

GS-II- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.

1. India's African outreach is more critical for its Indo-Pacific security strategy. Discuss.

Why this question:

- ✚ The recent visit of our Defence minister to Mozambique, which is a good moment to reflect on the growing significance of the East African coastal countries and the islands off it for the geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific.

Demand of the question:

- ✚ We should first explain the Importance of Indo-pacific region to India first.
- ✚ Then we should explain how outreach to African states is important to our Indo-pacific security and the challenges we face. Then we should list out current outreach programmes and way forward.

Directive word:

- ✚ **Discuss** – Essentially this is a written debate where you are using your skill at reasoning, backed up by carefully selected evidence to make a case for and against an argument, or point out the advantages and disadvantages of a given context. Remember to arrive at a conclusion

Structure of the Answer:

Introduction:

- ✚ Start with brief introduction of Indo-pacific region and reasons behind its recent hype.

Body:

- ✚ Write about the importance of Indo-pacific region to India like trade, security etc.
- ✚ Write why outreach to African states especially to the coastal states are more important to Indo-pacific strategy of India. Explain the power jockey happening between major powers in the island chains of Indian ocean region. Discuss the various outreach strategies followed by India towards Africa and write its pros and shortcomings.

Conclusion

- ✚ Conclude with various suggestions and strategy for better outreach to as way forward.