



ASEAN-INDIA MARITIME EXERCISE (AIME-2026) COMMENCES IN SUBIC BAY, PHILIPPINES

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The **Second Edition** of the ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2026) commenced at Subic Bay, Philippines, on **28 Sep 2026**, with the participation of Indian Naval Ships Sahyadri and Kulish, along with maritime forces from **ASEAN Member States**. Conducted under the theme “Anchored in Trust, United at Sea”, the exercise brings together maritime forces from India and ASEAN countries for professional, operational and social engagements aimed at enhancing mutual understanding, cooperation and interoperability.

The exercise commenced with the Opening Ceremony, wherein His Excellency **Shri Harsh Kumar Jain, Ambassador of India to the Philippines**, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour and addressed the participating maritime forces.

The Harbour Phase will comprise **a series of professional, operational and social engagements, including Subject Matter Expert Exchanges, sporting and cultural activities, community engagement and Operational Synchronisation, followed by a Pre-Sail Brief prior to commencement of the Sea Phase.**

The exercise will thereafter transition to the Sea Phase, wherein the participating maritime forces will undertake coordinated maritime exercises and operational serials. The sea phase is aimed at enhancing professional understanding, operational coordination and interoperability through practical training and coordinated activities at sea.

The participation of INS Sahyadri and INS Kulish in AIME-2026 underscores the Indian Navy's continued commitment to strengthening maritime partnerships and promoting practical cooperation with ASEAN maritime forces. The exercise is being conducted in furtherance of India's **Act East Policy** and the vision of **MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions)**.





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