

AUSINDEX 2021

Why in News

Recently, India and Australia have participated in the 4th edition of AUSINDEX Naval Exercise.

- It comes on the heels of the <u>Malabar Naval Exercise</u>, one of the largest wargaming exercises of India, in which all the four members of the <u>Quad</u> had participated - India, Australia, the US and Japan - in the last week of August.
- These exercises are a part of the two-month deployment of the Navy's Eastern Fleet to <u>Southeast</u> <u>Asia</u>, <u>South China Sea</u> and the <u>Western Pacific</u>.



Key Points

- About:
 - It is a major biennial bilateral exercise, first held in India in 2015.
 - The 2021 exercise is being held in Australia.
 - It aims to consolidate shared commitment to regional and global security challenges **promoting peace, security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.**
 - It is **aligned to the 2020** <u>Comprehensive Strategic Partnership</u> between the two nations.
- Other Exercises:
 - Ex AUSTRA HIND (Bilateral Exercise with Army), <u>EX PITCH BLACK</u> (Australia's multilateral air combat training exercise)
- Other Developments:
 - **Supply Chain Resilience Initiative** (launched by India, Japan and Australia)

• Mutual Logistic Support Arrangement (MLSA)

Source: IE

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