



NAVDEX 21 and IDEX 21: UAE

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Why in News

Indian Naval Ship (INS) Pralaya arrived at Abu Dhabi, UAE to participate in the **NAVDEX 21 (Naval Defence Exhibition)** and **IDEX 21 (International Defence Exhibition)**, scheduled from 20 to 25 February 2021.

INS Mysore (an indigenously built guided missile destroyer deployed in the Persian Gulf) is also participating in the exhibition.

Key Points

- **About NAVDEX 21 and IDEX 21:**
 - **IDEX and NAVDEX, and the International Defence Conference are organised by the Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Company (ADNEC),** in cooperation with the Ministry of Defense and the General Command of the UAE Armed Forces.
 - **IDEX/NAVDEX takes place biennially.** The exhibitions **showcase the latest technologies and innovation** in the global defence sector, support the growth of UAE's defence industry, and forge new relationships between major international companies.
 - **IDEX** is the only international defence exhibition and conference in the **MENA region** demonstrating the latest technology across land, sea and air sectors of defence.

MENA Region: MENA is an acronym for the **Middle East and North Africa region** and includes **approximately 19 countries.**

- The MENA region accounts for approximately 6% of the world's population, 60% of the world's oil reserves, and 45% of the world's natural gas reserves.
- Countries are Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

- **INS Pralaya:**
 - INS Pralaya, a ship of the indigenously built **Prabal Class Missile Vessels**, was commissioned in the Indian Navy in 2002.
 - The ship, built indigenously at Goa Shipyard Limited, bears testimony to capabilities of the Indian shipbuilding industry and is a versatile platform capable of performing a wide variety of surface warfare missions.
- **India and UAE Defence Relations:**
 - Defence relations between **India and UAE** have been steadily growing since the upgradation of bilateral relations to a '**Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**' in 2017.
 - Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the **Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi** (capital of UAE), was a **Chief Guest at India's Republic Day celebrations** in 2017.
 - Towards enhancing interactions between the two navies, the inaugural edition of **Indian & UAE Navy bilateral exercise GULF STAR-1** was conducted in March 2018. The **next edition** of the exercise is likely to be conducted in **2021**.

India's Defence Exhibitions

- **DefExpo:** The **11th edition of DefExpo** was held for the first time in Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) in 2020.
 - It's a flagship biennial event of the Ministry of Defence.
- **Aero India:** The **13th edition of the Aero India** show was held at Bengaluru's Yelahanka Air Force Station (Karnataka).
 - Aero India is a biennial international military and civil airshow.
 - It is a premier event that draws international and Indian military and civil aircraft makers, their support industries, military brass and government dignitaries, and business visitors.

Source: PIB