

08– 07 – 2024

News: International Court of Justice (ICJ)

- The **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** has mandated Israel to cease its military operations in Rafah immediately.
- The **ICJ** ruling demands Israel to stop all military actions in the Rafah area and ensure the Rafah crossing remains open for uninterrupted humanitarian aid.
- The **ICJ** also ordered Israel to ensure “unimpeded access” to UN-mandated investigators to look into allegations of genocide.
- The **International Criminal Court’s** prosecutor also sought arrest warrants for top Israeli and Hamas leaders, accusing them of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

International Court of Justice (ICJ)

- International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the **only one of the principal organs of the United Nations not located in New York.**
- Headquarters of ICJ is located in **The Hague, Netherlands.**
- It settles **disputes between states and gives advisory opinions** on international legal issues referred to it by the UN. Its opinions and rulings serve as sources of international law.

- Judgments delivered by the Court (or by one of its Chambers) in disputes between States are **binding** upon the parties concerned. Judgments are **final and without appeal**.
- The Court has **no jurisdiction to deal with applications from** individuals, non-governmental organizations, corporations or any other **private entity**.
- It **cannot provide them with legal advice or help them in their dealings** with national authorities.
- The **ICJ has no jurisdiction to try individuals accused of war crimes or crimes against humanity**.
- ICJ consists of a **panel of 15 judges elected by the General Assembly and Security Council for nine year terms**.
- The court is seated in **the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands, five judges are elected every three years** to ensure continuity within the court. Should a judge die in office, the practice has generally been to elect a judge in a special election to complete the term. No two judges may be nationals of the same country.
- Membership in **ICSID (under World Bank) is available to IBRD members, and those which are a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice (ICJ)**, on the invitation of the ICSID Administrative Council by a vote of two-thirds of its members.