



# कौटिल्य एकेडमी

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# CURRENT AFFAIR

**18<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023**



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## Joint manoeuvres between Russia and China in the Sea of Japan

- ➔ Russia and China are going to conduct joint exercises in the Sea of Japan. This exercise has been named as **“Uttri/Interaction-2023”**.
- ➔ Warships of the Navy and fighter aircraft of the Air Force of both countries will participate in this. This is the first time Russia is sending both the Navy and the Air Force to an exercise with China.
- ➔ According to China's Defense Ministry, a Chinese naval fleet consisting of five warships and four ship-borne helicopters will participate in the exercise.
- ➔ Two Russian warships **'Gromkiy and Sovershenniy'**, participating in drills in the Sea of Japan, conducted separate training on formation movements, communications and maritime rescue with the Chinese Navy in Shanghai in early July 2023.
- ➔ The Sea of Japan is an oceanic part of the western Pacific Ocean.

→ This sea is situated between the Japan Islands, the Sakhalin Island of Russia and the mainland of the continent of Asia.

→ **Japan, Russia, North Korea** and **South Korea** come around it.

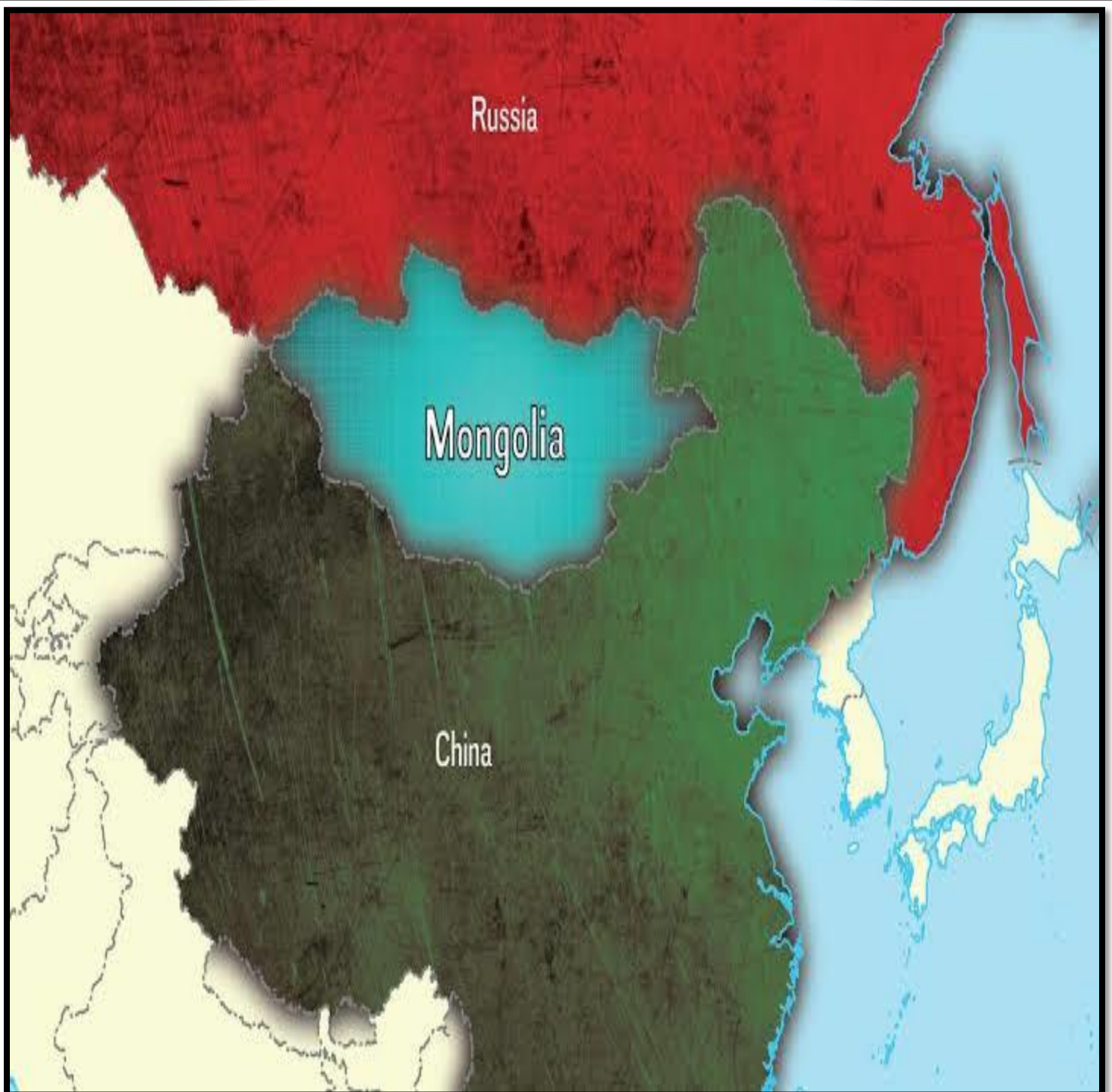


## Nomadic Elephant-23

- ➔ The Indian contingent will participate in the 15th edition of the bilateral joint military exercise '**Nomadic Elephant 23**'. The exercise is scheduled to be held **in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia** from July 17 to 31.
- ➔ The scope of the exercise includes platoon-level Field Training Exercise (FTX). During the exercise, Indian and Mongolian troops will engage in various training activities designed to enhance their skills and capabilities.
- ➔ **Exercise Nomadic Elephant** is an annual training program of India with Mongolia which is conducted alternately in Mongolia and India.
- ➔ India is also an active participant in the week-long joint training exercise Khan Quest organized annually by Mongolia.
- ➔ The objective of the exercise is to build positive military-to-military relations, exchange best practices, and develop inter-operability, camaraderie, camaraderie and friendship between the two armies.

- ➔ The scope of the exercise includes platoon-level Field Training Exercise (FTX).
- ➔ During the exercise, **Indian and Mongolian troops** engage in various training activities designed to enhance their skills and capabilities. These activities include endurance training, reflex firing, room intervention, small team tactics and rock craft training. Soldiers from both sides will learn from each other's operational experience.
- ➔ **Exercise Nomadic Elephant-23** will be another important milestone in the defence cooperation between the Indian Army and the Mongolian Army which will further boost bilateral relations between the two countries.
- ➔ The primary theme of the exercise will focus on anti-terrorist operations in mountainous terrain under the mandate of the United Nations.





## Kaas Plateau

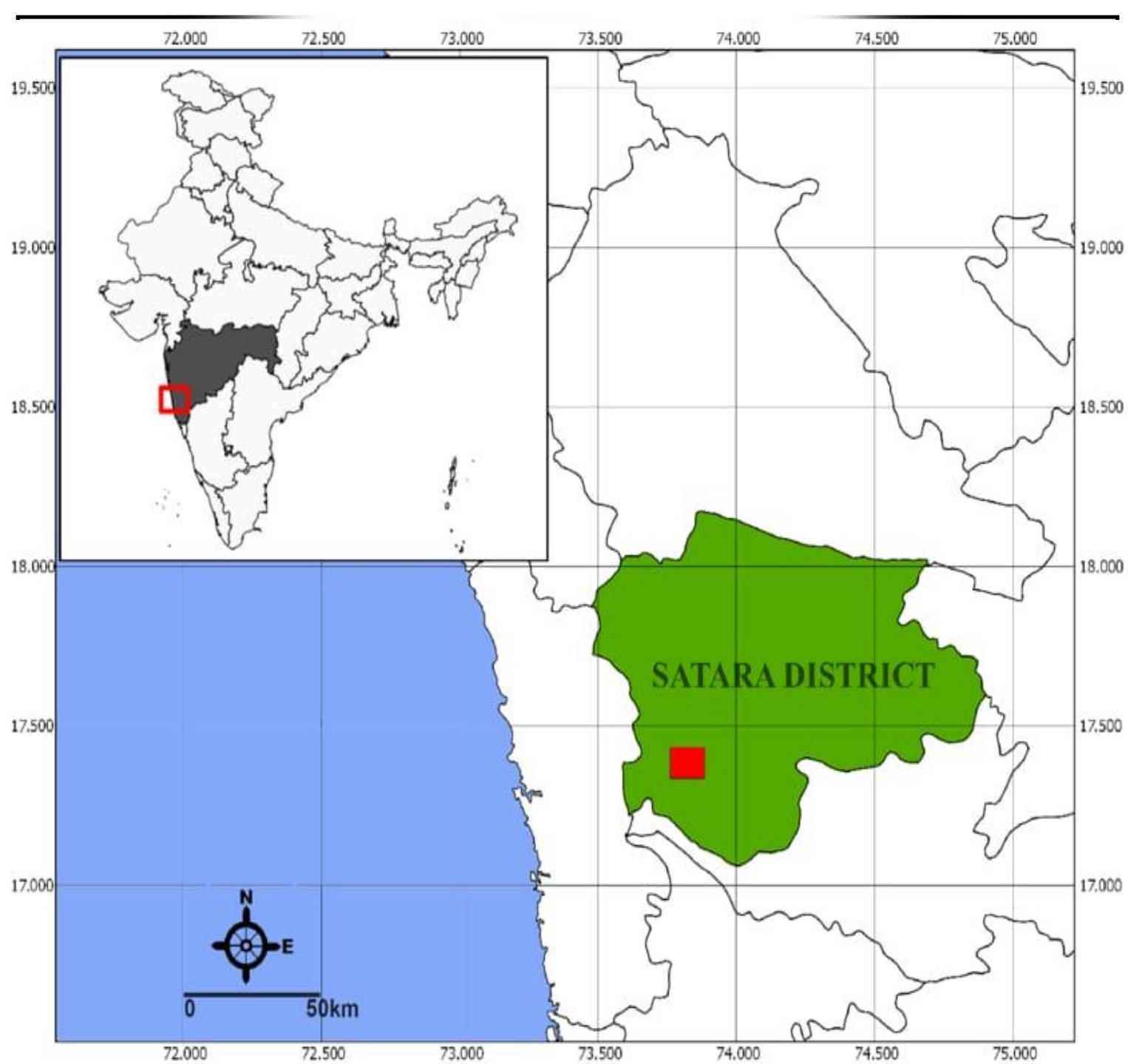
- A study was conducted on the sediments of a seasonal lake in the **Kaas Plateau** located in the **Satara district of Maharashtra**.
- The Kaas Plateau, located in the Satara district of Maharashtra, is a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site.
- A study conducted by the Agarkar Research Institute (ARI) and the National Center for Earth Sciences examined sediments from a seasonal lake in the plateau to understand past climate.
- Sediment profiles **up to 8,000 years BP** provided insight into climatic signatures and ecosystem modifications.
- The Kaas Plateau, also known as the Kaas Pathar, is a biodiversity hotspot known for its carpet of seasonal flowers during August and September.
- Located about 140 km from Pune, the Kaas Plateau is situated in the Western Ghats.
- Designated as a **UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site in 2012**.

- ➔ The plateau derives its name from the Kasa tree, scientifically known as **Eleocarpus glandulosus**.
- ➔ The plateau displays a diverse range of endemic and rare plant species.
- ➔ The **Kaas Plateau** is characterized by its lateritic layer, which has been formed by the weathering of basaltic rocks over time.
- ➔ Shallow craters and pediments contribute to the plateau's unique topography.
- ➔ These geological features play an important role in the water retention and hydrological processes of the region.
- ➔ ARI and the National Center for Earth Sciences conducted the study on sediments from a seasonal lake in the Kaas Plateau.
- ➔ Sediment profiles dating back to 8,000 years BP were analyzed using carbon dating (AMS) to decode climatic signatures.
- ➔ **Diatoms, mites, thecamoebians** and sediment characteristics provided insights into hydrological processes and lake modifications.



- ➔ Sediment analysis indicated a major shift in the Indian summer monsoon **around 8,664 yr BP** towards dry and stressed conditions with reduced rainfall.
- ➔ Pollen and diatom data suggested a change in climate from freshwater to dry conditions, with intermittent wet periods.
- ➔ At the end of the Holocene, approximately **2,827 years B.P. During 2007–2010**, a deficiency in rainfall and a weak southwest monsoon was observed.
- ➔ Pollen analysis and the presence of pollution-tolerant diatoms indicated eutrophication of the lake, possibly due to human influence and livestock farming in the catchment area.





## Bhoomi Samman 2023

- **President Draupadi Murmu** will present the **Bhoomi Samman 2023** award in New Delhi recently. Bhoomi Samman Awards will be presented to **nine State Secretaries** and **68 District Collectors** for their outstanding performance in key areas of the Digital India land records modernization programme.
- This program is very important for the revenue and registration officials of the states. For the first time in the last 75 years, he will be given the **Bhoomi Samman Award** for his outstanding work.
- **Bhoomi Samman Yojana** is a fine example of cooperative federalism of centres and States based on trust and partnership.
- These individuals have excelled in achieving saturation of core components of **DILRMP**, and have contributed significantly in digitization and computerization of land records.
- The main objective of the “**Bhoomi Samman**” scheme is to recognize and encourage outstanding performance in the implementation of **DILRMP**.

- ➔ The program is instrumental in modernizing land records and registration processes, streamlining administrative procedures and ensuring transparency and efficiency in governance.
- ➔ The Department of Land Resources has set an ambitious target of achieving 100% saturation in the digitization of land records in all districts of the country by **March 31, 2024**.
- ➔ Districts that successfully achieve 100% targets in key components of **DILRMP** receive the coveted Platinum grading. This recognition reflects his exceptional performance and commitment to embracing digital transformation and modernization in the land records sector.
- ➔ The grading system for the awards is based on the performance reports and inputs provided by the States and Union Territories, fostering a strong partnership in the computerization and digitization of land records.





GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

## BHOOMI SAMMAN

Top 75 Districts for Land Governance

Chief Guest

**Smt. Droupadi Murmu**

Hon'ble President of India

Presided by

**Shri Giriraj Singh**

Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj

Guests of Honour

**Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste**

Hon'ble Minister of State for  
Steel and Rural Development

**Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti**

Hon'ble Minister of State for  
Consumer Affairs, Food &  
Public Distribution and Rural Development

**Shri Kapil Moreshwar Patil**

Hon'ble Minister of State  
for Panchayati Raj

Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Venue : Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi