Syllabus subtopic:

- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.
- Science and Technology—developments and their applications and effects in everyday life Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.

Prelims and Mains focus: about INDRA exercise and its significance in building Indo-Russia defence ties; AKASH missile and LCA Tejas

News: The air force component of ‘Ex INDRA 19’ (AVIAINDIRA’19), a joint exercise between India and Russia, successfully concluded on Thursday at the Air Force Station in Lohegaon in Pune.

Details about the exercise

- As part of the exercise, the Indian armed forces and their Russian counterparts undertook joint air, land and sea operations.
- The exercise was conducted simultaneously at Pune, Goa and Gwalior.
- Several airborne and ground assets of the IAF, including Su30 MKI, Jaguar, Mirage2000, indigenously developed Light Combat Aircraft (Tejas), IL76, AEW&C, AN32, Mi17V5, indigenously developed air defence system AKASH and air defence radars, were used during the operation.

Significance of the exercise

- The exercise provided an opportunity to enhance the IAF’s operational capability, synergise joint operations and improve interoperability with Russian Federation Air Force to operate under the UN mandate.

About AKASH missile

About LCA Tejas