

Logistics agreement with Russia to be signed soon

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In news- India is all set to conclude the bilateral logistics agreement with Russia soon while the agreement with the U.K. is in the final stages of conclusion.

About the logistics agreement-

- The **Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS)** is likely to be signed in a month or two with Russia.
- The RELOS **gives India access to Russian facilities in the Arctic region** which is seeing increased global activity as new shipping routes open up and India's own investments in the Russian Far East.

In general, **Logistics agreements** are administrative arrangements facilitating access to military facilities for exchange of fuel and provisions on mutual agreement simplifying logistical support and increasing operational turnaround of the military when operating away from India.

India's agreement with other countries

- India has signed several logistics agreements with all Quad countries, France, Singapore and South Korea beginning with the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) with the U.S. in 2016.

India's Foundational agreements with U.S

- **India has now signed all four foundational agreements with the US**, LEMOA in 2016, Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (**COMCASA**) in 2018 and Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-Spatial Cooperation (**BECA**) in 2020.
- While the General Security of Military Information

Agreement (GSOMIA) was signed a long time ago, an extension to it, the Industrial Security Annex **(ISA)**, was signed in 2019.

- India has been constantly engaging at various levels, exchanges, exercises and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) efforts, and all that has been under LEMOA.
- India now has access to encrypted communication systems from the U.S. under COMCASA and to geospatial information through BECA which cumulatively have been beneficial.