



Exercise Cyclone- III | Rajasthan | 14 Feb 2025

Why in News?

Recently, the Joint Special Forces [Exercise " Cyclone-III"](#) between India and Egypt began from 10 February 2025 at Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan.

Key Points

- **About the Cyclone-III:**
 - It is an annual exercise, held alternately **in both countries** .
 - Its last edition was held **in Ansas, Egypt in January 2024** .
 - The Indian team will have 25 soldiers, who will be represented by soldiers of two **special forces battalions**.
 - The Egyptian team will also have 25 soldiers, who will be represented by soldiers of **Egypt's Special Forces Group and Task Force**.
- **Objectives:**
 - **To strengthen military ties** between the two countries .
 - Paying special attention to physical fitness, joint planning and tactical exercises.
 - To rehearse and validate tactical exercises for [counter-terrorism operations](#) in [desert and semi-desert areas](#) .
 - It will also include a demonstration of indigenous military equipment by Egypt and an inspection of **the defence manufacturing industry** .

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Egypt



▪ **About:**

- Egypt is a transcontinental country in northeastern Africa and the Sinai Peninsula in Western Asia (Middle East).
- **Cairo** is the capital of Egypt.
- **Boundaries:**
 - **North:** Borders the Mediterranean Sea.
 - **East:** Bordered by the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea.
 - **West:** Shares a land border with Libya.
 - **Northeast:** Borders the Gaza Strip (Palestinian territory) and Israel.
 - **South:** Shares a border with Sudan.
- **Maritime Borders:**
 - **Mediterranean Sea:** Shares maritime borders with Cyprus, Turkey, and Greece.
 - **Red Sea:** Shares maritime borders with Jordan and Saudi Arabia.
- Egypt gained modern **independence in 1922**.
- The official language is **Modern Standard Arabic**.
- The commonly spoken dialect is **Egyptian Arabic (Masri)**.
- **Islam is the dominant religion**, with 85-90% of the population being Sunni Muslim.
- **Major River:**
 - **The River Nile** is the only year-round flowing river in Egypt.
 - Around 98% of the population lives in **the Nile River Valley**.