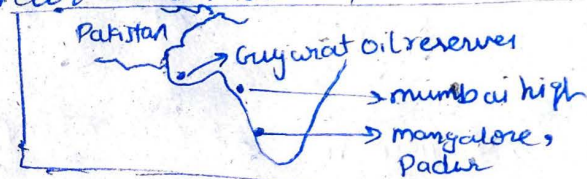


Recent events such as attack on Saudi oil fields, nuclear war ~~is~~ rhetoric by Pakistan have brought the safety of India's oil & gas assets into question.

India's Vicinity of oil & gas reserves to Pakistan and failure of defence systems in case of Saudi oil field attack forces India to try an alternate pitch. i.e., using Saudi Arabia to counter balance Pakistan.

How it will work?



- Pakistan's economic situation is going through a rough phase with debts, greylisting by FATF etc. Saudi Arabia is the most important supporter of Pakistan both economically and politically.
- So strengthening India's relation with Saudi Arabia might act as a deterrent to any irrational military action by Pakistan on Indian gas & oil reserves.

Options to strengthen the relationship with Saudi?

- Economic relations like cross country investment in oil refineries projects and purchase of IPOs of Saudi oil companies by India.

This sort of economic interlinking will directly increase Saudi's material stake in Indian assets which would prevent Pakistan from any irrational attack on Indian facilities.

• Enhancing cultural ties using Indian diaspora and other soft power measures in the field of Tourism, Education etc. This will improve the overall positiveness in bilateral relations.

Along with this few other non-invasive military options like anti-piracy military operations in Arabian sea along with Saudi & other west Asian kingdoms will boost the multilateral ties between India and West Asia.