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India-Philippine Maritime Exercise

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Why in News

Recently, the **Indian Navy** carried out a **Maritime Partnership Exercise** with the **Philippine Navy** in the West Philippine Sea.

Earlier **Indo-UK Naval Exercise**, '**Konkan 2021**' was held in the **English Channel**.



Key Points

- It will **strengthen bilateral collaboration in the maritime domain** towards a collective aim of **ensuring a stable, peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific**.
- This is in a **series of exercises that India is conducting with littoral nations that share their maritime boundaries with China** as part of its deployment.

- **Indian naval ships INS Ranvijay and INS Kora are currently deployed to the Western Pacific** with an aim to strengthen maritime security collaboration with partner nations.
 - The **Quad countries - India, the US, Australia and Japan** - will conduct the **next edition of the Malabar naval exercise off the coast of Guam** in the face of China's growing military muscle-flexing in the Indo-Pacific.
 - China claims sovereignty over all of the **South China Sea** (arm of the Western Pacific Ocean) a huge source of hydrocarbons. However, several **ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations** member countries, including Vietnam, the Philippines and Brunei, have counterclaims.

Source: IE