

‘India Japan Australia’ Trilateral & ASEAN

Why in news?

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- The fourth trilateral between Foreign Secretaries of India, Japan and Australia was recently held in Delhi.

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- Amid growing convergences, the countries have agreed to greater collaboration on maritime security and also reached out to ASEAN.

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What were discussed in the meet?

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- Three sides resolved for greater collaboration on maritime security, counter terrorism and disaster response capabilities.

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- In a perceived jibe at China, the importance of peace, democracy, economic growth and a rule-based order was stressed.

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- Also, commitment to regional connectivity, project transparency, financing, environmental & labour standards were reiterated.

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- A statement underlining ASEAN’s centrality in the political and security architecture of the Indo-Pacific region was also made.

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- This further indicated the possibility of the trilateral grouping also co-operating with East Asian nations in the security domain.

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How is India’s ASEAN outreach shaping up?

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- India would be soon hosting a commemorative ASEAN-India summit in Delhi.
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- The theme of the engagement is expected to be '3Cs' - "Commerce, Connectivity & Culture".
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- Also, all 10 ASEAN-nation leaders will be the chief guests at the coming Republic Day parade.
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Source: The Hindu

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