Exercise Khaan Quest

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

The Indian Army contingent is set to depart today to participate in the multilateral joint military exercise - Exercise KHAAN QUEST.

- **Exercise Khaan Quest** – It is a yearly multinational military exercise designed to strengthen cooperation and interoperability among armed forces participating in United Nations peacekeeping operations.
- **Hosted by** – The *Mongolian Armed Forces* and jointly supported by the *U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.*
- **Objectives** – To improve coordination among participating countries in conducting peace support missions under *Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.*
- It provides a platform for militaries to exchange best practices, operational experiences, tactics, techniques, and procedures related to joint operations.
- **Background**
- Khaan Quest began in *2003* as a bilateral military exercise between *Mongolia and the United States.*
- In 2006, it expanded into a multinational peacekeeping exercise with participation from several countries.
- The previous edition was held in *Mongolia in 2025.*

Khaan Quest 2026

- **Schedule** – The 23rd edition of the exercise is scheduled from 20 June to 3 July 2026.
- **Location** – It will take place at the *Five Hills Training Area* near *Ulaanbaatar.*
- **Indian representation** – India will be represented by a *40-member contingent* comprising soldiers from a battalion of the *Jat Regiment* along with personnel from other arms and services of the Indian Army.
- **Operation included** – The exercise will emphasize joint planning and field-level tactical operations, including:
    - Establishment of static and mobile checkpoints
    - Cordon-and-search operations
    - Patrolling missions
    - Evacuation of civilians from conflict zones
    - Counter-IED (Improvised Explosive Device) drills
    - Combat first aid
    - Casualty evacuation procedures

- Overall, Exercise Khaan Quest serves as an important platform for enhancing multinational military cooperation, strengthening peacekeeping capabilities, and improving readiness for complex operational environments.

Reference

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