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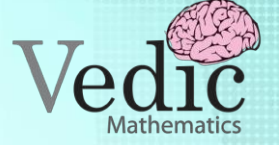
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## Defence news

### I. India-Specific Defense News:

**Indian Army Denies Drone Strikes on ULFA-I Camps in Myanmar:** The Indian Army has categorically denied its involvement in any operation that allegedly killed 19 United Liberation Front of Asom-Independent (ULFA-I) cadres, including three top leaders, in Myanmar. ULFA-I claimed that its eastern headquarters in Myanmar's Sagaing region, near the India-Myanmar border, was targeted by over 150 drones from the Indian Army early on July 13. While ULFA-I insists on Indian Army involvement, providing details of the alleged attacks, the Indian Army's Defence PRO stated there are "no inputs" with them on such an operation. Assam Chief Minister also denied state police involvement. Security sources suggest the incident could be internal to Myanmar's ongoing civil war, with various ethnic armed groups involved in frequent clashes.

**Indian Army Launches 'Operation SHIVA 2025' for Amarnath Yatra Security:** The Indian Army, in close coordination with civil administration and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), has launched 'Operation SHIVA 2025' to ensure the safe and smooth conduct of the Amarnath Yatra pilgrimage.

**Enhanced Security:** Over 8,500 troops are deployed along both the northern and southern Yatra routes.

**Technological Integration:** A robust security architecture includes a Counter-UAS (C-UAS) grid with over 50 systems to neutralize drone threats, continuous UAV missions, live

monitoring of Yatra convoys using high-resolution PTZ cameras and drone feeds, and real-time updates for multi-agency coordination.

**Comprehensive Support:** The operation also includes deployment of engineer task forces for bridge construction and disaster mitigation, over 150 doctors and medical personnel with advanced aid stations and a 100-bed hospital, signal companies for communication, EME detachments for technical support, and Bomb Detection & Disposal Squads. Emergency rations and Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) are also on standby.

**DRDO & IAF Successfully Flight-Test Astra Missile with Indigenous Seeker:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully conducted a flight-test of the Astra Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air missile (BVRAAM) from a Su-30 Mk-I fighter jet.

**Key Achievement:** The test validated the missile's indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) seeker, designed and developed by DRDO.

**Performance:** Two launches against high-speed unmanned aerial targets demonstrated pinpoint accuracy, destroying targets at different ranges and aspects.

**Significance:** This marks a major milestone in India's quest for self-reliance in critical defense technology, enhancing the missile's lethality and reducing dependence on foreign systems. The Astra BVRAAM has a range exceeding 100 km.

**DAC Clears ₹1.05 Lakh Crore Defence Procurement Proposals (July 3, 2025):** The





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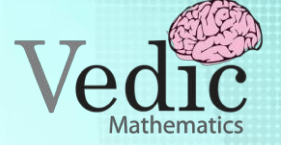
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Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for 10 capital acquisition proposals worth approximately ₹1.05 lakh crore.

**"Make in India" Focus:** All procurements will be made from Indian manufacturers under the 'Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured)' category.

**Key Procurements:** Include Armoured Recovery Vehicles, Electronic Warfare Systems, Integrated Common Inventory Management System for the Tri-Services, Surface-to-Air Missiles (reportedly three regiments of Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missiles for the Indian Army at ~₹30,000 crore), Moored Mines, Mine Counter Measure Vessels (12 MCMVs at ~₹44,000 crore), Super Rapid Gun Mounts, and Submersible Autonomous Vessels. These aim to enhance mobility, air defense, supply chain management, and operational preparedness.

**Fifth Fast Patrol Vessel 'Achal' Launched for Indian Coast Guard (June 16, 2025):** The Indian Coast Guard launched 'Achal', the fifth Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) in a series of eight being constructed by Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL). This vessel, with over 60% indigenous content, further boosts India's "Aatmanirbharta" (self-reliance) in defense manufacturing for maritime security.

## II. International Defense News:

**US to Send Patriot Missiles to Ukraine; EU to Reimburse:** U.S. President Donald Trump announced that the United States will send Patriot air defense missiles to Ukraine, citing their necessity to defend against Russian attacks. He stated that the European Union

would reimburse the U.S. for the cost of these missiles. This comes as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has repeatedly called for more defensive capabilities against ongoing Russian missile and drone attacks.

**France to Significantly Increase Defense Spending:** French President Emmanuel Macron called for a massive boost to France's defense budget, stating that peace in Europe faces a greater threat than at any time since World War II, a clear reference to Russia.

**Budget Increase:** Macron proposed a 3.5 billion euro increase in 2026, followed by another 3 billion euros in 2027. France's defense budget has already risen sharply under Macron, from 32.2 billion euros in 2017 to 50.5 billion currently, with a projection to reach 67 billion euros by 2030.

**Rationale:** The move is driven by the changing strategic parameters due to the war in Ukraine, the "durable" threat posed by Russia, and concerns about a diminished U.S. commitment to Europe.

**Hundreds of Myanmar Junta Soldiers Flee to Thailand:** More than 100 Myanmar junta soldiers, along with over 400 civilians, fled into Thailand after ethnic Karen fighters (Karen National Liberation Army - KNLA) overran military bases in eastern Myanmar's Kayin State over the weekend. Thai military disarmed and provided humanitarian aid to the fleeing soldiers and civilians. This highlights the deteriorating security situation and ongoing civil conflict in Myanmar since the 2021 military coup.

**Ukraine Claims to Have Eliminated Russian Agents in Kyiv:** Ukraine's Security Service (SBU)







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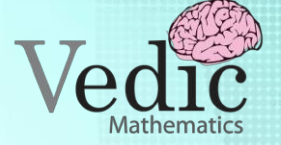
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stated that it tracked down and killed two alleged Russian agents suspected of assassinating a senior SBU colonel, Ivan Voronych, in Kyiv. The SBU said the agents resisted arrest during a "special operation" in the Kyiv region. This follows a high-profile daylight shooting of the SBU officer, reportedly involved in covert operations in Russian-occupied territories.

#### NATO-South Korea Cooperation Deepens:

NATO and the Republic of Korea (South Korea) are actively enhancing political dialogue and practical cooperation across various security challenges, including cyber defense, arms control, non-proliferation, and capability development. This deepening relationship in the Indo-Pacific is seen as crucial for upholding global security and the rules-based international order, particularly in light of challenges posed by North Korea's provocative actions and the increasing links between Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific security.

#### North Korea Reportedly Supplying Artillery to

**Russia:** South Korean military intelligence authorities have reported that North Korea has consistently supplied Russia with over 12 million rounds of 152-millimeter artillery shells to aid Moscow in its war against Ukraine. North Korea has also reportedly integrated Russian-provided Pantsir air defense systems into its domestic air defense.

### MCQS

1.What was ULFA-I's claim regarding the alleged drone strikes on its camps in Myanmar?

a) The strikes were carried out by the Myanmar Army.

b) Over 150 drones from the Indian Army targeted their eastern headquarters.

c) The attacks were a result of an internal ULFA-I conflict.

d) No drone strikes occurred.

**Answer:** b) Over 150 drones from the Indian Army targeted their eastern headquarters.

The news states, "ULFA-I claimed that its eastern headquarters in Myanmar's Sagaing region... was targeted by over 150 drones from the Indian Army early on July 13."

2.How many troops are deployed for 'Operation SHIVA 2025' to ensure the security of the Amarnath Yatra pilgrimage?

a) Over 1,000

b) Over 2,500

c) Over 8,500

d) Over 10,000

**Answer:** c) Over 8,500

The news states, "Over 8,500 troops are deployed along both the northern and southern Yatra routes."

3.What is a key achievement of the recent flight-test of the Astra Missile by DRDO and IAF?

a) Testing its hypersonic speed.

b) Validating the missile's indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) seeker.

c) Launching it from a submarine.

d) Extending its range to 500 km.

**Answer:** b) Validating the missile's indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) seeker.

The news states, "Key Achievement: The test validated the missile's indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) seeker, designed and developed by DRDO."

4.What is the approximate value of the 10 capital acquisition proposals cleared by the





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#### Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) on July 3, 2025?

- a) ₹50,000 crore
- b) ₹75,000 crore
- c) ₹1.05 lakh crore
- d) ₹2.00 lakh crore

**Answer:** c) ₹1.05 lakh crore

The news states, "The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)... accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for 10 capital acquisition proposals worth approximately ₹1.05 lakh crore."

#### 5.What percentage of indigenous content does the fifth Fast Patrol Vessel 'Achal' have for the Indian Coast Guard?

- a) Less than 40%
- b) Exactly 50%
- c) Over 60%
- d) 100%

**Answer:** c) Over 60%

The news states, "This vessel, with over 60% indigenous content, further boosts India's 'Aatmanirbharta'..."

#### 6.Which country has the US pledged to send Patriot air defense missiles to, with the EU reimbursing the cost?

- a) Russia
- b) France
- c) Ukraine
- d) South Korea

**Answer:** c) Ukraine

The news states, "U.S. President Donald Trump announced that the United States will send Patriot air defense missiles to Ukraine..."

#### 7.By how much does French President Emmanuel Macron propose to increase France's defense budget in 2026?

- a) 3 billion euros
- b) 3.5 billion euros
- c) 5 billion euros
- d) 67 billion euros

**Answer:** b) 3.5 billion euros

The news states, "Macron proposed a 3.5 billion euro increase in 2026, followed by another 3 billion euros in 2027."

#### 8.Approximately how many Myanmar junta soldiers fled into Thailand after ethnic Karen fighters overran military bases?

- a) More than 50
- b) More than 100
- c) More than 200
- d) More than 400

**Answer:** b) More than 100

The news states, "More than 100 Myanmar junta soldiers, along with over 400 civilians, fled into Thailand..."

#### 9.What did Ukraine's Security Service (SBU) claim to have done in Kyiv, following the assassination of a senior SBU colonel?

- a) Captured two Russian agents.
- b) Eliminated two alleged Russian agents.
- c) Arrested a local crime syndicate.
- d) Opened an international investigation.

**Answer:** b) Eliminated two alleged Russian agents.

The news states, "Ukraine's Security Service (SBU) stated that it tracked down and killed two alleged Russian agents suspected of assassinating a senior SBU colonel..."

#### 10.What specific military support has North Korea reportedly supplied to Russia?

- a) Fighter jets
- b) Naval vessels





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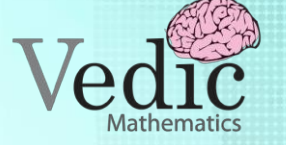
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c) Over 12 million rounds of 152-millimeter artillery shells

d) Tanks

**Answer:** c) Over 12 million rounds of 152-millimeter artillery shells

The news states, "South Korean military intelligence authorities have reported that North Korea has consistently supplied Russia with over 12 million rounds of 152-millimeter artillery shells..."

