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**DAILY EDITORIAL
ANALYSIS**

TOPIC

Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya
Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)

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PRADHAN MANTRI JANJATI ADIVASI NYAYA MAHA ABHIYAN (PM JANMAN)

Context

- The Union Cabinet approved the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN), aimed at providing PVTG households and habitations with basic facilities.

PM JANMAN Scheme

- **The scheme targets** the development of 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) who have been left out by the schemes of various Ministries /Departments.
- **Funding:** The outlay of the scheme is **Rs.24,104 crore** (Central Share:Rs.15,336 crore and State Share: Rs.8,768 crore) to focus on 11 critical interventions through 9 line Ministries.
- **Objective:** The scheme will saturate PVTG households and habitations with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, and sustainable livelihood opportunities.
- **Ministry:** There is focus on 11 critical interventions through 9 Ministries including the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**. Intervention of following Ministries will also be part of Mission:
 - ♦ **The Ministry of Ayush** will set up Ayush Wellness Centre as per existing norms and Ayush facilities will be extended to PVTG habitations through **Mobile Medical Units**.
 - ♦ **The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** will facilitate skill and vocational training in PVTG habitations, Multipurpose centers and hostels as per the suitable skills of the communities.

What does PM-JANMAN do differently?

- **Participatory bottom-up approach:** The scheme abandons the 'one-size-fits-all' approach in favor of customized strategies that respect their unique needs and priorities.
- **Livelihood promotion:** Providing skills training and resources, like land and credit, will help in sustainable livelihoods. Implementing the Forest Rights Act by granting land titles secures access to forest resources.
 - ♦ Additionally, encouraging traditional technologies and skill enhancement through industry partnerships will help maintain cultural heritage while promoting sustainable development.
- **Health, nutrition and education:** Outreach strategies like Mobile Medical Health Units will be crucial for providing healthcare in remote areas.
- **Infrastructure development:** The habitations of PVTGs often don't meet the criteria for schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and Jal Jeevan Mission due to factors like population requirements or lack of surveys.
 - ♦ The schemes have been relaxed to improve access to housing, water, sanitation, electricity, and connectivity.
- **Incorporation of their culture and language** into the curriculum, providing transportation, and training teachers about PVTG cultural contexts to enhance education accessibility.
 - ♦ Also, incentives have been there for personnel working in PVTG areas and special educational institutes focused on PVTG to improve opportunities for these communities.

Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

- These are a more vulnerable group among tribal groups in India. These groups have primitive traits, geographical isolation, low literacy, zero to negative population growth rate and backwardness.
- There are **75 PVTGs** in India, spread over 18 States and the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
 - ♦ **Odisha** has the largest population of PVTGs followed by **Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Examples:** Great Andamanese (Andaman and Nicobar Islands), Bondo Poraja (Odisha), Paniyas (Kerala), Kattunayakan (Tamil Nadu and Kerala), Bonda (Odisha).

Recognition to PVTGs

- In **1973**, the **Dhebar Commission** created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category.
- In **1975**, the Indian government initiated the identification of the most vulnerable tribal groups, designating them as PVTGs, with an initial declaration of 52 such groups.
- An additional **23 groups** were included in this category in **1993**.
- In 2006, this category was renamed Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

Challenges in the development of PVTGs

- **Social Challenges:** PVTGs are severely marginalized due to their isolation, low population, limited access to basic services, social discrimination, and distinct socio-economic and cultural traits.
- **Displacement:** They struggle with vulnerability to displacement from development and natural disasters.
- **Political Participation:** They have little political representation, hindering their participation in decision-making.
- **Economic issues:** They are also battling loss of traditional livelihoods and resource rights, lack of market knowledge for Non-Timber Forest Produce, and exploitation by middlemen, threatening their traditional occupations.
- **Identification challenges:** The criteria for identifying PVTGs have been criticized for being outdated.
 - ♦ The 2015 report by **Virginus Xaxa highlighted** that Some PVTGs are not recognised as Scheduled Tribes in certain states, and the list containing repetitive names has led to confusion and exclusion.

Other Schemes for PVTGs

- **The PVTG Development Mission:** It provides education, healthcare, and livelihood opportunities while preserving traditional knowledge.
- **The Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM):** It focuses on market linkages and Minor Forest Produce (MFP) procurement at Minimum Support Prices.
- **Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna:** It aims at transforming villages with significant tribal population into model villages.
- **Eklavya Model Residential Schools:** To provide quality education to tribal students with residential facilities in remote corners.
- Laws such as **land titles under the Forest Rights Act 2006, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989, The Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act 1996** etc have been implemented for socio-economic development.

Source: **TH**

MARITIME SECURITY

News:

- On December 23, an armed drone struck a merchant ship, the MV Chem Pluto, with a crew of 20 Indians in the Arabian Sea.
 - ♦ These attacks on commercial shipping pose serious challenges to marine security.

Maritime Security of India

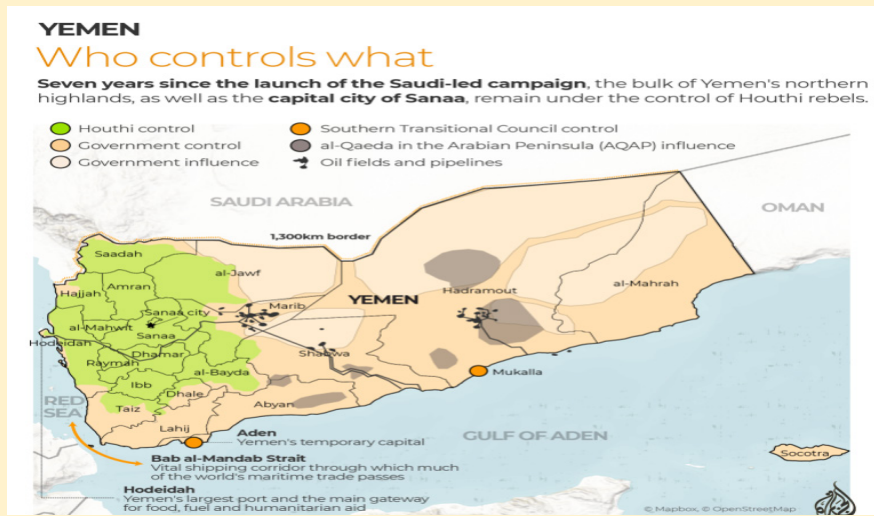
- India, with its vast coastline of over **7,500 km and strategic location in the Indian Ocean**, faces a diverse range of maritime security challenges.



- Ensuring the safety and security of its maritime domain is crucial for its **economic prosperity, national security, and international trade.**

Do you know?

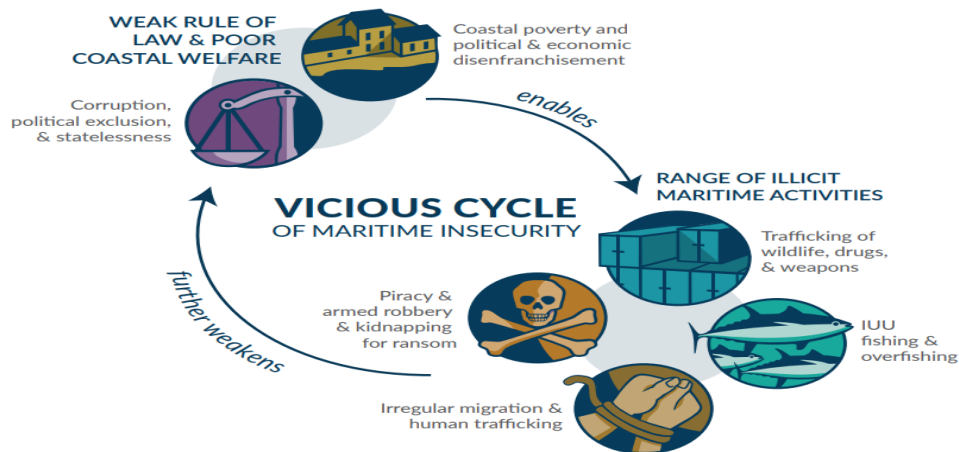
- Earlier, considering the rising militant assaults on commercial shipping, the US announced **Operation Prosperity Guardian**, with the support of allies and partners to protect regional maritime traffic.
- Houthis are members of the **Zaydi Shiite movement** that has been fighting **Yemen's Sunni-majority government** since 2004.
- The **Houthis took over the Yemeni capital Sanaa** in September 2014 and seized control over much of north Yemen by 2016.



- It is alleged that **Iran and its proxy Hezbollah in Lebanon** have provided arms, training, and financial support to the Houthis.

Significance

- Span of the region:** As the **third-largest ocean** in the world, the Indian Ocean covers more than **19.8 percent** of the earth's surface.
- Pivot to important areas:** Important sea lanes of communication and trading routes link Africa, Asia, and Australia, substantially increasing connectivity in the broader global economy.
- Trade routes:** Over **80 percent of petroleum** transported through the maritime domain transits the Indian Ocean choke points of Malacca, Bab-el Mandeb, and Hormuz.
- Threat prone:** The Indian Ocean and its peripheral waters remain vulnerable to destabilizing actors, including pirates and armed robbers, maritime terrorists, and illicit traders.



Challenges

- **Traditional Threats:** Restricted freedom of navigation (**India-Sri Lanka Fishermen issue**), China's foray into India's backyard (**String of pearls policy**), etc.
- **Non-Traditional threats:** Terrorism (**26/11 attack**), piracy, drug trafficking, smuggling, illegal migration and climate change related threats (cyclones, tsunamis, etc).
- **Infrastructure Gaps:** Limited infrastructure capabilities in terms of coastal surveillance, communication systems, and logistics pose challenges
- **Manpower Shortage:** The Indian Navy and Coast Guard face a shortage of personnel, requiring efficient recruitment and training programs.
- **Technological Advancements:** Emerging technologies like artificial intelligence and unmanned vehicles require adoption and integration into security measures.

Measures

- **Enhancing Cooperation:** India is actively participating in regional and international maritime security initiatives, collaborating with countries like the US, Japan, and France.
- **Strengthening international cooperation and Intelligence Sharing:** Improved intelligence gathering and sharing among maritime security agencies are crucial for proactive threat detection and prevention.
- **Investing in Technology:** Investments in advanced technologies like drones, satellites, and artificial intelligence can enhance surveillance and response capabilities.
- **Developing Infrastructure:** Upgrading coastal infrastructure, including ports, harbors, and communication networks, is essential for effective maritime security operations.
- **Capacity Building:** Training programs for personnel involved in maritime security, including fishermen and coastal communities, are vital for raising awareness and preparedness.

Steps taken by India

- **Modernization of the Indian Navy:** The Indian Navy is one of the most powerful navies in the region, with a growing fleet of modern warships, submarines, and aircraft.
- **Establishment of the Indian Coast Guard:** The Indian Coast Guard plays a vital role in coastal security, patrolling the territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) to combat smuggling, piracy, and illegal fishing.
- **Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR):** It enhances maritime domain awareness by facilitating the exchange of information between Indian Ocean littoral states.
- **The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA):** It is an inter-governmental organisation aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and sustainable development within the Indian Ocean region.

- **Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS):** It is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region by providing an open and inclusive forum.

Way Ahead

- India's **maritime security landscape is constantly evolving**, hence adequate preparedness is needed with its rising stature in the geopolitics.
- By **continuously adapting** to new threats, **investing in technology and infrastructure, and strengthening cooperation**, India can ensure the safety and security of its maritime domain.

Source: *IE*

