

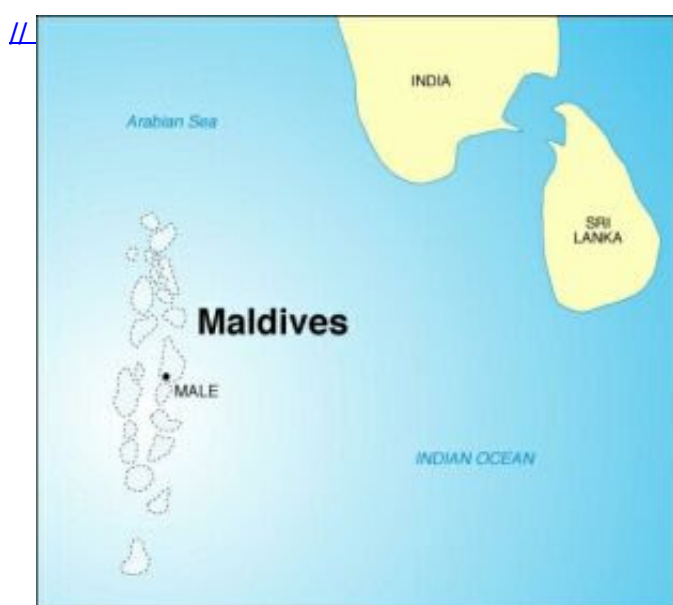


Dosti Trilateral Exercise: India, Maldives and Sri Lanka

Why in News

The **15th edition of the biennial trilateral coast guard exercise 'Dosti'** involving India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka is underway in the Maldives, which will conclude today.

- The year **2021 marks 30 years** since these exercises were first launched.



Key Points

▪ About:

- The exercise was **first initiated in 1991**, between the Indian and Maldives Coast Guard. Sri Lanka joined the exercise for the **first time in 2012**.
- The Exercises carried out over the past ten years have **focused on exercises and drills on providing assistance in sea accidents**, eliminating sea pollution, and the Coast Guard's procedure and conduct during situations such as oil spills.
- **Indian Coast Guard vessels Vajra and Apoorva** have been deployed for the exercise (2021).

▪ Aim of the Exercise:

- To further **fortify the friendship, enhance mutual operational capability**, and exercise interoperability and to build cooperation between the Coast Guards of Maldives, India and Sri Lanka.

▪ Recent Security Related Development:

- In August this year (2021), India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives agreed to work on what are

called the “**four pillars**” of security cooperation.

- These involved the areas of marine security, human trafficking, counter-terrorism and cyber security.
- Earlier, the three countries agreed to **expand the scope of intelligence sharing.**
- **Exercise between India and Srilanka:**
 - **Exercise MITRA SHAKTI** (Military Exercise)
 - **SLINEX** (Naval exercise)
- **Exercise between India and Maldives:**
 - **Exercise Ekuverin** (Military Exercise)

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