1st conference of Military Medicine for SCO Member States

News

The first conference of Military Medicine for Shanghai Co-operation Organisation (SCO) Member States will be held here on 12 – 13 September, 2019. The conference will be the first Military co-operation event hosted by India, under the SCO Defence Co-operation Plan 2019-2020, after it became a SCO Member State in 2017.

Shanghai Co-operation Organisation

SCO is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation. It’s a Eurasian political, economic and military organisation aiming to maintain peace, security and stability in the region. It was created in 2001. The SCO Charter was signed in 2002, and entered into force in 2003. It is a statutory document which outlines the organisation’s goals and principles, as well as its structure and core activities. The SCO’s official languages are Russian and Chinese.

Member Countries:
Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan

Observer Countries:
Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran, Mongolia

Objectives

- Strengthening mutual trust and neighbourliness among the member states.
- Promoting effective cooperation in politics, trade & economy, research & technology and culture.
- Enhancing ties in education, energy, transport, tourism, environmental protection, etc.
- Maintain and ensure peace, security and stability in the region.

Challenges of SCO Membership for India

Pakistan’s inclusion in SCO poses potential difficulties for India.

India’s ability to assert itself would be limited and it may have to play second fiddle since China and Russia are co-founders of SCO and its dominant powers.

India may also have to either dilute its growing partnership with the West or engage in a delicate balancing act - as SCO has traditionally adopted an anti-Western posture.