Prelim Bits 20-03-2019

IND-INDO CORPAT

- India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT) is a bilateral patrolling exercise which is being held at Port Blair.
- The ship and aircraft from both the countries would undertake patrolling on the respective sides of 236 nautical miles long International Maritime Boundary line.
- The IND-INDO CORPAT Series of bilateral seek to underscore India's peaceful presence and solidarity with friendly Maritime neighbor's countries to ensure good order in the maritime domain, consolidate interoperability and strengthen existing bonds of friendship between India and Indonesia.

SAGAR

- Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) is India's initiative to deploy Indian Naval assets to address the maritime concerns on the region.
- Under which Indian Navy has also been involved in assisting countries in the Indian Ocean Region with EEZ Surveillance, Search and Rescue, and other capacity-building and capability-enhancement activities.

SCO's Sary-Arka Exercise

- The Shanghai Cooperation Organization, also known as the Shanghai Pact, is a Eurasian political, economic, and military organization.
- It was founded in 2001 in Shanghai by the leaders of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. Apart from Uzbekistan, the other five countries have been a part of the Shanghai 5 since 1996.
- The cooperation was renamed to Shanghai Cooperation Organization after Uzbekistan joined the organization in 2001.
- India and Pakistan joined SCO as full members in June 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- Sary- Arka is an antiterrorism exercise between the shanghai Cooperation Organization's (SCO) member states.

Mitra-Shakti Exercise

- Exercise MITRA SHAKTI is conducted annually as part of military diplomacy and interaction between armies of India & Sri Lanka.
- The aim of the exercise is to build and promote close relations between armies of both the countries and to enhance ability of joint exercise commander to take military contingents of both nations under command.
- The Exercise will cement relationship between both the nations and will act as a catalyst in bringing synergy and cooperation at grassroots levels between both the armies.

Bump head Parrotfish

- Bumphead parrotfish (Bolbometopon muricatum), is an important component of coral reef ecosystem.
- It is categorized as 'vulnerable' in the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- The fish is threatened due to limited knowledge about its distribution and abundance in Indian waters.
- According recent studies fishing and coral reef degradation threaten parrotfish in Andaman.

Operation Sunrise

- India's Kaladan project which connects Sittwe Port in Myanmar to the India-Myanmar border was threatened by the Insurgent groups of Myanmar.
- Recently Indian and Myanmar's armies in a coordinated operation, destroyed camps belonging to an insurgent group in Myanmar.
- The military action carried out was codenamed Operation Sunrise.

Kaladan Project

- Kaladan project in Sittwe port project was jointly initiated by India and Myanmar to create a multi-modal platform for cargo shipments from the eastern ports to Myanmar and to the North-eastern parts of the country through Myanmar.
- Sittwe port is located at the mouth of the Kaladan river, which flows into Mizoram in north-eastern India.
- It is expected to open up sea routes and promote economic development in the North-eastern states, and also add value to the economic,

commercial and strategic ties between India and Myanmar.

- This project will reduce distance from Kolkata to Sittwe by approximately 1328 km and will reduce the need to transport good through the narrow Siliguri corridor, also known as Chicken’s Neck.

Source: PIB, The Hindu, First post

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