

The Indian Diaspora

Connect, Care, Celebrate, Contribute

Topics Covered:

- **Background**
- **Definitions**
- **Regions**
- **Issues, Challenges and opportunities**
- **Questions**

Background

- **The Indian Diaspora is a generic term to describe the people who migrated from territories that are currently within the borders of the Republic of India. It also refers to their descendants.**
- **Non-Resident Indians (NRI), Person of Indian Origin (PIO) and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) have been three major categories.**
- **According to the Committee on the Ministry of External Affairs's 15th report, tabled in Parliament in August 2022, the Indian diaspora comprises over 18 million persons of Indian origin (PIO) and 13 million non-resident Indians (NRIs, meaning Indian citizens living abroad),**
- **At 31 Million its the largest overseas community globally.**
- **composition of the Indian diaspora is diverse, consisting of labourers/workers, traders, political leaders, professionals and students**

Breakup of numbers and categories

- **13 million PIOs/OCIs, citizens of other countries but of Indian decent**
- **18 million NRIs, Indian passport/ Citizens but stay abroad**
- **The Diaspora covers practically every part of the world.**
- **It numbers more than one million each in eleven countries,**
- **while as many as twenty-two countries have concentrations of at least a hundred thousand ethnic Indians.**

Significance:

- This Diaspora is a diverse group both economically, historically and in terms of qualifications.
- Nonetheless, this group is a strategic asset for India and is often considered to be the unofficial ambassadors of India in their host countries.
- They contribute resources, advocate India's cause and contribute to the development of their own country thus generating goodwill for India.
- In 2022, in its Fifteenth report, the Committee on External Affairs of the Lok Sabha observed that the profile and geographical distribution as well as the enormous and diverse Indian diaspora presents a great opportunity for the promotion of India's soft power and cultural diplomacy abroad.
- Indian origin people have reached the pinnacle of political power in Mauritius, Portugal, Suriname and Guyana having Indian origin
- leaders. CEOs of top global MNCs are PIOs, for examples, Microsoft's Satya Nadella, Google's Sundar Pichai, IMF's Geeta Gopinath, Mastercard's Ajay Banga, Twitter's Parag Aggarwal etc.
- Remittances sent by the Indian Diaspora accounts for 2 to 4 percent of the GDP.
- According to a World Bank report, stood at \$89.4 billion in 2021.
- **India's remittances in 2020 reached over \$83 billion**, despite a pandemic that pushed global economic growth off its course. The country had received \$83.3 billion in remittances in 2019.
- According to the World Bank cash transfers to India from high-income countries climbed to more than 36% in 2020-21, up from 26% in 2016-17.
- The share from five Gulf countries, including Saudi Arabia and the UAE, declined to 28% from 54% in the same period, the World Bank said, citing Reserve Bank of India data.
- **Remittance flows to India will rise 12% to reach \$100bn this year, according to a World Bank report.**
- **NRI deposits, outstanding at \$141 billion in 2020-21/ 22-23 138 billion US\$**

The data for the recent years on inward remittances.

Source: RBI.

PIB 07 Feb 2023

Year	Inward Remittances (US \$ million)
2017-18	69,129
2018-19	76,396
2019-20	83,195
2020-21	80,185
2021-22	89,127

Country-wise Share in Inward Remittances, 2020-21 (Source: RBI Remittance Survey, 2021 as published in RBI Bulletin article on remittances, “Headwinds of COVID-19 and India’s Inward Remittances”, July 2022.)	
Source Country	Share in Total Remittances (Per cent)
United States	23.4
United Arab Emirates	18.0
United Kingdom	6.8
Singapore	5.7
Saudi Arabia	5.1
Kuwait	2.4
Oman	1.6
Qatar	1.5
Hong Kong	1.1
Australia	0.7
Malaysia	0.7
Canada	0.6
Germany	0.6
Italy	0.1
Philippines	0.0
Nepal	0.0
Others	31.6

History

- The British abolished slavery in 1834, since then they populated their plantations with indentured labour from India
- In 80 years, more than two million Indian labourers were transported to about 20 British colonies before it was stopped in 1917 under intense pressure from Indian abolitionists.
- These form the basis of Diaspora in the Carribean, India Ocean Islands, South East- Asia, Fiji etc.
- at the beginning of 20th century Indian in small numbers also went to North America and Europe.
- Freedom Struggle: Ghadar, INA, Kamagatamaru, madam Bhikaji kama.
- After Independence in various waves Indian went to north America for education and better prospects.
- In the gulf countries the Oil boom of 1970s provided an opportunity for Indian's to be a part of economic developments in the region.

Three Categories of Diaspora and Individuals within them

- the Old Diaspora, the New Diaspora, and the Gulf Diaspora.
- There is one consistent theme to all three categories. They were, and continue to be, created by a labor migration – unskilled labor starting two centuries ago, and highly skilled labor after the mid-1960s.
- People within these large categories can be further classified as :
Person of Indian Origin- OCI card holder-NRI

Three phases of Engagement

- Post Independence: Benign Neglect: Emigration Act 1983, Uganda 1972, Iraq Airlift 1990
- Post liberalization 1990s onwards: Need and ability/ Capital and Knowledge network/ Resurgent India Bond-PIO card/
- 2000s Period of policy formulations and acknowledgement/ LM Sanghvi Committee (2002-4)/Pravasi Bahritya Divas (2003)/ Ministry of Overseas Indians Affairs (2004-2016)/ OCI card (2005).
- 21st century: Recent: Large scale public events part of Foreign tours of PM/ Social Media Engagement/Important in Many relations

Citizenship

- **Article 11 of the Constitution designated the Parliament to decide on a permanent law of citizenship.**
- **The Parliament, in 1955, passed The Citizenship Act which regulates the acquisition and determination of citizenship. It established**
 - **jus sanguinis, or right of blood, as the primary form of citizenship determination in India meaning that a person's citizenship is determined by their parents' citizenship.**
 - **It also provides the conditions for naturalisation or the process by which one may come to acquire Indian citizenship.**
 - **Finally, through registration citizenship can be granted to the Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) and Person of Indian Origin (PIO).**
- **The Act has been amended six times since its origin to account for the evolving nature of citizenship in India.**
- **Acquisition of territory also makes a special case for acquiring citizenship e.g Sikkim's merger with India.**

Categories Indians who live abroad: NRI, PIO, and OCI.

- **NRI (Non-Resident Indians) are Indian Citizens who live in another country.**
- **PIO (Person of Indian Origin) used to be a 15 year visa for non-Indian citizens, but it has since been removed.**
- **OCIs (Overseas Citizen of India) are non-Indian citizens who have a lifetime visa to live and work in India with fewer restrictions.**

NRI, PIO, OCI

- As opposed to OCIs, who have given up their full Indian citizenship, NRIs are still citizens of India.
- NRI is technically a tax classification as opposed to a visa status.
- Under the Income-tax Law, an individual will be treated as a resident in India for a year if he satisfies any of the following conditions (i.e. may satisfy any one or may satisfy both the conditions):
 - 1) He is in India for a period of 182 days or more in that year; or
 - 2) He is in India for a period of 60 days or more in the year and for a period of 365 days or more in immediately preceding 4 years.
- The Finance Act, 2020, w.e.f., Assessment Year 2021-22 has amended the above exception to provide that the period of 60 days as mentioned in (2) above shall be substituted with 120 days, if an Indian citizen or a person of Indian origin whose total income, other than income from foreign sources, exceeds Rs. 15 lakhs during the previous year. Income from foreign sources means income which accrues or arises outside India (except income derived from a business controlled in or a profession set up in India).
- Please note: Every year the residential status of the taxpayer is to be determined by applying the provisions of the Income-tax Law designed in this regard. And, hence, it may so happen that in one year the individual would be a resident and ordinarily resident and in the next year it may become non-resident or resident but not ordinarily resident and again in the next year its status may change or may remain same.
- For details See: <https://incometaxindia.gov.in/Tutorials/9.%20Non-resident.pdf>

PIO and OCI

What is PIO card?

- Persons of Indian origin (PIO) scheme was launched in 1999 and the PIO card was issued to any person currently holding foreign passport,
- PIO cards were issued to individuals who are either citizens or naturalized citizens of a country, but are of Indian origin, through their parents.
- Citizens of Pakistan, Bangladesh, and other countries as may be specified by the central government are not eligible for grant of PIO card.
- The PIO card must be produced alongside the foreign passport when entering or departing any port in India.
- A PIO card was generally valid for a period of fifteen years from the date of issue.

भारत गणराज्य
REPUBLIC OF INDIA



प्रवासी भारतीय नागरिक कार्ड
OVERSEAS CITIZEN OF INDIA
CARD

OCI

An Overseas Citizen of India is a lifetime visa status. Introduced in August 2005, the Overseas citizenship of India (OCI) scheme was launched during the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention at Hyderabad in 2006.

Who can be an OCI?

- **A person who used to be an Indian citizen**
- **A person with at least one parent, grandparent, or great-grandparent who is/was an Indian citizen**
- **A person married to an Indian citizen or an existing OCI for at least two continuous years**

The following groups of people cannot have OCI status:

- **Anyone who was ever a citizen of Pakistan or Bangladesh**
- **Anyone whose parents or grandparents were citizens of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, or Sri Lanka**
- **Anyone who served in a foreign military or worked in a foreign defense department**

OCI

Benefits of being an OCI?

- Lifelong multiple entry visa to India
- No need to report to the FRRO regardless of the length of your stay
- OCI card holders can eventually become a citizen of India if they remain an OCI for 5 years and live in India for at least 1 year .
- They can use special counters during immigration
- They don't need a student visa to study in India
- They don't need an employment visa to get a job
- They can open a special bank account in India, just like an NRI
- They can make investments in India
- They can buy non-farm property and exercise property ownership rights
- They can use OCI card to apply for a driver's license, open a bank account, or get a PAN card
- They get the same economic, financial, and education benefits as NRIs (e.g. reserved admission quotas), and can adopt children like an NRI
- They pay the Indian resident fee when visiting a national parks, monuments, museums or wildlife sanctuary

OCI

What are the Limitations?

- **They may not purchase agricultural land or farm houses**
- **They may not hold a government job**
- **They may not vote**
- **They may not be elected to a political position**
- **They may not travel to restricted areas without permission**

For your Interest: OCI terms and conditions

- **A foreign national, - (i) who was a citizen of India at the time of, or at any time after 26th January, 1950; or**
- **(ii) who was eligible to become a citizen of India on 26th January, 1950; or**
- **(iii) who belonged to a territory that became part of India after 15th August, 1947; or**
- **(iv) who is a child or a grandchild or a great grandchild of such a citizen; or**
- **(v) who is a minor child of such persons mentioned above; or**
- **(vi) who is a minor child and whose both parents are citizens of India or one of the parents is a citizen of India - is eligible for registration as OCI cardholder.**
- **Besides, spouse of foreign origin of a citizen of India or spouse of foreign origin of an Overseas Citizen of India Cardholder and whose marriage has been registered and subsisted for a continuous period of not less than two years immediately preceding the presentation of the application is also eligible for registration as OCI cardholder.**
- **However, no person, who or either of whose parents or grandparents or great grandparents is or had been a citizen of Pakistan, Bangladesh or such other country as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify, shall be eligible for registration as an Overseas Citizen of India Cardholder.**
- **Foreign nationals cannot apply for OCI in India while on Tourist Visa, Missionary Visa and Mountaineering Visa.**
- **Moreover, the foreigner has to be ordinarily resident of India to be eligible to apply for OCI registration in India.**
- **Note: 'ordinarily resident' will mean a person staying in a particular country or in India for a continuous period of 6 months.**

PIO cards Now are converted into OCI Cards

- **How will merging help?**
- **Merging PIO and OCI will lead to simplification of the rules under a single umbrella.**
- **It was envisaged that merger of the card would facilitate visa-free travel to India, rights of residency and participation in business and educational activities in the country.**
- **The merger of the two cards could make PIO cardholders eligible for benefits already enjoyed by OCI cardholders.**
- **Merging of the two cards will facilitate travel of Indians staying abroad and their participation in various activities in India.**

Pravasi Bhartiya Divas

- The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention is a flagship event of the Government of India and provides an important platform to engage and connect with the overseas Indian Diaspora.
- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on 9th January every year to mark the contribution of Overseas Indian community in the development of India.
- January 9 was chosen as the day to celebrate this occasion since it was on this day in 1915 that Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest Pravasi, returned to India from South Africa, led India's freedom struggle and changed the lives of Indians forever.
- PBD conventions are being held every year since 2003. In 2017 in Bengaluru. 21 to 23 January 2019 in Varanasi, The theme of PBD 2019 is "Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India."
- Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth was the Chief Guest.
- On 9th 2020 in which External Affairs Minister (EAM) interacted with diaspora in eight countries through the means of video conference. The event was webcast live to all Indian Missions and Posts abroad.
- In 2021 16th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention was organised under the theme, the theme of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was "Contributing to Aatmanirbhar Bharat". The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas event was held virtually amid the coronavirus pandemic.
- The 17th PBD Convention was held from 8 – 10 January 2023 in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. The theme of the 17th PBD is "Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India's Progress in Amrit Kaal".
- Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, was the Chief Guest at the PBD Convention
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Changed format

- **In 2015, the Government revised the format of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and re-energized its engagement with the Indian diaspora and decided that**
 - **the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas conferences will be held once in two years in a city outside Delhi.**
 - **In the intervening year...smaller, outcome-based Pravasi Bharatiya Divas conferences will be organised in Delhi on issues that concern the Indian diaspora.**

PIO-Parliamentarian Conference

- **The 1st PIO-Parliamentarian Conference was inaugurated by Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi on 9 January 2018 in New Delhi.**
- **124 MPs and 17 Mayors from 20 countries as participants**
- **Guyana 20 MPs, Trinidad and Tobago 16 MPs, UK 15 MPs, Mauritius 11 MPs, Canada 5 MPs, US 2 Mayors**
- **270 people of Indian Origin at various levels of leadership in Politics and government the world over.**

North America

- **United States: 1,280,000 (NRI), 3,180,000(PIO/ US Citizens), 4,460,000 (Overseas Indians total)**
- **Nearly 1%, Indians account for well over 5% of the scientists, engineers, and software specialists, and almost 10% of all the doctors.**
- **Canada 1.4 million.**
- **In Canada, 19 Indian-origin MPs were elected to the Canadian parliament in 2015. Four were appointed in the cabinet of PM Justin Trudeau in 2019. 17 Indian Origin MPs were elected in 2021 elections.**
- **Prime Minister Justin Trudeau made a formal apology in Parliament for the racism inherent in the 1914 Komagata Maru incident**
- **Since 2018, India has consistently held the position of being the primary country of origin for international students in Canada. In the year 2022, there was a substantial increase of 47% in the number of Indian students studying in Canada, reaching a staggering figure of nearly 320,000 individuals. This cohort now comprises approximately 40% of the entire population of international students in Canada, as reported by the Canadian Bureau of International Education.**
- **118,095 Indians became permanent residents in Canada in 2022 and the number of Indian immigrations to Canada is expected to touch the 2 million mark in 2023.**

The United Kingdom

- According to the 2021 census UK has a large Indian Diaspora of 1.864 million, which is 3.1 per cent of the population of 59.597 million. As per the census there are 3,69,000 persons holding Indian passport.
- The House of Commons in UK currently has 16 Indian origin MPs. There are 23 peers of Indian origin in the House of Lords.
- As per the report “India in the UK: the Diaspora effect”, prepared by Grant Thornton and FICCI, there are over 65000 companies owned by the Indian Diaspora. The 654 companies covered in the report with turnover of over £ 100,000 . These companies have a combined revenues of 36.84£ billion, they paid over £ 1 billion in corporate tax, invested around £ 2 billion through capital expenditure, and created over 174,000 jobs.
- Rishi Sunak as the P.M. and Suella Braverman as the former home secretary, are examples of Indian diaspora playing a key role in politics of UK.
- India and UK Signed a **Migration and Mobility Partnership (MMP)** agreement in **2021** with the intention to address **swifter movement of working professionals** between the two countries.
- In **November 2022** the two countries announced a **Young Professional Scheme**. Under the scheme, **3000 visas** will be provided every year to **graduates between the age of 18-30**, these will be **2 years visa to live and work in each country**.

South East Asia and the Pacific

- Today the “Old Diaspora” constitutes 60% of Indian Diaspora, or approximately 18 million PIOs.
- Today, Malaysia and Singapore have local Indians who comprise 8.5 and 9.1 % of the total population respectively, and are seen as an important minority in both.
- Malaysia hosts around 2.75 million persons of Indian origin
- In Singapore currently Foreign Minister Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Transport and Trade Relations Mr. S. Iswaran are of Indian Origin
- Ethnic Indians constitute about 9.1 % or around 3.5 lakhs of the resident population of 3.9 million in Singapore. In addition, among the 1.6 million foreigners residing in Singapore, around 2.5 lakhs are estimated to be Indian expatriates holding Indian passports
- Tamil is one of the four official languages of Singapore.
- Fiji, ethnic Indians comprise over 40% of the population,
- Anti-Indian resentment resulted in an ethnic Fijian coup d'état in 2000, which removed from office the democratically-elected Prime Minister Mahendra Chaudhry.

Indian Ocean Region

- Indian origin people comprise nearly 70% of the **Mauritius'** population of 1.2 million.
- Under British rule, about half a million Indian indentured workers were brought to Mauritius between 1834 and the early 1900's. About two-thirds of these workers permanently settled down in Mauritius. **Mauritius President Prithvirajsing Roopun is of Indian Origin**
- In 1770 group a small group of 5 Indians landed in **Seychelles**, they are recorded among the first inhabitants of the islands.
- 11% of its population is of Indian origin.
- 10, 000 Indian Citizens live and work in the country.
- **President Wavel Ramkalawan** is of Indian origin.
- **Reunion Island** is an Overseas Region of France in the Indian Ocean.
- people of Indian origin constitute over one-third of the inhabitants of the island and according to some associations, they number upto 280,000.

Africa

- There are more than three million people of Indian origin in Africa today, and as the wave of independence was sweeping Africa in the 50s and 60s, Indian government encouraged Indians living in Africa to fully identify with the African cause for independence – and many did.
- In the coming decades, people of Indian origin in Africa were all too often the target of persecution, expropriation of their property and most infamously, outright expulsion in 1972 Uganda.
- South Africa is home to the largest population of people of Indian descent in Africa, at 1.3 million,
- East Africa is also home to a large number of Diaspora Indians. In Kenya, people of Indian descent number about 100,000, in Tanzania, they come to about 90,000, and Uganda, 15,000.
- In 2021 Indian community was affected by the the violence that broke out in different parts of South Africa in the aftermath of the arret of former President Jacob Juma. The government of India maintained contacts with the government counterparts in South Africa and the local missions of India also remained in contact with the Indian community leaders.

The Caribbean

- The sub-continent of India contributed about 143,000 indentured workers to **Trinidad** between 1845 and 1917. Approximately 134,183 Indians settled in Trinidad during the period 1845 – 1917
- A vast majority of these Indian emigrants came from Northern India, mainly from the districts of United Provinces and Bihar.
- The descendants of those indentured workers, now in their fifth generation, form nearly 42% of the total population constituting an integral part of the economic, political and social fabric of the country.
- **Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago Kamla Persad-Bissessar** is of Indian Origin
- **Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of Guyana**, is of Indian Origin
- Indian diaspora currently constitutes 27.4% of **Suriname's** population
- President **Chandrikapersad Santokhi of Suriname** is of Indian origin, he was the Chief Guest at PBD Convention 2021 held on January 9

Government measures and schemes:

- **Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Conventions (since 2003)**
- **OCI card**
- **Know India Programme**
- **VAJRA scheme for returning Indian scientists**
- **India has signed labour agreements with Jordan, Qatar, UAE, Kuwait and Oman.**
- **Social Security agreements with countries of Europe**
- **Indian Community Welfare Fund at all Missions and Posts abroad.**
- **Indian Worker Resource Centre (IWRC) has also been set up in Dubai, UAE that provides toll-free helpline and walk-in counselling facilities. Four more IWRCs have been approved in Sharjah, UAE, Riyadh and Jeddah in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia.**
- **Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendras (PBSK) have been set up in New Delhi and at Dubai (UAE), Sharjah (UAE), Riyadh, Jeddah (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), to provide guidance and counseling on all matters pertaining to overseas Indian workers.**

Government measures and schemes:

- Kshetriya Pravasi Sahayata Kendras (KPSK) have also been set up in Kochi, Hyderabad, Chennai and Lucknow to assist emigrants or their relatives to redress their problems/complaints regarding overseas employment.
- A dedicated Community Welfare Wing has also been established in Missions and Posts where there is sizeable Indian community. Indian nationals residing abroad are advised to **register** with the nearest Indian Mission or Post.
- Pravasi Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PKVY)
- Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY)
- Special provision for NRIs to invest in the National Pension Scheme.
- Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC)
- Madad Portal
- E-migrate system requires all foreign employers to register in the database
- Minimum Referral Wages (MRW), for Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries
- Global Pravasi Rishta Portal was launched in December 2020 for real time engagement with diaspora.

Under the Ministry of External Affairs

- Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), created in May 2004, was merged with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in 2015
- All Indian Missions/ Posts also actively engage through social media platforms.
- The Government has also launched an awareness campaign 'Surakshit Jaaye, Prasikshit Jaaye' towards ensuring that Indian workers should migrate safely with an enhanced skill set.
- A Pre-Departure Orientation Training (PDOT) is imparted to the workers before they migrate to foreign countries.
- Under the promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora, the Ministry provides grants to Indian Missions/Posts abroad for strengthening ties with the Overseas Indian Community to preserve, maintain and showcase their Indian heritage and culture. In addition, Ministry also gives various grants for celebrating National Days, Hindi Divas, ICCR Foundation Day etc. where Indian diaspora is engaged in a big way.
- India Centre for Migration (ICM) serves as a research think tank to the MEA on all aspects of international migration and mobility
- The activities of ICCR include scholarship programme, cultural performances by sponsored troupes, exhibitions, International Day of Yoga, seminars & conferences abroad and distinguished visitors programme.
- Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR, founded in 1950) plays a key role in the promotion of India's soft power abroad. It supplements the efforts of MEA to leverage Indian diaspora in soft power projection.

Issues Commonly raised by Indian nationals abroad

- In response to a query, the Ministry of External Affairs has informed that most of the requests for assistance/complaints received from Indian nationals pertain to:
 - employment related issues,
 - detention/arrest or death of Indian nationals,
 - passport related issues, repatriation to India,
 - non- payment of salaries and
- denial of legitimate labour rights & benefits such as non- issuance/renewal of residence permits, non-payment/grant of overtime allowance, weekly holidays, longer working hours, refusal to grant exit/re-entry permits for visit to India, refusal to allow the worker to return to India on final exit visa after completion of their contracts and non- provision of medical & insurance facilities, not being paid compensation upon death, etc.

India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians (IDF-OI)

- India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians (IDF-OI) was set up in 2008 by the Government of India.
- IDF-OI provides a platform through which overseas Indians can contribute to social and development projects in India in sectors such as education, sanitation, healthcare, women's empowerment and sustainable livelihood.
- Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council (PMGAC) was set up as a high level platform, to draw upon the experience and knowledge of eminent people of Indian origin in diverse fields from across the world in January, 2009.

What needs to be done?

- **Preparation of adequate database of Indian diaspora by MEA.**
- **Focus on quicker grievance redressal**
- **Proactive response to unfolding policies such as Nitaqat**
- **Involving states in managing the immigrants**
- **Strategic evacuation Policy in view of regular need for evacuating Indian's from Abroad**
- **Curbing red-tapism and easing investment environment for.**
- **Training to the immigrant workers in line with the example of countries such as Philippines.**

Highlights from the the Committee on the Ministry of External Affair's 15th report 'WELFARE OF INDIAN DIASPORA: POLICIES/SCHEMES', 2022

- According to the Committee on the Ministry of External Affair's 15th report, tabled in Parliament in August 2022, approach of government on the issue of diaspora engagement is defined by **Connect, Care, Celebrate, and Contribute**.
- The Committee also acknowledge that India's **engagement with its diaspora has moved from 'All of Ministry approach' towards an 'All-of-Government approach'** in which other wings of the Government, other Ministries and Departments as well as the State Governments are involved in the process of diaspora affairs.
- The Committee are, however, surprised that a **clear-cut policy on its diaspora is yet to be drafted by the Government** despite having a huge diaspora playing a very important role in the socio-economic development of their home country.
- The Ministry of External Affairs has stated that to the committee that a Working Group to analyze the objectives, working and challenges of various schemes/programmes/initiatives for welfare of Indian diaspora has been recently constituted.

CSM Questions

- **Write a short analytical note on Indian Diaspora. How is the “New Diaspora, different from the “Old Diaspora”? (2012/ 150 words/15 marks)**
- **Indian Diaspora has an important role to play in South-East Asian countries’ economy and society. Appraise the role of Indian Diaspora in South- East Asia in this context. (2017/ 250 words/15 marks).**
- **“Indian diaspora has a decisive role to play in the politics and economy of America and European Countries”. Comment with examples. (2020 /150 words/10 marks)**
- **Indian diaspora has scaled new heights in the West. Describe its economic and political benefits for India. 150 words/ 10 Marks).**

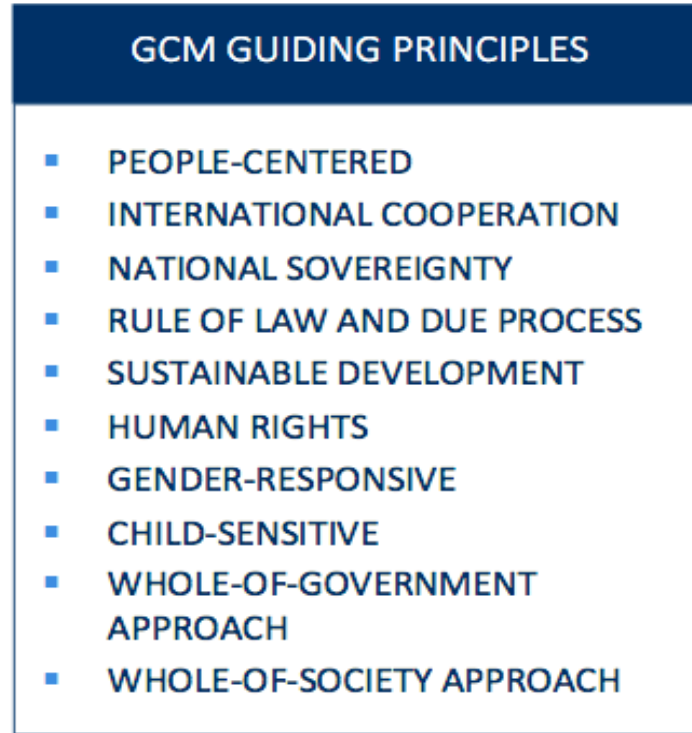
IOM

- Established in 1951, International Organisation for Migration (IOM) is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners.
- With 173 member states, a further 8 states holding observer status
- dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants
- Publication: World Migration Report
- The World Migration Report 2022, the eleventh in the world migration report series, has been produced to contribute to increased understanding of migration and mobility throughout the world.

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

- The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (A/RES/73/195), is **the first intergovernmental agreement, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner.**
- On 10 December 2018, the document was approved by **164 nations** during the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration at **Marrakech, Morocco.**
- On 19 December 2018, the **United Nations General Assembly endorsed the compact through a vote. 152 countries voted in favor of the resolution to endorse it,** while the United States, Hungary, Israel, Czech Republic and Poland voted against it. 12 countries abstained from the vote
- The Compact is a **"non-binding cooperative framework"**, meaning it has limited weight under International Law.
- The Global Compact enumerates 23 objectives for State action,
- Member States agreed to **review the progress made** at the local, national, regional and global levels in **implementing the Global Compact** at an **International Migration Review Forum (IMRF)** through a **State-led approach** and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders at the UN General Assembly,
- **The first IMRF took place at the United Nations headquarters in New York on 17-20 May 2022.**

GCM Guiding Principles: Sources UN OHCHR



GCM mechanism at UN

- At the UN level, implementation of the Global Compact is supported by the United Nations Network on Migration.
- The Network was established by the UN Secretary-General to ensure coordinated UN system-wide support to States in implementing the GCM, while prioritizing the rights and well-being of migrants and their communities.
- It is comprised of 38 entities of the UN system working collectively to support states in addressing their migration priorities, including as regards upholding the rights and wellbeing of migrants and their communities.
- The Network is led by an Executive Committee of 9 UN entities giving overall guidance and setting priorities for the Network.
- The Executive Committee is comprised of ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNDESA, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC and WHO, with IOM as the Coordinator and secretariat to the Network.

UPSC 2023

Consider the following statements :

1. Recently, all the countries of the United Nations have adopted the first-ever compact for international migration, the 'Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)'.
2. The objectives and commitments stated in the GCM are binding on the UN member countries.
3. The GCM addresses internal migration or internally displaced people also in its objectives and commitments.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None