

## ⚓ **INS Ikshak: Key Points for Defense Exams**

The commissioning of **INS Ikshak** is a major event in the Indian Navy's plan to modernize its hydrographic fleet and uphold the principles of '**Aatmanirbhar Bharat**' (Self-Reliant India).

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Feature	Detail
<b>Vessel Name</b>	<b>INS Ikshak (Meaning: 'The Guide')</b>
<b>Class</b>	<b>Survey Vessel (Large) [SVL] Class</b>
<b>Series Number</b>	<b>Third of the SVL class (Preceded by INS Sandhayak and INS Nirdeshak).</b>
<b>Builder</b>	<b>Garden Reach Shipbuilders &amp; Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, Kolkata.</b>
<b>Commissioning Date</b>	<b>November 06, 2025</b>
<b>Commissioning Location</b>	<b>Naval Base Kochi</b>
<b>Indigenous Content</b>	<b>Over 80% indigenous content (reflecting successful collaboration with Indian MSMEs).</b>



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### 🌐 **Dual Role and Strategic Significance**

- **Primary Role:** To conduct **full-scale coastal and deep-water hydrographic surveys** of ports, harbours, navigational channels, and collect **oceanographic data** (using equipment like multi-beam echo sounders, AUVs, and ROVs) for safe marine navigation and defense applications.
- **Dual Role Capability:** Designed to also function as a **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** platform, and a **Hospital Ship** during emergencies.

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### 🌐 **Dual Role and Strategic Significance**

- **Progressive Feature:** First SVL ship designed with **dedicated accommodation for women officers and sailors**, reflecting the Indian Navy's commitment to inclusivity.
- **Strategic Outcome:** The induction significantly enhances India's **hydrographic excellence** and strengthens its maritime safety framework and strategic presence across key sea lanes.

**Q.1: What is the primary role of the Survey Vessel (Large) INS Ikshak?**

- A. Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW)
- B. Hydrographic Survey Operations ✓**
- C. Aircraft Carrier Escort Duty
- D. Search and Rescue (SAR) and Anti-Piracy Patrols

**Q.2: The INS Ikshak was indigenously built by which shipbuilding company?**

- A. Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)
- B. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)
- C. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) ✓**
- D. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL)



**Q.3: What is the significance of the INS Ikshak regarding the composition of its crew?**

- A. It is the first SVL to carry a dedicated Marine Commando team.
- B. It has the largest capacity for cadets among all SVL ships.
- C. It is the first SVL ship with dedicated accommodation for women. ✓**
- D. It is exclusively crewed by Territorial Army personnel.

**Q.4: What is the meaning of the ship's name, 'Ikshak'?**

- A. The Navigator
- B. The Sentinel
- C. The Researcher
- D. The Guide ✓**



## UAE Land Forces Commander's Visit

The official visit of **Maj Gen Yousef Maayouf Saeed Al Hallami**, Commander, United Arab Emirates (UAE) Land Forces, to India on October 27-28, 2025, served to significantly strengthen the **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership** between the two nations, focusing on military-to-military engagement and defense industrial collaboration.

## UAE Land Forces Commander's Visit

### Objectives and Bilateral Cooperation

**Goal:** To enhance bilateral military cooperation and explore new avenues for collaboration, primarily in **training** and **capability enhancement**.

**Foundation:** Solidifies the **robust defense ties** between India and the UAE, paving the way for a stronger, future-ready partnership in regional security.

**Interactions:** Maj Gen Al Hallami met with **General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff** (as per search results), and other senior military and defense officials.

## UAE Land Forces Commander's Visit

### Focus on Strategic and Indigenous Capabilities

The visit included detailed briefings for the UAE Commander on critical Indian defense initiatives:

**Operation Sindoor:** He received a detailed briefing on this **punitive and targeted campaign** aimed at dismantling terror infrastructure across the Line of Control and deeper inside Pakistan, showcasing India's joint (tri-services) military precision and strategic resolve.

**Technology & Innovation:** Briefings were provided by the DG Information System and the Army Design Bureau on:  
India's **defense capabilities.**

The **Artificial Intelligence (AI) roadmap for the Indian Army.**



## UAE Land Forces Commander's Visit

**Indigenous Defense:** A visit to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was scheduled to receive briefings on various indigenous weapon and equipment platforms developed under the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiative, including presentations on drones/counter-drone systems, missile systems, and artillery.

## UAE Land Forces Commander's Visit

### ⚙️ Defense Industry Engagement

**DRDO Interaction:** The Commander interacted with **Dr. Samir V Kamat**, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman of DRDO.

**Industry Talks:** He engaged with representatives of Indian Defence Industries to discuss issues of mutual interest, furthering the potential for joint manufacturing and technology exchange.

### Ceremonial and Symbolic Engagements

**Tribute:** The Commander laid a wreath at the **National War Memorial** on October 28, 2025, to pay tribute to India's fallen heroes.

The visit marks an important step toward accelerating joint training, technology sharing, and strategic coordination between the Indian and UAE Land Forces.



## Infantry Day: 79th Shaurya Diwas Commemoration

The Indian Army commemorated its **79th Infantry Day**, also known as **Shaurya Diwas**, on **October 27, 2025**, with ceremonies across the nation, primarily recognizing the valor and sacrifice of Infantry soldiers.

### 1 Historical Significance

**Date Observed:** October 27 every year.

**Historic Event (1947):** This date marks the day when Infantrymen of the Indian Army were the **first troops to land at Srinagar airport** in 1947.

**Outcome:** The immediate deployment and subsequent operations by these troops played a pivotal role in **repelling the Pakistan-backed tribal invasion** and safeguarding the territorial integrity of Jammu and Kashmir.



## **Infantry Day: 79th Shaurya Diwas Commemoration**

### **🧣 Ceremony and Tributes**

**Main Event:** A solemn **Wreath Laying Ceremony** was held at the **Amar Chakra** of the **National War Memorial**, New Delhi.

**Chief Guest:** **General Upendra Dwivedi**, **Chief of the Army Staff**, laid a wreath, paying tribute to the **Infantry's** supreme sacrifice.

**Veteran Honorees:** Three decorated **Vir Chakra** recipients represented the veterans and laid wreaths:

**Major Ashish Sonal (Retired):** Veteran of **Operation PAWAN (1990)** in Sri Lanka.

**Subedar Major & Honorary Captain Kunwar Singh (Retired):** Participated in **Operation MEGHDOOT (1989)** at the Siachen Glacier.

**Lance Naik Amrit (Retired):** A participant of **Operation CACTUS LILY (1971)**.



## **Infantry Day: 79th Shaurya Diwas Commemoration**

### **📖 Nationwide Celebrations and Initiatives**

**Educational Event:** The Field Marshal KM Cariappa Memorial Seminar was organized in Lucknow.

**Welfare:** Felicitation of Veer Naris (War Widows) was held at Delhi Cantonment.

**Community:** The Shauryaveer Run was organized to promote the occasion.

**Publication:** An 'Infantry Magazine' was released, chronicling heroic sagas and highlighting the Infantry's multi-dimensional capability development.