

Exercise CHAKRAVAT

Published On: 10-10-2023

Why is in news? Annual Joint HADR Exercise 2023 - CHAKRAVAT 2023

The Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise (AJHE) is an outcome of Hon'ble PM's directive promulgated during Combined Commanders' Conference-2015.

Since its first edition in 2015, the Annual Joint HADR Exercise, CHAKRAVAT, has transformed itself into a multi-agency endeavour involving participation of all three Services, Paramilitary Forces, as well as several disaster response organisations, NGOs, academic institutions and international organisations.

The 2023 edition would further synergise efforts at the national level among all stakeholders, as well as witness participation from eight countries of the Indian Ocean Region.

The exercise has been conducted by Indian Army, Indian Navy (IN) and Indian Air Force (IAF) in rotation since 2016.

The last edition of the exercise was conducted at Agra by IAF. The 2023 edition of the exercise is being hosted by the **Indian Navy at Goa** from 09 to 11 Oct 23.

Developing **collective and coordinated effective response mechanisms** to address humanitarian crises and natural disasters are one of the most visible elements in India's inclusive vision for the oceans - **SAGAR**, or Security And Growth for All in the Region.

Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations form a key component in the Indian Navy's Benign Role, as climate change has significantly increased vulnerability of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) to natural disasters.

The **challenge posed by climate change** is accentuated by the limited capacity of littoral IOR states to address this rapidly growing threat.

Therefore, Indian Armed Forces have been frequently called upon to render assistance to our friends and partners in the Region, thereby, strengthening the **need and our resolve to be the 'First Responder'** in the region.

While the three Services continue to provide relief and succour in the event of a calamity, a whole of government approach would further enhance our preparedness and response to such unfortunate events.

The Logo for this year's exercise depicts crests and logos of all participating agencies and flags of all nations subsumed into one single entity to signify that HADR will hinge on joint and integrated action by the all the agencies.

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