

## Pre-Mix – 5 MCQs for Prelims

### Subject – International Relations

Date – 04<sup>th</sup> February 2023

#### Questions from Crash Course

1. It's a bilateral exercise between the Indian and French Air Force to enhance operational capability and interoperability and this exercise is?

- A. Garuda VII
- B. SIMBEX
- C. Agni Warrior
- D. AUSTRALIA HIND 22

2. Consider the following Statements regarding to Israel Lebanon Border Deal:

1. Under the deal, Israel receives full rights to explore the Karish field.
2. It sets a border between Lebanese and Israeli waters for the first time.
3. The agreement resolve all the border disputed between Israel and Lebanon.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1 and 3 only

#### Questions from Test Series

##### Fundamental Tests– 12 (Revision Test 2)

3. Which one of the following statements regarding Raisina Dialogue is correct?

- A. It was recently conducted by Turkey between Ukraine and Russia to end the conflict
- B. It is annual conference on geopolitics addressing issues facing the global community by India

C. It is a initiative by India and South Africa in UN to cater countries to get COVID-19 vaccine waiver

D. It is a USA-ASEAN initiative to create a safe and peaceful Indo-Pacific ocean

4. Consider the following statements with regards to United Nation Security Council(UNSC)

1. UNSC is a 15-member body with 10 permanent and 5 non-permanent members
2. India has been elected as non-permanent member of the council for the third time
3. It recommends to the General Assembly in the appointment of Secretary-General

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 3 only

#### UPSC Previous Year Question - 2019

5. With reference to Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), consider the following statements:

1. AIIB has more than 80 member nations.
2. India is the largest shareholder in AIIB.
3. AIIB does not have any members from outside Asia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

## Answers with Explanations

Click here to watch the following topics on YouTube.

Questions from Crash Course

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- A. Garuda VII
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- D. AUSTRA HIND 22

Answer : A

Explanation

- Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FASF) are participating in a bilateral exercise named 'Garuda VII' at Air Force Station Jodhpur.
- Exercise Garuda is a bilateral exercise between the Indian and French Air Force.
- The first edition of the exercise was held in 2003.
- This is the seventh edition of the bilateral exercise
- To provide a platform for both countries to enhance operational capability and interoperability, while also sharing best practices.
- Other exercises between India and France:
  - Exercise SHAKTI: It is a biennial military exercise conducted between India and France.
  - It was first conducted in the year 2011.

- Exercise Varuna: It is a bilateral naval exercise between India and France.
- Exercise La Pérouse: It is a multilateral maritime exercise led by the French Navy.
- The Indian Navy participated in this exercise for the first time in 2021

Additional Information

- La Perouse Exercise is a multilateral naval exercise aimed at improving interoperability between navies and fostering mutual understanding and cooperation between participating nations.
- The exercise also aims at deepening military-to-military relations between **India and France, Russia and the United States.**
- La Perouse Joint Exercise 2021 (LPJE 2021) was held in the Mediterranean Sea from the 5th to the 7th of April.
- The objective of the exercise was to enhance maritime cooperation between participating nations.

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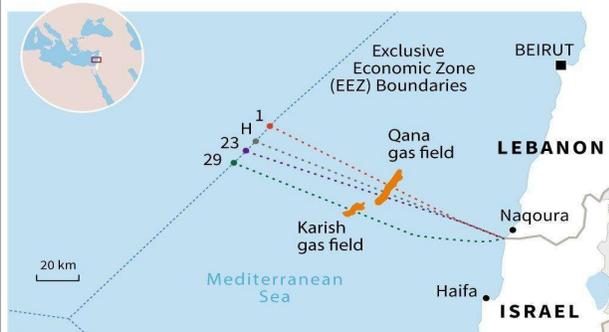
Answer : A

## Explanation

- Recently, Israel and Lebanon signed a U.S.-brokered **Maritime Border Deal** which paves the way for lucrative offshore gas extraction by the neighbours that **remain technically at war**.
- It resolves a territorial dispute in the eastern Mediterranean Sea, **an area that Lebanon** wants to explore for natural gas.
- **1 is Correct:** Under the deal, Israel receives full rights to explore the Karish field.
- **Lebanon receives full rights in the nearby Qana field, but it agreed to allow Israel a share of the royalties.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It sets a border between Lebanese and Israeli waters for the first time, largely along a demarcation referred to as Line 23.

- For years the **area under dispute covered around 860 square kilometers**, with Lebanon claiming its maritime border lay to the south of Israel's claim.
- Under those border lines, the **Karish field lay well within Israel's claimed area**.
- But recently, Lebanon revised its original maritime border claim, moving it further south and **adding about another 1,400 square km than originally claimed**.
- **The extra area includes part of the Karish field where Israel is running explorations.**
- In June the dispute flared up when London-based oil and gas exploration company **Energean** arrived to begin development of Karish on Israel's behalf.
- Lebanon **argued the field should not be developed until it had concluded talks to delineate the maritime boundary**.

### The maritime border dispute between Lebanon and Israel



- **Line 1:** The line registered by Israel with the United Nations
- **Line 23:** The line registered by Lebanon with the United Nations
- **Hof line:** The line proposed by the United States through its ambassador Frederic Hof to resolve the conflict
- **Line 29:** The line proposed by Lebanon after Lebanese authorities claimed that the line 23 is inaccurate and the country is entitled to a larger area

**AFP** Source: Lebanese Armed Forces

### What Was The Dispute?

- The Crux of the dispute is about the **maritime economic boundary** between the two countries.
- Over how to **calculate the border line** that extends from Lebanon and Israel's land border.

### Statement 3 is not correct:

- The agreement does not touch on the shared **land border between Israel and Lebanon**, which is still disputed.
- This border is also called the **Blue Line**, a boundary that was drawn up by the UN after Israel withdrew from southern Lebanon in 2000.

### Blue Line Border- Israel & Lebanon



### Significance

- The agreement is also expected to avert the immediate threat of **conflict between Israel and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon**.
- The agreement will create new sources of energy and **income for both countries**, particularly important for Lebanon, **which is facing crippling energy and financial crises**.



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- It is annual conference on geopolitics addressing issues facing the global community by India**
- It is a initiative by India and South Africa in UN to cater countries to get COVID-19 vaccine waiver
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**Answer : B**

#### Explanation

- Prime Minister will inaugurate the 7th edition of the Raisina Dialogue 2022, India's flagship multilateral foreign policy and geo-economics conference.
- The **Raisina Dialogue is an annual conference** on geopolitics and geoeconomics addressing issues facing the global community.
- It takes its name from the Raisina Hill, the seat of the Indian government.
- **The conference is organised by Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF).**
- Since its inception, the Raisina Dialogue has emerged as a **leading global conference** on international affairs featuring the participation of **heads of state, ministers, journalists, academics and researchers**.
- The first Raisina Dialogue was held in 2016 with the theme, **"Asia: Regional and Global Connectivity"**.

4. Consider the following statements with regards to United Nation Security Council (UNSC)

- UNSC is a 15-member body with 10 permanent and 5 non-permanent members
- India has been elected as non-permanent member of the council for the third time
- It recommends to the General Assembly in the appointment of Secretary-General

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 3 only**

**Answer : D**

### Explanation

- France has reiterated its commitment to support **India's bid for permanent membership** in a reformed UN Security Council
- The Security Council has primary responsibility for the **maintenance of international peace and security**.
- It has 15 Members, and each Member has one vote.
- Under the Charter of the United Nations, all **Member States are obligated to comply with Council decisions**.
- The Security Council takes the lead in determining the **existence of a threat to the peace** or act of aggression.
- It **calls upon the parties to a dispute to settle** it by peaceful means and **recommends methods** of adjustment or terms of settlement.
- In some cases, the Security Council can resort to **imposing sanctions or even authorize the use of force** to maintain or restore international peace and security.
- **Security Council has permanent residence at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City**.
- A **representative of each of its members** must be present at all times at UN Headquarters so that the Security Council can meet at any time as the need arises.
- Each year the General Assembly elects five non-permanent members (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
  - Two for Western European and other States.
  - **India elected 8th time as non-permanent UNSC member for 2021-22 and got 184/192 votes during election.**
- Under the United Nations Charter, the functions and powers of the Security Council are:
  - **To maintain international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations**
  - To **investigate any dispute** or situation which might lead to international friction;
  - To **recommend methods of adjusting** such disputes or the terms of settlement;
  - To **formulate plans for the establishment** of a system to regulate armaments.
  - To **determine the existence of a threat** to the **peace or act of aggression** and to recommend **what action should be taken**.
- To call on Members to apply economic sanctions and other measures not involving the use of force to prevent or stop aggression
- To take military action against an aggressor
- To recommend the admission of new Members;
- To exercise the trusteeship functions of the United Nations in "strategic areas"
- **To recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of the Secretary-General.**



- Together with the Assembly, to elect the Judges of the International Court of Justice.

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Answer : A

### Explanation

- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a new international development bank that provides financing for infrastructure projects in Asia.
- It began operations in January 2016.
- The AIIB is a **multilateral development bank** headquartered in Beijing.
- **Like other development banks, its mission is to improve social and economic outcomes in its region, Asia, and beyond.**
- China's leader Xi Jinping first proposed an Asian infrastructure bank at an APEC summit in Bali in 2013.
- Many observers have interpreted the bank as a challenge to international lending bodies such as WB, IMF.

### Additional Information

- The bank *currently has 105 members*, including 16 prospective members from around the world.
- The United Nations has addressed the launch of AIIB as having potential for "*scaling up financing for sustainable development*" and to improve the global economic governance.
- The *starting capital of the bank was US\$100 billion*, equivalent to 2/3 of the capital of the Asian Development Bank and about half that of the World Bank.
- *India is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest shareholder of AIIB. India is also the largest Borrower from AIIB.*
- In 2018, AIIB was granted *Permanent Observer status* in the deliberations of both the *United Nations General Assembly* and the Economic and Social Council.

Nonregional members		Regional members	
\$25 billion		\$75 billion	
Top-10 contributors		Top-10 contributors	
Germany	\$4.5 bil.	China	\$29.8 billion
France	3.4	India	8.4
Brazil	3.2	Russia	6.5
U.K.	3.1	South Korea	3.7
Italy	2.6	Australia	3.7
Spain	1.8	Indonesia	3.4
Netherlands	1.0	Turkey	2.6
Poland	0.8	Saudi Arabia	2.5
Switzerland	0.7	Iran	1.6
Egypt	0.7	Thailand	1.4
Others*	3.4	Others*	11.4

### AIIB

- Countries accepted as AIIB founding members include China, India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Brunei, Myanmar, the Philippines, Pakistan, Britain, Australia, Brazil, France, Germany and Spain.
- AIIB began operations in 2016 with 57 founding Members (37 regional and 20 nonregional).



- By the end of 2020, *AIIB had 103 approved Members representing approximately 70% of the global population and 65% of global GDP.*