

# समाचार पत्रों से चयित अंश Newspapers Clippings

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Wed, 13 Dec, 2017

## Avalanche in J&K's Gurez sector; five soldiers missing

*“Two soldiers slipped down the slope in Nowgam sector and three soldiers went missing from a forward post in Kanzalwan sub-sector (Gurez sector) during heavy snowfall in the past 24 hours,” Defence spokesperson Colonel Rajesh Kalia said.*

*By Mir Ehsan*

Five soldiers were reported missing in north Kashmir's Gurez and Nowgam sectors after heavy snowfall triggered avalanches in the region. The Army has started rescue operations and pressed specialised teams into the operation.

“Two soldiers slipped down the slope in Nowgam sector and three soldiers went missing from a forward post in Kanzalwan sub-sector (Gurez sector) during heavy snowfall in the past 24 hours,” Defence spokesperson Colonel Rajesh Kalia said.

He said search and rescue operations are underway. “We have shifted latest equipment to the areas to track the missing soldiers.”

The upper reaches of Kashmir Valley have been receiving heavy snowfall from Monday. On Sunday evening, the Met department as well as the Army's Snow Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE) had warned of avalanches in the upper regions of the Valley, especially on the Line of Control where Army personnel are deployed. Both the incidents of soldiers going missing took place near the LoC.

The Army has a full-fledged unit of the SASE in Kashmir with 40 observatories in various locations. The SASE regularly issues warnings and alerts to Army formations and units deployed in high-altitude areas and along the LoC.

Gurez valley is located in north Kashmir's Bandipora district. Of late, there is heavy deployment of forces in the area to stop militants from infiltrating into the Valley. Gurez remains cut-off from the rest of the Valley for six months due to heavy snowfall.

The Nowgam sector, too, is close to the LoC and receives heavy snowfall during winters. The Army has in the recent past foiled several infiltration attempts in the sector.

To bring down casualties of security personnel during winters, the Army units have been provided with the latest equipment and devices to track soldiers trapped during avalanches or snowstorms. However, casualties continue to take place in Siachen and other areas. Last year, 20 soldiers lost their lives in avalanches and snowstorms. In 2016, the number was around 11.

Wed, 13 Dec, 2017

## Naval ship with all-women crew sets off from NZ for Falklands

The Indian naval sailing vessel (INSV) Tarini with an allwomen crew, which is circumnavigating the globe, on Tuesday morning left the New Zealand port of Lyttelton on its onward journey to Port Stanley (Falklands). Tarini arrived at Lyttelton on 29 November after completion of the second leg of its maiden voyage to circumnavigate the globe.

The crew is led by Lieutenant Commander Vartika Joshi, and the other members are Lieutenant Commanders Pratibha Jamwal, P Swathi, and Lieutenants S Vijaya Devi, B Aishwarya and Payal Gupta. The crew was officially welcomed to Lyttelton by Andrew Turner, Deputy Mayor of Christchurch, and in the traditional Maori culture by members of the community. The member of New Zealand Parliament from Christ church central, , Duncan Webb, also visited the vessel to welcome the crew.

The crew had several engagements during its stay in Lyttelton, including a call-on meeting with the Mayor of Christchurch, Lianne Dalziel. The National Council of Women of New Zealand also hosted the crew for an interaction. The crew had an opportunity to interact with a wide range of stakeholders during the welcome reception hosted by the High Commission on 30 November which was attended by about 100 distinguished guests, including members of Parliament, state officials, businessmen, academicians, leaders from Indian community and media persons.

## Business Standard

Wed, 13 Dec, 2017

### Aerospace industry eyes biz worth Rs 12,500 cr

*According to HAL estimates, the manufacturing of 187 LUHs will generate business worth Rs 7,500 crore for the aerospace industry*

*By Ajai Shukla*

On Tuesday, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) offered the aerospace vendors that feed its aircraft assembly lines a tantalising glimpse of major business opportunities ahead, adding up to some Rs 12,500 crore.

HAL Chairman T Suvarna Raju told a gathering of the company's vendors in Bengaluru that they would soon participate in building 100 trainer aircraft — the indigenously designed Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40 (HTT-40). In addition, the Light Utility Helicopter (LUH), of which the Indian Air Force is committed to buying 187 pieces, is nearing certification.

“Given our large number of platforms with the Indian defence forces, we remain committed to increase the scope of work to our vendors to ensure success of our programmes. HAL is looking to produce 100 basic trainer aircraft HTT-40 soon, once spin tests are completed in the coming months. In the rotary wing segment, our efforts are on to achieve basic certification of LUH by the middle of 2018”, said Raju.

In 2013, then IAF chief, Air Chief Marshal NAK Browne wrote to the defence minister stating that the HTT-40 would cost Rs 59.31 crore in 2018, and escalate by 2020 to Rs 64.77 crore. That letter was intended to scuttle the HTT-40 project as too expensive, and make a case for importing more Pilatus PC-7 Mark II trainers from Switzerland.

Now, however, it has emerged that HAL will build the HTT-40 for an affordable Rs 45 crore apiece. With the defence ministry having already approved the procurement of 106 indigenous trainers for the IAF, this would translate into business worth about Rs 5,000 crore for the aerospace sector.

HAL has managed to develop the indigenous trainer for a frugal Rs 450 crore, employing internal company funds, Raju told *Business Standard* in July. An additional Rs 120 crore will go on establishing the HTT-40 manufacturing line.

Separately, the manufacture of 187 LUHs, each costing an estimated Rs 40 crore according to internal HAL estimations, will generate business worth Rs 7,500 crore for the aerospace industry.

HAL says indigenisation levels in these platforms would be as high as 80 per cent, given that many imported components, sub-systems and systems would be progressively manufactured in India under transfer of technology. That means Rs 2,500 crore would flow abroad to global original equipment manufacturers

(OEMs). Even so, Indian aerospace vendors, for the most part micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that depend almost entirely on government orders, see the remaining Rs 10,000 crore as a significant opportunity.

Business is also expected to flow from a separate acquisition of 197 Kamov-226T light helicopters, which Russian helicopter manufacturer, Kamov, will initially supply ready-built, and then transfer technology to progressively manufacture in HAL.

In manufacturing aircraft like the Jaguar, Sukhoi-30MKI and the Hawk trainer, HAL had monopolised most of the manufacturing work, relying on very little outsourcing. More recently, the manufacture of the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) has seen HAL assume the role of “systems integrator”, with a significant percentage of the supply chain outsourced to private aerospace industry. In the future, HAL envisages functioning exclusively as a systems integrator, with a private industry supply chain feeding in components, sub-systems, systems and even major assemblies like the forward, middle and rear fuselage.



Wed, 13 Dec, 2017

## Stepping Stone

By PK Vasudeva

***With its admission to the Wassenaar Arrangement, India has reached another important milestone in its decade-long efforts to join multilateral export control regimes. Its entry as the WA member follows its admission as a full member of the Missile Transfer Control Regime (MTCR) in June last year. It will enhance India's non-proliferation credentials although it is not a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). It will enable India to acquire critical technologies too***

The Ministry of External Affairs on 8 December 2017 welcomed the decision of the Wassenaar Arrangement to admit India as the 42nd member of the organisation, which aims to regulate trade and use of dual-use technology. Following admission into the club, India will get access to high technology, which will help address the demands of Indian space and defence sectors. It will also boost New Delhi's chances of joining the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

The Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and DualUse Goods and Technologies, commonly known as the Wassenaar Arrangement, is a multilateral export control regime (MECR) with 42 participating states including many former Coordinating Committee members for Multilateral Export Controls (COCOM) countries.

The Wassenaar Arrangement was established to contribute to regional and international security and stability by promoting transparency and greater responsibility in transfers of conventional arms and dualuse goods and technologies, thus preventing destabilising accumulations. Participating states seek, through their national policies, to ensure that transfers of these items do not contribute to the development or enhancement of military capabilities, which undermine these goals, and are not diverted to support such capabilities. It is the successor to the Cold War-era COCOM, and was established on 12 July 1996, in Wassenaar, the Netherlands. The Wassenaar Arrangement is considerably less strict than COCOM, focusing primarily on the transparency of national export control regimes and not granting veto power to individual members over organizational decisions. A Secretariat for administering the agreement is located in Vienna.

Like COCOM, however, it is not a treaty, and therefore is not legally binding. Every six months member countries exchange information on deliveries of conventional arms to non-Wassenaar members that fall under eight broad weapons categories ~ battle tanks, armoured fighting vehicles (AFVs), large-calibre artillery, military aircraft, military helicopters, warships, missiles or missile systems, and small arms and light weapons.

The People's Republic of China and Israel are not members, but they have aligned their export controls with Wassenaar lists, and are significant arms exporters.

The Arrangement is open on a global and non-discriminatory basis to prospective adherents that comply with the agreed criteria. Admission of new members requires the consensus of all members. India joined as the 42nd participating state on 7 December 2017.

“Wassenaar Arrangement participating states reviewed the progress of a number of current membership applications and agreed at the plenary meeting to admit India which will become the Arrangement's participating state as soon as the necessary procedural arrangements for joining the Arrangement are completed,” the grouping official said in a statement. India's application was supported by Russia, USA, France and Germany. “The Plenary meeting of the WA held on 6 -7 December 2017 in Vienna, Austria, has decided to admit India. The necessary procedural arrangements for India's admission will be completed shortly,” the spokesperson for the Ministry of External Affairs said at his weekly briefing.

On the scope of the Arrangement, he said, “India's membership is expected to facilitate high technology tie-ups with Indian industry and ease access to hightech items for our defence and space programmes. While membership of the Arrangement would not automatically entail any preferential treatment from other Arrangement-members, it would create the grounds for realignment of India in the export control policy framework of other Arrangement members, including eligibility for certain licensing exceptions.”

Membership in the Arrangement has been part of India's quest for membership in the export control organisations. Russia had expressed optimism about India's membership in the Wassenaar Arrangement. Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov had said earlier that Russian support for Indian membership in the organisation will help bilateral ties, and added, “This is an example and reflection of Russia's unwavering support to India's membership of international nuclear control regimes.”

With its admission to the Arrangement, India has reached another important milestone in its decade-long efforts to join multilateral export control regimes. Its entry as the WA member follows its admission as a full member of the Missile Transfer Control Regime (MTCR) in June last year. It will enhance India's non-proliferation credentials although it is not a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). It will enable India to acquire critical technologies too. Importantly, it is expected to strengthen India's case for admission to the NSG. And finally, one of the Wassenaar Arrangement's aims is to prevent critical technologies from falling into the hands of terrorist groups. As a country that has major concerns regarding state-sponsored terrorist groups, India can take the lead in strengthening the Wassenaar Arrangement's hands in blocking the proliferation of technologies to terrorists. India's approach to multilateral export control regimes has undergone a huge change over the years. For several decades, it preferred to stay out of these regimes, as it perceived them as discriminatory.

Its approach began changing in the wake of its signing of the India-US nuclear deal. With the door to trade in nuclear energy opening up, it realised the value of being a part of these regimes. Most of the suppliers of high-end dual-use technologies are members and if it wanted access to such technology, it would need to be part of such groupings. Consequently, India began seeking membership of these regimes. With its admission to the MTCR, India was able to sell the BrahMos missiles to countries like Vietnam. So far, it has been admitted into the MTCR and the Wassenaar Arrangement.

It is yet to secure entry to the Australia Group, which restricts trade in materials used to make chemical and biological weapons, and the NSG, which controls export of nuclear material and technology. China has been blocking India's entry to the NSG and is likely to continue to do so. India could use its membership in the MTCR and the Wassenaar Arrangement as a bargaining chip to get China, which is not a part of these two regimes, to endorse India's entry to the NSG. This will not be easy but India should step up its diplomatic efforts to get China to rethink its obstructionist approach.

What is most striking about India's NSG membership saga is not New Delhi's persistent failure to make headway on one of the current government's central foreign policy priorities, but the extent and durability of China's uneasiness at allowing India a seat at the table. Beijing's recalcitrance on the question of NSG

membership for India is a clear signal that India is and remains a major nuclear challenger to China ~ at least where global recognition of the two countries' non-proliferation credentials is concerned. China may agree on the give-and-take principle to get access to MTCR and Wassenaar Arrangement with India's help if it allows India to get membership of NSG without becoming a spoilsport.



Wed, 13 Dec, 2017

## Indo-UK joint military exercise



Soldiers launch 'ambush' during the Indo-UK joint army exercise – Exercise Ajeya Warrior 2017 – in the Mahajan field range near the Sriganaganagar-Bikaner highway. Heliborne operations to defuse hostage situation are also part of the two-week exercise, which kicked off on December 1 and will culminate on December 14. TRIBUNE PHOTO



Wed, 13 Dec, 2017

## Consolidate bilateral ties with Israel

*By Arun K Singh*

*Trump's decision to move the US embassy to Jerusalem has isolated Washington internationally*

In 2005, as India's ambassador to Israel, I presented my credentials, like my predecessors and successors, to the President of Israel in Jerusalem, where the bulk of Israel's government, parliament and judiciary is located. For most official meetings, I travelled from Tel Aviv, where our embassy is located, to

Jerusalem. Visiting Indian officials would often, for convenience, stay in Jerusalem, as did Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his visit in July.

All other countries, which have diplomatic relations with Israel, follow the same practice. Many avoid having meetings with Israeli officials in East Jerusalem. Many, similarly, resist or avoid mentioning Jerusalem in joint statements with Israel.

United States President Donald Trump proclaimed on December 6 “that it is time for the United States to officially recognize Jerusalem as Israel’s capital”, while projecting it as a “long overdue recognition of reality”. This, however, is a significant step, from Israel’s point of view, in its quest to seek international legitimacy for its claims to the city.

The original UN General Assembly Resolution 181 of November 29, 1947, inter alia creating the Jewish and Arab states in Palestine, had voted to establish a special UN administered international regime for the city of Jerusalem. This came to naught as Arab countries did not accept the division of Palestine, and in the resulting conflict West Jerusalem came under Israel’s control, as acknowledged in the armistice agreement between Israel and Jordan signed in 1949. Some international legitimacy to Israel’s presence in West Jerusalem was accorded by the May 1950 Tripartite Declaration of the US, UK and France that they would take action, both within and outside the UN to prevent violation of the armistice lines of 1949. Further, the UN Security Council resolutions 242 of November 22, 1967, and 338 of October 22, 1973, called for withdrawal only to the 1949 lines, after the conflicts in those years.

Those advocating for Israel since the late 19th century, have sought to advance their cause by also gaining support for their aspirations from the dominant global power of the day, recognising the wide differences of opinion between countries on the issue.

British foreign secretary Lord Balfour, in a letter dated November 2, 1917, conveyed that “His Majesty’s Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people”. This eventually led to the creation of the State of Israel in 1948.

In a letter dated April 14, 2004, to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, US President George Bush stated, inter alia, “in light of new realities on the ground including already existing major Israeli population centers, it is unrealistic to expect that the outcome of final status negotiations will be a full and complete return to the armistice lines of 1949”. Since then proposals for West Asia peace often talk of land swaps to deal with post-1949 facts on the ground.

Trump’s proclamation would no doubt be seen as an endorsement of facts on the ground in support of Israeli aspirations. However, he did not go as far as US Congress or Israeli position. The Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 of US Congress had spoken of Jerusalem as an undivided city, and capital of Israel. Trump said that he was not taking a position on final status issues “including the specific boundaries of the Israeli sovereignty in Jerusalem, or the resolution of contested borders”, and that these were for the parties to work out.

He also did not say that the US embassy would start functioning there immediately. This was possible by renting of some symbolic premise, or converting their present consulate in Jerusalem into an embassy.

While many in Israel would no doubt be gratified by this partial development, it has also placed the US in an isolated position internationally. In the UNSC debate on December 8, all the other 14 council members, including its European allies, the UK and France, opposed the US decision. However, it will play well with Trump’s base and strengthen evangelical Christian and Jewish support for him domestically in the US. This would be important as his presidency struggles with continued innuendos of collaboration with Russia during the presidential election in 2016, and lack of any major foreign policy or domestic achievement.

On December 7, the external affairs ministry spokesman, in response to a query, said that “India’s position on Palestine is independent and consistent. It is shaped by our views and interests, and not determined by any third country”. Keeping our embassy in Tel Aviv has not inhibited us from developing a strong bilateral relationship with Israel. We also established full diplomatic relations only in 1992, when many countries took similar steps after the dissolution of Soviet Union and in the wake of the Oslo Middle East

Peace Process. Even as we should unhesitatingly consolidate bilateral relations with Israel, it is useful to remain in sync with the broader international consensus on Israel-Palestine issues.



Wed, 13 Dec, 2017

## India-Australia hold “2+2 dialogue” on strategic, defence cooperation

India and Australia on Tuesday held their maiden ‘2+2 dialogue’ involving the foreign and defence secretaries of the two countries to enhance their strategic partnership in the Indo-Pacific region. “All aspects of bilateral relations with a focus on strategic and defence relations between the two countries were reviewed,” the external affairs ministry said at the end of the day-long meeting.

Both sides agreed that a free, open, prosperous and inclusive Indo-Pacific region served the long-term interests of all countries in the region and of the world at large, the ministry added. While foreign secretary S Jaishankar and defence secretary Sanjay Mitra participated from the Indian side, Australia was represented by secretary of the department of foreign affairs and trade Frances Adamson and secretary of department of defence Greg Moriarty.

The meeting came a month after senior officials of India, Australia, Japan and the US met in the Philippines on the margins of the ASEAN Summit to hold a ‘Quadrilateral Security Dialogue’, apparently aimed to deter Chinese assertiveness in the South China Sea by “ensuring a rulebased order” and a “free and open region”. India, Australia and Japan are also scheduled to hold a trilateral dialogue on Thursday to discuss trilateral security cooperation.

The three countries have in the past focused on joint initiatives such as joint maritime projects, naval cooperation and trilateral exercise to ensure a presence in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). With the changing global scenario, Australia has come to look at India as a potential partner in promoting regional security and stability and this led the bilateral relationship to be elevated to a strategic partnership, including adoption of a Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation in 2009.

During the visit of then Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbot to India in 2014, a civil nuclear cooperation agreement was signed by the two countries.



Wed, 13 Dec, 2017

## First China-made 'smart' ship debuts in Shanghai

*China's first "smart" ship embedded with a domestically-developed intelligent navigation system made its debut in Shanghai Tuesday.*

The 179-meter-long ship, Great Intelligence, is 32-meters-wide and 15-meters-high, with a maximum loading capacity of 38,800 tonnes. It is installed with SOMS, a China-Developed marine system with autonomous learning ability and intelligent operation system. It can analyze real-time navigation and meteorological data, pick the best routes and alert the crew to hidden dangers in advance.

Developed by China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC), Great Intelligence will be used by Sinotrans Shipping to transport coal and salt between China, Australia and Southeast Asia.

"Great Intelligence will become smarter as it accumulates more data," said Qiu Bohua, with the Systems Engineering Research Institute of CSSC. "Not only can it spot dangers and system bugs, it also can lower transport costs and raise efficiency."

Technical performance of the ship has reached advanced levels, and it has passed official assessments by the China Classification Society and Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

"It shows that China has taken the lead in merchant ship design and construction," said Sun Feng, vice president of China Classification Society. "The smart ship has also laid solid foundations for unmanned ship development." (Xinhua)

## पंजाब केसरी

Wed, 13 Dec, 2017

# अमेरिकियों को चांद और मंगल पर भेजो

वाशिंगटन, (भाषा): अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने आज नयी अंतरिक्ष नीति पर हस्ताक्षर किये हैं जो नासा को अमेरिकी नागरिकों को पहले चांद पर और फिर मंगल ग्रह पर भेजने का निर्देश देती है। पिछले कई दशकों से चांद पर किसी अमेरिकी को नहीं भेजा गया है और यह नीति अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों को फिर से वहां भेजने की दिशा में पहल है। व्हाइट हाउस में ट्रंप ने कहा, मैं जिस दिशा निर्देश पर हस्ताक्षर कर रहा हूँ वह अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम के मनुष्यों के ज़रिए अन्वेषण और खोज पर बल देगा। यह 1972 के बाद पहली बार अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष

● इस बार हम वहां सिर्फ अपना झंडा लगाकर अपना निशान नहीं छोड़ेंगे। इस कदम से अंततः हम मंगल मिशन और भविष्य में अन्य ग्रहों की यात्रा के लिए नींव रख रहे हैं: ट्रंप



यात्रियों के लंबे समय के लिए चांद पर जाने और खोज करने का महत्वपूर्ण कदम होगा। इससे पहले अपोलो मिशन के दौरान 1960 और 1970 की दशक में

अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष यात्री चांद पर गये थे। व्हाइट हाउस में नयी अंतरिक्ष नीति निर्देशों पर हस्ताक्षर करते हुए ट्रंप ने कहा, इस बार हम वहां सिर्फ अपना झंडा

लगाकर अपना निशान नहीं छोड़ेंगे। इस कदम से अंततः हम मंगल मिशन, और भविष्य में अन्य ग्रहों की यात्रा के लिए नींव रख रहे हैं। 21 जुलाई, 1969 को अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष यात्री नील आर्मस्ट्रांग ने चांद पर पहला कदम रखा था। राष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष परिषद के प्रमुखों राष्ट्रपति ट्रंप और उपराष्ट्रपति माइक पेन्स ने चांद पर फिर से अंतरिक्षयान भेजने की बात कही थी, लेकिन उन्होंने इस संबंध में कुछ खास जानकारी नहीं दी थी। पेन्स के मुताबिक नयी अंतरिक्ष नीति निर्देशक यह सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि अमेरिका एक बार फिर अंतरिक्ष में नेतृत्व करेगा।