

## India & China in Russian War Games

## Why in News?

Indian and Chinese troops will take part in **military exercises** in Russia at the end of August 2022, the first such major war games (military drills) to be hosted by Russia since its **invasion of Ukraine** in February 2022.

While there was no comment from the Ministry of External Affairs of India, the Chinese Defence Ministry said the exercise is 'unrelated' to the regional conditions.

## What do we need to know about the Military Drill?

- Led by host Russia, the drill will include troops from India, Belarus, Mongolia, Tajikistan and other countries besides China.
- The drill, which will be held between 30th August 2022 to 5th September 2022 at various military facilities in Russia.
  - It is likely to be closely tracked globally given the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine.
- The drills will bring together the airborne forces, long-range and military transport aircraft and also military contingents of other countries.

## What are India's Exercises with China & Russia?

- China:
  - Exercise Hand-in-Hand:
    - The aim of the exercise is to **practice joint planning** and conduct of counter terrorist operations in semi urban terrain.
- Russia:
  - Exercise Indra:
    - The exercise will entail the conduct of counter terror operations under the **United**Nations mandate by a joint force against international terror groups.
    - The INDRA series of exercises began in 2003 and was conducted as a bilateral naval exercise alternately between the two countries.
      - However, the first joint Tri-Services Exercise was conducted in 2017.
  - Exercise TSENTR:
    - Exercise TSENTR 2019 is part of the annual series of large-scale exercises that form part of the Russian Armed Forces' annual training cycle.
    - The series rotates through the four main Russian operational strategic commands i.e **Vostok** (East), **Zapad** (West), **TSENTR** (Centre) and **Kavkas** (South).

**Source: TH** 

