

05– 08 – 2022

News: India to host UNSC meet on counterterrorism

- In a first, **India will host diplomats and officials from all 15 countries of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), including China, Russia and the U.S., for a special meeting on terrorism, in Delhi and Mumbai in October.**
- The meeting of the Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC), which India is chairing for 2022 as a member of the UNSC, **will focus particularly on challenges such as terrorism financing, cyber threats and the use of drones, said officials.**

United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

- Security Council of the United Nations **ensures international peace and security** recommending the admission of new UN members to the General Assembly, and approving any changes to the UN Charter.
- Under the charter, **all Member States are obliged to comply with Council decisions.** Hence, the UNSC is the only **UN body with the authority to issue binding resolutions** on member states.

- Members: **5 Permanent members** (US, China, France, UK, Russia) with Veto power.
- **10 non- permanent members** elected on a regional basis for a term of **2 years**. **Each year 5 members retire** and election occurs for the vacant post. Retiring member is not eligible for immediate re-election.
- **India has been elected as the non- permanent member in the election in 2020** June (unanimously won). The term of Indian membership along with **Ireland, Mexico and Norway** started in 1st January 2021.
- Presidency rotates monthly among its members.
- India is a member of **G4 nations (Brazil, Germany, India and Japan)** which **support each other's bids for permanent seats** on UNSC.
- However, each of their bids are being **opposed by Uniting for Consensus** (or simply **Coffee Club**) a group of around 50 states, who are opposing the resolution of increasing the permanent seats in UNSC. It is **led by Italy**. Other core members of Coffee club include South Korea, Canada, Spain, Mexico, Turkey, Argentina, Pakistan and Malta.
- These **countries propose to increase non-permanent members from 10 to 20 while keeping the permanent membership to 5**.
- The **Secretary General of UNGA** is appointed by the UNGA only based on the **recommendation of the Security Council**. It implies that essentially the **P5**

countries chose the Secretary. There is an informal understanding between the members that Secretary General should alternatively be from Western and Eastern Block.

- **States can complain against another, if one is seen violating the norms under Biological Weapons Convention to the UNSC.**

UNSC 1267 Committee

- UNSC 1267 Committee of **UNSC was established as a resolution 1267 in 1999.**
- It is also known as **Al- Qaida and Da'esh Sanctions Committee.**
- It consists of **15 UNSC members and decides unanimously and secretly.** It was established for the **purpose of overseeing the implementation of sanctions measures imposed on Taliban-controlled Afghanistan and for it's to Osama Bin Laden.**
- Eventually the committee has been **modified and strengthened by subsequent resolutions.**

Resolution 2593

- Recently, UNSC had adopted the Resolution 2593 on **Taliban**.
- Resolution **2593** reiterates the importance of combating terrorism in Afghanistan, including those individuals and entities designated pursuant to **resolution 1267** (1999).
- It also called for the **Taliban** to facilitate safe passage for people wanting to leave Afghanistan, allow humanitarians to access the country, uphold human rights, including for women and children and inclusive and negotiated political settlement.

News: Suresh Patel is new CVC, two commissioners take charge

- Vigilance Commissioner Suresh N. Patel was sworn in as the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) by President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Wednesday.

Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)

- Central Vigilance Commission was **created in 1964** to address governmental corruption as per the recommendations of **K Santhanam Committee report** as an executive body.
- In **2003**, parliament enacted a **law conferring statutory status** to CVC.

- In 2004, the Government of India authorized the CVC as the “Designated Agency” for receiving written complaints for disclosure on allegations of corruption in Central government. But it can only recommend appropriate action, and not take it on behalf of the government.
- The CVC is not controlled by any Ministry/Department.
- The CVC is not an investigating agency.
- It is an independent body which is only responsible to the Parliament.
- CVC reports annually to the President who in turn places this report before each house of Parliament.
- The CVC consists of a Central Vigilance Commissioner as Chairperson and not more than 2 Vigilance Commissioners as its members.
- The members of CVC are appointed by President by a warrant and seal on the recommendation of a committee consisting of PM (Chairperson), Minister of Home Affairs and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha.
- Appointment by President by a Warrant and Seal means the appointment letter bears the signature of the President himself / herself and this function is not delegated to any authority.
- Term of the members shall be 4 years from the date which they enter the office or till they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. The members are ineligible for reappointment under the Union or a State Government.

- The Chief Vigilance Commissioner or any Vigilance Commissioner can be removed from his office only by **order of the President** on the **grounds of bankruptcy, unsound mind, infirmity of body or mind, sentenced to imprisonment for a crime, or engages in paid employment or has acquired financial or other interest that might affect his judgment or on grounds of proven misbehavior or incapacity only after the Supreme Court**, on a reference made to it by the President, has, on inquiry, **reported** that the Central Vigilance Commissioner or any Vigilance Commissioner, as the case may be, ought to be removed.
- The salary and allowances payable to and the other conditions of service of—
the **Central Vigilance Commissioner shall be the same as those of the Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission**; and the salary of Vigilance Commissioner shall be the same as those of a Member of the Union Public Service Commission.
- The expenses of the Commission, including any salaries, allowances and pensions payable to or in respect of the Central Vigilance Commissioner, the Vigilance Commissioners, Secretary and the staff of the Commission, shall be **charged on the Consolidated Fund of India**.
- The **Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)** is the **Chairperson** and the **Vigilance Commissioners (Members)** of the **Committee**, on whose

recommendations, the **Central Government appoints the Director of Enforcement.**

Jurisdiction

- The Jurisdiction of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) extends to the following:
- Members of All India Services serving in connection with the affairs of the Union and Group A of the central government.
- Officers of the rank of Scale V and above in Public Sectors Banks.

Advisory Board for Banking Frauds

- Advisory Board for Banking Frauds is a **four-membered board** set up by the **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India.**
- It would function as the first level of examination of all large fraud cases before recommendations or references are made to the investigative agencies by the respective public sector banks (PSBs).
- The **quantum of bank frauds has to be Rs 50 crore or above.**

- The four-member board's jurisdiction would be confined to those cases involving the level of officers of General Manager and above in the PSB in respect of an allegation of fraud.

News: Financial Inclusion Index (FII)

Financial Inclusion Index (FI – Index)

- Recently, **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) has unveiled the composite Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) for the financial year ended 31st March 2022.
- The **annual FI-Index for the financial year ended has improved to 56.4 from 53.9** in the previous year 2021.
- The index has been conceptualised as a comprehensive index incorporating **details of banking, investments, insurance, postal as well as the pension sector in consultation with the government and respective sectoral regulators.**
- It will be **published annually in July** every year.
- It has been constructed **without any 'base year'** and as such it reflects cumulative efforts of all stakeholders over the years towards financial inclusion.
- Aim of the index is to **capture the extent of financial inclusion across the country.**

Parameters used

- It captures information on various aspects of financial inclusion in a single value ranging between 0 and 100, where 0 represents complete financial exclusion and 100 indicates full financial inclusion.
- It comprises three broad parameters (weights indicated in brackets) viz., Access (35%), Usage (45%), and Quality (20%) with each of these consisting of various dimensions, which are computed based on a number of indicators.
- The index is responsive to ease of access, availability and usage of services, and quality of services for all 97 indicators.

News: Exercise VINBAX

- The 3rd edition of Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise “Ex VINBAX 2022” is being conducted in India.

Exercise VINBAX

- Exercise VINBAX is a field training exercise with enhanced scope from previous editions of bilateral exercise.
- A Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR) Demonstration and equipment display will showcase India’s capacity to undertake rescue and relief operations during natural and manmade disasters utilising indigenous solutions.

- It aims to strengthen mutual confidence, interoperability and enable sharing of best practices between the Indian Army and Vietnam People's Army.
- It will provide an opportunity to the troops of both the Contingents to learn about the social and cultural heritage of each other.

Theme

- Employment and deployment of an Engineer Company and a Medical Team as part of United Nations Contingent for Peacekeeping Operations.

News: Exercise Pitch Black

- Indian Force will join 16 other nations later this month for Exercise Pitch Black, hosted by the Australian Air Force.

Exercise Pitch Black

- Exercise Pitch Black is a biennial exercise to enhance interoperability and strengthen relationships among participants.
- It will provide Indian Air Force a unique opportunity to exchange knowledge and experience with these nations in a dynamic warfare environment.

- It provides all nations' personnel with experience in working with aircraft, systems, and work practices, in northern Australia's unique environment, that would otherwise be unfamiliar.
- It will take place in the Southern hemisphere which is hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).
- The participant nations this year are Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Indonesia, India, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, UAE, the U.K, and the U.S.