

**12– 03 – 2024**

**News: Exercise Dharma Guardian**

- The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of Joint Military Exercise 'Dharma Guardian' between the Indian Army and the Japan Ground Self Defence Force started at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.

**Exercise Dharma Guardian**

- 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).