



VAJRA PRAHAR – DEFENCE / EXERCISE

Overview of Exercise Vajra Prahar 2024

- **Exercise Name:** Vajra Prahar – 15th India-US Joint Special Forces Exercise.
- **Date:** Scheduled from November 2 to November 22, 2024.
- **Location:** Orchard Combat Training Centre, Idaho, USA.
- **Previous Edition:** The last edition was conducted in December 2023 in Umroi, Meghalaya, India.

Background and Recent Exercises

- **Prior Joint Exercises in 2024:** This is the second joint military exercise between India and the US in 2024, following Exercise Yudh Abhyas held in Rajasthan in September.
- **Contingent Details:** Both countries are represented by a 45-member team each; the Indian team includes Special Forces units, while the US team consists of elite Green Berets.



Objectives of Exercise Vajra Prahar

- **Military Cooperation:** The exercise aims to enhance defense collaboration and strengthen bilateral military relations.
- **Interoperability:** Focused on building the ability to conduct seamless joint operations.
- **Tactical Knowledge Sharing:** Encourages the exchange of specialized tactics and strategies used in special operations.



Key Focus Areas

- **Training Environment:** Participants will undergo training to effectively operate in desert and semi-desert terrains.
- **Physical Fitness:** Emphasis on high levels of physical endurance and fitness required for special operations.
- **Collaborative Planning:** Includes joint planning and execution of tactical exercises to strengthen team coordination.

Major Drills and Activities

- **Joint Team Mission Planning:** Training sessions for missions requiring close collaboration between Indian and US forces.
- **Reconnaissance Operations:** Scouting and intelligence-gathering exercises for mission preparation.
- **Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS):** Training on the use of drones for real-time operational support and intelligence.
- **Special Operations Execution:** Hands-on training focused on executing special operations.
- **Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) Actions:** Training for air-ground coordination, with techniques for calling in air support during missions.
- **Psychological Warfare Tactics:** Introduction to psychological strategies aimed at influencing and impacting enemy morale and operations during special missions.

This exercise is part of the ongoing India-US defense partnership, aiming to strengthen capabilities in joint special operations and reinforce strategic military ties between the two nations.

Source: <https://www.newsonair.gov.in/15th-india-us-joint-special-forces-exercise-vajra-prahar-to-begin-today/>