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News: Heroin seized in Kerala meant for ‘target markets’

- International drug smugglers use Indian ports of call as safe houses for concealing heroin sourced from Afghanistan to dodge severe cargo profiling at foreign ports, say enforcement officials.

Types of Port

Ports of Call

- Port of call means an **intermediate stop for a ship on its scheduled journey for cargo operation or taking on supplies or fuel.**
- **Aden, Honolulu and Singapore** are good examples. **Recently, India and Bangladesh jointly inaugurated ports of call in Chattogram, Mongla, Khulna, Paira, Narayanganj, Pangaon and Ashuganj (all in Bangladesh), Chennai, Krishnapatnam, Kakinada, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, Haldia and Kolkata.**

Inland ports

- Inland ports are **domestic ports, usually connected to seaports.**

- They help to decrease congestion at seaports, aid in consolidating import and distribution functions at one location, allow for more warehousing space away from seaports, and have plenty of storage space.
- They can also act as buffers in supply chains by being temporary warehousing spaces.
- Kolkata port is a riverine inland port in India.

Out Ports

- These are deep-water ports located outside of the main ports.
- These assist the parent ports by receiving ships that are too large to approach the parent ports.

Oil Ports

- Oil ports deal in the processing and shipping of oil.'
- Some of these are tanker ports and some are refinery ports. Maracaibo in Venezuela, Esskhira in Tunisia, and Tripoli in Lebanon are tanker ports. Abadan on the Gulf of Persia is a refinery port.

Packet Station

- Packet Stations are also known as ferry ports.
- These packet stations are exclusively concerned with the transportation of passengers and mail across water bodies covering short distances.
- These stations occur in pairs located in such a way that they face each other across the water body, e.g. Dover in England and Calais in France across the English Channel.

Entrepot Ports

- Entrepot Ports are collection centres where the goods are brought from different countries for export.
- Singapore is an entrepot for Asia. Rotterdam for Europe, and Copenhagen for the Baltic region.

Naval Ports

- Naval ports are ports which have only strategic importance.
- These ports serve warships and have repair workshops for them. Kochi and Karwar are examples of such ports in India.

Major ports

- Major ports are included in the Indian Constitution's Union list and are governed by the Indian Ports Act of 1908 and the Major Port Trust Act of 1963.
- The Government of India appoints a Board of Trustees to oversee each major port.
- Their responsibilities include port development, management, and operations.
- There are 13 major ports in India. In the west coast, there are the ports of Mumbai, Kandla, Mangalore, JNPT, Mormugao, and Cochin. The ones on the east coast are the ports at Chennai, Tuticorin, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, Kolkata, and Ennore. The last one is located in Port Blair in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Minor ports

- Minor ports are controlled at the state level by the port department or, if one is established, the State Maritime Board.
- State marine boards have comparable tasks to port trusts, and they also have tariff-setting authority.
- They also work to entice private investment by giving concession contracts, offering incentives, granting exclusivity rights, and ensuring land acquisition.