

USA's geo economic step up which is endorsed in G-20 summit in India, namely IMEC, goes beyond the economic goals, as long sought after geopolitical goals are veiled under the initiative. Critically analyze?

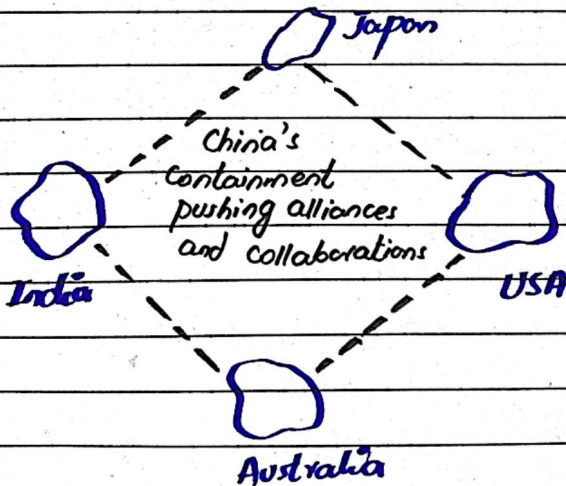
1) Introduction

The India Middle East Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC), endorsed by United States during G20 summit in India in 2023, goes beyond geo economic gains. This initiative aligns with geopolitical strategies of US, with implications for global balance of power in trade, energy and international relations.

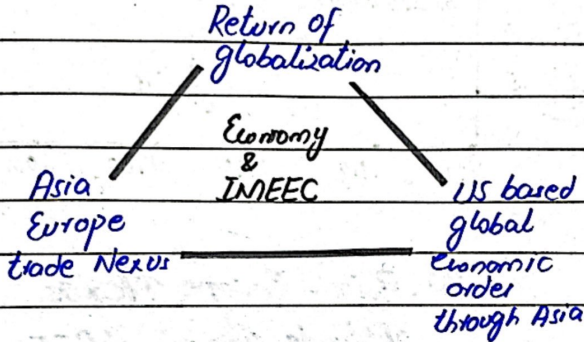
"This is a big deal. The corridor will enhance trade between the countries and regions, increase energy supplies and improve digital connectivity"
(Joe Biden)

2) First B3IN, then QUAD and now IIMEEC :- Evolution of initiatives with unified goal

From B3IN to QUAD and now IIMEEC, these evolving initiatives share a common goal that is to counter China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) by promoting infrastructure development, connectivity and strategic alliances, ensuring transparent and sustainable global order.

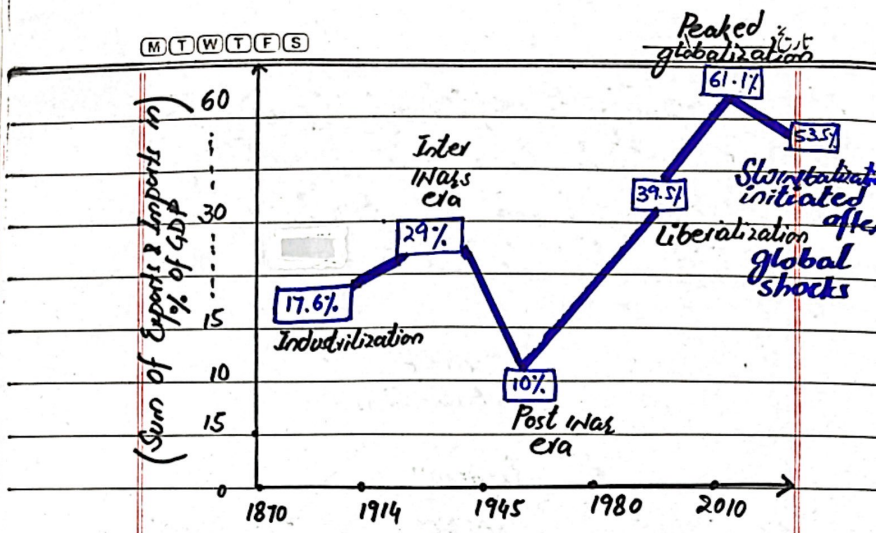


3/ Flagship Beneficiary of INEEC:
Potential Economic benefits
arising from US Backed and
India led initiative



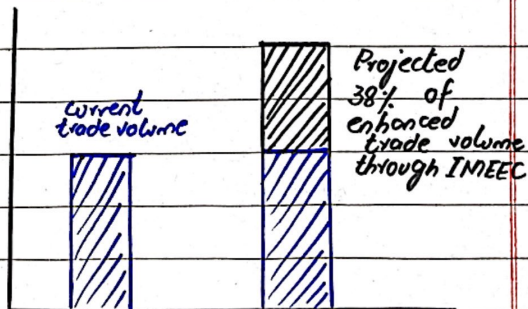
(A) Restoring globalization:
INEEC strategies to counter
global shocks

INEEC aims to restore economic interconnectedness following recent disruptions. By enhancing trade link between India, Europe and Middle East, INEEC aims to diversify supply chains and ensure energy security.



(b) Asia - Europe Trade Nexus through INEEC

INEEC has potential to enhance connectivity between Asia and Europe by establishing direct routes, reducing transit time and costs.



4/ Possible Route of IMEEC

The possible routes of IMEEC are India to Gulf Ports, Gulf Ports to Turkey and from Turkey to Europe.

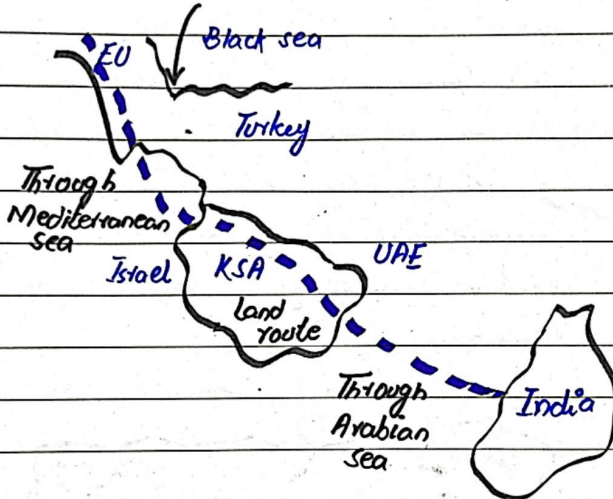
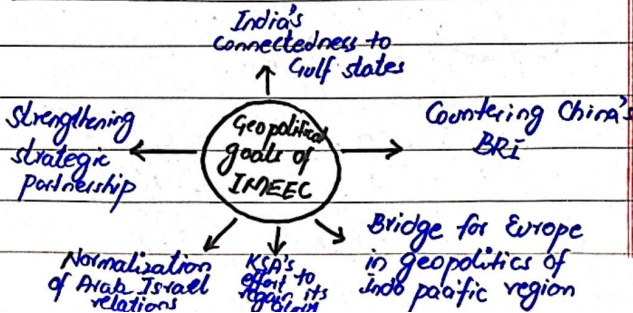


Fig: Possible Route of IMEEC

5/ The hidden geopolitical goals behind IMEEC



(A) INEEC : A B3W Twin to counter BRI

The INEEC offers a strategic alternative to China's BRI, which has expanded China's influence across Asia, Africa and Europe through massive infrastructure investments. By INEEC, US aims to provide a competing trade and transport network, allowing countries to avoid dependence on China.

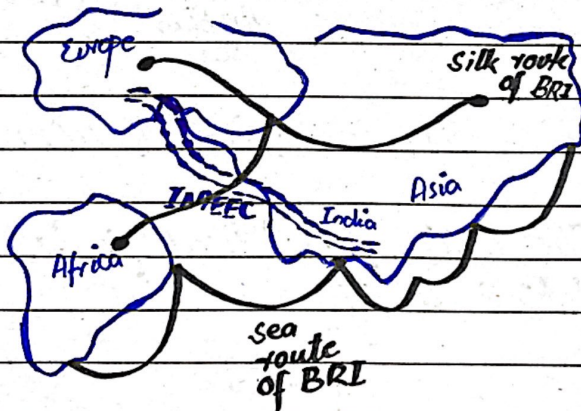


Fig: INEEC trying to couple land and sea routes to match dual web of BRI

(B) Strengthening Strategic partnership through IMEEC

US intends to solidify alliances with India, Middle East and Europe through this project. India has a pivotal partnership in US Indo Pacific strategy, while Middle Eastern countries like Saudi Arabia and UAE are vital energy players that can help diversify their economies away from oil.

"Through IMEEC, US aims to deepen its strategic alliances with India and Middle Eastern nations, creating a framework that enhances trade connectivity while countering China's influence in the region."

(Journal on Geopolitical studies)

(c) Normalization of Arab-Israel Relations

In 2021, US formed a strategic alliance of West Asian countries known as I2U2 (India-Israel-UAE, US). The US wants to integrate Israel into Middle East by normalizing its relations with KSA and other Arab nations in line with I2U2. It reflects that I2U2, under economic cooperation of IMEEC, is a geopolitical plan of US for normalization of Arab-Israel relations.

(d) IMEEC: Bridge for Europe in geopolitics of Middle East

Europe is expanding its energy relations with Middle Eastern countries. IMEEC is a great opportunity for Europe to improve its energy crisis. Europe is like a little brother

of US. Initially Italy was a part of BRI but withdrew from it due to pressure of US.

(e) India's connectedness to Middle East and Gulf states

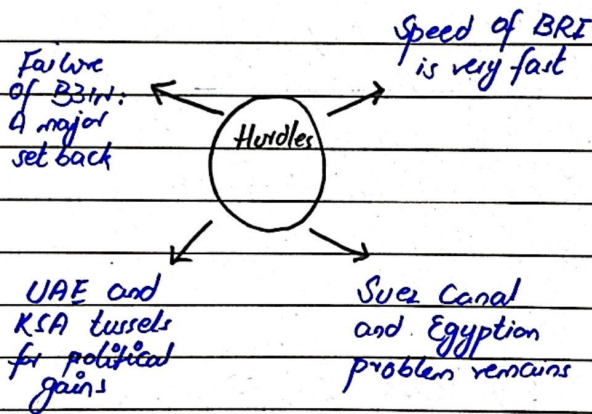
INEC will play key role in connecting India and Middle East countries which will increase the trade and economic development by fostering connectivity and economic integration.

(f) KSA's effort to regain its lost glory

KSA aims to position itself as a critical hub for global trade, moving beyond its reliance on oil in line with its Vision 2030 goals. By leveraging its central geographical location, KSA seeks to reclaim its historical role as leader in Arab world.

and solidify its standings as key player in international trade and energy market.

6) Hurdles in attaining geopolitical gains through IMEEC



7) Conclusion

The IMEEC initiative serves as both geo political and geo economic project. It aims to counter China's BRI, strengthening Arab Israel relations, providing pathway to Europe to access

Middle East, connecting India
and Gulf states, and helping KSA
to regain its lost glory.