

International Organizations and Bilateral Relations

for
Civil Services Examinations



Australia • Brazil • India • Mexico • Singapore • United Kingdom • United States



**International
Organizations and
Bilateral Relations
for
Civil Services
Examinations**

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PREFACE

If you ever happen to be walking down the streets of places where preparation for Civil Services is done, it will not be uncommon for you to come across or make the acquaintance of ‘several’ starry eyed yet completely committed IAS aspirants. Yet, ‘several’ would be an understatement given the number that runs into lakhs! But when we say committed, we mean it; these young men and women are ready to sacrifice almost all their youthful follows including sleep, comfort and even a semblance of a normal life to achieve one goal—IAS!

Sadly, this dream remains a distant one for a large majority of these aspirants in spite of the endless hours of study and sleep forsaken nights. When we tried to unravel WHY, the responses were almost synchronous:

“The subject was so vast that there was too much to cover and I could never complete it.”

“I read so much but could not retain it.”

“I studied something but was quizzed on something else in the exam.”

“I kept reading but did not attempt to solve the past year papers or give a mock exam.”

“Subscribing to several sources of information/preparation such as a coaching class, the internet and books was futile; after all there are only 24 hours in a day.”

“My almirah was full of too many books, but I could barely complete a few.”

And while the candid answers stated above clearly gave us a challenging problem—we did not attempt to solve it. We instead focused on a holistic solution—the synchronizing of effort i.e. Learning and Positive Results!

It is with this aim that we—PrepMate collaborated with Cengage India—are continuously striving to develop a comprehensive learning model that is a combination of online and offline so as to effectively address the issues that most aspirants grapple with.

About the Online–Offline Learning Model

The learning model initiates the process with a series of books targeted at cracking the UPSC exam. The books stand apart from others available because of the following unique features:

- We use a conceptual approach, simple language, explain concepts with diagrams, cite sufficient examples, pose pertinent questions in a reader friendly format—to ensure that the contents of these books can be read and assimilated in a time-bound manner.
- The content is specially designed taking into account the trend in UPSC exams in recent years. We have also included the previous years’ questions (with solutions) after every chapter.

- The Practice Questions at the end of each chapter are exhaustive to provide sufficient preparation to crack the exams.
- The book series also contains additional information on 'how to write answers' along with what your approach should be for the mains—here too we have explained by solving questions and showing you the 'preferred answering style'.
- We have tried to encapsulate all that is required to be learnt for a particular subject into a single book.

Usually, an aspirant purchases a book, but never gets a chance to contact the authors. We believe that the contact among aspirants and authors is important for learning and motivation of the aspirants. That is precisely why we have developed an application and a web portal to answer your queries and provide you with continuous support during your preparation.

It is through this online system that we provide the following services:

1. Videos covering important and difficult topics
2. Answer writing practice sessions
3. Daily prelims quiz
4. Assistance in interview preparation
5. Regular updates
6. Daily currentaffairs
7. Monthly current affairs magazine
8. Radio news analysis
9. Educational videos
10. Previous years' papers and solutions
11. Free study materials

Looking forward to being your partner in the journey towards achieving your dream!

In case you have any specific queries or constructive feedback you can always share the same with us via e-mail at info@prepmate.in.

PrepMate

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“We cannot accomplish all that we want to do without working together”

The complete UPSC learning module by PrepMate has been the culmination of more than a year of ideation and brain storming with a lot of people. It is only natural that we should gratefully acknowledge their valuable contribution sincerely. Nirmal Singla, Ramnik Jindal, Sharat Gupta, Subhash Singla and Vijay Singla—thank you for your continuous support and motivation.

We would also like to thank Maninder Mann, Rajinder Paul Singla and Sundeep Singh Garha who helped us in first conceiving and later developing the synergistic online–offline model of the project—without you we would be missing our competitive edge.

Implementation of strategy can more often than not prove challenging and the development of the online module did prove to be tougher than we had envisaged. But our technical team was focused on enabling our dream and delivering the best and they surely did. With a specific mention to the testing of both the website and the application, we would like to thank Parth, Tanvir and Surabhi who did their job patiently and effectively in spite of the road blocks.

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We sincerely acknowledge the initiatives and support from the entire editorial team of Cengage India in the process of publishing this book.

PrepMate



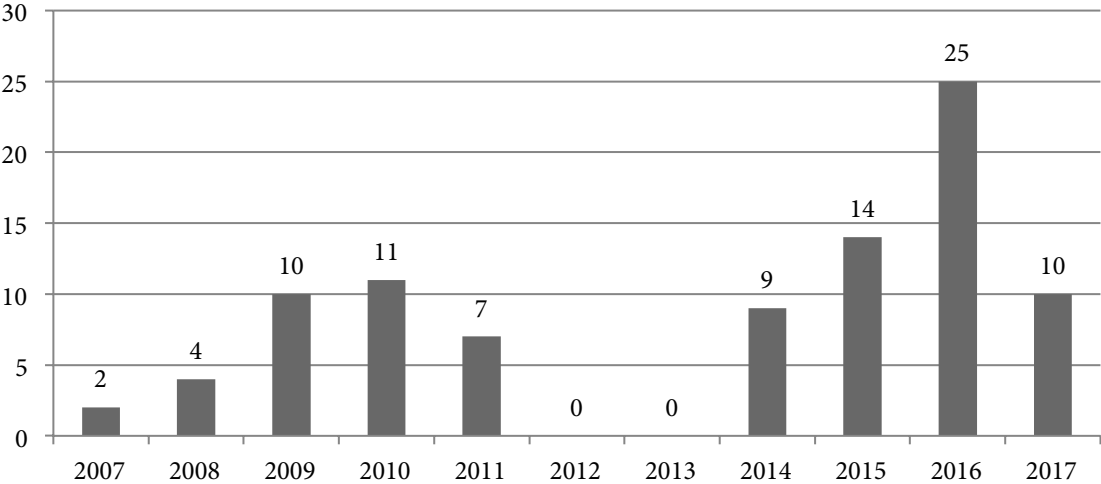
LIST OF VIDEOS

1.	How to Prepare International Organizations and Bilateral Relations
2.	United Nations
3.	SAARC and BIMSTEC
4.	Non-Proliferation Treaty
5.	Indo-Pak Border
6.	Issue of Tamils in Sri Lanka
7.	Issue of Madhesis in Nepal
8.	Indo-China Border Conflict
9.	Israel–Palestine
10.	ISIS

Chapter-wise Break Up of Previous Year's Questions (Prelims)

Chapter name	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	Total
1. United Nations	2		1					1	1			5
2. Regional Organizations, Associations and Groupings	2	5	4	2				3	4		1	21
3. Organizations, Treaties and Associations to Promote Disarmament	1	1	1				2					5
4. International Economic Organizations	1	4	2	1			1	5	2	1		17
5. Organizations, Groups and Agreements in the Field of Environment		9	3	4			1	2	1	1		21
6. International (Non-Governmental Organizations)	1	2	3	1			1		2			10
7. Reports and Indexes	1	2										3
8. Cold War											1	1
9. Fundamentals of India's Foreign Policy							1					1
10. Evolution of India's Foreign Policy										1		1
11. India and Its Neighbours	1	1										2
12. India's Relations with the Rest of the World	1	1					1			1		4
13. Contemporary International Issues				1								1
Total	10	25	14	9	0	0	7	11	10	4	2	92

Number of Questions Asked in International Organizations and Bilateral Relations



Chapter

1

UNITED NATIONS

1 INTRODUCTION



United Nations is an international organization which was established on 24 October 1945 after World War II to prevent another such conflict and promote international cooperation. The organization replaced the ineffective 'League of Nations'.

League of Nations was the first international organization whose principal aim was to maintain world peace. It was formed in the year 1920 after World War I.

2 MAIN AIMS OF UN

1. To maintain international peace and security.
2. To promote friendly relations and coordination amongst nations.
3. To provide humanitarian aid in case of natural disaster, armed conflict, etc.
4. To safeguard human rights, foster social and economic development, protect environment, etc.

Headquarter: New York, the United States.

3 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF UN

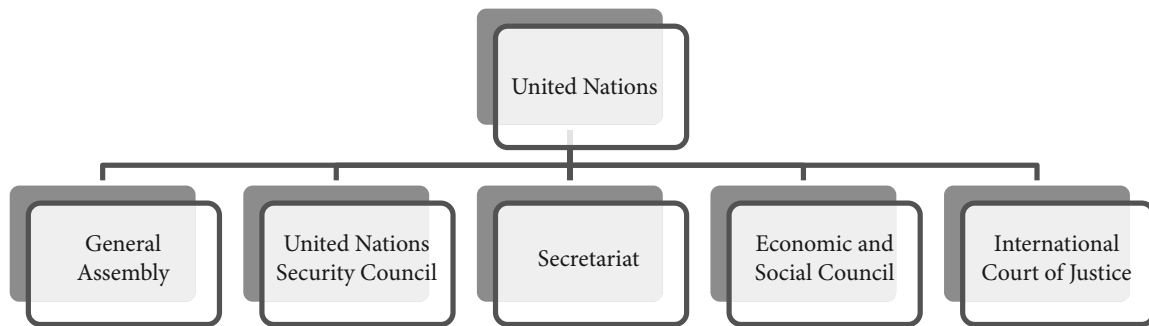
There are six official languages of UN, namely Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

4 STRUCTURE

The UN system is based on five principal organs: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Secretariat and the International Court of Justice. There was a sixth organ, namely Trusteeship Council which suspended its operations in November 1994, upon the independence of Palau which was the last colony. Trusteeship Council was established to oversee the transition of colonies into independent nations and to ensure that these territories were administered in the best interests of their inhabitants and of international peace and security.

UN General Assembly

General Assembly is the main deliberative body of UN. It has representation of 193 members of which South Sudan is the latest addition. It is based on the principle of equality and, thus, all nations have a single vote. However, major decisions are taken on the basis of consensus.



How a nation becomes the member of the UN?

The UN Charter dictates who can become member of the UN. It states that: 'Membership in the United Nations is open to all peace-loving states which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and, in the judgment of the Organization, are able and willing to carry out these obligations. The admission of any such state for membership in the United Nations will be affected by the decision of the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council.'

Only sovereign states can become UN members. Although today all UN members are fully sovereign states, four of the original members (Belarus, India, Philippines and Ukraine) were not independent at the time of their admission.

Some entities may be considered sovereign states but are not members due to the fact that the UN does not consider them as such. These, as well as international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), can only become United Nations General Assembly observers, who are allowed to speak but not vote in General Assembly meetings.



Independent Nation States Which Are Not Members of the UN

1. **Taiwan**—Taiwan left the UN when the Republic of China got its seat. Taiwan claims itself as original China.
2. **Kosovo**—Kosovo has gained independence from Serbia. Its independence is recognized by some nations of the world.
3. **Vatican City**—The Vatican City is an observer state at UN with all the rights of full membership except voting.
4. **Palestine**—In 2012, Palestine was granted the status of non-member observer state. It has not been admitted to the UN as a full member till now.

Functions of UNGA

1. It considers the activities of various organizations and agencies of UN and approves budget for them.

2. It discusses any question relating to international peace and security and makes recommendations thereon, except where a dispute or situation is currently being discussed by the Security Council.
3. It considers reports from the Security Council and other United Nations organs and agencies.
4. It discusses other issues of importance for various nations of the world.

Security Council

The Security Council is primarily charged with maintaining peace and security amongst nations. The Security Council consists of fifteen member states, five permanent members—China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States—and 10 non-permanent members which are elected for a two-year term.

The non-permanent members are chosen from regional groups which are as follows:

- African Group: 3 members
- Asia-Pacific Group: 2 members
- Eastern European Group including Russia: 1 member
- Latin American and Caribbean Group: 2 members
- Western European, North America, Australia and New Zealand Group: 2 members; at least one of these must be from Western Europe

One of the non-permanent members of the council is an Arab country, alternately from the African or Asia-Pacific groups.

Every year the UN General Assembly elects five new members for a two-year term; these elections always begin in October and continue until the two-third majority for countries of each region has been reached. Re-election is allowed, but the term must not be consecutive.

Decision making at UNSC

Decisions at Security Council require vote of at least nine members. Each member of the Security Council has one vote. Decisions of the Security Council on all other matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members including the concurring votes of the permanent members.

The creators of the United Nations Charter conceived that five permanent members have important role in the maintenance of international peace and security. Thus, they were granted a special voting power known as the 'right to veto' along with the special status of Permanent member states at the Security Council. 'Right to veto' means that if one of the five permanent members cast a negative vote in the 15-member Security Council, the resolution or decision would not be approved. 'Right to veto' is available to the permanent member when UNSC makes recommendation for appointment of Secretary General or for entry of new nation in UN.

If a permanent member does not fully agree with the proposed resolution and does not wish to cast a veto, it may choose to abstain, thus allowing the resolution to be adopted if it obtains the required number of nine favourable votes.

The five permanent members of the Security Council are the only countries recognized as nuclear-weapon states under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. While other organs of the UN can only make 'recommendations' to member states, the Security Council has the power to take binding decisions.

The Charter distinguishes, however, between votes on 'procedural matters' and votes on 'all other matters'. Procedural matters are matters of routine nature. It stipulates that when voting on procedural matters, a negative vote cast by a permanent member does not invalidate a decision; it stands if it scores nine affirmative votes. Procedural matters include:

- submission to the General Assembly of any questions relating to the maintenance of international peace and security;
- request to the General Assembly to make a recommendation on the dispute or situation which is under consideration of UNSC;
- request to the Secretary-General for the convocation of a special session of the General Assembly;
- approval of annual reports of the General Assembly;
- holding of meetings at places other than the seat of the UN; or
- establishment of subsidiary organs the Council deems necessary for the performance of its functions.



Why Does India Seek Permanent Seat of UNSC with Veto Power?

India seeks permanent seat of UNSC with veto power on the following grounds:

1. **Representation of Population:** One-sixth of global population resides in India.
2. **Faith in UN:** India has shown considerable faith in UN and abided by its values such as anti-colonization, anti-racism, international peace and security, etc.
3. **Size of economy:** India is one of the fastest growing economies of the world. India has the third largest GDP in the world in terms of purchasing power parity (PPP).
4. **Contribution to UN peace keeping missions:** India has been the largest troop contributor to UN peacekeeping missions since its inception. India has contributed nearly 180,000 troops, the largest number from any country. Indian troops have participated in more than 44 missions out of the 69 UN peacekeeping operations mandated so far and 158 Indian peacekeepers have been killed on UN missions. Even presently, India is amongst the largest troop contributors with around 8000 personnel deployed with ten UN Peacekeeping Missions, including the first Female Police Unit under the UN.

International Response to India's Demands

G-4: It is the group of four nations, namely India, Japan, Brazil and Germany. These nations support each other's claim for permanent membership of UNSC with veto power.

Coffee club: It is a group of coffee exporting nations headed by Pakistan and Italy. Coffee club is against the increase in Permanent members of UNSC but supports expansion of non-permanent members of UNSC.

Secretariat

The Secretariat is the administrative body of UN. It has an important role in setting the agenda for the UN's deliberative and decision-making bodies (the General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, and Security Council), and the implementation of the decision of these bodies.

To elaborate, the mandate of the secretariat is a wide one. An ex-secretary general described the role of UN secretariat as follows:

'It can introduce new ideas. It can, in proper forms, take initiatives. It can put the findings before member governments which will influence their actions.

The United Nations Department of Political Affairs, which has a role analogous to the ministry of foreign affairs, is a part of the secretariat. The department of United Nations Peace Keeping Operations is also a part of the secretariat.

The secretariat is the main source of economic and political analysis for the General Assembly and Security Council; it administers operations initiated by UN's deliberative organs, operates political missions, prepares assessments that precede peacekeeping operations, appoints the heads of peacekeeping operations, conducts surveys and research.

It communicates with non-state actors such as media and non government organizations, and is responsible for publishing all of the treaties and international agreements.'

Secretary General

The Secretariat is headed by Secretary General. He serves as the UN's top diplomat. The current Secretary-General is António Guterres, who replaced Ban Ki-moon in 2017.

The Secretary General is appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendations of the Security Council. In other words, there is a two-stage process for appointment of Secretary General: a recommendation by the Security Council followed by the decision of General Assembly.

The UN Charter does not specify the term of Secretary General. When adopting its resolution, the practice of the Council has been to specify the term of office for its recommended candidate. Similarly, the assembly while adopting the resolution for appointment of Secretary General specify the term. Except for some adjustments during the early years of the United Nations, the terms of office of Secretaries-General have been fixed at five years.

UN Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) coordinates the work of the UN's specialized agencies, functional commissions, regional commissions, and UN funds and programmes.

The ECOSOC serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues and formulating policy recommendations addressed to member states and the United Nations system. A number of non-governmental organizations have been granted consultative status to the Council to participate in the work of the United Nations. ECOSOC's purview extends over 70% of the human and financial resources of the entire UN system.

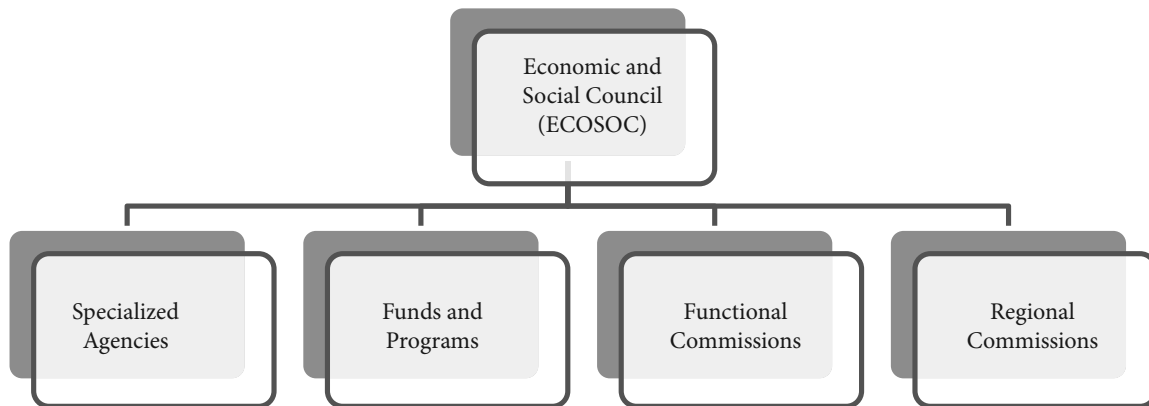
The ECOSOC consists of 54 member states, elected by the General Assembly with two-third majority for three-year term. In carrying out its mandate, ECOSOC consults with academics, business sector representatives and more than 2,500 registered non-governmental organizations.

Chief Executives Board for Coordination

The Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) is the highest level coordination forum in the United Nations comprising the leadership of 31 member organizations.

The underlying premise behind CEB is that an institutional mechanism was needed to coordinate the activities of various specialized bodies working under UN.

CEB meets are held twice a year under the chairmanship of the UN Secretary -General. It reports to ECOSOC and General Assembly.



Specialized agencies

Specialized agencies are autonomous organizations working with the United Nations and with each other through the coordinating machinery of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Specialized agencies may or may not have been originally created by the United Nations, but they are incorporated into the United Nations System by the United Nations Economic and Social Council. At present, the UN has total 15 specialized agencies that carry out various functions on behalf of the UN. The specialized agencies are listed below:

Important specialized agencies of UN

1. **Food and Agriculture Organization:** It helps developing countries and countries in transition to modernize and improve agriculture, forestry and fishery practices, ensuring good nutrition and food security to all. Its motto is 'let there be bread'.
2. **International Labour Organization:** The Organization aims at promoting social and economic progress and improving labour conditions. It sets labour standards for adoption of member nations

such as hours of work and minimum wages. Some of these labour standards are recommendatory, while others are mandatory. If a member nation does not follow the mandatory standard, then it is required to give explanation for the same. It also creates awareness about labour issues and conducts research in these issues.

3. **International Maritime Organization:** A specialized agency of the United Nations that is responsible for measures to improve the safety and security of international shipping and to prevent marine pollution from ships. The IMO's objectives can be best summed up by its slogan—'Safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean oceans.'
4. **International Monetary Fund (IMF):** The IMF plays three major roles in the global monetary system. The Fund surveys and monitors economic developments, lends funds to countries with balance-of-payment problems and provides technical assistance and training for countries requesting it.
5. **World Bank Group:** The World Bank Group (WBG) is a family of five international organizations that provide loans and other assistance to member nations to facilitate social and economic progress. The five organizations are as follows:
 - a. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
 - b. The International Development Association (IDA)
 - c. The International Finance Corporation (IFC)
 - d. The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
 - e. The International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)
6. **World Health Organization:** The World Health Organization (WHO) is responsible for directing and coordinating health. WHO has come to play a vital role as an actor in the field of international public health and international public health policy.

WHO publishes World Health Report (WHR) annually or biennially in multiple languages; each report includes an expert assessment of a specific global health topic, relating to all countries that are member states of the organization. The main purpose of the WHR is to provide policy-makers, international organizations and others with the information they need to help them make appropriate health policy and funding decisions.
7. **World Intellectual Property Organization:** World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) carries out a wide variety of tasks related to the protection of Intellectual Property Rights. These include
 - assisting governments and organizations to develop the policies, administration and skills needed to protect their intellectual property;
 - administering Intellectual property related treaties;
 - running global registration systems for intellectual property;
 - delivering dispute resolution services; and
 - providing a forum for informed debate and for the exchange of expertise.

8. **International Telecommunication Union (ITU):** The ITU promotes international cooperation in assigning satellite orbits, works to improve telecommunication infrastructure in the developing world and assists in the development and coordination of worldwide technical standards.
9. **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO):** The purpose of UNESCO is to enhance international cooperation in education, science and culture. It strengthens the ties between nations and societies, and mobilizes the wider public so that each child and citizen:
 - has access to quality education;
 - may grow and live in a cultural environment rich in diversity and dialogue;
 - can fully benefit from scientific advances;
 - and can enjoy full freedom of expression.
10. **International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO):** The ICAO works with the Convention's 191 member states and industry groups to reach consensus on international civil aviation Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and policies in support of a safe, efficient, secure, economically sustainable and environmentally responsible civil aviation sector.
11. **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD):** The IFAD was established as an international financial institution in 1977 as one of the major outcomes of the 1974 World Food Conference. It is dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries. Seventy-five per cent of the world's poor live in rural areas of developing countries.
12. **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO):** The Organization's primary objective is the promotion and acceleration of industrial development in developing countries and countries undergoing transition (changing from a centrally planned economy to a market economy) and the promotion of international industrial cooperation.
13. **Universal Postal Union (UPU):** UPU is the primary forum for cooperation among postal sector players and provides technical assistance where needed. It sets the rules for international mail exchanges and makes recommendations to stimulate growth in mail, parcel and financial services volume and improve quality of service for customers.
14. **World Meteorological Organization (WMO):** WMO is the agency of the United Nations for meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences. It provides a global scale framework for international cooperation for the development of meteorology, including satellite meteorology, as well as for the attainment of the benefits deriving from its applications.
15. **World Tourism Organization (UNWTO):** The UNWTO is the United Nations' agency responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism. It promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability and offers leadership and support to the sector in advancing knowledge and tourism policies worldwide.

Related Organizations

Some organizations have a relationship with the UN defined by an arrangement different from the agreements between the specialized agencies and the UN. They are not incorporated into the United Nations system, yet perform functions which further the agenda of UN. These organizations are as follows:

1. **Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization Preparatory Commission**

The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, CTBTO Preparatory Commission, was established by the states that signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) in 1996. Its purpose is twofold: to promote the entry into force of the CTBT, which bans all nuclear explosions, and to establish a global verification regime to ensure that all nuclear tests are detected.

2. **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

It seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and inhibit the use of nuclear material for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons. It oversees the nuclear trade to ensure that nuclear fuel, technology and equipment are traded for civilian purposes and not for military purposes.

3. **International Organization for Migration (IOM)**

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As the leading international organization for migration, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

4. **Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons**

The organization verifies the adherence to the Chemical Weapons Convention which prohibits the use of chemical weapons and requires their destruction. The verification consists both of evaluation of declarations by member states and on-site inspections.

5. **World Trade Organization (WTO)**

The objective of WTO is to promote free trade amongst nations of the world to facilitate economic development. It deals with trade in goods as well as services. It also calls upon member nations to remove restrictions on foreign investment and protect intellectual property.

Funds and programmes

The Funds and Programmes were created by the United Nations General Assembly to meet the needs not envisaged at formation of UN, such as Palestine refugees, development assistance, food aid, or the environment.

They are subordinate to the United Nations, but since they are immediately controlled by distinct intergovernmental bodies and derive most of their financial resources from sources other than the United Nations budgets, they are somewhat more akin to specialized agencies than to 'subsidiary organs'.

Moreover, as their activities are more operational and carried out at field level, they have needs dictated by an environment quite different from that of headquarters-centred administrations. The Programmes and Funds apply UN rules and regulations in the realm of administration and personnel.

1. **International Trade Centre:** The International Trade Centre (ITC) is the joint technical cooperation agency of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

ITC has the following objectives:

- **Strengthen exporters:** Strengthen the international competitiveness of enterprises in developing countries and transition economies.
- **Develop trade support institutions:** Develop the capabilities of trade service providers to support exporters
- **Support policymakers:** Support policymakers in integrating the private sector into the global economy.

ITC's regular programme is financed in equal parts by WTO and the UN. ITC also implements projects, at the demand of beneficiary countries, with voluntary contributions from donor governments and civil society institutions.

2. **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**

Its principal functions are to provide international protection to refugees and other persons of concern, including stateless people, and to seek durable solutions for them. Protection includes preventing refoulement (the involuntary return of a refugee or a person of concern to a country where he or she may have a well-founded fear of persecution) and ensuring that host countries follow international norms in the treatment of refugees.

While its mandate specifically covers refugees, UNHCR also protects and assists internally displaced persons (IDPs) in conflict-generated emergencies.

3. **UN Women**

UN Women was established in July 2010, by the General Assembly, to improve the coordination work related to gender equality and empowerment of women across the UN system.

It consolidates the work of four UN gender entities: the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Division for the Advancement of Women, the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. It has an additional role of leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the UN system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

4. **UN International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)**

The UNICEF was established by the General Assembly to provide emergency assistance to children in war-ravaged countries following World War II. Thereafter, the UN General Assembly charged it with addressing the needs of children in developing countries. Its role was extended to programmes giving long-term benefits to children everywhere, particularly those in developing countries, and changed the organization's name to the United Nations Children's Fund but retained the UNICEF

acronym. The Fund also continued to provide relief and rehabilitation assistance at the time of emergencies.

5. **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**

UNCTAD promotes the integration of developing countries into the world economy. The organization functions as a forum for intergovernmental deliberations aimed at consensus building; undertakes research, policy analysis and data collection for informing government representative; and provides technical assistance to developing countries, with special attention to the needs of the least developed countries and of economies in transition.



UNCTAD Brought into Effect Two Systems for Facilitating Trade Amongst Nations

1. **Generalized System of Preferences (GSP):** Under GSP, developed nations may give trade concessions to developing nations in order to promote their exports.
2. **Generalized System of Trade Preferences (GSTP):** Under GSTP, developing nations may give trade concessions to other developing nations to promote their exports.

Though WTO requires non-discriminatory trade regime amongst nations, GSP and GSTP are permitted under WTO rules.

6. **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

The UNDP is the United Nations' lead agency for the UN development system. Its objective is to build inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies. It provides expert advice, training and financial support. Special attention is paid to the needs of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and countries emerging from conflict.

UNDP's focus is on working with developing countries to find solutions to the challenges of:

- Democratic governance
- Poverty reduction
- Crisis prevention and handling
- Environment and energy
- HIV /AIDS

7. **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**

The UNEP was established following the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. It aims to provide leadership and encourage partnerships to protect environment.

In 1997, the Governing Council adopted the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the UN Environment Programme, which established the following core mandate for UNEP:

- Analyse the state of the global environment and assess global and regional environmental trends, provide policy advice and early warning information on environmental threats, and promote international cooperation and action, based on the best scientific and technical capabilities available
- Further the development of international environmental law aimed at sustainable development
- Stimulate cooperation on emerging environmental challenges
- Strengthen its role in coordinating environmental activities in the UN system
- Promote greater awareness of and facilitate effective cooperation in implementing the international environmental agenda
- Serve as an effective link between the scientific community and policy-makers at national and international levels
- Provide policy and advisory services in key areas of institution-building to governments and other relevant institutions.



United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm Conference)

The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (also known as the Stockholm Conference) was an international conference convened under United Nations held in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1972. It was the UN's first major conference on international environmental issues, and marked a turning point in the development of international environmental politics.

8. United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

UN-HABITAT is charged with coordinating human settlement activities within the UN system and facilitating the global exchange of information on shelter and sustainable urban development. It also assists countries with policy and technical advice in solving their human settlement problems.



APMCHUD

APMCHUD (Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development) is a consultative mechanism on the promotion of sustainable housing and urban development amongst Asia Pacific countries.

It was established under the aegis and support of UN-Habitat. The theme of the first conference, i.e. 2006 New Delhi APMCHUD conference, was 'A vision for sustainable urbanization in the Asia-Pacific by 2020'. The second conference was held in Tehran, Iran.

The sixth edition of Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD) was held in New Delhi in 2016. The theme of this conference was 'Emerging Urban Forms-Policy Reforms and Governance Structures in the Context of New Urban Agenda'.

9. **World Food Programme (WFP)**

The WFP was established by the General Assembly and UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as the UN System's food assistance organization. The WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide.

The Programme also administers the International Emergency Food Reserve (IEFR), established by the General Assembly with a minimum target of 500,000 tonnes of cereals.

10. **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

The UN Population Fund (UNFPA) is a United Nations development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes.

As part of the UN humanitarian system, UNFPA takes the lead in providing supplies and services to protect reproductive health, with an emphasis on the special needs and vulnerabilities of women and young people. The Fund supports various data collection activities, including censuses, to provide detailed information for planning and rapid health assessments to allow for appropriate, effective and efficient relief.

11. **United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)**

The UNOPS is an operational arm of the United Nations, supporting the successful implementation of its partners' peace-building, humanitarian and development projects around the world.

12. **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**

The UNODC is the secretariat of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three supplementary protocols include: Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children; Smuggling of Migrants; and illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms. It is also the secretariat of the Conference of the State Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption. UNODC promotes the ratification and implementation of all of these conventions and protocols through capacity building, training and technical assistance.

13. **United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)**

The UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was established by the General Assembly following the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict, to carry out direct relief and work programmes for Palestine refugees. In the absence of a solution to the Palestine refugee situation, the General Assembly has repeatedly renewed UNRWA's mandate.

Functional commissions

In order to perform all the functions within the ECOSOC agenda, a number of functional commissions have been established. These bodies are deliberative bodies whose role is to consider and make recommendations on issues in their areas of responsibility and expertise. The Functional Commissions are required to report annually to the ECOSOC on their activities submitting draft resolutions and recommendations to the Council.

1. **United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)**

The UNHRC is responsible for promoting and protecting human rights around the world. Its 47 seats are filled by member states elected for three-year term.

The UNHRC is the successor to the UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR). The council works closely with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

The General Assembly established the UNHRC by adopting a resolution in 2006, in order to replace the previous CHR, which was ineffective in protection of human rights.

The UNHRC addresses human rights-related situations in all UN member states. The UNHRC also addresses important human rights issues such as freedom of association, freedom of expression, freedom of belief and religion, women's rights, LGBT rights, and the rights of racial and ethnic minorities.

The UNHRC holds regular sessions three times a year, in March, June and September. The UNHRC can decide at any time to hold a special session to address human rights violations and emergencies, at the request of one-third of the member states.



Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

UNGA established the post of High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote and protect the effective enjoyment by all people of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development.

It further held that the High Commissioner should function as the UN official with principal responsibility for global human rights efforts. The High Commissioner acts under the direction and authority of the Secretary-General.

OHCHR represents the world's commitment to universal human rights and is the principal UN office mandated to promote and protect the human rights of all people. OHCHR also serves as the secretariat to the Human Rights Council.

The High Commissioner is appointed by the Secretary-General and approved by the General Assembly, with regard to geographical rotation. Appointments are for a fixed term of four years, with the possibility of one renewal for another fixed term of four years.

2. **Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)**

The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was constituted to oversee the outcomes of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development/Earth Summit. It was replaced in 2013 by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, which meets under the General Assembly every four years and the ECOSOC during remaining three years.



Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (known as the Global Goals) are a set of targets relating to future international development. They have replaced the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) after their expiry in 2015. The SDGs were first formally discussed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 (Rio+20). SDGs are further divided into 17 categories as against the MDGs which were divided into 8 categories.

SDGs have target year of 2030. The goals are interconnected—often the key to success on one goal involves issues associated with another goal. The SDGs provide clear guidelines and targets for all the countries in accordance with their own priorities and the environmental challenges of the world at large.

Sustainable development goals are as follows:

- Goal 1:** End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- Goal 2:** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture
- Goal 3:** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all the people at all the ages
- Goal 4:** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Goal 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Goal 6:** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Goal 7:** Ensure access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all
- Goal 8:** Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 9:** Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- Goal 10:** Reduce inequality within and amongst countries
- Goal 11:** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Goal 12:** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Goal 13:** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- Goal 14:** Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources
- Goal 15:** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- Goal 17:** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

3. UN Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW)

CSW has been described as the UN organ promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women. Every year, representatives of member states gather at United Nations headquarters in New York to evaluate progress on gender equality, identify challenges, set global standards and formulate concrete policies to promote gender equality and advancement of women worldwide.

Amongst its activities, the CSW has drafted several conventions and declarations, including the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 1967 and formed women-focused agencies such as the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), which was merged with other elements of the United Nations system into a new organization, UN Women, in January 2011.

The United Nations Development Fund for Women, commonly known as UNIFEM, was established in 1976 originally as the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women in the International Women's Year. It provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programmes and strategies that promote women's rights, political participation and economic security.

Voluntary Fund for the UN Decade for Women was given an expanded mandate by the General Assembly in February 1985 and was renamed as United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). UNIFEM became an autonomous organization, working closely with UNDP.

In January 2011, UNIFEM was merged with International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues (OSAGI), and Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW). The collective body came to be called UN Women.



Beijing Platform for Action (1995)

During the fourth 'World Conference for Women' held at Beijing, the delegates prepared a Declaration and Platform for Action aimed at achieving greater equality and opportunity for women which came to be known as Beijing Platform for Action.

Mission: The Platform for Action is an agenda for women's empowerment and it aims at removing all the obstacles to women's active participation in all spheres of public and private life through a full and equal share in economic, social, cultural and political decision-making. It places a special emphasis on reproductive rights through its legislation regarding family planning, which states that it is the right of all women 'to be informed and to have access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning of their choice, as well as other methods of their choice for regulation of fertility which are not against the law'.

What is World Conference for Women?

World Conference for Women is an event organized by UN CSW aimed at achieving gender



equality and women empowerment. So far, four such conferences have been organized. The locations were Mexico City in 1975, Copenhagen in 1980, Nairobi in 1985 and Beijing in 1995.

United Nation Forum on Forests

It was established in 2000 with the objective of management, conservation and development of all types of forests.

The Forum has universal membership, and is composed of all member states of the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

Principal functions:

- To facilitate implementation of forest-related agreements and foster a common understanding on sustainable forest management;
- To provide for continued policy development and dialogue amongst governments, international organizations, etc.
- To enhance cooperation as well as policy and programme coordination on forest-related issues.
- To foster international cooperation.
- To strengthen political commitment to the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

Other functional commissions

- UN Commission for Social Development
- Commission on Narcotic Drugs
- Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
- Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)
- Commission on Population and Development
- UN Statistical Commission

Regional commissions

Regional Commissions are the regional outposts of the United Nations and represent an integral part of the regional institutional landscape. Stationed in five regions of the world, they share the key objectives of aiming to foster economic integration at the sub-regional and regional levels and promoting the regional implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

International Court of Justice

The International Court of Justice (also called World Court) is the judicial branch of the United Nations. It is located at Peace Palace in The Hague, the Netherlands.

It settles legal disputes between states and gives advisory opinions to the UN and its specialized agencies. Only a state can sue another state in ICJ. Neither State can sue an individual /organization nor an individual /organization can sue the state in ICJ.

Composition

The International Court of Justice is composed of 15 judges elected for a nine-year term of office by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council. These organs vote simultaneously but separately. In order to be elected, a candidate must receive an absolute majority of the votes in both bodies. This sometimes makes it necessary for the number of rounds of voting to be carried out. Elections are staggered, with five judges elected every three years to ensure continuity within the court. If a judge dies in office, the practice has generally been to elect a judge in a special election to complete the term. There is a provision that every sitting judge should be from a different nation. All judges of ICJ should be elected regardless of their nationality amongst persons of high moral character, who are either qualified for the highest judicial office in their home states or known as lawyers with sufficient competence in international law.

There is an informal understanding that the seats will be distributed by geographic regions so that there are five seats for Western countries, three for African states, two for Eastern European states, three for Asian states, and two for Latin American and Caribbean states. The five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (France, Russia, China, the United Kingdom and the United States) always have a judge on the Court, thereby occupying three of the Western seats, one of the Asian seats and one of the Eastern European seats.

Criticism of ICJ

1. 'Compulsory' jurisdiction is limited to cases where both parties have agreed to submit to its decision. According to the principle of sovereignty in international law, there is no entity that could force the states into practice of the law or punish the states, in case any violation of international law occurs. Thus, membership in the UN and ICJ does not give the court automatic jurisdiction over the member states, but it is the consent of each state to follow the jurisdiction that matters.
2. Organizations, private enterprises and individuals do not have access to International Court. This also means that the potential victims of crimes against humanity, such as minor ethnic groups or indigenous people cannot go to International Court.

UN agencies likewise cannot bring up a case except in advisory opinions (a process initiated by the court and non-binding).

3. Other international courts such as the International Criminal Court are not under the umbrella of the International Court. Numerous international courts sometimes makes it hard for the courts to engage in effective and collective jurisdiction.
4. The International Court does not enjoy a full separation of powers, with permanent members of the Security Council being able to veto enforcement of cases, even those to which they consented to be bound.

For instance, after the court ruled that the United States covert war against Nicaragua was in violation of international law (**Nicaragua vs. United States**), the United States withdrew from compulsory jurisdiction in 1986 to accept the court's jurisdiction only on a case-by-case basis. Chapter XIV of the United Nations Charter authorizes the UN Security Council to enforce Court rulings. However, such enforcement is subject to the veto power of the five permanent members of the Council, which the United States used in the Nicaragua case.

Conclusion

It is to be noted that though almost all states have signed the treaty to create the International Court of Justice, only a third of them have subjected themselves completely to its jurisdiction. It is for the same reason that states have not approached the court on many occasions and hence, only around 10 cases are filed every year and approximately 100 judgements have been delivered by ICJ so far.

Thus, the ICJ has not been able to resolve major disputes amongst enemy nations. However, its judgements have been adhered to by friendly nations on issues of secondary importance.

There are two other international judicial bodies i.e. International Criminal Court (ICC) and Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA).

International Criminal Court

ICC is an international tribunal which has jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for the international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. ICC is based in The Hague, the Netherlands.

The ICC is intended to complement existing national judicial systems and thus, it exercises jurisdiction only when national courts are unwilling or unable to prosecute criminals or when the United Nations Security Council or individual states refer situations to the Court. The ICC began functioning on 1 July 2002, the date when the Rome Statute entered into force.

The Rome Statute is a multilateral treaty which serves as the ICC's foundational and governing document. States which become party to the Rome Statute become member states of the ICC. Currently, there are 124 states which are party to the Rome Statute.

India has not signed the Rome Statute and, thus, preferred to stay outside the purview of ICC. Following are the reasons given by India for not signing the Rome Statute:

- India argues that the statute brings several crimes under the purview of the Court, which are subject to national jurisdiction and thus affects state sovereignty.
- The statute does not include terrorism as a crime against humanity.

- The statute gives special and discriminatory powers to the UN Security Council to refer or block the consideration of cases.

Difference between ICC and ICJ

1. The International Court of Justice has no jurisdiction to try individuals accused of war crimes or crimes against humanity. However, the ICC tries individual people for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crimes of aggression.
2. All UN member states are automatically members of the ICJ, whereas nations must individually become members of ICC by ratifying Rome Statute.
3. ICJ is an organ of UN, whereas ICC is independent of UN.

Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)

The PCA is not a court in the traditional sense, but provides services of arbitration tribunal to resolve disputes between member states, international organizations, or private parties arising out of international agreements. PCA does not have permanent judges. The PCA is a permanent bureaucracy that assists temporary tribunals to resolve disputes amongst states (and similar entities), intergovernmental organizations, or even private parties arising out of international agreements. PCA was established by treaty at the First Hague Peace Conference, the Netherlands, in 1899.

Parties to the Convention on the Pacific Settlement of disputes of 1899 (71 member states) and 1907 (101 member states) are automatically parties to the PCA. As 51 member states are parties to both conventions, the PCA has 121 member states: 119 members of the United Nations, as well as Kosovo and Palestine. India is a party to the PCA according to the Hague Convention on 1899.

PCA undertakes a variety of cases spanning legal issues involving territorial and maritime boundaries, sovereignty, human rights, international investment and trade. The order is binding on countries as there is no appeal process in the UN tribunal.

The Peace Palace was built from 1907 until 1913 for PCA in The Hague. In addition, Hague Academy of International Law, Peace Palace Library and the International Court of Justice also share the same building.

5 CRITICAL EVALUATION OF UN

1. There has been criticism that the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, who are all nuclear powers, have created an exclusive nuclear club that addresses the strategic interests and political motives of the permanent members.
2. Critics call the UN undemocratic, representing the interests of the governments of the nations who form it and not necessarily the individuals, organizations and groups within those nations.
3. UN has failed to achieve its economic and social development goals successfully due to paucity of funds. It is also alleged that the expenses incurred by UN bodies are high because of high salaries of officials.
4. On the positive side, it is to be noted that UN has been successful in achieving coordination of activities and setting standards in various fields.

Practice Questions

1. Which of the following statements regarding the 'veto' power in the Security Council is correct according to the United Nations Charter?
 - (a) Any permanent member of the Security Council can prevent any decision from being accepted, by vetoing it.
 - (b) Any permanent member of the Security Council can prevent any decision on non-procedural matters from being accepted, by vetoing it.
 - (c) All the permanent members of the Security Council enjoy veto power but only on resolutions affecting their national security.
 - (d) Any non-permanent member of the Security Council can prevent any resolution from being passed by voting against it.
2. Which of the following statements about 'Veto Power' with regard to United Nations is correct?
 - (a) One veto can stall a Security Council resolution.
 - (b) It is a kind of positive vote power.
 - (c) The Secretary General uses this power when not satisfied with any decision of the Council.
 - (d) All the members of the Security Council possess the veto power.
3. How many non-permanent members are there of United Nations Security Council?
 - (a) Five
 - (b) Ten
 - (c) Fifteen
 - (d) Twenty
4. Which of the following statements about the United Nations organs is correct?
 - (a) Decisions of the General Assembly are binding on all members.
 - (b) The term of the non-permanent members of the Security Council is for three years.
 - (c) International Court of Justice has 20 Judges elected for a period of five years.
 - (d) The Trusteeship Council has been suspended since 1 November 1994.
5. Consider the following statements:
 1. Only the five permanent members of the Security Council have been given the veto power.
 2. As the concurrence of five permanent members is essential, they can use veto power even in procedural matters.Which of the statements give above is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
6. Which are the official languages of the UN?
 - (a) English, French and Russian
 - (b) English, French, German and Russian
 - (c) English, French, Russian, Chinese and Hindi
 - (d) English, French, Chinese, Russian, Arabic and Spanish

7. When did the United Nations Organization come into existence?
- (a) 24 October 1945
 - (b) 24 October 1943
 - (c) 26 November 1945
 - (d) 26 November 1943
8. The Secretary General of the United Nations is appointed
- (a) by the General Assembly upon recommendation of United Nations Secretariat
 - (b) from amongst the officers of the permanent secretariat of United Nations on the principle of seniority and merit
 - (c) by the General Assembly upon the recommendations of the Security Council
 - (d) by the Security Council
9. In the context of Antonio Guterres election as United Nations Secretary General recently, consider the following statements:
1. Secretary General of United Nations is elected by the United Nations Security Council.
 2. The post of Secretary-General of United Nations is not as powerful even though he serves as the UN's top diplomat and chief administrative officer.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
10. Consider the following statements:
1. The five permanent members of the Security Council are the only countries recognized as nuclear-weapons states under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.
 2. The term of non-permanent members of the Council is five years.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
11. With reference to the Security Council of United Nations, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. It has 15 members.
 2. Its non-permanent members are chosen by United Nations General Assembly.
 3. Retiring members are not eligible for immediate re-election.
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
12. Consider the following organizations:
1. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
 2. International Finance Corporation
 3. International Fund for Agricultural Development
 4. International Monetary Fund

Which of these are agencies of the United Nations?

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 3 and 4
- (c) 1, 2 and 4
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

13. Consider the following statements with respect to United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development:

- 1. The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development was constituted in 1992 during United Nations conference on Environment and Development.
- 2. The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development was replaced in 2013 by the High Level political forum on Sustainable Development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

14. Consider the following statements about UN women:

- 1. UN Nations Development fund for women was merged with other dedicated agencies under the UN system for welfare of women to form UN women in 2011.
- 2. UN women was formed as single agency under UN to deal with women related issues in order to ensure coordination amongst activities related to welfare of women.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

15. Consider the following statements about the UNO:

- 1. The UN was formed to avoid war amongst nations and resolve international disputes through peaceful means.
- 2. The Charter of the UN explicitly mentions that UNSC permanent members shall carry nuclear weapons to safeguard the global community.
- 3. The UN has resolved all the major global disputes including the Palestine dispute.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 3
- (c) 2 and 3 (d) 1 only

16. What is the 'World Conference for Women'?

- 1. World conference for women is an event organized by United Nations to discuss issues related to women.
- 2. So far, five such conferences have taken place. The last one was held at Beijing.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

17. With reference to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. UN-Habitat is charged with coordinating human settlement activities within the UN system.
2. Its aim is to build 10 million households every year.
3. It also assists countries with policy and technical advice in solving their human settlement problems.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

18. With reference to The International Court of Justice (also called World Court), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It settles legal disputes between states and gives advisory opinions to the UN and its specialized agencies.
2. Only state can sue another state in ICJ. Neither State can sue an individual/organization nor an individual/organization can sue the state in ICJ.
3. The ICJ is composed of 15 judges with a nine year term. There is a provision that every sitting judge should be from a different nation.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

19. Consider the following organizations:

1. International Criminal Court
2. United Nations Human Rights Council
3. International Court of Justice

Which of the above given agencies has jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for the international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

20. Consider the following statements:

1. Permanent Court of Arbitration provides services of arbitration tribunal to resolve disputes between member states, international organizations or private parties arising out of international agreements.
2. PCA is a court and has 15 permanent judges.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

PERFECTING PAST PRELIMS

1. With reference to the United Nations, consider the following statements:
(2009)
 1. The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of UN consists of 24 member states.
 2. It is elected by a 2/3rd majority of the General Assembly for a 3-year term.Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
2. Which of the following is **not** related to United Nations? (2010)
 - (a) Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
 - (b) International Finance Corporation
 - (c) International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes
 - (d) Bank for International Settlements
3. 'Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action', often seen in the news, is (2015)
 - (a) A strategy to tackle the regional terrorism, an outcome of a meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.
 - (b) A plan of action for sustainable economic growth in the Asia-Pacific Region, an outcome of the deliberations of the Asia-Pacific Economic Forum.
 - (c) An agenda for women's empowerment, an outcome of a World Conference convened by the United Nations.
 - (d) A strategy to combat wildlife trafficking, a declaration of the East Asia Summit.
4. With reference to 'Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD)', consider the following statements:
(2017)
 1. The first APMCHUD was held in India in 2006 on the theme 'Emerging Urban Forms—Policy Responses and Governance Structure'.
 2. India hosts all the Annual Ministerial Conferences in partnership with ADB, APEC and ASEAN.Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
5. With reference to the role of UN-Habitat in the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future, which of the statements is/are correct?
(2017)
 1. UN-Habitat has been mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote socially and

environmentally sustainable towns and cities to provide adequate shelter for all.

2. Its partners are either governments or local urban authorities only.
3. UN-Habitat contributes to the overall objectives of the United Nations system to reduce poverty and to

promote access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1 only



ANSWER KEYS

Practice Questions

1. (b)	2. (a)	3. (b)	4. (d)	5. (a)
6. (d)	7. (a)	8. (c)	9. (b)	10. (a)
11. (c)	12. (d)	13. (c)	14. (c)	15. (d)
16. (a)	17. (c)	18. (d)	19. (a)	20. (a)

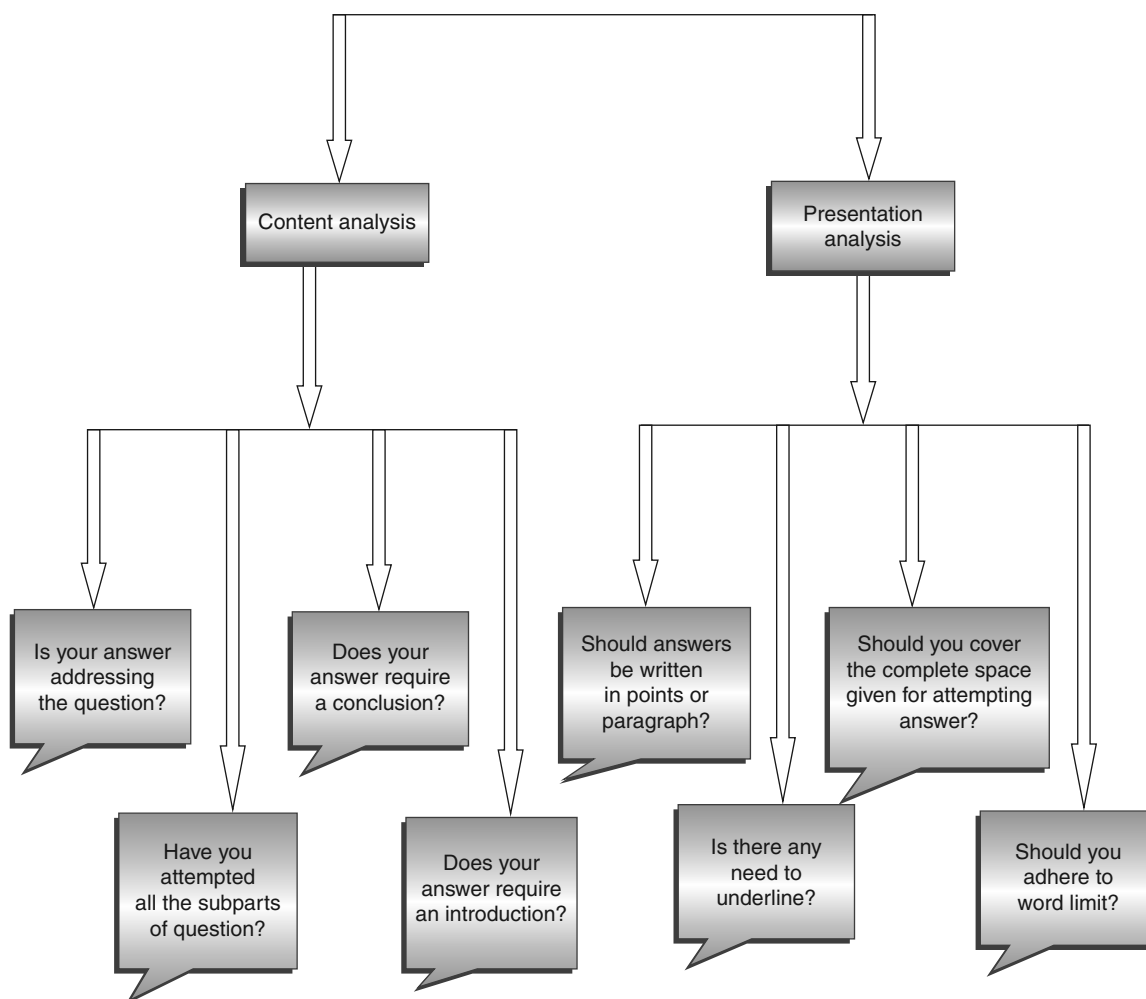
Perfecting Past Prelims

1. (b)	2. (d)	3. (c)	4. (d)	5. (b)
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Solutions for
PRACTICE
QUESTIONS AND
PERFECTING PAST
PRELIMS

INTRODUCTION
TO WRITING
ANSWERS FOR
MAINS

A good answer is based on the following aspects



PREVIOUS YEARS'
QUESTIONS
(MAINS) WITH
SOLUTIONS

1. In respect of India–Sri Lanka relations, discuss how domestic factors influence foreign policy. (2013)
Sol.

Analysis of Question	
Discuss	Write about the topic in detail, taking into account different issues or ideas.
Number of sub-parts	One
Mode of presentation	Paragraph
Importance of conclusion	Required

Introduction

Domestic factors play a significant influence on foreign policy. Such influence is profound in context of Indo-Sri Lanka relations.

Body

Tamils in Sri Lanka face multiple discriminations. The regions inhabited by Tamils are less developed as compared to other regions, their language has been recognized as official language only recently and Sri Lanka has unitary structure; thus, the Tamils lack powers of self-determination.

Tamils in India share strong ethnic ties with Tamils in Sri Lanka. Thus, there is a strong support among Tamils in India for cause of Sri Lankan Tamils. Government of India considers the sentiments of Indian Tamils in conducting its affairs with Sri Lanka.

Government of India adopts two-fold strategy. Firstly, continuous dialogue with Sri Lanka and discussion on steps taken by Sri Lanka to address the Tamil issue. Secondly, direct welfare activities in areas inhabited

by Tamils such as construction of houses, railway line, assistance in agriculture, etc.

Another important issue between India and Sri Lanka which is guided by domestic factors is the fishermen issue. Indian fishermen have tendency to drift in Sri Lankan waters. Consequently, Sri Lankan navy takes actions against them such as seizure of boats, arrest, and even shoot at sight. The strong fishermen community of India influences the Indian government to seek release of fishermen and their boats. Fishermen community even seeks direct hotline between Sri Lankan authorities and Indian authorities to resolve the issue of arrest, etc., on real time basis.

Conclusion

The two vital issues between India and Sri Lanka—issue of Tamils and fishermen are strongly guided by domestic factors.

2. What is meant by Gujral doctrine? Does it have any relevance today? Discuss. (2013)
Sol.

Analysis of Question	
Discuss	Write about the topic in detail, taking into account different issues or ideas. The directive is attached with the second sub-part.
Number of sub-parts	Two parts Part I—What is meant by Gujral doctrine? Part II—Does it have any relevance today?
Mode of presentation	Point form
Importance of conclusion	Merged in part II of the answer