Prelim Bits 07-12-2017

RIC Meeting

\n\n

\n
- 15th RIC (Russia, India and China) foreign ministerial meeting is going to be held in New Delhi.
\n
- It is expected to review global and regional issues of mutual interest as well as discuss trilateral exchanges and activities.
\n
- Russia has assured that it will take up the issue of India's entry into NSG with china during the meeting.
\n

\n\n

Nuclear Suppliers' Group

\n\n

\n
- NSG is a group of nuclear supplier countries that seek to prevent nuclear proliferation by controlling the export of materials, equipment and technology that can be used to manufacture nuclear weapons.
\n
- It was founded in response to the Indian nuclear test in May 1974.
\n
- As of now, the NSG has 48 members with European Commission and the Zangger Committee Chair participates as observers.
\n
- The NSG Chair for 2017-2018 is Switzerland.
\n
- The NSG Guidelines contain "Non-Proliferation Principle," adopted in 1994.
\n
- It means a supplier, notwithstanding other provisions in the NSG Guidelines, authorises a transfer only when satisfied that the transfer would not contribute to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.
\n
- India has been pursuing member countries of NSG to become a member but

its entry is being opposed by China, New Zealand, Ireland, Turkey and Austria.
\n

\n\n

Wassenaar Arrangement

\n\n

\n
- Wassenaar arrangement focuses on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies.
\n
- It is a **multilateral export control regime** which became operational in 1996.
\n
- It is designed to regulate the export of sensitive technologies that could possible lead to destabilizing accumulations.
\n
- It is presently composed of 41 countries. Currently India is not a member.
\n
- The Secretariat is located in Vienna (Austria).
\n
- Export controls are implemented by each individual participating State based on the wassenaar arrangement list.
\n
- Member states exchange information on their transfers of conventional weapons and dual-use goods to states outside of the arrangement.
\n
- All decisions are taken by consensus and the deliberations are kept in confidence.
\n
- It is not a treaty, and therefore is not legally binding.
\n
- The political committee of wassenaar Arrangement is going to meet in Vienna, which is likely to decide on India’s membership request.
\n

\n\n

International Tourism Mart

\n\n

\n
- It is being organized by the Union Ministry of Tourism in association with North Eastern States.

\n
- This year, the 6th International Tourism Mart is organized at Guwahati, Assam.
\n
- It is organised in the North Eastern States on rotation basis.
\n
- The earlier editions of this mart have been held in Guwahati, Tawang, Shillong, Gangtok and Imphal.
\n
- It is organized with the objective of highlighting the tourism potential of the region in the domestic and international markets.
\n
- It will put the spotlight on India's "Act East Policy", blossoming ties with ASEAN and the larger East Asia region.
\n

\n\n

National Green Tribunal

\n\n

\n
- Click here to know more about NGT.
\n
- Current rules require that every Bench of the NGT consist of "two or more" members and made up of at least one judicial and one expert member.
\n
- However, a recent notification from the Union Environment Ministry has relaxed this requirement.
\n
- It has allowed the Chairperson of NGT to constitute single member benches.
\n
- The notification was issued following the SC criticized the union government for not filling up vacancies in the NGT principal and zonal benches.
\n

\n\n

Ichamati River

\n\n

\n
- It is a transboundary river in West Bengal which flows through India and Bangladesh.
\n
- It forms the international border between India and Bangladesh for 21

kilometres.
\n
- The Mathabhanga River originates in Bangladesh and it bifurcates near Nadia in West Bengal in to Ichamati and Churni.
\n
- Ichhamati River and its branches form a large oxbow lake complex near Bangaon in North 24-Paraganas district.
\n
- The river is facing the problem of siltation leading to thin flow of water in the dry season and floods in the rainy season.
\n

\n\n



\n\n

\n\n

Source: The Hindu, PIB, BusinessLine.

\n\n

\n