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KEY EVENTS

Raksha Mantri Presides Over First Joint Commanders' Conference in Lucknow

The maiden [Joint Commanders' Conference](#) (JCC) was held at Lucknow on 4-5 September 2024, under the theme 'Sashakt and Surakshit Bharat: Transforming Armed Forces'. CDS General Anil Chauhan, while delivering the opening address on 4 September emphasised the importance of enhancing integration across domains. Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [presided](#) over the conference on 5 September and stressed upon the significance of a joint military vision while emphasising on synergised, swift and proportionate responses to provocations.

Raksha Mantri: Navy Playing a Crucial Role in Promoting Peace and Prosperity

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [addressed](#) the second edition of Naval Commanders' Conference '24 on 19 September 2024. He commended the Indian Navy for playing a crucial role in promoting peace and prosperity in the Indian Ocean.

Raksha Mantri Inaugurates 41st Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [inaugurated](#) the 41st edition of Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Commanders' Conference on 24 September 2024. The RM exhorted the ICG to become a technology-oriented force to deal with conventional and future threats. He reiterated the government's resolve to build an Aatmanirbhar Coast Guard. 31 ICG ships, worth over Rs 4,000 crore, are currently being built in Indian shipyards.

CDS Gen Chauhan Releases Joint Doctrine for Amphibious Operations

The Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan [released](#) the Joint Doctrine for Amphibious Operations during the Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC) meeting held on 9 September 2024. The doctrine will provide guidance for amphibious capability to the armed forces to conduct multitude of operations in the Indian Ocean Region.

Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh Takes Over as the Chief of the Air Staff

Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh [took](#) over as Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) on 30 September 2024. The CAS was commissioned on 21 December 1984 in the fighter stream of the IAF. The CAS has tenanted staff appointments as Air Defence Commander at HQ South Western Air Command and Senior Air Staff Officer at Eastern Air Command. Prior to taking over as CAS, he was the Vice Chief of the Air Staff. The CAS is a recipient of Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM).

Chief of the Naval Staff Visits Greece

Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), was on a four day [visit](#) to Greece from 26-29 September 2024. The CNS met Mr Ioannis Kefalogiannis, Deputy Minister of Defence, Vice Admiral Dimitrios E Kataras, Chief of the Hellenic Navy General Staff (HGNS) and Vice Admiral Christos Sasiakos, Deputy Chief of Hellenic National Defence General Staff.

IN and South African Navy Sign Submarine Rescue Agreement

The Indian Navy and the South African Navy [signed](#) an Implementing Agreement

(IA) on 4 September 2024 that ensures the safety of South African Navy's submarine crew in times of distress or accident. This agreement was signed by Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, CNS of the Indian Navy and Vice Admiral Monde Lobese, Chief of the South African Navy. The IN will provide assistance by deploying its Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) when required.

India Kenya 3rd Joint Defence Cooperation Committee Meeting Held

The 3rd edition of the Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting between India and Kenya was [held](#) on 3 September 2024. Avenues for cooperation in areas such as military cooperation, training, defence industries, R&D were discussed.

India Saudi Arabia 6th Joint Committee on Defence Cooperation Meeting Held

India and Saudi Arabia held the sixth edition of Joint Committee on Defence Cooperation ([JCDC](#)) meeting in Riyadh on 4 September 2024. Deliberations were held to expand the scope of engagement and cooperation in areas such as military, training, defence industry and R&D.

India Maldives 5th Defence Cooperation Dialogue Held

The 5th Defence Cooperation Dialogue between India and the Maldives took [place](#) in New Delhi on 6 September 2024.

India Philippines 5th Joint Defence Cooperation Committee Meeting Held

The fifth meeting of India-Philippines Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC)

was [held](#) in Manila on 11 September 2024. Discussions were held on bilateral as well as multilateral issues and the outcomes of the 3rd Service-to-Service interactions held on 10 September 2024 were reviewed.

Exercise Tarang Shakti-24 Conducted by the Indian Air Force

The second phase of Exercise Tarang Shakti-24, one of the largest multinational air exercises by the IAF, was held in Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 1-14 September 2024. In a landmark event, the Vice Chiefs of Indian Army, Navy and Air Force [made](#) history on 9 September 2024 by flying in the indigenously manufactured Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas. On the side lines of the exercise, the IAF also [hosted](#) the India Defence Aviation Exposition (IDAX)-24 inaugurated by Raksha Mantri on 12 September 2024. The RM [termed](#) 'Tarang Shakti' as an effort to strengthen cooperation, coordination and trust with partner countries.

Third Edition of INDUS-X Summit Concludes in California

The third edition of the INDUS-X Summit was held in the US from 9-10 September 2024. It was jointly organised by the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) and Stanford University. An MoU was signed between India's iDEX and the Defence Innovation Unit (DIU) under the US DoD, to increase co-operation in defence innovation among the stakeholders. A new challenge under INDUS-X was announced, INDUS-X Impact Report was released and the official INDUS-X webpage on the iDEX and DIU websites was also launched.

Naval Commanders' Conference 24/2 Held

The second edition of Naval Commanders' Conference of 2024 was [conducted](#) at New Delhi from 17-20 September 2024. Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [exhorted](#) the Commanders to maintain high operational preparedness to tackle emerging maritime challenges.

Gen Mathew Attends Indo-Pacific Chiefs of Defence Conference

The Chief of Integrated Defence Staff Lt Gen JP Mathew [attended](#) the Indo-Pacific Chiefs of Defence (IP-CHOD) conference in Hawaii from 18-20 September 2024. The discussions centered around regional security, counter-terrorism and maritime domain awareness. Gen Mathew [stressed](#) that a rules-based international order and the primacy of the global institutions are imperatives for maintaining peace in the emerging multipolar and multilateral world.

First Ever Tri-Services Future Warfare Course Began on 23 September

The first ever tri services 'Future Warfare' course was [conducted](#) by Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff in New Delhi from 23-27 September 2024. Delivering the closing address on 27 September 2024, CDS Gen Anil Chauhan [underscored](#) that AI, Machine Learning, advancements in stealth technology and robotics will dictate the character of future wars.

Defence Secretary Leads MoD Delegation to Kenya

Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane [led](#) a delegation to Kenya from 26-27 September 2024 on the invitation of Principal

Secretary, Ministry of Defence Dr Patrick Mariru.. On 27 September 2024, the Defence Secretary visited Kenyan Naval base Mtongwe in Mombasa. Aramane and Mariru laid the foundation stone of a new Radiology Complex, being built and equipped under the bilateral defence partnership.

AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

DAC Approves Capital Acquisition Proposals Worth Rs 1.45 lakh Crore

The DAC under the chairmanship of Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh on 3 September 2024, [accorded](#) Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for 10 capital acquisition proposals amounting to Rs 1,44,716 crore. Of the total cost of AoNs, 99 per cent is from indigenous sources under Buy (Indian) and Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured) categories.

240 Aero-Engines to be Procured for Su-30 MKI Aircraft from HAL

The Cabinet Committee on Security on 2 September 2024 [approved](#) the proposal for procurement of 240 aero-engines (AL-31FP) for Su-30 MKI aircraft of the IAF under Buy (Indian) category from HAL at a cost of over Rs 26,000 crore. The engines will have indigenous content of over 54 per cent.

DRDO Hands Over Production Document of 30mm HEPF Shell

DRDO [handed](#) over the production document of 30mm High Explosive Preformed Fragmentation (HEPF) Shell to Director General of Naval Armament Inspection (DGNAI) at Armament

Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), Pune on 3 September 2024. This shell will enhance the combat capability of the Indian Navy against drones.

HIM-DRONE-A-THON-2 and HIMTECH 2024 Held

The Indian Army held ‘HIM-DRONE-A-THON 2’ and ‘HIMTECH-2024’ near Leh from 17-18 and 20-21 September respectively. The events were envisaged as an opportunity to the Indian industry to showcase the capabilities of their drone solutions for high altitude areas.

Agni-4 Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile Successfully Launched

The Agni-4 IRBM was successfully [launched](#) from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha on 6 September 2024 under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command.

DRDO and IN Successfully Flight Test Vertical Launch SRSAM

DRDO and the Indian Navy successfully [conducted](#) the flight test of the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) in Chandipur on 12 September 2024. The flight test was carried out from a land-based vertical launcher, targeting a high-speed aerial target flying at a low altitude. The second consecutive test was [conducted](#) on 13 September 2024.

Developmental Field Firing Trials of ‘Zorawar’ Held

DRDO on 13 September 2024 successfully [conducted](#) the preliminary automotive trials of the light Tank, Zorawar, a highly versatile platform capable of deployment in high-altitude areas.

Submarine Escape Training Facility ‘Vinetra’ Commissioned

The Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility (Vinetra) was [commissioned](#) on 13 September 2024 by Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar, the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, at INS Satavahana, Visakhapatnam.

DRDO Transfers High-Altitude Sustenance Technologies

The Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences (DIPAS), a leading laboratory under the DRDO, [handed](#) over critical high-altitude sustenance technologies to the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) on 21 September 2024 at a workshop organised to prepare employees for high-altitude operations as part of the 5000 MW Pang-Kaithal High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Project in Ladakh.

DRDO & IIT Delhi Develop Light Weight Bullet Proof Jackets

DRDO, along with researchers of IIT-Delhi has [developed](#) Light Weight Bullet Proof Jackets named ABHED (Advanced Ballistics for High Energy Defeat).

Indian Army Signs Eighth iDEX Procurement Contract

The Indian Army has [signed](#) the eighth procurement contract through iDEX on 30 September 2024. The contract is for procurement of ‘Generation of Quantum Secure Key (Quantum Key Distribution)’ with M/s QuNu Labs, which proposed a 200 km single hop Quantum Key Distribution in Open Challenge 2.0 under iDEX.

DEFENCE DIPLOMACY

ICGS Sujay Makes Port Calls in South Korea and Indonesia

ICG Offshore Patrol Vessel Sujay, with an integral helicopter, made a port call at Incheon, South Korea on 4 September 2024, as part of its ongoing overseas [deployment](#) to East Asia. ICG Sujay also [made](#) a port call at Bali, Indonesia on 18 September 2024 for a three-day visit.

India-France Bilateral Naval Exercise Varuna Held

The Indian Navy's frontline stealth frigate, INS Tabar visited Toulon, France from 29 August-1 September 2024 and later upon departure [participated](#) in the 22nd edition of IN-FN bilateral exercise VARUNA from 2-4 September 2024 in the Mediterranean Sea. The French side was represented by the frigate FS Provence, FS Suffren submarine, among other assets.

India-US Joint Military Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2024 Held

The 20th edition of India-US Joint Military Exercise YUDH ABHYAS-2024 [commenced](#) on 9 September 2024 in Rajasthan. The exercise, which has been held annually since 2004, ended on 22 September.

IAF and Indian Army Participate in Exercise Eastern Bridge VII Exercise Al Najah V in Oman

An IAF contingent comprising MiG-29s, Jaguars and C-17s [participated](#) in Exercise Eastern Bridge, held from 11 to 22 September 2024 at Air Force base Masirah, Oman.

An Indian Army contingent [participated](#) in the 5th edition of India-Oman joint military exercise AL NAJAH held from 13-26 September 2024 at Rabkoot Training Area in Salalah, Oman.

INS Talwar Arrives in Mombasa, Kenya

Indian Navy's frontline stealth frigate, INS Talwar, [arrived](#) in Mombasa, Kenya, on 22 September 2024. The ship [participated](#) in joint EEZ surveillance and Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with KNS Shujaa.

India-Kazakhstan Joint Military Exercise Kazind 2024 Held in Auli

The 8th edition of India-Kazakhstan Joint Military Exercise KAZIND-2024 [commenced](#) on 30 September 2024 at Surya Foreign Training Node, Auli, Uttarakhand.

'The 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'.