



Foreign Policy: Is an instrument available to a country to:

- To protect and promote its National Interest
- To defend the country National Security
- To maximize economic benefits for its citizen's from International trade and commerce
- And to enhance the effectiveness of its Soft Power through Propagation of its Core Cultural assets.
- ❖ Democracy and Development are Twin Instrument of IFP.
- ❖ Three Pillars of IFP: Commerce, Culture and Connectivity.

National Interests:

National Interests:

They change according to the needs, requirements and circumstances internal as well as external. Even then, there are certain basic interests which India's foreign policy always endeavours to fulfil.

They can be described as follows.

- i. To maintain her own territorial integrity.
- ii. To maintain friendship with the neighbouring states to get an access to the oil of the Middle East.
- iii. To safeguard the interests of the Indians living in the Border States.
- iv. To promote her trade in foreign countries.
- v. To get maximum aid and assistance for economic development
- vi. To enhance its defence capabilities.
- vii. To accomplish the security of the Indian air and sea routes.
- viii. To maintain dynamic neutrality in the worldwide power conflict

The primary objective of the foreign policy: the defence of the nation, called **HARD POWER**So, well- equipped defence system is necessary for not going through war, to remain safe from attacks and to create the obstacle for attacks.

- But, it is essential to keep the enemy under pressure. Hard power encompasses military and economic means while soft power is about culture and values
- And, Second Face of Power called **SOFT POWER**
 - Soft Power is a term that entered foreign policy lexicon in the 1990s when Joseph Nye, an American scholar of Harvard University.
 - "Soft power has been defined as the ability of nations to shape the preferences and influence the behaviour of other nations through appeal and attraction as opposed to coercion.

- It consists of three major categories --a nation's culture, its political values and its foreign policy.

It is New Framework in International Order, Soft power is important economically, politically and diplomatically, establishing the prestige of a nation

- Ex..From Yoga to Spirituality to Bollywood, Dance, and films, Classical dance, Buddhism; Indian cuisine to tourism, , Flood control program, educational exchange program and democratic institutions, disaster Help Initiatives'.

CONCLUSION

Without soft power, hard power lacks its intellectual and cultural edge. While soft power provides the ideas and motivation, hard power gives the tools and weapons for the soft power to expand

Geopolitics is the study of the effects of Earth's geography (human and physical) on politics and international relations.

- Geopolitics is the planning of the security policy of a country in terms of its geographical factors
- Geopolitics is a method of studying foreign policy to understand, explain and predict international political behavior through geographical variables. These include area studies, climate, topography, demography, natural resources
- Soft Power: Sagar Doctrine, Blue Economy, Project Mausam, Indian Ocean Rim Association and the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium.
- During Cold War Era India Focus was directed toward it North Borders, While Coastline neglected. In 1960s Navy share in Defence Budget 4 % and that time IOR called Peaceful Periphery. After 1990s more focus on IOR. And now 16 per cent for defence and 84 percent for non-defence related expenses in Budget 2021.

SALIENT FEATURES OF INDIA COASTLINE

- India has a coastline of 7,516.6 km bordering the mainland and the islands with Bay of Bengal in the East, the Indian Ocean on the South and the Arabian Sea on the West
- India has a coastline of 7,517 km, of which the mainland accounts for 5,422 km+ Island Territory: 2094km:
- The Lakshadweep coast extends for 132 km and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands have a coastline of 1,962 km
- Area of Continental Shelf: 372,424 Sq. km
- Territorial sea : 193,834 Sq.km ie apprx 22 km (1 Nautical miles: 1.852 Km)
- EEZ: Exclusive Economic Zone: 2.02x10⁶ million Sq km(200 NM: 370 km)
- There are nine States viz. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka,Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh,
- Odisha and West Bengal and four Union Territories viz.Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, Puducherry andAndaman & Nicobar Islands situated on the coast
- Total Coastal district 66, and consist of apprx. 14.2 % -18 % India population

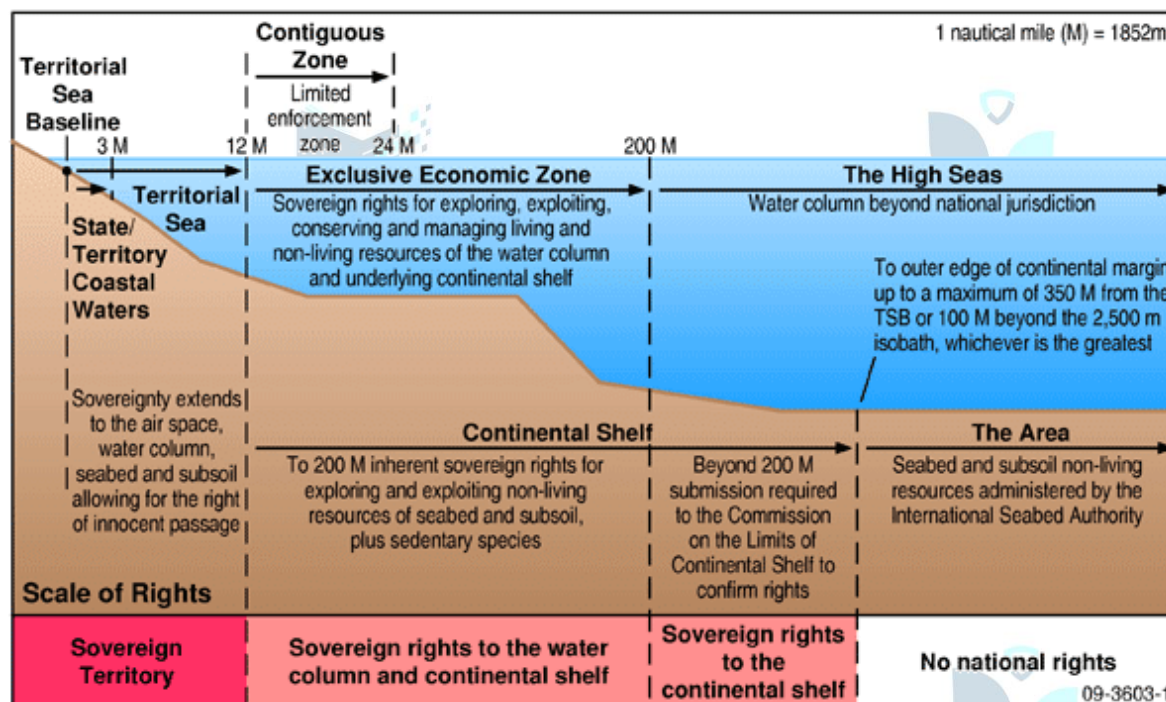
Fisherman about 4 Million Major Port 13 and appr 200 Minor ports. Highest number of port in decreasing number wise : **** Maharashtra , Gujarat, Andaman and Nicobar, Andrapradesh,

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is considered the “constitution of the oceans”. It is also known as the Law of the Sea Convention or the Law of the Sea treaty.

Signed 1982, it is international agreement, location Jamaica

The coastal areas are safeguarded by the police forces of the respective coastal states and UTs, which have jurisdiction of up to 12 nautical miles (nm) from the coast. The ICG and the Indian Navy have jurisdiction over the entire maritime zone up to 200 nm, including the 12 nm of territorial waters.

Baseline: Imaginary line joining land projecting toward sea.



Territorial sea: each coastal State may claim territorial sea extends seaward up to 12 nautical miles from its baseline 1 nautical mile- 1.85km, 12 nautical miles- 22.2 km, EEZ is 200 nm- 370km

UN Convention on the Law of Sea (UNCLOS):

1. is the international agreement/ treaty that provides a regulatory framework for the use of the world's seas and oceans, to ensure the conservation and equitable usage of resources and the marine environment and to ensure the protection and preservation of the living resources of the sea.
2. 167 countries
3. UN has no direct operational role in the implementation of the Convention
4. The convention gives a clear definition on Internal Waters, Territorial Waters, Archipelagic Waters, Contiguous Zone, Exclusive Economic Zone, and Continental Shelf
5. According to UNCLOS, Landlocked states are given a right of access to and from the sea, without taxation of traffic through transit states.

Coastal State - sovereignty over territorial sea, air space above it, seabed and subsoil beneath over territorial sea called marine belt, Marginal sea.

Contiguous Zone: each coastal state claim CZ adjacent to and beyond it territorial sea extend seaward up to 24 nm from its baseline

Coastal State: Prevent infringement, its custom, fiscal, immigration or sanitary laws regulation with punishment. it has limited exclusive right.

Coastal State: Sovereignty-- exploring, exploiting, Conservation Managing Natural resources living and nonliving, seabed, subsoil, Production of energy, from water wind and current.

EEZ: beyond and adjacent to Terr. sea that extend seaward up to 200nm from its baseline.

Which type of activities allowed in EEZ?

- Use of establishment of artificial islands,
- Installation structure

- Marine scientific research,
- Protection and preservation of marine environment. ,
- And other rights and duties provided by under International law.
- Navigation of ships and laying down submarine cables not.

High Seas: beyond EEZ, all countries equal right of navigation, aviation, fishing, mining, Sci research, exploration

India and the Exclusive Economic Zone

- Ministry of Earth Sciences' Geoscientific Study of the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone Programme maps the EEZs of India.
- The objective of this programme: Mapping of India's EEZ with the multibeam swath bathymetry technologies. To undertake systematic sediment sampling and analysis to assess the potential of seabed resources within the EEZ

To improve the understanding of the seabed morphology and take a step ahead in knowledge enhancement of the existing scientific issues such as the paleoclimatic regime of the Indian peninsula.

To create a state-of-the-art marine geoscientific database that facilitates its archival and retrieval for dissemination to the scientific community against approved projects of the MoES.

- France has the world's largest Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) because it possesses several overseas departments and territories.
- India has an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of about 2.37 million sq. km.
- Fishing allowed in EEZ: Yes, it is allowed for the nationals of the country under whose control the EEZ falls.

What happens when EEZ overlap?

Under UNCLOS, the contesting nations negotiate or divide the difference among themselves. The EEZs, by definition, should not overlap since they are exclusive. But the extent of a country's EEZ can be disputed by another country. In case of an overlap, the countries have to agree to a maritime boundary that would delimit their claims.



Islands Importance in Geopolitics

1. They have a key position in India's strategic role in the Bay of Bengal and the Malacca Strait.
2. It gives strategic edge for India in terms of security, maritime trade and extended reach to Indian Ocean.
3. *Andaman and Nicobar Islands are not only strategically*

located but also strategically significant for India. Therefore, civil as well as military infrastructure development is required at the islands.

4. Sensitive ecology that surrounds islands. Any sort of disturbance in IOR will directly affect India as the region falls in its backyard.
5. Power Projection at islands will change this perception of India. Due to Presence of USA, Russia, France, Japan, Chinese submarines in Indian Ocean.

572 Islands, Approx. 38 inhabited , Six degree to 13 degree and half extension. ie total 590km length, 58 km wide.

- Andaman and Nicobar Islands in Bay of Bengal consist of hard volcanic rocks
- The middle Andaman and Nicobar Islands are the largest islands of India
- A- N Island is extension of Tertiary Mountain chain of Arakanyoma. and Nicobar Islands is mainly coral origin

The southern – most point of India is in Nicobar Island, known as Indira Point

Formerly Indira point was called Pigmalion Point, it is submerged now, after 2004 Tsunami

Two Principle groups of islets: islet means Small Island, not support human habitation

1. John Ritchie's Archipelago - cluster of smaller island ie 20km east of Great Andaman. Havelock Island, H.lawerence Island, John Lawrence Island, Sir Willam Peel Island, Neil Island

2. Labyrinth Island: nickname North Mahatma Gandhi island- island subgroup of Rutland Archipelago.

The Coco Strait / Channel: is between North Andaman Islands and Coco Islands of Myanmar

Duncan Passage: South Andaman and Little Andaman are separated by .

St George Channel: Divide Little Nicobar and Great Nicobar

The Grand Channel is between the Great Nicobar islands and the Sumatra islands of Indonesia.

- Lakshadweep islands in the Arabian Sea are formed by corals, Six degree to 12 Degree 20 Minutes extension, total 36 islands with an area of 32 sq km., The capital is Kavaratti,
- The islands are the northernmost of the Lakshadweep-Maldives-Chagos group of islands, which are the tops of a vast undersea mountain range, the Chagos-Laccadive Ridge it compromised of Minicoy+Cannonore+Amindivi. Minicoy: Largest Atoll Island of the country seperated by NINE DEGREE CHANNEL by Cannanore Islands
- Atoll: these are low islands found in the tropical oceans consisting of coral reefs surrounding a central depression. It may be a part of the sea (lagoon), or sometimes form enclosing a body of fresh, brackish, or highly saline water.

Offshore Islands

- ❖ There are numerous islands in the delta region of Ganga and in the Gulf of Mannar.
- ❖ Among the Western coast islands Piram, Bhaisala (Kathiawar), Diu, Vaida, Nora, Pirtan, Karunbhar (Kachchh coast), .
- ❖ Khadiahet, Aliabet (Narmada·Tapi mouths),
- ❖ Butchers, Elephanta, Karanja, Cross (near Mumbai),
- ❖ Bhatkal, Pegioncock, St. Mary {Mangalore coast),

- ❖ Anjediva Island (Goa coast),
- ❖ Vypin near Kochi,
- ❖ Pam ban, Crocodile, Adunda (Gulf of Mannar),
- ❖ Sri Harik.ota (mouth of Pulicat Lake,
- ❖ Paikud (mouth of Chilka Lake),
- ❖ Wheeler (Mahanadi-Brahmani mouth), and
- ❖ New Moore, and Ganga-Sagar and Sagar (Ganga Delta).
- ❖ Many of these islands are uninhabited and administered by the adjacent states
- Maritime sector in India has been the backbone of the country's trade and has grown manifold over the years.
- Since about more than 90% of India's trade by volume is conducted via the country's maritime route, there is a continuous need to develop India's ports and trade related infrastructure to accelerate growth in the manufacturing industry and to assist the 'Make in India' initiative.
- India has 12 major ports and approximately 200 non-major ports administered by Central and State Governments
- To harness India's 7,500 km long coastline, 14,500 km of potentially navigable waterways and strategic location on key international maritime trade routes, the Government of India has embarked on the ambitious Sagarmala Programme which aims to promote port-led development in the country.
- Around 18 % of India Population live in coastal district

The Sagarmala Project has been initiated by the GoI, after Cabinet approved it in 2015 to promote port-led development in India.

The project aims to harness the 7500 km long coastline of the country to unleash its economic potential. The project also seeks to boost infrastructure for transporting goods to and from ports quickly, efficiently, and cost-effectively.

The Sagarmala Projects are being undertaken in the states of Gujarat, West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu

Aims to transform the existing Ports into modern world-class Ports and integrate the development of the Ports, the Industrial clusters, and hinterland and efficient evacuation systems through road, rail, inland, and coastal waterways resulting in Ports becoming the drivers of economic activity in coastal areas.

Components / Theme: Port Modernization and Port Connectivity, Port led Industrialization and Coastal Community development. Coastal Shipping & Inland Waterways Transport

The Sagarmala Development Company Limited (SDCL) has been incorporated (on 31st August 2016) under the Companies Act, 2013, SDCL has been set up under the administrative control of Ministry of Shipping

while the current cargo handling capacity of Indian ports is only 1500 MMTPA. A roadmap has been prepared for increasing the Indian port capacity to 3300+ MMTPA by 2025 to cater to the growing traffic. This includes port operational efficiency improvement, capacity expansion of existing ports and new port development.

Ministry of Shipping, Project Unnati – Operational Efficiency Improvement

Benchmark operational and financial performance of the 12 major ports with selected Indian private ports and best-in-class international ports for identifying improvement

- In August 2020, the GOI announced its aims to invest Rs. 10,000 crore (US\$ 1.4 billion) to construct a transshipment port at the Great Nicobar Island in the Bay of Bengal to provide shippers with an alternative port in the region. The Transshipment port will facilitate big ships to anchor due to its proximity to the East-West international shipping route and it will also raise India's share in maritime trade

OTHER INITIATIVES

- o Transfer of Indian made patrol vessel – Barracuda to Mauritius
- o Deployment of P-81 aircraft to Seychelles for surveillance
- o Agreement to develop connectivity infrastructure on Assumption Island in Seychelles and Agalega in Mauritius.
- Safeguard the Choke points in Indian oceans and also secure the passage for Indian diaspora living in Indian Ocean countries.
- Areas such as disaster management, technological advancement, blue economy, sustainable resource extraction, humanitarian assistance should also be explored.

Genesis of India's Maritime Strategy: The notion of maritime security confined to political security of a nation and with the security of its trade, investment and availability of resources, which are the basis of economic growth and prosperity.

India's maritime strategy is largely centered around the Indian Ocean Region and its littoral states, which contain a third of world's population, 25 percent of global landmass, and about 40 percent of world's oil and gas resources.

India is keen to shore up its profile in Small Island countries. On the political front, India needs much better political relations with its maritime neighbours like Sri Lanka and the Maldives, Seychelles and Mauritius, which are being wooed by China with great vigour today.

India's strategic vision for 'Sagar Doctrine' In March 2015, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited three small but significant Indian Ocean island states — Seychelles, Mauritius, and Sri Lanka. During this tour, he unveiled India's strategic vision for the Indian Ocean: Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR).

Vision SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region): It is a maritime initiative which gives priority to Indian Ocean region for ensuring peace, stability and prosperity of India in Indian Ocean region.

The goal is to seek

- A climate of trust and transparency
- Respect for international maritime rules and norms by all countries
- Sensitivity to each other's interests
- Peaceful resolution of maritime issues
- Increase in maritime cooperation

- It is in line with the principles of Indian Ocean Rim Association.

New Delhi's Indian Ocean policy, enshrined in "SAGAR – Security and Growth for All in the Region," articulates India's vision for building a secured regional architecture, which includes "safeguarding mainland and islands, strengthening capacities of maritime neighbors and advancing peace and security" in the Indian Ocean Region.

It is a maritime initiative which gives priority to Indian Ocean region for ensuring peace, stability and prosperity of India in Indian Ocean region. Based on this vision of the SAGAR initiative can be defined under the following terms:

Security: Enhancement of coastal security so that land and maritime territories can be safeguarded with relative ease.

Capacity Building: Deepening economic and security cooperation for smooth facilitation of economic trade and maritime security.

Collective Action: Promoting collective action to deal with natural disasters and maritime threats like piracy, terrorism and emergent non-state actors.

Sustainable Development: Working towards sustainable regional development through enhanced collaboration

Maritime Engagement: Engaging with countries beyond our shores with the aim of building greater trust and promoting respect for maritime rules, norms and peaceful resolution of disputes.

Sagar doctrine: It is in line with the principles of Indian Ocean Rim Association

Challenges facing maritime security in the Indian Ocean region:

- Traditional threats include the military presence of belligerent powers and the consequent strategic rivalry
- terrorism, piracy, and illegal smuggling, and infiltration and refugees issues
- non-traditional threats include the challenges of climate change, such as increasing natural disasters and loss of traditional livelihoods
- A close partnership between these island nations and larger littoral countries thus becomes a practical necessity and plays a critical role in maintaining stability in the region.

The Importance of Indian Ocean for India, Economic and Strategic importance.

Introduction: With global power dynamics shifting from West to East, regional powers, namely China and India, have shifted focus to an ocean-based approach in determining geostrategies and foreign relations (Rimland)

Two major reasons: of increasing significance IOR

1. Their location, which makes them vital for establishing a regional naval presence,
2. Their proximity to sea lines of communications (SLOCs), which facilitates patrolling in the region during times of peace and conflict

India occupies a central and strategic location in the Indian Ocean area a privileged location at the crossroads of global trade, connecting the major engines of the international economy in the Northern Atlantic and Asia-Pacific which means that he who controls the Indian Ocean controls the trade of major economies of the world.(Rimland + Heartland)

Why Indian Ocean Indian Ocean region connects 3 continents (Africa, Asia and Australia) and 2 Oceans (Atlantic and Pacific) with each other

- Indian Ocean covers almost 20 per cent of the world's water
- Its total area is about 68.556 million square kilo meter and it is almost 5.5 times larger than the United States.
- 40 countries in its rim area and world 40 % pop, approx
- Hub of Oil and natural gas, mineral resources, mangroves and coral reefs.
- Indian Ocean has an important role to play in keeping the moderate climate of the Southern India and Important for Indian Biodiversity
- Indian Ocean is the only fishing ground for coastal fisherman in India. Due to huge marine resources it spreads prosperity in coastal plains of India.
- It also has several small island nations such as the Madagascar, The Seychelles, Reunion Island, Maldives, Mauritius and Sri Lanka

Although continental Shelf of Mumbai High, Gulf of Khambat and Krishna-Godavari basin are rich in petroleum and natural gas.

In spite of this India's economic security demands that all the sea lanes leading to the Indian Ocean, particularly the Suez Canal and the Straits of Malacca be kept open at all the times

Following are the vital global shipping routes and choke points of Indian Ocean discussed individually in detail: 1. Strait of Hormuz 2. Strait of Malacca 3. Bab-el-Mandeb 4. The Sunda and Lombok straits 5. Mozambique Channel 6. Ten Degree and Six Degree Channels

Blue Economy:

Que 1: Discuss prospects of Blue economy in IOR

Que 2: Discuss the emerging perspective of Blue Economy.

Que 3: Blue economy shows great optimism towards achievement of SDG, Discuss

Blue Economy: Dr. Gunter Pauli Book

The Blue Economy: 10 years – 100 innovations – 100 million jobs is a book by Gunter Pauli.

BE is envisaged as the integration of ocean Economy development with the principles of Environmental sustainability and innovative dynamic business models

Blue Economy: a sustainable ocean economic development

This Concept is overall conceptualization and realization of sustainable human development.

two elements for the Blue Economy. The first is the necessity of protecting – and restoring where needed – the existing ocean resource base that already supplies food and livelihoods to billions of people.

The other side of the Blue Economy is where opportunities may exist for enhanced or new sustainable economic activity derived from the ocean like offshore wind and tidal energy

Jakarta Declaration 2017 on Blue Economy of the Indian Ocean Rim Association on the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region

Barbados is an island country in the Lesser Antilles of the West Indies, in the Caribbean region of North America

The United Nations Programme of Action on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, popularly referred to as the Barbados Program of Action(BPOA), is a policy document that both: comprehensively addresses the economic, environmental, and social developmental vulnerabilities facing islands; and outlines a strategy that seeks to mitigate those vulnerabilities. It remains the only internationally approved programme specific to Small Island Developing States (SIDS) which has been collectively and unanimously endorsed by SIDS.

Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (Samoa Pathway)

SAMOA Pathway is concerned with which of the following? Ans: C

- a) Promotion of development of environmental friendly sports facilities
- b) Convention on Biological Diversity
- c) Small Island Developing States
- d) Sustainable Pastoralism

Blue Economy has emerged as a commonly acceptable development paradigm which has effectively blended Economic growth with Sustainable Development.

This Concept has been accepted and promoted by both developing and developed countries as new dev Model for littoral countries, LDC, Small island developing States.

This developmental Model Started with basic premise that Ocean and Ocean related activities are important for economic and social development of Coastal nations .

Activities Related to Blue Economy

- Maritime Fishing, Shipping, Aquaculture, Maritime Trade
- Offshore, Deep Sea Mining, Ocean Energy
- Activities spread into core sectors include Agri/Minerals/ Construction, Energy, Manufacturing Services etc.

So Blue Economy sectors are comprehensive nature combine both good and services activities generated within each sectors.

Importance of Blue Economy:

- Food security
- Demand for protein
- Rising coastal tourism
- Increase of seaborne trade
- Demand for alternative source of energy
- Managing costal urbanisation
- Improving ocean health
- Provide marine governance and new ocean technologies

Conclusion:

BE is a new source of economic goal and developmental objectives and stresses upon optimum and efficient globalisation marine resources without comprising the sustainability aspects like environment and ecological sustainability and in this way BE shows great optimism towards achievement of sustainable development goals

Mausam: Maritime Routes and Cultural Landscapes

Project 'Mausam' is a Ministry of Culture project to be implemented by Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi as the nodal coordinating agency with support of Archeological Survey of India and National Museum as associate bodies.

Project Launch: is a cultural and economic project: The unique idea of this project to showcase a Transnational Mixed Route (including Natural and Cultural Heritage) on the World Heritage List.

Launched: by India at the 38th World Heritage Session at Doha, Qatar on June 2014. UNESCO appreciated India's initiative in launching this unique project and ambassadors of several countries Presently, there are 38 World Heritage Sites located in India ,30 are cultural, 7 are natural, and 1 is mixed (meeting both cultural and natural criteria),

About the Project:

- ❖ **Focusing on monsoon patterns, cultural routes and maritime landscapes,**
- ❖ **Project 'Mausam' is examining key processes and phenomena that link different parts of the Indian Ocean littoral as well as those that connect the coastal centres to their hinterlands.**

The endeavour of Project 'Mausam' is to position itself at two levels:

- 1. At the macro level, it aims to re-connect and re-establish communications between countries of the Indian Ocean world, which would lead to an enhanced understanding of cultural values and concerns;**
- 2. At the micro level, the focus is on understanding national cultures in their regional maritime milieu.**

The Project scope falls under several themes to be explored through various UNESCO Culture Conventions to which the Government of India is a signatory with the Ministry of Culture and ASI as nodal agency.

Benefits 39 Indian Ocean countries identified under Project Mausam:

- **Project 'Mausam' is an project which has benefits in multiple dimensions for the member states, it also restarts the lost ties and routes between Indian ocean states.**
- **This project will help in forging new avenues of cooperation and exchange of knowledge.**
- **The project will enable a significant step in recording and celebrating this important phase of world history from the African, Arab and Asianworld perspectives.**
- **The project purpose is to develop the Indian Ocean world which will expand between East Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, the Indian subcontinent and Sri Lanka to the Southeast Asianarchipelago. Some believe it as an effective counter to the Chinese maritime silk route.**

Indian Ocean Naval Symposium

- **Initiated and launched by India in February 2008, IONS, conceived by the Indian Navy in 2008,**
- **Is a security construct for the Indian Ocean region**

It is a voluntary initiative among the navies and maritime security agencies of the member nations The 24 member nations of the IONS are grouped into four sub-regions.

eight states with observer status China, Germany Italy Japan Madagascar Netherlands Russia Spain.

7th edition of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), a biennial event, was hosted by the French Navy at La Réunion from 28 June to 01 July 2021.

Members: South Asian: Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka

West Asian: Iran Oman Saudi Arabia UAE

East African: France Kenya Mauritius Mozambique South Africa Tanzania Eritrea

South East Asian and Australian: Australia Indonesia Malaysia Myanmar Singapore Thailand Timor Leste

INDIA SRI LANKA BILATERAL RELATIONS

About Sri Lanka Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Foreign Policy of Sri Lanka: Friends With All and Enemies with None.

- **In British Period, called Ceylon.**
- **Pearl-shaped Island nation in South Asia, lying on the Indian Plate, a major tectonic plate that was formerly part of the Indo-Australian Plate**
- **Latitudes 5° and 10° N, and longitudes 79° and 82° E**
- **The island consists mostly of flat to rolling coastal plains, with mountains rising only in the south-central part.**
- **Political independence, which was granted in 1948; the country became a republic and adopted its current name in 1972**
- **It is unitary state governed by a semi-presidential system.**
- **From 1983, 30-year civil war, which decisively ended when the Sri Lanka Armed Forces defeated the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in 2009**
- **During the course of the conflict, India supported the right of the Government of Sri Lanka to act against terrorist forces**
- **The island is home to many cultures, languages and ethnicities.**
- **Majority Sinhalese ethnicity, and minority Tamils**
- **Moors, Burghers, Malays, Chinese, and the aboriginal Vedda are also established groups on the island**
- **70% Buddhism, 12.6% Hindu, 9.7% islam, 7.4% Christian.:**
- **Total : With a literacy_rate of 92.5%**
- **Sri_Jayewardenepura Kotte is its legislative capital, and Colombo is its largest city and financial centre.**
- **Coastline is 1,585 km, an exclusive economic zone extending 200 nautical miles,**
- **Sri Lanka has 103 rivers, longest Mahaweli River, Kandy District to Trincomalee Bay, in Bay of Bengal.**

ECONOMY

- The island is rich in minerals such as ilmenite, feldspar, graphite, silica, kaolin, mica and thorium
- Existence of petroleum and gas in the Gulf of Mannar
- In the 19th and 20th centuries, Sri Lanka became a plantation economy, famous for its production and export of cinnamon, rubber and Ceylon tea, which remains a trademark national export. Colonial plantations were dismantled, industries were nationalised and a welfare state established.
- In 1977 the Free market economy was introduced to the country, incorporating privatisation, deregulation and the promotion of private enterprise
- Significant Sectors: tourism, textile and apparel, agricultural products, and rice production
- Maldives and Sri Lanka richest countries in South Asia Region. Bhutan and India, three four.
- Sri Lanka was in trouble before the pandemic struck, laying low a tourism industry that is a vital source of foreign exchange earnings.

Sri Lanka's has main challenges according to World Bank.

1. **The Fiscal Challenge:** Sri Lanka has one of the lowest tax-to-GDP ratios in the world the major causes are the low number of number of tax payers
2. **The Challenge of Fostering Growth and Jobs for the Bottom 40 Percent:** industrial policy has been broadly market-oriented since liberalization in the 1970s. Sri Lanka also suffers from a skills mismatch, a result of the education system not equipping people with the abilities that businesses want
3. **The Social Inclusion Challenge:** The highest numbers of people living in poverty and the bottom 40 per cent are located within the multi-city agglomeration areas of Colombo, Kandy and Galle-Matara. High rates of poverty in the Northern and Eastern Provinces
4. **The Governance Challenge:** issues are integral to problems with regulation that have resulted in restrictive land and labour markets and the continuing large state presence in key economic sectors, including banking.

Concerns for India:

- ✓ **Rehabilitation of Refugees:** A lot of Sri Lankan Tamils who evaded from Sri Lankan civil war (2009) are seeking refuge in Tamil Nadu. They are not returning in fear of being targeted again. It is a challenge for India to rehabilitate them.
- ✓ **Sentiments of Indian Tamils:** A number of protests and criticism is drawn at the end of Indian Government for overlooking the plight of Sri Lankan Tamils to maintain good relationship with Sri Lanka.
- ✓ **Strategic interests vs Tamil question:** Often India has to trade off on the question of Tamilian minority rights over strategic issues to protect its economic interests in its neighborhood and to counter Chinese influence in Indian Ocean.

INDIA - SRI LANKA RELATIONS

1. The relationship between India and Sri Lanka is more than 2,500 years old.
2. Both countries have a legacy of intellectual, cultural, religious and linguistic interaction.
3. In recent years, the relationship has been marked by close contacts at all levels.
4. Trade and investment have grown and there is cooperation in the fields of development, education, culture and defence.
5. Both countries share a broad understanding on major issues of international interest.

6. Member countries of NAM
7. Presence of a significant Tamil ethnic group.
8. Implementation of developmental assistance projects for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and disadvantaged sections of the population in Sri Lanka has helped further cement the bonds of friendship between the two countries.
9. India Signed Nuclear Deal pact with Sri Lanka in 2015.
10. After FTA, in 2000, India Pushing for ETCA: Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement: to enhance trade, services, investment with Five States: Karnataka+TN+Ker+Ap+Tng.
11. Why India is important for Sri Lanka:
 - ✓ Strategic position in IOR and Bay of Bengal
 - ✓ Colombo port is the largest trans-shipment port in South Asia
 - ✓ 70% of Indian Cargo comes through Colombo.
 - ✓ For Development Assistance and Economic Wellbeing

Developmental Cooperation

- Construction of 50,000 housing units for nearly 300,000 Tamil civilians housed in camps for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs),
- Rehabilitation of the Northern Railway lines,
- Under a line of credit of \$167.4 million, the tsunami-damaged Colombo-Matara rail link has been repaired and upgraded. Also rail link Jaffna to Colombo
- Establishment of Vocational Training Centres,
- Construction of a Cultural Centre at Jaffna,
- Restoration of Ketheeswaram temple /Thiruketheeswaram Temple, ancient Hindu temple in Mannar, Northern Province, Sri Lanka
- Establishing an Agricultural Research Institute in the Northern Province,
- Expanding the scholarship program for Sri Lankan students to pursue their higher studies in India,
- Setting up Centres for English Language Training and providing technical assistance for the National Action Plan for a Trilingual Sri Lanka.
- 500 MW thermal power plant in Sampur, through a joint venture between India's National Thermal Power Corporation and the Ceylon Electricity Board is under progress.
- Renovation of the Palaly Airport and the Kankesanthurai harbour,
- Commercial Trade:

India's major exports to Sri Lanka include automobiles, petroleum products, sugar, cotton, pharmaceuticals and iron and steel, while imports include natural rubber, poultry feed, copper and paper and paper products and textiles

- ❖ Indian business organisations such as Tatas, Bharti Airtel, Piramal Glass, LIC, Ashok Leyland, Dabur and Taj Hotels are present in Sri Lanka.
- ❖ Cultural relations enhanced with Simhashta Declaration: a duty centred system which had been origin of Indian philosophy of life. sign at Khumbela, Ujjain-MP, Shipra river

DEFENCE COOPERATION

- ❖ India trains number of SL's military personnel's in India.
- ❖ Also supplies non-lethal, defensive military weapons etc.

- ❖ India is reportedly stepping its defence cooperation with Sri Lanka and the Maldives, two island states in the Indian Ocean and the assistance will focus primarily on “capacity building” of the armed forces of both countries. New Delhi will supply equipment and assist in training.
- ❖ India and SL have signed agreements on Combating International Terrorism and Illicit Drug Trafficking
- ❖ Exercise
 1. MitraShakti - Military Exercise between two countries
 2. SLINEX – Naval Exercise between two countries.
- ❖ Issues:
 - ❖ Sri Lanka had handed over the strategic Hambantota Port to China on a 99-year lease. Although Chinese took control of the port by projecting an image of commercial operations, the security establishment in India was worried about China using the Hambantota port for Military operations. Moreover, Chinese Submarines have been spotted at Hambantota Port.
 - ❖ Joint venture for running the Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport with India has not moved forward in desired direction. Mattala Airport is not far from Hambantota port, which is operated by China
 - ❖ In January, 2021, India sent a batch of 500,000 COVID-19 vaccines to Sri Lanka.

HAMBANTOTA PORT

- The Hambantota port is a deep-water port in the southern tip of Sri Lanka which is developed by China. India is apprehensive that the port is part of Chinese ‘string of pearls’ with an objective to surround India.
- China is financing over 85 per cent of the Hambantota Development Zone to be completed over the next decade which includes an international container port, a bunkering system, an oil refinery, and international airport.
- Sri Lanka-the port is purely for economic operations and is not part of Chinese ‘string of pearls’. It says that it had first extended the offer for its development to India and only after getting no response from the country it was given to China.
- Sri Lanka allowed twice Chinese nuclear submarines to dock at its Colombo harbour despite concerns raised by India.

Background of Sri Lanka and History of Civil War

- Tamils and Sinhalese are the two major ethnic groups In Sri Lanka. Sinhalese eternal conflict with Tamils for power had been gathering strength since before independence.
- Many Tamils attended English language schools which were the passport to higher education and better employment in the colonial period. And the Tamil-dominated Northern Province had comparatively better facilities in terms of education and employment.
- Post-independence Sinhalese nationalism sought to curb the Tamil presence in education and civil administration. From 1949, Indian Tamil plantation workers jobless, 1956 when Sinhala was made the official language, and various attempt to alienates Tamils in every sphere.
- As a result of open discrimination, in 1976 Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was formed to fight for Tamil rights and in 1983 Civil war started.

- India intervened directly in the conflict for the first time after the Sri Lankan government attempted to regain control of the northern Jaffna region by means of an economic blockade and military assaults, India supplied food and medicine by air and sea.
- Rajiv Gandhi signed the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord in July 1987
- Intervention of India in the Sri Lankan Civil War: Area of conflict.
- It proposed a political solution to the Sri Lanka's conflict by establishing a provincial council system and devolution of power for nine provinces in Sri Lanka. (This is popularly known as The Thirteenth Amendment (13A) to the Constitution of Sri Lanka) The 13th Amendment provides for devolution of power to the Tamil community.
- India and Sri Lanka entered into an agreement/13th amendment. The peace accord assigned a certain degree of regional autonomy in the Tamil areas with Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) controlling the regional council and called for the Tamil militant groups to lay down their arms. Further India was to send a peacekeeping force, named the IPKF to Sri Lanka, Operation Pawan, to enforce the disarmament and to watch over the regional council.
- Which ultimately resulted in the assassination of PM Rajiv Gandhi 21 May 1991, Since his death, 21 May has been declared Anti-Terrorism Day in India. Gandhi was killed because of personal animosity by the LTTE chief Prabhakaran arising from his sending the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) to Sri Lanka and the alleged IPKF atrocities against Sri Lankan Tamils
- As a result, India declared the LTTE to be a terrorist outfit in 1992.

India-Sri Lanka Boundary/INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BOUNDARY LINE

- Robert Palk Strait has been a crucial factor in determining relations between
- 1974 - delimit the maritime boundary in the Palk Bay
- 1976 - delimit the boundaries in Gulf of Mannar and Bay of Bengal
- Indo-Sri Lanka maritime boundary with SL has been demarcated

India and Sri Lanka are separated from each other by a narrow and shallow sea called Palk Strait.

Dhanushkodi on the Tamil Nadu coast in India is only 32 km away from Talaimanar in Jaffna peninsula in Sri Lanka. These two points are joined by a group of islets forming Adam's Bridge.

Adam Bridge/Rama Setu is a chain of natural limestone shoals, between Pamban Island, Rameshwaram, TN and Mannar Island, in Sri Lanka

Katchatheevu Island

- It is an uninhabited island in Palk Strait that was formed due to volcanic eruption in the 14th century that India ceded to Sri Lanka in 1974 based on a conditional agreement called "Kachchativu island pact".
- Later on, Sri Lanka declared Katchatheevu, a sacred land given the presence of a Catholic shrine, the 110-year-old St Anthony's Church on Katchatheevu island
- The central government recognizes Sri Lanka's sovereignty over the island as per the 1974 accord. But Tamil Nadu claimed that Katchatheevu falls under the Indian Territory and Tamil fishermen have traditionally believed that it belongs to them and therefore want to preserve the right to fish there.