

09 May 2019: UPSC Exam PIB Summary & Analysis

IN Ships undertake Group Sail

Context

IN Ships Kolkata and Shakti carried out Group Sail with naval ships of Japan, Philippines and the United States of America in the South China Sea

IN Ships also took part in Maritime Security (MS) Field Training Exercise (FTX) under the aegis of ADMM-PLUS.

ADMM-Plus

- The ADMM-Plus is a platform for ASEAN and its eight Dialogue Partners to strengthen security and defence cooperation for peace, stability, and development in the region.
- The ADMM-Plus countries include ten ASEAN Member States, namely,
 - Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
 - Eight Plus countries – dialogue partners, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, ROK, Russian Federation, and the United States.
- The ADMM-Plus has become an effective platform for practical cooperation among the participating countries' defence establishments.

Objectives of ADMM-Plus

- To benefit ASEAN member countries in building capacity to address shared security challenges, while cognisant of the differing capacities of various ASEAN countries;
- To promote mutual trust and confidence between defence establishments through greater dialogue and transparency;
- To enhance regional peace and stability through cooperation in defence and security, in view of the transnational security challenges the region faces;
- To contribute to the realisation of an ASEAN Security Community which, as stipulated in the Bali Concord II, embodies ASEAN's aspiration to achieve peace, stability, democracy and prosperity in the region where ASEAN member countries live at peace with one another and with the world at large;
- To facilitate the implementation of the Vientiane Action Programme, which calls for ASEAN to build a peaceful, secure and prosperous ASEAN, and to adopt greater outward-looking external relation strategies with our friends and Dialogue Partners.

India and China sign protocol for Export of Indian Chilli Meal

Context

- Delegates from India and China held a meeting in New Delhi today to discuss trade related issues of pending Indian request for clearance of agricultural products.
- At the end of the meeting a protocol was signed for export of chilli meal from India to China.

What is Chilli Meal?

- Chilli meal is the residue left after oil is extracted from chillies
- It is widely used as an industry input in manufacturing chilli sauce and other similar products.

Chilli Export & Consumption

- Chilli is the largest exported spice from India.
- China has become one of the major buyers over the last few years.
- India is the world's largest producer, consumer and exporter of chillies.

Major Producers of Chilli

- Red Chillies are majorly produced in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- Crop is planted in August or September and harvested in March or April.