

CURRENT AFFAIRS



April 2018

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Current Affairs – April 2018

This is a guide to provide you a precise summary and a huge collection of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) covering national and international current affairs for the month of **April 2018**.

This guide will help you in preparing for Indian competitive examinations like Bank PO, Banking, Railway, IAS, PCS, UPSC, CAT, GATE, CDS, NDA, MCA, MBA, Engineering, IBPS, Clerical Grade and Officer Grade, etc.

Audience

Aspirants who are preparing for different competitive exams like Bank PO, Banking, Railway, IAS, PCS, UPSC, CAT, GATE, CDS, NDA, MCA, MBA, Engineering, IBPS, Clerical Grade, Officer Grade, etc.

Even though you are not preparing for any exams but are willing to have news encapsulated in a roll, which you can walk through within 30 minutes, then we have put all the major points for the whole month in a precise and interesting way.

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Appointments

1. Debjani Ghosh Appointed As NASSCOM President-Designate

National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) has appointed Ms. Debjani Ghosh, former MD, Intel South Asia, as the NASSCOM President-designate, succeeding Mr. R Chandrashekhar, President, NASSCOM on completion of his term in March, 2018.



Debjani will be the first woman President of NASSCOM. Ms. Ghosh was the first woman to lead Intel India and MAIT (Manufacturers' Association for Information Technology). NASSCOM® is the premier trade body and the chamber of commerce of the IT-BPM industries in India.

2. US diplomat Rosemary DiCarlo becomes first female UN political chief

American diplomat Rosemary DiCarlo was appointed to become the first woman to head UN political affairs. DiCarlo will replace Jeffrey Feltman, another American who held the post since 2012.



DiCarlo is a former deputy U.S. ambassador to the U.N. and served in various State Department positions. She also worked for UNESCO during a more than 35-year career. She is currently president of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy. DiCarlo also is a senior fellow at Yale University's Jackson Institute for Global Affairs.

3. Chandra Bhushan Appointed Deputy Election Commissioner

According to an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has appointed senior bureaucrat Chandra Bhushan Kumar as Deputy Election Commissioner. He is a 1995 batch IAS officer of union territories cadre.



Bhushan has been appointed for a period of five years. Election commission is multi member body and currently has three members including Chief Election Commissioner (CEC). The President appoints them all for a term, which is fixed by the President.

4. Christian Sewing appointed as new CEO of Deutsche Bank

The Supervisory Board of Deutsche Bank appointed Christian Sewing as Chief Executive Officer replacing John Cryan who will leave the bank at the end of April 2018. Additionally, the Supervisory Board has appointed Management Board members Garth Ritchie and Karl von Rohr as new Presidents.



Christian Sewing has been a member of the Management Board since January 1, 2015 and served as President in March 2017. He was Head of Group Audit from June 2013 to February 2015, prior to which he held a number of management positions in Risk.

5. Balram Bhargava selected as new director general of the Indian Council of Medical Research

Mr. Balram Bhargava, a professor at AIIMS has been selected as the Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Secretary of the Department of Health Research. He replaced Soumya Swaminathan. He served as a professor/senior consultant cardiologist at All India Institute of Medical Sciences. Veteran scientist Renu Swaroop was appointed as Secretary of Department of Biotechnology.



The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world.

6. Boao Forum for Asia selected Ban Ki-moon as its Chairman

'Boao Forum for Asia' (BFA) selected former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as its chairman. He replaced former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda. Li Baodong was appointed as BFA secretary-general. Li Baodong served as Chinese Vice foreign minister. Former central bank governor Zhou Xiaochuan was selected to the post of China's chief representative to BFA.



The Boao Forum for Asia is a non-profit organisation that hosts high-level forums for leaders from government, business and academia in Asia. BFA is modelled on the World Economic Forum.

7. Rishad Premji selected as NASSCOM Chairman

National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) announced the appointment of Mr. Rishad Premji, Chief Strategy Officer and Member of the Board, Wipro Ltd., as its Chairman for 2018-19. Rishad has been a member of NASSCOM's Executive Council and was the Vice Chairman for 2017-18. He replaced Mr. Raman Roy. Rishad Premchand served as the Chief Strategy officer and member of the board, Wipro Ltd.



NASSCOM, a not-for-profit industry association, is the apex body for the 154 billion dollar IT BPM industry in India. NASSCOM is a global trade body with more than 2500 members.

8. Lt Gen PP Malhotra appointed as Director-General of NCC

Lieutenant General PP Malhotra assumed charge as Director General of National Cadet Corps (NCC), the largest uniformed youth organization in the world on 11 Apr 2018. Lt Gen Malhotra's distinguished professional career includes various regimental, staff and command appointments.



Prior to assuming his present appointment, he was the Chief Engineer of the Army's premier Northern Command. A graduate of Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, the General has also undergone the prestigious National Defence College course at New Delhi.

9. Dilip Chenoy took over as Secretary General FICCI

Mr. Dilip Chenoy, took over as the Secretary General of the apex industry body, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). He took over from Dr. Sanjaya Baru who stepped down from the post. Chenoy was working as Director General of the industry body till now.



Prior to this, Chenoy was working as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) for almost five years. He was also the Director General of Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) from 2004 till 2010.

10. Jim Bridenstine to head the space agency NASA

The US Senate has voted 50-49 to pick President Donald Trump's pick, Mr Jim Bridenstine as the new Chief of US space agency NASA. Jim is a congressional representative from Oklahoma, US Navy veteran and former pilot. He will become the 13th administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.



NASA's previous full-time administrator, former astronaut Charles Bolden, resigned in January 2017. The NASA Chief is nominated by the president and must be approved by Congress.

11. Senior advocate Indu Malhotra sworn-in as Supreme Court judge

Senior advocate Indu Malhotra took oath of the office as Supreme Court judge in New Delhi. She was administered the oath of office by Chief Justice of India, Dipak Misra.



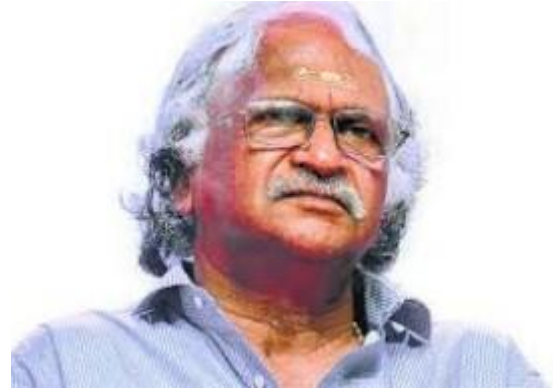
Ms Malhotra, a renowned arbitration expert, is the first woman judge to be appointed to the top post directly from the bar. She is the seventh woman Judge in the Supreme Court's 68-year history. Malhotra was one of the members of the Vishaka Committee on sexual harassment at workplaces.

Awards

1. Sreekumaran Thampi to be awarded with J.C. Daniel Award

Lyricist and director Sreekumaran Thampi has been selected for the J.C. Daniel Award, the Kerala government's highest honour for lifetime contribution to Malayalam cinema. The award comprises of ₹5 lakh and a citation.

Mr Thampi is the 25th recipient of the state's highest film honour. He penned for nearly 80 films. Thampi has also directed 29 films. He also directed 13 TV serials. He is also the recipient of the Vallathol Award, a literary award as an acknowledgment to his contribution to Malayalam cinema.



2. Actress Anushka Sharma honoured with Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award

Veteran actress Anushka Sharma was honoured with Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award for her outstanding work as an actress as well as a producer. The award will be given by an organisation called Dadasaheb Phalke Foundation, a Mumbai-based organisation.

Anushka Sharma was appreciated for her work as a producer for movie NH10. She has started Clean Slate Films production house in union with her brother Karnesh Sharma. Anushka Sharma has produced some other movies known as NH 10, Phillauri and Pari.



3. 65th National Film Awards for 2017 announced

The 65th National Film Awards 2017 were announced. The key award winners are:

Dadasaheb Phalke Award	Vinod Khanna
Best Feature Film	'Village Rockstars'
Best Popular Film	'Baahubali - The Conclusion'
Nargis Dutt Award For Best Feature Film	Dhappa(Marathi)
Indira Gandhi Award For Best Debut Film Of A Director	'Sinjar'(Jasari)

Special Jury Award	Nagarkirtan (Feature film), A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings And Monday(Non feature film)
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4. Pulitzer Prizes 2018 list unveiled

Pulitzer Administrator Dana Canedy announced 2018 Pulitzer Prize winners in 14 journalism and seven letters, drama and music categories.

Fiction	Andrew Sean Greer’s “Less”
Drama	Cost of Living, by Martyna Majok
History	The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea
Biography	Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder
Poetry	Half-light: Collected Poems 1965-2016

Apart from above mentioned literary awards, prizes are awarded in 21 categories. The winner receives a certificate and a \$15,000 cash award. The Pulitzer Prize is administered by Columbia University, New York.

5. Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Shri J P Nadda gave away Kayakalp awards

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Shri J P Nadda gave away Kayakalp awards. The first prize of Rs2.5 Crore was given to the All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi under A category. In the group B category, the winner was NEIGRIHMS, Shillong with Rs1.50 Crore as prize money.



Kayakalp - Award to Public Health Facilities was instituted on 15th May 2015 as a National Initiative to give Awards to those public health facilities that demonstrate high levels of cleanliness, hygiene and infection control focuses on promoting cleanliness in public spaces.

6. Madhya Pradesh conferred Most Film Friendly Award

State of Madhya Pradesh was conferred the award for the Most Film Friendly State for its efforts towards easing filming in the State. MP has created a well-structured web site, film friendly infrastructure, offering incentives, maintaining databases, undertaking marketing and promotional initiatives.



Uttarakhand was given a Special Mention Certificate to recognize the efforts made by it towards creating a film friendly environment. Acclaimed filmmaker Shri Ramesh Sippy chaired the jury.

7. BCCL Chairman awarded with Lifetime Contribution to Media Award

Indu Jain has been awarded with the All India Management Association’s (AIMA’s) annual award for lifetime contribution to media. She is the Chairman of Bennett, Coleman & Co, India’s largest media house, which publishes newspapers and magazines, including The Times of India.



AIMA conferred the award on Jain for managing the Times Group, apart from establishing the Times Foundation, an institution working towards social causes. Jain has also been awarded with the Padma Bhushan in 2016.

8. Union Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu presented CHEMEXCIL Export Awards

Union Minister for Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Shri Suresh Prabhu gave away the CHEMEXCIL Export Awards and Certificates of Merit for the year 2016-17. EXCEL INDUSTRIES LTD and MEGHMANI ORGANICS LIMITED received Life Time Achievement Award.

Summary of Awards 2016-2017	
Name of the Award	No. of Awards
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD	2
TRISHUL AWARD	11
GOLD AWARD	12
FIRST AWARD	11
SECOND AWARD	9
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT	19
AWARD OF EXCELLENCY	11

9. India’s first Print Biennale Prize distributed

The awards of Print Biennale India 2018 was distributed Union Culture Minister Mahesh Sharma at Lalit Kala Akademi in New Delhi. The winners of the biennale were Arup Kumar Kuity (Andhra Pradesh), Satya Narayana Gavara (Andhra Pradesh), Preya Bhagat (Uttar Pradesh), Purvi Parmar (Gujrat) and Sonal Varshneya (Uttar Pradesh).



Artists from 17 countries participated in the Biennale. A total number of 988 entries were received from across India, of which 127 had been chosen for the event.

10. CSIR bagged National Intellectual Property (IP) Award 2018

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was awarded the National Intellectual Property (IP) Award 2018 in the category "Top R&D Institution / Organization for Patents and Commercialization".



CSIR has been ranked 9th in the world amongst the 1207 government institutions, with an overall global ranking of 75 in the world, covering 5250 institutions. The Indian Intellectual Property Office confers National Intellectual Property (IP) Award on

outstanding innovators, organizations and companies in the fields of patents, designs, trademarks and geographical indications on the occasion of World IP Day every year.

11. Jailed Egyptian photographer won UN press freedom prize

Egyptian photojournalist Mahmoud Abu Zeid, known as Shawkan, has been selected by an independent international jury of media professionals as the laureate of the 2018 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano Press Freedom Prize.



Shawkan, a photojournalist, has been in jail since 14 August 2013 when he was arrested while covering a demonstration at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square in Cairo. Laureates of the UNESCO/Guillermo Cano Prize receive \$25,000. The Prize will be awarded on 2 May on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day.

12. Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Awards 2018 List

The key winners of Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Awards 2018 are:

- Best actor (male): Shahid Kapoor
- Best actor people's choice award: Ranveer Singh
- Entertainer of the year: Kartik Aryan
- Best actress (critics): Aditi Rao Hydari
- Lifetime achievement award: Simi Garewal
- Pride of Indian cinema: Sanjay Dutt
- Best director: Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari
- Outstanding performance - male: Raj Kumar Rao, Rana Daggubati
- Outstanding performance - female: Tamannah Bhatia, Kriti Sanon



Books & Authors

1. President of India received first copy of book 'Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar: Vyakti Nahin Sankalp'

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, received the first copy of the book 'Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar: Vyakti Nahin Sankalp' from the Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, on the occasion of Dr B.R. Ambedkar's birth anniversary. The book is based on the inspiring life of Dr Ambedkar and several dimensions of his ideas and personality. The President called the book an accessible resource to understand Dr Ambedkar.



Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, popularly known as Babasaheb, was an Indian jurist, economist, politician and social reformer who inspired the Dalit Buddhist movement and campaigned against social discrimination.

2. Nitish Kumar launched 3 Books On Mahatma Gandhi's Champaran Movement

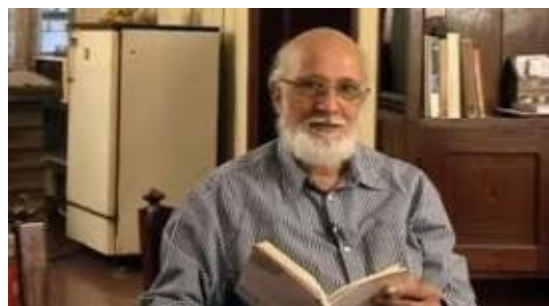
Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar released three books based on Mahatma Gandhi's Champaran movement of 1917. Mr Kumar released the books titled- 'Mister M K Gandhi Ki Champaran Diary' written by Arvind Mohan, 'Champaran Andolan 1917' edited by Ashutosh Partheshwar and 'Pir Muhammad Munis: Kalam Ka Satyagrahi' collected and edited by Srikant.



The Champaran movement is acknowledged as the first Satyagraha movement inspired by Mahatma Gandhi.

3. 2017 Saraswati Samman honoured to Gujarati poet Sitanshu Yashaschandra

Veteran playwright and poet Sitanshu Yashaschandra was honoured with 2017 Saraswati Samman for his outstanding work in collection of verses (poetry) titled "Vakhar" published in 2009. He has overall launched 3 books of poetry on "Vakhar". Some of his other excellent work includes 'Odysseusnu Halesu-n' and 'Jatayu'. He has written more than 10 books of plays. He has also been honoured with Sahitya Akademi Award and Kabir Samman.



The award is given annually for an outstanding literary work of any Indian language, published during the last 10 years. It is instituted by the K K Birla Foundation.

Committees

1. ICC confirmed dispute panel to oversee proceedings between the PCB and BCCI

ICC has formed a dispute panel to oversee proceedings between the Pakistan Cricket Board and the Board of Control for Cricket in India. ICC has confirmed that the Hon Michael Beloff QC will chair the Dispute Panel.



The other two members of the panel, which has been established under the Terms of Reference of the ICC Disputes Resolution Committee, are Mr Jan Paulsson and Hon Dr Annabelle Bennett AO, SC. The hearing will take place in Dubai from 1-3 October.

2. HRD Ministry constitutes a High Powered Committee to examine the system of conducting Class X and Class XII examination to prevent leakages

The Ministry of Human Resource Development has constituted a High Powered Committee to examine the entire system of conducting Class X and Class XII examination conducted by the CBSE with a view to prevent leakages. Mr Vinay Sheel Oberoi, Retd. Secretary (Higher Education), MHRD will be the Chairperson of the 7 member High Power Committee.



The other members of the committee include Mr Pavnesh Kumar, Prof. J.S. Rajput, Prof. Vasudha Kamat, Prof. Krishna Mohan Tripathy, Senior representative of DG, NIC and Joint Secretary (SE-II). The High-Powered Committee will submit its report by on or before 31.05.2018.

3. Government to create Defence Planning Committee

The Central government has decided to create a new strategic panel called the Defence Planning Committee to oversee higher defence planning. The committee will be headed by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval. The Chief of Integrated Staff in the MoD will be the member secretary of DPC.



The Defence Planning Committee will prepare a draft national security strategy, develop a capability development plan, work on defence diplomacy issues and improving defence manufacturing in India.

Deaths

1. Former Manipur Chief Minister R K Dorendra Singh passed away

Former Manipur chief minister R K Dorendra Singh passed away at the age of 83 years. He had been chief minister of the state four times between 1974 to 1993.

Mr Singh was elected to the Upper House of the Indian Parliament - the Rajya Sabha from Manipur during 20-9-1988 till 12-3-1990 from Indian National Congress party. He was a member of the Indian National Congress (INC), Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and a few other parties.



2. Former US First Lady Barbara Bush died

Barbara Pierce Bush, the former US first lady, passed away at the age of 92 years. Her husband George H.W. Bush was the nation's 41st president from 1989-93. Her eldest son George W. Bush served two terms as President from 2001-09.

Bush was tied with Hillary Clinton as the most popular first lady of the past 25 years in 2014. She formed the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy to fund programs that teach parents in low-income families to read.



3. Famous journalist S Nihal Singh passed away

Former chief editor of The Statesman and The Indian Express, Surendra Nihal Singh died at the age of 88. He was honoured with International Editor of the Year Award in New York for his outstanding work of journalism role in opposing former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's emergency in mid-1975. He also served as foreign correspondent in Moscow, London, the United States, and Indonesia.



In 1987, he was founding editor of The Indian Post, Mumbai. One of his last assignment was working as the Editor of the Khaleej Times, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in 1994.

4. Veteran Journalist T V R Shenoy Passed Away

Veteran journalist TVR Shenoy passed away at the age of 77 years. Shenoy started his career with Indian Express. He was awarded the Padmabhushan in 2003.

Shenoy was former editor of The Week. He had also served as Malayala Manorama's Delhi bureau chief. He also became the Editor of Sunday Mail. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of India First Foundation.



5. Former Delhi High Court Chief Justice Rajinder Sachar passed away

Human rights activist and former Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court Justice Rajinder Sachar passed away at the age of 94 years. He was the Chief Justice from August 6, 1985, to December 22, 1985.

Post retirement, Justice (retd.) Sachar was associated with rights group People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL). He was the chairperson of a committee set up by the previous UPA government to look at the social, economic and educational status of Muslims in India.



6. Noted Telugu poet-composer Balantrapu Rajanikantha Rao died

Noted Telugu poet-composer, musicologist and artist Balantrapu Rajanikantha Rao passed away at the age of 98 years. Rao worked in All India Radio (AIR) and headed its Vijayawada division as the Director.

Rao wrote and composed the first Telugu song ever broadcast in independent India on the midnight of 15 August, 1947. He is credited with composing the signature tune of 'Akashvani.' 'Vaggeyakara Charitra' written by him is still a guide for the music scholars, which brought him the first award from Central Sahitya Academy in 1961.



7. World's oldest person Nabi Tajima passed away

Nabi Tajima, a Japanese woman and the world's oldest person, passed away at the age of 117 years. She was born on 4 August, 1900. She was the last known person born in the 19th century.

According to the Gerontology Research Group of the USA, Chiyo Miyako of Japan has now become the world's oldest person at the age of 116 years and 355 days. Also, the



Guinness World Records has confirmed Masazo Nonaka of Japan to be the world's oldest man at 112 years and 271 days old.

8. Indian animation pioneer Bhimsain Khurana passed away

Indian animation expert Bhimsain Khurana passed away at the age of 82 years. He is popular for films like "Gharaonda" which got Filmfare Awards. He won the Silver Hugo Award in the Chicago Film Festival for his first animation short "The Climb".

Mr Khurana won the national award for his landmark animation short "Ek Anek Ekta". He has written six books. He was a master at various animation techniques.



1. Sahyog- Hyeoblyeog 2018 joint exercise held

Indo-Korea Joint Exercise 2018 named as Sahyog- Hyeoblyeog 2018 was held in Chennai. The joint exercise is part of a MoU between the two Coast Guards to improve maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region, which also involves cross presentations, cross landing operations and focus on rescue operations. Korean Coast Guard ship 'Bodaro' participated in the exercise.



The exercise also involved planning, training, and executing a series of well-developed anti-piracy operations.

2. 'Desert Tiger 5' joint military exercise concluded

A joint military exercise between UAE and Malaysia, named as "Desert Tiger 5" concluded successfully. It was done with an aim to create better and strong artnerships between both countries in all areas and improve the drill efficiency. The drill exercise also improve efficiency and performance of ground forces.



UAE conducts many such military exercises with other nations such as Iron Union 6 with USA, Iron Claw 2 with USA etc. Peace and Friendship 2016 between Malaysia and China is also a known joint military exercise.

3. Exercise Gaganshakti - 2018: joint operations battalion level airborne assault

As part of the ongoing IAF exercise 'Gaganshakti-2018', in a joint operation, the IAF and Indian Army Parachute Brigade undertook a Battalion level airborne assault in the desert sector. This assault included paradrop of 560 paratroopers and GPS guided cargo platforms. The landing force was dropped behind the simulated enemy lines. The force was provided aerial surveillance by AWACS and protected by a Flight of SU-30 Air Superiority Fighters.



Airborne assault is a subset of Airborne Operations wherein combat troops are para dropped into the tactical battle area and perform tasks like disrupting enemy lines of enemy infrastructure.

4. DAC approved Capital Acquisition Proposals worth Rs 3,687 Crore

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved Capital Acquisition Proposals of the Services valued at over Rs 3,687 crore. DAC approved procurement of Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO's) designed and developed NAG Missile System (NAMIS) at the cost of Rs 524 crore.



The DAC also approved procurement of thirteen 127 mm calibre guns for the Navy. These guns will be fitted on-board new construction ships for undertaking surface engagements including Naval Gunfire Support Operations.

5. India, Malaysia to hold military exercise

The Indian and Malaysian armies will hold a two-week military exercise beginning April 30 in Malaysia with an aim to improve defence cooperation. The joint exercise 'Harimau Shakti' will take place in the dense forests of Sengai Perdik in Hulu Langat district of Malaysia.



The Indian Army will be represented by 4 Grenadiers while the Malaysian contingent is being represented by soldiers from 1 Royal

Ranjer Regiment and the Royal Malay Regiment.

6. Coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' held in Kerala

A two-day coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' was held to strengthen and assess the loopholes in the coastal security mechanism off the coast of Kerala, Mahe, and Lakshadweep and Minicoy (L&M) Islands. The drill is held twice a year.



Four ships and three Fast Interceptor Craft (FICs) of Indian Navy and five ships of Indian Coast Guard (ICG) along with a Dornier Aircraft from both IN & ICG each were deployed off Kerala and L&M coast. Boats and personnel from Coastal Police, Marine Enforcement Wing (MEW), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Customs, Fisheries department and Port authorities also took part in the exercise.

7. Light combat aircraft Tejas successfully fired beyond visual range missile

In a major milestone, indigenously developed Light Combat Aircraft Tejas successfully fired an air-to-air beyond visual range (BVR) missile. With this, Tejas has demonstrated its overall capability as an effective combat jet, and inched closer to receive final operational clearance.



The test firing of the missile from a Tejas jet was carried out off the Goa coast and it met all operational requirements. This will expedite issuance of the Final Operational Clearance to the aircraft developed by state-run Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, HAL and Defence Research and Development Organisation, DRDO.

End of ebook preview

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