



Passage Exercise (PASSEX) 2025

[Source: TH](#)

The **Indian Navy** and the UK Royal Navy conducted a **Passage Exercise (PASSEX)** in the **North Arabian Sea**.

Passage Exercise (PASSEX)

- **About:** PASSEX refers to **joint naval exercises carried out between allied navies** when their deployments intersect. It strengthens **interoperability, communication, and strategic collaboration at sea**.
 - It also aims to enhance **tactical manoeuvres, maritime domain awareness**, and reaffirming commitment to **Indo-Pacific maritime security**.
- **Key features:** **Helicopter control drills, fleet manoeuvres, joint ASW operations, officer exchanges, real-time data sharing, and communication protocol testing** for seamless coordination.
 - India's fleet includes the stealth **frigate INS Tabar**, a conventional submarine, and the **P-8I long-range maritime aircraft**.
- **Broader Vision:** It aligns with the **India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership** and the **India-UK 2030 Roadmap**, while also supporting India's **SAGAR vision (Security and Growth for All in the Region)** and strategic presence in the Indo-Pacific.

INS Tabar

- It is the [third Talwar-class](#) stealth frigate **commissioned in April 2004** in Russia, and the **first to carry BrahMos missiles**.
- Serving with the Western Fleet in Mumbai, it is **equipped for air, surface, and sub-surface missions**, and **operates independently or within a naval task force**, featuring advanced weapons like [Barak-1](#) and modern sensors.

I N S T A B A R

Mean FIGHTING Machine



INS Tabar, which sunk a pirate ship on Tuesday, is one of three Talwar class multi-purpose 4,000-tonne frigates acquired by the Navy from Russia in 2003-2004. Using stealth technology and a special hull design, it's almost invisible on enemy radars



Position: Posted in the Gulf of Aden since Nov 2, 2008, to tackle Somali pirates

Capabilities: Can find and eliminate enemy submarines and large ships, warn fleet of approaching aircraft and perform patrol duties

Manned by: 180 sailors, including 18 officers. For anti-pirate mission, Tabar has a detachment of elite marine commandos

Weaponry includes an array of guns to counter threats from sea and air

Internal deck can host two rigid assault boats

Eight vertical launch cells for 'Klub-N' anti-ship and anti-submarine cruise missiles with a strike range over 200km

Landing deck carries one heavy-duty 'Kamov-31' helicopter

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Scheduled to be fitted with 290-km **BrahMos** supersonic cruise missiles

Length: 124.8m | Beam: 15.2m | Draught: 4.5m | Speed: 30 knots (56 kmph) | Cost: Over Rs 1,000cr

P-8I

- The **P-8I** is a **long-range maritime patrol** and **anti-submarine aircraft**, developed by US Boeing for India.
- With a range of over **1,200 nautical miles** and a speed of **907 kmph**, it **detects and neutralizes threats** far from Indian shores, **enhancing maritime security**.

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