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Q43

What is "Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD)", sometimes seen in the news? (a) An Israeli radar system (b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme (c) An American anti-missile system (d) A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea Official key: C.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2018 · General Studies · 2 marks · Science and Technology

Science, technology, space, defence, IT - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

(a) An Israeli radar system. Israel's Arrow and Iron Dome are different. **THAAD** is American. This is not the key.

(b)

(b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme. That is the BMD / Prithvi Defence Vehicle effort, not **THAAD**. This is not the key.

(c) Official key

(c) An American anti-missile system. **(c) Official key:** Terminal High Altitude Area Defense is a US Army hit-to-kill system against ballistic missiles in their terminal phase. Deployments in South Korea made news. That is the stored key.

(d)

(d) A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea. **THAAD** is a US system; Japan and South Korea may host or discuss it, but it is not a Japan-Korea joint product. This is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (c). **THAAD** is a United States terminal-phase anti-ballistic missile system. It is not Israeli radar, not India's BMD, and not a Japan-South Korea collaboration. Honour the stored letter (c).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

THAAD

Terminal High Altitude Area Defense

Developer

Lockheed Martin for the US Army

Kill mechanism

Hit-to-kill interceptor

Seongju, South Korea

US THAAD deployment; China objected

Related US systems

Patriot (PAC-3); Aegis / SM-3

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