

# Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR

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#### **Context:**

The 15th edition of the India-US joint Special Forces Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR is set to take place from 2nd to 22nd November 2024 at the Orchard Combat Training Centre in Idaho, USA.

The exercise will be conducted with a focus on enhancing military cooperation between the Indian and US **Armies through joint Special Forces operations.** 

This exercise is part of a series of joint drills between the two countries, building on the **Exercise YUDH ABHYAS 2024** held earlier in Rajasthan in September 2024.

## **Key Details:**

- Participants: The exercise will see 45 personnel from each side, with Special Forces units from the Indian Army and the **Green Berets** (Special Forces) from the US Army.
- Objective: The primary aim of VAJRA PRAHAR is to promote interoperability, jointness, and the mutual exchange of tactics between the two forces, particularly in the area of Special Operations.
- Focus Areas:
- Special Operations in Desert/Semi-Desert Environments: The training will specifically enhance capabilities in executing operations in such terrain, with high emphasis on physical fitness, joint planning, and tactical drills.
- **Key Drills**: The participants will rehearse various drills, including:
- Joint Team Mission planning
- Reconnaissance missions
- Employment of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)
- Execution of Special Operations
- Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) actions
- Psychological Warfare in Special Operations

### **Benefits of the Exercise:**

- Interoperability and Camaraderie: The exercise is expected to significantly boost the interoperability between the two armies, helping to create better coordination during joint missions. It also fosters greater bonhomie and camaraderie between the soldiers of both nations.
- Best Practices Exchange: Both sides will have the opportunity to share valuable experiences and best practices related to the conduct of joint Special Forces operations.

The VAJRA PRAHAR exercise is a crucial component of the growing defense ties between India and the United States, reflecting the deepening military cooperation and shared strategic interests between the two countries.

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