

India-Japan Maritime Security Pact

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Bilateral Relations

Why in News?

India and Japan newly signed a Memorandum of Arrangement (MOA) on maritime security cooperation recently.

- It establishes a comprehensive operational framework to deepen ties between the Indian Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) across the **Indo-Pacific**.

Core Operational Framework

- **Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)** - Enhances real-time information sharing and intelligence exchange to track maritime movement across the Indian and Pacific Oceans.
- **Protection of Sea Lines of Communication (SLOCs)** - Strengthens coordination to safeguard vital commercial shipping lanes via mutual naval ship visits, joint exercises, and reciprocal access to ports and repair facilities.
- **HADR & SAR Coordination**- Streamlines joint Search and Rescue (SAR) and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations, leveraging the Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN).
- **Naval Shipbuilding & Design** - Combines Japanese technological expertise with India's manufacturing infrastructure under the Make in India initiative to explore joint design and production of naval platforms, as highlighted by Hindustan Times.
- **Mine Countermeasures**- Synergizes capabilities in naval mine detection and clearance.
- **R&D Partnership**- Deepens advanced technology research between India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Japan's Acquisition, Technology & Logistics Agency (ATLA).

Strategic Significance

- **Deterrence & Rules-Based Order**- Reaffirms opposition to any unilateral attempts to alter the status quo by force or coercion, ensuring freedom of navigation and overflight in the region.
- **Theatre Commands & Special Forces** - Marks a precedent by referencing potential operational cooperation with India's upcoming integrated theatre commands and expanding exchanges between special operations forces.
- **Diplomatic Roadmap**- Sets the groundwork for the upcoming Foreign and Defence Ministerial (2+2) Dialogue in Tokyo.



Reference

[The Hindu | India-Japan maritime security pact](#)

