

11th Feb, 2023

[952] - IR.

1. 25 years of partnership between India & France, presents an important opportunity to introspect on their relations. Disamb.

2023 marks 25th anniversary of India & France Strategic partnership signed in 201998 - ensuring peace, stability and much needed Strategic autonomy.

India & France partnership

Economic

1. Trade - current trade relations reached \$12bn. - envisaged as target in 2008; Also France is 11th largest foreign direct investor in India $\approx$ 2.1% of total Foreign direct Investment

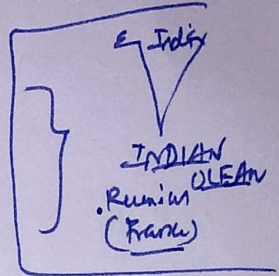
Defence

1. Key Defence partner $\rightarrow$ France - 2nd Largest defence supplier to India;
2. Defence engagements $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \text{Ties} \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{eg:} \\ \text{Sioyene submarine -} \\ \text{Technology transfers.} \end{array} \\ \rightarrow \text{military engagements} \\ \downarrow \\ \text{[vauna, Gaunda \& Sahthi]} \end{array} \right.$

Maritime cooperation

Joint India-France cooperation in Indian Ocean Region - in 2018 was expanded to Indian Ocean.

Both India's France - residents in Indian Ocean
region → engagement of like minded
countries increases foot print in Indian
Ocean region



Maritime security

convergence - common interest in Indopacific
region - [Free, open, inclusive Indopacific]
Focus on {
→ maritime security → eg: 2022 - India, France -
maritime domain awareness - news
→ climate adaptation → eg: 2023 - trilateral
→ Regional cooperation engagement with
UAE for ~~the~~

Climate engagement

India - France → joint initiative.

International Solar Alliance - support to Paris
agreement

Way forward

This long standing partnership will provide further
opportunities to expand the relation, to maintain
stability in the Indopacific, where challenges raising its
foot print (string of pearls) with strategic divergences
arising with changing world order especially due to geopolitical
tensions.