

SITMEX

The SITMEX (Singapore, India, Thailand Maritime Exercise) is a series of naval exercises conducted by the navies of India, Singapore and Thailand to enhance their maritime cooperation and interoperability capacity.

The information from this article will be useful for candidates writing their Government Exams this year.

Overview of SITMEX

SITMEX was first announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a keynote address at the Shangri-la Dialogue on June 18.

The first trilateral maritime exercise between Singapore, Thailand and India took place off the coast of Port Blair in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on September 2019. The aim of SITMEX is to enhance interoperability capability, imbibing the best practices of the Indian Navy, the Republic of Singapore Navy and the Royal Thai Navy and enhancing the maritime security of the Indo-Pacific region.

The SITMEX exercise is in line with India's SAGAR (Security and Growth for all in the Region) vision.

How different was the 2020 edition of SITMEX?

In wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, SITMEX-20 was non-contact at sea only exercise. It was hosted by the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) represented by the 'Formidable' Class frigate Intrepid and 'Endurance' Class Landing Ship Tank 'Endeavour'. The Royal Thai Navy (RTN) was represented by the 'Chao Phraya' Class frigates 'Kraburi' while the Indian Navy deployed anti-submarine Warfare corvette INS Kamorta and missile corvette INS Karmuk.

The 2nd edition of SITMEX took place on from 21st to 22nd November 2020 where the navies of the three nations participated in naval manoeuvres, surface warfare exercises and weapons demonstrations.

List of Indian Navy Exercises

The following are the list of Maritime exercises the Indian Navy conducts with other nations

Maritime Exercises	
Name	Participating Nations
Malabar Exercise	India, USA, Japan are permanent members of this exercise. At times they are joined by Navies of Australia
INDRA Exercise	The navies of Russia and India
Varuna Exercise	India and France
Milan Exercise	A biennial Multilateral event with participation from 16 countries
IBSAMAR	South Africa, India and Russia participate in this exercise
SIMBEX	India and Singapore