

# Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh leaves for Uzbekistan tomorrow to participate in SCO meeting and bilateral engagements

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Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh will leave for Tashkent, Uzbekistan tomorrow (November 1) to attend a key meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and participate in bilateral engagements with the Uzbekistan government.

Shri Rajnath Singh will represent India in the meeting of Council of Heads of Government (CHG) of SCO at Tashkent on November 2, 2019. The leaders participating in the meeting are expected to focus their discussions on the multilateral economic cooperation in the SCO region.

India is actively engaged in various SCO cooperation dialogue mechanisms and further developing multilateral cooperation within the SCO framework.

This will be the third CHG meeting after India became a member of SCO. The last two CHG meetings were held between November 30- December 1, 2017 at Sochi in Russia and October 11-12, 2018 at Dushanbe in Tajikistan.

Raksha Mantri will have bilateral engagements on November 2-3. He will hold a meeting with Major General Kurbanov Bakhodir Nizamovich, Minister of Defence of Uzbekistan to discuss issues of bilateral defence cooperation. It may be noted that Armies of the two countries would be participating in the first-ever India-Uzbekistan joint exercise 'Dostlik 2019'. The exercise will be conducted from November 4-13, 2019.

**ABB/SS/Nampi/DK/Savvy/MTJ**

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