## TRAINING FOR JOINT OPERATION IN ANDAMAN SEA: EXERCISE KAVACH

Relevant for: Security Related Matters | Topic: Security challenges and their management in Border Areas

A large scale Joint Militaryexercise 'Exercise Kavach' involving assets ofIndian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and Indian Coast Guard is being conducted in the coming week under the aegis of the Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC), the only Joint Forces Command of the country. The exercise would involve participation and deployment of elements of Army's Amphibious Brigade along with supporting forces includingSpecial Forces of Navy, Armour/Mechanised components, Naval Ships comprising Destroyers, ASW Corvettes and Landing Ships withship-bornehelicopters of Eastern Naval Command and ANC, Jaguar Maritime Strike and Transport aircrafts from Indian Air Force and assets of Coast Guard.

The exercise involves synergised application of maritime surveillance assets, coordinated air and maritime strikes, air defence, submarine and landing operations. Concurrently Joint Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) exercise involving various technical, electronic and human intelligence from three services will be conducted. The ISR exercise will validate the capabilities of intelligence gathering from space, air, land and sea-based assets/ sensors, its analysis and sharing to achieve battle field transparency for quick decision making at different stages of operations.

The joint force would execute multi domain, high intensity offensive and defensive manoeuvres in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal and carry out amphibious landingoperations, air landed operation, helicopters-borne insertion of Special Forces from sea culminating in tactical followon operations on land. The tri-services exerciseaims to fine tune joint war-fighting capabilities and SOPs towards enhancing operational synergy.

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