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## India-Japan: Dharma Guardian | Rajasthan | 26 Feb 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the **fifth edition** of joint military exercise '[Dharma Guardian](#)' between **Indian and Japanese land forces** commenced at the **Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan**.

### Key Points

- The two-week drill is an **annual exercise** conducted alternatively in India and Japan.
  - The **Japanese contingent** is being represented by troops from the **34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment** and the [Indian Army](#) is being represented by a **battalion from the Rajputana Rifles**.
- The **aim of the exercise** is to foster **military cooperation and enhance combined capabilities** to execute joint operations in semi-urban environments under the United [Nations Charter](#).
- The event would focus on a high degree of physical fitness, joint planning, joint tactical drills and basics of special arms skills.

### The Rajputana Rifles

- It is the **oldest rifle regiment** of the Indian Army.
- It was originally a part of the **British Indian Army**, when six previously existing regiments were amalgamated to form six battalions of the 6<sup>th</sup> Rajputana Rifles.
- In 1945, the numeral designation was dropped from the title and in 1947 the regiment was transferred to the **newly independent Indian Army**.
- Since independence, the regiment has been **involved in** a number of **conflicts against Pakistan**, as well as contributing to the **Custodian Force (India) in Korea** under the aegis of the **United Nations in 1953-54** and to the **UN Mission to the Congo in 1962**.

### Charter of the United Nations

- The Charter of the UN is the founding document of the UN. It was **signed on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1945**, in **San Francisco** and **came into force on 24<sup>th</sup> October 1945**.
- The UN can take action on a wide variety of issues due to its unique international character and the powers vested in its Charter, which is considered an **international treaty**.
  - As such, the UN Charter is an **instrument of international law**, and UN Member States are bound by it.
- The [International Court of Justice \(ICJ\)](#), the primary judicial body of the [United Nations \(UN\)](#), operates by its Statute, annexed to the UN Charter as an integral part.