



Black Sea

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Why in News?

Russia appointed **Admiral Alexander Moiseev** as the new acting head of its Navy following a series of successful **Ukrainian attacks on Russia's Black Sea Fleet**, which has sustained significant losses.

What are the Key Facts About the Black Sea?

▪ About:

- The Black Sea, also known as **the Euxine Sea**, is one of the major water bodies and a famous inland sea of the world.
- This marginal sea of the Atlantic Ocean is located between Eastern Europe and Western Asia.

▪ Geographical Location:

- **Land Boundary:** The Black Sea is bordered by Ukraine to the north and northwest, Russia and Georgia to the east, Türkiye to the south, and Bulgaria and Romania to the west.

Note: The bordering countries of the Black Sea can be remembered as BURGeR-T: Bulgaria, Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, Romania and Türkiye).

▪ Maritime Boundary: It is linked to the **Sea of Marmara** through the **Bosphorus Strait** and then to the **Aegean Sea** (an elongated embayment of the Mediterranean Sea) through the **Dardanelles Strait**.

- **The Turkish straits system** (the Dardanelles, Bosphorus and the Marmara Sea) forms a **transitional zone between the Mediterranean and the Black Sea**.
 - The Black Sea is also connected to the **Sea of Azov by the Strait of Kerch**.

▪ Surrounding Mountains: The Black Sea is surrounded by the Pontic in the South, the Caucasus in the East, and the Crimean Mountains in the North.

▪ Inflowing Rivers:

- The Black Sea is supplied by major rivers, principally the **Danube** (the second-longest river in Europe, after the Volga in Russia), **Dnieper and Dniester**.

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UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

Q. Consider the following pairs: (2019)

Sea Bordering Country

1. Adriatic Sea : Albania
2. Black Sea : Croatia
3. Caspian Sea : Kazakhstan
4. Mediterranean Sea : Morocco
5. Red Sea : Syria

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Ans: (b)

Q. Turkey is located between (2014)

- (a) Black Sea and Caspian Sea
(b) Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea
(c) Gulf of Suez and Mediterranean Sea
(d) Gulf of Aqaba and Dead Sea

Ans: (b)

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