**OPERATION SINDOOR**

**Introduction**Operation Sindoor was a humanitarian mission carried out by the Indian Armed Forces to rescue Indian citizens and other nationals trapped during the civil conflict in Lebanon in 2006. It highlighted India’s commitment to safeguarding its diaspora during international crises.

**Background**  
In July 2006, intense hostilities erupted between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon, creating a severe threat to civilians. Thousands of foreign nationals, including Indians, were stranded without safe passage. The Indian government swiftly launched Operation Sindoor to ensure the evacuation of its citizens.

**Execution**  
The operation was executed by the Indian Navy in coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs. Warships INS Mumbai, INS Betwa, and INS Brahmaputra were deployed to the Eastern Mediterranean. The mission involved transporting evacuees from Beirut to Cyprus, from where special flights brought them back to India. Indian embassies in Lebanon and Cyprus worked closely with naval forces to manage logistics and documentation.

**Outcome**

* Around **2,280 Indian citizens** were successfully evacuated.
* Several nationals of Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Lebanon were also rescued.
* The operation was completed swiftly and safely, despite a volatile security environment.

**Significance**  
Operation Sindoor demonstrated India’s capability for overseas evacuation and humanitarian assistance. It boosted India’s global image as a responsible nation willing to protect not only its citizens but also others in distress. The mission also underlined the growing role of the Indian Navy in international crisis response.

**Conclusion**  
Operation Sindoor was a landmark example of India’s effective crisis management abroad. It showcased the synergy between diplomacy and defense, reaffirming India’s commitment to the safety of its people wherever they may be.