

# Goa Liberation day

December 21, 2021

**In news**– Goa Liberation Day is observed on December 19 every year in commemoration of the Indian armed forces freeing Goa from Portuguese colonial rule.

## **About Goa Liberation day-**

- Goa was ruled by the Portuguese for more than 450 years and **its liberation movement started on June 18, 1946 after socialist leader Dr Ram Manohar Lohia** plunged himself into the freedom movement with many young Goans.
- This day is now observed as **Goa Revolution Day**.
- However, even as India became independent on August 15, 1947, Goa continued to be under Portuguese rule 14 years after that.
- After multiple agitations by freedom fighters, India made peaceful attempts for Goa's liberation through diplomatic channels.
- As a last resort, the Indian government then led by **Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, sent in its armed forces to the coastal state** after which the Portuguese surrendered and **Goa was liberated on December 19, 1961**.
- The first tri-service operation of the Indian armed forces, **Operation Vijay** of 36- hours (from December 18, 1961 to December 19, 1961) led to the liberation of Goa.
- This moment also marked the exit of the **Portuguese, the last of the European colonists to leave India**.
- After the liberation, Goa was annexed into the Indian union and **was the Union Territory** of Goa, Daman and Diu.
- It continued to remain a Union Territory until **1987** when it was **accorded statehood and Goa became India's 25th state**.