

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS/ORGANIZATIONS /GROUPINGS IN NEWS



ACADEMY OF CIVIL SERVICES

**INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS/ORGANIZATIONS/GROUPINGS IN NEWS
COMPILATION FOR UPSC PRELIMS 2022**

SL No	Institutions/ Organizations/ Groupings/ Treaties/Pact	About the Organization	Members & Other Facts	India's Specific Facts
1	BIMSTEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It was established on 06 June 1997 with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration. ▪ Recently, 5th summit took place in Colombo, Sri Lanka ▪ (Major countries of South Asia, except Maldives, Afghanistan and Pakistan) 	Founding Members: Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Thailand Members: Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Myanmar, Bhutan and Nepal	India is a founding member. For India, it is a natural platform to fulfil our key foreign policy priorities of ‘Neighbourhood First’ and ‘Act East’.
2	Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation. It was created in 2001. ▪ The SCO Charter was signed in 2002, and entered into force in 2003. ▪ It’s a Eurasian political, economic and military organisation aiming to maintain peace, security and stability in the region. ▪ SCO Secretariat in Beijing 	Founding Members: Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan (Shanghai Five) Member countries: Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan and Iran (newest member)	India is not a founding member. India and Pakistan became members in 2017. Recently, India assumed the Chairmanship of Council of Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of Shanghai Cooperation Organization in 2021 for a period of one year.
3	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia. ▪ It was established by the AIIB Articles of Agreement (entered into force December 2015) which is a multilateral treaty. ▪ It is headquartered in Beijing (China) and began its operations in January 2016. 	AIIB began operations in 2016 with 57 founding Members (37 regional and 20 non regional). By the end of 2020, it had 103 approved Members representing approximately 79% of the global population and 65% of global GDP.	India is the second-largest shareholder. China is its biggest shareholder
4	Asian Development Bank (ADB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It was established on 19 December 1966. ▪ Headquarter: Manila, Philippines ▪ ADB’s five largest shareholders are Japan, US, China, India (6.3%), and Australia. 	From 31 members at its establishment in 1966, ADB has grown to encompass 68 members—of which 49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside.	India is the fourth-largest shareholder.

5	BRICS & New Development Bank (NDB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill coined the term BRIC (without South Africa) in 2001. ▪ BRICS is an acronym for Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. ▪ During the sixth BRICS Summit in Fortaleza (2014), the leaders signed the Agreement establishing the New Development Bank (NDB). ▪ NDB headquarters shall be located in Shanghai. 	<p>Founding Members: Brazil, Russia, India, and China.</p> <p>Later Member: South Africa was added to the list in 2010.</p> <p>New Development Bank's membership is open to all the members of the United Nations.</p>	India is a founding member of both BRICS & NDB. K. V. Kamath, from India, is the first elected president of the NDB. NDB has committed funding to infrastructure projects in India, including the Mumbai Metro rail, Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System and many Renewable Energy projects.
6	G-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is an informal group of 19 countries and the European Union (EU), with representatives of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. ▪ It does not have a permanent secretariat or Headquarters. ▪ 2021 G20 Summit was held in Rome, Italy. ▪ 2022 Bali summit is the upcoming 17th meeting of G-20 (Indonesia). ▪ G20 Summit is formally known as the "Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy". ▪ The group has no permanent staff of its own, so every year in December; a G20 country from a rotating region takes on the presidency. 	<p>Members: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the EU.</p> <p>All the G7 countries are a part of G20.</p> <p>Each G20 country is represented by its Sherpa, who plans, guides, implements, etc. on behalf of the leader of their respective country.</p>	India is a founding member. India will steer the international body as its President from 1st December 2022 to 30th November 2023 . Current Commerce and Industry Minister is the current "G20 Sherpa" of India.
7	G-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is an intergovernmental organisation that was formed in 1975. ▪ Russia was formally inducted as a member in the group in 1998, which led G7 to become G8. ▪ Group returned to being called G7 after Russia was expelled as a member in 2014 following the latter's annexation of the Crimea region of Ukraine. ▪ The decisions taken by leaders during annual 	<p>The summit gathers leaders from the European Union and the following countries:</p> <p>Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK and the US.</p>	Currently India is not a member. Recently, the U.S. President proposed the expansion of G7 to G10 or G11, with the inclusion of India, South Korea, Australia and possibly Russia (before Russia-Ukraine conflict)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ summits are non-binding. ▪ G7 does not have a formal constitution or a fixed headquarters. <p><u>Initiatives/Statements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build Back Better for the World Project - aimed squarely at competing with China's trillion-dollar Belt and Road infrastructure initiative. ▪ Democracies 11 - refers to politically motivated internet shutdowns as one of the threats to freedom and democracy. ▪ Carbis Bay Declaration - aimed at preventing future pandemics. 		
8	QUAD Grouping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The idea was first mooted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007. ▪ All four nations find a common ground of being the democratic nations and common interests of unhindered maritime trade and security. ▪ In March 2021, the Biden Administration organized a virtual ministerial meeting where the leaders of the four Quad countries issued a “Spirit of the Quad” joint statement promoting a free, open rules-border, rooted in international law to advance security and combat threats both in the Indo-Pacific and beyond. ▪ Semiconductor Supply Chain Initiative: aims to secure critical technologies essential for digital economies globally. 	The quadrilateral security dialogue includes Japan, India, United States and Australia.	India is a member
9	Global Tiger Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is the only intergovernmental platform of tiger range countries which has been consolidating Tiger Action Plans of the range countries. ▪ The forum was formed in 1993 on recommendations 	The 13 Tiger Range Countries consist of Malaysia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Russia, Thailand, and Vietnam.	

		<p>of an international symposium on Tiger Conservation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The General Assembly of GTF meets after every three years. ▪ It is headquartered in New Delhi, India. 		
10	International Solar Alliance (ISA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is an intergovernmental treaty-based organisation with a global mandate to catalyse solar growth by helping to reduce the cost of financing and technology. ▪ Paris Declaration establishes ISA as an alliance dedicated to the promotion of solar energy among its member countries. ▪ Recently, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has granted Observer Status to the International Solar Alliance (ISA). ▪ ISA is the nodal agency for implementing One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG), which seeks to transfer solar power generated in one region to feed the electricity demands of others. ▪ SDG-7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all 	<p>It is an Indian initiative that was launched by the Prime Minister of India and the President of France on 30th November 2015 in Paris, on the side-lines of the UNFCCC-COP21.</p> <p>It is an alliance of more than 122 countries.</p>	<p>India and France jointly laid the foundation stone of ISA Headquarters. Headquarters of ISA located in India with its Interim Secretariat being set up in Gurugram.</p>
11	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a regional inter-governmental organisation of South Asian countries. ▪ It was founded in Dhaka. ▪ It is headquartered at Kathmandu in Nepal. ▪ The South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) is a free trade agreement reached between the members of the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on January 6, 2004. 	<p>It has 8 members namely India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan. Afghanistan joined the bloc in 2007. Observers including the European Union, the US, Iran and China.</p>	<p>India is a founding member. The 18th and last SAARC summit was held in 2014 with Pakistan scheduled to host the 19th summit in 2016. However, following Islamabad's alleged involvement in the Uri terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir, India refused to participate. Soon after, Bangladesh,</p>

				Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka also pulled out of the summit.
12	World Trade Organization (WTO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations. ▪ From 1948 to 1994, the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) provided the rules for world trade. ▪ The WTO's creation in 1995 marked the biggest reform of international trade since the end of the Second World War. ▪ WTO is not a United Nations specialized agency and it is not part of the United Nations system, but has cooperative arrangements and practices with the United Nations. ▪ “TRIPS” is an international legal agreement between all the member nations of the WTO. It establishes minimum standards for the regulation by national governments of different forms of intellectual property (IP) as applied to nationals of other WTO member nations. ▪ Other Agreements: ▪ Agreement on Agriculture: It has three forms of subsidies, ranging from those that were considered “non-distorting” or “minimally distorting” (the “Green Box” and “Blue Box” subsidies), to those that seriously “distorted” markets (the “Amber Box” subsidies). 	<p>WTO has over 160 members representing 98 per cent of world trade.</p>	India has been a WTO member since 1 January 1995 and a member of GATT since 8 July 1948.
13	United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations. It serves as the main deliberative, policy-making, and representative organ of the 	<p>UNGA is the only UN organ wherein all member states have equal representation. It has 193 members (all the UN member</p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UN. ▪ Its powers, composition, functions, and procedures are set out in Chapter IV of the United Nations Charter. ▪ The General Assembly meets under its president or the UN Secretary-General in annual sessions at UN headquarters in New York City. ▪ Voting in the General Assembly on certain important questions—namely recommendations on peace and security; budgetary concerns; and the election, admission, suspension or expulsion of members—is by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting. ▪ Other questions are decided by a simple majority. ▪ Each member country has one vote. ▪ Assembly resolutions are not binding on the members. ▪ President of the General Assembly is elected each year by assembly to serve a one-year term of office. 	<p>countries).</p> <p>The first session was convened on 10 January 1946 in the Methodist Central Hall in London and included representatives of the 51 founding nations.</p>	
14	United Nations Security Council (UNSC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The United Nations Charter established six main organs of the United Nations, including the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). The Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter. ▪ Veto Power: The UN defines 'veto' as a "special voting power", which provides that "if any one of the five permanent members cast a negative vote, the resolution or decision would not be approved". 	<p>It is composed of 15 members, including five permanent member states - China, France, Russian Federation, the United States, and the United Kingdom - and 10 non-permanent member states elected by the UNGA</p> <p>Ten non-permanent members are elected to the UNSC every year for a two-year term. 10 non-permanent seats are distributed among the regions of the world: five seats for African and Asian</p>	<p>India is the founding member of the UN. India began its eighth term as a non-permanent member of the UNSC on January 1 and will remain as such for a period of two years.</p> <p>India has recently taken over the presidency of the United Nations Security Council. India's bid for a permanent seat at the UN Security Council has support from four of the five P5 nations, namely the US, UK, France and Russia.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ However, the "veto power" is restricted to P5 member states of the UN Security Council. Non-permanent members of the UNSC do not enjoy this privilege. ▪ Article 27 of the UN Charter says each member of the UNSC shall have one vote and that decisions on "procedural matters" shall require no more than the affirmative vote of nine out of the 15 members. 	<p>countries, one for Eastern European countries, two for Latin American and Caribbean countries, and the remaining two for Western European and other countries.</p>	<p>China is the only permanent member which is yet to officially back India's bid.</p>
15	OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Plus) & OPEC+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a permanent and intergovernmental organization. ▪ It created at the Baghdad Conference in 1960. ▪ OPEC Secretariat is its executive organ and is located in Vienna. ▪ OPEC Plus: In 2016, the non-OPEC countries which export crude oil are termed as OPEC plus countries. ▪ It came into existence to counteract other nations' capacity to produce oil, which could limit OPEC's ability to control supply and price. 	<p>Founding Members: Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.</p> <p>Later Members: Libya, UAE, Algeria, Nigeria, Angola, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea and Congo.</p> <p>OPEC + countries include Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan and Sudan.</p>	<p>India is <u>not</u> a member.</p> <p>India is the world's third-biggest oil importer and consumer.</p> <p>India imports about 84 per cent of its overall crude needs with over 60 per cent of that coming from Middle Eastern countries, which are typically cheaper than those from the West.</p>
16	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It was set up as the world's "Atoms for Peace" organization in 1957 within the UN family. ▪ It is an international organization that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to inhibit its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons. ▪ IAEA is entrusted with the task of upholding the principles of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1970. In 2005, it was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their work for a safe and peaceful world. 	<p>Currently, it has 173 member states as of April 2021. (Last member Samoa)</p>	<p>India is a founding member of the IAEA. As of 2019, India has put 26 reactors under IAEA safeguards.</p> <p>India joined the IAEA Response and Assistance Network (RANET) in January 2020. RANET is a group of countries that provide assistance to reduce the consequences of nuclear or radiological emergencies.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. 		
17	International Energy Agency (IEA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is an autonomous Intergovernmental Organisation established in 1974 in Paris, France. ▪ Mainly focuses on its energy policies which include economic development, energy security and environmental protection. ▪ World Energy Outlook Report is released by the IEA annually. 	<p>IEA is made up of 30 member countries. It also includes eight association countries. Four countries are seeking accession to full membership, Chile, Colombia, Israel and Lithuania.</p> <p>A candidate country to the IEA must be a member country of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).</p>	India is not a full member of IEA. India became an Associate member of IEA in March 2017
18	International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is an intergovernmental organisation that supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future ▪ It was officially founded in Bonn, Germany, in January 2009. ▪ It has its headquarters in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. ▪ ‘Renewable Power Generation Costs in 2020’ report is released by the IRENA. 	Currently it has 164 members	India is the 77th Founding Member of IRENA.
19	Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a regional intergovernmental organization comprising ten Southeast Asian countries, which promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educational, and socio-cultural integration among its members and other Asian states. ▪ It was established in 1967 with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration). ▪ The motto of ASEAN is “One Vision, One Identity, One Community”. 	<p>10 Members: Founding members: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.</p> <p>5 other Members: Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.</p>	India is not a member. ASEAN at the centre of India’s Act East policy. India became a member of ASEAN Regional Forum in 1996 India and ASEAN begin to hold annual summit level meetings in 2009. India’s 4th largest trading partner with about USD 86.9 billion in trade.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ASEAN Secretariat – Indonesia, Jakarta. 		
20	Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a regional Free Trade Agreement recently signed between 15 countries. ▪ It came into effect on January 1, 2022. ▪ Under RCEP, around 90% of trade tariffs within the bloc will eventually be eliminated. 	<p>It is a trade deal between the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.</p>	<p>India withdrew from the RCEP largely because of concerns it would open it up to Chinese goods amid an already wide trade imbalance with China, and the failure of the agreement to adequately open up to services.</p>
21	East Asia Summit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a forum held annually by leaders of 18 countries in the East Asian, Southeast Asian and South Asian regions. ▪ The concept of an East Asia Grouping was first promoted in 1991 by the then Malaysian Prime Minister, Mahathir bin Mohamad. ▪ It is an ASEAN-centred forum; it can only be chaired by an ASEAN member. ▪ First summit was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 14 December 2005. ▪ 16th East Asia Summit was hosted by: Brunei. 	<p>EAS comprises the 10 member states of the ASEAN – along with 8 members Australia, China, Japan, India, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States.</p>	<p>India is one of the founding members of the East Asia Summit. For India, EAS acts as an alternative to the APEC in which India doesn't enjoy the membership.</p>
22	North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a military alliance established by the North Atlantic Treaty (also called the Washington Treaty) of April, 1949, by the United States, Canada, and several Western European nations to provide collective security against the Soviet Union. ▪ NATO's essential and enduring purpose is to safeguard the freedom and security of all its members by political and military means. ▪ Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium. 	<p>Its original members were Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Joining the original signatories were Greece and Turkey, West Germany, Spain, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Albania, Croatia, Montenegro</p>	

			and North Macedonia (2020). Ukraine is not a member.	
23	European Union (EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formed in 1993. ▪ It came into force after the signing of the Maastricht Treaty by 28 countries. Maastricht is a city located in the Netherlands. ▪ Headquarters Brussels, Belgium ▪ European Union was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 2012. ▪ The 7 important decision-making bodies: European Parliament, European Council, European Commission, Council of the EU, Court of Justice of the EU, European Central Bank and European Court of Auditors. 	<p>EU comprising 27 European countries and governing common economic, social, and security policies.</p> <p>19 of these countries use EURO as their official currency. 9 EU members (Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Sweden, and the United Kingdom) do not use the euro.</p> <p>On January 31, 2020, the United Kingdom (U.K) formally left the European Union. U.K is the first country to leave the E.U.</p> <p>The exit was in accordance with Article 50 of the Treaty of the EU.</p>	India is not a member EU and India appear to be natural partners. The relationship was upgraded to a 'Strategic Partnership' in 2004.
24	Warsaw Pact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Officially the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, commonly known as the Warsaw Pact (WP) ▪ The Warsaw Pact was created in reaction to the integration of West Germany into NATO in 1955 as per the London and Paris Conferences of 1954. ▪ Dominated by the Soviet Union, the Warsaw Pact was established as a balance of power to NATO. ▪ East Germany withdrew from the Pact following German reunification in 1990. On 25 February 1991, at a meeting in Hungary, the Pact was 	<p>It is was a collective defense treaty signed in Warsaw, Poland between the Soviet Union and seven other Eastern Bloc socialist republics of Central and Eastern Europe in May 1955, during the Cold War.</p>	

		declared at an end by the defense and foreign ministers of the six remaining member states. The USSR itself was dissolved in December 1991		
25	Antarctic Treaty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It was signed between 12 countries in Washington on 1st December 1959 for making the Antarctic Continent a demilitarized zone to be preserved for scientific research only. ▪ It entered into force in 1961 and has since been acceded by many other nations. ▪ Its purpose is to ensure in the interests of all mankind that Antarctica shall continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes. ▪ The agreements are legally binding and purpose-built for the unique geographical, environmental and political characteristics of the Antarctic and form a robust international governance framework for the region. ▪ Headquarters: Buenos Aires, Argentina. 	<p>The twelve original signatories are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the UK and the US. Currently it has 54 parties.</p>	<p>India became a member of this treaty in 1983.</p> <p><u>Facts:</u></p> <p><u>Indian Antarctic Programme:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a scientific research and exploration program under the National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCPOR). ▪ Dakshin Gangotri - first Indian scientific research base station established in Antarctica ▪ Maitri is India's second permanent research station in Antarctica. ▪ Bharti, India's latest research station operation since 2012
26	International Court of Justice (ICJ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ICJ is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations (UN). ▪ It was established in June 1945 by the Charter of the UN and began work in April 1946. ▪ The court is the successor to the Permanent Court of International Justice (PCIJ), which was brought into being through, and by, the League of Nations. ▪ Its role is to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States and to give advisory 	<p>All the 193 member states of the UN are automatically parties to the Court. But this does not automatically give the ICJ jurisdiction over disputes involving them. The ICJ gets jurisdiction only if both parties consent to it. The judgment of the ICJ is final and technically binding on the parties to a case. The ICJ has 15 judges who are elected to</p>	<p>Indian Judges at ICJ: Four Indians have been members of the ICJ so far. Justice Dalveer Bhandari, former judge of the Supreme Court, has been serving at the ICJ since 2012. India has been a party to a case at the ICJ on six occasions. Eg. Kulbhushan Jadhav Case (India v. Pakistan, culminated 2019).</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized UN organs and specialized agencies. ▪ Headquarters: The Hague, Netherlands. It is the only one of the six principal organs of the UN that is not located in New York City. ▪ Official Languages: English and French. 	<p>nine-year terms by the UN General Assembly and Security Council, which vote simultaneously but separately.</p> <p>The judges are distributed as per the regions: 3 from Africa, 2 from Latin America and the Caribbean, 3 from Asia, 5 from Western Europe and other states, 2 from Eastern Europe.</p> <p>The president and vice-president of the court are elected for three-year terms by secret ballot.</p> <p>Judges are eligible for re-election.</p>	
27	International Criminal Court (ICC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is the court of last resort for prosecution of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. ▪ It is the first permanent, treaty based, international criminal court established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community. ▪ Its founding treaty, the Rome Statute, entered into force on July 1, 2002. ▪ ICC is not part of the UN. ▪ ICC carries out its investigations through the Office of the Prosecutor and has 18 judges. ▪ Both the judges and prosecutors hold non-renewable nine-year terms. ▪ Headquarters: The Hague 	<p>To become a member of the ICC or State party to the Rome Statute, countries have to sign the statute and ratify it under their respective legislatures.</p> <p>123 countries are currently members of the ICC, with African countries making up the largest bloc.</p> <p>Countries including India, China, Iraq, North Korea, and Turkey never signed the Rome Statute, while others including the US, Russia, Israel, and Syria signed, but never ratified it.</p>	<p>India had participated actively in the Preparatory Committee for the Establishment of the ICC.</p> <p>India abstained from the motion to adopt the Rome Statute for several reasons, including jurisdictional issues, fearing that the ICC might exercise its jurisdiction in areas such as Kashmir and the North-East, which it considers “internal issues” that are hands-off for international actors.</p>
28	Arctic Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arctic Council is an intergovernmental forum for discussing and addressing issues concerning the Arctic region. These include scientific research, and peaceful and sustainable use of resources in the region. 	<p>8 Members: Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the US.</p> <p>The Observer status is granted to entities that support the objectives of the Arctic Council.</p> <p>India, along with 12</p>	<p>India had been given the Observer status in 2013.</p> <p>India is one of the very few countries to set up a permanent station in the Arctic for the purposes of scientific research.</p> <p>Himadri research</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Council was established by the 8 Arctic States through the Ottawa Declaration of 1996. ▪ The Arctic Council is not a treaty-based international legal entity. ▪ The Arctic Council does not prohibit the commercial exploitation of resources in the Arctic. It only seeks to ensure that it is done in a sustainable manner. 	<p>other countries now, has the Observer status in the Arctic Council.</p> <p>13 other intergovernmental and inter-parliamentary organisations like the UN Environment Programme, UN Development Programme and 12 other NGOs also enjoy the Observer status.</p>	<p>station, located in Norway, was started in 2008.</p> <p>Goa-based National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCOAR) is the nodal organisation coordinating the research activities at this station.</p>
29	UN Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. ▪ The goal is to achieve food security for all and make sure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. ▪ World Food Day is celebrated every year on 16th October to mark the anniversary of the founding of the FAO in 1945. ▪ It is one of the UN food aid organisations based in Rome (Italy). ▪ Its sister bodies are the World Food Programme and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). ▪ Every year, the FAO publishes a number of major 'State of the World' reports related to food, agriculture, forestry, fisheries and natural resources. 	<p>FAO has 197 member countries, which includes the European Union as well. It conducts biennial conferences. The FAO Council is the executive arm of the governing body. The members elect the Council which is composed of 49 members.</p> <p>Initiatives Taken:</p> <p>Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS), Monitors the Desert Locust situation throughout the world, The Codex Alimentarius, Commission or CAC is the body responsible for all matters regarding the implementation of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme and The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.</p>	<p>Food and Agricultural Organisation has enjoyed a valuable partnership with India since it began operations in 1945. It continues to play a major role in India's progress in the areas of crops, livestock, fisheries, food security, and the management of natural resources.</p> <p>FAO began its operations in India in 1948.</p> <p>It has an office in New Delhi.</p> <p>The nodal ministry for FAO in India is the Ministry of Agriculture.</p> <p>India's proposals for the International Year of Pulses in 2016 and the International Year of Millets 2023 have also been endorsed by FAO.</p>
30	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a regional economic forum established in 1989 to leverage the growing interdependence of the Asia-Pacific. ▪ Its 21 member economies are home to around 2.8 billion people and represented approximately 59% of world GDP and 49% of world trade in 	<p>APEC's 21 member economies are Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; People's Republic of China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua</p>	<p>India is not a Member.</p> <p>India had requested membership in APEC, and received initial support from the US, Japan, Australia and Papua New Guinea. Officials have decided not to allow India to join as India does not</p>

		2015.	New Guinea; Peru; The Philippines; The Russian Federation; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; United States of America; Viet Nam.	border the Pacific Ocean, which all current members do. India was invited to be an observer for the first time in November 2011.
31	Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is an intergovernmental military alliance that was signed on 15th May 1992. ▪ It came into effect in 2002. ▪ Its' origin can be traced to the Collective Security Treaty, 1992 (Tashkent Treaty). ▪ The objectives of the CSTO is to strengthen peace, international and regional security including cybersecurity and stability, the protection on a collective basis of the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the member states. ▪ The headquarters is located in the Russian capital of Moscow. 	Current members are Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan. Afghanistan and Serbia hold observer status in the CSTO.	India is not a member.
32	Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is an intergovernmental organization created in 1982. ▪ It was institutionalized in 1984 by the Victoria Agreement in Seychelles. ▪ COI's principal mission is to strengthen the ties of friendship between the countries and to be a platform of solidarity for the entire population of the African Indian Ocean region. ▪ The Commission has a Secretariat which is located in Mauritius and headed by a Secretary General. 	Indian Ocean Commission is composed of five African Indian Ocean nations: Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Réunion (an overseas region of France), and Seychelles. The IOC has seven observers. They are: India, China, Japan, EU, Sovereign Order of Malta International Organisation of La Francophonie, United Nations	India became an observer of the IOC in March 2020.
33	World Bank Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World Bank Group is a specialized agency of the United Nations. ▪ The United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference, also known as the Bretton Woods Conference held in 1944 led to the formation the 	With 189 member countries, the World Bank Group is a unique global partnership: five institutions working for sustainable solutions that reduce poverty and build	India is a founding member. India is eligible for loans from both the IBRD and the IDA. India is the largest IBRD client of the World Bank.

		<p>International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in 1944.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Founded in 1944, the IBRD — soon called the World Bank — has expanded to a closely associated group of five development institutions. <p>World Bank Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) provides loans, credits, and grants. ▪ International Development Association (IDA) provides low- or no- interest loans to low-income countries. ▪ The International Finance Corporation (IFC) provides investment, advice, and asset management to companies and governments. ▪ The Multilateral Guarantee Agency (MIGA) insures lenders and investors against political risk such as war. ▪ The International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) settles investment-disputes between investors and clients. ▪ It is headquartered in Washington, D.C. <p>Reports by World Bank:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ease of Doing Business ▪ World Development Report ▪ Global Economic Prospect (GEP) Report ▪ Remittance Report ▪ Ease of Living Index ▪ Universal Health Coverage Index ▪ The Service Trade Restriction Index 	<p>shared prosperity in developing countries. To join the World Bank Group, a country must first become a member of the IMF. To become members of the IDA, IFC, and MIGA, the countries must first become members of IBRD.</p>	
34	International Monetary Fund (IMF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The IMF is a specialized agency of UN. ▪ The formation of the IMF was initiated in 1944 at the Bretton Woods Conference. ▪ IMF came into operation on 27th December 1945. ▪ Headquartered in Washington, D.C. ▪ Objectives: Fostering 	<p>IMF Members: Any other state, whether or not a member of the UN, may become a member of the IMF in accordance with IMF Articles of Agreement and terms prescribed by the Board of Governors.</p> <p>IMF became</p>	<p>India had serious balance of payments deficits, particularly with the dollar and other hard currency countries. It was the IMF that came to her rescue.</p> <p>Since 1970, the assistance that India, as other member</p>

		<p>global monetary cooperation, Securing financial stability, Facilitating and promoting international trade, employment, and economic growth around the world.</p> <p>Governing Structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Board of Governors: It consists of one governor and one alternate governor for each member country. Each member country appoints its two governors. ▪ Boards of Governors of the IMF and the World Bank Group normally meet once a year, during the IMF–World Bank Annual Meetings, to discuss the work of their respective institutions. ▪ Board of Governors is advised by two ministerial committees, the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) and the Development Committee. ▪ IMFC has 24 members, drawn from the pool of 189 governors, and represents all member countries. ▪ Development Committee: is a joint committee (25 members from Board of Governors of IMF & World Bank) ▪ Executive Board: It is 24-member Executive Board elected by the Board of Governors. It conducts the daily business of the IMF <p>Reports by IMF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Global Financial Stability Report ▪ World Economic Outlook ▪ Fiscal Monitor 	<p>operational on 27th December 1945 with 29 member countries that agreed to bind to this treaty. Currently, the IMF consists of 189 member countries. Membership in the IMF is a prerequisite to membership in the IBRD. Votes of each member equal the sum of its basic votes (equally distributed among all members) and quota-based votes. A member's quota determines its voting power.</p> <p>Pay a quota subscription: On joining the IMF, each member country contributes a certain sum of money, called a quota subscription, which is based on the country's wealth and economic performance (Quota Formula).</p> <p>Special Drawing Rights (SDRs): It is the IMF's unit of account and not a currency. The currency value of the SDR is determined by summing the values in U.S. dollars, based on market exchange rates, of a SDR basket of currencies (includes the US. dollar, Euro, Japanese yen, pound sterling and Chinese renminbi.</p>	<p>countries of the IMF, can obtain from it has been increased through the setting up of the Special Drawing Rights (SDRs created in 1969).</p> <p>Early 1990s when foreign exchange reserves – for two weeks' imports as against the generally accepted 'safe minimum reserves' of three month equivalent — position were terribly unsatisfactory. Government of India's immediate response was to secure an emergency loan of \$2.2 billion from the International Monetary Fund by pledging 67 tons of India's gold reserves as collateral security. India promised IMF to launch several structural reforms (like devaluation of Indian currency, reduction in budgetary and fiscal deficit, cut in government expenditure and subsidy, import liberalization, industrial policy reforms, trade policy reforms, banking reforms, financial sector reforms, privatization of public sector enterprises, etc.) in the coming years.</p> <p>The foreign reserves started picking up with the onset of the liberalization policies. India has occupied a special place in the</p>
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				Board of Directors of the Fund.
35	Organisation of Islamic Commission (OIC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It was established by the First Islamic Summit Conference held in Morocco in September 1969. ▪ It endeavors to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony among various people of the world. ▪ Headquarters: Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is the second largest intergovernmental organisation after the United Nations with a membership of 57 states. 	India is not a member. At the 45th session of the Foreign Ministers' Summit in 2018, Bangladesh, the host, suggested that India, where more than 10% of the world's Muslims live, should be given Observer status, but Pakistan opposed the proposal. In 2019, India made its maiden appearance at the OIC Foreign Ministers' meeting, as a "guest of honour".
36	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNESCO is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN). ▪ It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture. ▪ It is also a member of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG). ▪ UNESCO's Headquarters are located in Paris ▪ It has been entrusted to lead the Global Education 2030 Agenda through SDG- 4. ▪ 'Education 2030 Framework for Action' (Incheon Declaration) is the roadmap to achieve the global education 2030 agenda. <p><u>Important Initiatives of UNESCO</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World Heritage Convention and List ▪ Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme ▪ International Geoscience and Global Geoparks Programme (IGGP) ▪ International Hydrological Programme (IHP) ▪ World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) ▪ UNESCO Creative Cities 	<p>It has 193 Members and 11 Associate Members (As of April 2020) and is governed by the General Conference and the Executive Board. Three UNESCO member states are not UN members: Cook Islands, Niue, and Palestine. While three UN member states (Israel, Liechtenstein, United States) are not UNESCO members.</p>	India is a founding member of UNESCO. The National Commission in India that works with UNESCO (as mandated by UNESCO's Constitution) is called the Indian National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO (INCCU). India has been continuously re-elected to the Executive Board of UNESCO since 1946. Members are elected for four-year terms.

		<p>Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNESCO Creative Cities of Literature <p>Reports Published:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Global Education Monitoring Report ▪ Gender Parity Index 		
37	African Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The AU was announced in the Sirte Declaration in Sirte, Libya, on 9 September 1999, calling for the establishment of the African Union. ▪ The bloc was founded on 26 May 2001 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and launched on 9 July 2002 in Durban, South Africa. ▪ The AU's secretariat, the African Union Commission, is based in Addis Ababa. ▪ 	<p>It is a continental union consisting of 55 countries of the continent of Africa, with exception of various territories of European possessions located in Africa.</p>	<p>India is not a member. India and Africa Relations refers to the historical, political, economic, and cultural connections between India and the African continent. Historical relations concerned mainly India and East Africa. However, in modern days—and with the expansion of diplomatic and commercial representations—India has now developed ties with most of the African nations.</p>
38	World Health Organization (WHO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) established in 1948. ▪ It aims to enhance international cooperation for improved public health conditions. ▪ Each year 'WHO' celebrates its date of establishment, April 7, 1948, as "World Health Day". ▪ Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland. ▪ 'WHO' defines health positively as "a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. <p>Reports Published:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World Health Report ▪ Global Nutrition Report ▪ World Vision Report ▪ Ambient Air Pollution Report ▪ World Report on Hearing 	<p>All Member countries of the UN may become members of 'WHO' by accepting its Constitution. Other countries may be admitted as members when their application has been approved by a simple majority vote of the World Health Assembly. Currently, the WHO has 194 member countries. The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of 'WHO'.</p>	<p>India is a member of the WHO and the organization has its offices in various parts of the country. The WHO Country Office (WCO) is headquartered in New Delhi.</p> <p>On May 19, 2020, India was elected by the 73rd World Health Assembly to the Executive Board of the World Health Organisation for three years.</p> <p>The WHO Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) – India has been jointly developed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the GOI and the WCO.</p>
39	World Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is an international 	<p>The WTO has 164</p>	<p>India is a founder</p>

	<p>Organisation (WTO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations. ▪ The WTO is the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which was created in 1947. ▪ The Uruguay Round (1986-94) of the GATT led to the WTO's creation. ▪ GATT mostly dealt with trade in goods, the WTO and its agreements could not only cover goods but also trade in services and other intellectual properties like trade creations, designs, and inventions. ▪ WTO began operations on 1st January, 1995. ▪ The Agreement Establishing the WTO, commonly known as the "Marrakesh Agreement", was signed in Marrakesh, Morocco in 1994. ▪ Structure of the WTO is dominated by its highest authority, the Ministerial Conference, composed of representatives of all WTO members, which is required to meet at least every two years. ▪ Doha Declaration 2001 Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health is associated with WTO. ▪ TRIPS agreement is an international legal agreement between all the member nations of the WTO. It establishes minimum standards for the regulation by national governments of different forms of intellectual property (IP) as applied to nationals of other WTO member nations. ▪ Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland. 	<p>members (including European Union) and 23 observer governments (like Iran, Iraq, Bhutan, Libya etc).</p> <p>With WTO, member countries get a provision of a legal framework to process negotiations and disputes amongst them.</p> <p>The member country will approach the WTO's dispute settlement body when a country fails to comply with WTO rules.</p>	<p>member of the 1947 GATT and its successor, the WTO.</p>
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40	WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is one of the 15 specialized agencies of the UN. ▪ Formation: 14th July 1967. ▪ WIPO was created to promote and protect intellectual property (IP) across the world by cooperating with countries as well as international organizations. ▪ It began operations on 26 April 1970 when the convention entered into force. ▪ Headquarter: Geneva, Switzerland ▪ WIPO has released the World Intellectual Property Indicators 2019. ▪ WIPO Performance and Phonograms Treaty, Budapest Treaty, Madrid Protocol for the International Registration of Marks, Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities etc are part of its. ▪ The Global Innovation Index (GII) is published by the WIPO in association with Cornell University and graduate business school INSEAD. 	<p>WIPO currently has 193 member states, including 190 UN member states and the Cook Islands, Holy See and Niue; Palestine has permanent observer status. The only non-members are the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau and South Sudan.</p> <p>WIPO also works with governments, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and individuals to utilize IP for socioeconomic development.</p>	<p>India joined WIPO in 1975.</p> <p>India was the first country to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty.</p>
41	IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It was created in 1948. ▪ It is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. ▪ The IUCN's Secretariat is in Gland, Switzerland. ▪ It established the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species in 1964. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of plant and animal species. ▪ The IUCN convenes the 	<p>IUCN is a membership union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. (More than 1400 organisations as its members)</p>	<p>India is a member of the IUCN. It became a member in 1969, through the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IUCN World Conservation Congress every four years. ▪ The chief governing body of the IUCN is the IUCN Council that guides the organisation in between the Congress sessions. 		
42	UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is the leading global environmental authority established in 1972. ▪ Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya. ▪ The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) is the governing body of the UN Environment Programme. It meets biennially to set priorities for global environmental policies and develop international environmental law. ▪ The World Meteorological Organization and UN Environment established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 1988. <p><u>Major Reports:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emission Gap Report, Global Environment Outlook, Frontiers, Invest into Healthy Planet, and Making Peace with Nature 	<p>It is the world's highest-level decision-making body with a universal membership of all 193 nations, is celebrating its 50th anniversary.</p>	<p>India has had a close relationship with the UNEP since the programme's inception. The UNEP's presence in India started in 2016 with an office at New Delhi.</p> <p>The nodal agency for India's interactions with the UNEP is the GOI's Ministry for Environment, Forests and Climate Change. India's annual financial contribution to the UNEP is to the tune of USD 100,000. UNEP awarded PM Narendra Modi with the 'Champions of the Earth' award along with French President Emmanuel Macron in the category 'policy leadership'.</p>
43	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNDP is the United Nations' global development network. ▪ Formation 22 November 1965 ▪ The UNDP Executive Board is made up of representatives from 36 countries around the world who serve on a rotating basis. ▪ It is funded entirely by voluntary contributions from member nations. <p><u>Indices released by UNDP:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Human Development Index ▪ Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index (IHDI), 	<p>UNDP works in almost 170 countries and territories, helping to achieve the eradication of poverty, and the reduction of inequalities and exclusion.</p>	<p>UNDP has worked in India since 1951 in almost all areas of human development, from democratic governance to poverty eradication, to sustainable energy and environmental management.</p> <p>UNDP India's country programme for 2018-2022 has three major focus areas: Inclusive growth, Environment and energy and Strengthening systems and institutions</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gender Development Index (GDI), ▪ Gender Inequality Index (GII) and ▪ Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). ▪ Headquarters New York city 		
44	International Labour Organization (ILO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a UN agency dealing with labour issues, particularly international labour standards, social protection, and work opportunities for all. ▪ ILO was established as an agency for the League of Nations following World War I. ▪ It was established by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919. It became the first specialised agency of the UN in the year 1946. ▪ The organization got the Nobel Peace Prize in 1969, for its efforts to improve peace amongst the classes, and for promoting justice and fair work for the workers. ▪ Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work was adopted in 1998, and it mandates the member states to promote the eight fundamental principles and rights. ▪ The Fundamental Principles and Rights are categorized into four classes. They are: ▪ Freedom of Association and the Right to Collective Bargaining (Conventions 87 and 98) ▪ Elimination of forced or compulsory labour (Conventions No. 29 and No. 105) ▪ Abolition of child labour (Conventions No. 138 and No. 182) ▪ Elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and 	<p>At present the ILO has 186 Members. ILO comprises the International Labour Conference, the Governing Body, and the International Labour Office.</p>	<p>India is a founding member of the ILO. It became a permanent member of the ILO Governing Body in 1922. The first ILO Office in India was inaugurated in 1928. India has ratified six fundamental conventions. India has not ratified Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) and Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98).</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ occupation (Conventions No. 100 and No. 111). ■ As part of the Follow-up to the Declaration, the ILO Director-General also submits a Global Report on one of the four categories of fundamental principles and rights at work to the tripartite International Labour Conference. ■ International Labour Conferences: - General Assembly of the ILO – Meets every year in the month of June. ■ Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland. <p><u>Key reports:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ World Employment and Social Outlook. ■ Global Wage Report. 		
45	UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ It is an international environmental treaty which seeks to reduce atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases, with the aim of preventing dangerous anthropogenic interference with the earth's climate system. ■ The UNFCCC signed in 1992 at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development also known as the Earth Summit, the Rio Summit or the Rio Conference. ■ UNFCCC entered into force on March 21, 1994. ■ It is a framework which requires individual participating countries to commit to stabilizing greenhouse gas emissions. ■ Article 7.2 defines the COP as the “supreme body” of the Convention, as it is its highest decision-making authority. The climate change process revolves around the annual sessions of the COP. 	<p>There are 197 parties to the convention, who meet annually in Conferences of the Parties (COP) to assess progress in dealing with climate change.</p> <p>COP26, was the 26th UNFCCC held at the Glasgow,</p> <p><u>Parties to UNFCCC are classified as:</u></p> <p>Annex I: Industrialized countries and economies in transition.</p> <p>Annex II: Developed countries which pay for costs of developing countries.</p> <p>Non-Annex I: Developing countries</p>	<p>India ratified the UNFCCC in 1993 and the Kyoto Protocol in 2002.</p> <p><u>India's 5 point pledge or Panchamrit:</u> at the Glasgow Summit</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Net-zero by 2070 2. To increase its non-fossil fuel energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030. 3. Increase the share of renewables in the energy mix to 50% by 2030. 4. Reduce the emissions intensity of its economy by 45%. 5. Reduce emissions by 1 billion tonnes of CO2. <p>The mantra of LIFE-Lifestyle for Environment to combat climate change was also shared in COP 26.</p> <p><u>COP 8 (2002) was held at New Delhi:</u> The Delhi Declaration focuses on the</p>

				development needs of the poorest countries and the need for technology transfer for mitigating climate change.
46	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a UN Refugee Agency and a global organization dedicated to saving lives, protecting the rights and building a better future for refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people. ▪ It was created in 1950 to help millions of Europeans who had fled or lost their homes. ▪ The 1951 Refugee Convention is a UN treaty that defines who a refugee is and establishes the rights of such persons and also of those who are granted asylum. ▪ The UNHCR is headed by the High Commissioner for Refugees. ▪ It is headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland. ▪ The UNHCR has also won the Nobel Prize for Peace twice (1954 and 1981). 	<p>The organisation works in 135 countries.</p>	<p>Even though India is not a signatory to the Refugee Convention and the Protocol, and also does not have a national refugee protection framework, it accepts a large number of asylum seekers and refugees into the country. In India, UNHCR has offices in New Delhi and Chennai. It first established its presence in India in 1981.</p>
47	TRAFFIC (Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a leading non-governmental organisation working on wildlife trade in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. ▪ It was established in 1976 and has developed into a global network, research-driven and action-oriented, committed to delivering innovative and practical conservation solutions. ▪ It aims to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals are not a threat to the conservation of nature. ▪ Headquarters: Cambridge, United Kingdom. ▪ TRAFFIC also works 	<p>It is a joint program of World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). <u>List of Important Projects of TRAFFIC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reducing trade threats to Africa's wild species and ecosystems through strengthened knowledge and action in Africa and beyond (ReTTA). ▪ Wildlife Trafficking Response, 	<p>TRAFFIC operates as a Programme Division of WWF-India, based in New Delhi since 1991. TRAFFIC India's ongoing projects include study on Leopard and Tiger poaching and trade in India, peacock feather trade, owl trade, and dynamics of hunting community, trade in medicinal plants, bird trade and more. "Don't Buy Trouble" is one of TRAFFIC India's first consumer awareness campaign that advises tourists to be careful of what</p>

		<p>in close co-operation with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).</p>	<p>Assessment, and Priority Setting (Wildlife-TRAPS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Global Shark and Ray Initiative ▪ The FairWild Foundation 	<p>they buy as souvenirs during their travels. TRAFFIC's latest campaign is the WANTED ALIVE series on the four Asian big cats- Tiger, Leopard, Snow Leopard and Clouded Leopard—all of them threatened by illegal trade in their body parts.</p>
48	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CITES was conceptualised in 1963 at a meeting of the IUCN. ▪ Located in Geneva, Switzerland, the CITES is administered by the United Nations under its UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) Wing. ▪ The Convention of Parties to CITES is the supreme decision-making body of the Convention and comprises all its Parties. ▪ 	<p>It came into force in 1975 and consists of 183 member-countries till date that abide by CITES regulations by implementing legislation within their own borders to enforce those regulations.</p> <p>Although CITES is legally binding on the Parties, it does not take the place of national laws. Rather, it provides a framework to be respected by each Party, which has to adopt its own domestic legislation to ensure that CITES is implemented at the national level.</p>	<p>India is a CITES Party since 1976. Due to its extreme diversity, India is recognized all over the world for harbouring up to 7-8% of all the species recorded by CITES. As an active CITES Party, India prohibits the international trade of endangered wild species.</p> <p>India proposed to boost the protection of the following animal species: Smooth-coated otter & small-clawed otter, Indian star tortoise, Tokay gecko, Wedgefish and Indian rosewood</p>
49	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The OECD is an intergovernmental economic organisation, founded to stimulate economic progress and world trade. ▪ It was founded in the year 1961. ▪ It provides a platform for its member countries to compare policy experiences, seek answers to common problems, identify and share best practices, and coordinate domestic and international policies of its member nations. ▪ OECD is an official 	<p>OECD currently has 38 member nations and the Member Countries are each represented by a delegation which is led by their ambassadors.</p> <p>The most recent countries to join the OECD were Colombia, in April 2020, and Costa Rica, in May 2021.</p> <p>Most OECD members are high-income economies with a very high Human Development Index</p>	<p>India isn't a member of OECD yet. This is because India is being cautious about what kind of signal its membership in OECD would give to other emerging countries located in the South Asian continent.</p> <p>But it is a key partner to OECD.</p> <p>As a Key Partner, India is included in OECD analysis and statistical databases.</p>

		<p>Permanent observer to the United Nations and is referred to as a think-tank or as a monitoring group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Headquarters: Paris, France. <p><u>Reports and Indices by OECD</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government at a Glance 2017 report. ▪ International Migration Outlook. ▪ OECD Better Life Index. 	(HDI) and are regarded as developed countries.	
50	UN Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) created UN Women in 2010 by merging four parts of the UN system that worked in the field of women empowerment and gender equality. ▪ UN Women is the wing of the United Nations that engages in the field of women empowerment and gender equality. ▪ The entity was formed to accelerate the progress of achieving the needs of women and girls all over the world. ▪ UN Women is headquartered in New York. 	<p>It works with governments and civil society to come up with policies, laws, programmes and services required to ensure that global standards set to achieve gender equality are effectively implemented, and women and girls worldwide are actually benefitted.</p>	<p>The UN Women's office in New Delhi is a multi-country office of the entity for four countries namely, India, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and the Maldives.</p>