



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Exercise SLINEX 2024 (Sri Lanka-India Naval Exercise)

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Context:

Exercise **SLINEX 2024** is a **bilateral naval exercise** between **India** and **Sri Lanka**, aimed at enhancing the strong maritime relations between the two countries. It is set to take place from **December 17 to 20, 2024**, at **Visakhapatnam**, under the supervision of the **Eastern Naval Command** of India.

About Exercise SLINEX:

- **Inception:** The first edition of **SLINEX** was conducted in **2005**.
- **Current Edition:** The **2024 edition** marks the **11th iteration** of the exercise.
- **Objective:** The primary goal of SLINEX 2024 is to strengthen **maritime ties** between India and Sri Lanka and promote a **safe, secure, and rules-based maritime environment** in the region.

Participating Units:

- **India:** The Indian Navy will participate with **INS Sumitra**, a **Naval Offshore Patrol Vessel (NOPV)** of the Eastern Fleet, along with a **Special Forces** team.
- **Sri Lanka:** Sri Lanka's Navy will participate with the **SLNS Sayura**, an **Offshore Patrol Vessel**, and an **embarked Special Forces** team.

Phases of the Exercise:

1. Harbour Phase:

- This phase will focus on **professional and social exchanges** between the participants to foster **mutual understanding** and enhance cooperation between the two navies.

1. Sea Phase:

- This phase will feature **joint exercises**, including:
 - **Special Forces operations**
 - **Gun firings**
 - **Communication drills**
 - **Seamanship practices**
 - **Navigation evolutions**
 - **Helicopter operations**

Significance:

- **SLINEX 2024** aims to bolster **bilateral maritime cooperation**, ensuring both India and Sri Lanka work together to address maritime security challenges and strengthen their defense and strategic ties.

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- The exercise is an important step towards fostering regional stability and promoting a collaborative approach to maritime security in the Indian Ocean region.

By engaging in these joint exercises, both nations are enhancing their ability to conduct operations in a coordinated and effective manner, reinforcing their mutual commitment to maintaining a peaceful maritime environment.