

17th November 2024

India successfully test-fired Pinaka rocket launcher:

India has successfully tested the 'Pinaka Weapon System'. This test was conducted by the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO).

Key Points -

- ❖ During testing, its firepower, accuracy and ability to attack multiple targets simultaneously were tested.
- ❖ It has been developed by DRDO's Pune-based Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE).
- ❖ One of its batteries consists of six launch vehicles.
- ❖ It has loader systems, radar and links with network based systems and a command post.
- ❖ Currently, it has 2 versions. The first is Mark-I, which has a range of 40 km and the second is Mark-II, which has a range of 75 km.
- ❖ There are plans to increase its range to 120-300 kilometers. The Pinaka rocket launcher system has 12 rockets of 214 millimeters.
- ❖ The speed of Pinak rockets makes it most dangerous. Its speed is 5,757 kilometers per hour, i.e. it attacks at a speed of 1.61 kilometers in a second.
- ❖ This system is completely made in the country. This system can fire 12 rockets in just 44 seconds, i.e. one rocket every 4 seconds.
- ❖ It was tested at three different places. A total of 24 rockets were fired from two launchers. All these rockets managed to hit their targets successfully.

- ❖ The Guided Pinaka System has been developed by DRDO scientists. Many companies also contributed in making it, such as - Munitions India Limited and Tata Advanced Systems.



AFSPA re-imposed in 6 areas of Manipur:

Armed Forces Special Protection Act (AFSPA) has been re-implemented in 6 police stations of 5 districts of Manipur.

Key Points -

- ❖ It will remain effective till March 31, 2025.
- ❖ With the implementation of AFSPA, the army and paramilitary forces can detain anyone in these areas for questioning at any time.
- ❖ The order covers Sekmai and Lamsang in Imphal West district, Lamlai in Imphal East district, Jiribam in Jiribam district, Leimakhong in Kangpokpi and Moirang police station in Bishnupur district.
- ❖ AFSPA is implemented only in disturbed areas.
- ❖ At these places, security forces can arrest anyone without a warrant. In many cases, force can also be used.

- ❖ This law was passed on September 11, 1958 for the convenience of security forces in the North-East.
- ❖ In 1989, due to an increase in terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, AFSPA was implemented here also in 1990.

Celebrity Personalities - Appointment

Jose Munoz

- ❖ Hyundai Motors on November 15 appointed current US-based global chief operating officer Jose Munoz as its CEO.
- ❖ He will replace Jaehoon Chang.
- ❖ With this, Muñoz has become the first foreigner to lead the South Korean automaker.
- ❖ Hyundai Motors is a South Korean multinational automotive manufacturer, headquartered in Seoul, South Korea.



Naveen Ramgulam

- ❖ Mauritian opposition leader Navin Ramgoolam was appointed Prime Minister.
- ❖ Ramgoolam's coalition, the Alliance du Changement (ADC), won 60 of the 62 seats in the National Assembly.
- ❖ Dr. Navin Ramgulam also has a special connection with the Indian state of Bihar. In the 18th century, his ancestors lived in Harigaon, Bhojpur, Bihar.



Celebrity Personalities - Sports

Prajesh Gunneswaran

- ❖ Prajesh Gunneswaran retired from professional tennis at the age of 35
- ❖ He won the singles bronze medal at the Asian Games 2018 in Jakarta
- ❖ His highest doubles ranking was 248 which he achieved in 2018
- ❖ Guneswaran has experience of playing in all four Grand Slams



Famous Personalities - Death

Princess Mikasa

- ❖ Princess Mikasa, the oldest member of the Japanese imperial family, has died at the age of 101.
- ❖ The Japanese royal princess was born Yuriko Takagi in 1923 to an aristocratic family.
- ❖ Princess Mikasa's husband was Prince Mikasa, who died in 2016 at the age of 100

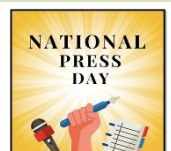


Important Days/Dates

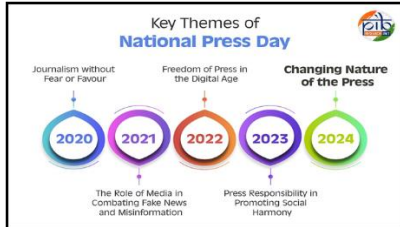
16 November

National Press Day

- ❖ National Press Day is celebrated on 16 November to honour the freedom and responsibility of the Indian press
- ❖ Theme: "The Changing Face of the Press"



- ❖ National Press Day was started on 16 November 1966, on this day the Press Council of India was formed.
- ❖ The main function of the Press Council of India is to promote ethics and responsibility in the Indian media.



Miscellaneous:

- ❖ The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is launching a special **Dolphin Ambulance** with a budget of ₹1 crore to rescue and aid the endangered Ganges river dolphin, the national aquatic animal of India.
 - The initiative 'Advancing Rescue Systems for Conservation of Stranded Ganges River Dolphins' also aims to promote awareness and community training for dolphin conservation.

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