

China opens first sea-road-rail transport link to Indian Ocean

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In news—Recently, China opened the first sea-road-rail transport link to the Indian Ocean.

About Road-rail transport link

- It provides a new sea-road-rail **link to Chengdu (China) with the Indian Ocean via Yangon (Myanmar)**.
- A “test cargo” through what is being called the China-Myanmar New Passage arrived at the Chengdu rail port in Sichuan province in August.
- This passage **connects the logistics lines of Singapore, Myanmar and China**, and is currently the most convenient land and sea channel linking the Indian Ocean with southwest China.
- The new railway line that runs from the border town of Lincang to Chengdu, a key trade hub in western China, completes the corridor.



- It **saves the journey of around 22 days**.
- China also has plans to develop another port in Kyaukphyu in the Rakhine state, including a proposed

railway line from Yunnan directly to the port.

- Plans are underway to develop Chin Shwe Haw as a “border economic cooperation zone” under the Belt and Road Initiative.
- Chinese planners have also looked at the Gwadar port in Pakistan as another key outlet to the Indian Ocean that will bypass the Malacca Straits.
- Gwadar is being developed as part of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to the far western Xinjiang region, but has been slow to take off amid concerns over security.