

# Exercise Kavach

January 22, 2021

## In news

Training for Joint Operation involving tri services and Indian Coast Guard is to be held in Andaman Sea in the upcoming week

## About Exercise Kavach

A large scale Joint Military exercise 'Exercise Kavach' involving assets of Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force & Indian Coast Guard is being conducted in the coming week under the aegis of the Andaman and Nicobar Command, **only Joint Forces Command of the country**

## Who will participate in it?

The exercise would involve participation and deployment of elements of Army's Amphibious Brigade along with supporting forces including Special Forces of Navy, Armour/Mechanised components, Naval Ships comprising Destroyers, ASW Corvettes and Landing Ships with ship-borne helicopters of Eastern Naval Command and ANC, Jaguar Maritime Strike and Transport aircrafts from Indian Air Force and assets of Coast Guard.

## Key highlights

- The exercise involves synergised application of maritime surveillance assets, coordinated air and maritime strikes, air defence, submarine and landing operations.
- Concurrently Joint Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) exercise involving various technical, electronic and human intelligence from three services will be conducted.
- The ISR exercise will validate the capabilities of intelligence gathering from space, air, land and sea-based assets/ sensors, its analysis and sharing to

achieve battle field transparency for quick decision making at different stages of operations.

- The joint force would execute multi domain, high intensity offensive and defensive manoeuvres in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal and carry out amphibious landing operations, air landed operation, helicopters-borne insertion of Special Forces from sea culminating in tactical follow-on operations on land.
- The tri-services exercise aims to fine tune joint war-fighting capabilities and SOPs towards enhancing operational synergy.

## **Indian Armed Forces**

- The Indian Armed Forces are the military forces of the Republic of India. It consists of three professional uniformed services: the Indian Army, Indian Navy, and Indian Air Force.
- Additionally, the Indian Armed Forces are supported by the Indian Coast Guard and paramilitary organisations (Assam Rifles, and Special Frontier Force) and various inter-service commands and institutions such as the Strategic Forces Command, the Andaman and Nicobar Command and the Integrated Defence Staff.
- The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Indian Armed Forces. The Indian Armed Forces are under the management of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) of the Government of India.
- With strength of over 1.4 million active personnel, it is the world's second-largest military force and has the world's largest volunteer army

### **Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Exercise**

- Along with Kavach Exercise, the Joint Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) Exercise will also be held. The ISR will validate capabilities of intelligence gathering. Also, it will validate capabilities of information sharing from space,

land, air and sea.

## Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance of India

- The Heron Unmanned Vehicle of the Indian Air Force has been assigned the task of intelligence and surveillance.
- The Heron UAV Fleet was bought from Israel. The ground based ISR capabilities of India includes Daksh. Daksh is a remote ground-based sensor.
- The regiment of artillery is using Israeli assisted SATA. SATA is a Searcher for Surveillance and Target Acquisition.
- The Black Hornet UAV is used by the National Security Guards for reconnaissance purposes.
- India is focusing on helicopters, UAVs and aircrafts to increase its ISR roles