United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC)

Prelims : Current events of National and International Importance

Why in News?

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar recently announced that India has been elected to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations for the term 2026-28.

- The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of ***the six main organs of the United Nations (UN).***
- **Aim** – It is responsible for coordinating the UN's work on economic, social, cultural, humanitarian, and health issues.
- **Established by** - UN Charter.
- It is to advance the 3 dimensions of sustainable development - economic, social, and environmental.
- It is the central platform for fostering debate and innovative thinking, forging consensus on ways forward, and coordinating efforts to achieve internationally agreed-upon goals.
- It is also responsible for the follow-up to major UN conferences and summits.
- **Member States -** ECOSOC is composed of 54 members, elected by the UN General Assembly for three-year terms.
- It oversees several important bodies, including the 14 UN specialized agencies, 10 functional commissions, and 5 regional commissions.
- Additionally, ECOSOC receives reports from nine UN funds and programs and issues policy recommendations.
- **Recent happenings** - India has been recently elected to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations for the term 2026-28.
- Earlier, the Permanent Mission of India at the United Nations marked Dr BR Ambedkar's 135th birth anniversary with a special commemorative event at the UN headquarters in New York, attended by global leaders.
- The event centered around the theme "The timeless appeal of Dr Ambedkar's vision within the UN and beyond," underscoring his influence on both India and the global community."

Reference

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