

Nordic-India Relations

Why in news?

As Nordic countries are pioneers in green technologies, Nordics and India can together power the green transition the world needs.

Nordic & Scandinavian Region

- Nordic Countries consists of
- 1. Denmark
- 2. Norway
- 3. Sweden
- 4. Finland
- 5. Iceland
- Other regions include
- 1. Faroe Islands
- 2. Greenland
- 3. Åland
- Geographically, there are 3 Scandinavian countries (Denmark, Sweden, and Norway).
- Culturally, there are 6 Scandinavian countries Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Finland and The Faroe Islands.



What about India-Nordic Connect?

- Areas of Cooperation At the Nordic-India Summit held in Copenhagen in 2022, the Nordic countries and India agreed to intensify cooperation on digitalisation, renewable energy, maritime industries and the circular economy.
- **Trade** India has grown to become a priority country for Finland.
- Finland opened a new Consulate General in Mumbai that will increase the number

- of Nordic representations in India's commercial capital.
- Finnish companies such as Nokia and Fortum see India as their largest growth market.
- Trade between Norway and India has doubled in the last three years.
- The **Norwegian Sovereign Wealth Fund** is likely to become one of India's largest single foreign investors.
- Both Norway and Finland have ongoing free trade agreement and investments negotiations (FTA) with India.
- Finland, as a member of the European Union (EU), is a part of the <u>EU-India FTA</u>
 <u>negotiations</u>, and Norway is negotiating through the European Free Trade
 Association.
- **Strategic partnership** In 2020, India and Denmark elevated their relations to a **Green Strategic Partnership** to advance political cooperation, expand economic relations and green growth, create jobs and strengthen cooperation on addressing global challenges.
- **Environment** The Norwegian government has also recently established a new **Climate Investment Fund** for investment in renewables abroad, and almost Rs 1,500 crore have been invested so far in India.
- Leadership for Industry Transition (LeadIT) that focuses on low carbon transition of the industrial sector was launched by Sweden and India at the UN Climate Action Summit, 2019.
- As India takes rapid strides into a green, digital, and innovative future, Nordic countries such as Finland and Norway stand ready to share experiences and be a part of India's transition.

References

- 1. The Hindu | A Nordic-India connect to power a green transition
- 2. WorldAtlas | Nordic Countries

