

PRESS RELEASE

July 3, 2026
Maritime Staff Office

(Announcement)

Mine Warfare Exercise (Mutsu Bay) and Japan–U.S. –India Multilateral MCM Exercise

The JMSDF will conduct a multilateral exercise with the U.S. Navy (USN), Indian Navy (IN) as described below in order to strengthen the capability of Japan-U.S. Alliance for effective deterrence and response and enhance cooperation with USN and IN.

1. Objectives

- (1) To improve JMSDF's tactical capabilities
- (2) To improve interoperability with the participating navies

2. Period

July 11–23

3. Exercise Area

Mutsu-Bay

4. Participating units

(1) JMSDF

(a) Officer in Charge of the Exercise (OCE):

RADM IKEUCHI Izuru, Commander, Amphibious and Mine Warfare Group

(b) Participants:

Surface Units (MST (1), MSO (1), MSC (6), FFM (1), YDT (1)),

Aircraft (P-1/P-3C (5), MCH-101 (3))

EOD crew, UUV

(2) USN

(a) OCE:

Commander of Mine Countermeasures Group 7 (MCMGRU7)

(b) Participants:

Surface Units (MCMV (1))

EOD crew, UUV

(3) IN

(a) OCE:

Commanding officer, EOD crew

(b) Participants:

EOD crew

5. Type of Exercise

Mine Warfare (Mine Laying, Mine Sweeping, Mine Hunting and EOD)

6. Notes

(a) The JMSDF has conducted Japan–U.S. bilateral MCM exercise since 1955, and this is the 132nd exercise.

(b) The JMSDF has conducted mine warfare exercises in Mutsu Bay since 1964, and this is the 45th exercise.