

Biden Not To Attend Republic Day Parade : Quad Summit Postponed

Why In News

- **American President Joe Biden** will not attend the **Republic Day** ceremony in New Delhi amid strains in bilateral relations in the wake of the allegation by Washington DC about the involvement of the Narendra Modi government in a plot to kill Khalistani extremist **Gurpatwant Singh Pannun** in the United States.



Details

- With Biden understood to have not planned a trip to India in January, it is learnt that the **summit of four-nation coalition Quad** is also not taking place next month as expected earlier.
- In September, US Ambassador to India **Eric Garcetti** said Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited **President Biden to be the Chief Guest for the Republic Day** celebrations on January 26.



- The Quad summit is not taking place in India in January and it is now proposed to be held in the country in the later part of 2024.
- "The Quad Summit in India is proposed **to be held later in 2024**. We are looking for revised dates as the dates currently under consideration do not work with all the Quad partners,".
- There has been a flurry of visits by senior US officials to India in the last few months.
- Last month, US Secretary of State **Antony Blinken** and Defence Secretary **Lloyd Austin** visited India for the '2+2' ministerial dialogue.



- US Principal Deputy NSA **Jonathan Finer** visited India last week and, currently, FBI Director Christopher Wray is on a trip to New Delhi.
- The last Quad summit had taken place in **Hiroshima on May 20** on the sidelines of the **G7 summit**.



- In their next summit, the Quad leaders are expected to bolster overall cooperation in the **Indo-Pacific**, a region that has been witnessing growing Chinese military assertiveness.
- In the Hiroshima summit, the Quad leaders unveiled a **'Vision Statement'** titled **'Enduring Partners for Indo-Pacific'** expressing their resolve to act as a "force for good" to find common solutions for region-wide benefit.



About Quad

- The **Quadrilateral Security Dialogue**, or Quad, is a strategic security partnership between the United States, India, Japan and Australia.
- It was officially launched by Japan's former Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe in 2007**.
- The creation of this **military agreement** was largely linked to the military and economic power of China, which protested against the Quad and termed it as an **'Asian NATO'**.



- All sides have expressed that the **Quad is not aimed towards any country**, yet it is widely considered that the resurrection of the partnership has primarily aimed to counter **Beijing's challenges to democracy** and its growing aggressiveness in the Indo-Pacific region, particularly its **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)** across Asia and the Pacific, that comes with strings attached.
- The Chinese provocation in Doklam in 2017 is considered one of the major reasons for India's renewed interest in the deal.

