

- ♦ **No right of innocent passage for aircraft** flying through the airspace above
- **Contiguous Zone (up to 24 nm from the baseline)**
 - ♦ State has the right to both prevent and punish infringement of fiscal, immigration, sanitary, and customs laws within its territory and territorial sea.
 - ♦ It only gives jurisdiction to a State on the ocean's surface and floor
 - ♦ It does not provide air and space rights.
- **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) (up to 200 nm from baseline)**
 - ♦ Coastal State has the exclusive right to exploit or conserve any resources found within the water, on the sea floor, or under the sea floor's subsoil including offshore energy generation.
 - ♦ It does not give a coastal State the right to prohibit or limit freedom of navigation or overflight, subject to very limited exceptions.
 - ♦ **Continental shelf:** States are allowed to conduct economic activities for a distance of 200 nautical miles from the baseline, or the continental margin where it extends beyond 200 nautical miles.
 - ♦ **High Seas (beyond 200 nm):** They are to be open and freely available to everyone, governed by the principle of equal rights for all.
- The Convention has created three new institutions on the international scene:
 - ♦ the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea,
 - ♦ the International Seabed Authority,
 - ♦ the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

THE TERRITORIAL WATERS, CONTINENTAL SHELF, EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE AND OTHER MARITIME ZONES ACT, 1976

- It says that the rights over the land, minerals, and such resources found beneath the ocean, inside the territorial waters, continental shelf, and exclusive economic zones of the nation are vested in the Central Government of India.
- It focuses on India's specific rights and jurisdiction over the maritime zones and such boundaries shared by other neighbouring countries.
- Under this act, an agreement is required to determine the perfect maritime boundaries between India and any State with their coast just adjacent to India according to the territorial waters, contiguous zones, continental shelves, exclusive economic zones, and other maritime zones.
- It provides the right of innocent passage to all foreign ships (other than warships including sub-marines and other underwater vehicles) through the territorial sea.
 - ♦ It requires foreign warships to enter or pass through the territorial waters after giving prior notice to the Central Government and they are also required to navigate on the surface and show their flag
- The contravention of the provisions of the Act is punishable with an imprisonment term extending to three years, or with a fine, or both.

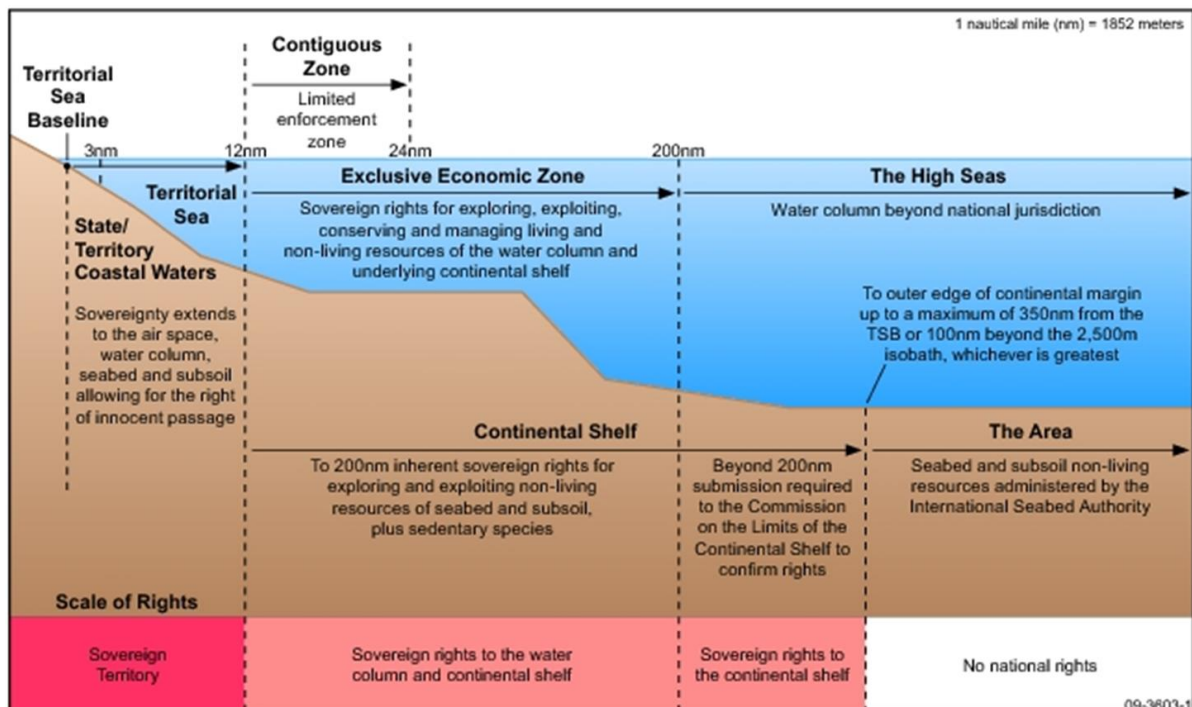


Figure 1: Offshore extent of the maritime zones recognized under international law

