

Headlines at a Glance - 6th December 2021

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India-Maldives joint military Exercise EKUVERIN being conducted in Maldives

The 11th edition of Exercise EKUVERIN between India and Maldives will be conducted at Kadhdhoo Island, Maldives from tomorrow. It will conclude on the 19th of this month. The exercise will enhance synergy and inter-operability between the Armed Forces of both nations in terms of understanding transnational terrorism both on land and at sea, conducting Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Insurgency Operations and sharing best military practices and experiences. Besides rigorous training, the joint military exercise will also include cultural and sports activities to enhance defence cooperation and bilateral relations.

SOURCE: The Hindu

Indian Navy launches its new large survey vessel 'Sandhayak'

The Indian Navy launched 'Sandhayak', the first of the four large survey vessels, in Kolkata on Sunday. The ship was launched by Pushpa Bhatt, spouse of Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt, who was the Chief Guest at the event. The primary role of these survey ships would be to conduct full-scale coastal and deep-water hydrographic survey of ports and harbours, and determination of navigational channels and routes. According to the Navy, the ships will replace the existing Sandhayak-class survey ships and are equipped with new generation hydrographic equipment to collect oceanographic and geophysical data.

SOURCE: *The Indian Express*

EAM addressed 5th Indian Ocean Conference in Abu Dhabi

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed here and expressed confidence that the bilateral strategic ties between India and the UAE will scale new heights in the years to come. Jaishankar is here to attend the 5th Indian Ocean Conference on December 4-5. The theme of the Indian Ocean Conference 2021 is “Indian Ocean: Ecology, Economy, Epidemic”. Earlier, Jaishankar met his counterparts from the UAE and Oman and discussed bilateral cooperation with them before the start of an international conference on the Indian Ocean that began here on Saturday.

SOURCE: *The Print*

Defence Minister delivers inaugural address at MSME Conclave

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has called upon Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to invest more in research & development and manufacture new products & technologies and thereby contribute to the security and progress of the country. He was delivering the inaugural address at the MSME Conclave, organised by the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence in partnership with Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) in hybrid mode, in New Delhi on December 04, 2021. Shri Rajnath Singh urged MSMEs and SIDM to create an industrial base in India, on the lines of ‘Mittelstand’ (Mittel-Stunt) of Germany, which has been recognised by the whole world for manufacturing metal equipment.

SOURCE: *The Hindu*