

RAKSHA New Defence Diplomacy Framework

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Internal Security & Defence Policy

Why in News?

Union Defence Minister released 'RAKSHA', a strategic blueprint on defence diplomacy outlining India's strategic roadmap and vision for global defence partnerships over the next decade (2026-2036).

- **Time Horizon** - 10-Year Roadmap (2026-2036).
- **Nodal Coordination** - Ministry of Defence (MoD) in coordination with Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- **Primary Maritime Role** - Net Security Provider & First Responder in the Indian Ocean Region.
- **4 Key Pillars of the RAKSHA Framework**
 - **Strategic Partnerships** - Deepening bilateral and multilateral security cooperation with like-minded global and regional partners.
 - **Capacity Building** - Expanding joint military exercises, specialized training programs, and sharing operational best practices with friendly foreign nations.
 - **Indigenous Defence Exports** - Promoting Make-in-India defence platforms to position the nation as a reliable, high-tech global defence manufacturing hub.
 - **Maritime Security** - Strengthening India's operational role as a **Net Security Provider** and **First Responder** across the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).



Strategic Significance

- **Alignment with Foreign Policy** - Formally elevates defence diplomacy as a core operational pillar of India's foreign policy rather than a secondary military engagement tool.
- **Indo-Pacific & IOR** - Reaffirms India's commitment to preserving a rules-based international maritime order, freedom of navigation, and regional stability amid evolving Indo-Pacific

dynamics.

- **Defense Industrial Integration-** Complements domestic self-reliance initiatives (*Aatmanirbhar Bharat*) by leveraging Indian manufacturing scale to export indigenous platforms to partner nations.
- **Inter-Agency Synergy-** Establishes a synchronized operational linkage between the Ministry of Defence (MoD), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), and the Armed Forces leadership.

Reference

[PIB | 'RAKSHA' defence diplomacy document](#)

