

PSIR & GS-2

DAILY BRIEF

ABOUT THIS INITIATIVE

Briefs, scans the best academic platforms, national newspapers & leading think tanks to pick the most relevant articles & research. It converts them into crisp, high-impact points you can directly use in your mains answers.



PSIR OPTIONAL BY
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| ForumIAS |

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India - Seychelles relations, exploring blue economy



Context Agreements between India & Seychelles shift the relationship from maritime security into the blue economy, or they set up frameworks that still have to be filled.

Facts

- Seychelles : 115 Islands sitting on the sea lanes that link the Gulf with South and East Asia.
- India & Seychelles : diplomatic relations in 1976, Bilateral trade is US \$ 72.92 million in 2024-25.
- The ICAR - Seychelles Agriculture Department work Plan (2026-31) : covers climate-smart agriculture, horticulture, post-harvest management, livestock & food security.

Analytical Crux

The visit of PM marks a real change in what India offers a small island state. It is no longer security guarantees and grants, but credit lines, payment rails & institutional membership. The visit produced 19 bilateral outcomes across development finance, digital payments, maritime cooperation, agriculture & capacity building. Seychelle launched the world's 1st sovereign blue bond and the 1st marine debt-for-nature swap, and both delivered less than advertised because the constraint was never capital, it was the ability of administration to design & run projects. The agreements are impressive but the concern is its implementation. Therefore, implementation capacity, project preparation, & institutional coordination is as important as financing itself.

Verbatim Quotes

"India's scale and technical capabilities complement Seychelles' experience as a small island state that has pioneered blue finance and ocean governance deals."

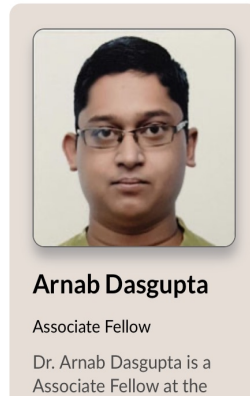
—Priya Miriam Noronha

Future prospects for the Indo-Pacific beyond US commitment



Future Prospects for the Indo-Pacific beyond US Commitment

July 17, 2026 | IDSA Comments



Context After US has dropped 'Indo' from the name of its largest combatant command, the response is not to declare the Indo-Pacific dead but strengthening relation between India, Japan & Australia.

Facts

- Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) : foreign policy doctrine, combining security coordination with public goods through economic security pillars.
- India's upgradation : from SAGAR (Security & Growth for All in the Region) in 2015 to MAHASAGAR (Mutual & Holistic Advancement for Security & Growth Across Regions) in 2025.
- Australia: 1st country to use "Indo-Pacific" since 2017, contributes critical mineral wealth plus sustainable mining technologies.

Analytical Crux

The name change is being seen as a strategy change. USA has not abandoned the region, it has shifted its attention to West Asia, Eastern Europe & above all the Americas.

The main argument is that instead of asking the US to come back, the three resident powers should strengthen their capabilities. Japan with precision manufacturing & newly liberalised defence technology, India with space & digital public infrastructure, Australia with critical minerals and its standing among the Pacific Islands. If the Indo-Pacific as a concept lacks content, the way forward is not to dismiss it as a placeholder, but to fill it with content amenable to empirical measurement and demonstration.

Canada-India defence collaboration for a secure future

Canada-India defence collaboration for a secure future +

Canada is seeing an historic shift for our country – one that opens new opportunities for relations between Canada and India. Speaking at CANSEC 2026, Canada's leading defence, security and emerging technology event, on May 27, 2026, Prime Minister Mark Carney said: "The very nature of war is rapidly evolving, driven by the proliferation of drones, autonomous systems, and weapons in orbit. Conflicts could emerge closer to our borders than before, and new weapons are reducing the distance that separates us from them. The world has changed, and Canada must change with it. That is why, six weeks after forming the government, we announced our ambitious plan to rebuild, rearm, and reinvest in the Canadian Armed Forces."

This is at a time when the world is changing, and Canada-India defence collaboration can translate into a strategy for a secure future.

The good news is that we are already walking on this path. In 2025, Mr. Carney announced that Canada is on track to spend 5% of its GDP on defence by 2035. In March, we already surpassed 2% of the GDP, placing Canada among one of the 10 largest economies in the world.

As Mr. Carney said during his speech in January 2026 at the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting in Davos, there has been a rupture in the world order. Or as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said, we are living through a decade of crisis.

Bilateral defence engagement

In this changing world, defence cooperation between Canada and India has become crucial and we have already taken steps to bolster it.

Most recently, we accredited Defence Advisers in both Ottawa and Delhi. Mr. Carney and Mr. Modi agreed to establish a Defence Dialogue to



Chris Cooter
High Commissioner
for Canada to India

Shared interests drive Canada and India toward a stronger strategic defence partnership

prioritise cooperation on shared interests and align capacities. Canadian and Indian navies participated in the Rim of the Pacific exercises and Talisman Sabre exercises. In June this year, a delegation from India's National Defence College visited Canada. This will allow Indian officers to have direct exchanges with military colleges and bases in Canada.

We have established a national Defence Investment Agency to streamline military procurement. We have also launched a defence Industrial Strategy to diversify supply chains so Canada does not rely on just one country. That is why we are calling on natural partners such as India to participate in co-development, subsystem manufacturing, and sustainment. We are investing in innovation, including through a half billion-dollar investment in next generation aerospace technologies, including a drone innovation hub.

Strategic technology cooperation

Canada's strengths in advanced technologies can complement India's scale, manufacturing capacity, and expanding industrial base. Canada is one of only a few countries with a full-spectrum aerospace sector, while India's domestic aviation industry is the third largest domestic market in the world. Canada is a research and development powerhouse, while India is focused on advancing innovation capacity and high-end manufacturing.

Canada and India are part of a small group of countries with advanced space capabilities. The importance of civilian space cooperation was highlighted in the joint statement between our two Prime Ministers. Canada's strengths in advanced components for satellite technology and space robotics can complement India's strengths in low-cost platforms. Canada's RADARSAT constellation system can have

application in meeting India's aim of advancing its naval capacity in the region. Critical minerals are the building block of defence technologies – another area where Canada and India can expand their partnership. Amid the crisis in West Asia, national security and economic security are inextricably linked. Here, a critical partnership between Canada and India can take shape.

Canada has vast geological reserves of 31 critical minerals from cobalt to helium. Canada holds the tenth largest reserves of rare earth elements; the third largest recoverable resources of uranium; and 5% of the world's tungsten reserves. Additionally, Canada is the second largest producer and exporter of uranium globally, with 24% of global production in 2024. Canada has embarked on a strategy to diversify its trusted partners. For India, there is a need for reliable partners such as Canada to reach its own economic and national security goals. The Canada-India memorandum of understanding on Critical Minerals Value Chain, signed during Mr. Carney's visit to India in February-March 2026, laid the groundwork for the integration of stable, resilient supply chains between the two countries.

Building on shared legacy

As we look forward, it is worth recalling our shared history and common sacrifice. Recently, I visited the Kirkee War Cemetery in Pune where members of the Royal Canadian Air Force killed during the Second World War were laid to rest. As I walked through the memorial site, I was reminded that our countries have stood shoulder to shoulder in the past, not just on the battlefield but for common causes and for the shared security of our countries. Let us continue that long-standing tradition as we reshape the defence cooperation between our two countries.

Context

Canadian defence budget increased up to 5% of GDP creates an opening for Indian industry.

Facts

Canada have 10th largest reserves of rare earth elements, 3rd largest recoverable resources of uranium, and 5% of the world's tungsten reserves.

India & Canada : Defence dialogue, defence advisers accredited in Ottawa and Delhi.

India- Canada MoU : on the critical Minerals Value chain signed in 2026.

Analytical Crux

Canada has committed to a defence budget that will be double a share of a G10 economy & it does not have the industrial base to absorb that money. India has manufacturing scale and wants technology & the offered bargain is Canadian R&D, aerospace depth & critical minerals. Therefore, Canada's strengths in advanced technologies can complement India's scale, manufacturing capacity & expanding industrial base.

There is institutional scaffolding because accredited Defence Advisers in both capitals, an agreed Defence Dialogue and signed critical minerals MoU. Both the countries have stood shoulder to shoulder in the past and need to strengthen their relation because securities in every domain are inextricably linked.

PSIR 2025, Paper II: India maintains strong ties with countries that will assure a free and open Indo-Pacific and guarantee greater connectivity with rest of the world. Analyze.

- **PSIR 2025, Paper II:** Historical ties between India and Japan grew into a 'special strategic and global partnership'. Comment.
- **PSIR 2024, Paper II:** Discuss the rationale behind replacing the 'Asia-Pacific' strategy with the new term 'Indo-Pacific' strategy.
- **GS 2024 Paper II:** Discuss the geopolitical and geostrategic importance of Maldives for India with a focus on global trade and energy flows. Further also discuss how this relationship affects India's maritime security and regional stability amidst international competition?"
- **GS 2023, Paper II:** Sea is an important Component of the Cosmos.' Discuss in the light of the above statement the role of the IMO (International Maritime Organization) in protecting environment and enhancing maritime safety and security.



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