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Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2022

Why in Newspapers?

Recently the fourth edition of the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue concluded in Delhi. IPRD is an apex level international annual conference of the Indian Navy.

Quick Issue?

- **Theme for the year 2022:-** Steering the Indo-Pacific Ocean Initiative
- **Objective:** - IPRD reviews the current geopolitics in the Indo-Pacific region and identifies opportunities, threats and problems.
- The IPRD remains important to its interests as one of the main goals of the NMF is to analyse international relations and geopolitical factors that are strategically important to India.

Historical Background?

- IPRD was initially conceptualized in the year 2018. The event has been organized annually since its inception in the 2018, with the exception of the year 2020 when it had to be postponed due to COVID-19.
- It was proposed by the Indian Prime Minister at the 14th East Asia Summit (EAS) in the year 2019.
- It is a comprehensive and inclusive construct for regional cooperation centered on seven interrelated pillars:-
 - Maritime Security
 - Marine ecology
 - Marine resources
 - Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
 - Trade-connectivity and maritime transport
 - Capacity building and resource sharing

Other Key Facts?

East Asia Summit

- Established in the year 2005, it is a forum of 18 regional leaders (countries) for strategic dialogue and cooperation on major political, security and economic challenges arising before the Indo-Pacific region.
- In the year 1991, for the first time, the concept of East Asia Group was introduced by the then Malaysian Prime Minister, Mahathir bin Mohamad.
- The framework of the EAS includes six priority areas of regional cooperation. These are Environment and Energy, Education, Finance, Global Health Issues and Epidemic Diseases, Natural Disaster Management and ASEAN Connectivity.
- **Membership:-** Ten member countries of ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) – Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam along with 8 other countries – Australia, China, Japan, India, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States of America.
- It is a forum which focused on ASEAN countries, so it can be chaired only by an ASEAN member.



- Science, Technology and Academic Cooperation
- **Indo-Pacific Region:** - Indo-Pacific is a recent concept. The world started talking about the Indo-Pacific about a decade ago; Its rise has been significant.
- One of the reasons behind the popularity of this term is that the Indian and Pacific oceans are strategically close to each other.
- At the same time, Asia has become the centre of attraction. This is because the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean provide sea routes. Most of the world's trade takes place through these oceans.
- The Indo-Pacific region is one of the most populous and economically active regions of the world, comprising four continents: Asia, Africa, Australia and the America.
- The region's dynamism and vitality are self-evident, with 60% of the world's population and 2/3 of global economic output, thus making this region a global economic hub.
- The region is also a major source and destination of foreign direct investment. The Indo-Pacific region is related to many important and large supply chains of the world.
- The Indian and Pacific oceans combined contain vast reserves of marine resources, including offshore hydrocarbons, methane hydrates, marine minerals and rare earth metals.
- Large coastlines and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) provide a competitive edge to coastal countries to exploit these resources.
- Many of the world's largest economies are located in the Indo-Pacific region, including India, USA, China, Japan, Australia.

Expected question for Preliminary Exam

Que. Consider the following:

1. Foreign Currency Convertible
2. Foreign Institutional Investment subject to certain conditions
3. Global Depository Receipts
4. Non-Resident External Deposit

Which of the above can be included in Foreign Direct Investment?

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| (a) 1, 2 and 3 only | (b) 3 only |
| (c) 2 and 4 only | (d) 1 and 4 only |

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only



PSLV-C54 Satellite Launch

Why in Newspapers?

Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has successfully placed nine satellites into multiple orbits using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C54).

Quick Issue?

- Earth Observation Satellite (EOS-06) and 8 nanosatellites were launched during this mission.

Historical Background?

- Earth Observation Satellite-6 (EOS-6) is the third generation Indian satellite in the Ocean sat series launched to monitor the oceans.
- It was developed by ISRO in partnership with Ministry of Earth Sciences and others.
- This mission is a follow-up to OceanSat-1 or IRS-P4 and OceanSat-2 which were launched in 1999 and 2009 respectively.
- It is the first in the series to host three ocean observation sensors – Ocean Colour Monitor (OCM-3), Sea Surface Temperature Monitor (SSTM) and Ku-Band Scatterometer (SCAT-3).
- It aims to observe ocean colour data, sea surface temperature and wind vector data which are used for oceanographic, climate and meteorological applications.
- OCM-3 is expected to improve the accuracy of daily monitoring of phytoplankton, which will aid in a number of activities such as fisheries resource management, ocean carbon uptake, harmful algal bloom alerts and climate studies.
- SSTM will provide sea surface temperature, which is an important parameter for providing forecasts focusing on fish aggregation, cyclone genesis and circulation etc.
- SCAT-3 provides highly accurate wind speed and direction over the ocean surface.

Other Key Facts?

What is INS-2B?

- INS-2B is a collaborative mission between India and Bhutan. It carries 2 payloads – NanoMx (a multispectral optical imaging payload) and APRS-Digipeater. India provided capacity building assistance for the development of this mission. Bhutanese engineers were assigned to build and test the satellites as well as process and analyse satellite data at UR in Bengaluru. The training was imparted at Rao Satellite Centre. This newly launched satellite will provide high-resolution images to help Bhutan manage its natural resources effectively.

Expected question for Preliminary Exam

Que. Consider the following statements related to EOS-06 mission:

1. It was launched from PSLV-C54 rocket.
2. EOS-06 is the third-generation satellite in the Ocean sat series.
3. It was launched on 26 November 2022.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3