



INDIAN ARMY CONTINGENT DEPARTS FOR INDIA-UAE JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE DESERT CYCLONE 2025

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An Indian Army contingent has departed for the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to participate in the second edition of the India-UAE Joint Military Exercise **DESERT CYCLONE-II**, scheduled to be conducted at **Abu Dhabi, UAE, from 18 to 30 December 2025**.

The Indian contingent **comprises 45 personnel**, primarily from a battalion of **The Mechanised Infantry Regiment**. The UAE Land Forces contingent, of similar strength, will be represented by the **53 Mechanised Infantry Battalion**.

The aim of the exercise is to enhance interoperability and foster defence cooperation between the Indian Army and the UAE Land Forces through joint training in an urban environment, with a focus on **sub-conventional operations** under a **United Nations mandate**, enabling both forces to operate together in **peacekeeping, counter-terrorism and stability operations**.

Over nearly two weeks, troops from both countries will jointly train on a wide spectrum of tactical drills including **fighting in built-up areas, heliborne operations and detailed mission planning**. In addition, the **integration of UAS and counter-UAS techniques** will be carried out for conduct of operations in built-up areas.

Building on the momentum of the successful visit of the **Commander, UAE Land Forces, on 27-28 October 2025 and Commander UAE Presidential Guard on 15-19 December 2025**, Exercise DESERT CYCLONE-II will further strengthen bilateral defence cooperation between India and the UAE.

The conduct of DESERT CYCLONE-II underscores the deepening strategic partnership and military diplomacy between India and the UAE, reaffirming the shared commitment of both nations to regional peace, security and stability. The exercise will further cement professional bonds between the two armies, promote mutual understanding of tactics, techniques and procedures, and contribute to the development of interoperable capabilities.



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