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KEY EVENTS

Prime Minister Leads the Nation in 78th Independence Day Celebrations

Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the Nation in celebrating the 78th Independence Day from the historic Red Fort in Delhi on 15 August 2024. During his address, Prime Minister Modi [stated](#) that India is attaining ‘Aatmanirbharta’ in defence and is emerging as a global manufacturing hub due to the steps taken by the government in the last few years.

President Approves 103 Gallantry Awards

President Smt Droupadi Murmu [approved](#) 103 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces personnel on 14 August 2024. These include four Kirti Chakras (three posthumous); 18 Shaurya Chakras (four posthumous); one Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry); 63 Sena Medals (Gallantry) (two posthumous); 11 Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry); and six Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry). President Murmu also [approved](#) one President's Tatrakshak Medal (Distinguished Service), one Tatrakshak Medal (Gallantry) and two Tatrakshak Medals (Meritorious Service) to the Indian Coast Guard personnel. The list of Honorary Commission (Honorary Captain and Honorary Lieutenant) were also [announced](#).

Raksha Mantri Inaugurates ICG Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh [inaugurated](#) a state-of-the-art Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) in Chennai on 18 August 2024. He also inaugurated two additional facilities:

the regional Marine Pollution Response Centre (RMPRC) in Chennai and the Coast Guard Air Enclave (CGAE) in Puducherry.

Third India-Japan 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue Held

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar [hosted](#) Japanese Minister of Defense Kihara Minoru and Minister of Foreign Affairs Yoko Kamikawa for the 3rd India-Japan 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue in New Delhi on 20 August 2024. The RM noted that India and Japan have a [shared vision of the Indo-Pacific](#) with growing convergence on issues of peace, security and stability.

Raksha Mantri Visits the US

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh undertook an official [visit](#) to the US from 23-26 August 2024, at the invitation of the US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin. The RM also met US Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Jake Sullivan. The visit further deepened and broadened the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership. The RM held a bilateral [meeting](#) with Secretary Austin where wide-ranging discussions on bilateral defence cooperation, industrial collaboration, regional security and other international issues were held. He highlighted the various co-development and co-production opportunities in India in the areas identified in the India-US Defence Industrial Cooperation Roadmap, adopted last year. Senior officials from both sides [signed](#) two major agreements - Security of Supplies Arrangement (SOSA) and Memorandum of Agreement regarding the Assignment of Liaison Officers.

The RM [interacted](#) with the senior leadership of US defence companies on 23 August 2024 in a round-table organised by the US India Strategic Partnership Forum. It was noted that the planned co-production of GE 414 aero-engines in India shall be a significant milestone in India-US bilateral relations. The RM also [visited](#) the William B Morgan Large Cavitation Channel (LCC) in the Naval Surface Warfare Centre (NSWC) at Memphis, Tennessee.

Raksha Rajya Mantri Visits Naval Base Karwar

Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth [visited](#) Naval Base Karwar, Karnataka on 20-21 August 2024. He reviewed 'Project Seabird', India's largest naval infrastructure project, with plans to further develop the base into one of the most advanced naval bases in Asia.

CDS Stresses on Need to Enhance Financial Cohesion in Armed Forces

CDS General Anil Chauhan [stressed](#) on the need to embrace changes in financial processes due to the rapidly changing nature and character of war and technological advancements. He was delivering the keynote address at a conference on 5 August 2024 in New Delhi that saw the participation of senior officials from MoD, MoD (Finance), Controller General Defence Accounts, Integrated Financial Advisers of Services, Government e-Marketplace, Service Headquarters, and Indian Coast Guard Headquarters.

CDS Addresses Ammo India 2024 Conference

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan on 8 August 2024 [stated](#) that the global

disruptions have presented an opportunity for the Indian defence eco-system to ramp up their defence manufacturing capabilities so that India transcends from being an importer to being an exporter of munitions, as well as, ammunition. He was speaking at Ammo India 2024 Conference organised by FICCI in New Delhi.

CNS Reviews Passing Out Parade (POP) at INS Chilka

1389 Agniveers, including 214 women Agniveers, of the Indian Navy, along with 331 Coast Guard Naviks, [passed](#) out from the portals of INS Chilka on 9 August 2024. The Passing Out Parade (POP) for the fourth Batch of Agniveers (01/24) was reviewed by Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff.

CNS Visits Southern Naval Command

Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, CNS [arrived](#) on his maiden visit to Southern Naval Command (SNC), Kochi on 26 August 2024. The CNS was provided an update on various training, operational, infrastructure and administrative activities progressed by the Command. He was apprised of the disaster relief operations provided in the aftermath of the Wayanad landslides.

COAS Felicitates Indian Army Sportspersons

General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) [felicitated](#) Indian Army sportspersons for their remarkable accomplishments at the Paris Olympics 2024. The Indian contingent clinched a total of six medals (one silver and five bronze) at the Paris Olympics, with Sub Maj Neeraj Chopra of the Indian Army winning the only silver medal in Javelin.

Indian Army Senior Leadership Deliberates on Road Map for Viksit Bharat@2047

The Indian Army's senior leadership met in New Delhi on 19 August 2024 for a discussion [chaired](#) by General Upendra Dwivedi, the COAS on Road Map for Viksit Bharat@2047. The meeting was attended by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chiefs (GOC-in-Cs) of the Indian Army's seven commands.

14th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue Held

The 14th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue took place in New Delhi on 1 August 2024. It was [co-chaired](#) by Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane and Deputy Minister of National Defence of Vietnam Senior Lieutenant General Hoang Xuan Chien. Vietnam proposed five focus areas for cooperation – delegation exchanges and dialogue; staff-talks; Service-to-Service cooperation; Education and training; and Defence Industry cooperation. India proposed cooperation in areas like Cyber Security, Information Security, Military Medicine, Submarine Search & Rescue. A Letter of Intent was signed to strengthen cooperation in the field of training, including exchange of instructors and experts.

MoD's Divyangjan Expedition Team Unfurls National Flag atop Uhuru Summit

The Divyangjan expedition team of Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), under the aegis of MoD, [unfurled](#) 7800 sq ft Indian national flag atop Uhuru

Summit of Kilimanjaro, the highest peak of African continent, on 7 August 2024. The team was led by Group Captain Jai Kishan, and included Divyang Shri Uday Kumar and others. For the first time, an amputee climber successfully completed the endeavor using crutches.

US Small Business Administration Delegation Visits iDEX-DIO

A U.S. delegation led by Isabel Casillas Guzman, Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) [visited](#) Innovations for Defence Excellence-Defence Innovation Organisation, Department of Defence Production, and witnessed the techno-showcase organised by iDEX-DIO at IIT Delhi on 12 August 2024.

BHISHM Critical Trauma Care Cube Para-dropped at 15,000 Feet

The IAF and the Indian Army jointly [carried](#) out a first-of-its-kind precise para-drop operation of the Aarogya Maitri Health Cube at a high-altitude area close to 15,000 feet. These critical trauma care cubes have been indigenously developed under Project BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita and Maitri).

Russian Federation Navy Commander-In-Chief Visits India

Admiral Aleksandr Alekseyevich Moiseyev, Commander-in-Chief, Russian Federation Navy was on a [visit](#) to India from 19 to 22 August 2024. The visit aimed to strengthen bilateral naval relations, as also to explore new avenues for naval cooperation.

Indian Army Mourns the Loss of General S Padmanabhan

The Indian Army deeply mourned the [passing](#) of General Sundararajan Padmanabhan (Retired), on 19 August 2024, who served as the 20th Chief of the Army Staff. The Chief of Army Staff, General Upendra Dwivedi and all ranks of the Indian Army offered their tribute and heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

DG NCC flags-off 88th NCC Cadets' Mountaineering Expedition to Mt Abi Gamin

DG National Cadet Corps Lt General Gurbirpal Singh [flagged-off](#) the NCC Girls & Boys Mountaineering Expedition to Mt Abi Gamin (Uttarakhand) on 21 August 2024.

Commander of Brazilian Navy Visits India

Admiral Marcos Sampaio Olsen, Commander of Brazilian Navy was on a [visit](#) to India from 19-24 August 2024. The visit aimed to enhance maritime cooperation between the two countries as well as showcased the commitment of like-minded navies to collaborate and cooperate on shared challenges in maritime security.

'INS Arighaat' Commissioned

The second Arihant-class submarine 'INS Arighaat' was [commissioned](#) into the Indian Navy on 29 August 2024 at Visakhapatnam in the presence of Raksha

Mantri Rajnath Singh. The RM exuded confidence that 'Arighaat' will further strengthen India's nuclear triad, enhance nuclear deterrence, and help in establishing strategic balance & peace in the region.

ICG Pollution Control Vessel 'Samudra Pratap' Launched

Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth [urged](#) Indian industry to not only become fully Aatmanirbhar in defence production but also a net exporter. He was speaking on occasion of launching of the first indigenously built Pollution Control Vessel (Samudra Pratap) for the ICG in Goa on 29 August 2024. The ship has been built by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL).

12th India-South Africa Navy Staff Talks Held

The 12th India-South Africa Navy Staff Talks were [held](#) in New Delhi on 27-28 August 2024, co-chaired by Rear Adm Nirbhay Bapna, ACNS (FCI) of the Indian Navy, and Rear Adm David Maningi Mkhonto, Chief Director Maritime Strategy of the South African Navy.

Naval Commanders Meet at Kochi for Operational Level Discussions

Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff, [presided](#) over Indian Navy's operational level discussions conducted at Kochi from 27-30 August 2024. The Commanders-in-Chief, senior leadership from the IN, sister Services, HQIDS and Coast Guard participated.

AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

HAL's Revenue from Operations in 2023-24 at Rs 30,381 Crore

Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth in a written reply in the Lok Sabha noted that [HAL](#)'s revenue from operations in 2023-24 stood at Rs 30,381 crore, as against Rs 26,928 in 2022-23.

Light Bullet-Proof Jacket Developed by DRDO

DRDO has [developed](#) the Bullet Proof Jacket (BPJ) consisting of lightest Front Hard Armour Panel (FHAP). The process to transfer the developed technology to Indian industries has been initiated as per ToT Policy of DRDO for production.

Successful Maiden Flight Test of Long Range Glide Bomb 'GAURAV'

DRDO has [carried](#) out successful maiden flight test of Long Range Glide Bomb (LRGB), GAURAV from Su-30 MK-I platform of the IAF on 13 August 2024. GAURAV is an air launched 1,000 kg class glide bomb capable of hitting targets at long distance. After being launched, the glide bomb steer towards the target using highly accurate hybrid navigation scheme with a combination of INS and GPS data. GAURAV has been designed and developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad.

DRDO Hands Over the AHSP of 'Nipun' Munition to DGQA

DRDO has [handed](#) over the Authority Holding Sealed Particulars (AHSP) of

'Nipun' munition to Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) at Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE), Pashan, Pune. NIPUN is a Soft Target Munition designed and developed by the ARDE in association with High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune.

Indian Navy Signs MoU with BEML Ltd

In a major push towards indigenisation of critical marine engineering equipment of the Indian Navy, BEML Ltd. [signed](#) a MoU with the Indian Navy on 20 August 2024.

DRDO's YSL Complete End-to-End Testing of 6-Qubit Quantum Processor

Scientists from DRDO Young Scientists Laboratory for Quantum Technologies (DYSL-QT), Pune and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai have [completed](#) end-to-end testing of a 6-qubit quantum processor based on superconducting circuit technology.

DEFENCE DIPLOMACY

INS Tabar Conducts Maritime Partnership Exercises

Indian Navy frigate, INS Tabar arrived at St. Petersburg, Russia on 25 July 2024 to [participate](#) in 328th Russian Navy Day Parade celebrations. The ship successfully conducted Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with the Russian Navy Ship Soobrazitelny on 30 July 2024. During her return leg, INS Tabar [conducted](#) MPX with German Navy off Kiel Canal on 5 August

2024. INS Tabar [arrived](#) at London harbour for a four-day visit from 7–10 August 2024. It then [arrived](#) at Gothenburg, Sweden on 14 August 24 for a two day visit. Later, it [reached](#) Esbjerg, Denmark for a two day visit on 18 August 2024. It then [arrived](#) at Malaga, Spain on 25 August 2024 for a two day visit. Upon departure from Malaga, the ship undertook a PASSEX at sea with Spanish Navy Ship Atalaya in the Mediterranean Sea.

INS Shalki Visits Colombo

Indian Navy's submarine INS Shalki, [visited](#) Colombo, Sri Lanka on a two day visit from 2-4 August 24.

IAF Participates In Exercise Udara Shakti 2024

The IAF participated in Exercise Udara Shakti 2024 at Malaysia, with Su-30MKI fighter jets. The exercise was [conducted](#) with the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) from 5-9 August 2024 at Kuantan.

India- Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise Mitra Shakti Held

The 10th edition of India- Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise [MITRA SHAKTI](#) was held at Army Training School, Maduru Oya, Sri Lanka, from 12-25 August 2024. The exercise was geared towards enhancing joint capability to undertake COIN operations in a sub-conventional scenario under Chapter VII of the UN mandate.

ICGS Sujay Makes Port Call in Indonesia

ICG Offshore Patrol Vessel Sujay, with an integral helicopter, on 21 August 2024, [made](#) a port call at Jakarta, Indonesia for a two-day visit. In a maiden initiative, two women ICG officers onboard the ship embarked on the Overseas Deployment to represent 'Women in Maritime Security and Safety.' The crew will interact with Badan Keamanan Laut Republik Indonesia (BAKMALA) i.e., Indonesia Coast Guard.

'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'.