



## VARUNA 2022

### Why in News ?

The 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the Indian and French Navy bilateral exercise 'VARUNA-2022' is being conducted in the Arabian Sea.

- It has become a vital part of the [India-France](#) strategic bilateral relationship.



### What are the Key Points?

- **About:**
  - The Indian and French Navies **have been conducting bilateral maritime exercises since 1993**. Since 2001, these exercises have been called 'VARUNA'. This is an annual event.
  - These interactions further underscore the shared values as partner navies, in ensuring freedom of seas and commitment to an open, inclusive [Indo-Pacific](#) and a rules-based international order.
- **Other Indo-French Joint Exercises:**
  - Desert Knight-21 and Garuda (Air exercise)
  - Shakti (Army exercise)

[Source: PIB](#)

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