

Exercise ZAPAD 2021

September 3, 2021

In news— Indian Army is participating in Exercise ZAPAD 2021, a Multinational exercise being held at Nizhniy, Russia from 03 to 16 September 2021.

About Exercise ZAPAD-2021-

- It is one of the **theatre level exercises of the Russian Armed Forces** and **will focus primarily on operations against terrorists.**
- From India, the NAGA Battalion group participating in the exercise will feature an all Arms combined task force.
- **The exercise aims to enhance military and strategic ties** amongst the participating nations while they plan & execute this exercise.
- **Around 17 countries from Eurasian and South Asian Region** have been invited by Russia for the exercise.
- **Of these nine are Participating countries** which **include** Mongolia, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Russia, **India** and Belarus.
- **The other eight countries are Observers which include** Pakistan, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Uzbekistan and Sri Lanka.

The NAGA Regiment-

- The Naga Regiment is an infantry regiment of the Indian Army.
- It is among the **youngest regiments of the Indian Army** – the first battalion was raised in Ranikhet in 1970.
- The regiment **recruits mainly from Nagaland**, in northeast India.
- The first battalion of the regiment (1 Naga) was raised at the Kumaon Regimental Centre, Ranikhet on 1 November

1970.