UNSC Resolution 2593 & India

Why in news?

United Nations Security Council adopted the UNSC Resolution 2593.

What is UNSC resolution 2593?

- It was put forward by US, UK, and France and adopted after 13 council members voted in favour
- The resolution demands that Afghan territory should not be used to threaten/attack any country or to shelter/ train terrorists or plan/finance terrorist acts
- It specifically mentions individuals and entities designated by UNSC Resolution 1267, i.e., Lashker-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM)
- The permanent members Russia and China abstained from voting (not veto), while the rest of the 13 members voted in favour.

> The UNSC 1267 Committee (also known as AlQaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee) was established as a result of resolution 1267 in 1999
>
> If an individual/organisation is included in the 1267 list, it helps in restricting their movement, financial penalties and assets freeze among others

What is the significance of the resolution?

- Strong signal from the UNSC and the international community on its expectations in respect of Afghanistan
- Called on the Taliban to keep its commitments on preventing terror groups in Afghanistan
- Urged Taliban to assist the **safe evacuations of Afghan nationals** wishing to leave the country

- Addressed the concerns of anti- Indian terror outfits like LeT and JeM

Why did Russia and China abstain from voting?

- Demand of inclusion of groups like Islamic State (ISIL) and Uighur East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM) in the document
- Non inclusion of freezing Afghan financial assets in the document
- The resolution was alleged to be unbalanced and forcefully pushed through

What are the recent developments of India's engagement with Taliban?

- Ministry of External Affairs announced that its Ambassador to Qatar met with the head of the Taliban's political office
- Discussions were on safety, security and early return of Indian nationals stranded in Afghanistan
- Also focused on Afghan nationals, especially minorities
- Demanded that Afghanistan's soil should not be used for anti-Indian activities and terrorism in any manner
- Taliban leader assured that all the issues would be positively addressed

What would be India's future course of action?

- Concerns about the Haqqani group, which is a part of the Taliban who attacked the Indian Embassy in 2008-2009
- Being in touch with "various stakeholders" in Afghanistan and meeting with Taliban representatives
- "Wait and watch" the Taliban's actions with regard to human rights, treatment of women and minorities, attitude towards terror groups, etc.

Source : The Hindu, Livemint

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