



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Indian Army to Host First-Ever International Military Adventure Challenge Cup (IMACC) 2026

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The Indian Army will host the inaugural International Military Adventure Challenge Cup (IMACC) 2026 from 18 to 23 February 2026 in the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas.

Key Highlights of IMACC 2026

Participating Countries: Military teams from seven friendly nations — Bhutan, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Saudi Arabia — will compete alongside teams from the Indian Army, Indian Air Force, Indian Coast Guard and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

Focus of the Competition: Designed to assess physical fitness, mental resilience, teamwork, leadership and decision-making under pressure, the challenges will be conducted in tough mountain terrain conditions similar to real-world operational environments.

Objective: Beyond competition, IMACC aims to enhance defence cooperation, promote mutual respect and camaraderie among armed forces, and reinforce military bonding and goodwill between nations.

International Military Sports: Such events historically foster trust and cooperation among global armed forces under the banner of the International Military Sports Council (CISM), whose motto is "Friendship through Sport." India previously hosted the 4th CISM Military World Games in 2007, one of the largest global military sporting events.

Strategic and Training Significance

High-Altitude Terrain: Conducting IMACC in the Eastern Himalayas underscores the Indian Army's emphasis on operational preparedness in mountainous and high-altitude environments, which are critical for India's defence,

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especially along the northern borders.

Joint Multinational Event: IMACC strengthens defence diplomacy and military cooperation with friendly countries — a key aspect of India’s strategic partnerships in the region.

About CISM

CISM (International Military Sports Council): Established in 1948, CISM is a global military sports body that organises international military sports events to promote peace and friendship among soldiers worldwide. Its motto “Friendship through Sport” reflects its ethos of unity beyond conflict. India’s participation and hosting of events under CISM reflect its active role in global military sports cooperation.

Eastern Himalayas: A strategically vital mountainous region covering parts of Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and North Bengal, known for its challenging terrain and high altitudes.