

IR

PRE-CONTEXT

GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS

THE HINDU, PG.NO: 8.

**News:** "Crimes against humanity and an obtuse Indian stance."

**Significance of UNSC:**

- One of the **principal organ** of United Nations.
- Primary responsibility for **peace and security**.
- It's **decisions are binding** on all UN members.
- **Power of veto with 5 member nations** (China, Russia, France, UK, USA):
  - Veto allows any of nation to block resolution influence over council decision. Eg. China Blocking India.
  - If any one of P5 uses veto, resolution is dropped.
- **Resolving Conflicts and crisis of world:** Intervention in Libya for peace 1973.
- **Sanctions:** Eg. Imposing sanctions on North Korea and Iran to comply with nuclear non-proliferation agreement.
- **Peace keeping Missions:** Eg. Bosnia, Sierra Leone.
- **Diplomatic negotiations:** Syrian civilian crisis.
- **End of Gulf War:** Authorised Military action against Iraq in 1990-91 led to liberation of Kuwait.

**International Court of Justice (ICJ):**

- **Principal Judicial organ of United Nations.**
- If both parties submit the case it can adjudicate maritime boundaries **including EEZ disputes**.
- All members of UN are **automatically parties to the ICJ**.  
*India is member of ICJ.*

**India's Obligations Under International Law:**

- Genocide Convention and the Geneva Conventions, **has binding obligations** under international law:
  - **Genocide Convention:**
    - India must take all necessary measures to prevent genocide.
    - Article III of the Convention also makes **ignorance in genocide a punishable offence**, meaning India cannot provide military support to a state potentially guilty of such crimes.
      - *India is party of Genocide Convention.*
  - **Geneva Convention:**
    - India is obligated **not to assist states in committing war crimes**, which includes preventing the **transfer of arms** that may be used for such purposes.
      - *India is party of Geneva Convention.*
- **Arms Trade Treaty:**
  - It aims to regulate **international trade of conventional arms**; it restricts supply of arms by country if they are used to commit war crimes.
    - *India is "not" a signatory to this treaty.*

**International Criminal Court (ICC):**

- **Establishment:** by Rome Statute in 2002.
- **Headquarters:** Hague, Netherlands.
- **Jurisdiction(4 major crimes):** Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes, Crimes of Aggression.
- **Cannot try cases of non members** of ICC unless case is referred by **United Nations Security Council(UNSC)**.
- **It didn't recognize nuclear weapons** and other mass destruction weapons as crimes.

- *It also didn't recognize terrorism* as a punishable crime against humanity.
- *India is "not" a member of ICC.*

20 Dec 2024

VULNERABLE SECTIONS

PRE-CONTEXT

EKLAVYA MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

THE HINDU, PG.NO: 1.

**News:** "Eklavya schools struggle to meet 5% PVTG sub-quota; dropouts on the rise."

**Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS):**

- **Central Sector Scheme.**
- Govt. decided to establish one EMRS in **every block having more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons** (as per census 2011).
- **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** to establish, endow, maintain, control and manage the schools.
- Objective to **provide quality upper primary, secondary and senior secondary level education to ST and PVTG students** in tribal dominated areas along with extra-curricular activities for their all-round development.
- National Education Society for Tribal Students (**NESTS**) **implements the scheme.**
- **Non-ST students** can be admitted in these schools on **seats up to 10%** of the total seats.
  - Centre introduced a **sub-quota of 5%** for the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (**PVTGs**) in EMRS.
- These schools follow the **CBSE curriculum** and provide free education.

20 Dec 2024



## GS II

SYLLABUS: PARLIAMENT AND STATE LEGISLATURES—STRUCTURE, FUNCTIONING.

### CHAIRMAN AND SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT

THE HINDU, PG.NO: 1.

**News:** "RS Deputy Chairman rejects no-trust notice against Chairman by Opposition"

**Context:** In a move that is unprecedented in India's parliamentary history, 60 Members of the Rajya Sabha have expressed a loss of confidence in the Chairman, who is also the Vice-President of India.

- **The Chairman and Speaker must ensure the proceedings in Parliament go uninterrupted.** To achieve this, **they must earn the trust of MPs** by being neutral in practice and perception.
- The **Vice-President discharges the duties of both the Vice-President and Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha.**

#### Controversies with Office:

- **Perceived partisanship:** Speaker and Chairman often hail from political party in majority.
  - **Unlike Britain Parliament** speaker has no convention or compulsion to resign from the party membership.
- **Decision making powers:**
  - **Anti-defection cases:** Eg. Maharashtra Assembly 2019-20.
  - **Classification of bills as Money bill** e.g. Recent PMLA 2022 amendments done through money bill route, Aadhar as money bill in 2016.
- **Functioning related issues of house:**
  - **Admission of critical motions:** Eg. censure motion and no-confidence motion against the government.
  - **Allocation of time for discussion:** on important issues to the opposition members.
  - **Delay in key issues:** like recognition of Leader of Opposition after 2014 general elections.
  - **Hastily applying "guillotine" provisions** to cut short debates on contentious issues.

#### Removal of Presiding Officers of Parliament:

##### Chairman:

- **Grounds for Removal:** **not mentioned in the Constitution.**
- The Chairman of the Rajya Sabha can be removed from his office only if he is removed from the office of the Vice-President.
- **Art. 67(b):**
  - **At least a 14-day notice** has been given of the intention to move the resolution.
  - Vice President may be removed from his office by a resolution passed by an **Effective Majority (i.e. majority of total strength minus vacancies) of the Rajyasabha.**
  - After being passed in Rajyasabha, **Approval of Loksabha (simple majority)** is needed.
  - Vice President **cannot preside** as Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, during discussions on removal.
  - The Vice-President **can hold office beyond his term of five years** until his successor assumes charge.
  - He/She is also **eligible for reelection** to that office for any number of terms.
- **Vice-President** may, by writing under his hand addressed to the **President**, resign his office;

##### Speaker:

- **Grounds for Removal:** **not mentioned in the Constitution.**
- **Art. 94 and 96:**
  - **At least a 14-day notice** has been given of the intention to move the resolution.

- House can remove the Speaker through a resolution passed by an **effective majority Effective Majority (i.e. majority of total Strength minus vacancies) of the Loksabha.**
- Speaker **cannot preside** sitting of the house, **during discussions on removal.**
- **Whenever the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker does not vacate his office** and continues till the newly-elected Lok Sabha meets.
- **Rajyasabha has no role** in the removal of the Speaker of Lok Sabha.
- He/She is also **eligible for reelection** to that office for any number of terms.
- **Speaker** may, by writing under his hand addressed to the **Deputy Speaker**, resign his office.

**Note:** No-confidence motion is not addressed to any specific authority.

20 Dec 2024

#### PYQs

**GS II 2020:** 'Once a Speaker, Always a Speaker'! Do you think this practice should be adopted to impart objectivity to the office of the Speaker of Lok Sabha? What could be its implications for the robust functioning of parliamentary business in India?



## GS II

SYLLABUS: BILATERAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL GROUPINGS AND AGREEMENTS INVOLVING INDIA.

### INDIA-CHINA

THE HINDU, PG.NO: 8.

News: "Positive direction."

#### Boarder Disputes reasons:

- **Sino-Indian War 1962** over disputed Himalayan borders.
- **No clear demarcation of LAC spanning 3,488km:**
  - *Doklam standoff 2017, Galway Valley clash 2020.*
- **Cabbage strategy or salami Slicing tactic:** Acquiring new territories at expense of its neighbours.
- **Growing Power imbalance:** Eg. China-Indian Ocean Region forum for marine disaster prevention and cooperation with Indian Ocean countries except India.
- **Geopolitical Interests:** Eg. India's closer ties with USA and allies; Neighbourhood first policy.

#### Security Concerns between Both Countries:

- **China-Pakistan Nexus under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC),** which passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, raises sovereignty concerns for India.
- **String of Pearls:** China's strategy of developing ports and facilities in the Indian Ocean region is perceived by India as encirclement. Eg. *Hambantota* (Srilanka), *Gwadar* (Pakistan).
- **Quad Alliance:** India's engagement with the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (India, US, Japan, Australia) is viewed cautiously by China.
- **Border Infrastructure:** India has accelerated infrastructure projects along the LAC, including the construction of the *Darbuk-Shyok-DBO road.*

#### Economic relations with China:

- **Rapid Growth in Bilateral Trade:** USD 3 billion in 2000 to USD 130 billion in 2022, making China one of India's largest trading partners — *MoC&I Trade Data 2022.*
- **India faces significant trade deficit:** as of USD 140 billion in 2022 — *MoC&I Trade Data 2022.*
  - **Indian exports to China:** stood at USD 20 billion in 2022.
  - **Indian imports from China:** stood at USD 120 billion in 2022.

#### Impacts on Indian Economy:

- **Pressure on Domestic Industries:** due to competition from cheap imports Eg. between 2015-20 due to Chinese imports captured 70% of the Indian market — *CAIT report 2021.*
- **Dependence on critical goods:** of total Indian imports from China:
  - **Pharmaceuticals (APIs)** account for 70%, solar components 80% — *MoC&I Trade Data 2022.*
  - **Electronics:** India imports 80% of its mobile phone components from China.
- **Widening of Indian Current Account Deficit (CAD):** due to trade imbalances with China.
- **Supply chain vulnerabilities:** exposed by pandemic Eg. shortage of APIs and price hikes of medical supplies and electronics in 2020-21.
- **Job losses in manufacturing sector:** ~2 million jobs were lost in the textile and toy industries between 2015 and 2020 — *FICCI 2021.*
- **India's R&D expenditure is 0.7% of GDP,** compared to China's 2.4%, affecting innovation.

#### Economic measures taken by India:

- **Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan Rs. 20 lakh crore package:** to reduce dependence on imports by boosting domestic production.
- **Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes of Rs. 2 lakh crore in 14 sectors:** to encourage domestic manufacturing in electronics, pharmaceuticals, and textiles etc.
- **Imposition of Anti-Dumping Duties:** to protect domestic industries from unfair trade practices.
- **Amendment of FDI Regulations:** requiring prior government approval for investments from neighbouring countries.
- **Banning of Chinese Apps:** India banned nearly 300 Chinese apps, including TikTok and WeChat, citing data security risks.

#### Belt and Road Initiative impact on India:

- As of 2023, China had *invested over \$1 trillion in BRI projects* globally.
- BRI comprises the Silk Road Economic Belt (*land routes*) and 21st Century Maritime Silk Road (*sea routes*), covering *Asia, Africa, Europe, and beyond.*
- Its objectives include promoting regional integration, increasing trade, and stimulating economic growth through infrastructure development.

#### Role of BRI in India-China Relations:

- **Expansion of China's geopolitical influence** in areas that are traditionally under India's sphere of influence Eg. Investments of over 100 billion USD in South Asian and IOR regions — *WorldBank estimates 2020.*
- **Strategic encirclement of India ("String of Pearls"):** Gwadar (Pakistan), Hambantota (Sri Lanka), Chittagong (Bangladesh).
- **China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC):** a flagship BRI project passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), which India claims as its territory.
- **India's strategic isolation in the region:** Countries like Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Bangladesh have signed BRI agreements.

#### India's Opposition to BRI:

- "No country can accept a project that ignores its core concerns on **sovereignty and territorial integrity** (PoK) — MEA Spokesperson 2017.
- **Debt Trap Diplomacy** Eg. Sri Lanka leasing Hambantota Port to China on a 99-year lease due to inability to repay loans.
- **Balance of Power:** BRI could shift the regional balance of power in China's favour, undermining India's strategic interests.
- **India Prefers alternative Connectivity Initiatives:**
  - **INSTC,** connecting India with Central Asia and Europe through Iran and Russia.
  - **BIMSTEC:** Strengthening regional cooperation without including China.
- **BRI could exacerbate trade imbalances:** with Chinese goods flooding markets and undermining local industries.

20 Dec 2024

#### PYQs

**GS II 2017:** 'China is using its economic relations and positive trade surplus as tools to develop potential military power status in Asia', In the light of this statement, discuss its impact on India as her neighbor.

**GS II 2018:** The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is viewed as a cardinal subset of China's larger 'One Belt One Road' initiative. Give a brief description of CPEC and enumerate the reasons why India has distanced itself from the same.