

UPSC Preparation

Topic – Dharma Guardian Exercise

Dharma Guardian - Facts about Exercise Dharma Guardian for UPSC

Dharma Guardian is an Indo-Japan Joint Military Exercise that started off in 2018. The exercise takes place between the armies of both countries. The latest edition of this bilateral exercise was Dharma Guardian 2019 which took place between Indian and Japanese Armies in October 2019 at Vairengte, Mizoram. Indo-Japan bilateral exercise Dharma Guardian is an important joint military exercise and makes an important topic from [IAS Exam](#) perspective. This article will give you important facts about Dharma Guardian for UPSC preparation.

Dharma Guardian 2019

Dharma Guardian 2019 is the second edition of Indo-Japan joint military exercise. The facts about the exercise Dharma Guardian 2019 are given in the table below:

When did the Dharma Guardian 2019 take place?	It took place from October 19 to November 2, 2019.
Where did the Dharma Guardian 2019 take place?	It took place at Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School, Vairengte in Mizoram.
Who participated in Dharma Guardian 2019?	Indian and Japanese Armies participated in Dharma Guardian 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Japanese Ground Self Defence Forces (JGSDF) participated from Japan side• Both the troops of the armies consisted of 25 soldiers each
What was the aim of Dharma Guardian 2019?	India and Japan focussed on knowledge sharing of counter-terrorism operations and tactics that both have learnt from different operations held in various other countries
What is the significance of Dharma Guardian?	The exercise is held in the backdrop of the security challenges that India and Japan face due to global terrorism.
What is the scope of Dharma Guardian 2019?	The scope of this exercise covers platoon level joint training on counter terrorism operations in jungle and urban scenario.

Quick Facts about Dharma Guardian Exercise for UPSC

The table below provides relevant facts about Dharma Guardian Exercise which are generalised in nature w.r.t. Bilateral army exercises:

Dhara Guardian is an annual event/bilateral military exercise
The first edition of the Dharma Guardian exercise was held in 2018 at Counter Insurgency Warfare School, Vairengte (Mizoram), India from 01 November to 14 November 2018
The first Indo-Japan bilateral army exercise was participated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6/1 GORKHA RIFLES from Indian Army Contingent• The Japanese contingent was represented by 32 Infantry Regiment of the Japanese Ground Self Defence Force (JGSDF)
One of the important aims of the Dharma Guardian bilateral exercise is to enhance interoperability between the armies of both nations
The activities included in the exercise are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training in counter-terrorism operations• Planning of counter-terrorism operations• Execution of a series of well developed tactical drills
As per the Indian Government, the benefit of such exercise is to neutralise threats that are/may be encountered in urban warfare scenarios.

India-Japan Defence Cooperation

There is an immense scope in the defence cooperation between India and Japan. Aspirants should note down the brief points about India-Japan defence cooperation mentioned below:

1. India-Japan Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation was signed in 2008.
2. Foreign and Defence Ministerial Dialogue (2+2) has been instituted between the nations. The other mechanisms to enhance defence cooperation between India and Japan are:
 - a. Annual Defence Ministerial Dialogue
 - b. Defence Policy Dialogue
 - c. National Security Advisers' Dialogue
 - d. Staff-level Dialogue of each service
3. The two nations have started the negotiations on the Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA), which will enhance the strategic depth of bilateral security and defence cooperation.
4. India and Japan intends to cooperate with defence equipment and defence technology
5. Both the nations aim to strengthen defence technological capabilities through joint efforts of both public and private sectors.
6. There is a mutual reaffirmation on improving interaction between Indian and Japanese defence industries
7. India and Japan have welcomed the commencement of the cooperative research in the area of Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) and Robotics.

The above details on Dharma Guardian will be helpful for the upcoming [UPSC 2020](#) exam.

