

# SITMEX Exercise- 2019

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**Source:** *PIB & India Today*

## Objective

To test **maritime interoperability** between the navies of the three countries in the Indian Ocean Region.

## Key highlights

- Singapore-India-Thailand Maritime Exercise (SITMEX) is the **first-ever trilateral exercise involving the Republic of Singapore Navy, the Indian Navy, and the Royal Thai Navy**
- Indian Navy Ships that participated in the exercise are;
  1. **Ranvir:** A guided-missile destroyer
  2. **Kora:** A missile corvette
  3. **Sukanya:** An offshore patrol vessel and
  4. **P8I:** Long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft
- Other deployments by India include the warships RSS Tenacious, a formidable-class guided missile stealth frigate and HTMS Kraburi, a guided missile frigate.
- The exercise held in two phases i. e., Sea phase, and the Harbour phase
- The harbour phase of SITMEX-19 culminated at Port Blair and included professional interaction in the form of Subject Matter Expert Exchanges(SMEE), Pre-Sail Conferences which was attended by Command teams and friendly basketball matches between joint teams drawn from participating ships.
- A Food Festival was also organized during the harbour phase to showcase delicacies of each participating countries
- In the Sea phase, it involved maneuvering, navigation, and gunnery drills, along with boarding operations, in

the Andaman Sea.