

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**.