Swavlamban 2026: The Navy's Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar

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Prelims - Defence and Indigenisation

Why in the News

The Indian Navy held a press conference (curtain raiser) in New Delhi on 19 October 2026 to announce its principal naval innovation and indigenisation seminar (in PIB, the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar, NIIO Seminar) **Swavlamban 2026**. This is its fifth edition. The seminar is to be held on **26 and 27 October 2026** at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi - that is, it has not happened yet.

The Most Important Distinction:

The press conference happened on 19 October, not the seminar. Swavlamban is not a military exercise or a weapon-induction event, but a seminar connecting innovation and industry with the Navy's requirements.

What it is
: The Navy's NIIO seminar, fifth edition

When and where
: 26 and 27 October 2026, Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi

On 19 October
: A curtain-raiser press conference, not the seminar

To be released
: Swavlamban 5.0 document, Compendium on Technology Imperatives and NAUSETU interface standards

Diagram: original table.

Purpose and Format

As per PIB, the seminar will advance the Navy's efforts to turn indigenous technological innovation into operational capability and strengthen the foundation of self-reliance. Innovators, industry partners, startups, MSMEs, academia, investors and the defence forces will come together in it.

The exhibition will cover areas such as maritime surveillance, Counter-UAS, artificial intelligence and quantum, NBCD, and means that raise safety and efficiency. Interaction with investors and venture capitalists is also a key part of it.

The Swavlamban 5.0 document, a compendium of technology requirements (Compendium on Technology Imperatives) and the NAUSETU interface standard are to be released at the seminar. NAUSETU's full form in PIB is Naval Unified Systems, Ethernet and Tactical Utilisation.

Where Does Confusion Arise in the Exam?

Keep the dates separate: 19 October is the press conference and 26-27 October is the seminar. Do not take the seminar as a military exercise. Do not write the exhibition's areas as "systems that have been inducted". PIB has not announced the induction of any system into the Navy.

The Direction of Preparation from Past Questions:

The format of statement-based questions appears in UPSC Prelims 2023's official General Studies Paper-I. Therefore, remember the event's type, date, venue and purpose separately. The questions below are **original practice**, not actual PYQs.

Prelims Style: Practice Questions

Question 1. With reference to Swavlamban 2026, consider the following statements:

Statement 1: It is the Indian Navy's innovation and indigenisation seminar.
Statement 2: It is to be held on 26 and 27 October 2026 in New Delhi.
Statement 3: It is a joint military exercise of India and Australia.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

View answer and explanation
Answer: (b) Only two. Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Swavlamban is an innovation seminar, not a military exercise.

Question 2. What happened regarding Swavlamban on 19 October 2026?

(a) The fifth seminar concluded

(b) The seminar's inaugural address was delivered

(c) A curtain-raiser press conference for the fifth edition was held

(d) All the displayed systems were inducted into the Navy

View answer and explanation
Answer: (c). As per PIB, a curtain-raiser press conference was held on 19 October. The seminar is to be held on 26-27 October.

Question 3. Which of the following statements correctly follows from the PIB release?

(a) The Swavlamban 5.0 document is to be released at the seminar

(b) The seminar is confined to government laboratories only

(c) Investors have no role in the seminar

(d) This seminar is being held for the first time

View answer and explanation
Answer: (a). This is the fifth edition, industry, startups and investors are part of it, and the Swavlamban 5.0 document is to be released.

Sources:

1. PIB: Swavlamban 2026, press conference, 19 October 2026.
2. UPSC: Prelims 2023, question format.