

YOUNG VOICES



Assessing the challenges to London's Indo-Pacific tilt

MRITYUNJAYA DUBEY

The UK's Integrated Review outlines a comprehensive Indo-Pacific framework, but overlooks some challenges facing London's 'Indo-Pacific tilt.'



@rahulsai222



@rahulsai222_siq

UPSC/IAS | (Pre + Mains)

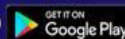
Smart Course



**No Cost EMI
Available**



Visit studyyiq.com or Download The APP



Background



Home > Expert Speak

What the UK's tilt to the Indo-Pacific means for India

UK's tilt toward Indo-Pacific



by Rahul Saigaonker





HM Government

Global Britain in a competitive age

The Integrated Review of Security,
Defence, Development and Foreign Policy

Visit [studyiq.com](https://www.studyiq.com) or Download The APP



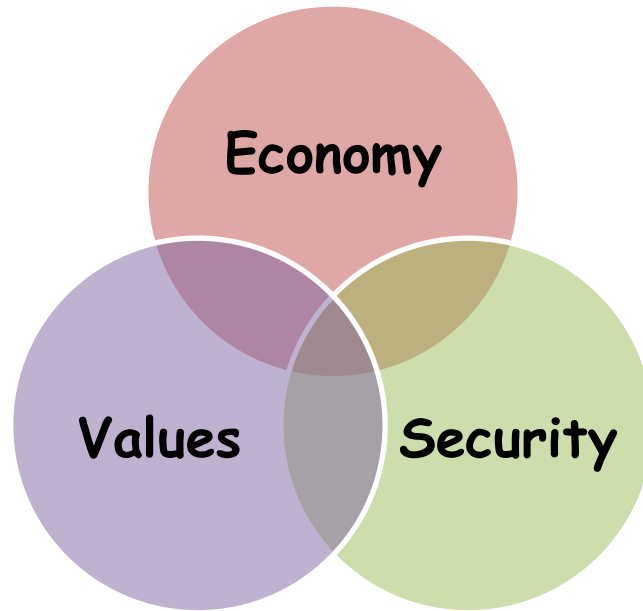
The review

Contents

I. Foreword from the Prime Minister	3
<i>The Prime Minister's vision for the UK in 2030</i>	6
II. Overview	10
III. The national security and international environment to 2030	23
IV. Strategic Framework	33
1. Sustaining strategic advantage through science and technology	35
1.1 Growing the UK's science and technology power	35
1.2 Responsible, democratic cyber power	40
2. Shaping the open international order of the future	44
2.1 A force for good: supporting open societies and defending human rights	47
2.2 An open, resilient global economy	51
2.3 Extending an open international order in future frontiers	55
<i>The UK in the world: a European country with global interests</i>	60
<i>The Indo-Pacific tilt: a framework</i>	66

What does this mean?

Meaning of its “tilt” to the Indo-Pacific



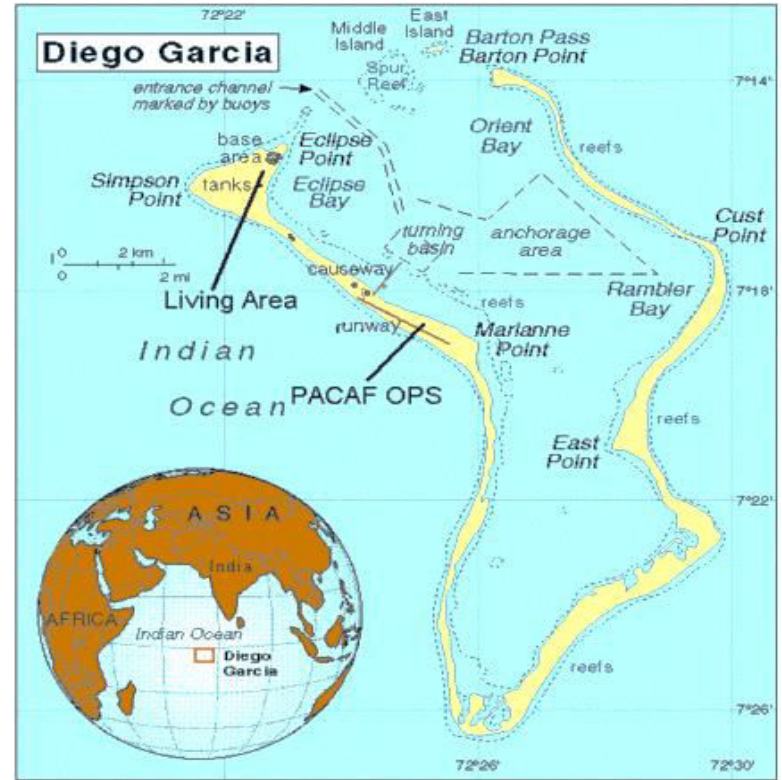
The Challenges

- **1. British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) reflects Britain's colonial past** and it was formed in 1965, before Mauritius' independence in 1968.
- The island was detached from Mauritius on a compensatory grant of UK£ 3 million by London.
- The BIOT is governed from London by a commissioner appointed by the Queen. **Since 1965 UK leased that island to the US for its military base.** Currently, the same is home to around 3,000 British and American personnel.



The Challenges

- UK's relocation of **inhabitants of the Diego Garcia** reportedly encompassed grave human rights violations.
- In 2019, the **International Court of Justice** ruled that "Chagos has been separated from Mauritius **illegally**, in violation of both the right of self-determination and the territorial integrity of Mauritius."



The Challenges

- UK's 'residual presence' in the Indian Ocean, **leads to divergences with both Mauritius & India.**
 - Note: **New Delhi supports Mauritian sovereignty over Chagos & Diego Garcia.** Indian support is grounded in history and in consideration of legal precedents.

The Challenges

- 2. Does UK have ability to have a twin-track foreign policy?
 - UK has significant economic reliance on China which hampers its desire for an independent policy in the Indo-Pacific.
 - UK-EU trade is on decline while UK-China trade is rising continuously. Chinese UK exports were worth £30.7 billion in 2019.

The Challenges

- **3.** UK's integrated review underscores a "multi-stakeholder" model to tackle contemporary challenges in Indo Pacific. Beyond allies and like-minded partners, **the review identifies non-state actors as important partners..!!**
 - ASEAN
 - TPP
 - Big tech companies
- **But how to bring those non state partners to converge?**

The Challenges

- 4. Other Challenges
 - Brexit
 - Covid-19 Pandemic
 - Little military presence in IOR

What's needed?

- To play an active role, the UK must recognise the significance of its **commitment to the “rules-based” order in the Indo-Pacific.**
- Also, London also needs to ascertain **a balance over its economic and security interests between China, transatlantic region & its impending Indo-Pacific tilt.**