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13 March 2024

### National and 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 with 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**.



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### 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 Guard.
- 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.
- They are equipped with **Indian and Russian weaponry**, including **surface-to-surface missiles, sonar systems, surveillance radar, communication suites, anti-submarine warfare 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 Grigovich-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.**



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### 96th Academy Awards



#### Context:

The 96th Academy Awards ceremony, organized by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), was held on March 10, 2024, at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles.

#### 2024 Winners :

- **Best Actor:** Cillian Murphy won for his role in "Oppenheimer."
- **Best Actress:** Emma Stone won for her performance in "Poor Things."
- **Best Supporting Actor:** Robert Downey Jr. won for "Oppenheimer."
- **Best Supporting Actress:** Da'Vine Joy Randolph won for "The Holdovers."
- **Best Director:** Christopher Nolan won for "Oppenheimer."
- **Best Original Screenplay:** Justine Triet and Arthur Harari won for "Anatomy of a Fall."
- **Best Movie:** "Oppenheimer"

### 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

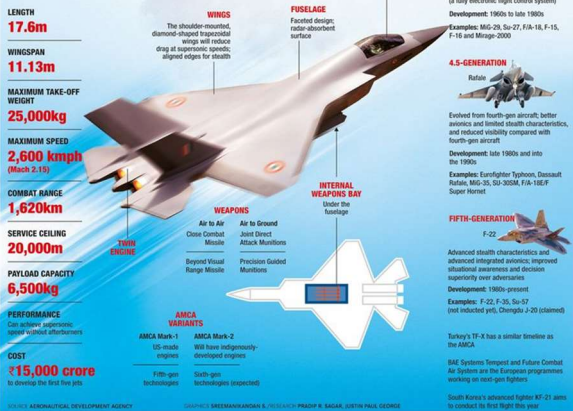
- Stealth features
- Low-probability-of-intercept radar
- Agile airframes with super cruise performance
- Advanced avionics features
- Highly integrated computer systems capable of networking with other elements within the battlespace
- Higher utilization time and smaller serviceability or maintenance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

#### Other fifth-generation fighters

- Only a few countries have **built a fifth-generation stealth fighter aircraft**.
- The list of the 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**.

### FUTURE'S FIGHTER

Stealth aircraft are designed to avoid detection by enemy radars and radar-guided weapons. India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) Mark-1 will be a fifth-generation stealth aircraft





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