

# International Organizations

50 Important Topics - 2024	
Scheduled Date	Subject
01/04/24	Economy
02/04/24	Science & Technology
03/04/24	Environment & D.M.
04/04/24	Science & Technology
05/04/24	Environment & D.M.
06/04/24	-----
07/04/24	-----
08/04/24	Economy
09/04/24	Science & Technology
10/04/24	Economy
11/04/24	English
12/04/24	International Relations
13/04/24	-----
14/04/24	-----
15/04/24	Geography
16/04/24	Polity & Governance
17/04/24	Polity & Governance
18/04/24	Geography
19/04/24	Polity & Governance
20/04/24	Maths
21/04/24	-----
22/04/24	Reasoning
23/04/24	Environment & D.M.
24/04/24	Social Schemes



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# RAPID REVISION

MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS FOR PRELIMS 2024



**HOURS**

**1500 TOPICS**

11<sup>th</sup> April 2024 - 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Special Inclusions

- 6 FLTs (3 GS+ 3 CSAT)
- Value Additions Material
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# 1. OECD

- The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an intergovernmental economic organization that was established in 1961 (originally to administer American and Canadian aid under the Marshall Plan).
- The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation that works to build better policies for better lives.

# Objectives of OECD

- Develop policy standards to promote sustainable economic growth
- Find solutions to common challenges
- Develop global standards
- Share experiences and identify best practices



# Council of OECD

- The OECD Council is the organization's overarching decision-making body.
- It is composed of ambassadors from Member countries and the European Commission and is chaired by the Secretary-General.
- It meets regularly to discuss key work of the Organisation, share concerns and take decisions by consensus.



# Council of OECD

- Once a year, the OECD Council meets for the Ministerial Council Meeting, which brings together heads of government, economy, trade and foreign ministers from Member countries.
- They monitor and set priorities, discuss the global economic and trade context, and delve further into issues such as the budget or the accession process.

# Committees

- The OECD works through more than 300 committees, expert and working groups which cover almost all areas of policy making.
- These committees propose solutions, assess data and policy successes, and **review policy actions among Member countries**.
- They cover the same issue areas as government ministries, **such as education, finance, trade, environment, development, and liaise** with country-level experts.





# Secretariat

- The OECD Secretariat carries out the work of the OECD.
- It is led by the Secretary-General and composed of directorates and divisions that work with policy makers and shapers in each country, providing insights and expertise to help guide policy making based on evidence in close coordination with committees.

# Secretariat

- In addition to its Headquarters in Paris, France, the OECD also has centres in Berlin, Mexico, Tokyo and Washington D.C., which are part of the OECD's public affairs and communications team.

# – OECD Secretary-General **Mathias Cormann**

Mathias Cormann was appointed as the Secretary-General of the OECD on 1 June 2021, for a five-year term.

- [Read his biography](#)
- [Lire sa biographie](#)
- [Leer su biografía](#)
- [Lesen sie seine Biografie](#)
- [氏の経歴](#)



## 2. International Organization For Migration

- The International Organization for Migration (IOM), or as it was first known, the Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of **Migrants from Europe (PICMME)**, was born in 1951 out of the chaos and displacement of Western Europe following the Second World War.
- Mandated to help European governments to identify resettlement countries for the estimated 11 million people uprooted by the war, **it arranged transport for nearly a million migrants during the 1950s.**



# International Organization For Migration

- While IOM's history tracks the man-made and natural disasters of the past half-century – Hungary 1956, Czechoslovakia 1968, Chile 1973, the Vietnamese Boat People 1975, Kuwait 1990, Kosovo and Timor 1999, and the Asian tsunami and Pakistan earthquake of 2004/2005 – **its credo that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society has steadily gained international acceptance.**

# International Organization For Migration

- It has **broadened its scope** to become the leading international agency **working with governments and civil society to advance the understanding of migration issues and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.**
- The broader scope of activities has been matched by rapid expansion from a **relatively small agency** into one with an annual operating budget of an estimated USD 3 billion.





# International Organization For Migration

- **IOM currently has 175 Member States (Including India) and a further 8 states holding Observer status.**
- **IOM is part of the United Nations system, as a related organization.**
- IOM supports migrants across the world, developing effective responses to the shifting dynamics of migration and, as such, is a key source of advice on migration policy and practice.



## 8 Observer States

- Bahrain
- Bhutan
- Indonesia
- Kuwait
- Malaysia
- Qatar
- San Marino
- Saudi Arabia

# IOM Definition of Migrants

- An umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the common lay understanding of a **person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons.**

## FACTS AND FIGURES

MEMBER STATES



175

IOM OFFICES WORLDWIDE



523

INCREASE IN IOM MEMBER STATES SINCE 2000



129%

PROMOTING ORDERLY AND SAFE MIGRATION SINCE



1951

# Project PRAYAS

- To commemorate the International Migrants Day (18 December), MEA along with IOM launched Project **PRAYAS (Promoting Regular & Assisted Migration for Youth and Skilled Professionals)** at New Delhi on 21 December 2023.

# Project PRAYAS

- Project PRAYAS not only aligns with Government of India's priorities for the promotion of safe and orderly migration, but also aligns with Goal 10.7 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to **facilitate orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of people.**
- **The project also adheres to the objectives of Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF).**



## 3. UNESCO

- UNESCO is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture.
- UNESCO's Constitution was adopted in London in 1945, it entered into force in 1946.

# UNESCO

- After two World Wars in less than thirty years, UNESCO was born of a clear vision: **To achieve lasting peace, economic and political agreements among States are not enough.**
- We must bring people together and strengthen the intellectual and moral solidarity of humankind, through mutual understanding and dialogue between cultures.

# UNESCO- Objectives

- Attaining quality education for all and lifelong learning
- Mobilizing science knowledge and policy for sustainable development
- Addressing emerging social and ethical challenges
- Fostering cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace
- Building inclusive knowledge societies through information and communication

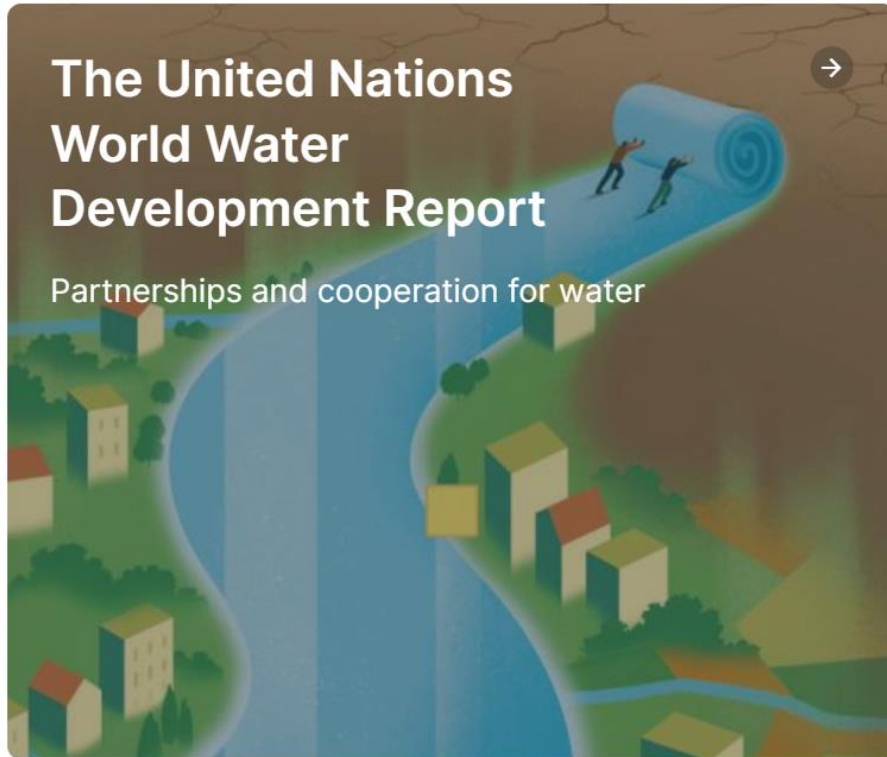
# UNESCO- Objectives

- **UNESCO has 195 Members and 8 Associate Members and is governed by the General Conference and the Executive Board.**
- The Secretariat, headed by the Director-General, implements the decisions of these two bodies.
- The Organization has more than 50 field offices around the world and its headquarters are located in Paris.

# UNESCO- Objectives

- It is also a member of United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG).
- 3 UNESCO member states are not UN members: **Cook Islands, Niue, and Palestine.**
- 2 UN member states are not UNESCO members: **Israel and Liechtenstein.**

# Publications by UNESCO





# Publications By UNESCO



# USA rejoins UNESCO

- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) announced that the United States rejoined it in July 2023, four years after it left the agency (along with Israel), alleging that UNESCO was biased against Israel.
- The move to rejoin will face a vote by UNESCO's member states and is expected to pass easily.
- The United States was a founding member of UNESCO in 1945.

# USA rejoins UNESCO

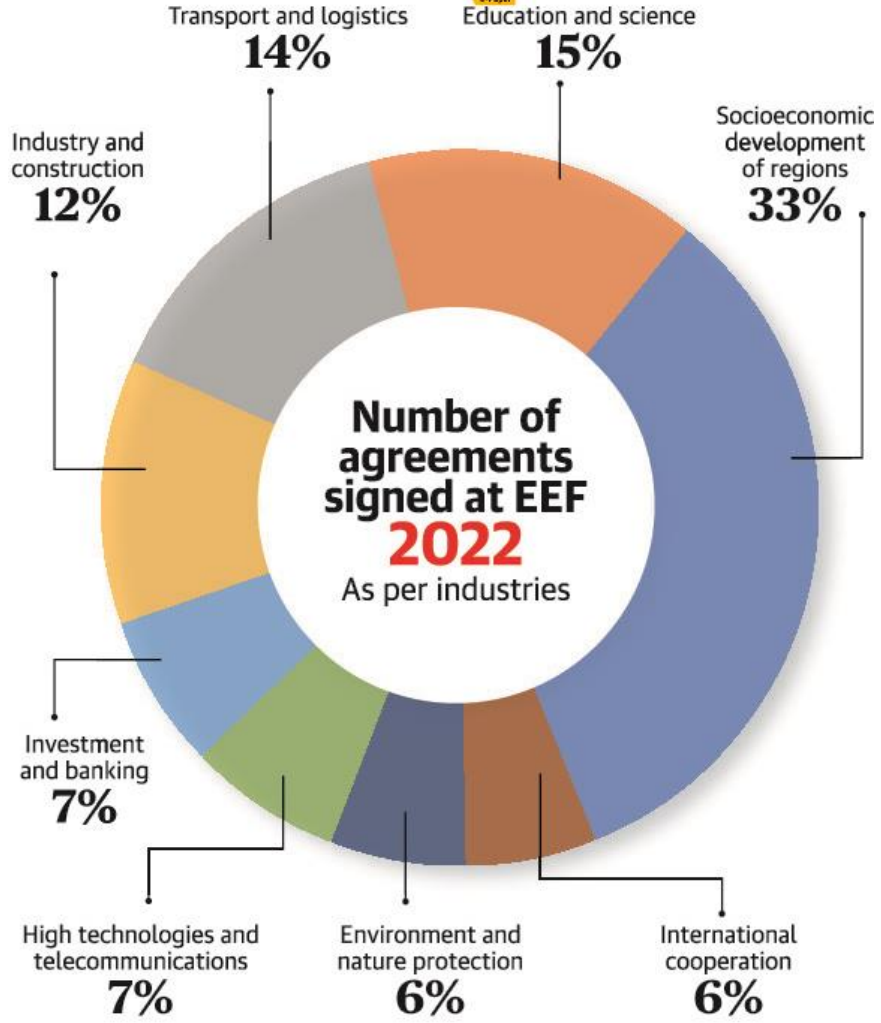
- The decision to return was also due to China filling the gap left by the US in UNESCO policy making, such as in **setting standards** for artificial intelligence and technology education around the world.

## 4. Eastern Economic Forum

- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal led an Indian delegation for the **8th Eastern Economic Forum** which will be addressed by Russian President Vladimir Putin in Vladivostok.
- **Vladivostok is the largest Russian port on the Pacific Ocean, and it is located about 50 km from the China- Russia Border.**
- The 8th Eastern Economic Forum meeting was held in Russia's far eastern city from September 10-13, 2023

# EEF

- The EEF was established in 2015 to encourage foreign investments in the RFE.
- The EEF displays the economic potential, suitable business conditions and investment opportunities in the region.
- Agreements signed at the EEF increased from 217 in 2017 to 380 agreements in 2021, worth 3.6 trillion roubles.
- **As of 2022, almost 2,729 investment projects are being planned in the region.**
- The agreements focus on infrastructure, transportation projects, mineral excavations, construction, industry and agriculture.



Source: Data from Eastern Economic Forum, [forumvostok.ru](http://forumvostok.ru)



# EEF

- China is the biggest investor in the region as it sees potential in promoting the BRI and the Polar Sea Route in the RFE.
- **China's investments in the region account for 90% of the total investments.**
- Russia has been welcoming Chinese investments since 2015





# Major Actors in The Forum

Besides China, South Korea has also been gradually increasing its investments in the region.

South Korea has invested in shipbuilding projects, manufacturing of electrical equipment, gas-liquefying plants, agricultural production & fisheries.

In 2017, the Export-Import Bank of Korea and the Far East Development Fund announced their intention to inject \$2 billion in the RFE in a span of three years.



# Role of Japan in EEF

- Japan is another key trading partner in the Far East.
- In 2017, Japanese investments through 21 projects amounted to \$16 billion.
- Under Shinzo Abe's leadership, Japan identified eight areas of economic cooperation.
- Japan seeks to depend on Russian oil and gas.

# Role of Japan in EEF

- Japan also sees a market for its ago-technologies which have the potential to flourish in the RFE, given similar climatic conditions.
- However, the momentum of trade that existed with Shinzo Abe was lost with the leadership of Fumio Kishida

# India's Role in EEF

India is eager to deepen its cooperation in

- Energy
- Pharmaceuticals
- Maritime connectivity
- Healthcare
- Tourism
- Diamond industry
- Arctic



# India's Role in EEF

- In 2019, India also offered a \$1 billion line of credit to develop infrastructure in the region.
- Through the EEF, India aims to establish a strong inter-state interaction with Russia.
- Business representatives of Gujarat and the Republic of Sakhalin have launched agreements in the **diamond and pharmaceuticals industry.**

# What Does EEF Aim For?

The primary objective of the EEF is to increase the Foreign Direct Investments in the RFE.

The region encompasses 1/3rd of Russia's territory and is rich with natural resources such as fish, oil, natural gas, wood, diamonds and other minerals.

The sparse population living in the region is another factor for encouraging people to move and work in the Far East.

The region's riches and resources contribute to 5% of Russia's GDP

## 5. UNRWA

- UN officials on Sunday (January 28, 2024) urged countries to reconsider their decision to suspend the funding for the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA), assuring that it would take strict action against any staff member found to be involved in Hamas' October 7 attack on Israel.

# UNRWA

- **The agency also highlighted that two million Palestinians in Gaza are dependent** on UNRWA services that would be scaled back as soon as February if the funding is not restored.
- The US and eight other Western countries, which together provided more than half of UNRWA's 2022 budget, **cut the money after Israel** accused some of the agency's staff members of involvement in the October 7 attack.

# UNRWA

- **UNRWA stands for UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East.**
- It was founded in 1949 to provide aid to about 700,000 Palestinians who were forced to leave their homes in what is now Israel during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war.

# UNRWA

- The UN agency operates in Gaza and the Israeli-occupied West Bank, as well as Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan – countries where the refugees took shelter after their expulsion.
- According to UNRWA's website, it **runs education, health, relief and social services, microfinance and emergency assistance programmes** inside and outside refugee camps based in the aforementioned areas.





# UNRWA

- **UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions by donor states like the US.**
- It also gets a limited subsidy from the UN, which is used only for administrative costs.

# UNRWA

- Israel has alleged that 12 staff members of UNRWA were involved in the October 7 attack.
- It has also claimed that Hamas siphons off funds given to UNRWA and fights from in and around the agency's facilities.
- **Israel has alleged that " Hamas tunnels (are) running next to or under UNRWA facilities and accuses the agency of teaching hatred of Israel in its schools**

# UNRWA

- UNRWA is crucial for the survival of people living in Gaza, which has plunged into a humanitarian crisis after the outbreak of the conflict.
- The agency has been the main supplier of food, water and shelter to civilians of the enclave.
- UNRWA, however, would run out of money needed for its aid work within weeks if the funding isn't restored

# UNRWA

- After careful consideration and in close consultation with legal counsel, UNRWA USA National Committee (UNRWA USA) is pleased to announce the resumption of its financial support.
- **European Union (EU), Canada, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Germany, France, and Japan, all of which have resumed their own funding for UNRWA.**

# 6. CSTO

- On 23 February 2024, Armenian Prime Minister Nicol Pashinyan announced **Armenia's suspension of its membership** in the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) due to the **organization's inability to fulfil its security mandate** of safeguarding Armenia in the event of an armed conflict.
- This step was taken following Azerbaijan's attack on the Kapan municipality's Nerkin Hand and Srashen villages in the Syunik district of Armenia.

# Context

- These events and inability of CSTO to defend Armenia have strained ties between Armenia and the regional organisation and to that effect, has put the country at odds with Russia, the most prominent CSTO member.
- The worsening ties could reduce organisational influence and its relevance as a security provider in the Caucasus.

# About CSTO

- The CSTO, established in 2002, comprised of Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.
- **Its role was defined as that of a security provider and in maintaining regional stability and territorial integrity of these countries.**



# About CSTO

- These objectives were highlighted mainly because the region was already suffering from historical turmoil amongst the states, including border disputes between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan and the Armenia and Azerbaijan conflict.

# What is Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)

1. The CSTO is a Russia-dominated security alliance & Russia contributes 50% of its budget.
2. Post the fall of USSR, some members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) signed a mutual Defence treaty named Collective Security Treaty.
3. Meant as a replacement for the Warsaw Pact, the Treaty came into force in 1994.
4. The CSTO has 5 members today: **Russia, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Belarus, and Kazakhstan.**
5. In 2002, CSTO came into existence.

## Warsaw Pact

- Formally known as the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance, the **Warsaw Pact was created on 14 May 1955**
- It was created immediately after the accession of West Germany to the Western Alliance
- It was established by the **Soviet Union** and 7 other Soviet satellite states in Central and Eastern Europe.
- Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland and Romania were its members.
- The Warsaw Pact embodied what was referred to as the Eastern bloc
- The break-up of the Warsaw Pact (February 1991) was shortly followed by the dissolution of the Soviet Union in December 1991.

## What do we Know About CSTO?

1. CSTO is based on the principle of collective security or the idea of **“one for all and all for one”**.
2. An **aggressor against any one state** in the organisation is considered to be an **aggressor against all other states**.
3. All the members would act together to repel the aggressor.
4. Collective Security is also the principle on which NATO, the UN and earlier the League of Nations were founded.

# About CSTO

- Articles 2 and 4 of its charter underline its primary obligations to the member states.
- **According to Article 2, if a member's security, stability, territorial integrity and sovereignty are undermined, then the other members must come to its aid.**
- Article 4 emphasises that aggression faced by any member state would be equivalent to an attack on the organisation.



# About CSTO

- The Eurasian region has been affected by protests within their *territory and also cross-border* conflicts between the various nations.
- There have been specific conflicts in which the CSTO has been asked to intervene, including in Kyrgyzstan (2010) and in Armenia (2020, 2023).
- However, the CSTO, despite having defined objectives, has refused to intervene in most disputes, with the protests in Kazakhstan (2022) being an exception.





# About CSTO

- It was the first known involvement of the organisation at the request of a member state.
- Although the non-interventionist nature of CSTO had not affected its relationship between the member countries, that changed after the Second Nagorno Karabakh War in 2020.

# About CSTO

- The Caucasus has long been fraught with *instability due to the Nagorno-Karabakh War*, with the Armenians claiming victory in the first Karabakh war in 1994 and the Azeris claiming victory in the Second Karabakh War in 2020.

# About CSTO

- While the CSTO was not established when the first war broke out, its reluctance to effectively intervene in the next phase of the war has soured ties between Armenia and Russia, the latter considered the organization's most influential voice.

# About CSTO

- In 2021, the initial divisions within the CSTO became visible after its refused to invoke Article 2, even as Azerbaijan launched attacks deep into 45 sq km of Armenian territory

## Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)



# India's Neighbourhood



## 8. Kalapani Dispute

- In June 2020, Nepal had unveiled a new map of its territories.
- This move drew sharp criticism from India which said the map includes parts of Indian territory.
- **The bone of contention is the Kalapani-Limpiadhura-Lipulekh trijunction between Nepal-India and China (Tibet).**
- Located on the banks of the river Kali at an altitude of 3600m, the Kalapani territory lies at the eastern border of Uttarakhand in India



## Additional Information

- **Kalapani is a region located in the easternmost corner of Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh district.**
- It shares a border on the north with the Tibet Autonomous Region of China and Nepal in the east and south.
- **The area is in India's control but Nepal claims the region because of historical and cartographic reasons.**

## Additional Information

- Nepal's claims to the region is based on Kali river as it became the marker of the boundary of the kingdom of Nepal following the Treaty of Sugauli.
- This was signed between the Gurkha rulers of Kathmandu and the EIC after the Anglo-Nepal War (1814-16).
- According to Article 5, the King of Nepal gave up his claims over the region west of the river Kali which originates in the High Himalayas and flows into the great plains of the Indian subcontinent

# Additional Information

- According to Nepal's experts, the east of the Kali river should begin at the source of the river.
- The source according to them is in the mountains near Limpiyadhura, which is higher in altitude than the rest of the river's flow.
- Nepal claims that a land mass, high in the mountains that falls to the east of the entire stretch starting from Limpiyadhura downwards, is theirs.
- **Strategically the Lipulekh Pass serves as an important vantage point for India to keep an Eye on China's Movements.**

## 9. Free Movement Regime

- In the wake of persisting ethnic conflict in Manipur, the Union government announced on 2 January 2024 that it will end the Free Movement Regime (FMR)



# Historical Background

- Post-Independence, the Government of India realised that areas across the India-Myanmar international border comprise a single socio-economic space for the tribes, and the location of the border amidst it had created hurdles for the tribes, who habitually travel between the two countries to carry on with their traditional way of life and livelihood.
- **This realisation propelled the Indian government to allow the hill tribes to cross the India-Myanmar international border without any travel documents.**



# Historical Background

- Accordingly, on 26 September 1950, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) published the Notification no. 4/15/50-F.I amending the Passport (Entry into India) Rules of 1950 whereby the 'hill tribes, who is either a *citizen of India or the Union of Burma* and who is ordinarily a resident in any area within 40 km (25 miles) on either side of the India-Burma frontier were exempted from the carrying passport or visa while entering into India.

# Historical Background

- In fact, this decision of India was based on the Burmese decision to allow tribespeople of neighbouring countries to enter its territory.
- The Burma Passport rules of 1948 stipulated that the indigenous nationals (hill tribes) of those countries who share a common land border with Burma are exempted from passports or permits to enter into Burma, provided they reside within twenty-five miles from the land border.

# Historical Background

- In addition, the tribespeople were allowed to carry items equivalent to a headload.
- The Government of India also provisioned that citizens of Myanmar could stay for 72 hours in India, while the Myanmar government allowed only a 24 hours stay for Indians in Myanmar.
- This unique arrangement is called the Free Movement Regime.



# Changing Provisions of FMR

- The existence of FMR coupled with a poorly guarded border enabled the insurgents to intensify their activities thereby jeopardizing the security of the region.
- Alarmed by the raging Naga, Meitei and Mizo insurgencies, the Government of India decided to reconsider the provisions of the FMR and restrict the unhindered movement of hill tribes across the border.





# Changing Provisions of FMR

- Since no formal agreement on the free movement of hill tribes across their shared border existed between India and Myanmar at that time, the Indian government prepared a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the matter to be negotiated with the Myanmar government.
- Finally, on 11 May 2018, India and Myanmar signed the Agreement on Land Border Crossing, which formalised the hitherto informal nature of FMR between the two countries



# Free Movement Regime

- **The Free Movement Regime (FMR) was instituted in 2018 under India's Act East policy, facilitating visa-free cross-border movement within a 16 km radius.**
- Residents at the border require an annual pass for **stays up to two weeks in the adjacent country**, aiming to bolster local trade, enhance educational and healthcare access for border inhabitants, and fortify diplomatic relations.

# Ethnic Groups In Myanmar

## Myanmar: Major ethnic groups




Myanmar officially recognises 135 ethnic groups but Rohingya Muslims have been rendered stateless and stripped of their citizenship.

### ETHNIC GROUPS

-  Bamar
-  Shan
-  Karen
-  Rakhine\*
-  Rohingya
-  Kachin
-  Chin
-  Karenni
-  Mon
-  Wa
-  Kokang Chinese

 Ethnic minority states

\* Includes other Rakhine Muslim minorities

-  Rakhine-Rohingya inter-ethnic conflict
-  Conflict area
-  Capital



Source: Al Jazeera, agencies, freeburmarangers, Burma - Insurgency and the Politics of Ethnicity (Marth Smith)





# Issues Concerning the Free Movement Regime

- Issues such as **drug trafficking and arms smuggling** are exacerbated by the **porous border**, posing internal security threats and contributing to criminal activities.
- In **2022**, Manipur reported **500 cases and 625 arrests** under the **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act**, underscoring the severity of the problem.

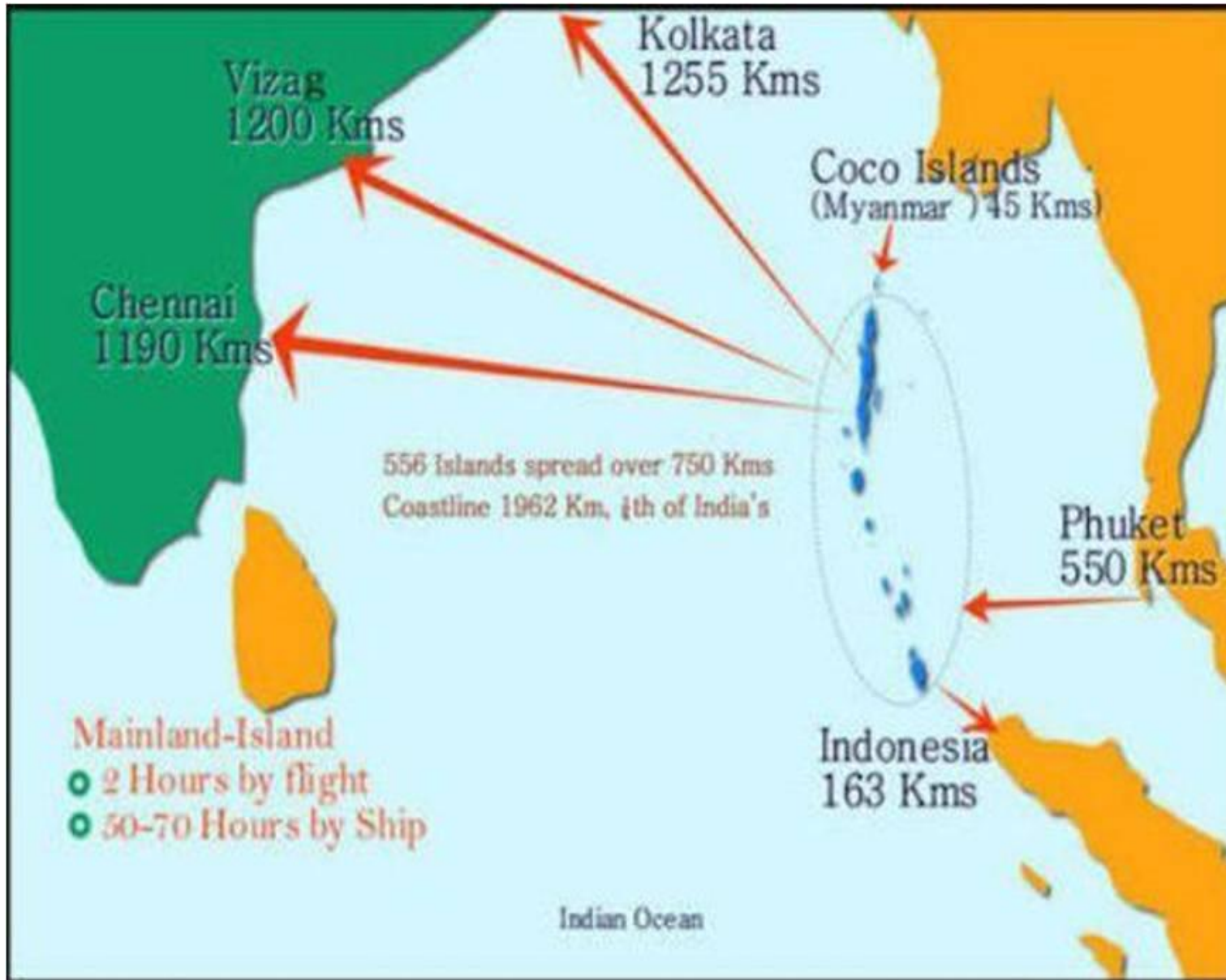
# Issues Concerning the Free Movement Regime

- **Socio-economic and regional concerns center** on the potential erosion of cultural identity in border areas due to heightened migration.
- **Environmental degradation**, attributed to unregulated cross-border movement, manifests in deforestation and illegal resource extraction.
- **The geopolitical dimension** is further complicated by China's increasing influence in Myanmar, raising apprehensions about its impact on border security.

# 10. Coco Islands

- There is evidence that Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) capabilities are being strengthened on Myanmar's Coco Islands.
- **Cocos Island is 55 kilometres north of India's tri-service base located at the Andaman and Nicobar (A&C) Islands.**
- India has raised the concerns that as a part of this infrastructure expansion on the Coco Islands Myanmar is permitting deployment of foreign troops, specifically China.
- Myanmar has denied that it is assisting the Chinese.





Picture 2: Coco Islands Reference Map

Source: Dr Naing Swe Oo, TISS

# What is Signal Intelligence?

- Signals intelligence operational platforms are employed by nations to collect signals intelligence, which is **intelligence-gathering by interception of signals**, whether between people (i.e., COMINT or communications intelligence) or between machines (i.e., ELINT or electronic intelligence), or mixtures of the two.
- As **sensitive information is often encrypted**, signals intelligence often involves the use of cryptanalysis.
- However, traffic analysis – the study of who is signalling whom and in what quantity – can often produce valuable information, **even when the messages themselves** cannot be decrypted.

# What is Signal Intelligence?

- India is known to operate a strategic signals intelligence platform developed as part of "Programme Divya Drishti" by the Defence Electronics Research Laboratory of DRDO.
- The system is operated by the Indian Army.
- The primary platform for tactical signals intelligence in the Indian Army is based on the Samyukta Electronic Warfare System developed by the Defence Electronics Research Laboratory of DRDO.
- Himashakti, a signals intelligence platform for operations in mountainous terrain to support constrained logistics and mobility challenges

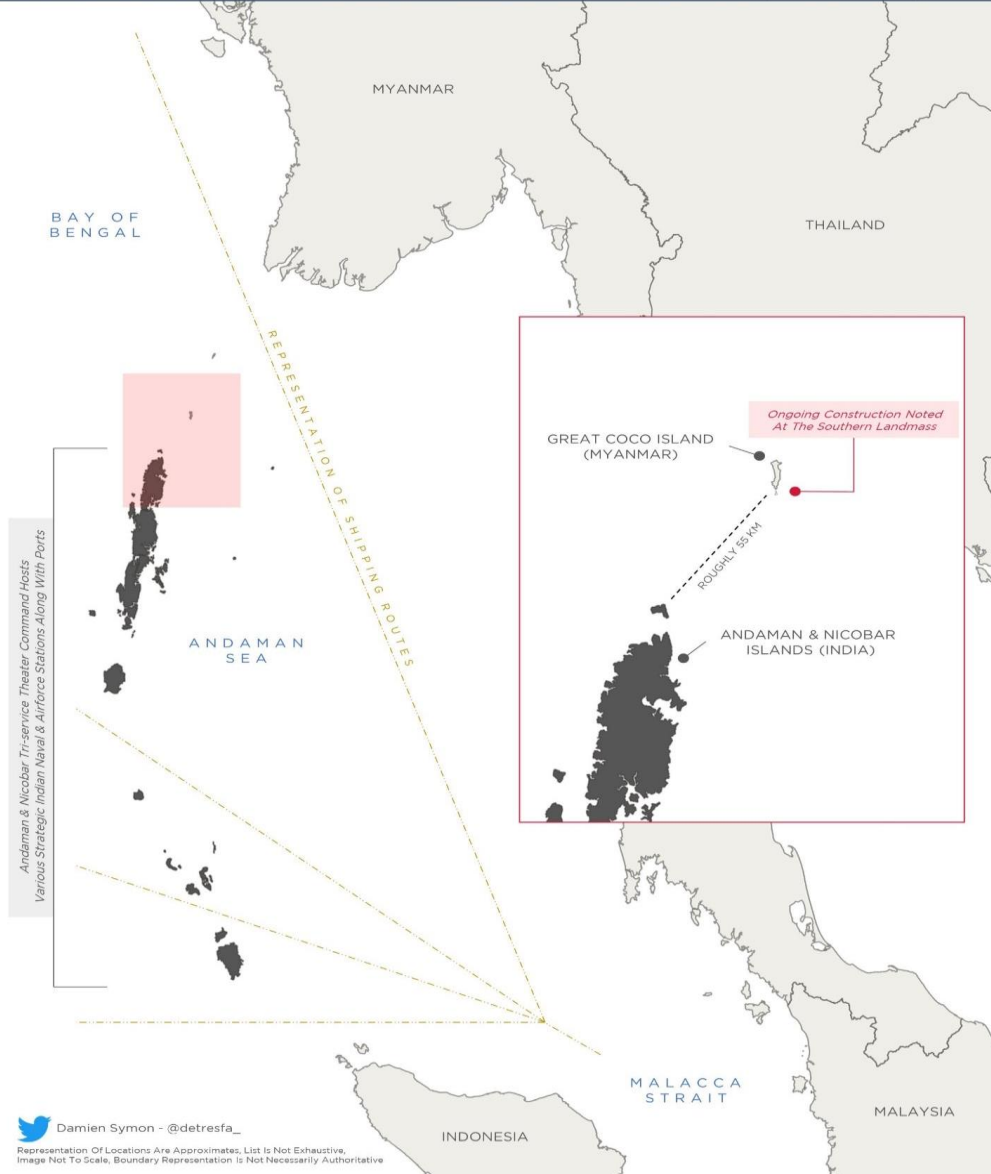
# What is The Development?

- The latest satellite imagery released by Maxar shows that the military regime is expanding the size of the Coco Islands base by extending the length of the runway and establishing a stronger SIGINT architecture.
- **The Coco Islands is a base controlled by Myanmar. It is being built with assistance from the People's Republic of China (PRC).**
- The Chinese military personnel, especially technical personnel from the People's Liberation Army Strategic Support Force (PLASSF), have access to the Coco Islands.

# What is The Development?

- With the improved SIGINT the Chinese are likely to acquire will help them track communications from the A&N, Indian military surveillance flights, and the Indian Navy's (IN) deployment patterns.

## CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY - GREAT COCO ISLAND (MYANMAR)



# Additional Facts on Cocos Islands

- The control of Coco islands in the Andaman archipelago was taken over by the English East India company in the 18th century.
- **Its control was transferred from EIC to the British government of India in the 19th century.**
- Britishers established a penal colony (prison to keep political dissenters) in the Andaman and the Coco islands were are a source of food for them (mainly coconut).



# Additional Facts on Cocos Islands

- Due to the remoteness of the Coco islands, it was difficult for Britishers to govern them.
- **In 1882, the Britishers transferred the control of Coco islands to the British government of Burma.**
- After separation of Burma from India in 1937, these islands became part of Burmese territory.
- **Japan during World War 2 occupied these islands, along with the Andaman islands.**
- After Japanese vacated these islands, the control of Coco islands were retained by independent Burma in 1948 (Burma got its independence from Britishers in 1948).

# Additional Facts on Cocos Islands

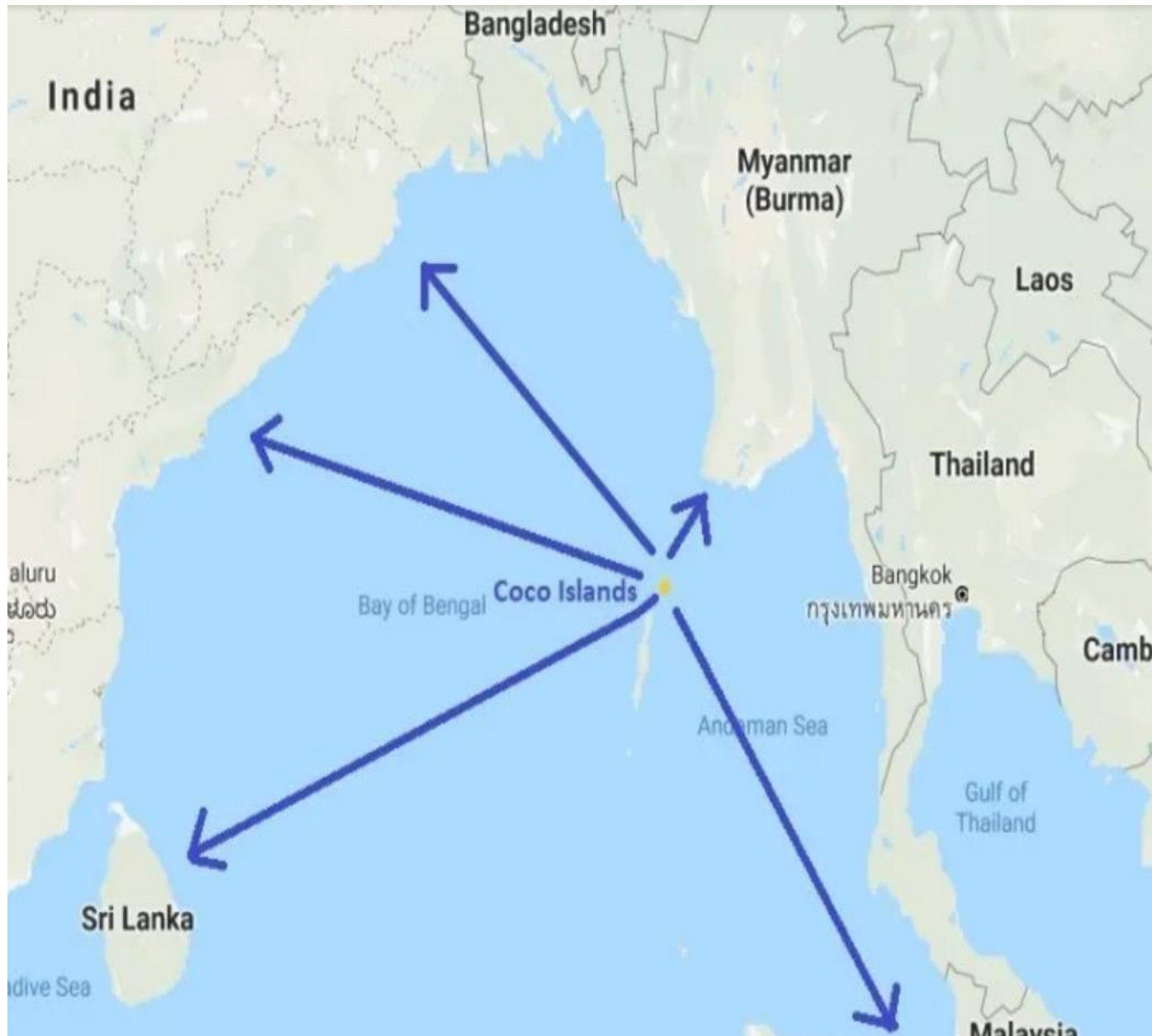
- After the 1962 military coup in Myanmar, a penal colony was established by its military in these islands.
- Later on, Myanmar Navy developed a naval base there.
- **In 1994, China got these islands on lease from the Myanmar military.**
- However, both countries deny any such agreement at all.

# Strategic Importance of Cocos Islands

- The islands have an immense strategic advantage in the region, considering their proximity to the strait of Malacca which is a crucial point for the global supply routes of oil from the Gulf.
- **Around 40% of global trade passes through Malacca strait. Considering China's military build-up in the South China Sea, it is evident that China wants to control its major trade routes.**

# Strategic Importance of Cocos Islands

- They also want to deploy enough military around the strategic Strait of Malacca to protect its interest in any eventuality.
- Coco islands give them direct access to the region of the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean.
- It also a part of their String of Pearls to contain India's presence in the region.



## 11. Colombo Security Conclave

- Established in 2011 as a **trilateral grouping** consisting of India, Sri Lanka and Maldives for **collaborating on collective maritime security issues**.
- The CSC is **moving towards expansion** and greater institutionalization.
- This has been evident from the **most recent iteration of the grouping** where **Mauritius was welcomed as the fourth member**.
- CSC is further projected to expand with the **inclusion of Seychelles and Bangladesh in its future iterations**.
- The trilateral meeting was **restarted in 2020** after a hiatus from 2014 to 2019.
- The decision to launch the **Colombo Security Conclave** was made during this gathering in 2020. (CSC).



## CSC Rejuvenated in 2020

- The three countries decided to **broaden their base collaboration** during the **NSA level conference** in November 2020.
- It was decided to broaden the coverage to
  - **Terrorism,**
  - **Radicalization**
  - **Illegal narcotics, weapons, and people trafficking**
  - **Money laundering.**
  - **Cyber security**
  - **Impact of climate change on the maritime environment.**



## 5 Pillars of CSC

- **Maritime security**
- **Counter-terrorism**
- **Combating transnational Crime**
- **Cyber security**
- **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)**

# Intelligence Sharing

- In 2020, it was agreed that a **biennial Deputy NSA level** working group meeting is **necessary to ensure efficient implementation** of decisions
- The three countries had participated in the **5th Deputy National Security Advisors (NSA)** - level meeting of Colombo Security Conclave on **04 August 2021**.
- In this summit the three countries agreed to **expand the scope of intelligence sharing**
- Deputy NSA-level meeting this week identified “four pillars” of cooperation.
- The initiative, **grounded in military and security collaboration**, assumes significance in the region.
- This is in the wake of the current geostrategic dynamic that India shares with Sri Lanka and the Maldives.
- **In March 2021, a secretariat was established in Colombo.**

# Intelligence Sharing

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- **In March 2021, a secretariat was established in Colombo.**

# COLOMBO SECURITY CONCLAVE (CSC)

Regional security grouping initially formed in 2011 as a trilateral Indian Ocean maritime security grouping of India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives

## MEMBERS

India  
Sri Lanka  
Maldives  
Mauritius

## OBSERVERS

Bangladesh  
Seychelles



# 12. India China Border Agreements

- Signed in September 1993 during Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's visit to China, what's now known as the Border Peace and Tranquility Agreement (BPTA) – or to give it its full name, the “Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the India-China Border Areas”





# India China Border Agreements

- The very first article of the BPTA saw a commitment that “neither side shall use or threaten to use force against the other by any means” and that “pending an ultimate solution to the boundary question between the two countries, the two sides shall strictly respect and observe the line of actual control (LAC) between the two sides”



# India China Border Agreements

- Associated with this was the notion that the two sides would progressively reduce their military deployments along the LAC to a “minimum level”, based on the principle of “mutual and equal security”.
- This far-reaching agreement was aimed at not only calming the LAC but building a peaceful trajectory to Sino-Indian relations.

# India China Border Agreements

- The follow-on second CBM was the 1996 agreement on **“Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field Along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas”**.
- This agreement spelt out some measures to clarify the LAC and to work out limits of their respective militaries and various armaments such as tanks, infantry combat vehicles, howitzers, SAMs and SSMs on the LAC. Combat aircraft and helicopters were barred from flying within 10 km of the LAC.

# India China Border Agreements

- A decade later came the third big military CBM, which was the 2005 **“Protocol on Modalities for the Implementation of Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field Along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas”**, which was essentially built on the 1996 agreement.
- The agreement spelt out the standard operating procedures on what would happen when patrols met each other on the territory that both countries claimed.

# India China Border Agreements

- They would display a first banner emblazoned, “This is Indian/Chinese territory”.
- They would then flash the second banner, on which would be written, “Turn around and go back to your side”.
- Instances when these banners had to be shown were later termed “face-offs”.

# India China Border Agreements

- Since 2008, alarmed at the Indian actions in strengthening their border defences, China began proposing that the two sides sign a Border Defence Cooperation Agreement (BDCA).
- Beijing somewhat ingenuously wanted India to freeze border construction, arguing that it was not necessary in the light of the other CBMs.

# India China Border Agreements

- In January 2012, the two sides signed a fourth CBM on the establishment of a working mechanism for consultation and coordination on India-China border affairs.
- This was seen as a move to replace the old joint working group process that linked the two foreign ministries.
- But this was not enough to prevent the Depsang face-off in March 2013.

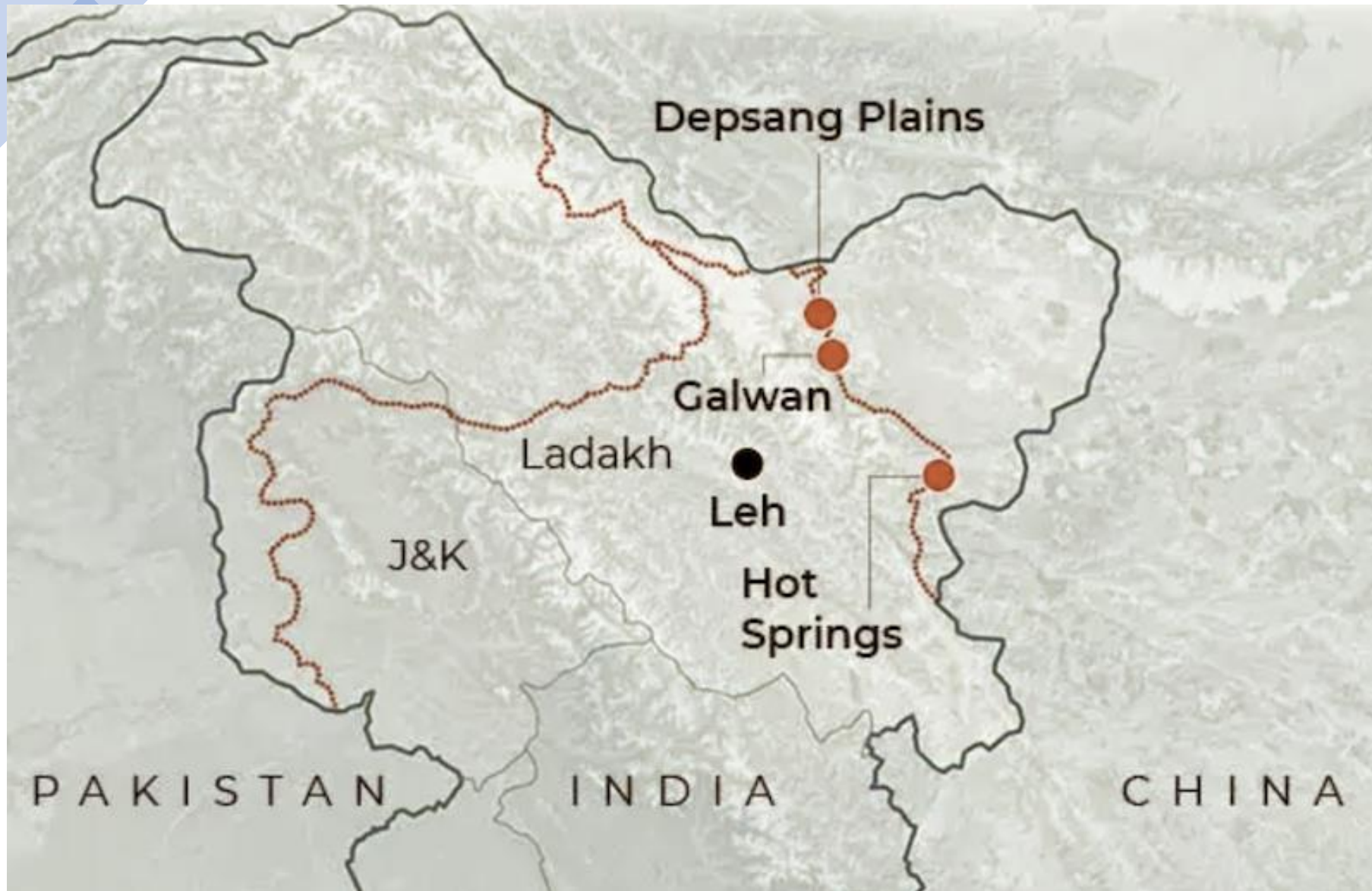
# India China Border Agreements

- Following the event, the fifth agreement, BDCA was finally signed on 13 October 2013.
- Significantly, while all the other CBMs and MoUs were signed by civilian officials, the signatories of the BDCA were India's Defence Secretary and Admiral Sun Jianguo, Deputy Chief of General Staff of the PLA.



# India China Border Agreements

- This agreement reiterated the previous agreements and enhanced the interactions of the military operations departments and the defence ministries.
- The two countries agreed that even while observing the provisions of the past agreements, they would not tail the patrols of the other side in areas where there was no common understanding of the LAC.



# Act East

# 13. ASEAN

- The Association of Southeast Asian Nations is a regional organization which was established to promote political and social stability amid rising tensions among the Asia-Pacific's post-colonial states.
- The motto of ASEAN is “One Vision, One Identity, One Community”.
- ASEAN Secretariat – Indonesia, Jakarta.

# ASEAN

- Established in 1967 with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) by its founding fathers.
- Founding Fathers of ASEAN are Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.
- Ten Members: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

# India & ASEAN

- India's **sectoral dialogue partnership** started with ASEAN in 1992.
- This was soon after India announced its **Look East Policy (LEP)**.
- The LEP was a consequence of India's Economic Liberalization and an economic construct.



# India & ASEAN

- In 1996, India's partnership was raised to a Dialogue Partnership.
- In 2002, it was enhanced to the summit level.
- In 2005, ASEAN was instrumental in bringing India into the East Asia Summit, **a major ASEAN-centric institution.**

# India & ASEAN

- India and ASEAN marked their 20th anniversary with a Strategic Partnership in 2012.
- The 25th anniversary summit was held in January 2018.
- That year, the 10 ASEAN leaders were chief guests at the Republic Day celebrations.

# India & ASEAN

- The **ASEAN-India Free Trade Area (AIFTA)** is a free trade area among the ten member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and India.
- The **Initial framework agreement was signed on 8 October 2003** in Bali, Indonesia.

# India & ASEAN

- The Final agreement was on 13 August 2009.
- **The FTA came into effect on 1 January 2010.**
- ASEAN Member States and India have agreed to open their respective markets by progressively **reducing and eliminating duties on 75% of goods**

# India & ASEAN

- **ASEAN-India Trade in Services Agreement** was signed in November 2014.
- It contains provisions on transparency, domestic regulations, recognition, market access, national treatment and dispute settlement.

# India & ASEAN

- **The ASEAN-India Investment Agreement was also signed in November 2014.**
- The Investment Agreement stipulates protection of investment to ensure fair and equitable treatment for investors, non-discriminatory treatment



# ASEAN FTA With

- 1. India
- 2. China
- 3. Japan
- 4. South Korea
- 5. Australia
- 6. New Zealand



# ASEAN

Image: ASEAN

Please **T**urn **O**ver **L**eft **I**n **Cambodia** to  
Meet the **MBBS**

P-  
Philippines

T-  
Thailand

V- Vietnam

L- Laos

I-  
Indonesia

C-  
Cambodia

M-  
Malaysia

B- Brunei

B- Burma

S-  
Singapore

# East Timor

- The accession of East Timor to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations is a process that started following the independence of the country in 2002 when its leaders stated that it had made a "strategic decision" to become a member state of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in the future.
- The country officially applied for membership in 2011

# East Timor

- East Timor would have by far the smallest GDP in the ASEAN, less than 15% of the smallest current ASEAN member state Laos.
- In 2022, the country was admitted "in principle" as the organization's 11th member, with full membership pending.

# East Timor- Road Ahead

- Timor-Leste needed to conduct an assessment of the country's readiness to join ASEAN to allow for the identification of any shortcomings.
- Second, it needs to build a nation-wide consensus where society at all levels can buy into the importance of ASEAN membership.

# East Timor- Road Ahead

- Third, it needs to appoint officials who can engage with other ASEAN state members at all levels.
- This includes improving proficiency in English, the working language of ASEAN





# Indo-Pacific Economic Framework



# 14. IPEF

- In May 2022, the United States launched the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) with Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam



# IPEF

- This framework will advance resilience, sustainability, inclusiveness, economic growth, fairness, and competitiveness for 14 economies.
- Through this initiative, the IPEF partners aim to contribute to cooperation, stability, prosperity, development, and peace within the region.
- The 14 IPEF partners represent 40% of global GDP and 28% of global goods and services trade.

# IPEF

- The launch began discussions of future negotiations on the following pillars: (1) Trade; (2) Supply Chains; (3) Clean Energy, Decarbonization, and Infrastructure; and (4) Tax and Anti-Corruption.
- **The IPEF is designed to be flexible, meaning that IPEF partners are not required to join all four pillars.**
- The IPEF represents a new age economic framework which promises to allow each participating member to pick and choose the pillars of negotiations based on its own domestic political sensitivities.

# IPEF

- India is the only country which has so far not joined the trade pillar of IPEF negotiations.
- IPEF Negotiations are likely to focus on digital trade standards, labour laws and environmental financing issues

# India & World



# 15. North Sea Summit

- The second North Sea Summit on 24 April, in Ostend, Belgium, brought together nine north-west European countries and the European Commission with a clear target in mind.
- Turning the North Sea into a major green energy powerhouse that will boost European decarbonisation, energy security and industrial competitiveness.



# North Sea Summit

- North Sea Summit aims at making the North Sea the largest powerhouse of Europe by 2050 by taking its offshore wind capacity to 120 GW by 2030 and 300 GW by 2050.
- The EU today has 200 GW of installed wind capacity and – more specifically – only 15 GW of installed offshore wind capacity is contained within this 200 GW.

# North Sea Summit

- North Sea renewable energy vision discussed at the Ostend Summit deserved special treatment.
- It represents a testcase of how Europe could achieve its three energy policy objectives – security, price competitiveness and sustainability – at the same time.

# North Sea Summit

- North Sea initiative illustrates the value of international collaboration when it comes to the energy transition, not only within the EU, but also with external partners such as Norway and the United Kingdom.

# North Sea Summit

- 7 European Union (EU) countries (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands), and 2 Non-EU countries Norway and United Kingdom participated.

# 16. Black Sea Grain Initiative

- The deal provides for a safe humanitarian corridor for the export of Ukrainian grains through the Black Sea, to tackle rising food prices due to the geopolitical conflict grappling the 'breadbasket'
- Ukraine is among the largest exporters of wheat, maize, rapeseed, sunflower seeds and sunflower oil, globally.
- Its access to the deep-sea ports in the Black Sea enables it to directly approach Russia and Europe along with grain importers from the Middle East and North Africa



# What is the Black Sea Grain deal?

- Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine began, exports of grain from Ukraine, as well as food and fertilisers from Russia, have been significantly hit.
- The **disruption in supplies pushed soaring prices** even higher and contributed to a global food crisis.
- The **Black Sea Grain Initiative**, brokered by the **United Nations and Turkey**, **was set up to reintroduce vital food** and fertiliser exports from Ukraine to the rest of the world.

# What is the Black Sea Grain deal?

- The deal allowed exports from Ukraine, to resume through a safe maritime humanitarian corridor from three key Ukrainian ports: **Chornomorsk, Odessa, and Yuzhny/Pivdennyi**, to the rest of the world.
- The exports from Ukraine include grain, other foodstuffs, and fertiliser, including ammonia.
- **Ukraine, one of the world's largest grain exporters.**
- **The grain deal has to be renewed every 120 days by agreement of Kyiv and Moscow.**



# What is the Black Sea Grain deal?

- Ukrainian pilots will be responsible for guiding commercial vessels carrying grain and other cereals and foodstuffs from the ports of **Odesa, Chornomorsk and Yuzhne** out of Ukrainian waters, which will remain mined to deter Russian amphibious operations.
- **Joint Coordination Centre (JCC)** was established in Istanbul, *comprising senior representatives from the Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United Nations.*

# 17. China's Panda Diplomacy

- China may be renewing its panda diplomacy project as the country is planning to loan the **San Diego Zoo a pair of giant pandas**.
- **The China Wildlife Conservation Authority** has signed cooperation agreements with San Diego and Madrid, Spain for the same, and is also in talks with zoos in Washington D.C. and Vienna, Austria.

# What is Panda Diplomacy?

- Giant pandas are native to central China, particularly the Yangtze River basin.
- The Chinese government gifts or loans these endemic pandas to other countries as a symbol of friendship or soft diplomacy, hence leading to the phrase “panda diplomacy”.





# How did Panda Diplomacy Become Popular?

- While panda diplomacy gained prominence in the mid-to-late 20th century, some experts suggest **its roots trace back to the Tang Dynasty (7th-10th century)**.
- Historical records indicate that pandas were presented to the Japanese court during Empress Wu Zetian's reign.

# How did Panda Diplomacy Become Popular?

- Modern panda diplomacy is often associated with **the year 1972, during Mao Zedong's rule, when Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai gifted two giant pandas to the United States following President Richard Nixon's state visit.**
- **The pandas, Ling-Ling (female) and Hsing-Hsing (male), arrived at the Smithsonian National Zoo in Washington D.C. on April 16, 1972.**

# How did Panda Diplomacy Become Popular?

- China transitioned from gifting pandas to loaning them in the early 1980s, with a fee of approximately \$1 million per year.
- Loan agreements may include conditions such as building facilities for panda care and returning offspring to China.



# More than Just Soft Diplomacy and What Next

- In a 2013 study by the University of Oxford, it was suggested that panda diplomacy deals could have long-term environmental implications beyond mere soft diplomacy.

# More Than Just Soft Diplomacy and What Next

- The study highlighted the case of Edinburgh Zoo in Scotland, which received its first pair of pandas in December 2011.
- This deal, overseen by China's deputy premier, coincided with negotiations for contracts worth £2.6 billion in various sectors, including petrochemicals, renewable energy technology, salmon meat, and Land Rovers.

# More than Just Soft Diplomacy and What Next

- Additionally, **panda deals with Canada, France, and Australia** were noted to coincide with these countries' uranium deals and contracts with China, indicating potential broader economic and geopolitical implications.
- Following a meeting between **Chinese President Xi Jinping and U.S. President Joe Biden in November 2023**, President Xi hinted at the possibility of resuming panda exchanges with the United States.



# More than Just Soft Diplomacy and What Next

- Megan Owen, a member of the **San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance** and vice president of **Wildlife Conservation Science**, expressed optimism about the prospect, stating that there is considerable enthusiasm on both sides to restart panda cooperation, **beginning with the San Diego Zoo.**

# 18. IMEC & Red Sea Crisis

- As the Red Sea crisis enters its fourth month, global supply chains are increasingly grappling with inflated freights, delayed vessel schedules, and product shortages.
- It has once again brought to the fore the vulnerabilities of global supply chains, highlighting the need to revisit alternate routes for global trade.

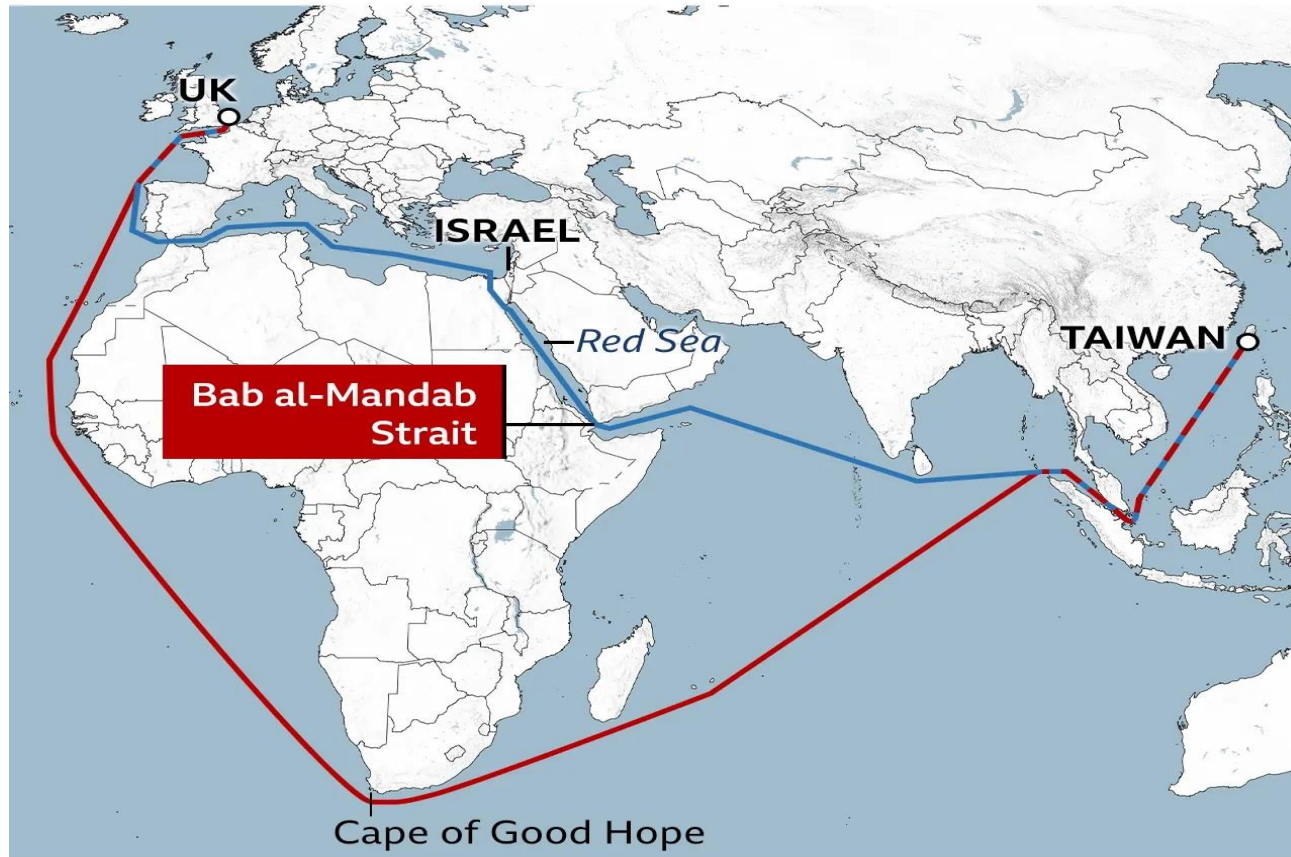
# Significance of the Red Sea route

- More than 80 percent of international trade by volume is transported by sea, and as the current situation in the Red Sea illustrates, disruptions to shipping routes can have wide-reaching effects.
- The Suez Canal serves as a vital passage for ships traveling between the Indian Ocean and Europe, necessitating transit through the Bab al-Mandab Strait and the Red Sea.

## Alternative shipping route avoiding Red Sea

 Using Red Sea/Suez Canal	 Around Cape of Good Hope
10,019 nautical miles (18,555km)	13,422 nautical miles (24,858km)
<b>25.4 days*</b>	<b>34 days*</b>

\*Based on ultra large container vessel's average speed of 16.43 knots



Source: Veson Nautical

**BBC**

# Significance of the Red Sea route

- As the shortest sea route connecting Asia and Europe, the Suez Canal holds significant importance in the transportation of oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG).

# Significance of the Red Sea route

- In the first half of 2023, approximately nine million barrels of oil per day traversed the Suez Canal, as reported by freight analytics firm Vortex.
- S&P Global Market Intelligence analysts noted that nearly 15% of goods imported into Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa originated from Asia and the Gulf via sea routes.
- **This included 21.5% of refined oil and over 13% of crude oil.**

# Significance of the Red Sea route

- Beyond oil, container ships ferry a diverse range of consumer goods, including electronics, clothing, footwear, and sports equipment, reflecting the canal's broader impact on global trade.



**17,000** ships go through  
the Suez Canal each year

Meaning **12%** of annual  
global trade passes  
through the Red Sea

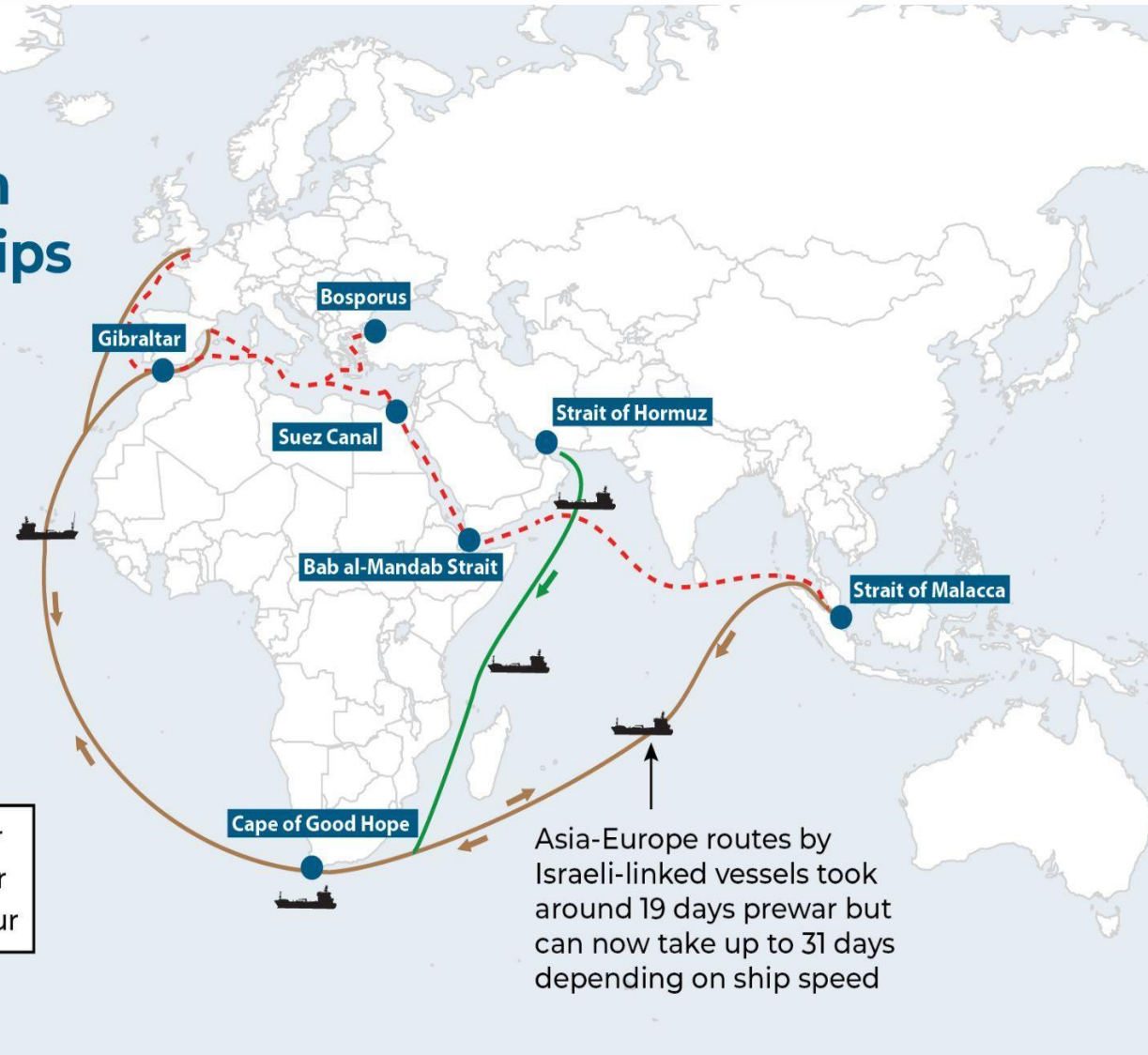
That's **\$1 trillion** worth  
of goods



Source: Lloyd's List, Getty Images



## How Attacks on Commercial Ships Affect Red Sea Trade Routes



# How has it affected India?

- India's trade with European and North African nations exclusively utilizes the Red Sea route, accounting for approximately 24% of its exports and 14% of its imports.
- **In the fiscal year 2022-23, India's bilateral trade with Europe and North Africa reached \$189 billion and \$15 billion, respectively.**

# How has it affected India?

- Concerns among traders regarding potential disruptions have led to a decline in Indian shipments.
- **The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) reports that escalating threats have prompted Indian exporters to withhold approximately 25% of their cargo ships passing through the Red Sea.**

# How has it affected India?

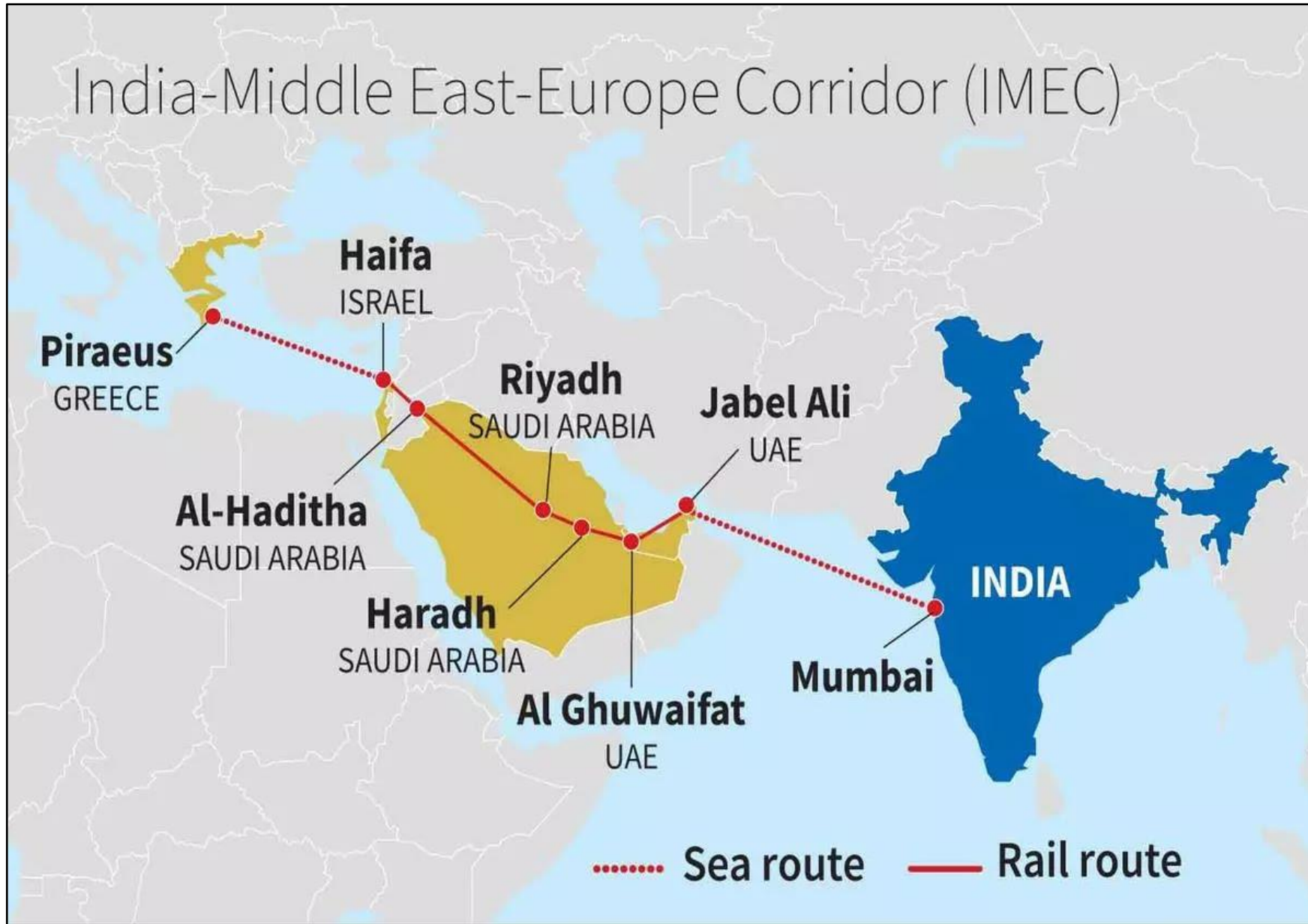
- Amidst challenges faced by global supply chains such as delayed shipments and increased costs, China is actively promoting China-Europe freight trains as an alternative route.
- These trains are part of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

# India Middle East Europe Corridor

- **The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)**, introduced during the G-20 summit in 2023, presents an alternative route that has not garnered significant attention.
- The network will support the seamless movement of goods under a digital and single trade document and will be far cheaper operationally than the Suez Canal route.



# India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC)





# India Middle East Europe Corridor

- Despite the signing of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), there has been a lack of investment or **operational progress** concerning the corridor, limiting its development.
- **The normalization of Arab-Israel relations**, a crucial aspect of the multi-nation initiative, has been hindered by the ongoing Israel-Palestine conflict, further impeding progress.

# India Middle East Europe Corridor

- A significant challenge to the IMEC is the vulnerability of the Strait of Hormuz, through which all trade within the corridor flows.
- Iran's proximity and control over the strait pose a high risk of disruptions.
- Some experts suggest mitigating the Strait of Hormuz issue by involving Oman in the IMEC and redirecting the supply chain away from Iran's influence.



# How can the IMEC be made viable?

- An empirical study to assess the economic benefits of the corridor is imperative.
- **The corridor is projected to reduce journey time from India to Europe by 40% and decrease transit costs by 30%.**
- However, concerns regarding increased carriage and compliance costs due to multiple cargo handling and multi-nation transit need to be addressed.
- Therefore, quantifying the economic advantages of the corridor is crucial to attract more stakeholders.

# How can the IMEC be made viable?

- Establishing a robust financial framework is essential.
- With no binding financial commitments from corridor signatories, investments must be sought from governments, international organizations, and private sector entities to support the corridor's development.

# Members of IMEC

## Founder



India



United States



Saudi Arabia



United Arab Emirates



European Union



France



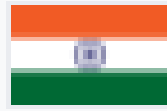
Germany



Italy



## Location



India



United Arab Emirates



Saudi Arabia



Jordan



Israel



Greece



Italy



France



Germany

Fiig juis



# 19. Blood Diamonds

- In recent years, Sierra Leone has witnessed considerable economic growth, notwithstanding lingering repercussions from the devastating civil conflict.
- The nation, endowed with rich diamond and mineral resources, **grappled with the trade in illicit gems**, colloquially termed "**blood diamonds**," contributing to the perpetuation of the civil war.
- Governmental efforts have been directed towards curbing this trade.

# Blood Diamonds

- Blood diamonds, also known as conflict diamonds, are diamonds that are mined in war zones and sold to finance armed conflicts against legitimate governments.
- These diamonds are often mined using forced labor, including children, and are traded illegally to illegally to **fund violent conflicts and human rights abuses**
- This very specific definition was formed by the UN in the 1990s as brutal civil wars were waged in parts of western and central Africa by rebel groups in diamond-rich areas.

# Blood Diamonds

- The name 'blood diamond' references the dark and tragic reality of an industry that, when left unchecked, can cause harm to individuals, communities, and entire nations.
- According to the United Nations, blood diamonds and **conflict diamonds both imply gems** that were mined within **war-torn areas** **and sold** with the intent of financing rebel movements which can destroy domestic life for citizens.

## DIAMOND-PRODUCING AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Although the following four African countries produce diamonds certified as “conflict free” by the Kimberley Process, many of their diamonds are tainted by violence, human rights violations, and environmental devastation.



### ZIMBABWE

Poised to make up 10 – 15% of the world’s diamonds, diamonds from Zimbabwe help to fund a brutal dictator and are tainted by violence and corruption.



### SIERRA LEONE

Abandoned mining pits have become breeding grounds for mosquitoes carrying malaria and other water-borne diseases.



### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Around 800,000 diamond diggers in the DRC perform backbreaking work yet live in extreme poverty, earning less than a few hundred dollars a year.



### ANGOLA

Soldiers brutally abuse unlicensed diamond miners from the neighboring DRC, engaging in torture, rape, and murder.



#### SMUGGLING & CORRUPTION

Over \$2 billion in diamonds have been stolen by political allies of Zimbabwe’s president since 2008. Up to half of the diamonds mined in Sierra Leone are unregistered or smuggled, depriving the government of tax revenue. 40% of diamonds in the DRC have unknown origins.



#### VIOLENCE

There are ongoing reports of violence in the Central African Republic, Angola, Congo, and Côte d’Ivoire. In 2009, the Angolan army violently removed 115,000 Congolese miners.



#### HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

A United Nations group found more than 21,000 cases of rape, torture, and other human rights violations among miners expelled from Angola in 2011. In the same year, the Zimbabwean army was caught running secret camps where miners are tortured, beaten, and raped.



#### CHILD LABOR

A survey of one of the main Angolan diamond mining provinces reported 46% of the workers were children. A 2009 report estimated 25% of Sierra Leone miners were children.



#### ENVIRONMENT

Fertile land once used for farming in Sierra Leone has been turned into a desolate landscape of abandoned mining pits. In Angola, reckless diamond mining has caused soil erosion, led to deforestation, and forced local populations to relocate.



#### HEALTH & SAFETY

Lacking safety equipment and proper tools, diamond miners have been killed or injured in landslides, mine collapses, and other accidents.

# Blood Diamond Conflict Zones





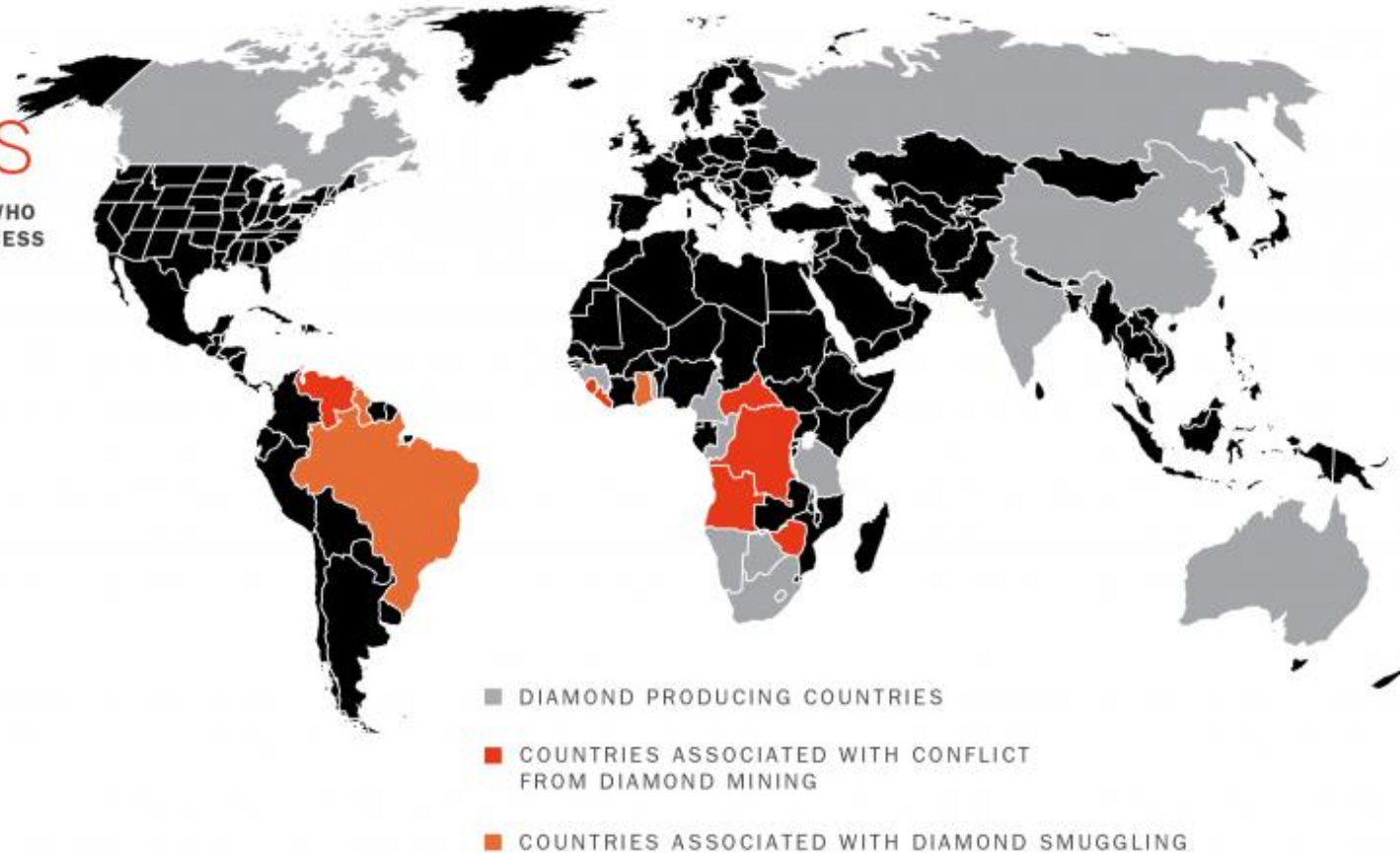
# Kimberley Process

- The Kimberley Process (KP) is a multilateral trade regime established in 2003 with the goal of preventing the flow of conflict diamonds.
- The core of this regime is the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) under which States implement safeguards on shipments of rough diamonds and **certify them as "conflict free"**.

# THE TROUBLE WITH DIAMONDS

THE 22 DIAMOND PRODUCING COUNTRIES WHO ARE SIGNATORIES TO THE KIMBERLEY PROCESS

1. ANGOLA
2. AUSTRALIA
3. BOTSWANA
4. BRAZIL
5. CAMEROON
6. CANADA
7. CHINA
8. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
9. REPUBLIC OF CONGO
10. GHANA
11. GUINEA
12. GUYANA
13. INDIA
14. LESOTHO
15. LIBERIA
16. NAMIBIA
17. RUSSIA
18. SIERRA LEONE
19. SOUTH AFRICA
20. TANZANIA
21. TOGO
22. ZIMBABWE





<b>Angola</b>	<b>Eswatini</b>	<b>Liberia</b>	<b>South Korea</b>
<b>Armenia</b>	<b>European Union</b>	<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>Sri Lanka</b>
<b>Australia</b>	<b>Gabon</b>	<b>Mali</b>	<b>Switzerland</b>
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>Ghana</b>	<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>Tanzania</b>
<b>Belarus</b>	<b>Guinea</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>Thailand</b>
<b>Botswana</b>	<b>Guyana</b>	<b>Mozambique</b>	<b>Togo</b>
<b>Brazil</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>Namibia</b>	<b>Turkey</b>
<b>Cambodia</b>	<b>Indonesia</b>	<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>Ukraine</b>
<b>Cameroon</b>	<b>Israel</b>	<b>Norway</b>	<b>United Arab Emirates</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>Japan</b>	<b>Panama</b>	<b>United Kingdom</b>
<b>Central African Republic *</b>	<b>Kazakhstan</b>	<b>Qatar</b>	<b>United States of America</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>Kyrgyz Republic</b>	<b>Russian Federation</b>	<b>Venezuela</b>
<b>Congo (DRC)</b>	<b>Laos</b>	<b>Sierra Leone</b>	<b>Vietnam</b>
<b>Congo (ROC)</b>	<b>Lebanon</b>	<b>Singapore</b>	<b>Zimbabwe</b>
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	<b>Lesotho</b>	<b>South Africa</b>	