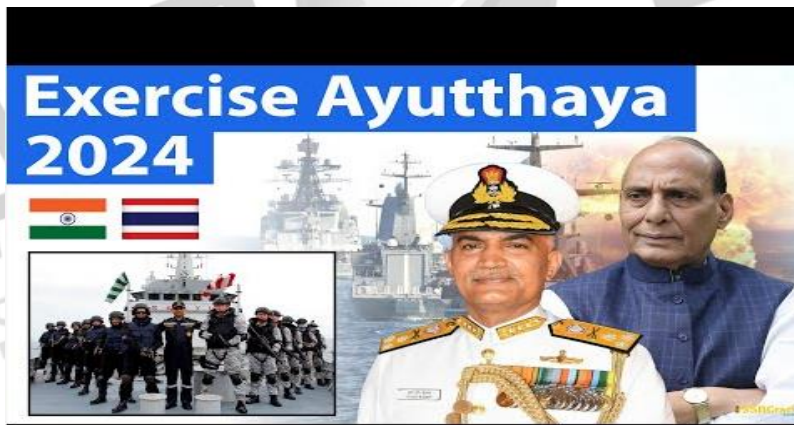


## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 16, 2024

### DEFENCE

#### ➤ Ex-Ayutthaya

- ✓ In a historic move, the Indian Navy and Royal Thai Navy (RTN) joined forces for the maiden bilateral exercise named 'Ex-Ayutthaya' in December 2023.



- ✓ 'Ex-Ayutthaya' translates to 'The Invincible One,' emphasizing the historical and cultural links between Ayodhya and Ayutthaya.
- ✓ This maritime collaboration, symbolizing the invincible spirit, holds profound significance as it connects the ancient cities of Ayodhya in India and Ayutthaya in Thailand.
- ✓ The Indian Naval ships Kulish and IN LCU 56 engaged in the inaugural edition, while His Thai Majesty's Ship (HTMS) Prachuap Khiri Khan represented the Royal Thai Navy.

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➤ **Cigaritis meghamalaiensis**

- ✓ After 33 years, a new species of butterfly has been discovered in the Western Ghats. A new species of Silverline butterfly, Cigaritis meghamalaiensis, has been discovered in Srivilliputtur Megamalai Tiger Reserve.



- ✓ In the last 33 years, this butterfly species has been found for the first time in the Western Ghats.
- ✓ The newly identified species had been named after the region – Megamalai - meaning 'cloud mountain'.
- ✓ The common name for this species was 'Cloud-forest Silverline'.

## SPORTS

➤ **India's First Multi-Sports Beach Games**

- ✓ Madhya Pradesh became the overall champion in the first Beach Games held in Diu.



- ✓ India's first multi-sports Beach Games, "The Beach Games 2024" was held at the Blue Flag-certified Ghoghla Beach in Diu.
- ✓ Madhya Pradesh topped the medal tally with a total of 18 medals, including 7 gold. Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, and hosts Dadra, Nagar Haveli, Diu, and Daman won 12 medals each.

- ✓ During this period, 1404 athletes under the age of 21 years from 28 states and union territories participated in a variety of sports with the support of 205 match officials.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

- **National Startup Day: January 16**
- ✓ In a significant declaration in 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi proclaimed January 16 as National Startup Day, marking a pivotal moment in India's recognition and celebration of its burgeoning startup ecosystem.



- ✓ The day holds immense significance as it provides a dedicated platform to celebrate the triumphs of the startup community.
- ✓ It serves as an occasion for entrepreneurs to share insights, discuss innovations, and reflect on their journey. Moreover, National Startup Day emphasizes the critical role startups play in driving economic growth and job creation.

