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# Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

# 13 March 2024

# **National & International News**

# Cutlass Express 24



#### Context:

- The Indian Navy led the maritime exercise "Cutlass Express" - 24 with INS Tir at Port Victoria, Seychelles.
- The exercise involved active engagement participants from 16 friendly foreign countries.

# **Training Activities:**

- The training encompassed theoretical and practical aspects of Maritime Interdiction Operations, Visit Board Search and Seizure (VBSS) procedures, and Diving operations.
- During the sea phase, the VBSS team of INS Tir boarded the Seychelles Coast Guard ship LE Vigilant, showcasing boarding operation procedures.
- Joint diving operations were conducted by Indian, US. and Seychelles divers after intensive training.

### **INS Tir:**

- INS Tir (A86) is the first dedicated cadet's training ship to be built by Mazagon Dock Limited and commissioned as such by the Indian Navy.
- She is the senior ship of the 1st Training Squadron of the Southern Naval Command.
- INS Tir was commissioned on 21 February 1986.

#### INS Tushil



#### Context:

INS Tushil, India's latest naval asset, began its sea trials from Russia's Baltiysk naval base on March 5.

## Key points:

- INS Tushil belongs to the **Talwar-class frigates**, known for their stealth-guided missile capabilities.
- These frigates are upgraded versions of the Russian Krivak III-class frigates, originally used by the Coast
- The Indian Navy currently operates six of these ships, with four more under construction, including two at India's Goa shipyard.
- These ships incorporate "stealth technology" to minimize radar and underwater noise detection.



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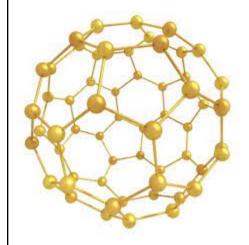
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- equipped with Indian and They are Russian including surface-to-surface missiles, weaponry, sonar systems, surveillance radar, communication anti-submarine warfare suites. systems, surface-to-air missiles, and gun mounts.
- Designed for combat in brown and blue waters, they can engage submarines, warships, and repel air attacks independently or in formations.
- The frigates have a displacement of 3620 tons, a length of 124.8 meters, a top speed of 30 knots, and a cruising range of 4850 miles.

### Project 11356M:

- In October 2016, India and Russia signed an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for four Admiral Grigorovich-class frigates (Project 11356M).
- Russia agreed to deliver two frigates, including INS Tushil and INS Tamala, while India would build the other two domestically.
- The construction of these ships is tailored to meet the Indian Navy's requirements for comprehensive naval warfare capabilities in air, surface, and sub-surface domains.

## Gold Nanoparticles



### Context:

- Often referred to as 'gold bhasma,' gold nanoparticles are recognized for their therapeutic and beautifying properties in skincare.
- They protect the skin from external infestations, combat aging, improve metabolism, and rejuvenate the body.

### Key points:

- Gold nanoparticles (AuNPs) are tiny particles made of gold atoms, typically ranging from 1 to 100 nanometers in size.
- They possess unique optical, electronic, and catalytic properties due to their small size and shape.

#### **Benefits**

- Easily absorbed by the skin, they act as a **rejuvenator**, potentially benefiting various systems of the human
- Integral to various Ayurvedic preparations, they are known for their rejuvenating, immuno-modulating, beautifying, and healing properties.



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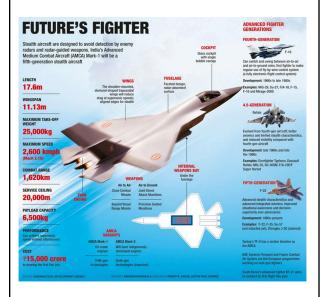
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- They slow down collagen depletion, stimulate cell regeneration, improve metabolism, and tone up muscles.
- They strengthen underlying tissue, bones, and nerves, enhancing youthful appearance.
- Innovative formulations like sparkling gold face washes enriched with gold nanoparticles and natural ingredients offer potent skincare solutions.

## **Applications**

- Biomedical: Used in imaging, therapy, and diagnostics, serving as contrast agents in X-ray, computed tomography (CT), and photoacoustic imaging, and facilitating photothermal therapy and drug delivery.
- Catalysis: Exhibit remarkable catalytic activity in various chemical transformations.
- **Electronics:** Used in nanoelectronic devices. conductive inks. and sensors.
- Environmental Remediation: Employed in detecting and removing pollutants from water and soil.

# India's indigenous fifth gen fighter jet **AMCA**



### Context

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) cleared a Rs 15,000 crore project to design and develop the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), India's fifth-generation fighter multirole fighter jet.

#### **Agencies Involved**

- The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) under the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will be the nodal agency for executing the programme and designing the aircraft.
- It will be manufactured by state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

#### **Features**

- Stealth features
- Low-probability-of-intercept radar
- Agile airframes with supercruise performance
- Advanced avionics features
- Highly integrated computer systems capable of networking with other elements within the battlespace
- Higher utilization time and smaller serviceability or maintenance periods





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# Other fifth-generation fighters

- Only a few countries have built a fifth-generation stealth fighter aircraft.
- The list of aircraft currently in service includes the F-22 Raptor and F-35A Lightning II of the US, the Chinese J-20 Mighty Dragon, and the Russian Sukhoi Su-57.

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