

अधिकारी घडविणारी महाराष्ट्रातील विश्वसनिय संस्था



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**UPSC / MPSC / BANKING / SSC**

## UN & Organizations

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# UN & Organisations

## 1. United Nations:

It is an organization of sovereign States, which voluntarily join the UN to work for world peace. Its mission is to maintain international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations and promoting social progress, better living standards and human rights.

It is an international organization founded in 1945 after the World War II. Its predecessor, the League of Nations, created by the Treaty of Versailles in 1919 was disbanded in 1946.

1. HQ - New York
- 2.- 193 (Latest Member South Sudan)
3. Secretary General - Antonio Guterres (Portugal)



**The Six Principal Bodies of the UNO**

Indian Members in the UN

Soumya Swaminathan, director general of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), was appointed as the Chief Scientist at the WHO.

An Indian Justice Dalveer Bhandari was re-elected as a judge to the International Court of Justice.

International law expert Neeru Chadha was elected to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

### 1.1 UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

It is the main deliberative organ and composed of all member states, each of which has one vote. The mandate of UNGA is to discuss, debate, and make recommendations on subjects pertaining to international peace and security, including development, disarmament, human rights, international law, and the peaceful arbitration of disputes between nations.

Membership - 193 UN member states, each with a vote in General Assembly.

Headquarters -New York

The membership can be contentious. Taiwan has been denied UN membership for more than two decades due to objections from China. Palestine's status has also been controversial. Palestine and Vatican City are the United Nations' two non-member observer states, which have the right to speak at assembly meetings but cannot vote on resolutions.

## **1.2 UN Security Council**

It has primary responsibility for the maintenance of International peace and security. The council has 15 members: All the members have one vote and permanent members have veto power

5 Permanent - US, UK, Russia, France & China

10 members elected by the General Assembly for 2-year terms.

"Veto power" refers to the power of the permanent member to veto (Reject) any resolution of the Security Council.

Each year the General Assembly elects five non-permanent members by 2/3rd majority (out of 10 in total) for a two-year term. The 10 non-permanent seats are distributed on a regional basis as follows: five for African and Asian States; one for Eastern European States; two for the Latin American and Caribbean States; and two for Western European and other States.

While other organs of the UN can only make recommendations to member states, the Security Council has the power to make binding decisions on member states.

### Proposed Reforms in UNSC

The demands for reform of the UNSC is based on five key issues:

1. Categories of membership (permanent, non-permanent).
2. The question of the veto held by the five permanent members.
3. Regional representation.
4. The size of an enlarged Council and its working methods.
5. The relationship between Security Council and General Assembly

G4 Nations- 4 countries bids for permanent seats in UNSC. They are Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan.

Uniting for Consensus (Coffee Club)- These are group of countries who are opposing the expansion of permanent seats in the UNSC under the leadership of Italy.

Members are- Italy, Spain, Malta, San Marino, Pakistan, South Korea, Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia & Turkey.

India recently won the unanimous support of all countries in the 55-member Asia-Pacific Group at the UN in support of its bid for a non-permanent seat at the UNSC for a 2-year term in 2021-22. India has already held a non-permanent seat on the UNSC for 7 terms.

UNSC has recently adopted a Resolution 2427 aimed at a framework for mainstreaming protection, rights, well-being and empowerment of children throughout the conflict cycle.

## **1.3 THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

It is the principal organ that guides sustainable development policies and coordinates the activities of several UN units and organisations working on development and social and economic issues,

It has 54 members.

The Council has 54 members who are chosen for equal geographical representation and serve a three-year term. Voting in the Council is by simple majority; each member has one vote.

India & ECOSOC : In 2017, UNGA re-elected India to another 3-year term starting from Jan,2018 (as its previous term was set to expire in 2017).

#### **1.4 THE SECRETARIAT**

It undertakes the day-to-day work of the UN, administering the programmes and policies of the organization. It is headed by the Secretary-General, assisted by a staff of international civil servants worldwide..

#### **1.5 INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE**

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the UN's main judicial organ.

HQ: The Hague, Netherlands and the only principal organ of UN to be not located in New York.

Established in 1945, the ICJ, or "World Court" assumed its functions in 1946.

The Court settles legal disputes only between nations and not between individuals, in accordance with international law.

Structure of ICJ: The Court is composed of 15 judges, who are elected for a term of office of nine years by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council. In order to be elected, a candidate must receive an absolute majority of the votes in both bodies. In order to ensure a measure of continuity, one third of the Court is elected every three years and Judges are eligible for re-election.

The 15 judges of the Court are distributed in following regions:

Three from Africa.

Two from Latin America and Caribbean.

Three from Asia.

Five from Western Europe and other states.

Two from Eastern Europe.

ICJ acts as a world court with two fold jurisdiction i.e. legal disputes between States submitted to it by them (contentious cases) and requests for advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by United Nations organs and specialized agencies (advisory proceedings).

Other existing international thematic courts, such as the International Criminal Court (ICC) are not under the umbrella of the ICJ and it is legally and functionally independent from United Nations.

India and ICJ –

An Indian Justice Dalveer Bhandari was re-elected as a judge to the ICJ.

India recently won the plea against Pakistan to grant counsellor access to Indian national Kulbhushan Jadhav and ICJ has directed to Pakistan to stop carrying out the execution of Jadhav. International Court of Justice (ICJ) in its report found that Pakistan had violated its obligations Vienna Convention in the case of Indian national Kulbhushan Jadhav.

In another case of its advisory opinion on Chagos Islands issue, it stated that the UK Government is “under an obligation” to end its administration of the Chagos Archipelago “as rapidly as possible” The Chagos Islands were retained by the UK during negotiations over independence for the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius

## **1.6 THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL**

The Trusteeship Council was assigned under the UN Charter to supervise the administration of 11 Trust Territories—former colonies or dependent territories—which were placed under the International Trusteeship System By 1994, all Trust Territories had attained self-government or independence, with the last nation being Palau. So, UN suspended its operation on 1994, and it continues to exist only on paper.

### **The Specialized Agencies**

**Autonomous organizations linked to the UN through special agreements:**

- **FAO** ([Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN](#))
- **IAEA** ([International Atomic Energy Agency](#))
- **ICAO** ([International Civil Aviation Organization](#))
- **IFAD** ([International Fund for Agricultural Development](#))
- **ILO** ([International Labour Organization](#))
- **IMF** ([International Monetary Fund](#))
- **IMO** ([International Maritime Organization](#))
- **ITU** ([International Telecommunication Union](#))
- **UNESCO** ([UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization](#))
- **UNIDO** ([UN Industrial Development Organization](#))
- **UPU** ([Universal Postal Union](#))
- **WHO** ([World Health Organization](#))
- **WIPO** ([World Intellectual Property Organization](#))
- **World Bank Group**
- **WMO** ([World Meteorological Organization](#))
- **WTO** ([World Tourism Organization](#))



## **2. UN Peace Keeping Force**

UN Peacekeeping is an instrument developed by the UN as a way to help countries torn by conflict to create the conditions for lasting peace. • The first UN peacekeeping mission was established in May 1948, to the Middle East to monitor the Armistice Agreement between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

- Principles of UN peacekeeping:
  - o Consent of the parties
  - o Impartiality

The financial resources of UN Peacekeeping operations are the collective responsibility of UN Member States. Decisions about the establishment, maintenance or expansion of peacekeeping operations are taken by the United Nations Security Council.

India has provided more than 2 lakh military and police officers to UN Peacekeeping over 70 years, in more than 50 missions, starting from Korean War in 1950. India has lost the highest number of its peacekeepers in various UN peacekeeping operations in the last 70 years, with 168 military, police and civilian personnel casualties.

About 850 Indian peacekeepers serving in South Sudan have been awarded the prestigious UN medal for their service and contribution to building peace in the strife-torn nation and supporting the local communities.

Types of Medals given by UN

- Dag Hammarskjöld Medal: A posthumous award to members of peacekeeping operations who lost their lives during service with a peacekeeping operation.
- Captain Mbaye Diagne Medal: To be awarded to those military, police, civilian United Nations personnel and associated personnel who demonstrate exceptional courage.
- UN Medal: To be awarded to military personnel and civilian police who are or have been in the service of the United Nations.

## **3. WORLD BANK**

**IBRD and IDA** are collectively known as **World Bank**, that provides loans to countries for capital programs.

They were created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, along with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

It headquartered in Washington, D.C, US & made up of 189 member countries.

Goals for the World Bank to achieve by 2030:

**End extreme poverty** : by decreasing the percentage of people living on less than \$1.90 a day to no more than 3%

**Promote shared prosperity**: by fostering the income growth of the bottom 40% for every country.

Together with the World Health Organization, the World Bank administers the International Health Partnership (**IHP+**)

Clean Air Initiative (CAI) is a World Bank initiative to advance innovative ways to improve air quality in cities through partnerships in selected regions of the world by sharing knowledge and experiences.



## Reports by World Bank –

- 1) Doing Business Report,
- 2) Global Economic Prospects,
- 3) Global Financial Development Report,
- 4) International Debt Statistics,
- 5) World Development Report,
- 6) World Development Indicators,
- 7) Poverty and Shared Prosperity

### **3.1 WORLD BANK GROUP**

The World Bank Group (WBG) is a family of five international organizations that make leveraged loans to developing countries. The organizations are



India is a member of four of the five constituents of the World Bank Group except ICSID.

India is one of the founder members of IBRD, IDA and IFC.

IBRD, IFC and IDA are Specialized Agencies of the UN. ICSID and MIGA are not Specialized Agencies

#### 1. **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)**

It is a global development cooperative owned by 189 member countries. As the largest development bank in the world, it supports the World Bank Group's mission by **providing loans, guarantees, risk management products, and advisory services to middle income and creditworthy low-income countries**, as well as by coordinating responses to regional and global challenges. Each member state of IBRD should also be a member of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and only members of IBRD are allowed to join other institutions within the Bank (such as IDA).

#### 2. **International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID):**

It is an international arbitration institution established in 1966 for legal **international dispute resolution** and conciliation between international investors. The ICSID is part of and funded



by the World Bank Group, headquartered in Washington, D.C. in the United States. It is an autonomous, multilateral specialized institution to encourage the international flow of investment and mitigate non-commercial risks by a treaty drafted by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development's executive directors and signed by member countries.

3. **International Development Association (IDA)**

It is an international financial institution which offers concessional **loans and grants to the world's poorest** developing countries. The IDA is a member of the World Bank Group and is headquartered in Washington, D.C., United States. It was established in 1960 to complement the existing International Bank for Reconstruction and Development by lending to developing countries that suffer from the lowest gross national income, from troubled creditworthiness, or the lowest per capita income.

4. **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**

It is an international financial institution that offers investment, advisory, and asset management services to **encourage private-sector development** in developing countries. The IFC is a member of the World Bank Group and is headquartered in Washington, D.C. It was established in 1956, as the private-sector arm of the World Bank Group, to advance economic development by investing in for-profit and commercial projects for poverty reduction and promoting the development

5. **Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA):**

It is an international financial institution which offers political risk insurance and credit enhancement guarantees. These guarantees help investors protect **foreign direct investments** against political and non-commercial risks in developing countries. MIGA is a member of the World Bank Group and is headquartered in Washington, D.C. MIGA was established in 1988 as an investment insurance facility to encourage confident investment in developing countries.

#### **4. INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND**

The IMF was conceived at a UN conference in Bretton Woods, 1944. The IMF, as per agreement to encourage international financial cooperation, introduced a system of convertible currencies at fixed exchange rates, and replaced gold with the U.S. dollar (gold at \$35 per ounce) for official reserve. After the Bretton Woods system (system of fixed exchange rates) collapsed in 1971, the IMF has promoted the system of floating exchange rates. Countries are free to choose their exchange arrangement, meaning that market forces determine the value of currencies relative to one another. This system continues to be in place today.

The IMF's primary purpose is to ensure the stability of the international monetary system -.

Functions of IMF:

**Provides Financial Assistance:** To provide financial assistance to member countries with balance of payments problems, lends money to replenish international reserves, stabilize currencies and strengthen conditions for economic growth.

**IMF Surveillance:** It oversees the international monetary system and monitors the economic and financial policies of its 189 member countries. As part of this process, the IMF highlights possible risks to stability and advises on needed policy adjustments.

**Capacity Development:** It provides technical assistance and training to central banks, finance ministries, tax authorities, and other economic institutions. This helps countries raise

public revenues, modernize banking systems, develop strong legal frameworks, improve governance, and enhance the reporting of macroeconomic and financial data.

It also helps countries to make progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## Fast Facts About the IMF

<b>1944</b>	Year the IMF was established	<b>\$1 trillion</b>	Total amount the IMF is able to lend to its member countries
<b>189</b>	Member countries	<b>36</b>	Current lending arrangements
<b>150</b>	Nationalities represented by staff	<b>0%</b>	Interest rate on loans to low-income countries
<b>24</b>	Executive Directors representing 189 member countries	<b>\$303 million</b>	For hands-on technical advice, policy-oriented training, and peer learning

### IMF Finances

Members of IMF have recently agreed new deal that would allow to maintain its funding at \$ 1 trillion

**Quotas:** Each member country of the IMF is assigned a quota, based broadly on its relative position in the world economy. Quotas determine the maximum amount of financial resources a member is obliged to provide to the IMF.

IMF quotas are distributed according to a four-pronged formula a member country's average of GDP (weight of 50 percent)

Openness (30 percent),  
Economic variability (15 percent),  
International reserves (5 percent).

(India's quota is 2.76% and China's is 6.41%, while the U.S.'s quota is 17.46 % translates to a vote share of 16.52%).

Quotas are a key determinant of the voting power in IMF decisions. Votes comprise one vote per SDR100,000 of quota plus basic votes (same for all members).

**Special Drawing Rights (SDR):** The SDR is an international reserve asset, created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement its member countries' official reserves. Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) is the IMF's unit of account and not a currency.

**Gold:** Gold remains an important asset in the reserve holdings of several countries, and the IMF is still one of the world's largest official holders of gold.

**Borrowing Arrangements:** While quota subscriptions of member countries are the IMF's main source of financing, the Fund can supplement its quota resources through borrowing if it believes that they might fall short of members' needs.

**New Arrangement to Borrow (NAB):** Through NAB a number of member countries and institutions stand ready to lend additional resources to the IMF.

**Reports by IMF** - World economic outlook, Global Financial stability report.

## 5. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

ILO is **the only tripartite U.N. agency**, since 1919 the ILO brings together governments, employers and workers. It Was created in 1919 by the Versailles Peace Treaty ending World War I. After the demise of the League of Nations, the ILO became the first specialized agency associated with the UN.

Members: The organization has 187 members of the 193 UN member states plus the Cook Islands (a nation in the South Pacific, with political links to New Zealand).

Its secretariat is in Geneva, Switzerland. It is responsible for drawing up and overseeing international labour standards

In 1988, the international labour conference adopted the “Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work”. The declaration aims to eliminate all forms of forced or compulsory labour, abolition of child labour and the elimination of discrimination in employment and occupation.

CORE Conventions on ILO

Category	ILO core-convention
Working Hours	C1 – Hours of Work (Industry) Convention 1919
Wages	C26 – Minimum Wage-Fixing Machinery Convention, 1928 C131 – Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970
Freedom of Association (FoA), Right to Collective Bargaining (RCB)	C87 – Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 C98 – Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 C135 – Workers’ Representatives Convention, 1971
Employment is freely chosen	C29 – Forced Labour Convention, 1930 C105 – Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957
Discrimination	C100 – Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 C111 – Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958
Child Labour	C138 – Minimum Age Convention, 1973 C182 – Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999
Health and Safety	C155 – Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981

**5.1 INDIA AND ILO**

India is a founder member of the ILO.

In 2017 India has ratified two key ILO global conventions- Convention 138 and Convention 182.

Convention 138 calls for the minimum age for employment to be not less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling. In India, it is 14 years according to the Right to Education Act.

Convention 182 penalises and prohibits the worst form of child labour. It includes all forms of slavery including sale and trafficking, debt bondage, serfdom, forced labour, recruitment in armed conflict, prostitution or production of pornography production and trafficking of drugs

India has ratified six out of the eight core/fundamental International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions (C-29,100,105,111,138,182)

India has not ratified the core/fundamental Conventions, namely 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).

ILO in June, 2015 adopted recommendations regarding “The Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience”

Recently the International Labour Organization (ILO)’s Global Commission on the Future of Work has published the Future of work **report** 2019 titled " **Work for a brighter future**".

It also publishes

**Global Wage report**

**World Employment and Social Outlook (WESO)**

**World Social Protection Report**

## **6. FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (FAO)**

It was established in 1945 with the objective of eliminating hunger and improving nutrition and standards of living by increasing agricultural productivity

The goal of FAO 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.

With over 194 member states, FAO works in over 130 countries worldwide.

Its secretariat is in Rome, Italy.

Some of the important key programmes of FAO are Food Security Programmes, Codex Alimentarius, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) etc.,

**The Codex Alimentarius Commission**

established by FAO and WHO is an international food standard setting body. It has recently adopted three Codex standards for black, white and green pepper, cumin and thyme owing to India’s efforts to benchmark global spices trade.

With the adoption of codex standards, spices have been included for the first time as commodities that will have universal standards.

**International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) -**

It aims to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests.

**Globefish** -It is a unit within the FAO, responsible for information and analysis on international fish trade and markets. Globefish’s flagship reports cover over 14 of the most major traded seafood commodities, including shrimp, tuna, salmon, small pelagics and other species with detailed statistics.

### **India & FAO**

FAO council approved India’s membership to the Executive Board of the World Food Program (WFP) for 2020 and 2021.

It has also decided to observe “**International Year of Millets**” in **2023**, upon the request from Indian government.

India celebrated **2018** as “**National Year of Millets**” and notified millets as nutri-cereals & allowed its inclusion in Public Distribution System (PDS).

WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency that fights hunger by providing food assistance, school meals, cash-based transfers etc.

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*To be continued.....*

