INDIA CANADA RELATIONS

why in the news?

- Canada's assertion that Indian agents were involved in the murder of a pro-Khalistan activist
- led to diplomatic strain
- between the two countries

Events Leading to Strain

- Canadian PM accuses India of Hardeep Singh Nijjar's murder
- Five Eyes Alliance intelligence as basis for such an allegation by Canada
- Diplomatic expulsions by both countries
- India's Response
  - Suspended visa services in Canada
  - Demanded withdrawal of 41 Canadian diplomats
  - Canada criticizes, cites Vienna Convention breach

Five Eyes Intelligence Alliance (FVEY)

- Origin: UK-USA Agreement (1946)
- Member countries
  - US
  - UK
  - Australia
  - Canada
  - Newzealand
- Five Eyes Intelligence Oversight and Review Council
  - includes the non-political intelligence oversight, review
  - and security entities of member

Challenges in Relations

- Historical Legacy
  - NATO membership vs. Non-Alignment
  - Canada's stance on Kashmir
- Immigration System
- Pro-Khalistan coalition in Canadian government
- Economic Cooperation
  - pending Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) since 2010
- Meddling in India's domestic affairs

Possible Impacts of the Crisis

- Strategic consequences
  - Western countries' restrained response
- Economic consequences
  - Disruptions in trade, investment flows
  - Potential delays to CEPA
- Diaspora Connection
  - Strain on cultural and economic relations

way forward

- Promoting Diplomacy
  - Express concerns without disrupting status quo
- Managing diaspora relations
  - Balancing empowerment and influence
- Cooperation on counter-terrorism
  - Collaboration under the Framework for Cooperation
- Responsible freedom of expression
  - Accountability for endorsing violence

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