

Maritime Power of India: An Analysis on Maritime Issues with Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka

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Abstract – *The geopolitics of the Indian Ocean has for a long while been away from consequence of the closeness of the fundamental ocean paths of correspondences. The Indian Ocean is the third greatest ocean on earth and is a key travel region between territory trade vitality and business products. While its essentialness as a transportation place point is depended upon to augment further all through the next decades and it is in like manner continuously transforming into a trade objective its own right. The ocean paths in the Indian Ocean are considered among the most deliberately huge on earth. It isn't just ocean paths and trade yet furthermore most of the world's prepared conflicts are in like manner before long arranged in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). The IOR has been consistently a valuable region for the exchange, security, marine resources to the littoral states just as prevailing world powers of the time. Thusly, Asia's geopolitics is being formed by this basic sea center point as a result of the significance of Indian Ocean regarding the contemporary issues of geo-politics, geo-economics and geo-strategic. As indicated by Geoffrey Till, there are four key and reliant qualities of sea power: the sea as a mode for exchange and as an asset, as far as what exists in its waters; the sea as a mechanism for educational and cultural exchange just as a vehicle of domain. The IOR has every one of these ascribes this prompts its expanding geopolitical hugeness in world politics.*

Keywords – Geopolitics, Indian Ocean, Maritime Power

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1. INTRODUCTION

India's role as a maritime power is crucial since 90 per cent of volume trading and more than 74 per cent of value trading takes place via sea routes. More than 80% of India's energy supplies also reach along these waterways. For several years we have argued that our plans for growth must be focused on our becoming a maritime economy. Still, our plans, expenditure and defense system remained focused dominantly on our land-based capital.

Seas & Oceans ensconce the Indian peninsula. The position of the nation in the Indian Ocean is of strategic benefit, jutting out 1000 miles into it as it does. The peninsula straddles some of the most important communications lines at sea. A lot of world trade is traveling along those routes. India's two island territories, the Islands of Andaman and Nicobar, are also of considerable strategic significance. India has an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of over 2, 3 million square kilometres, and deep-sea mining rights in the South Indian Ocean

Baljit Singh Mann (2018) explains the changing components of India's Indian Ocean Policy that proves four speculations. To begin with, India's sea standpoint has changed from a regional to a non-regional beginning of the ocean on account of progress in its technique of money related headway. Second, the creating geopolitics of the Indian Ocean and India's capacity projection wants have been driving New Delhi significant into the Indian Ocean. Third, the Chinese undertakings to invade into the India Ocean through its client states, for instance, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Myanmar, etc, and its One Belt One Road (OBOR) or Maritime Silk Route (MSR) exercises, have been speaking to a steady sea security challenge to India's Indian Ocean technique. Fourth, the US strategy of Rebalance to Asia (RTA) has been giving international open entryway similarly as test to India's capacity projection drive in the Indian Ocean.

Chen Fengying and Ni Jiejun (2009) have worried in their article "Asian Energy Security: The activity of China and India" that the possibility of vitality security ought to be extended as it describes worldwide

relations. They have moreover explained that the certifiable risk of vitality security are not 'underground' (a nonappearance of assets) yet over the ground (Political Instability). Another vitality security thought is relied upon to ensure worldwide vitality security. Money related globalization, joined with international instability, resource availability and universal dread based abuse, has made it unfathomable for any single country to check its vitality flexibly totally without any other individual. For Asian (India and China) vitality security, reliability and flourishing, with clear distinctive confirmation of shared interests, could together strengthen and help.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Albert, Eleanor (2016), summons a story from Hindu folklore —Samudra Manthan|| or to beat the ocean, C. Raja Mohan discussed the Sino-Indian competition overflowing from the Great Himalayas into the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The creator looks at the possibilities of mitigating the pressures and building a stable Indo-Pacific request. America, the prevailing force in the zone, is being brought into the unfurling Sino-Indian rivalry. Mohan contends that the three nations are secured a three-sided battle bound to form the fate of Indo-Pacific. He approaches antiquated folklore to clarify how the Indo-Pacific is going on. Samudra Manthan's legend lives again as the states of the United States and is molded by China-India competition in Asian waters.

Brewster, David (2010), He talked about India's desires in the IOR in incredible detail by contextualizing and assessing the key talk circling in India with respect to the Indian Ocean. Second, he broke down India's technique for acknowledging such desires in the Indian Ocean by inspecting India's contrasting political and vital objectives and sea assets as securing and arrangement of suitable resources and formation of framework. Aside from that he talked about India's cooperations in the Indian Ocean with nearby and extra-regional forces. Scott in his article contends that the Indian Navy has clear-enough desires for the Indian Ocean which are being bolstered by the administration and India has received different effective systems to encourage these goals. Resulting upon that India is increasing a looked for after situation of some prominence in the Indian Ocean. He presumed that in spite of the absence of coordination between the different Services, and formal national-level vital principle, India's maritime system for the Indian Ocean has enough political and money related help, and furthermore has adequate arranging which are proper for its key destinations in the Indian Ocean.

Graham, Euam (2014), David Brewster in his book traces a sensible direction for India as an Indian Ocean power. David Brewster broke down India's vital aspirations in the Indian Ocean as a component of the moving level of influence in Asia. The creator explores whether India has the fortitude to turn into the main force in the Indian Ocean. In doing as such, Brewster

surveyed the historical backdrop of India's developing job and vital standpoint in the Indian Ocean and gives further enquiry into the possibilities for India to accomplish its show predetermination of turning into the predominant force in the Indian Ocean as a major aspect of India's bigger fate to turn into a politically influential nation. Brewster has separated the book into 11 parts dependent on the substance, setting and degree. The creator manages the inquiries of how is India countering the ascent of China in the Indian Ocean? Furthermore, in what manner will this clash of the goliaths influence Australia? In tending to these key issues, the creator has received an extensive methodology in understanding the capability of India's job in the IOR, He evaluated India's vital speculation got from the heritage of Nehruvian thought of non-arrangement and India's Monroe Doctrine in South Asia, the exercises from past Indian military intercessions, the current security factors and the social elements in the Indian Ocean as for different nations, the job of sea security and, above all, the job of the Indian naval force in getting sea administration in the Indian Ocean.

Gupta, Arvind and Shrivastav, Sanjeev K (2014), In this article, writers examined three kinds of India's needs in detail and how these requirements share a cooperative relationship with India's maritime capacities. The primary need the creators made sense of is the basic security requirement for India as India is a littoral condition of the Indian Ocean. Oceanic outskirts are as significant as land fringes for India as a result of its long coastline and Islands arranged a long way from its terrain. Aside from this, different dangers that exuded from India's sea area from state just as non-state entertainers. To make sure about its basic security needs India needs a strong maritime force. The subsequent need is the formative need of India. India received the globalization during the 1990s that prompted the expansion in its volume of exchange and along these lines expanded its reliance on the oceanic space for its financial turn of events and to shield its SLOCs from attacks from state and non-state entertainers, for this India again needs a strong maritime force. In the wake of explaining these two needs, creators went to the third need for example power projection needs of India to turn into a significant force. To expand the authoritative reach globally projection of intensity is significant for India and naval force is a significant apparatus for anticipating powers both hard just as delicate force.

Houbert, Jean (2004), He analyzes India's key contemplating the Asia Pacific, its associations with China and the US, and India's inexorably close security attaches with other significant nations in the region. It thinks about the outcomes of India's ascent on the Asia Pacific vital request and asks whether India is probably going to join the positions of the significant forces of the Asia Pacific in coming years. In the mid 1990s, India was encountering a financial downturn and international segregation with the fall of the Soviet Empire. The Indian market looked east

to the rising Asian Pacific markets and bit by bit extended, contributing in the course of recent decades to wonderful monetary development levels and afterward influencing the world past India's limits. Brewster investigates the change and advancement of Indian unfamiliar and security strategies. The development of India as a possibly worldwide force that assumes a significant security job in East Asia prompted recommendations to reconsider Asia's psychological guide. A cutting edge idea in the Indo-Pacific region was designed in the USA in energy about India's capacity. However India's want for a key situation in Asia Pacific is more forward-looking than today's truth. A point by point evaluation of the objectives, abilities and requirements of India is in this manner ideal and valuable. The book features the connection among India and the other incredible forces—China and the US. This is critical as it truly sets up India's present setting and empowers the peruser to intellectually evaluate where India's present capacity sits. The China relationship is of specific significance as it is a direct result of China's fast ascent that India sees direness in building up its regional impact. The Sino-Indian war of 1962 despite everything plays vigorously on the Indian mind as indicated by this investigation. Without the truth of watching China rise further and further, India was impossible, as per this examination, to seek after regional impact with such energy. Further to this, Brewster proceeds to plot five key connections inside the more extensive Asian region: Japan, Vietnam, Australia, archipelagic Southeast Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore) and its sea security points.

Tanvi Madan (2010) has dissected India's current need and the foreseen vitality request constantly 2030. She has inspected in her article 'India's universal strategic oil and flammable gas: fuelling international strategy' that how India's activities abroad related to the quest for oil and petroleum gas would impact India's international strategy. In this article, she has shut to seek after multilateral structure for instance to focus on hardly any critical suppliers for vitality security as opposed to unnecessarily depending upon any one country or regions.

Arnab Dasgupta (2018) in his article expressed that the Indian Ocean region fills in as one of the busiest business similarly as essential vitality flexibly lines on the planet. Nevertheless, the vitality traffic in the region is feeble against various vital smother centers. Any interference caused either by unforeseen scenes or by upheld headways, thusly, may make pulverization for the entire worldwide vitality security. An exceptional geostrategic position has accumulated India certain normal key focal points in the Indian Ocean. On the other hand, India relies fundamentally upon the significant oceanic vitality gracefully lines in the region. In this way, ensuring the security of the Indian Ocean Region thusly transforms into India's common benefit. India along these lines needs to plan its national sea excitement for the Indian Ocean as a persistent vitality gracefully is essential for national money related

development. This article attempts to recognize the fundamental piece of the Indian Ocean sea supplies in India's vitality security and to find India's vital essential with that sway.

The objective of the article 'India and its Energy Security Strategy' of 'Devika Sharma' (2010) is confined to a specific subject of India's vitality security system to be sought after at residential level and at outside level. The maker has expressed that vitality strategy to be followed by India to achieve vitality security. Vitality security is something past about managing the interest flexibly unique or vitality trade between countries. Genuinely, countries try to address their vitality needs in various manners at different levels. A decision to extend atomic vitality isn't just about sourcing uranium and inking regular atomic vitality oversees driving atomic vitality countries anyway likewise about setting up a cash related game plan that disseminates need to atomic vitality structure.

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3. MARITIME POWER

A **Maritime power** is a nation with a very strong navy, which often is also a great power, or at least a regional power. A Maritime power is able to easily control their coast, and exert influence upon both nearby and far countries. A nation that dominates the world navally is known as a maritime superpower.

The concept of naval prestige is illustrated by the Maritime Power. The example of the United States of America, the Russian Federation, and China, with their presence in the seas, proves this statement. The configuration of Sea Power has ten requirements:

1. Maritime Power shall be translated into international recognition of its effective value. This causes considerable influence on the solution of antagonisms.
2. Maritime Power must include extensive merchant traffic with its own resources covering all markets, a condition of great importance to national economies.
3. The Maritime Power must provide a permanent bond between the maritime nations, so as to ensure, both the mutual protection of their trade, the guarantee of uninterrupted use of the oceans through military alliances.

Great political-diplomatic sensitivity of the developed nations is needed to consent to a change in the status quo that has prevailed for centuries, allowing more rational participation of developing nations in maritime trade. 4. The Maritime Power must provide the necessary logistical support to wartime military forces, as well as to the economic life of the nation.

Many countries that become maritime powers become strong in order to defend themselves from an extant threat, such as the USSR did during the Cold War, in order to defend them from the United States Navy. In this scenario, it is common for the emerging maritime power to focus largely upon area denial tactics, rather than power projection.

Maritime issues of India

India has approximately 7500 km of coastline and almost 23 lakh square kilometer of Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) with 7 countries (Pakistan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand and Indonesia) on its maritime frontier.

Maritime issues of India with Pakistan:

- The territorial conflict between India and Pakistan includes boundary demarcation around Sir Creek that also offers the frame of reference for territorial boundaries demarcation.

- Sir Creek is the tidal estuary on India and Pakistan's frontier (State of Gujarat and the Province of Sind).
- The country frontier between Western Terminus countries was fixed by the UN Court, however, leaving the border unmarked thereon.



The disagreement currently concerns three issues:

- Arab Sea territorial demarcation between India and Pakistan.
- Traditional limits "from the mouth of Sir Creek to the top of Sir Creek".
- Traditional limits "from the top of Sir Creek eastward to a point on the line designated on the Western Terminus".

According to Pakistan's view, boundaries to the eastern flank of creek (i.e. part of creek Pakistan) indicate that the Sindh government and Rao Maharaj of Kutch had signed an agreement in 1914 to prove its point.

In India the same text and the "Thalweg theory" argued that the boundary needed to be halfway through a navigable river. India maintains that the creek is navigable at high tides and mid-course walls, as set down in 1924.

As Sir Creek often changes course, it is difficult to demarcate limits.

Maritime issues of India with Bangladesh:

Three issues remain that hinder a resolution between the two countries.

- The first argument is about ownership of New Moore Island (South Talpatti), which emerged after the 1970 cyclone and tidal

bore in the estuary of the border river Haribhanga in the formation period.

- The second issue is the Haribhanga river flood. India claims that the main river channel flows to the east of the new island while it flows to the west, which means Bangladesh is an important part of Bangladesh.
- The third issue concerns the demarcation of the sea border because territorial, exclusive economic and continental water boundary demarcations are also being postponed.

On 8 October 2009, Bangladesh engaged in the arbitration of the maritime frontier under UNCLOS. Approximately 19,467 square km, four five of the overall contested region from 25,602 sq km in Bangladesh Bay, has been given by the Hague-based Permanent Court of Attribution (PCA) in 2014.

Though India tried to specify the limit on the equidistance rule (which implies that national maritime boundaries should be equidistant from the shores of neighboring nation states in a median line), Bangladesh argued that the "equity concept" concept should be settled, meaning the Bay of Bengal countries should have proportional areas within the region.

India's maritime issue with Sri Lanka:

While India has successfully marketed Sri Lanka through 1974 and 1976, there are still some problems with fishermen and the island of Kashchatheev.

Kachchatheevu issue:

- The Kachchatheevu Island has been granted to Sri Lanka under the 1974 deal, with special conditions such as pilgrimage privileges, but fisheries have not been explicitly specified.
- Indian fishermen in the Sri Lankan authorities have asserted their customary fishing rights in the area.
- In 2014, the Government of Tamil Nadu in SC demanded to cancel Sri Lanka's ceding of island and the Government of India claimed that the islands remained contested territories. (The judgment was taken in the Berubari Union case without needing the legislative permission to resolve territorial disputes)

CONCLUSION

There has been a lot of issues in the Indian Ocean, especially in the Persian Gulf, lately. The Red Sea and Horn of Africa were also plagued by piracy. Protecting the Sea Communications Lines, which account for 83% of the Indian crude, is Indian strategic planning goal. After the Tamil Elam War, the Sri Lankan Navy

has become more alert about Palk Strait. During the operation they shot several times on Indian fishers who had strayed to the boiling waters of Sri Lanka. The simple usage by Indian fishers of high-end technologies has complicated the problem, along with the strong limitations on Sri Lankan fishermen.

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