



Operation Vanilla

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Why in News

Recently, the Indian Navy has launched the 'Operation Vanilla' to assist the population of Madagascar affected by **Cyclone Diane**.

Indian Navy also diverted a large amphibious ship viz. **INS Airavat** carrying clothing, medicines, and other relief material to provide assistance and support in the relief operations.



- It is a **tropical cyclone**.
- **Origin:** North-west off the coast of **Mauritius in the South-western Indian Ocean**.
- Madagascar has been hit by it and there has been heavy flooding and landslips causing loss of lives and displacement, affecting more than 92,000 people. India has been the **first country to respond to floods in Madagascar**.

Significance

- India assistance to Madagascar is in consonance with Prime Minister's vision of **'Security and Growth for all in the Region (SAGAR)'**.

- India is working with France to develop strategic and economic partnership involving **Madagascar, Reunion Islands-Comoros** so as to balance the growing influence of China in that part of the Indian Ocean Region.

Source: TH