

Daily Current Affairs

22 January 2025

Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting

- Dr S Jaishankar attended the meeting with the **Quad foreign ministers** in Washington DC. In a joint statement after the meeting, the **US State Department said, this meeting reaffirms** the shared commitment of quad to strengthening a free and **Open Indo-Pacific where the rule of law**, democratic values, sovereignty, and territorial integrity are upheld and defended.



- It said, **Quad nations maintain their conviction** that international law, economic opportunity, peace, stability, and security in all domains including the maritime domain underpin the development and prosperity of the peoples of the Indo-Pacific region.
- The State Department said that they are **committed to strengthening regional maritime, economic, and technology** security in the face of increasing threats,

as well as promoting reliable and resilient supply chains. It said, they look forward to advancing the work of the Quad in the coming months and will meet together regularly as they are preparing for the next Quad Leaders Summit hosted by India.

- The **QUAD**, known as the ‘**Quadrilateral Security Dialogue**’ (QSD), is an informal strategic forum comprising four nations, namely — United States of America (USA), India, Australia and Japan



10th Anniversary Of ‘Beti Bachao Beti Padhao’ Scheme

- Government is celebrating the **10th anniversary of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme**, marking a decade of relentless efforts to protect, educate, and empower the girl child.

Celebrating 10 Years of
BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO



- Women and Child Development Ministry said the event in New Delhi will witness the **participation of women officers** from the armed forces, paramilitary forces, Delhi police, girl students and Anganwadi workers. The Ministry said the 10th-anniversary celebrations will span from today till 8th March, culminating on International Women's Day.
- Similar events will be organized at state and district levels. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao was **launched by the Prime Minister on 22 January 2015** in Panipat, Haryana.
- The **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme aims** to help in addressing the issue of the decline in the child sex ratio throughout the country and to encourage related to the empowerment of women.

'One Nation, One Legislative Platform'

- **Association of Legislative Bodies, All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC)**, has resolved to ensure a disruption-free environment and qualitative debate and discussion during the proceedings of legislative bodies.
- The **apex organisation of legislative assemblies and Parliament** adopted five resolutions on the concluding day of the **85th Conference of AIPOC** in Patna.



- Addressing the valedictory session of the 85th meeting of the All India Presiding Officers' Conference, Mr. Birla said the presiding officers expressed serious

concern over **acrimony and disruption in a planned way to not allow House proceedings.**

- The Speaker added that there was wide consensus that political parties will **formulate their own code of conduct.** The Lok Sabha Speaker said the One Nation, One Legislative Platform mission will be completed this year by bringing all legislative bodies on the same digital platform.



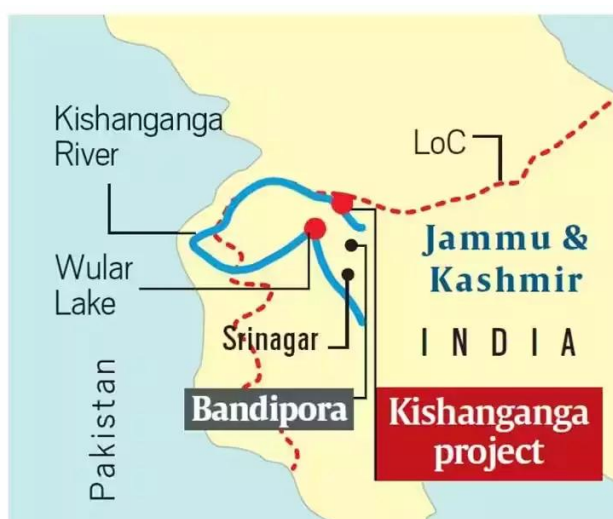
- He said Lok Sabha is handholding and giving patronage for the use of AI (artificial intelligence). Mr. Om Birla said that good suggestions and views were floated by stakeholders to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the constitution as a festival.
- The speaker said the **85th AIPOC resolved that Parliament and the legislative assemblies of the states, Panchayati Raj Institutions, urban bodies, cooperative institutions, students, professionals, NGOs, entrepreneurs, media, and all the stakeholders of democracy will run campaigns.**
- He said they will organise various programs to strengthen democracy in every corner of the country throughout the year.

World Bank Appointed Neutral Expert's Statement

- World Bank-appointed Neutral Expert has announced that it is competent to decide on the **differences between India and Pakistan** over two hydropower projects in Jammu and Kashmir, under the Indus Water Treaty.
- The Neutral Expert has rejected Pakistan's plea to facilitate the establishment of a **Court of Arbitration to consider its concerns** about the designs of the two hydroelectric power projects.



- India had asked for the appointment of a Neutral Expert to consider concerns over the **Kishanganga and Ratle hydroelectric projects**. In a statement, the Neutral Expert said, after careful consideration and analysis, that he should decide on the merits of the Points of Difference.



- Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said it has been India's consistent and principled **position that the Neutral Expert alone** has the competence under the Indus Water Treaty to decide these differences pertaining to the Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric power plants in J&K.
- In a statement, MEA said the decision upholds and vindicates India's stand that all seven **questions were referred to the Neutral Expert** concerning the Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric projects.
- **In 2022, the World Bank appointed a Neutral Expert** and a chairman of the Court of Arbitration regarding the Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric power plants, in view of disagreements and differences between the two countries over the 1960 Indus Water Treaty.

Trump Ends Automatic Citizenship

- President Donald Trump Has Signed A Series Of **Executive Actions, Revoking 78 Of Joe Biden's Policies**, Hours After Returning To The White House. Trump Signed An Order Seeking To **End Automatic Birthright Citizenship** For Children Of People Not In The Country Legally, As Well As Those In The Country Legally But Only Temporarily, Such As Tourists, Students, And Those On Work Visas. **Agencies Have Been Given 30 Days To Implement The Order.**



- In One Of The Major Orders, President Trump Directed The **Withdrawal From The World Health Organisation (WHO)**. In His Order, Trump Cited A String Of Reasons For The Withdrawal, Including The Global Health Agency's Mishandling

Of The **COVID-19 Pandemic And The Failure To Adopt Urgently Needed Reforms**. Trump Accused The WHO Of Being **Biased Towards China** In How It Issued Guidance During The Outbreak.

- Mr. Trump Also Signed An Order To Begin The **Process Of Withdrawing From The Paris Climate Agreement**. He Also **Invoked Emergency Powers** To Expand **US Energy Production By Reversing** Climate-related Policies And Facilitating Oil, Gas, And Mining Activities.



- President Trump Also **Officially Ended The Automatic Citizenship** Of Children Born In The U.S. To Non-citizen Parents. It Says For A Child Born In The U.S. To Gain Citizenship, **At Least One Parent Must Be A U.S. Citizen, A Legal Permanent Resident (Green Card Holder), Or A Member Of The U.S. Military.**
- Donald Trump Directed Federal Agencies To **Review Tariffs And Trade Relations With China, Mexico, And Canada**, Hinting At Imposing Tariffs Up To 25 Percent On Mexico And Canada By February 1st.
- Trump Declared A National Emergency At The **U.S.-Mexico Border And Ordered The Deployment Of Troops** To Address What He Called A Disastrous Invasion. Trump Signed An Executive Action That Delayed Enforcement Of The Tiktok Ban For 75 Days. The Law Gives The President Broad Discretion On How To Enforce The **Ban On The Chinese-owned Video App.**



- **On Energy Policy, Trump Declared A National Energy Emergency, Lifting Restrictions** On Mining And Encouraging Fossil Fuel Production. He Said America Would Capitalise On Its Vast Oil And Gas Reserves To Become A Dominant Manufacturing Nation.
- In Other Decisions, He Ended **Work-from-home Policies** For Federal Employees. The Order Requires Employees To Return To In-person Work Full-time, With Exemptions Allowed At The Discretion Of Department Heads. Another Significant Executive Order Aimed To Restore Freedom Of Speech And End Federal Censorship.
- In A Controversial Move, Trump Signed An Order To **Rename The Gulf Of Mexico As The Gulf Of America**. He Also Introduced A **Policy Recognising Only Two Genders—male And Female—**within The United States. Additionally, **Trump Ended The Biden Administration’s Green Policy** On Electric Vehicles, Shifting Focus Back To Traditional Energy Sources.



- **Trump Used His Presidential Powers To Pardon Over 1,500 Individuals Involved In The January 6, 2021, Capitol Riots. He Justified This As Addressing Perceived Injustices By The Previous Administration.**



Nigeria Joins BRICS Bloc

- **Nigeria was officially admitted as a partner country of the BRICS group, which includes Brazil, Russia, China, and South Africa. This move reflects Nigeria's growing influence as Africa's largest economy and its commitment to enhancing international collaboration.**



- **BRICS aims to provide a counterbalance** to Western-led economic forums and promote South-South cooperation. **BRICS was formed in 2009 to represent** emerging economies. Initially comprising Brazil, Russia, and China, South Africa joined in 2010.
- The group focuses on economic cooperation, political dialogue, and reforming global governance. **In 2023, BRICS expanded by inviting** Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, and the UAE. Nigeria's admission marks it as the ninth partner, joining Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Thailand, Uganda, and Uzbekistan.
- **Nigeria's inclusion is due to its large population** and economic potential. It aims to leverage BRICS for trade, investment, and socio-economic cooperation, aligning with its development objectives.



GLOBAL RECESSION 2023 AND ITS IMPACT ON INDIA

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Kalaripayattu Is The Traditional Martial Art Of Which State

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: B

2. National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Works Under Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Jal Shakti
- D. Ministry of External Affairs

ANSWER: B

3. Palamu Tiger Reserve Is Located In Which State

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Karnataka
- C. Bihar
- D. Jharkhand

ANSWER: D

4. Fund Of Funds For Startups (FFS) Scheme Is Operated By Which Organization

- A. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- B. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- C. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- D. Ministry of Finance

ANSWER: C

5. Who Awarded INSA Fellowship For 2025 For Contributions To Vaccine Development

- A. Dr. S. Somanath
- B. Dr. Krishna Ella
- C. Dr. Renu Swarup
- D. Dr. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw

ANSWER: B

6. Which Indian State Has Partnered With Iceland To Develop Geothermal Energy Resources

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Sikkim
- D. Arunachal Pradesh

ANSWER: A

7. What Is The IMF's Revised Growth Forecast For India For FY25

- A. 6.7%
- B. 6.6%
- C. 6.4%
- D. 6.5%

ANSWER: D

8. Which State Won The Vijay Hazare Trophy 2024-25 For A Record Fifth Time

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Vidarbha
- C. Karnataka
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: C

9. Which City's Musi River Heritage Sites Were Recently Added To The World Monuments Watch

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Chennai
- C. Jaipur
- D. Hyderabad

ANSWER: D

10. Where Is The World Economic Forum 2025, Which Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw Is Attending, Being Held

- A. Geneva
- B. Zurich
- C. Davos
- D. Basel

ANSWER: C

11. Who Has Been Appointed As The Director General Of The CRPF

- A. Anish Dayal Singh
- B. Gyanendra Pratap Singh
- C. Vitul Kumar
- D. Rakesh Asthana

ANSWER: B

12. In Which City Is Cultural Center, Named Thiruvalluvar Cultural Center, Located

- A. Jaffna
- B. Colombo
- C. Chennai
- D. Kanyakumari

ANSWER: A

13. Which Country Did The Winner Of The Men's Elite Race At The 20th Mumbai Marathon 2025 Represent

- A. Eritrea
- B. Kenya
- C. Ethiopia
- D. Uganda

ANSWER: A

14. Which Country Clinched Victory In Both Men's And Women's Categories At The Inaugural Kho Kho World Cup 2025

- A. India
- B. Nepal
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Sri Lanka

ANSWER: A

15. Which Country Signed An Mou With India To Enhance Cooperation On Cybersecurity

- A. United States
- B. Russia
- C. United Kingdom
- D. Japan

ANSWER: A

16. What does Mission SCOT primarily focus on enhancing

- A. Satellite Communication
- B. Space Domain Awareness
- C. Space Exploration
- D. Astrobiology Research

ANSWER: B

17. Under Which Scheme Did PM Modi Distribute 65 Lakh Property Cards To Rural Residents

- A. PM-KISAN Scheme
- B. Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme
- C. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana
- D. SVAMITVA Scheme

ANSWER: D

18. What Is The Rank Of India In Tobacco Industry

- A. First
- B. Second
- C. Third
- D. Fourth

ANSWER: B

19. National Bureau Of Fish Genetic Resources Was Established Under Which Institution

- A. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- B. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- C. National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
- D. Ministry of Fisheries

ANSWER: A

20. Who Was Last Maratha Chief To Accept The Subsidiary Alliance Of The British

- A. Gaikwad
- B. Scindia
- C. Holkar
- D. Bhonsle

ANSWER: C