

UPSC Preparation

List of Joint Military Exercises of the Indian Army

Indian Military Exercises

The Indian military exercises can be segregated into 3 categories:

1. Domestic exercise
2. Bilateral Exercise
3. Multilateral exercise

Domestic exercise – This exercise aims to improve internal engagements and there can be inter-services or intra-services depending on nature and its application.

List of military domestic exercises:

1. Gandiv Vijay
2. Paschim Lehar
3. Vayu Shakti
4. Vijay Prahar

Bilateral exercise – These exercises are conducted between two countries.

The following table provides you with a list of important Indian bilateral army exercises.

Exercise Name	Participant Nations
Sampriti	India & Bangladesh
Mitra Shakti	India & Sri Lanka
Maitree Exercise	India & Thailand
Vajra Prahar	India & US
Yudh Abhyas	India & US
Nomadic Elephant	India & Mongolia
Garuda Shakti	India & Indonesia
Shakti Exercise	India & France
Dharma Guardian	India & Japan

Surya Kiran	India & Nepal
Hand in Hand Exercise	India & China

Multilateral exercise – These exercises are conducted by the military including more than one partner nations.

List of major multilateral exercises conducted by the military are given below:

Multilateral exercise	No of Participating countries
RIMPAC	26
MALABAR	3
COBRA-GOLD	Asia – Pacific countries
Samvedna	South Asian Region Nations

Latest Important Military Exercises – 2021

The table given below mentions the latest editions of all the important military exercises of India with other nations.

Exercise name	Country participated with India	Latest Date/Year/Edition	Held at
Al Nagah-III	Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12th March 2019 3rd Edition 	Jabal AL Akhdar training camp, Oman
Bold Kurukshetra	Singapore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9th April 2019 12th Edition 	Babina Military Station in Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh
Ekuverin	Maldives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7th October 2019 10th Edition 	Pune, Maharashtra
Garuda Shakti IV	Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19th February 2018 6th Edition 	Bandung, Indonesia

Hand in Hand	China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7th December 2019 • 8th Edition 	Umroi, Meghalaya
Indra	Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4th September 2020 • 11th Edition 	Andaman Sea
Khanjar V	Kyrgyzstan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16th March 2019 • 5th Edition 	Vairengte in Mizoram
Lamitye	Seychelles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2018 • 8th Edition 	Mahe Island in Seychelles
Maitree	Thailand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16th September 2019 • 14th Edition 	Umroi, Meghalaya
Mitra Shakti-VII	Sri Lanka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st December 2019 • 7th Edition 	Pune, Maharashtra
Multi-national FTX/Exercise Force Eighteen	18 ASEAN Plus countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd March 2016 	Pune, India
Nomadic Elephant	Mongolia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5th October 2019 • 14th Edition 	Bakloh Cantonment, Himachal Pradesh
Prabal Dostyk	Kazakhstan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd November 2017 • Second Edition 	Himachal Pradesh
Sampriti-IX	Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd February 2020 • 9th Edition 	Umroi, Meghalaya
Surya Kiran XIV	Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd December 	Saljhandi, Nepal

		2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14th Edition 	
Yudh Abhyas	United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th February 2021 • 16th Edition 	Rajasthan

Facts About Indian Army for UPSC

The table below gives a few important and interesting facts about the Indian Army:

Indian Army
Indian Army is the world's largest ground force, overtaking China
There are approximately 1.4 million personnel in the Indian Army
The largest standing volunteer army in the world is Indian Army with 1,129,900 Active personnel and 960,000 Reserves
There are recruiting zones in the country for the purpose of recruitment in the Indian Army
The headquarters of Indian Army is in New Delhi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first headquarters of Indian Army – Red Fort, Delhi • Today – Portions of South Block along with a gigantic, architecturally modern Sena Bhavan adjacent.
In India, command headquarters is known as Field Army with a General Officer Commanding-in-Chief presiding over matters in the rank of a (three-star) Lieutenant General.
The head of the Indian Army staff is called the Chief of Army Staff (COAS.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current Army Chief is General Manoj Mukund Naravane • Earlier, General Bipin Rawat was the Indian Army Chief
Indian Army also has Vice Chief and two Deputy Chiefs of Army Staff
In the Indian Army, corps are the field force. They are of two types – Holding Corps and Strike Corps