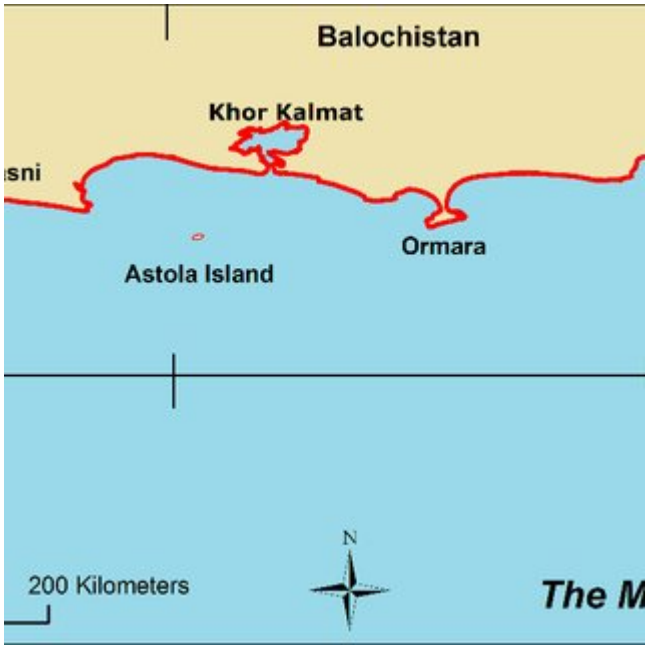
Khor Kalmat Lagoon

Why in News?

Recently, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, the aerial image of Khor Kalmat lagoon appear darker and more vibrant, like blue ink bleeding.

- **Khor Kalmat** – It is a ***tidal lagoon*** *that fully forms only at high tide*, when waters from the Arabian Sea run through a narrow channel carved into the coastline.
- At low tide, it almost completely empties, leaving behind exposed mudflats.
- **Located in** – *Makran Coast in Pakistan's Balochistan province*, around 180 miles west of Karachi.
- It is cut off from the rest of the mainland by harsh desert mountains, known as the ***Makran Coast Ridge***, which run parallel to much of the country's coast.



- **Area** – It spans around 17 miles at its widest point and includes ***Makran Coastal Range***, an arid desert mountain land.
- **Supports life** – It is home to sizable *mangrove forests*, which are an important nursery for juvenile fish, as well as other marine organisms, such as crustaceans and mollusks.
- At low tide, it provide a hunting ground for wading birds that reside in ***Buzi Makola Wildlife Sanctuary***, which lies west of lagoon.
- **Supports livelihood** – It provides timber to the few local people who live alongside the lagoon.
- **Threats** – Overfishing, deforestation of mangroves and rising temperatures driven by human-caused climate change.

- It is under threat by the potential construction of a proposed *Pakistani Naval Base*.

Reference

Livescience| Pakistan's Khor Kalmat Lagoon

