



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Per.uthalaivar Kamarajar"

MAP OF THE DAY 18-04-26

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Kamaraj IAS Academy

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MAP OF THE DAY BHARAT

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Saturday, 18 April 2026



Andaman Sea

- Andaman Sea is a **marginal sea of the northeastern Indian Ocean**.
- It lies between **Andaman & Nicobar Islands (India)** and the coasts of **Myanmar and Thailand**.
- It is connected to the **Bay of Bengal** in the west and to the **Malacca Strait** in the southeast.
- It plays an important role as a **link between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean** (via Malacca Strait).
- The sea covers an area of about **800,000 sq km (approx.)**.
- Average depth is around **1,000 m**, while maximum depth exceeds **3,700 m**.
- It includes several island groups such as:
 - o Andaman Islands
 - o Nicobar Islands
 - o Mergui Archipelago
- **Oceanographic Features**
 - It has **warm tropical waters** throughout the year.
 - Influenced by **monsoon winds**, affecting currents and salinity.
 - Rich in **coral reefs, mangroves, and marine biodiversity**. Important marine species include fish, turtles, and corals.
- Located near the **active plate boundary** between the **Indian Plate and Burmese Plate**.
- Contains the **Andaman-Nicobar Trench system**.
- The region is seismically active and prone to earthquakes.
- The **2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami** originated near this region, causing massive destruction.
- **Economic Importance**
 - Rich in **fisheries resources**.
 - Potential reserves of **natural gas and petroleum**.
 - Supports **major international shipping routes**.
 - Important for **coastal trade of India, Myanmar, and Thailand**.
- **Strategic Importance**
 - Close to the **Malacca Strait**, one of the busiest sea routes in the world.
 - Enhances India's maritime security via **Andaman & Nicobar Command**.
 - Important for monitoring **China's maritime activities in the Indo-Pacific region**.
- **Environmental Concerns**
 - Threats from **coral bleaching and climate change**.
 - Overfishing and marine pollution issues.

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Bosphorus Strait

- **Bosphorus Strait** separates the **European part** from the **Asian part** of Istanbul, Turkey.
- It is a **natural strait** located in **northwestern Turkey**.
- It connects the **Black Sea** with the **Sea of Marmara**.
- It acts as a **continental boundary between Europe and Asia**.
- It is one of the **narrowest and busiest international waterways** in the world.
- It plays a crucial role in **global maritime trade and strategic navigation**.
- The strait is governed by the **Montreux Convention (1936)** regulating naval passage.
- **Istanbul city** is situated on both sides of the Bosphorus Strait.
- The Bosphorus is about **30 km long and 700 m to 3.7 km wide**.
- Surface current flows from **Black Sea → Sea of Marmara**
- Undercurrent flows in the **opposite direction**
- It is part of the **Turkish Straits System** (Bosphorus + Sea of Marmara + Dardanelles).
- It provides a **vital outlet for Black Sea countries** (Russia, Ukraine, etc.) to the Mediterranean Sea.
- Several important **bridges and tunnels** cross it:
 - 15 July Martyrs Bridge
 - Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridge
 - Eurasia Tunnel
- The strait has high **geopolitical significance** due to control over naval access.
- It is prone to **marine traffic congestion and accidents** due to its narrowness and sharp turns.
- Historically, it has been strategically important

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