INDRA 2026: India–Russia naval exercise – INS Sahyadri reaches Vladivostok

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News

Indian Navy stealth frigate INS Sahyadri reached Vladivostok, Russia, on 10 Oct 2026 for the India–Russia bilateral naval exercise INDRA 2026. The exercise runs 13–18 Oct with a harbour phase and coordinated operations at sea. Before this, the ship took part in the ASEAN–India Maritime Exercise (AIME 2026) in the Philippines.

Key facts

Exercise	INDRA 2026 – India–Russia navies; 13–18 Oct 2026
Venue	Vladivostok, Russia (Sea of Japan / Pacific)
Ship	INS Sahyadri – Shivalik-class (Project-17) stealth frigate; built by Mazagon Dock; commissioned 2012; Eastern Fleet
History	INDRA – since 2003; 2025 was the 14th edition (harbour phase at Chennai)
Context	India's 'MAHASAGAR' maritime vision

Background

- Other India–Russia drills: the first tri-service INDRA was in 2017 at Vladivostok. India and Russia share a 'Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership'; the 23rd annual summit was in Dec 2025.

- MAHASAGAR – Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions (2025), expanding the earlier 'SAGAR' (2015) vision.
- Geography: Vladivostok hosts Russia's Pacific Fleet and is the eastern end of the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Tamil Nadu link: INDRA 2025's harbour phase was held in Chennai. The Chennai–Vladivostok 'Eastern Maritime Corridor' cuts shipping time between the two countries. Kudankulam nuclear plant is built with Russian cooperation.

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