

06-08-2022**Anti-Tank Guided Missile****Why in Newspapers?**

Recently Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has successfully test-fired indigenously developed Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM).

Quick Issue?

- ATGMs are primarily designed to shoot down and destroy heavily armoured military vehicles.
- Missiles can be carried by a single soldier to larger tripod-mounted weapons, requiring a squad or team to transport and fire vehicle and aircraft mounted missile systems.
- Guided missiles of this type rely on an electro-optical imager (IIR) seeker, laser or W-band radar seeker.
- These are 'fire-and-forget' missiles where the operator can retreat immediately after firing as it does not require guidance thereafter.

Historical Background?

- All indigenous laser guided ATGM uses Tandem High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) warhead to destroy Explosive Reactive Armor-ERA protected armoured vehicles.
- ATGM is developed with multi-platform launch capability and presently MBT Arjun 120 mm rifled gun is undergoing technical evaluation test.
- **HELINA:-** It has a maximum range of seven kilometers and has been designed and developed for integration of the weaponized version of the Advanced Light Helicopter (HAL).

Other Key Facts?**DRDO**

- DRDO is the Defence Research and Development wing of the Ministry of Defence, which aims to empower India with state-of-the-art defence technologies.
- Its pursuit of self-reliance and successful indigenous development and production of strategic systems and platforms such as Agni and Prithvi series missiles such as Light Combat Aircraft, Tejas: Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher, Pinaka: Air Defence System, Akash: Radar and Electronic Warfare Systems A wide range, etc., have contributed significantly to India's military might in producing effective deterrence and providing significant advantages.
- DRDO was established in the year 1958 by combining the Technical Development Establishment (TDEs) of the Indian Army with the Defence Science Organization (DSO) and the Directorate of Technical Development and Production (DTDP). was done after.
- DRDO is presently a conglomerate of 50 laboratories engaged in various areas of Defence Technology such as- Aeronautics, Weapons, Electronics, Combat Vehicles, Engineering Systems, Instrumentation, Missiles, Advanced Computing and Simulation, Special Materials, Naval Systems, Life Science, Training, Working in the field of information systems and agriculture.



- The missile system can be launched at any time of day and night and is capable of hitting battle tanks with conventional armor and explosive reactive armor.
- **Nag:** - It is an anti-tank missile based on the principle of 'Fire-and-Forget' of the third generation, which has been developed to attack enemy tanks.
- **MPATGM:-** It is a man-portable anti-tank guided missile with a range of 2.5 km with fire-and-forget and top attack capability for infantry use.
- **SANT:-** It is a smart stand-off anti-tank missile which is being developed to be launched from Mi-35 helicopter for anti-tank mission of Air Force.
- **'Arjun Main Battle Tank' (MBT) 'MK-1A':-** Arjun Main Battle Tank is a laser-guided, precision-guided warfare material. These include the indigenously developed 120mm rifle and the Armor Piercing Fin-stabilized Discreet Sabot (FSAPDS) munitions.

Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

Que. What is "Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD)" sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) An Israeli radar system
- (b) India's indigenous anti-missile program
- (c) An American anti-missile system
- (d) A defence cooperation between Japan and South Korea

Answer: (c) An American anti-missile system

Que. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Agni-IV missile?

- 1) It is a surface to surface missile.
- 2) It is propelled only by liquid propellant.
- 3) It can deliver one ton of nuclear warhead about 7500 km away.

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| (a) 1 only | (b) 2 and 3 only |
| (c) 1 and 3 only | (d) 1, 2 and 3 |

Answer: (a) 1 only



US House Speaker's visit to Taiwan

Why in Newspapers?

Recently, US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited 'Taiwan', rejecting private warnings issued by the Biden administration. According to the Biden administration, his high-profile diplomatic visit could spark a new crisis in 'Asia' and prompt a sharp reaction from the Chinese government.

Quick Issue?

- Nancy Pelosi is the first Speaker of the 'US House of Representatives' to visit Taiwan in the last 25 years.
- In response, China, which claims Taiwan as its territory, announced several military exercises around the 'island' and issued several strong statements.

Historical Background?

- China claims Taiwan through its 'One China' policy. In 1949, at the end of the two-decade civil war in China, when the founder of the People's Republic of China, Mao Zedong, took control of all of China, leaders and supporters of the opposition Nationalist Party fled to the island of Taiwan. Since then, the People's Republic of China has vowed to bring Taiwan under Beijing, and to use force if necessary.
- China is Taiwan's top trading partner. During the year 2018, the total trade between the two countries was \$226 billion.
- Although Taiwan is a self-governing country and de facto independent, it has never formally declared independence from China.
- Taiwan conducts its own affairs under the "one country, two systems" formula; A similar arrangement is used in Hong Kong.
- Currently, China lays claim to Taiwan, and talks about not having diplomatic relations with countries that recognize it as a nation.
- Although India-Taiwan do not have formal diplomatic relations, Taiwan and India are cooperating in various fields.
- India has refused to support China's 'One China' policy since 2010.

Other Key Facts?

- One-China Principle:
- The 'One-China Principle' means that the nations that want to have diplomatic relations with the 'People's Republic of China (PRC)', should refer to China as the 'Republic of China' (Instead of Republic of China (ROC), the 'People's Republic of China' (PRC) would have to be recognized, and they would have to sever ties with the ROC.
- The 'People's Republic of China' (PRC) is commonly known as 'China' and the 'Republic of China' (ROC) is commonly known as 'Taiwan'. These are separate states with a shared history; China claims sovereignty over Taiwan.
- At the same time, China has developed into a 'multi-party democracy' along with improving its economic system.
- Since then, the two countries have been economically embroiled and are in constant competition with each other.



- The first official delegation set up by the European Parliament to Taiwan has supported 'Taiwan', saying that the diplomatically isolated island country is not alone.
- In the wake of Beijing's growing pressure on Taipei, the 'European Parliament Delegation' has called for clear and bold actions to strengthen EU-Taiwan ties.
- Currently, Taiwan does not have formal diplomatic relations with any European nation except 'Vatican City'. Now Taiwan is keen to deepen ties with EU members.

Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

Que. With reference to the recent visit of Speaker of the US House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan, consider the following statements:

1. She has become the highest-ranking US official to visit the self-governing island in 25 years.
2. Speaker Pelosi is supporting Taiwan's independence.
3. Beijing is raising significant military and commercial heat on Taiwan because of the visit.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans (d) 1, 2 and 3

