

Ottawa Convention

Prelims - Current events of International Importance.

Mains (GS II) - International Agreements.

Why in News?

The Baltic States and Poland recently announced their withdrawal from the Ottawa Treaty.

Landmines come predominantly in two varieties - Anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines. Both types have caused harm to civilian populations and continue to kill and injure long after conflicts end.

- It is an **international agreement** that prohibits the use, developing, acquiring, retaining, stockpiling, production, and transfer of **anti-personnel landmines**.
- It is also known as the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention or Mine Ban Treaty.
- **Anti-personnel landmines definition** - Designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that will incapacitate, injure or kill one or more persons.
- **Entered into force in** - 1999.
- The convention is open to all nations.
- It requires states-parties to destroy their stockpiled APLs within 4 years and eliminate all APL holdings, including mines currently planted in the soil, within 10 years.
- Countries may request a renewable extension, which can be up to 10 years long, to fulfill their destruction obligations.
- States-parties are also required annually to report their total APL stockpiles, the technical characteristics of their APLs, the location of all mined areas, and the status of APL destruction programs.
- **Member states - 164 States** that have formally agreed to be bound by the Convention till 2022.
- The US, Russia, China and **India** are **not party** to the convention.
- **Significant producers and users of anti-personnel mines** - The United States, China, India, Pakistan, and Russia.

Reference

[The Indian Express | Ottawa Convention](#)



SHANKAR
IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering