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Defence news

Several key developments are shaping India's defence landscape. A major initiative is a round-the-world sailing expedition by an all-women Tri-Services team, which departed from Mumbai on September 11, 2025. This historic mission, onboard the indigenously built Indian Army Sailing Vessel (IASV) Triveni, is a milestone for both India's maritime capabilities and the role of women in the armed forces.

Indigenous Technology and Modernization

The Ministry of Defence is pushing forward with its 'Year of Reforms' agenda for 2025. This includes a new initiative called ASPIRE (Accelerating Strategic Progress in Research and Education), a partnership between the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) and EdCIL (India) Limited. The program aims to develop "dual-use, cutting-edge technologies" for both military and civilian applications.

In the realm of naval projects, Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders has begun negotiations with the Indian Navy for Project-P75(I), a deal to build six submarines with German support. This project is worth approximately ₹70,000 crore.

The competition for India's next-generation fighter jet, the Advanced Multirole Combat Aircraft (AMCA), is also intensifying. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has raised concerns about the qualifying terms for manufacturing partners, arguing that some conditions are unfavorable to public sector companies like itself.

The Indian Army is modernizing its equipment with a focus on hypersonic weapons, cyber

capabilities, and directed energy weapons for tasks like counter-drone operations. Additionally, the government's long-term strategy for defense includes ambitious plans for nuclear-powered naval vessels and the development of an indigenous electromagnetic aircraft launch system (EMALS).

Military Exercises and Conferences

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is preparing for Exercise Vayu Shakti-24, a triennial firepower demonstration at the Pokhran Air near Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. The exercise, which happens once every three years, will showcase the capabilities of various aircraft and indigenous weapon systems.

Furthermore, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to inaugurate the Combined Commanders' Conference (CCC) 2025 in Kolkata on September 15. The theme of the conference is "Year of Reforms—Transforming for the Future," and it will focus on institutional reforms, deeper integration, and technological modernization of the armed forces.

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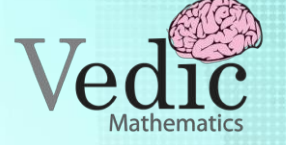
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- C) To develop "dual-use, cutting-edge technologies" for military and civilian applications.
D) To modernize the Indian Army's infantry rifles.

Answer: C)

The text explicitly mentions that the ASPIRE program "aims to develop 'dual-use, cutting-edge technologies' for both military and civilian applications."

3: Where is the Indian Air Force (IAF) preparing to hold its triennial firepower demonstration, Exercise Vayu Shakti-24?

- A) Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
B) Bengaluru, Karnataka
C) Pokhran, Rajasthan
D) Kolkata, West Bengal

Answer: C)

The passage states that the exercise will be a "firepower demonstration at the Pokhran Air near Jaisalmer, Rajasthan." Pokhran is the specific location of the air range.

4: With which country's support is Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders negotiating to build six submarines for the Indian Navy under Project-P75(I)?

- A) Russia
B) France
C) Germany
D) United States

Answer: C)

The passage mentions that the negotiations for Project-P75(I) are "a deal to build six submarines with German support."

MCQS

1: What is the name of the indigenously built Indian Army Sailing Vessel (IASV) on which the all-women Tri-Services team embarked on their round-the-world expedition?

- A) INSV Mhadei
B) IASV Triveni
C) INSV Tarini
D) INS Vikrant

Answer: B)

The passage states that the all-women team is on a mission aboard the "indigenously built Indian Army Sailing Vessel (IASV) Triveni."

2: What is the primary goal of the new ASPIRE program, a partnership between IDEX and EdCIL?

- A) To develop new submarines for the Indian Navy.
B) To build an indigenous aircraft carrier.





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