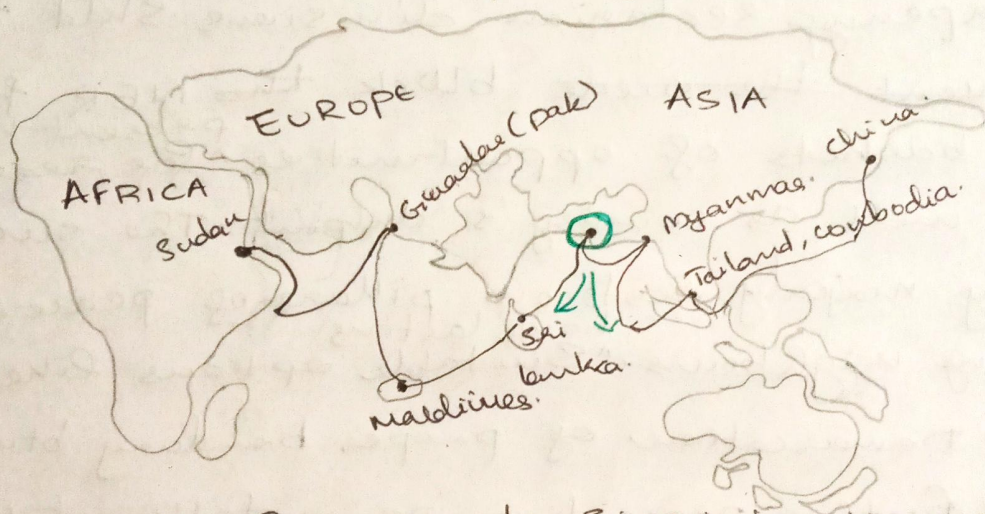


'Act East policy' announced in 2014 is a diplomatic initiative to promote economic, strategic & cultural relations with Asia-Pacific region at multidimensional levels in order to enhance connectivity to ~~N-E states with neighbouring countries~~ & regional development in N-E India Region (NER) comprising 8 states.

Focus areas — 4 C's

- culture
- commerce
- connectivity
- capacity building



Recent conflicts & rising tensions in the NE States that are going crossing boundaries of interstate disputes, have regional, national & international repercussions.

- ① Adverse economic impacts — already distress due to COVID, economic blockades will only push it further.
- ② Logistics blockades can disrupt the supply chain & can have far implications on trade & allied activities.
- ③ Internal security threats — the highly

volatile situations ~~can rise noncontaminant issues~~ <sup>can lead to</sup> like increased illegal immigrations, insurgencies etc.

~~Due to the recent geo-strategic~~ Southeast Asia region is becoming a <sup>growing</sup> theatre of growing geostrategic competition. Proximity of NER to ~~this~~ a rapidly evolving Indo-Pacific security resurfaced <sup>it</sup> as a zone of domestic priority as well as internal cooperation. Border divides & sharpening sectarian divisions shld not ~~lead~~ ~~prevent the~~ ~~wide~~ ~~block~~ ~~the~~ NER from <sup>present before them</sup> the baskets of opportunities <sup>for regional</sup> as well as country's output. The success of policy majorly rests on pillars of peace & trust among neighbours. <sup>long lasting</sup> Suitable options like

- ① Demarcation of proper boundary btw states
- ② further proceeding peace talks at cent & administrative levels.
- ③ Controlling mobilised attacks & social protests & <sup>spread of misinformation</sup>
- ④ Removing economic <sup>blockages</sup>

etc can suitably be continued further as of now to achieve larger goals of policy.