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## Defence news

Defense news on September 12, 2025, centers on India's strategic partnerships and technological advancements. A key highlight is the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) receipt of the third General Electric F404-IN20 engine for the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk1A, which will help meet the Indian Air Force's demand for the jet. This is a critical step toward the delivery of 10 Tejas Mk1A and trainer jets by March 2026. The LCA Tejas Mk1A is designed to replace the IAF's aging MiG-21 fleet.

Another significant development is the strengthening of India's global defense collaborations. Bharat Forge has signed two major international deals. One is a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UK-based Windracers Limited to localize, deploy, and apply unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in India. The other is a landmark contract signed by its subsidiary, Kalyani Strategic Systems, with the UAE's GRADEONE for the supply of 155mm howitzer barrels. This is the first such contract between an Indian and Emirati defense firm.

Additionally, the Defence Secretary of India, Rajesh Kumar Singh, emphasized the need for India to project its hard power alongside its soft power. He made these remarks at the Southern Command Defence Tech 2025 seminar (STRIDE 2025), citing geopolitical conflicts and rising nationalism as reasons for this strategic shift.

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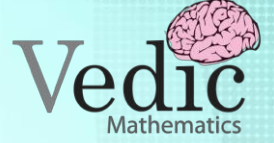
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## MCQs

1. What milestone did Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) achieve on September 12, 2025, regarding the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk1A?

- A) Delivered the first batch of 10 Tejas Mk1A jets to the IAF.
- B) Signed a new contract for 97 additional Tejas Mk1A jets.
- C) Received the third General Electric F404-IN20 engine for the LCA Tejas Mk1A.
- D) Began the operational phase of the Tejas Mk1A fleet.

**Answer: C**

The provided text highlights that HAL received the "third General Electric (GE) F404-IN20 engine for the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk1A."

2. What is the purpose of the LCA Tejas Mk1A, which is designed to replace the IAF's aging MiG-21 fleet?

- A) A heavy-lift transport aircraft
- B) A 4.5-generation multirole fighter
- C) A maritime patrol aircraft
- D) A stealth bomber

**Answer: B**

The text describes the LCA Tejas Mk1A as a "4.5-generation multirole fighter designed to replace the IAF's aging MiG-21 fleet."

3. Bharat Forge signed an MoU with which UK-based company to collaborate on unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in India?

- A) GRADEONE
- B) Kalyani Strategic Systems
- C) Windracers Limited
- D) General Electric

**Answer: C**

The text states that Bharat Forge signed a "Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the

UK-based Windracers Limited to localize, deploy, and apply unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in India."

4. Kalyani Strategic Systems, a subsidiary of Bharat Forge, signed a landmark contract with which country's company for the supply of 155mm howitzer barrels?

- A) The United Kingdom
- B) The United States
- C) The United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- D) Germany

**Answer: C**

The text specifies that Kalyani Strategic Systems signed a contract with the "UAE's GRADEONE for the supply of 155mm howitzer barrels."

5. During the Southern Command Defence Tech 2025 seminar, what did India's Defence Secretary, Rajesh Kumar Singh, emphasize the need for?

- A) Reducing the defense budget.
- B) Focusing solely on soft power diplomacy.
- C) Increasing reliance on foreign military technology.
- D) Projecting hard power alongside soft power.

**Answer: D**

The text mentions that the Defence Secretary "emphasized the need for India to project its hard power alongside its soft power" at the STRIDE 2025 seminar.





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