



Exercise Dharma Guardian 2024

[Source: PIB](#)

The **5th edition** of Joint Military Exercise '[Dharma Guardian](#)' between the [Indian Army](#) and the **Japan Ground Self Defence Force** started on 25th February and will conclude on 9th March 2024 at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.

- Exercise 'Dharma Guardian' is an **annual exercise** conducted alternatively in India and Japan.
- The Exercise aims to foster **military cooperation** and enhance **combined capabilities** to execute joint operations in the semi-urban environment under Chapter VII of the [United Nations Charter](#).
- The exercise will emphasise **high physical fitness**, joint planning, tactical drills, and basic special arms skills, including establishing a temporary operating base, creating an ISR grid, setting up mobile vehicle checkpoints, conducting cordon and search operations, heliborne operations, and house intervention drills.
 - The exercise will enhance **defence cooperation** and bilateral relations by fostering camaraderie and sharing **best practices** in tactical operations.
- A Weapon and Equipment Display will also be organised showcasing the '[Atmanirbhar Bharat](#)' [initiative](#) and the growing defence industrial capability of the country.
- India and Japan's defence forces also organise a series of bilateral exercises such as:
 - [JIMEX \(naval\)](#), [Malabar exercise \(Naval Exercise\)](#), 'Veer Guardian' and SHINYUU Maitri (Air Force), and [Dharma Guardian \(Army\)](#).

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