



CICA 6th Foreign Ministers Meeting

Why in News

Recently, the External Affairs Minister addressed the 6th Ministerial (2021) **meeting of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures (CICA) in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan.**

- Last year, **Kazakhstan** assumed the **chairmanship of CICA.**
- The **5th Meeting** of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the CICA was **held in Beijing in the year 2016.**

Key Points

- **On Vaccine Maitri:**
 - India's internationalism (Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam) drives its **[Vaccine Maitri](#).**
 - In January 2021, India launched the Vaccine Maitri (Vaccine Friendship) initiative – a major diplomatic effort to gift and supply made-in-India vaccines to low-income and developing countries globally.
- **On Cross Border Terrorism:**
 - Advised the forum to strengthen collective resolve to tackle terrorism, arms trafficking, narcotics trade, and other forms of trans-national crimes.
- **On Multilateralism:**
 - **Asia** especially, but also **Africa and Latin America**, are **inadequately represented in [United Nations'](#) (UN) decision-making.**
 - The **limitations of the multilateral response to the Covid pandemic** were starkly evident. This only **makes a case for reformed [multilateralism](#)** more urgent with each passing day.
- **On Afghanistan:**
 - India underscored the importance of the Taliban regime meeting the expectations of the international community as elaborated in the **[UN Security Council Resolution 2593](#).**
 - The **UNSC resolution 2593** unequivocally demands that Afghan territory not be used for sheltering, training, planning or financing terrorist acts; and specifically refers to terrorist individuals proscribed by the UN Security Council, including Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad.
- **On Connectivity:**
 - Connectivity must respect the most basic principle of international relations-**respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.**
 - An apparent reference to India's objection to China's ambitious infrastructure development plans in Pakistan under the **[China-Pakistan Economic Corridor \(CPEC\)](#).**
 - **CPEC, which connects Gwadar Port in Balochistan with China's Xinjiang province**, is the flagship project of Chinese President Xi Jinping's ambitious **[Belt](#)**

and Road Initiative (BRI).

- India has protested to China over the CPEC as it is being laid through PoK.

About CICA

- The CICA is an **intergovernmental forum aimed** at strengthening regional cooperation and ensuring peace, security, and stability in Asia.
- The **idea of creating the organization** was first voiced by Kazakhstan's First President Nursultan Nazarbayev in 1992 at the 47th session of the **United Nations General Assembly**, while the **first CICA summit** was held in June of 2002.
- The **highest decision making** organ of CICA is the **Meeting of the CICA Heads of State and Government (Summit)**. The CICA Summit is **convened every four years** in order to conduct consultations, review the progress of, and set priorities for CICA activities.
 - The **Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs** is required to be held **every two years**.
- CICA **members include 27 Asian countries**, including Azerbaijan, Bahrain, China, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Russia, South Korea, and Turkey, **nine observer states**, and **five international organizations**.
- **India co-chairs two CICA CBMs** (Confidence Building Measures) on 'Development of Secure and Effective Systems of Transportation Corridors,' and 'Energy Security'.
- The CICA **Secretariat** has been located in **Almaty (Kazakhstan) since June 2006**.

Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA)

- A multinational forum for enhancing cooperation towards promoting peace, security and stability in Asia
- Proposed by Nursultan Nazarbayev, Kazakhstan's first president, at the 47th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on **October 5, 1992**

Member states (27):

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- Afghanistan
 - Azerbaijan
 - Bahrain
 - Bangladesh
 - Cambodia
 - China
 - United Arab Emirates
 - Egypt
 - India
 - Iran
 - Iraq
 - Israel
 - Jordan
 - Uzbekistan
 - Kazakhstan
 - Kyrgyzstan
 - Mongolia
 - Pakistan
 - Palestine
 - Qatar
 - Vietnam
 - Republic of Korea
 - Russian Federation
 - Sri Lanka
 - Tajikistan
 - Thailand
 - Turkey

Summits:



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