New Centres for the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Science & Technology | International relations*

Why in News?

The WEF has decided to establish 5 new Centres for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR or Industry 4.0), including one in India's Andhra Pradesh.

- **Fourth Industrial Revolution Network** – It is a ***platform for multi-stakeholder collaboration***, bringing together public and private sectors to help ensure emerging technologies deliver benefits for society, while minimising risks.
- **Launched by –** World Economic Forum (WEF) in 2017.

> ***Industry 4.0*** *- Refers to the current era of rapid technological advancement characterised by the blurring of lines between the physical, digital, and biological worlds, coined in 2016 by* ***Klaus Schwab****, founder of the WEF.*

- **Purpose** – To create a global network that will work with governments and industry to deliver practical policy frameworks and pilots, address regional priorities, and advance international cooperation.
- **Focus areas –** AI innovation, the energy transition, cyber resilience, and frontier technologies.
- **Present global status** –
  - **Existing Centres** – Azerbaijan, Colombia, Germany, Korea, Israel, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Africa, the US, Ukraine, Vietnam.
  - **New Centres Announced** – Andhra Pradesh (India), France, UK, UAE.
  - **India's Existing Centres** – Mumbai and Telangana.

India's Centre (Andhra Pradesh)

- **Established in –** Partnership with the Andhra Pradesh government, the ***Centre for Energy and Cyber Resilience***.
- **Objective –** To promote innovation-led approaches to the energy transition while strengthening cyber resilience across industries.
- **Focus –** The centre will develop scalable solutions spanning green energy systems, cybersecurity strategies and workforce development.
- **Significance –** It helps India use new technologies responsibly, boosting its role in

clean energy and cybersecurity, while also supporting global goals like sustainability, safety, and inclusive growth.

Reference

The Hindu | WEF to launch five new Centres for Fourth Industrial Revolution

