

2020



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# CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

13<sup>th</sup> January - 18<sup>th</sup> January



BusinessLine



## 1. China Myanmar Economic Corridor

### **Why in News?**

- China's President visited Myanmar to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations.
- The visit focussed on the multiple projects under China- Myanmar Economic Corridor.

### **China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC)**

- It is a number of infrastructure projects supporting connectivity between Myanmar and China.
- It is a branch of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the Indian Ocean.
- There are three core zones- **Muse, Chinshwehaw and Kan Pite Tee** envisaged at the border of both countries under it.
  - The core zones will be commercial areas with duty-free concessions, hotels, manufacturing, and financial services.
- It has three Pillars namely-
  - The Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone
  - The China-Myanmar Border Economic Cooperation Zone
  - The New Yangon City

### **Impact on India**

- China's economic stakes in the Bay of Bengal will signify larger maritime presence and naval engagement in the region which in turn reinforces the string of pearls policy by China.
  - The **String of Pearls** is a geopolitical theory referring to the network of Chinese military and commercial facilities extended from the Chinese mainland to Port Sudan in the Horn of Africa.
- This corridor signifies the economic as well as strategic rise of China in the Indian subcontinent.

## 2. Raisina Dialogue

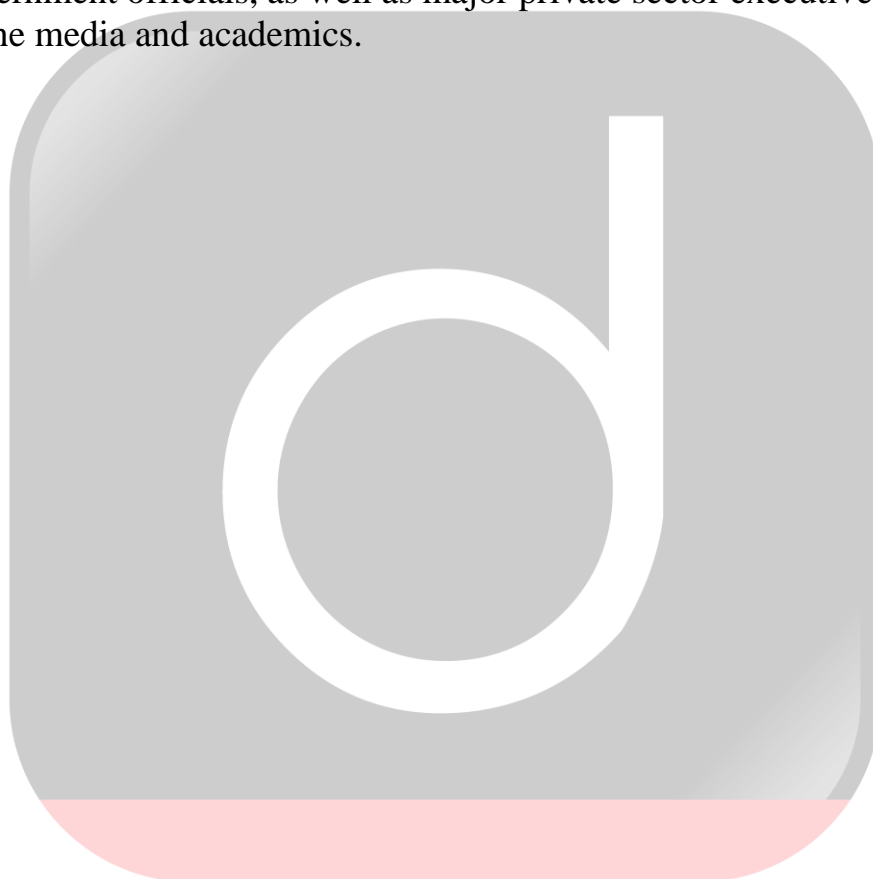
### **Why in News?**

The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of Raisina Dialogue is being held in New Delhi. The dialogue is organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and Observer Research Foundation.

### **Raisina Dialogue**

- The conference is named after "**Raisina Hills**", which is the seat of Government of India and Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- It is designed on the lines of Shangri-La dialogue.
- It is considered as India's flagship conference on geo-economics and geopolitics.

- The title of the Raisina Dialogue year (2020) is “**Navigating the Alpha Century**”.
- It is considered as India’s flagship conference on geo-economics and geopolitics.
- It aims at exploring opportunities of Asian integration.
- The Dialogue is structured as a multi-stakeholder, cross-sectoral discussion, involving heads of state, cabinet ministers and local government officials, as well as major private sector executives, members of the media and academics.



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