

# Exercise Shakti, 2021

November 15, 2021

**In news**– The 6th Edition of the biennial training exercise “EX SHAKTI 2021” is being conducted from 15 to 26 November 2021 in Frejus, France.

## **About the exercise**–

- It **focuses on Counter-Terrorism operations** in backdrop of semi-urban terrain under United Nations Mandate with an aim to enhance military cooperation and interoperability between the two Armies.
- **The Gorkha Rifles Infantry Battalion is representing the Indian Army** in this bilateral exercise.
- **The French side is being represented by troops of 21st Marine Infantry Regiment** of 6th Light Armoured Brigade.
- The **Gorkha Rifles contingent’s contributions in 1971** war was **recognized by Battle Honour SHINGO River Valley and Theatre Honour of Jammu & Kashmir**.
- **The French Army contingent was raised in 1831** under the name of 2nd Marine Regiment and later renamed as 21st Marine Infantry Regiment in 1901.
- The Regiment specialises in amphibious warfare and has varied operational experiences in Africa, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan & Mali.
- **The last edition of Exercise SHAKTI** was conducted at Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, **Rajasthan from 31 Oct to 13 Nov 2019**.
- **India and France carry out three biennial training exercises** – Exercise Garuda with the Indian Air Force, Exercise Varuna with the Indian Navy and Exercise Shakti with Indian Army.