

NALSAR Directorate of Distance Education

P.G. Diploma (GIS and Remote Sensing Laws)

Semester II

Introduction to Coastal Zones

By

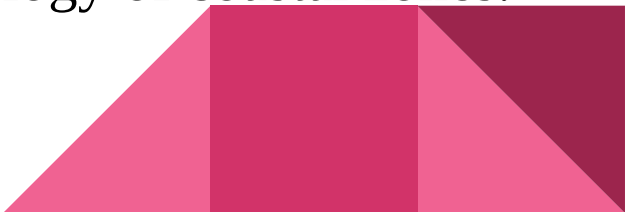
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Coasts and Coastal Zones

- Coasts are the intermediate zones between the landmass and ocean. Coastal zone (CZ) marks the beginning and also end of sea waters.
- CZ is a complex topography marked by several marine physical locations divisions lie bays, creeks, gulfs, islands, straits and several such. Some are located onshore while some like islands are offshore locations.



- CZ topography is also characterized by human factors: habitats; harbours/ports; industries; energy installations; scientific establishments; aqua farms; tourism/recreational centres, and many other man-made assets.
 - As maritime states are increasing dependence on sea, coasts are undergoing rapid transformation. Urbanization, industrialization, resource exploration, port and shipbuilding activities, SEZ, logistic centres and host of modern corporate establishments are fast dotting the coastal areas, changing thereby the morphology of coastal zones.
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Indian Coasts

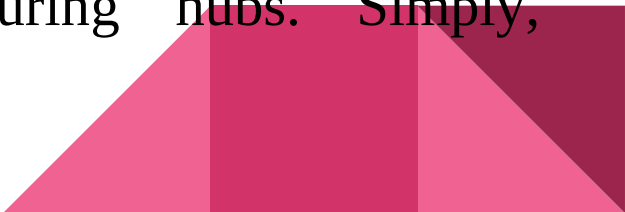
- India's maritime geography is characterized by islands, archipelagos, creeks, deltas, gulfs and straits interspersed with lavish marine ecosystems like the Konkan and Sundarbans.
- India has a coastline of 7515 km around the peninsula. Nine coastal states share the waters of Indian coasts.
- Country's coastline includes that of the mainland plus the islands of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar in the Bay of Bengal



- The location of coasts penetrating deep into the Indian Ocean plus seven other countries sharing their maritime borders with India expose coastal zones of India to several maritime threats
- Criminals of several shades like smugglers, drug peddlers, arms suppliers, poachers, pirates and terrorists frequently create security problems to the country. Indian Navy alone finds it difficult to guard the long coastline and its zones around the peninsula.



The Indian Coast Guard (ICG)

- Indian Coast Guard Act of 1978 mandated the ICG to protect India's national maritime zones and properties therein. The Act recognizes ICG as an armed force of India like the air force and navy.
 - Specifically ICG's functions include securing the onshore and offshore assets; marine environment, and; contributing to national defence.
 - India's integration of national economy with global economy has transformed coastal zones into manufacturing hubs. Simply, globalization transfigured coastal morphology.
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Coasts are no more the maritime peripheries. These are active intermediates between domestic and international markets. Land-sea transport networks, industrial corridors, special economic zones, oil refineries, tourist companies, water sports, agro and aqua export units and several such capital intensive enterprises dot coasts of today.



Management of Indian coasts has therefore become cumbersome and difficult. From time to time India has been introducing coastal zone management regulations.



Thank You

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