

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

ADMIRAL SCHUNKER TO HEAD EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND

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Rear Admiral M.R. Schunker has been promoted to the rank of Vice Admiral and is taking over today as Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command which has Headquarters at Vishakhapatnam. He replaces Vice Admiral S.H. Sarma, who has retired from service. Before taking up his new appointment, Admiral Schunker held the appointment of Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff at Naval Headquarters.

The new FOC-in-C East is a Graduate of J.S.S.C. and National Defence College.

Vice Admiral M.R. Schunker joined the Indian Navy in 1943 and served during the Second World War on board Patrol Vessels and Mine Sweepers. Soon after the war he served for a period in establishments at Karachi.

After Independence, he served on board the frigates Jamuna and Sutlej before proceeding to the U.K. where he graduated in the Long Gunnery Course in 1948. Thereafter, he served in various gunnery appointments including that of Squadron Gunnery Officer of a Destroyer Squadron and Gunnery Officer of the cruiser INS Mysore when she was commissioned in 1957.

In 1960 he commanded the Destroyer INS Rana after which he served at Naval Headquarters as Deputy Director of Naval Plans before taking up the appointment in 1962 as Fleet Operations Officer to the Flag Officer Commanding Indian Fleet. After a spell ashore, he took command of INS Amba, the Submarine Depot Ship. He also commanded INS Kunjali and INS Valsura, the Provost and Electrical School respectively.

In 1973 he took over as Chief of Staff to the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command and in 1976 he was appointed Flag Officer Commanding, Western Fleet.

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RMV/MRJ