

Biden Not To Attend Republic Day Parade : Quad Summit Postponed

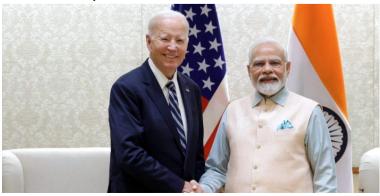
Why In News

• 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.

