



8th ADMM-Plus Meeting

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Why in News

Recently, the defence minister addressed the 8th **ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) Plus**.

The ADMM-Plus is a platform for **ASEAN and its eight Dialogue Partners**.

Key Points

- **Security & Dispute Resolution:**

- India called for an **open and inclusive order in Indo-Pacific** based upon respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations.
- Supports **freedom of navigation, overflight, and unimpeded commerce in the international waterways** including the **South China Sea**, India hopes that the **Code of Conduct negotiations** (for South China Sea) will lead to outcomes that are in keeping with international law, including the the **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)**.
 - Recently, ASEAN and China agreed to **expedite the resumption of negotiations on the code**, which were halted by the pandemic.
 - China and ASEAN **started negotiations in 2013** on a supposedly binding code of conduct.
- Stressed on **peaceful resolutions of disputes** through dialogue and adherence to international rules and laws.
- Need **new systems** to address the emerging challenges to **international peace and security**.

- **Act East Policy:**

The key elements of the **Act East Policy** aims to **promote economic cooperation, cultural ties and develop strategic relationships** with countries in the Indo-Pacific region through continuous engagement at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels.

- **Terrorism:**

- Called for **collective cooperation to fully disrupt terror organisations** and their networks.

Identify the perpetrators and hold them accountable and ensure that **strong measures are taken against those who support and finance terrorism** and provide sanctuary to terrorists.

- As a member of the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**, India remains committed to combat financing of terrorism.

FATF is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog.

- **Cybersecurity:**

Called for a **multi-stakeholder approach, guided by democratic values**, with a governance structure that is open and inclusive and a secure, open and stable internet with due respect to sovereignty of countries, that would drive the future of cyberspace.

- **Covid-19:**

Globally available patent free **vaccines**, unhindered supply chains and greater global medical capacities are some of the lines of effort that India has suggested for a combined effort.

South Africa and India have called for the **World Trade Organization (WTO)** to suspend intellectual property (IP) rights related to **Covid-19** to ensure equitable sharing of vaccines and new technology to control the pandemic.

- **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Operations:**

- India remains one of the first to respond in times of distress in the immediate as well as extended neighbourhood.

- As a founding member of the **Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM)**, India seeks to enhance capacity building through collaboration in the areas of Maritime Search & Rescue.

HACGAM is an **apex level forum facilitating the congregation of all the major Coast Guard Agencies of the Asian region**, it was established in **2004**.

- **ASEAN Centrality:**

- India **shares a deep connection with ASEAN** and has continued its active engagement in many areas **contributing to regional peace and stability, particularly through ASEAN led mechanisms**, such as:

- The India-ASEAN strategic partnership has been strengthened by virtue of flourishing cultural and civilisational links and enhanced people-to-people cooperation.

ADMM-Plus

- **About:**

- The **2nd ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) in 2007** at Singapore adopted a resolution to establish the ADMM-Plus.
 - **The first ADMM-Plus was convened at Hanoi, Vietnam in 2010.**
 - **Brunei** is the Chair of the ADMM Plus forum for the year 2021.
- It is an **annual meeting of Defence Ministers** of 10 ASEAN countries and eight dialogue partner countries.

The **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)** is a regional organization which was established to promote political and social stability amid rising tensions among the Asia-Pacific's post-colonial states.

- **Membership:**

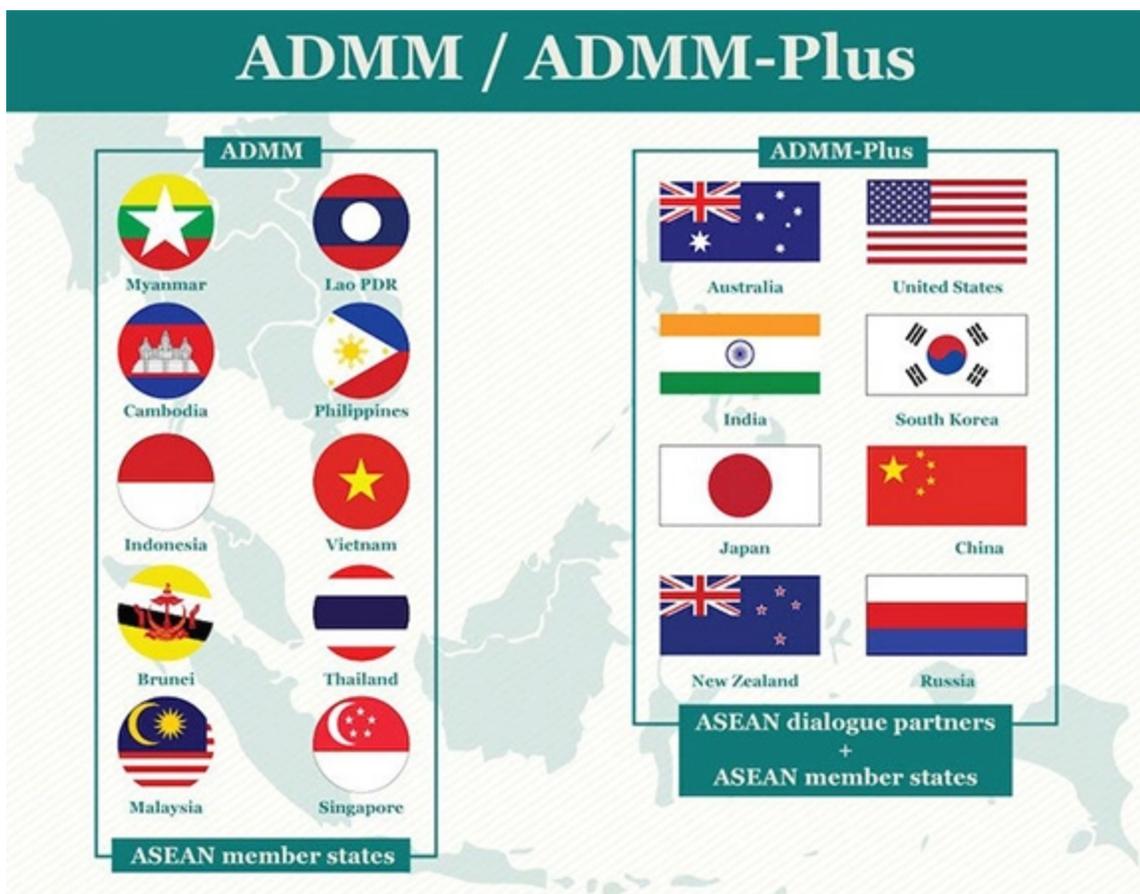
The ADMM-Plus countries include **ten ASEAN Member States** and **eight Plus countries**, namely **Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, and the United States**.

- **Aim:**

It aims to promote mutual trust and confidence between defence establishments through greater dialogue and transparency.

- **Areas of cooperation:**

Maritime security, counter-terrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, peacekeeping operations and military medicine.



Source:PIB