

**HSST POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**Part V: INTERNATIONAL POLITICS**

**MODULE V: FOREIGN POLICY**

**Meaning of Foreign Policy**



Foreign Policy refers to the sum total of principles, interest and objectives which a country promotes while interacting with other countries. Foreign Policy keeps on changing according to changing international conditions. India's Foreign Policy is shaped by several factors including its history, culture, geography and economy. Foreign Policy is the general objectives that guide the activities and relationship of one state in its interactions with other states.

The Foreign Policy of a nation is always made and implemented with an eye on the Situation in various regions of the world. A situational change in West Asia or South-East Asia or Africa necessitates a change or modification of the foreign policies of many Nations.

**Definition of Foreign Policy**

- Foreign Policy is the system of activities evolved by communities for changing the behavior of other states and for adjusting their own activities to the international environment. -George Modelski
- Foreign Policy is the substance of nation's efforts to promote its interest's visa-vis other nations. -Normal Hill
- Foreign Policy is the key element in the process by which a state translates its broadly conceived goals and interests into concrete courses of action and to attain these objectives and preserve its interests. -Padelford and Loncoln
- Foreign Policy is a thought out course of action for achieving objectives in foreign relations as Dictated by the ideology of national interest. -Dr. Mohinder Kumar

## **The Foreign Policy of Each Nation Contains**

- A set of principles, policies and decisions adopted and followed by the nation in international relations.
- Objectives, goals or aims of national interest which are to be secured.
- Means to be used for achieving the goals of national interest.
- Broad policy principles and decisions for conducting international relations.
- Assessment of the gains and failures of the nation in respect of its goals of national interest.
- Policies, decisions and action- programmes for maintaining continuity or change or both in international relations.

## **Determinants of Foreign Policy**

- Each state formulates foreign policy to meet specific goals in the international field. That policy is not solely dependent on the wishes and consciences of policy makers.
- Foreign policy leaders have to decide on foreign policy issues after many considerations. They are influenced by many elements. The factors that influence foreign policy are called the determinants of foreign policy.
- The determinants of foreign policy are many. Specific factors may play a key role in determining the foreign policy of a particular state. But this does not mean that a single entity can become a determinant of foreign policy. In fact, more than one element is spread over foreign policy. Some of them can be considered primary and some can be considered as a secondary component.

## **Specific Determinants of Foreign Policy**

- ✓ There are two types of Specific Determinants of Foreign Policy
- ✓ **Internal/Domestic Determinants**- Geography , history and culture, Economic Development, Leadership , Ideology, social structure, national capacity and public opinion
- ✓ **External Determinants**: international regimes and organization, world public opinion and foreign policies of other states

## **Major 7 determinants of Foreign Policy are**

- ✓ Geographical Location
- ✓ Population
- ✓ History
- ✓ Economic Resources

- ✓ Ideology
- ✓ The efficiency of Government and Nature of Political Leadership
- ✓ Quality of Diplomacy

## **1. Geographical Location**

There are two aspects of the influence of geography on foreign policy – the geographical environment of the state and the political importance of its geographical location. The state's geographical environment refers to its size, area, and climate.

The ideal geographical environments of the state are:

- The size of the state will be such that it will help the residents to maintain a decent living standard.
- The climate needs to be favorable to hard labor.
- Terrain needs to be supportive of national resistance. Mountains, Rivers, sea-borne countries enjoy the advantage of being free from foreign invasions for natural reasons.
- The shape of the state needs to be such that one can easily fast during the war period.

In nature, it is not possible to achieve the favorable geographical environment of a country. The geographical location of each country is particularly influenced by its foreign policy. Its insular position in Great Britain helps spread connectivity with other countries. Again the United States has succeeded in pursuing a policy of separation from Europe for its geographical location.

## **2. Population**

The population is considered one of the important determinants of foreign policy. For a long time, the population has been regarded as an important criterion for measuring state power. In the past war, the massive infantry of the People's Republic of China helped to resist the US forces.

The relation between population and foreign policy gains importance in terms of the capability of a state. The importance of the population to determine the policies of solidarity among all parts of the citizens, the development of political organizations, the quality of the public, the promotion of political consciousness, the spread of the political participation, the pressure of public opinion, the type of government etc.

## **3. History**

Each nation's history is influenced by its foreign policy. The outline of the history of each nation is formed through the special circumstances of the chips and events. It is possible to identify its identity.

The geographical boundaries of each nation are determined through the constraints of historical events. Through the history of the development of a nation, many basic features of foreign policy are developed. In light of historical experience, each nation forms the basis of its foreign policy.

#### **4. Economic Resources**

The nature and style of foreign policy is largely determined by economic resources. The economic strength of a state is an indicator of its affordability. The effect of that ability is reflected in relations with other states.

The main objective of the **economic structure is to utilize the country's land, labor, capital and enterprises for production**. Distribution of economic wealth produced, consumption, public welfare, improvement of living standard of the citizens etc. are also included in the economic activities of the state.

A country rich in natural resources can easily achieve its economic prosperity. For example, mineral oil has become one of the most important political hubs of Middle East international politics.

**Natural resources and industrial development are the basis of the international status of a country**. In the present world, each country's resistance depends on the rate of industrialization and natural resources.

#### **5. Ideology**

Each state-system is governed by specific political ideologies. The values, policies, programs, objectives, and goals of a state are governed by that ideology. Ideology does not simply determine the internal policies and values of a state; is governed by foreign policy and those ideologies. So it can be considered one of the most important determinants of foreign policy.

For example, socialist states are convinced of the principles of international peace, friendship, mutual cooperation, refusal to interfere in the internal affairs of other states, etc.

In the end, capitalism maintains its existence through exploitation and oppression of home and abroad. It is for this reason that capitalist countries follow aggressive policies in economic, political, and cultural fields.

#### **6. Efficiency of Government and Nature of Political Leadership**

Government leaders are the main source and strength of foreign policy. The role of the state at any given time and the type of foreign policy to be followed depends on the quality of the decision makers. On the basis of practical experience, it can be said that foreign policy cannot be separated from the nature of government leadership under any circumstances.

Foreign policy decisions are bound to be influenced by the leadership of the government, including psychological structure, political experience and foresight, personality, realization of world-politics. For this reason, it is possible to notice differences in political issues between leaders of the same political party.

## 7. Quality of Diplomacy

Quality of diplomacy one of the most important determinants of foreign policy. The success or failure of a state in international Politics depends on its diplomatic tactics and excellence. Each of the goals and objectives of the state is determined by the diplomatic ingenuity of the government.

All the goals of foreign policy are determined by the people involved in diplomatic activity. It is through diplomatic activity that the main linkages and differences with other states are resolved. Diplomats determine the mechanism for combining different interests.

### **INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY**

#### **Objectives of India's Foreign Policy**

- **The preservation of India's territorial integrity and independence of foreign policy**

The territorial integrity and protection of national boundaries from foreign aggression is the core interest of a nation. India had gained a hard earned independence from foreign rule after long time. Thus, it was natural for her to give due emphasis on the independence of foreign policy. India's effort to strengthen Afro-Asian solidarity endorsement of principles of non-interference, in the internal affairs of other nations and finally the adoption of the policy of non-alignment should be seen in this light.

- **Promoting international peace and security**

India as a 'newly independent and developing country rightly realized that international peace and development are correlated. Her emphasis on disarmament and the policy of keeping away from the military alliances is intended to promote global peace.

- **Economic development of India**

Fast development of the country was the fundamental requirement of India at the time of independence. It was also required to strengthen the democracy and freedom in the country. In order to gain financial resources and technology from both blocks and to concentrate her energy on the development, India opted away from the power block politics, which was the defining feature of cold war international politics.

#### **Principles of India's Foreign Policy**

- ❖ Panchsheel
- ❖ Non-alignment
- ❖ Anti-colonialism, Anti-imperialism, Anti-racism

- ❖ Strengthening the UN

## 1. Panchasheel

**Nehru** was a believer in world peace. He understood the linkage between peace for development and survival of mankind. He had seen the destruction caused by the two world wars and therefore realized that for the progress of a nation a long spell of peace was needed.

In its absence social and economic priorities relating to development tend to get pushed to the background. India's desired peaceful and friendly relations with all countries, particularly the big powers and the neighboring nations, while signing an agreement with China, on **April 28, 1954**, India advocated adherence to five guiding principles known as Panchasheel for the conduct of bilateral relations.

**It includes the following:**

- Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty.
- Mutual non-aggression
- Mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs
- Equality and mutual benefit
- Peaceful co-existence

The Panchsheel agreement enumerates best the principles of **peaceful co-existence with neighbors**. It is an important component of India's foreign policy.

## 2. Non-alignment

1. Non-alignment is the most important feature of India's foreign policy. Its core element is to maintain independence in foreign affairs by not joining any military alliance formed by the USA and the Soviet Union, which emerged as an important aspect of Cold War politics after the Second World War.
2. Non-alignment was neither neutrality nor non-involvement nor isolationism. It was a positive and dynamic concept. It postulates taking an independent stand on international issues according to the merits of each case but at the same time not committing to coming under the influence of any military bloc. Furthermore, Non-Alignment gained popularity in developing countries. Thus, keeping away from the military alliances and superpower blocks was important for the independence of Foreign Policy.
3. India played a lead role in popularizing and consolidating the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). India, under the leadership of **Jawaharlal Nehru**, convened the Asian Relations Conference in New Delhi in 1947 to forge the idea of Asian solidarity. Read more on the **Non-Alignment Movement (NAM)** on the given link.
4. Another Asian Relations Conference was convened by India in 1949 on the question of the independence of Indonesia as India stood firm-against the colonial rule in other countries.

## 2. Continued Relevance of Non-alignment:

As NAM was a product of Cold War politics and the bipolar world, many scholars have questioned the relevance of NAM after the end of the Cold War and the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Again, globalization led to the change in the priorities of even its chief votaries like India, which tried to adopt neo-liberal market economy principles in order to integrate with the emerging global order. This new situation generated the impression as if NAM is sidelined and its relevance is declining. However, if we go deep in the basic features of NAM, it appears to be equally significant also in the changing context due to the following factors:

- After the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the NAM can act as a check against undue dominance and hegemony of any country or block.
- The developed (North) and developing (South) worlds have divergent views over several global and economic issues. The NAM may provide a forum for third-world countries to engage the developed nations in a productive dialogue.
- The NAM can prove to be a powerful mechanism to forge cooperation, which is essential for their collective self-reliance in the present market-driven global order.
- NAM can provide an important forum for developing countries to discuss and deliberate upon various global problems, issues, and reforms including the reform of the UN and other international financial institutions like the World Bank and IMF in order to make them more democratic and effective.

## 3. Anti -Colonialism, Racism and Imperialism

The foundations of India's foreign policy were laid during **independence struggle** when our leaders fought the evils of colonialism and racism. India has been a victim of colonialism and imperialism and considers these as a threat to international peace and security. It firmly believes in the equality of all human beings. Its policy is aimed at opposition to all forms of racial discrimination. It is always opposed to it in any form.

1. India was the first to bring the issue of Apartheid in the UN in 1946. India raised her voice for the independence of Indonesia and organized the Asian Relations Conference for this purpose.
2. Due to India's consistent efforts through NAM and other international forums, 14 African countries were liberated from the yoke of colonialism in 1964.
3. India firmly opposed the infamous apartheid policy in South Africa. Not only India had cut off diplomatic relations with South Africa in 1949 but also used her influence in the application of comprehensive sanctions (later) against the white minority racist Regime of South Africa.
4. At India's initiative, NAM set up the Africa Fund (Action for Resisting Imperialism, Colonialism, and Apartheid) in 1986 to help the frontline states, which were victims of aggression of South Africa and for facing the brunt of Apartheid. India made a generous contribution to this fund. The end of racialism in South Africa was a great success for Indian policy.

#### **4. Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes**

1. The unflinching faith in the peaceful settlement of international disputes is one of the core elements of India's foreign policy. This principle has been included in the Constitution of India, under the Directive Principles of State Policy as well as in the Charter of the UN.
2. India has played a leading role in the resolution of the Korean conflict and supported negotiated settlement of Palestine issue, border problems with neighboring countries, and other such disputes and problems.
3. India is always against foreign military intervention for resolving international problems. This principle continues to be the cornerstone of India's policy.
4. At present, India is in favor of the resolution of peaceful settlement of Iranian nuclear issues, the problem of the democratic upsurge in the Middle East, and so on.

#### **5. Strengthening of UN**

Foreign Economic Aid -Support to UN, International Law and a Just and Equal World Order

India has a deep respect for the international law and/or the principles of sovereign equality of nations and non-interference in the internal affairs of other nations as espoused by the UN.

- India has played a key role in preserving world peace by helping in the decolonization process, and through active participation in UN peacekeeping activities.
- India has supported the cause of disarmament pursued by the UN. In 1988, India proposed a very ambitious program of nuclear disarmament before the UN. Although the proposal was not accepted by the other members of the UN but India stands committed to the cause of universal disarmament even today.
- In order to make the composition of the Security Council more realistic and democratic, India has proposed and supported the reform of the Security Council and other UN agencies. India is one of the claimants of permanent membership of the Security Council.

#### **Determinants of India's Foreign Policy**

- Geography
- History and Tradition
- Economic and Military Condition
- Nature of Leadership
- Domestic Milieu
- International Trends
- Public Opinion
- Ideology



## **INDIA AND HER NEIGHBOURS**

- **India - Pakistan Relations**



The India Pakistan relations are one of the most complex associations that India shares with any of its neighboring countries. In spite of the many contentious issues, India and Pakistan have made major strides in reducing the “trust deficit” over the past few years.

India desires peaceful, friendly and cooperative relations with Pakistan, which requires an environment free from violence and terror. The two countries share linguistic, cultural, geographical and economic links but due to political and historical reasons, the two share a complex relation

### **Wars, conflicts and disputes**

- **Kashmir Issue**

This is one of the most sensitive issues between India and Pakistan and has been a major cause of the sour relations the two countries share. [Article 370](#) gave Jammu and Kashmir a special right to have its own constitution, a separate flag and have their own rules, but in August 2019, the Article was scrapped off and J&K now abides by the Indian Constitution common for all. It was given the status of a Union Territory and this move of the Indian Government was highly objected by Pakistan due to their longing of owning Kashmir entirely.

India and Pakistan have fought in numerous armed conflicts since their independence. There are three major wars that have taken place between the two states, namely in 1947, 1965 and the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971. In addition to this was the unofficial Kargil War in 1999 and some border skirmishes. Major conflicts between India and Pakistan, War of 1947 and War of 1965, and a small-scale Kargil War in 1999, were triggered by conflict over the border of

Kashmir.<sup>[26]</sup> While both nations have held a shaky cease-fire agreement since 2003, they continue to trade fire across the disputed area. Both nations blame the other for breaking the cease-fire agreement, claiming that they are firing in retaliation for attacks.<sup>[27]</sup> On both sides of the disputed border, an increase in territorial skirmishes that started in late 2016 and escalated into 2018 killed hundreds of civilians and made thousand homeless.

- **War of 1965**

The Indo-Pakistani War of 1965 started following the culmination of skirmishes that took place between April 1965 and September 1965 and Pakistan's Operation Gibraltar, which was designed to infiltrate forces into Jammu and Kashmir to precipitate an insurgency against rule by India.<sup>[28]</sup> India retaliated by launching a full-scale military attack on West Pakistan. The seventeen-day war caused thousands of casualties on both sides and witnessed the largest engagement of armored vehicles and the largest tank battle since World War II.<sup>[29][30]</sup> Hostilities between the two countries ended after a United Nations-mandated ceasefire was declared following diplomatic intervention by the Soviet Union and the United States, and the subsequent issuance of the Tashkent Declaration.<sup>[31]</sup> The five-week war caused thousands of casualties on both sides. Most of the battles were fought by opposing infantry and armoured units, with substantial backing from air forces, and naval operations. It ended in a United Nations (UN) mandated ceasefire and the subsequent issuance of the Tashkent Declaration.

- **War of 1971**

Pakistan, since independence, was geo-politically divided into two major regions, West Pakistan and East Pakistan. East Pakistan was occupied mostly by Bengali people. After a Pakistani military operation and a genocide on Bengalis in December 1971, following a political crisis in East Pakistan, the situation soon spiralled out of control in East Pakistan and India intervened in favour of the rebelling Bengali populace. The conflict, a brief but bloody war, resulted in the independence of East Pakistan. In the war, the Indian Army invaded East Pakistan from three sides, while the Indian Navy used the aircraft carrier INS Vikrant (R11) to impose a naval blockade of East Pakistan. The war saw the first offensive operations undertaken by the Indian Navy against an enemy port, when Karachi harbour was attacked twice during Operation Trident (1971) and Operation Python. These attacks destroyed a significant portion of Pakistan's naval strength, whereas no Indian ship was lost. The Indian Navy did, however, lose a single ship, when INS Khukri (F149) was torpedoed by a Pakistani submarine. 13 days after the invasion of East Pakistan, 93,000 Pakistani military personnel surrendered to the Indian Army and the Mukti Bahini. After the surrender of Pakistani forces, East Pakistan became the independent nation of Bangladesh.

- **Kargil War**

During the winter months of 1998–99, the Indian army vacated its posts at very high peaks in Kargil sector in Kashmir as it used to do every year. Pakistani Army intruded across the Line of Control and occupied the posts. Indian army discovered this in May 1999 when the snow

thawed. This resulted in intense fighting between Indian and Pakistani forces, known as the Kargil conflict. Backed by the Indian Air Force, the Indian Army regained many of the posts that Pakistan had occupied. Pakistan later withdrew from the remaining portion under international pressure and high casualties.

## Various Bilateral Talks

### ❖ Tashkent Declaration 1966

**TASHKENT DECLARATION**

**Declaration Content:**

- Indian and Pakistani forces would pull back to their pre-conflict positions, pre-August lines, no later than 25 February 1966
- The nations would not interfere in each other's internal affairs, economic and diplomatic relations would be restored,
- There would be an orderly transfer of prisoners of war,
- The two leaders would work towards improving bilateral relations

**Criticism** – it did not contain a no-war pact or any renunciation of guerrilla warfare in Kashmir

**DATE** – 10TH JANUARY 1966  
**TYPE** – PEACE TREATY  
**CONTEXT** – INDIA-PAKISTAN WAR OF 1965  
**SIGNATORIES** – LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI (PM OF INDIA) AND MUHAMMAD AYUB KHAN (PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN)  
**MODERATOR** – ALEXEI KOSYGIN (USSR)  
**LOCATION** – TASHKENT, USSR (PRESENTLY UZBEKISTAN)

IAS EXAM

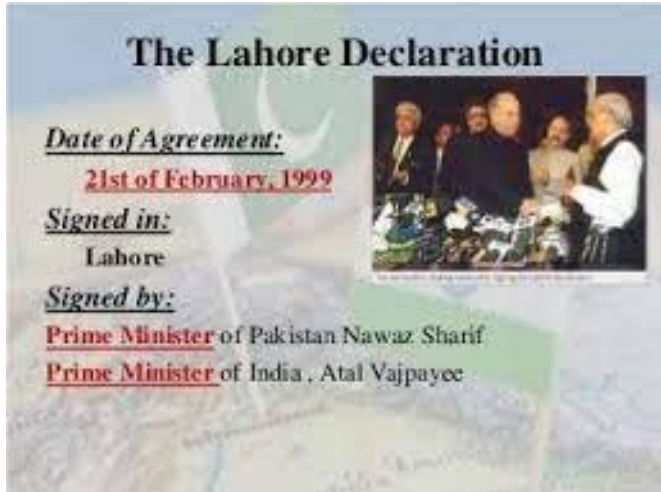
- The Tashkent Declaration was a peace treaty signed by India and Pakistan in 1965 to end to the Indo-Pakistan War.
- Lal Bahadur Shastri is the prime minister who signed on Tashkent Declaration.
- On January 10, 1966 Lal Bahadur Shastri and Pakistan's then President Muhammad Ayub Khan signed the Tashkent Agreement .
- In India, the agreement was criticized because it did not include a no war pact or any commitment to refrain from guerilla warfare in Kashmir.

### ❖ Shimla Agreement-1972



- Shimla agreement was signed by Indian PM Indira Gandhi and Pakistan President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on 2nd July 1971. It was a comprehensive blue print for maintaining good neighborly relations. Moreover, it brought about the withdrawal of troops and the exchange of prisoners of war. Emphasis was on maintaining each other's territorial integrity, sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs and renounce hostile propaganda
- On the day of 02 July 1972, Shimla Agreement was signed between Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto at Shimla in Himachal Pradesh. Shimla Agreement is also known as Shimla Accord.
- The Shimla Agreement or Shimla Accord is an important part of Indo-Pakistan relations. It is a landmark in the bilateral relations between the two neighbouring countries.
- The terms of the treaty were as follows:
  - The Charter of the UN shall govern relations between India and Pakistan.
  - Any differences shall be settled by peaceful means and through **bilateral negotiations**.
  - Both countries shall respect the territorial integrity of each other and not interfere in the internal matters of each other.
  - Forces shall be withdrawn to each other's side of the international border.
  - The ceasefire line of December 17<sup>th</sup> 1971 (after the Bangladesh War) shall be respected (and reiterated as the Line of Control).
- The Shimla Agreement did nothing much to improve relations between India and Pakistan.

❖ **Lahore Declaration, 1999**



- The Lahore Declaration was a bilateral agreement and governance treaty between India and Pakistan. The treaty was signed on 21 February 1999, at the conclusion of a historic summit in Lahore, and ratified by the parliaments of both countries the same year. The declaration was signed by Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and his Pakistani counterpart Nawaz Sharif.
- The accord was vital to Indo-Pak relations at it came at a time when both countries had established themselves as atomic powers through publicly performed nuclear tests in 1998. Under the terms of the treaty, a mutual understanding was reached towards the development of atomic arsenals and to avoid accidental and unauthorized operational use of nuclear weapons.
- It signaled a major breakthrough in overcoming the historically strained bilateral relations between the two nations.
- It recognized that the nuclear dimension of the security environment of the two countries adds to their responsibility for avoidance of conflict between them.
- Reiterated the determination of both countries to implementing the Shimla Agreement in letter and spirit.
- Was meant to intensify India and Pakistan's composite and integrated dialogue process for an early and positive outcome of the agreed bilateral agenda.
- The treaty stressed on India and Pakistan's resolve to combat terrorism and mutual non-interference in internal affairs.

#### ❖ **Agra Summit 2001**

The Agra summit was a historic two-day summit meeting between India and Pakistan which lasted from 14-16 July 2001. It was organized with the aim of resolving long-standing issues between India and Pakistan. Agra treaty began with talks in New Delhi between President Pervez Musharraf and Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in July 2001.

#### ❖ **Cross-border Terrorism**

- Terrorism emanating from territories under Pakistan's control remains a core concern in bilateral relations

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- India has consistently stressed the need for Pakistan to take credible, irreversible and verifiable action to end cross border terrorism against India
- Pakistan has yet not brought the perpetrators of Mumbai terror attacks 2008 to justice in the ongoing trials, even after all the evidence have been provided to them
- India has firmly stated that it will not tolerate and compromise on issues regarding the national security
- Based on attacks in India and involvement of the neighbouring country, the Indian Army had conducted surgical strike at various terrorist launch pads across the Line of Control, as an answer to the attack at the army camp in Uri, Jammu and Kashmir
- India had again hit back over the cross border terror attack on the convey of Indian security forces in Pulwama by carrying out a successful air strike at a training camp of JeM in Balakot, Pakistan
- Cross border terrorism is one of the biggest factors for the disrupted relations between India and Pakistan.

### **❖ Trade and Commerce**

The trade agreement has also faced a downfall when it comes to the relations between India and Pakistan. In 2019, after the Pulwama terror attack, India hiked customs duty on exports from Pakistan to 200% and subsequently, Pakistan suspended bilateral trade with India on August 7, 2019.

There are two major routes via which trade is commenced between the two countries:

1. Sea Route – Mumbai to Karachi
2. Land Route – via Wagah Border through trucks

### **❖ Indus Waters Treaty**

3. The 115th meeting of Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) was held on August 29 and 30, 2018 in Lahore. The Indian delegation was led by the Indian Commissioner for Indus Water (ICIW), while the Pakistan delegation was led by Pakistan Commissioner of Indus Water (PCIW).
4. In the two days meeting both sides discussed Pakal Dul Hydroelectric Power Project (HEP), Lower Kalnai HEP and reciprocal tours of Inspection to both sides of the Indus basin. Subsequently, a delegation led by PCIW inspected Pakal Dul, Lower Kalnai, Ratle and other hydropower projects in the Chenab Basin between January 28 and 31, 2019.

### **❖ People to People Relations**

- Since 2014, India has been successful in the repatriation of 2133 Indians from Pakistan's custody (including fishermen), and still, about 275 Indians are believed to be in their custody
- In October 2017, the revival of Joint Judicial Committee was proposed by India and accepted by Pakistan, wherein, the humanitarian issues of custody of fishermen and

## E ▶ ENTRI

prisoners, especially the ones who are mentally not sound in each other's custody need to be followed

- The Bilateral Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines was signed between the two countries in 1974. The protocol provides for three Hindu pilgrimage and four Sikh pilgrimage every year to visit 15 shrines in Pakistan while five Pakistan pilgrimage visit shrines in India.

- **India and Sri Lanka**



- The relationship between India and Sri Lanka is more than 2,500 years old.
- Both countries have a legacy of intellectual, cultural, religious and linguistic interaction.
- In recent years, the relationship has been marked by close contacts at all levels. Trade and investment have grown and there is cooperation in the fields of infrastructure development, education, culture and defense.
- In recent years, significant progress in implementation of developmental assistance projects has further cemented the bonds of friendship between the two countries.
- The nearly three-decade long armed conflict between the Sri Lankan forces and the LTTE came to an end in May 2009. During the course of the conflict, India supported the right of the Sri Lankan Government to act against terrorist forces.
- India's consistent position has been in favor of a negotiated political settlement, which is acceptable to all communities within the framework of a united Sri Lanka and is consistent with democracy, pluralism and respect for human rights.

India offered to help resolve the crisis but it was interpreted as “Indian intervention in Sri Lanka” on behalf of the Tamils. When the situation became grim, India and Sri Lanka signed an agreement in 1987. India offered military assistance under the Accord. Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) was sent to Sri Lanka to help restore normalcy in the country. The deployment of IPKF was also an extension of India’s policy of reminding Sri Lanka and outside powers that if their involvement inside the region were to have an anti-Indian orientation, New Delhi would not remain a mute spectator.

Systematic efforts at strengthening economic ties have been taken by India and Sri Lanka since the 1990s, especially after the withdrawal of Indian troops. In 1998, the two countries set up an Indo Sri Lankan Foundation for increasing bilateral exchanges in various fields. They have agreed on a free trade area to facilitate trade, which has gone up greatly. India encouraged Sri Lanka to invite the peace process between the Tamils and the Sinhalese. In 1998 Sri Lanka invited Norway to work out a peaceful solution to the ethnic problem. India stands for unity of Sri Lanka .The greatest milestone of this process was the cease-fire agreement of 2002 between LTTE and Sri Lanka and the revival of the dialogue between the two. From India’s long term point of view, Norway recognized India’s legitimate interests in Sri Lanka and stated that it has no desire to come in the way of any Indian initiative to end the conflict in the region.

- **India and Bangladesh**





- **Bangladesh War of Independence: Vijay Diwas** is observed on 16<sup>th</sup> December every year to mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war.
- The Government of India, on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1971, declared that it would go for war with Pakistan to save Bengali Muslims and Hindus.
- This war was fought between India and Pakistan for 13 days.
- On 16<sup>th</sup> December 1971, the chief of the Pakistani forces with 93,000 soldiers had surrendered unconditionally to the allied forces consisting of **Indian Army** and **Mukti Bahini** in Dhaka.
- Mukti Bahini refers to the armed organizations that fought against the Pakistan Army during the Bangladesh Liberation War. It was a guerrilla resistance movement.
- Bangladesh was born on this day. Hence, Bangladesh celebrates its **independence day (Bijoy Dibos) on 16<sup>th</sup> December every year**.
- In 1972, India and Bangladesh signed a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation which became the foundation of the modern India–Bangladesh relations.

#### ❖ **The Teesta river dispute**

- **The Teesta river dispute** makes headlines every time there is a bilateral talk between India and Bangladesh. The dispute is regarding water sharing of River Teesta. Bangladesh wants a higher share than it gets now. Currently, its share is lower than that of India's.
- Teesta is a 414 km long river flowing from India to the Bay of Bengal through Bangladesh. Almost half a dozen districts in West Bengal is dependent on this river.
- Teesta River provides livelihood to approximately 73% of Bangladesh population as per a report furnished by Asia Foundation in 2013.
- In 1983 a deal was proposed for equitable sharing but the implementation hit a roadblock. The mean annual flow of the river is 60 billion cubic metres. A significant amount of it flows during the monsoon season i.e. between June to September. During lean season i.e. from October to May, the flow is only 500 million cubic metres per month.

- In the month from December to March, Bangladesh wants 50% of the water supply, whereas India has claimed a share of 55%.
- In 2011, the agreement did not fructify due to objections from West Bengal Chief Minister. As per the constitution of India, Water is a state subject and approval of all the stakeholders is required for the deal to go ahead.
- In 2019 External Affairs Minister of India had a meeting with his Bangladesh counterparts and they were still unable to reach a consensus on the water-sharing agreement.

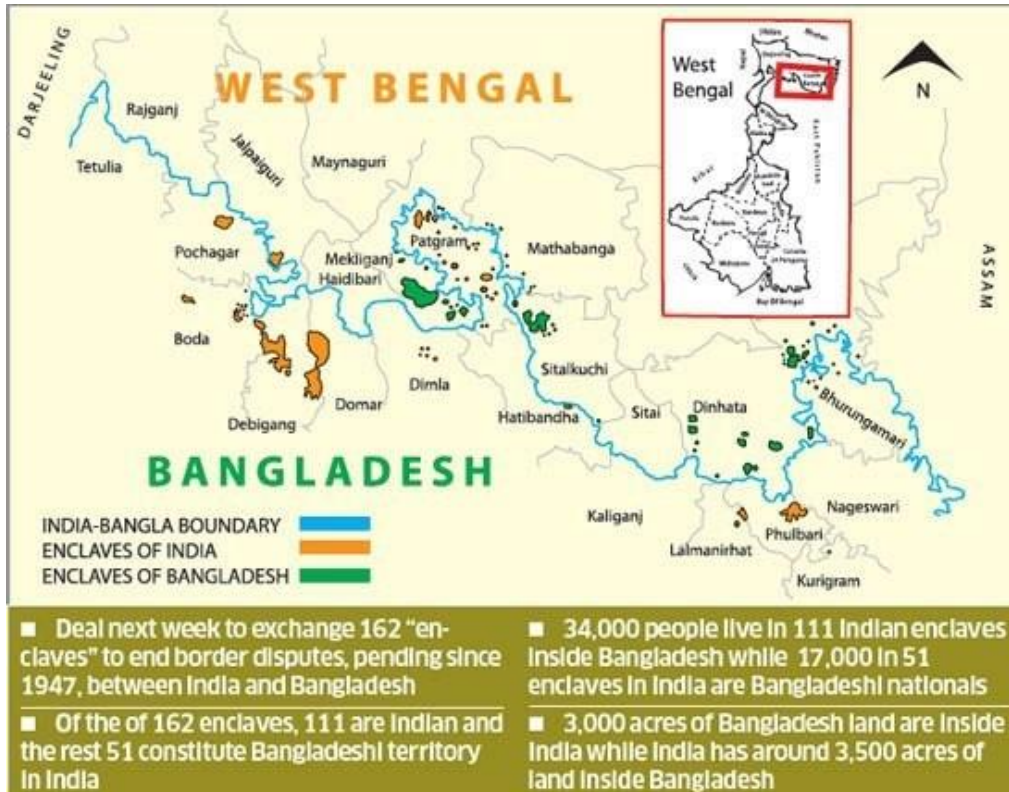
#### ❖ **New Moore Island Disputes**

**India and Bangladesh both claimed the empty New Moore Island**, which is about two miles long and 1.5 miles wide. Bangladesh referred to the island as South Talpatti. There were no permanent structures on New Moore, but India sent some paramilitary soldiers to its rocky shores in 1981 to hoist its national flag. The island was claimed by both Bangladesh and India, although neither country established any permanent settlement there because of the island's geological instability based on silt deposits in a delta which floods every year.

#### ❖ **Land Boundary Agreement**

India and Bangladesh have a land boundary of approximately 4,100 km. This boundary was determined by the 1947 Radcliffe Award as the India-East Pakistan land boundary, but disputes quickly arose regarding certain aspects. On 6 June 2015, the 1974 India Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement entered into force, following the exchange of instruments of ratification. More than 5 years after the historic Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) between India and Bangladesh, a report released by civil rights organizations on the situation in erstwhile enclave's states that protest and resistance have become an essential part of their survival in India.

#### ❖ **Implementation of Land Boundary Agreement**



As the implementation of the Land Boundary Agreement involved the acquisition and cessation of territory by India, its ratification by India required an amendment to the Constitution. This was effected by the Constitution (One Hundredth Amendment) Act 2015. The 2015 LBA implements the unresolved issues, which were first addressed in the 2011 Protocol. It is important to note that in the land swap, Bangladesh gained more territory than India did.

The Land Boundary Agreement entered into force on 6 June 2015. Implementation of the Land Boundary Agreement deals with three outstanding border issues, relating to:

- Adverse possessions;
- Enclaves; and
- An undemarcated land boundary of approximately 6.1 km.

● **India and Nepal**



- Nepal is an important neighbor of India and occupies special significance in its foreign policy because of the geographic, historical, cultural and economic linkages/ties that span centuries.
- India and Nepal share similar ties in terms of Hinduism and Buddhism with Buddha's birthplace Lumbini located in present day Nepal.
- The two countries not only share an open border and unhindered movement of people, but they also have close bonds through marriages and familial ties, popularly known as **Roti-Beti ka Rishta**.
- The India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950 forms the bedrock of the special relations that exist between India and Nepal.

#### ❖ **Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950**

- The treaty talks about reciprocal treatment of Indian and Nepali citizens in the two countries, in residence, property, business and movement.
- It also establishes national treatment for both Indian and Nepalese businesses (ie once imported, foreign goods would be treated no differently than domestic goods).
- It also gives Nepal access to weaponry from India.

India and Nepal, on 31st July, 1950, signed a Treaty of Friendship and Peace. Seven decades later, clamour is now growing louder in Nepal to “revise” the pact to reflect “new changes and realities”. The call for revision was once again raised during the India-Nepal Joint

Commission Meeting held this year. This came nearly seven years after both sides agreed to “review, adjust and update” the Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950, during Prime Minister first visit to Nepal in 2014.

#### ❖ **Features of the treaty**

- This treaty acts as the bedrock of the relation between the two nations. The treaty extends mutual peace, friendship and sovereignty to each other while it accepts non-interference in each other’s territory.
- As per the treaty, Nepal would consult India whenever they undertake any arms imports from any nation other than India.
- The treaty lets the nations extend national treatment to each other.
- The national treatment clause also extends for industrial and economic development.
- Citizens are empowered to the same privileges for property, trade and residence and movement in both countries. That means, a Nepali
- Citizen can buy property in India while and Indian citizen can do so in Nepal
- An Indian citizen can reside anywhere in Nepal and a Nepali citizen too enjoys the right to residence in India under national treatment.
- Another important point of the treaty is open borders. As per this point, Indian citizens can move to Nepal without the need of a visa and vice versa.
- As per the treaty, either party can ask for a change in the treaty whenever demanded.

#### ❖ **Gujral Doctrine**

Former Prime Minister, Late I.K. Gujral propounded the Gujral Doctrine when he was the Union Minister of External Affairs in 1996-1997 in the H.D. Deve Gowda Government. The Gujral doctrine was a five-point roadmap which sought to build trust between India and neighbors, of the solution to bilateral issues through bilateral talks and to remove immediate quid pro quos in the diplomatic relationship between India and her neighbors. The ‘Doctrine’ emphasized the importance of unilateral accommodation for friendly and warm relations with India’s neighbors.

#### **The five principles are:**

- With neighbours such as Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Maldives and Sri Lanka, India does not seek reciprocity but offers and accommodates what it can in good faith and trust.
- No South Asian country should permit its territory to be used against the interest of another south Asian nation.
- Countries should not interfere in the internal affairs of one another.
- All South Asian countries should respect each other’s territorial integrity and sovereignty.
- They should settle all their disputes via peaceful bilateral negotiations. The essence of the Gujrath Doctrine has been that being the largest country in South Asia, India can extend unilateral concessions to neighbors in the sub-continent.

- **India and SAARC**

- SAARC full form: South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
- The SAARC came into existence with the signing of the SAARC Charter in Dhaka on 8 December 1985.
- The Secretariat of the SAARC was set up in Kathmandu on **17 January 1987**.
- It is a regional and geopolitical organization.
  
- In 1985, at the height of the Cold War, leaders of South Asian nations -namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka -created a regional forum.
- The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was established with the goal of contributing “to mutual trust, understanding and appreciation of one another’s problems.”
- The first SAARC meeting took place in Dhaka in 1985, and there have been 18 summits till date. However, the organization has not had a smooth run.
- Afghanistan was admitted as a member in 2007.
- SAARC is aimed at promoting the welfare of the people; accelerating economic growth, social progress and culture development; and strengthening collective self-reliance. The organization also seeks to contribute to mutual trust and understanding among the member countries.
- Other objectives include strengthening cooperation with other developing countries, and cooperating with international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes.
- SAARC summits are usually held biennially and hosted by member states in alphabetical order. The member state hosting the summit assumes the Chair of the Association.
- SAARC has its **headquartered in Kathmandu, Nepal**.
- However, despite the framework SAARC provides for cooperation amongst South Asian nations, it has remained sidelined and dormant since its 18th summit of 2014 in Kathmandu.
- India cancelled attendance at the last planned SAARC Summit in Islamabad in 2016, after the attack on Indian Army’s brigade headquarters in Uri.

- ❖ **SAARC Summits**

The members States of SAARC are arranging meetings at Summit level, usually on annual basis for the execution SAARC agenda. The first summit was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 6-8, December 1985. Since then there were Nineteen Summits held at various capitals/cities of member states. The 19th SAARC Summit was hosted by Pakistan in 2016. India including Afghanistan, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Maldives did not attend in this summit due to 2016 Uri terrorist attack. Pakistan postponed the SAARC summit announced that new dates would be released soon, but it did not happen.

### ❖ SAARC Countries

- During SAARC's foundation, there were seven SAARC countries that are mainly located in South Asia, i.e. **India, Pakistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives, and Sri Lanka.**
- In April 2007, at the SAARC's 14th summit, Afghanistan became its eighth member.
- SAARC is a grouping modeled on the European Union that came into being in the mid-1980s – but has little to show for itself by way of regional or economic integration.
- It has 10 observer states, namely, **Australia, China, the European Union, Iran, Japan, Mauritius, Myanmar, South Korea, and the United States.**

### ❖ Objective of SAARC

The primary goal of the Association is to accelerate the process of economic and social development in member countries through joint action in the agreed areas of cooperation. The SAARC region lies in the South Himalayas that are surrounded by Hindu Kush Mountains. The SAARC region is a landmass of 3.3 % of the world and has one-fifth of the population. The present SAARC countries can be categorized into different groups.

### ❖ SAARC Specialized Bodies

- **SAARC Development Fund (SDF):** Its primary objective is funding of project-based collaboration in social sectors such as poverty alleviation and development etc, SDF is governed by a Board consisting of representatives from the Ministry of Finance of the Member States. The Governing Council of SDF oversees the functioning of the Board.
- **South Asian University (SAU):** It is an international university, located in India. Degrees and certificates awarded by the SAU are at par with the respective degrees and certificates awarded by the National Universities/ Institutions.
- **South Asian Regional Standards Organization (SARSO):** It is located in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Its purpose is to achieve and enhance coordination and cooperation among SAARC member states in the field of standardization and conformity assessment and is aimed to develop harmonized Standards for the region to facilitate intra-regional trade and to have access in the global market.
- **SAARC Arbitration Council:** It is an inter-governmental body having its office in Pakistan is mandated to provide a legal framework/ forum within the region for fair efficient settlement of commercial, industrial, trade, banking, investment and such other disputes, as may be referred to it by the member states and their people.

### ❖ Significant Reasons for SAARC Failures

- The asymmetry between India and other member countries in terms of geography, economy, military strength and influence in the global arena make the smaller countries apprehensive. They perceive India as “Big Brother” and fear that it might use the

## E ▶ ENTRI

SAARC to pursue hegemony in the region. The smaller neighboring countries, therefore, have been reluctant to implement various agreements under SAARC.

- SAARC does not have any arrangement for resolving disputes or mediating conflicts. Disputes among the member countries often hamper consensus building, thus slowing down the decision-making process. SAARC's inability in this regard has been detrimental to its growth.
- Given SAARC's failures, member countries have turned to bilateralism, which in turn has adversely affected the organization. Bilateralism is an easier option since it calls for dealings between only two countries, whereas SAARC-at a regional level-requires one country to deal with seven countries. Thus, bilateralism decreases the countries' dependence on SAARC to achieve their objectives, making them less interested in pursuing initiatives at a regional level.
- SAARC faces a shortage of resources, and countries have been reluctant to increase their contributions.
- Terrorism emanating from Pakistan is the biggest stumbling block as stated by India. But contradictions in ASEAN never derailed the Group.
- SAARC's biggest failure comes from the political sphere, mainly due to India-Pakistan tensions. Heads of State met only 18 times in 34 years. It is five years, since the last Summit in Kathmandu.
- Importance being given to BIMSTEC instead of SAARC
- Entry of china into south Asian geopolitics for various reasons

- **India and ASEAN**



Image: ASEAN



## ENTRI

- 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, and One Community”. ASEAN Secretariat – Indonesia, Jakarta.
- 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.
- 8<sup>th</sup> August is observed as ASEAN Day.

### ❖ Objectives

- To accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development for a prosperous and peaceful community of Southeast Asian Nations.
- To promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter.
- To promote active collaboration and mutual assistance on matters of common interest in the economic, social, cultural, technical, scientific and administrative fields.
- To collaborate more effectively for the greater utilization of agriculture and industries, the expansion of their trade, the improvement of transportation and communications facilities and the raising of the living standards of peoples.
- To promote Southeast Asian studies.
- To maintain close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations.

### ❖ The ASEAN fundamental principles, as contained in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) of 1976

- Mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity, and national identity of all nations.
- The right of every State to lead its national existence free from external interference, subversion or coercion.
- Non-interference in the internal affairs of one another.
- Settlement of differences or disputes by peaceful manner.
- Renunciation of the threat or use of force.
- Effective cooperation among themselves.

### ❖ India and ASEAN Relations

- India's relationship with ASEAN is a key pillar of her foreign policy and the foundation of Act East Policy.
- Act East Policy in the 12<sup>th</sup> summit in 2014.
- India has a separate Mission to ASEAN and the EAS in Jakarta.
- India and ASEAN already has 25 years of Dialogue Partnership, 15 years of Summit Level interaction and 5 years of Strategic Partnership with ASEAN.

- India ASEAN celebrated 25 years of their relationship by holding a commemorative Summit. Leaders of all ten ASEAN countries were invited as Chief Guests for the Republic Day parade on January 26, 2018.

- **India and European Union**

**European Union (EU)**, international organization comprising 27 European countries and governing common economic, social, and security policies.

The list of bilateral agreements signed between India-EU

- Science & Technology Agreement (2001, renewed in 2007)
- Joint Vision Statement for promoting Cooperation in the field of Information and Communications Technology (2001)
- Customs Cooperation Agreement (2004)
- Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Employment and Social Affairs (2006)
- Horizontal Civil Aviation Agreement (2008)
- Joint Declaration in the field of Education & Training (2008)
- Joint Declaration on Multilingualism (2009)
- Agreement in the field of Nuclear Fusion Energy Research (2009)
- Joint Declaration on Culture (2010)
- MoU on Statistics (2012)
- Joint Declaration on Research and Innovation Cooperation (2012) and
- Joint Declaration on Enhanced Cooperation in Energy (2012)

- ❖ **India and United Nations**

- The United Nations (UN) is a global organization tasked with maintaining **international peace and security while fostering friendly relations among nations**. It is the largest, most recognized and most powerful intergovernmental organization in the world.
- The UN was formed following the devastating **World War II**, with the aim of preventing future global-scale conflicts. It was a successor to the ineffective League of Nations. The representatives of 50 governments met in **San Francisco on 25 April 1945**, to draft what would become the UN Charter. The Charter was adopted on 25 June 1945 and came into **effect on 24 October 1945**.
- **The UN has a vital role in world affairs**. For more than fifty years UN has helped to manage relations between states and regulate a broad range of international activities. It has worked **to protect the security of people and promote peace and development**. One way in which UN has contributed to world peace is by taking up the cause of disarmament India has also contributed immensely to UN's disarmament efforts.
- UN had 51 member states; this number grew to 193 in 2011, representing the vast majority of the world's sovereign states.

- India is a founding member of the United Nations, signing the UN Charter along with 50 other countries on 26 June 1945.
- India played an important role in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 10 December 1948.

### ❖ **India and United Nations Relations**

#### • **India's Contribution to UN Efforts for Peace and Disarmament**

Disarmament is limitation, reduction and possible elimination of dangerous (like nuclear) weapons. India has contributed to UN significantly on disarmament in terms of ideas, resolutions, initiatives and bridging differences through action plans. In 1948, India had proposed limiting the use of atomic energy to peaceful purposes and elimination of nuclear weapons from national arsenals. In 1950, India suggested formation of a UN Peace Fund created through peaceful reduction of arms and directing the amount thus released towards development purposes.

#### • **India's participation in UN peacekeeping**

Peace keeping stands for prevention, containment and termination of hostilities between or within states through the non offensive activities of multinational forces of soldiers, police and civilian people sent unto the authority of the United Nations with the consent of the countries concerned. Peacekeeping nations changed in its scope and nature according to needs of a conflict situation. India has taken part in 35 of UN peacekeeping operations in four continents. Its most significant contribution has been to peace and stability in Africa and Asia. Presently India is ranked as the largest troop contributor to UN.

#### • **India's Case for a Permanent Seat in the Security Council**

Presently the permanent membership of the Security Council is confined to US, Russia, Great Britain, France and China. However, such composition of the Security Council does not take into account the current global power configuration which has changed since the days when these countries were inducted as permanent members. Since India has emerged as the fourth fastest growing economy and also because of the leadership it has provided in all international fora, its contribution to UN peacekeeping, its track record in espousing the cause of the third world, India has a strong case for a permanent seat in the Security Council.

### **Look East Policy**

- In order to recover from the loss of the strategic partner -USSR (end of the Cold war 1991), India sought to build up a relationship with the USA and allies of the USA in Southeast Asia.

- In this pursuit, former Prime minister of India P V Narasimha Rao launched Look East policy in 1992, to give a strategic push to India's engagement with the South-East Asia region, to bolster its standing as a regional power and a counterweight to the strategic influence of the People's Republic of China.
- Look East policy focused on the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)** countries + Economic Integration.
  - India became a dialogue partner of ASEAN in 1996 and summit level partner in 2002.
  - In 2012 the relationship got up-graded into a Strategic Partnership.
  - The time when India launched the Look East Policy in 1992, India's trade with ASEAN was USD 2 billion. After signing the Free Trade Agreement in 2010 with ASEAN, the trade has grown to USD 72 billion (2017-18).
  - India is also an active participant in several regional forums like the East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) etc.

### Act East Policy'

- The 'Act East Policy' announced in **November, 2014** is the upgrade of the "Look East Policy".
- It is a diplomatic initiative to promote economic, strategic and cultural relations with the vast Asia-Pacific region at different levels.
- It involves intensive and continuous engagement with Southeast Asian countries in the field of connectivity, trade, culture, defense and people-to-people-contact at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels.
- To promote economic cooperation, cultural ties and developing a strategic relationship with countries in Indo-pacific region with a proactive and pragmatic approach and thereby improving the economic development of the North Eastern Region (NER) which is a gateway to the South East Asia Region.
- Act East Policy focused on ASEAN countries + Economic Integration + East Asian countries + Security cooperation.
- Prime minister of India highlighted 4C's of Act East Policy.
  - Culture
  - Commerce
  - Connectivity
  - Capacity building
- **Security** is an important dimension of India's Act East Policy.
- In the context of growing Chinese assertiveness in the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean, securing freedom of navigation and India's own role in the Indian Ocean is a key feature of Act East Policy.