark the 92nd anniversary of the Indian Air Force (IAF), Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [gave](#) a warm send-off to 'Vayu Veer Vijeta' car rally from the National War Memorial, New Delhi on 1 October 2024, to Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh. The IAF on 6 October 2024 also [organised](#) an air show in Marina Beach, Chennai, where Chief Minister MK Stalin was the Chief Guest. The theme of the anniversary celebrations, Sashakt, Saksham, Atmanirbhar (Potent, Powerful, Self-reliant), was reflected in the IAF's display of strength and skill.

Raksha Mantri Addresses Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2024

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh while [addressing](#) the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) 2024 organised by the Indian Navy on 4 October 2024 stated that India believed in "fostering partnerships

that prioritise sustainable development, economic growth and mutual security".

Raksha Mantri's Remarks at 7th annual Session of SIDM

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [reaffirmed](#) the government's commitment to empower India's defence industry by working hand-in-hand with them, while addressing the seventh annual session of Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) in New Delhi on 4 October 2024.

Raksha Mantri Launches ADITI 2.0 Challenges & DISC 12

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [launched](#) the second edition of Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI 2.0) challenges and the 12th edition of Defence India Start-up Challenges (DISC 12) during DefConnect 4.0 on 7 October 2024, across various domains of AI, military communication, anti-drone systems, adaptive camouflage, among others.

Raksha Mantri Holds Telephonic Conversation with German Counterpart

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [held](#) a telephonic conversation with the German Federal Minister of Defence Boris Pistorius on 8 October 2024. They reviewed ongoing defence cooperation activities and discussed ways to further strengthen defence industrial collaboration.

RM and EAM Address Army Commanders Conference

The Second Army Commanders' Conference for 2024 was [organised](#) in a

hybrid mode. The first Phase was held on 10-11 October 2024 in a forward location at Gangtok. The second phase was held at New Delhi on 28-29 October 2024. The [Raksha Mantri](#) exhorted the armed forces to “regularly modernise and prepare continuously for various contingencies” and reiterated the need for “modernisation through indigenisation”. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar emphasised on the need to incorporate the lessons from ongoing global conflicts.

Raksha Mantri Virtually Dedicates to the Nation BRO Infrastructure Projects

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh on 12 October 2024 virtually [dedicated](#) to the nation 75 infrastructure projects of Border Roads Organisation (BRO) at a cost of Rs 2,236 crore. These projects, including 22 roads and 51 bridges are spread across 11 States/Union Territories.

Raksha Mantri Lays Foundation Stone of Very Low Frequency (VLF) Station

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [laid](#) the foundation stone of a VLF Station of the Indian Navy at the Damagundam Reserve Forest site, Telangana on 15 October 2024. It will bolster the Indian Navy’s operational readiness by enabling reliable and secure transmission over long distances.

Raksha Mantri: Govt to Provide Full Support to the Private Sector

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [called](#) upon the private sector to ‘take lead’ in the defence sector, assuring them of government’s full support to make India an

innovation & technology hub. He was addressing a DRDO-Industry Workshop on 18 October 2024.

Raksha Mantri Addresses National Defence College, New Delhi

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [called](#) upon the military leaders to think critically, adapt to unforeseen circumstances and leverage latest technological advancements to gain a strategic advantage. He was addressing the MPhil Convocation ceremony of 62nd National Defence College (NDC) course (2022 batch) in New Delhi on 19 October 2024.

India-Singapore Defence Ministers’ Dialogue Held

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh and Minister of Defence, Singapore Ng Eng Hen [co-chaired](#) the sixth India-Singapore Defence Ministers’ Dialogue in New Delhi on 22 October 2024. Both leaders agreed to extend the bilateral agreement on Joint Military Training Army for the next five years and to explore collaboration in niche domains such as automation and AI.

Raksha Mantri Reviews the Performance of DPSUs

Raksha Mantri (RM) Rajnath Singh [reviewed](#) the performance of DPSUs on 29 October 2024. He emphasised on defence indigenisation and the importance of development of new technologies. HAL, BEL, BEML Limited, BDL, Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, GRSE and Goa Shipyard Limited handed over dividend cheques amounting to Rs. 1620 crore to RM.

CDS Unveils Guidelines to Integrate Trustworthy AI

Evaluating Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (ETAI) Framework and Guidelines for the Armed Forces were [launched](#) by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan and Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat on 17 October 2024.

CDS Inaugurates TECHMA 2024

CDS General Anil Chauhan virtually [inaugurated](#) a two-day National Conference on Technology Management (TECHMA 2024) on 24 October 2024. The CDS urged the industry, R&D organisations and the Services to make India a ‘Sashakt, Surakshit & Viksit Bharat’.

Chief of Army Staff Visits Japan

[General Upendra Dwivedi](#), COAS visited Japan from 14-17 October 2024, and interacted with the senior military leadership, including Gen Yoshida Yoshihide, Chief of Staff, Joint Self Defence Force, Gen Morishita Yasunori, Chief of Staff, Japan Ground Self-Defence Force (JGSDF), Ishikawa Takeshi, Commissioner of Acquisition, Technology and Logistic Agency (ATLA) and Lt Gen Kodama Yasuyuki, Commanding Gen of Fuji School.

Chief of Naval Staff Visits United Arab Emirates

Adm Dinesh K Tripathi, CNS [visited](#) UAE from 21–24 October 2024 and held discussions with Rear Admiral Pilot Saeed Bin Hamdan Al Nahyan, Commander of the

UAE Naval Forces and other senior government officials. He also visited the National Defence College of UAE, and witnessed the third edition of India-UAE bilateral naval exercise.

Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2024 Held

The Indian Army, in collaboration with the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), [conducted](#) the second edition of Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2024 on 24-25 October 2024. Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [delivered](#) the keynote address and stated that a “broad consensus” was achieved by India and China to resolve their differences in certain areas along LAC. General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff, reflected on Indian Army's vision of a resilient, secure and prosperous Bharat@2047.

17th India-Germany MCSG Meeting Held in Berlin

The 17th edition of the India-Germany MCSG meeting was [held](#) from 01-02 October 2024 at Berlin, Germany. Discussions focused on new initiatives to further enhance the scope of bilateral military cooperation and to strengthen ongoing defence engagements.

Swavlamban 2024 Held

The third edition of the Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation (NIIO) Seminar, Swavlamban 2024, was conducted on 28-29 October 2024. ADITI 3.0 challenge and 13th edition of DISC were [unveiled](#) by Raksha Mantri Rajnath at the event.

AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

DRDO Successfully Flight-Tests 4th Generation VSHORADS

DRDO successfully [conducted](#) three flight-tests of the 4th generation, miniaturised Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) in Rajasthan on 3-4 October 2024.

Survey Ship Nirdeshak Delivered to IN

Nirdeshak (Yard 3026), second of four Survey Vessel (Large) ships, steered by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau and being built at Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata was [delivered](#) to the Indian Navy on 8 October 2024.

'Samarthak' Multi-Purpose Vessel Launched by CNS

The first ship of the two Multi-Purpose Vessel project, being built by L&T Shipyard for the Indian Navy was [launched](#) on 14 October 2024 by Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, CNS.

MoD Inks Rs 387.44 Crore Contract for Six Hovercrafts

The MoD on 24 October 2024, [signed](#) a contract with Chowgule & Company Pvt. Ltd., Goa for procurement of six Air Cushion Vehicles (ACVs)/Hovercrafts for the Indian Coast Guard at a total cost of Rs 387.44 crore.

ICG Launches Two Fast Patrol Vessels

ICG [launched](#) two Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) 'Adamyā' and 'Akshar', with over

60 per cent indigenous content, built by Goa Shipyard Ltd. (GSL) on 28 October 2024. The vessels are part of the contract signed with GSL for eight such FPVs to be built at a cost of Rs 473 crore.

DEFENCE DIPLOMACY

CNS Flags Off INSV Tarini for Navika Sagar Parikrama II

Adm Dinesh K Tripathi, CNS [flagged](#) off the Navika Sagar Parikrama II expedition from INS Mandovi, Goa on 2 October 2024. This is the first ever circumnavigation of the globe on board a sailing vessel by Indian women in double handed mode.

Indian Navy's First Training Squadron Visits Iran, Oman, Bahrain and UAE

The ships of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS) – INS Tir, INS Shardul, and ICGS Veera – undertook a Long Range Training Deployment in the Persian Gulf, visiting [Bandar Abbas](#) (Iran), [Muscat](#) (Oman), [Manama](#) (Bahrain), and [Port Rashid](#) (Dubai, UAE). These visits featured professional exchanges, cross-training, community outreach, and Maritime Partnership Exercises (MPX).

Exercise Malabar 2024 Held

The 28th edition of the maritime Exercise Malabar 2024 took [place](#) from 8-18 October 2024, with the Harbour Phase being held in Visakhapatnam, followed by the Sea Phase. The exercises saw the participation of naval assets from Australia, Japan, and the US.

INS Talwar Arrives South Africa to Participate in IBSAMAR VIII

The IN's frontline stealth frigate, INS Talwar, [arrived](#) at Simon's Town, South Africa, on 6 October 2024 to participate in the eighth edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise among Indian, Brazilian, and South African Navy held from 6-18 October 2024.

India-Oman Maritime Exercise Naseem Al Bahr Held

INS Trikand and Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft [participated](#) in the Indo-Oman bilateral naval exercise Naseem-Al-Bahr with the Royal Navy of Oman Vessel Al Seeb off Goa from 13-18 October 24.

IAF and Republic of Singapore Air Force Military Training Exercise Held

The IAF and Republic of Singapore Air Force ([RSAF](#)) held the 12th edition of the Joint Military Training (JMT) exercise at Air Force Station Kalaikunda on 21

October 2024. The 31st edition of the Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise ([SIMBEX](#)) was also held from 23-29 October 2024, at the Eastern Naval Command at Visakhapatnam.

INS Suvarna Visits Dar Es Salaam

INS Suvarna [paid](#) a port call at Dar Es Salam, Tanzania from 19-21 October 2024 for Operational Turnaround, during her ongoing anti-piracy deployment in the Gulf of Aden. The ship handed over the Infantry Weapon Training Simulator to the Tanzanian People's Defence Force (TPDF) side. The ship later carried out a joint EEZ surveillance with TPDF Navy.

Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) With German Navy Held

The Indian Navy's destroyer INS Delhi, German Navy's frigate Baden-Württemberg and tanker Frankfurt Am Main [undertook](#) the maiden Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) in the Indian Ocean on 24 October 2024.

'The Defence Newsletter is a compilation of media reports and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Manohar Parrikar IDSA or the Ministry of Defence, Government of India'.