

### NSA SEEKS SEAMLESS COORDINATION AMONG MARITIME AGENCIES

#### In News:

- National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval participated in the first meeting of the Multi-Agency Maritime Security Group (MAMSG).

#### India's Maritime security

##### Importance of maritime security

- **Maritime security of vast coastlines**

- India has along 7,516-km coastline, including island territories, and a 2 million sq km Exclusive Economic Zone.
- The importance of maritime security was evident following the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack.

- **Economic and energy security**

- 90% of India's trade by volume and 70% by value transit through the seas.
- Strengthening the country's maritime security is also necessary as India is focusing on becoming a blue economy.
- The Indian government is set to clear the Deep Ocean Mission for the blue water economy.

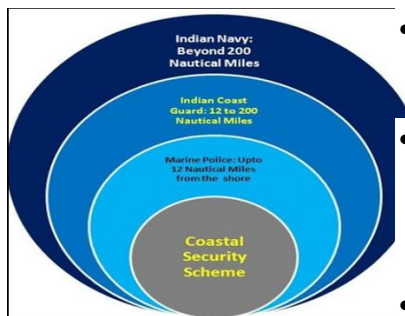
- **Geostrategic Need**

- China is penetrating into the Indian Ocean through Pakistan and Myanmar.
- Enhanced maritime security will give a boost to India's SAGAR (Security and Growth of All in the Region) doctrine.
- Under this doctrine, India has envisioned a role of net security provider for itself in the IOR.

#### Mechanism

- Coastal border management was institutionalised in 2004 with the establishment of the Department of Border Management in the MHA.
- However, after the '26/11' attacks, coastal and maritime security underwent a paradigm shift. These included:
  - A **three-tier security grid** the Indian Navy, the coast guard, and the marine police;

- **Increased electronic surveillance** using Coastal radar chain, Automatic identification system (AIS), Vessel traffic management and information system
- Establishment of the National Command Control Communication and Intelligence (NC3I) Network;
- **Sagar Prahari Bal** for force security protecting of naval bases has been raised by Navy;
- Establishment of **Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)**.



## Associated Issues

- There are no formal or commonly accepted definitions of concepts like ‘maritime security’, ‘coastal security’ and ‘coastal defence’. Sometimes, it leads to vagueness.
- Multiple institutions are involved and there is lack of coordination.
- **Turf war** between MHA and Ministry of Defence (MoD). Demands are being made to bring Coast Guard under the control of MHA.
- Fishermen are considered as the eyes and ears for coastal security. However, discontent among fishermen community, involvement of politics in fishermen issues etc. are further complicating the security architecture.
- Inadequate infrastructure, acute shortage of manpower is posing challenges in providing maritime security in India.

## Multi-Agency Maritime Security Group (MAMSG)

- MAMSG was formed in November 2021 with an aim to develop better coordination between different maritime security agencies and ministries of the country.
- It works directly under the National Security Council secretariat (NSCS).
- The National Security Council is a three-tiered organization consisting of Strategic Policy Group (SPG); the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) and the National Security Council Secretariat.
- The council oversees political, economic, energy and security issues of strategic concern.
- NSA is the Chairperson of NSCS.

## Key Highlights

- **Indian Ocean is now witness to rivalries and competitions**
  - In the changing geopolitical scenario, the Indian Ocean, which has been an ocean of peace, is gradually becoming competitive.
  - The region has the potential to witness clash of interests. Hence, India needs to be vigilant in order to protect its interests.
- **Security at the high seas and economic wellbeing is inextricably linked**
  - He said security at the high seas and economic wellbeing is inextricably linked and all stakeholders must work unitedly.
  - The more India develops, the more assets it creates, greater would be the vulnerability and the need for security in the maritime domain.
  - India will not be able to become the power it deserves to be unless it has a very strong maritime system.
- **Maritime borders are different from land borders**
  - One cannot fence the maritime borders, and that disputes in seas are resolved through international norms and laws, while land disputes are bilateral in nature.

## UDYAMI BHARAT PROGRAMME

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches several schemes and programmes at Udyami Bharat Programme in New Delhi.**



### About:

During the event, Mr Modi launched the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) Scheme, Capacity Building of First-Time MSME Exporters Scheme and new features of the Prime Minister's Employment Generation

Programme PMEGP.

- He added that the Centre has increased the budget by more than 650 percent in the last eight years to strengthen the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector.

- A self-reliant fund of 50 thousand crore rupees has been released for the sector. The Prime Minister also asked MSMEs to register on the GeM portal for supplying goods to the government.
  - Modi said the government has decided that for orders up to 200 crore rupees, no global tender will be undertaken and this is in some ways a reservation for the MSMEs.
  - Under the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme, the central government has ensured 3.5 lakh crore rupees for the MSMEs.
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## EKNATH SHINDE

**Shivsena rebel leader Eknath Shinde was sworn-in as the new Chief Minister of Maharashtra.**



### About:

- Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari administered the oath of office to Mr. Shinde. He has become the 20th Chief Minister of the state.
  - Besides, Mr Shinde, BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis was sworn-in as Deputy Chief Minister.
  - The trust vote of the new government will be held on Saturday. The special session of the Assembly will be held on July 2 and 3. The Speaker will be elected on the first day of the session.
  - Shinde, who revolted against former Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on June 20, was joined by 39 Sena MLAs and 11 Independents.
  - The rebel MLAs had demanded that Mr. Thackeray quit the tripartite Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) and snap ties with the Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) to return to the path of Hindutva.
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## EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME (ECHS)

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today approved enhanced monetary limits for procurement of drugs and consumables for Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS).



### About:

- He approved the enhancement of the monetary ceiling for purchase of Not Available, emergent, lifesaving and essential drugs by 100 per cent in all categories of polyclinics from Authorised Local Chemists. This will ensure easy and timely availability of medicines

for ECHS beneficiaries.

- There have been various representations from the veterans regarding supply of medicines.
- The government has already undertaken a series of modifications to procedures of procurement of medicines for ECHS beneficiaries.

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## SNAKE ISLAND

Russian forces abandoned the strategic Black Sea outpost of Snake Island, in a major victory for Ukraine that could loosen the grip of Russia's blockade on Ukrainian ports.



### About:

- Snake Island, also known as Serpent Island or Zmiinyi Island, is an island belonging to Ukraine located in the Black Sea, near the Danube Delta, with an important role in delimiting Ukrainian territorial waters.
- On 24 February 2022, two Russian navy warships attacked and captured Snake Island. On 30 June 2022, Ukraine said that it had pushed Russian forces from the island.
- The bare rocky outcrop overlooks sea lanes to Odesa, Ukraine's main Black Sea port, where Russia is blocking food cargos from one of the world's leading grain suppliers.



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## KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

The U.S. made history as Ketanji Brown Jackson was sworn in as the first Black woman to serve in the Supreme Court.



### About:

- The 51-year-old's appointment by Democratic President Joe Biden means 'white men' are not in the majority on the nation's highest court for the first time in 233 years.
  - Four of the Justices on the nine-member court are now women, making it the most diverse bench in history.
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