

INDIAN NAVY TO HOST FIRST EDITION OF COMMANDERS' CONFERENCE - 2026 AT NEW DELHI

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First edition of Indian Navy's biannual Commanders' Conference 2026 is scheduled over a period of three days at **Nausena Bhawan, New Delhi**, from **14 Apr to 16 Apr 2026**. The Apex Level Conference offers a stage for comprehensive review of Navy's operational posture to protect national maritime interests, capability development and strategic alignment with national security objectives.

This edition holds significant importance in the light of **swift naval deployments to safeguard India's Energy Security, amidst ongoing conflict in West Asia with convergence of Multi-National Forces (MNFs)** in the Indian Ocean Region. The Conference also bears prominent significance in reaffirming Navy's operational doctrine, inter-services coordination and technology driven response mechanisms post 'Op Sindoor'.

The Conference features addresses by the Chief of Defence Staff and the Home Secretary, and embedded discussions with senior naval leadership. Interactions are aimed at enhancing interoperability and jointness, and deriving a broader perspective on national stability, security architecture, and collaborative approach to address future maritime challenges. The forum serves as a platform for close interaction with national leadership, setting a strategic direction for the naval plans.

The Chief of the Naval Staff, along with the operational commanders and senior naval leadership, will review and assess plans to address multi-dimensional challenges in current geo-strategic environment. Alongside security imperatives, the deliberations will focus on achieving decisive operational success, enhancing blue-water capabilities, training, human resource management, sustainable maintenance practices, effective employment of uncrewed systems, Operational Logistics, and other key enablers for combat readiness of platforms. Discussions are also planned to review implementation of Artificial Intelligence roadmap for Pan Navy solutions and data-driven technologies for seamless operations.

On a broader canvas, Navy's apex leadership will review overall preparedness to deliver military success when directed by the Government, in line with Indian Navy's four roles as elaborated in Indian Maritime Doctrine (IMD). It would entail focus on sustained operations, expanding international cooperation, in addition to furthering Government of India's vision of **Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security Across Regions (MAHASAGAR)**, and efforts towards indigenisation and innovation. The deliberations during the Conference would certainly aim towards promoting **Indian Navy as the 'Preferred Security Partner' in the IOR and Indo-Pacific region**.

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