India – Thailand Joint Military Exercise MAITREE-XIV Begins in Meghalaya

The 14th edition of **Exercise MAITREE** between India and Thailand started on **1st September 2025** at the **Joint Training Node, Umroi, Meghalaya**. The exercise will continue till **14th September 2025**.

This bilateral exercise is part of the ongoing military exchange programme to strengthen **friendship, cooperation, and interoperability** between the Indian Army and the Royal Thai Army.

Key Details

- **Indian Army Contingent:** 120 personnel from a Battalion of the **Madras Regiment**.

- **Royal Thai Army Contingent:** 53 personnel from the **1st Infantry Battalion, 14th Infantry Brigade**.

- **Focus Area:** Counter-terrorism operations at the company level in **semi-urban terrain**, conducted under **Chapter VII of the UN Charter** (Peacekeeping Operations).

- **Activities:**

    - Tactical drills

    - Joint planning

    - Special weapons and arms training

    - Physical fitness

    - Raiding operations

- **Final Event:** A **48-hour validation exercise** simulating real operational scenarios.

Background

- Exercise MAITREE was first conducted in **2006**.

- It is held **alternatively in India and Thailand**.

- The last edition (**13th**) was held at **Fort Vachiraprakan, Tak Province, Thailand**.

- The exercise highlights both countries' commitment to **peace, stability, and security** in the region.

FAQs

Q1. What is Exercise MAITREE?
It is a joint military exercise between the Indian Army and the Royal Thai Army, focused on improving coordination and counter-terrorism skills.

Q2. Where is MAITREE-XIV being held in 2025?
At the **Joint Training Node (JTN), Umroi, Meghalaya**.

Q3. Which Indian regiment is participating this year?
A **Battalion of the Madras Regiment**.

Q4. What is the main theme of the exercise?
Counter-terrorist operations in **semi-urban areas**, as per **UN Chapter VII peacekeeping mandates**.

Q5. When was Exercise MAITREE started?
It was first conducted in **2006**.

Q6. What happened in the last edition?
The **13th edition (2023)** was conducted in **Thailand (Tak Province)**.

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