Indian Army Day

Why in News

Army Day is celebrated every year on 15th January in India to commemorate the jawans and the Indian Army.

- This year India is celebrating its 74th Army Day.

Key Points

- **Historical Background:**

    - On 15th January 1949, **Field Marshal Kodandera M. Cariappa,** who was then a Lieutenant General, took over as the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army from General Sir Francis Butcher, the last British person to hold that post.
    - K. M. Cariappa adopted the slogan **'Jai Hind' which means 'Victory of India'**. He is also one of only two Indian Army officers to hold the Five-star rank of Field Marshal, the other being Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw.

- **Army Day:**

    - Army Day is **celebrated every year to honor the soldiers of the country**, who have set the greatest example of selfless service and brotherhood and more than anything the love for the country.
    - In the celebration of Army Day, the parade is organised every year at the Cariappa Parade Ground of Delhi Cantonment.

- **Indian Army:**

    - The Indian army originated from the forces of the **East India Company,** which later became the 'British Indian Army', and eventually, after Independence, the Indian Army.
    - The Indian Army was **founded almost 126 years ago by the British** on 1st April, 1895.
    - India's army is considered the world's fourth strongest army.

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