

The Indian Ocean Area (IOR) Data Fusion Centre (IFC)

April 19, 2020

Why in news?

The Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Information Fusion Center (IFC) was launched in 2018 and has played a good role.

IFC for IOR:

- In order to improve maritime security in and beyond the region, the IFC-IOR has been developed to create a coherent and shared image of the maritime situation as a hub for maritime knowledge around the world.
- IFC is the single point core for the development of a smooth, actual-time picture of almost 7,500 km of the shoreline, created by the Gurugram Information and Analysis Centre of the Indian Navy.
- Data will be shared through this Center, either about “clean sailing” or fishing, with countries in the region to raise awareness about the sea domain in the Indian Ocean.
- The Indian Ocean has a wealth of natural resources. The Indian Ocean Basin accounts for 40 percent of global production of offshore oil.
- Fishing is approximately 15 percent of the global total in the Indian Ocean.
- Mineral resources of equal importance, including poly metallic nodules containing nickel, cobalt and iron nodules and large manganese, copper, coal, zinc, silver and gold deposits are found on the seabed.
- IOR also includes a number of coastal and island nations and increase of maritime piracy in the region needs to be countered.
- IFR-IRO must ensure that mutual cooperation, information

exchange and communication on the issues and risks that exist in the region will be helpful to the world as a whole.

- As of now, it provides services to 18 countries and up to 15 security centers in several locations.