

IMPORTANT NEWS

ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023)

Inside Story of the News:

- The Indian Naval Ships Satpura and Delhi, along with RAdm Gurcharan Singh, the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet, arrived in Singapore on May 1, 2023, in order to take part in the First **ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023)**, from May 2 to May 8, 2023.
- The exercise's Harbour Phase took place at Changi Naval Base from May 2–4, 2023, and its Sea Phase took place in the South China Sea on May 7–8, 2023.
- AIME 2023 provides an opportunity for Indian Navy and ASEAN navies to work together closely and conduct seamless operations in the maritime domain.
- A part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet, based at Visakhapatnam, the INS Delhi, India's first indigenously built guided missile destroyer, and the INS Satpura, an indigenously built guided missile stealth frigate, are both under the operational command of the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command.
- These ships are fitted with state-of-the-art weapons and sensors.
- The ships will take part in the International Maritime Security Conference (IMSC) and International Maritime Defence Exhibition (IMDEX-23) while in Singapore's port.

Government slashes windfall tax on domestic crude

Inside Story of the News:

- With effect from May 2, 2023, the **government has reduced the windfall tax or special additional excise duty (SAED) on domestically produced crude from ₹6,400 per tonne to ₹4,100 per tonne.**
- However, the windfall tax on petrol, diesel and aviation turbine fuel (ATF) or jet fuel has been left unchanged.
- In the previous revision, the government had reimposed the windfall profit tax on domestically produced oil from zero to ₹6,400 per tonne and scrapped export duty on diesel.
- Every fortnight, the tax rates are reviewed depending upon the average oil prices in the previous two weeks.
- India implemented the windfall profit tax on July 1, 2022, joining an increasing number of countries that tax energy businesses' higher-than-average profits. While duties were imposed on the export of petrol, diesel and jet fuel (ATF), local crude oil production was subject to a Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED). New Delhi had then introduced export duties of Rs. 6 per litre on petrol and ATF and Rs. 13 a litre on diesel.
- The calculation of the windfall profit tax involves deducting any price that producers receive that is more than the threshold.

- The levy was intended to relieve customers by making up for the decrease in the excise duty on petrol and diesel. However, it is anticipated that the government's revenue will decrease due to the windfall cess's reduction from its initial levels.
- The main exporters of fuels including diesel and ATF are Rosneft-based Nayara Energy and private refiners Reliance Industries Ltd.
- Producers like the state-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Vedanta Ltd. are targeted by the windfall levy on domestic crude.

Never-before-seen aurora dazzles skies in Ladakh as geomagnetic storm hits Earth

Inside Story of the News:

- The **Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO) above Mount Saraswati** captured a rare phenomenon as an **intense geomagnetic storm struck Earth's magnetic field**, creating unique **auroras**.
- The auroras are typically seen at higher altitudes in parts of Alaska, Norway, and other countries.
- This was the first time that the aurora was captured on camera in India by the IAO, which operates at the height of over 3000 meters above sea level.
- The fascinating phenomenon, which is brought on by an interaction between the plasma particles hurled by the Sun and the Earth's magnetic field, was photographed by the 360-degree camera atop the IAO in Ladakh Hanle.
- After a coronal mass ejection was hurled from the Sun on April 21, the aurora was captured on April 22–23 night.
- At a speed of 21,60,000 km/h, the CME impacted Earth.
- A coronal mass ejection sends billions of tonnes of charged particles shooting into space at extraordinary speeds when it is released. If directed at Earth, these particles can travel at speeds of up to 3 million kilometres per hour and have a wide range of impacts when they arrive.
- A geomagnetic storm is one of the most important repercussions of a CME striking Earth.
- When charged particles from a CME enter Earth's magnetic field, it causes a geomagnetic storm.
- These particles can result in a variety of electrical and magnetic disturbances when they come into contact with the magnetic field of the Earth.
- Overnight, the aurora came to lower latitudes than usual, which resulted in rare observations in Ladakh (India), China, and Europe.
- Such a severe geomagnetic storm last occurred in 2015.

Exercise 'Buland Bharat'

Inside Story of the News:

- The most recent extended high-altitude artillery ranges in the eastern theatre were used for an integrated surveillance and firepower training exercise "**Buland Bharat.**"

- In close coordination with Special Forces, Aviation, and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) stationed in the Arunachal Pradesh districts of West Kameng and Tawang, the exercise involved the coordinated use of the surveillance and firepower capabilities of the Artillery and the Infantry.
- By arranging synchronised firing by artillery weapons and fire support components of infantry, aiming towards the destruction of designated objectives, the exercise confirmed strategies for bringing down integrated firepower.
- The month-long training came to a close with a test exercise where troops and equipment were put to the test in high-altitude terrain and inclement weather while practising coordinated surveillance and firepower from Infantry and Artillery radars, weapon systems, and airborne fire direction.
- Long-distance uninterrupted communication on multiple media was also tested.

Government launches Vivad se Vishwas scheme

Inside Story of the News:

- The "**Vivad se Vishwas I - Relief to MSMEs**" scheme has been launched by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, to provide relief to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for COVID-19 period.
- The scheme was announced by Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget 2023–24.
- The government and government undertakings would reimburse 95% of the forfeited amount related to bid or performance security to MSMEs in circumstances where they fail to fulfil contracts during the COVID term. MSMEs will benefit from this.
- The scheme began on April 17, 2023, and the deadline for submitting claims is June 30, 2023.
- The plan calls for Ministries to reimburse performance security, bid security, and liquidated damages that were lost or reduced due to the COVID-19 epidemic. MSMEs prohibited for failing to execute contracts during the COVID-19 period have also received some reprieve.
- A dedicated web page has been created by Government e-Marketplace (GeM) for the implementation of this scheme. Only GeM shall be used to process eligible claims.
- Through this scheme, the Ministry of Finance decided to provide the following additional benefits to COVID-19-affected MSMEs who qualified:
 - 95% of the performance security forfeited shall be refunded.
 - 95% of the Bid security shall be refunded.
 - 95% of the Liquidated Damages (LD) deducted shall be refunded.
 - 95% of the Risk Purchase amount realised shall be refunded.
 - In case any firm has been debarred only due to default in execution of such contracts, such debarment shall also be revoked, by issuing an appropriate order by the procuring entity. However, in case a firm has been ignored for placement of any contract due to debarment in the interim period (i.e., date of debarment and the date of revocation under this order), no claim shall be entertained.
 - No interest shall be paid on such refunded amount.

- If met the following criteria, relief will be provided in all contracts for procurement of Goods and Services, entered into by any Ministry/ Department/ attached or subordinate office/ autonomous body/ Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE)/ Central Public Sector Banks/ Financial Institution etc. with MSMEs:
 - Registered as a Medium, Small or Micro Enterprise as per relevant scheme of Ministry of MSME on the date of claim by supplier/ contractor. MSME could be registered for any category of Goods and Services.
 - The original delivery period/ completion period stipulated in contract was between 19.02.2020 and 31.03.2022 (both dates are inclusive).

Government to publish dictionaries in 10 regional languages with scientific, technical terms

Inside Story of the News:

- The **Ministry of Education's Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT)** is working to **develop underrepresented technical and scientific terminology in 10 Indian regional languages**.
- The CSTT will **publish basic dictionaries with 5,000 terms in each language** in a few months.
- These will be freely available, searchable, and available digitally.
- Each language will have 1,000–2,000 copies produced.
- The initial priority is to include 15 disciplines, including chemistry, botany, zoology, psychology, physics, economics, Ayurveda, and mathematics, as well as civil and electrical engineering, journalism, public administration, and so on. These will enable the development of textbooks for both secondary and tertiary institutions.
- Among the 22 languages listed as official languages in India's Eighth Schedule are Sanskrit, Bodo, Santhali, Dogri, Kashmiri, Konkani, Nepali, Manipuri, Sindhi, and Maithili. However, they create very little study material, primarily due to a lack of vocabulary to define technical terminology and scientific jargon.
- 14 languages were listed as national languages in 1950. Konkani, Manipuri, and Sindhi were added in 1967; Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, and Santhali in 2004.
- To help with the preparation of material for entrance exams like the Common University Entrance Test (CUET), Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Main, and University Grants Commission (UGC)-National Eligibility Test (NET), the dictionaries will be distributed to state education boards, universities, engineering schools, and the National Testing Agency.

About CSTT:

- The CSTT was established in 1961.
- The goal of the CSTT is to provide technical vocabularies for all Indian languages.
- The agency is signing several memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with esteemed educational institutions, like IIT Bombay, to facilitate quick online distribution.

Indian-origin Ajay Banga confirmed as next World Bank president

Inside Story of the News:

- The **World Bank** has named **Ajay Banga**, an Indian American and former CEO of Mastercard, as its **14th president**.
- He will be in office for the next five years starting on June 2.
- Banga was appointed to the position by a 25-member executive board after being chosen by shareholders in 2011.
- Americans have served as the World Bank's president ever since it was founded at the end of World War II.
- According to sources cited by Reuters, Banga recently won over shareholders by establishing himself as a "true change maker" who will help accelerate the global development bank's reforms. The bank is under pressure to increase its lending to assist developing nations in addressing global issues like conflict and climate change.

About Ajay Banga:

- Ajay Banga, 63, a native of India who spent his formative years there, has been a citizen of the United States since 2007.
- At General Atlantic, he most recently held the position of Vice Chairman.
- Expert in finance and international development, Ajay Banga held the position of Honorary Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce from 2020 to 2022.
- He is the only candidate to succeed departing World Bank chief David Malpass, an economist and former employee of the US Treasury during the Trump administration.
- The third-highest civilian honour in India, the Padma Shri, was given to Banga in 2016.
- He was nominated for the post by the US President Joe Biden in late February.
- Since his nomination, Banga has met with representatives from 96 governments and travelled a total of 39,546 miles over a three-week globe tour to meet with officials from eight different governments, corporate titans, and civil society organisations.
- Banga will preside over the Board of Executive Directors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) in his capacity as President of the World Bank Group.
- Along with a few other international boards, he will serve as the ex officio chair of the International Development Association (IDA) Board of Directors.

US Federal Reserve hikes interest rate by another 25 basis points

Inside Story of the News:

- To combat inflation, the **US Federal Reserve increased interest rates by 25 basis points**.
- With ten rate increases since March 2023, the Fed has used the fastest rate rises in history to reduce inflation down to 2%.
- The inflation rate has not decreased significantly despite the ongoing rate hikes. Inflation in March dropped to 5%, which was still significantly higher than the Fed's target.

- The Fed raised interest rates by 25 basis points at its most recent meeting on March 22, stating that the goal of its rate-setting panel was "to achieve maximum employment and inflation at a rate of 2% over the longer run."
- The Federal Reserve signalled it may pause further increases, giving officials time to assess bank failures, how the Washington standoff over the U.S. debt ceiling plays out, the course of inflation.

India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant addresses India Tourism Conference 2023

Inside Story of the News:

- **Amitabh Kant, the G20 Sherpa for India**, stated that the tourist industry is not only a driver of growth but also a driver of employment opportunities.
- By 2047, he predicted, India will have the youngest population in the world, with a median age of 30 to 31. By then, India will be the country that provides about 25% of the global labour force.
- Mr. Kant addressed the audience at the India Tourism Conference 2023 in New Delhi that Indian tourists are a major factor in the prosperity of nations like France, Switzerland, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand.
- He claimed that if each state produces distinctive goods and markets them internationally, Indian tourism will increase.

About G20:

- Policymakers from developed and emerging economies convene in the G20, or the Group of Twenty, to address important issues affecting the global economy.
- The G20 countries account for 85% of global GDP, 75% of world trade and about two-thirds of the world's population.
- On December 1, 2022, India assumed presidency of G20, a forum of 19 countries (plus EU).
- Indian Presidency's theme is "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth, One Family, One Future".

About Amitabh Kant:

- During India's presidency of the G20, Amitabh Kant is presently India's Sherpa or personal envoy for the prime minister who has to oversee G20 events during India's term.
- His work as the Chief Executive Officer of the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) (2016–2022) and the Secretary of the Department for Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) (2014–2016) of the Government of India has made him a leader in governance reform and a change agent for public policy in India.
- The Aspirational Districts Programme, Kerala: God's Own Country, Make in India, Startup India, Incredible India, and Make in India have all benefited greatly from his leadership. These programmes have given Kerala and India new perspectives, and they are universally acknowledged as transformative.

Presidents Biden and Yoon sign the Washington Declaration

Inside Story of the News:

- **The Yoon Suk-yeol and Joe Biden administrations** have taken on the urgent problem most likely to cause rifts in the alliance during a state visit to Washington to commemorate the **alliance's seventieth anniversary**.
- The credibility of U.S. pledges to defend South Korea from North Korean threats to use nuclear weapons against either the US or South Korea in order to maintain regime survival is at issue here.
- South Koreans now feel more vulnerable about their country's reliance on the United States for defence and retaliation against potential North Korean nuclear use as a result of North Korea's threats of pre-emptive attack using tactical nuclear weapons and its ongoing expansion of missile capabilities.
- In response, Presidents Biden and Yoon **have issued the Washington Declaration**.
- The declaration makes it possible for the US and South Korean governments to form a Nuclear Consultative Group (NCG), modelled on nuclear deliberations within NATO.
- With the formation of this group, the concept of joint response—which already exists with the Combined Forces Command, through which U.S. and South Korean military personnel cooperate daily to thwart a conventional attack—is expanded to the nuclear sphere.
- Through this group, the US and South Korea would collaborate on developing and carrying out responses to a nuclear North Korea.
- While the United States would continue to maintain authority over the nuclear weapons themselves, the creation of a nuclear consultative mechanism is likely to offer South Korea a bigger say in plans for nuclear retaliation.
- Indirectly promising not to develop an independent nuclear weapons capacity, the proclamation also reiterates South Korea's resolve to remain in the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT).
- The Yoon administration is promising to disregard the possibility that South Korea would create and use its own nuclear arsenal in favour of a forceful alliance-centred reaction in this regard. With such a strategy, it is more likely that North Korea will be unsuccessful in its attempts to incite disagreements between the United States and South Korea over its ongoing military advancements, which could result in the breakup of the U.S.-South Korea alliance.
- The Washington Declaration's commitments seem believable and persuasive, but the real question is whether they will hold up over time. The Washington Declaration and the establishment of the NCG face two main obstacles in this regard:
 - The ability of the envisioned NCG to stay ahead of future North Korean military developments.
 - The ability of the two governments to sustain visible efforts in strengthening deterrence against North Korea even after the summit afterglow has faded.
- Because of this, the U.S. role of offering political assurances necessitates ongoing focus and political resolve on the part of the top level, even as more robust nuclear consultation procedures are established with South Korea.

Khelo India University Games 2023 schedule announced

Inside Story of the News:

- The Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Uttar Pradesh have announced the schedule for the third edition of the **Khelo India University Games 2023**.
- The Games will officially begin on May 25, 2023, with a magnificent opening ceremony in Lucknow, and they will last until June 3, 2023, in Varanasi.
- Approximately 4,000 athletes from various institutions across the nation will compete in the KIUG Uttar Pradesh 2023.
- All athletes will be in the under-27 category and will vie for medals in 21 sports.
- Along with the state capital of Lucknow, the 12-day games will take place in Varanasi, Noida, Gorakhpur, and four more locations in Uttar Pradesh. However, the shooting competition will be held in New Delhi. On May 23, 2023, the Kabaddi competition gets underway in Noida, and on May 24, 2023, a few other competitions do as well.
- Sports Minister Anurag Thakur has recently revealed the government's plan to exclusively start **Khelo India women's leagues**.
- The Youth Affairs and Sports ministry has decided to exclusively conduct the Khelo India women's leagues across 9 disciplines — hockey, archery, weightlifting, cycling, boxing, swimming, wrestling, volleyball and judo to ensure participation of 23,000 women athletes.
- Out of the total budget allocation of ₹ 3397.32 cr for FY2023-24 for sports, Khelo India accounts for more than 1/3rd i.e., ₹1000 crores, an increase of ₹400 cr.

Home Ministry decides to introduce Millets, Shree Anna in the meals of personnel of CAPFs and NDRF

Inside Story of the News:

- The Ministry of Home Affairs has decided to **introduce Millets, Shree Anna in the meals of personnel of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)**.
- Following extensive consultation with all the Forces, the decision to include 30% millets in the meals was made in response to a rallying cry by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah.
- For the implementation of a menu based on millets, the Ministry had instructed all forces to begin action.
- Millets will soon be regularly included in meals thanks to the tremendous response from the soldiers.
- Millets will also be widely employed in a number of CAPFs and NDRF events and occasions.
- The Ministry announced that by establishing special counters and corners, millets will also be made available in the Kendriya Police Kalyan Bhandar, campus grocery stores, and ration stores.

- Through reputable institutions in this field, the military will arrange for the training of cooks in the preparation of foods made with millets.
- At the request of the Indian government, the United Nations designated 2023 as the International Year of Millets to recognise the value of millets, increase domestic and international demand, and provide people with nutrient-rich food.
- Millets are a good source of protein, are gluten-free, have a low Glycemic Index (GI), and are high in dietary fibre, phytochemicals, and minerals like calcium, iron, and phosphorus.
- The campaign of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to promote Shree Anna will fulfil nutritional requirements of crores of people of the country.
- Millets will be promoted as a significant part of the food basket during the International Year of Millets (IYOM) in 2023, which will present an opportunity to boost global production, improve processing efficiency, and make better use of crop rotation.

INS Magar decommissioned after 36 years of service

Inside Story of the News:

- **Indian Naval Ship Magar**, Landing Ship Tank (Large) amphibious assault ship of the Indian Navy **decommissioned after 36 years of exceptional service to the nation**.
- The Decommissioning ceremony was recently held at Southern Naval Command, Kochi.
- The ship was indigenously built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd, Kolkata.
- Admiral R. H. Tahiliani, then the Chief of the Naval Staff, launched it on November 16th, 1984, and on July 18th, 1987, commissioned into the Indian Navy. The first Commanding Officer was Commander D.B. Roy.
- The ship is 125 metres long, weighs 5,600 tonnes, and has a 17-meter beam.
- INS Magar is the lead ship of the Magar class amphibious warfare vessels of the Indian Navy.
- The ship has served as a vital asset for the Indian Navy for more than 30 years and has taken part in a variety of amphibious operations, fleet deployments, and HADR missions.
- The ship has participated in a number of significant missions, such as Op Pawan, where she was instrumental in moving logistics supplies to the operating area in support of the ground forces.
- The ship has also been essential in a number of HADR operations, the most notable of which being the evacuation of more than 1,300 individuals from the tsunami-affected areas in December 2004.
- The term "Magar" refers to a particular species of crocodile. The crest design shows a brown crocodile swimming over white and blue ocean waves with its mouth open. The thick and impenetrable crocodile skin is depicted in a cut-out on the rear portion of the crest.
- The design has been taken from a Mathura sculpture of 1st Century AD, preserved in original in the Lucknow museum.

Scientists discover a new treatment strategy for damaged cartilage

Inside Story of the News:

- **Damaged cartilage**, a vital bone-protecting tissue with limited capacity for self-healing, **may be repaired via stem cell therapy**.
- A bone-protecting tissue called cartilage absorbs trauma and promotes easy joint movement.
- Stem cell transplantation is a practical therapeutic method for treating cartilage inflammation and injury as well as encouraging cartilage regeneration despite its low innate healing potential. However, a major drawback of this technique that results in less successful treatment outcomes is the quick clearance of transplanted stem cells from the fluid environment surrounding cartilage and the smooth surface of the cartilage itself.
- A team of researchers from POSTECH, Dongguk University Medical Centre, and Nature Gluetech in Korea have devised a therapeutic solution for damaged cartilage.
- It involves the use of a viscous immiscible liquid that, when combined with a sticky protein generated from mussels and hyaluronic acid, can help transplant stem cells into injured tissue.
- The research, supported by the Korea Health Technology R&D Project through Korea Health Industry Development under the Ministry of Health and Welfare, has been published in the Chemical Engineering Journal.

Tungnath temple built by Pandavas declared national monument

Inside Story of the News:

- **One of the world's highest Shiva temples, Tungnath** is also the **highest of the five Panch Kedar temples** in the district of Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand, has now been **declared as a national monument**.
- The Pandavas are linked to the ancient temple, which is situated at a height of 12,106 feet.
- The Central Government designated the third of the Panch Kedar temples as a monument of national importance in a notification dated March 27.
- The official revealed that ASI had been trying for a long time to declare Tungnath as a national heritage and for this it had sought objections and views from the public.
- The media will now have a platform to promote and share the temple's history with the rest of the world.

NeGD organises 36th CISO Deep-Dive Training Programme under Cyber Surakshit Bharat

Inside Story of the News:

- **National e-Governance Division (NeGD), under its Capacity Building scheme, has organised 36th CISO Deep-Dive training programme** from 8th-12th May 2023 with 24 participants from Central Line Ministries and States/UTs at Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi.

- The five-day intensive training programme is intended for CISOs from the Central, State, and UT Governments, subordinate agencies/PSUs, such as public sector banks and insurance companies, technical wings of police and security forces, CTOs, and members of technical/PMU teams, as well as officers responsible for monitoring the security of IT systems in their respective organisations.
- Cyber Surakshit Bharat is a Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) initiative that was created with the goal of raising awareness about cybercrime and developing the skills of frontline IT officials and Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) across all government departments to ensure adequate safety measures are in place to combat the growing threat.
- Organisations must protect their digital infrastructures and become future-ready in order to combat cyber-attacks.
- The deep-dive training focuses on educating and empowering CISOs to fully comprehend cyberattacks, gain necessary exposure to cutting-edge safeguarding technologies, and communicate the advantages of a resilient e-infrastructure to specific organisations and the general public.
- In order to help CISOs create policies in the area of cyber security and create practical plans for managing cyber crises, the training also emphasises giving participants a comprehensive understanding of legal rules.
- Launched in 2018, the CISO training is the first-of-its-kind of partnership between the Government and industry consortium under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.
- NeGD has successfully run 36 batches of CISO deep-dive training workshops for over 1,419 CISOs and frontline IT employees between June 2018 and May 2023.

Rajnath Singh inaugurates country's first Indian Air Force Heritage Centre

Inside Story of the News:

- A **first-of-its-kind Indian Air Force (IAF) Heritage Centre** has been inaugurated in Chandigarh by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh as a tribute to the bravery and commitment of all those who served in the force and a reminder of their essential contributions to the protection of the country.
- The initiative aims to encourage young people to enlist in the armed forces while also aiding in the preservation of the IAF's rich heritage.
- Through murals and artefacts, this centre illustrates the IAF's contributions to numerous conflicts, such as those in 1965, 1971, the Kargil war, and the Balakot air strike.
- The residents of other states, as well as those in Chandigarh, will find it to be a major draw.

About the IAF Heritage Centre:

- Over 17,000 square feet of space make up the heritage centre.
- This facility, which is in Sector 18, has five decommissioned aircraft on display, including a GNAT aircraft (Sabre Slayer), a MiG 21 single-seat fighter, and a Hindustan Piston Trainer-32 primary flying trainer.

- In addition, Air Force Kanpur 1, built in 1958 by Air Vice Marshal Harjinder Singh, has also been set in place.
- Along with the Kargil Conflict and the Balakot Air Strikes, the facility also highlights the Indian Air Force's contributions to earlier wars in the years 1947, 1948, 1965, and 1971.
- The centre also has flying simulators that allow visitors to have a taste of flight.
- The SAM-III Pechora missiles are one of the other highlights of the historical centre.
- The centre also has a unique section honouring female IAF officers for their contributions to the country's service.
- It also houses scale replicas of the Netra and Parchand helicopters, the Mi-26 and MiG-29 fighter jets, the indigenous Tejas fighter aircraft, the C-130 J Hercules, the IL-78 MKI aerial refueler, the Sukhoi SU-30 MKI, the sophisticated light helicopter Dhruv, and a workstation for the Integrated Air Command and Control system.
- With the aid of paintings illustrating the IAF's many military actions, including its participation in the Indo-Pak War of 1948 and electro-mechanical 3D-dioramas of its most recent operations, such the airstrike on Balakot, the centre showcases the illustrious history of the IAF.
- An audio-visual gallery will present the journey of the IAF through time, tracing its evolution from its inception to the modern day as well as promotional movies.
- The Chandigarh Administration will be in charge of running the IAF Heritage Centre.