

Q. Trace the path of India's maritime history and discuss how Project Mousam will rebuild India's maritime cultural connections (250 words)

### India's maritime history:

- ① Early Indus Valley and Mesopotamia: Lothal (in Gujarat) shows the deep understanding of the workings of tides and winds.
- ② Vedic and Buddhist literature: In Jataka tales and Tamil Sangam literature there is a reference of ancient Indian Seafaring activities.

(7)

(3) Evidence of these woods usages can be found in coastal areas of the Indian Ocean. Woods like Mangrove, teak, stem etc.

(8)

(4) India as a centre of Trade : There were Eastern trade route and Western trade route for the India. Hence it facilitates the movement of people from various parts.

### Project Mauum :

It is the project of 'Ministry of Culture' to be implemented with the support of ASI and National museum.

(1) To Rebuild maritime and economic connection b/w the countries surrounded by Indian Ocean

(2) To bring together historical and archaeological researches to bring cultural, economic interactions b/w the countries.

(3) It has 2 visions → National cultural understanding  
Rebuild communications

(4) To celebrate the common ties and cultural values of countries in Indian Ocean world.

(5) Project Mauum is India's answer to China's Maritime Silk Route.

(6) It will provide more opportunities to trade with other countries in accordance with 'Look East' and 'Link West Policy'.



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- (7) Project Mausam might help India in exercising its soft power diplomacy for security in Indian Ocean Region.
- (8) The project will help in raising the funding and finance for infrastructural projects.
- (9) Development of unknown areas or least developed area might take place through port building, multi connections parks etc.

Hence, As India is the 16<sup>th</sup> largest country in terms of maritime. Hence Project Mausam plays an significant role in Indian's coastal economy and maritime connections.