

India-Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise to be held in Arabian Sea

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The fifth edition of the India-Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise (JIMEX) between the Indian Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF), will be held in the Arabian Sea from October 6 to 8, a statement from the Indian Navy said recently.

JIMEX series of exercises commenced in January 2012 with special focus on maritime security cooperation.

Key Highlights

- The last edition of JIMEX was conducted in September 2020. Indigenously-built Guided Missile Stealth Destroyer Kochi and Guided Missile Frigate Teg, under the command of Rear Admiral Ajay Kochhar, Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet, will represent the Indian Navy.
- The Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force will be represented by JMSDF ships Kaga, an Izumo Class Helicopter Carrier and Murasame, a Guided Missile Destroyer, led by Rear Admiral Ikeuchilzuru, Commander Escort Flotilla – 3 (CCF-3).
- In addition to ships, P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft, Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft, integral helicopters and MiG 29K fighter aircraft will also participate in the exercise.

- JIMEX-21 aims to develop common understanding of operational procedures and enhance interoperability through conduct of a multitude of advanced exercises, across the entire spectrum of maritime operations.
- Multi-faceted tactical exercises involving weapon firings, cross-deck helicopter operations and complex surface, anti-submarine and air warfare drills will consolidate coordination developed by the two navies.

SOURCE: *The New Indian Express*