India-Italy Migration and Mobility Agreement

For Prelims: India-Italy Migration and Mobility Agreement, <u>European Union</u>, Location of Italy, <u>India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor</u>, <u>Global Biofuel Alliance</u>, Blue-Raman project

For Mains: Areas of Cooperation Between India and Italy

Source: PIB

Why in News?

Recently, the Union Cabinet granted ex-post facto approval to the Migration and Mobility Agreement between India and Italy.

What is Migration and Mobility Agreement between India and Italy?

- About:
 - The agreement is set to strengthen cooperation **on issues related to** <u>irregular migration</u> while bolstering people-to-people ties between India and Italy.
 - It facilitates mobility for various segments, including students, skilled workers,
 - businesspersons, and young professionals, fostering exchange and collaboration.
- Key Provisions:
 - Temporary Residence for Indian Students: Graduates seeking professional exposure in Italy post-academic or vocational training can secure temporary residency for up to 12 months.
 - Reserved Quotas for Workers: The agreement outlines quotas for non-seasonal and seasonal Indian workers, with a reserved quota range over the years 2023-2025 under the existing Flows Decree.
 - The Italian government's annual "Flow Decree" (Decreto Flussi) sets the maximum number of non-EU citizens who can enter Italy for work and selfemployment
- Implementation:
 - The agreement will remain in force for **5 years**, with automatic renewal unless terminated.
 - A **Joint Working Group (JWG)** will oversee its implementation, convening periodically to evaluate progress and propose supportive measures for effective execution.

Key Facts About Italy

- About:
 - Italy is a boot-shaped peninsula that juts out of southern Europe into the **Adriatic Sea**, **Tyrrhenian Sea**, **Mediterranean Sea**, and other waters.
- Bordering Countries:
 - Italy has international borders with Austria, France, the Holy See (Vatican City), San Marino, Slovenia, and Switzerland.
 - Italy also shares maritime borders with Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Greece, Libya,

Malta, Montenegro, Spain, and Tunisia.

- Form of Government: Republic
- Capital: Rome
- Money: Euro
- Major Mountains: Alps, Apennines
- Major Rivers: Po, Adige, Arno, Tiber



What are the Other Areas of Cooperation Between India and Italy?

- Historical Ties:
 - India and Italy are ancient civilizations but young states. Italian port cities were important trading posts on the **spice route.**
 - The **Venetian merchant Marco Polo**, during his travels to the east, also traveled to India in the 13th century and wrote about his experiences.
- Political:
 - Political relations between India and Italy were established in 1947.
 - In March 2023, India and Italy elevated their relationship to a Strategic Partnership.
- Economic:
 - The bilateral trade between the two countries was valued at USD 14.25 billion in 2022-23.
 - Italy is among India's top **5 trading partners in the European Union**.
 - Main items of Indian exports to Italy are ready-made garments, leather, iron ore, motor vehicles, textiles, chemicals, gems & jewelry.

• The main items of import from Italy are general and **special purpose machinery**, **machine tools**, **metallurgical products**, **and engineering items**.

The Vision

- Security:
 - The **India-Italy Military Cooperation Group (MCG)** is a forum established to boost defense cooperation between the both countries.
- Other Initiatives Involving India and Italy:
 - India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor
 - Global Biofuel Alliance
 - Blue-Raman project

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