

S-400 anti-missile system

January 20, 2021

In News: S-400 US, India friction grows over purchase of S-400 air defence system from Russia, New Delhi unlikely to get any waiver from Washington.

S-400 anti-missile system

- India had signed a \$5 billion deal with Russia to buy the S-400 air defence missile systems in 2018.
- The system is also known as the 'Triumpf' interceptor-based missile system.
- It can simultaneously track numerous incoming objects – all kinds of aircraft, missiles and UAVs – in a radius of 400km and launch appropriate missiles to neutralise them.
- The S-400 is Russia's most advanced long-range surface-to-air missile defence system.
- Russia plans to complete the delivery by 2025.

US Stand

- The U.S. imposed sanctions on Russia under the stringent Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) for manufacturing S-400.
- The law also provides for punitive action against countries purchasing defence hardware from Russia.

S-400 anti-missile system: Benefits

- The radar fitted in the S-400 anti-missile system has a range of about 600 km for surveillance and can track 300 targets simultaneously.
- This system also detects fighter jets which are a part of China's arsenal– F-22, F-35 etc.
- In August 2018, when China tested this system, it shot down a simulated ballistic target which was 250 km

away.

- It fits in all missile systems and can be configured to long-range, semi long-range, medium-range and short-range systems depending on the preference.
- This system is cheaper as compared to other defence systems. It has 9 launchers, 120 missiles, command and support vehicles.
- The system will be deployed in the National Capital Region and along the Mumbai-Baroda Industrial Corridor.
- Due to its high range, the air defence system will help the Indian military to track movement along LoC (Line of Control).

Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act

- The Countering America's Adversaries through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) is a United States federal law that imposed sanctions on Iran, North Korea, and Russia.
- It includes sanctions against countries that engage in significant transactions with Russia's defense and intelligence sectors.
- India could face US sanctions for purchasing high-value military defense items, in particular, state-of-the-art S-400 Triumph missile defense system, from Russia under the act