UPSC Preparation

Topic – Hand-in-Hand Exercise

Hand in Hand exercise is India-China joint military exercise. The exercise takes place between the armies of both countries. The aim of Hand in Hand exercise is to enhance interoperability between the two armies to counter-terrorism. It is one of the important joint military exercises of India with another nation and makes an important topic for the IAS Exam. This article will provide relevant facts about Hand in Hand Exercise for the UPSC preparation.

Hand-in-Hand Exercise 2019

Hand in Hand Exercise - India & China

The following facts about Hand-in-Hand exercise are important from the UPSC Civil Services Examination (CSE) perspective:

Hand-in-Hand 2019	
What is the Hand-in-Hand Military Exercise 2019?	It is a bilateral army exercise between India and China
Which country participates in Hand-in-Hand exercise?	India and China participate in Hand-in-Hand exercise
When does Hand-in-Hand 2019 take place?	Hand-in-Hand 2019 is the 8th edition of India-China military exercise that took place in December 2019 (7th-20th)
What is the theme of Hand-in-Hand exercise 2019?	The theme was counter-terrorism under United Nations (UN) mandate

Where did the India-China military exercise take place?	Hand-in-Hand Exercise 2019 took place in Umroi, Meghalaya (India)
Which military force participated in the exercise?	Armies of both the nations participated. The Chinese contingent from the Tibet Military command comprising of 130 personal and the Indian Contingent of similar strength were a part of the exercise
At which level does this exercise take place?	The exercise Hand-in-Hand took place at company level and Battalion headquarters headed the training **Note**: A company is called a military unit having a respective number of soldiers.
Significant activity in the Hand-in-Hand exercise 2019	Two tactical exercises took place during the training: • One on counter-terrorism scenario • The other on Humanitarian and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations

Facts about Hand-in-Hand Exercise for IAS Exam

The table below mentions the fact about Hand-in-Hand exercise that will be useful for UPSC Prelims as questions from joint military exercises have been asked before:

Hand-in-Hand Exercise - Facts for UPSC
It is a joint military exercise between the Indian and Chinese Army
The recent edition of Hand-in-Hand exercise took place in 2019 from 7th-20th December at Umroi (Meghalaya)
The aim of the Hand-in-Hand exercise is: • Practising joint planning • Conducting exercises meant to counter-terrorism • Hold training in semi-urban terrains
Activities involved in Hand-in-Hand exercises: • Lectures • Drills to handle counter-terrorism operations • Firing training • Special Heliborne Operations • Case studies of various other military operations that have taken place in a counter-terrorism environment

List of Hand-in-Hand Exercise (Year-Wise)

The table below mentions the editions of Hand-in-Hand exercise with year and locations:

Hand-in-Hand Exercise Edition	Year	Location

I	2007	Kunming, China
II	2008	Belgaum, India
III	2013	Chengdu, China
IV	2014	Pune, India
V	2015	Kunming, China
VI	2016	Pune, India
VII	2018	Chengdu, China
VIII	2019	Umroi, India

India-China Defence Cooperation

The following points are important with respect to India-China military cooperation:

1. In 2018, ninth India-China Annual Defence and Security Dialogue (ADSD) was held in Beijing on 13 November.
2. In the International Fleet Review that was conducted at Visakhapatnam in February 2016. Two Chinese naval ships participated.
3. Two Indian naval ships, the INS Kolkata and the INS Shakti took part in the International Fleet Review in Qingdao, Shandong in April 2019, held as part of the 70th-anniversary celebrations of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy
4. India and China also have a High-Level Dialogue Mechanism on Counter-Terrorism and Security. The mechanism first met in Beijing in September 2016.