



Mission Sagar

For Prelims: Mission Sagar, Location of Mozambique, Indian Ocean Region, ASEAN countries.

For Mains: Mission Sagar and its significance for India

Why in News

Recently, **Indian Naval Ship (INS) Kesari has reached the Port of Maputo, Mozambique** to deliver 500 tonnes of food aid to support the efforts of Government of Mozambique **to cope with ongoing drought and concurrent challenges of pandemic.**

- India has also **delivered two fast interceptor craft and self-defence military equipment** to Mozambique.
- This is the **eighth such deployment in consonance with the Prime Minister's vision of Security And Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)** and is being conducted in close coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs, and other agencies of the Government of India.



Key Points

- **Mission Sagar:**
 - **Launched in May 2020, 'Mission Sagar'** was India's initiative to deliver Covid-19 related assistance to the countries in the Indian Ocean Littoral states. The countries included were **Maldives, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros and Seychelles**.
 - Under 'Mission Sagar', the **Indian Navy has been deploying its ships to send medical and humanitarian aid** to the countries in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) and beyond.
 - Under the mission, the **Indian Navy has delivered assistance** of more than 3,000 metric tons of food aid, over 300 metric tons of liquid medical oxygen, 900 oxygen concentrators and 20 ISO containers to 15 friendly foreign countries.
 - In November 2020, as part of **Mission Sagar-II**, INS Airavat delivered food aid to Sudan, South Sudan, Djibouti and Eritrea.
 - **Mission Sagar-III** is part of India's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) assistance to friendly foreign countries during the ongoing **Covid-19 pandemic**.
 - The assistance has been delivered **to Vietnam and Cambodia**. It highlights the importance accorded to **ASEAN countries** and further strengthens the existing bonds.
- **Significance:**
 - **India's extended Maritime Neighbourhood:**
 - These deployments were conducted in solidarity with **India's extended Maritime Neighbourhood** and highlights the importance accorded by India to these special relationships.
 - This is **in continuance with India's role as the first responder** at a time of an exigency to the friendly nations.
 - **Useful in Tackling Terrorism:**
 - The equipment will be **useful as Mozambique is hit by terrorism** in its North.
 - **Terrorist group Islamic State**, also known as **Da'esh**, and its affiliates have rapidly spread in Central Africa.
 - **Tackling Common Maritime Challenges:**
 - This also helps in tackling common maritime challenges (traditional maritime conflicts between nation-states, environmental threats, threats by non-state actors (maritime terrorism and piracy), illicit maritime trades and trafficking) in the region.
 - This was a **major theme of discussion** at the second edition of the **Goa Maritime Conclave** in November (2021) which brings together countries in the **Indian Ocean Region**.

Vision 'SAGAR'

- **Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)** was launched in 2015. It is India's strategic vision for the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- Through SAGAR, **India seeks to deepen economic and security cooperation** with its maritime neighbours and assist in building their maritime security capabilities.
- Further, India seeks to **safeguard its national interests** and ensure the Indian Ocean region to become inclusive, collaborative and respect international law.
- The key relevance of SAGAR emerges when seen in conjunction with India's other policies impacting the maritime domain like **Act East Policy, Project Sagarmala, Project Mausam**, India as 'net security provider', focus on **Blue Economy** etc.

[Source: TH](#)

