

ATV COMPARISON: SHERP N1200 vs POLARIS MRZR D4

1. The classical comparison between two ATVs can't be done because of the huge difference in their cost i.e., approx ₹1.3 crores for SHERP N1200 and approx ₹28 Lakhs for POLARIS MRZR4. They are designed for different types of reqmts.

2. POLARIS MRZR4 is a lightweight tac ATV whereas SHERP N1200 is a comparatively heavy-duty ATV (still a sub-four-meter vehicle).

3. **Comparison Matrix.** The given comparison matrix is made for SHERP N1200 and POLARIS MRZR D4. Indian Army has been issued with POLARIS MRZR4 which has a petrol engine whereas POLARIS MRZR D4 has a diesel engine. As a result of which few technical details related to engine and fuel injection system differs but overall, the load-carrying capacity and other feature of both POLARIS ATVs are almost identical.

4. **SHERP N1200.** SHERP N1200 is an ATV with amphibious capabilities devp by a Ukraine-based firm.

(a) **Pros.**

(i) Mov across water obstacles incl frozen and semi-frozen water bodies.

(ii) Can climb steeper slopes i.e. up to 45 degrees in comparison to 30 degrees by POLARIS MRZR4.

(iii) Better loading capacity (1200 Kg) vis-a-vis 680 Kg of POLARIS MRZR4.

(iv) Hardtop ATV with large cabin space and can be used as rescue ambulance, MRT in desserts and also for troops carrying.

(c) **Cons.**

(i) Special training for drivers is reqd as it doesn't have a steering wheel and uses skid steering where the turning is accomplished by varying the speed of the wheels on either side.

(ii) More than four times costlier than POLARIS MRZR4.

5. **POLARIS MRZR4.** MRZR4 is light tactical ATV from POLARIS which is the largest ultralight tactical vehicle provider for the U.S. military.

(a) **Pros.**

(i) Light weight makes it ideal for transport via helicopter.

(ii) Can be easily transported via 2.5 Ton/ALS.

(iii) Max speed is higher than SHERP N1200 (96 kmp/h vs 40 km/h).

(iv) It has a higher payload capacity to self-weight ratio as compared to SHERP N1200.

(b) **Cons.**

(i) Open roof makes it difficult to operate in bad weather conditions.

(ii) No hand brakes or emergency brakes.

6. **Recommendations.**

(i) Both ATVs come into different categories and can be employed suitably by IA.

(ii) If the load carrying through rough terrain is the primary objective then POLARIS MRZR4 is a cost-effective solution.

(iii) For amphibious capb SHERP N1200 is the only option.

(iv) SHERP N1200 stands out for its multi-purpose utility like rescue msn and tps carrying due to its hardtop and large cabin size.

(v) **NCNC Trial.** The capabilities of SHERP N1200 are in the open domain and have also been tested by sister agencies and different fmns of IA. However, most of the videos are of deserts, marshy land, water bodies and semi-hilly areas. Therefore, it is recommended that the NCNC trial be conducted in mountainous trn which is peculiar to NC to check the suitability of emp.