

Honduras

February 2, 2022

In news— Honduras got its first woman President, a Leftist, **Xiomara Castro** recently.

A brief note on Honduras-

- The Republic of Honduras is a **country of Central America situated between Guatemala and El Salvador** to the west and Nicaragua to the south and east.
- The Caribbean Sea washes its northern coast, the Pacific Ocean its narrow coast to the south.



- Its capital and largest city is Tegucigalpa.
- **In the pre-Columbian era**, modern Honduras was **split between two pan-cultural regions: Mesoamerica** in the west and the **Isthmo-Colombian area** in the east.
- **It was home to several important Mesoamerican cultures, most notably the Maya**, before the Spanish Colonization in the sixteenth century.
- The Spanish introduced Roman Catholicism and the now predominant Spanish language.
- It **became independent in 1821 and has since been a republic.**
- Honduran society is predominantly Mestizo, however, American Indian, black and white individuals also live in Honduras.
- More than three-fourths of the land area of Honduras is mountainous, lowlands being found only along the coasts and in the several river valleys that penetrate toward

the interior.

- **A large undeveloped lowland jungle, *La Mosquitia* lies in the northeast,** and the heavily populated lowland Sula valley in the northwest.
- In La Mosquitia lies the **UNESCO world-heritage site Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve,** with the **Coco River which divides Honduras from Nicaragua.**
- It is known for its rich natural resources, including minerals, coffee, tropical fruit, and sugar cane, as well as for its growing textiles industry, which serves the international market.