

# **EXERCISE UDARA SHAKTI- 2024**

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### Context:

Recently, the Indian Air Force and Royal Malaysian Air Force participated in Exercise Udara Shakti 2024.

### **Background:**

It was held from August 5-9, 2024, at the RMAF base in Kuantan, Malaysia.

#### Key takeaways:

- 1. Exercise Udara Shakti 2024 is a significant bilateral air force exercise between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF).
- 2. Exercise Udara Shakti aimed to enhance military cooperation and strengthen the strategic partnership between India and Malaysia.
- 3. Both air forces deployed their Sukhoi Su-30 fighter jets for the exercise. The IAF participated with its Su-30MKI aircraft, while the RMAF fielded its Su-30MKM aircraft.

## What other joint exercises have India participated in?

- 1. Mitra Shakti: This is an annual exercise with Sri Lanka, focusing on counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations. The latest edition began on August 12, 2024, in Sri Lanka.
- 2. Yudh Abhyas: A joint military exercise with the United States, aimed at improving interoperability and sharing best practices in counter-terrorism operations.
- 3. Hand-in-Hand: Conducted with China, this exercise focuses on counter-terrorism and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.
- 4. Indra: A series of joint exercises with Russia, covering all three services (Army, Navy, and Air Force) to enhance bilateral defence cooperation.
- 5. Shakti: A biennial exercise with France, focusing on counter-terrorism operations and enhancing interoperability between the two armies.
  - 6. Nomadic Elephant: Conducted with Mongolia, this exercise focuses on counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations.