



## Unite Aware Platform

[Source: TH](#)

### Why in News?

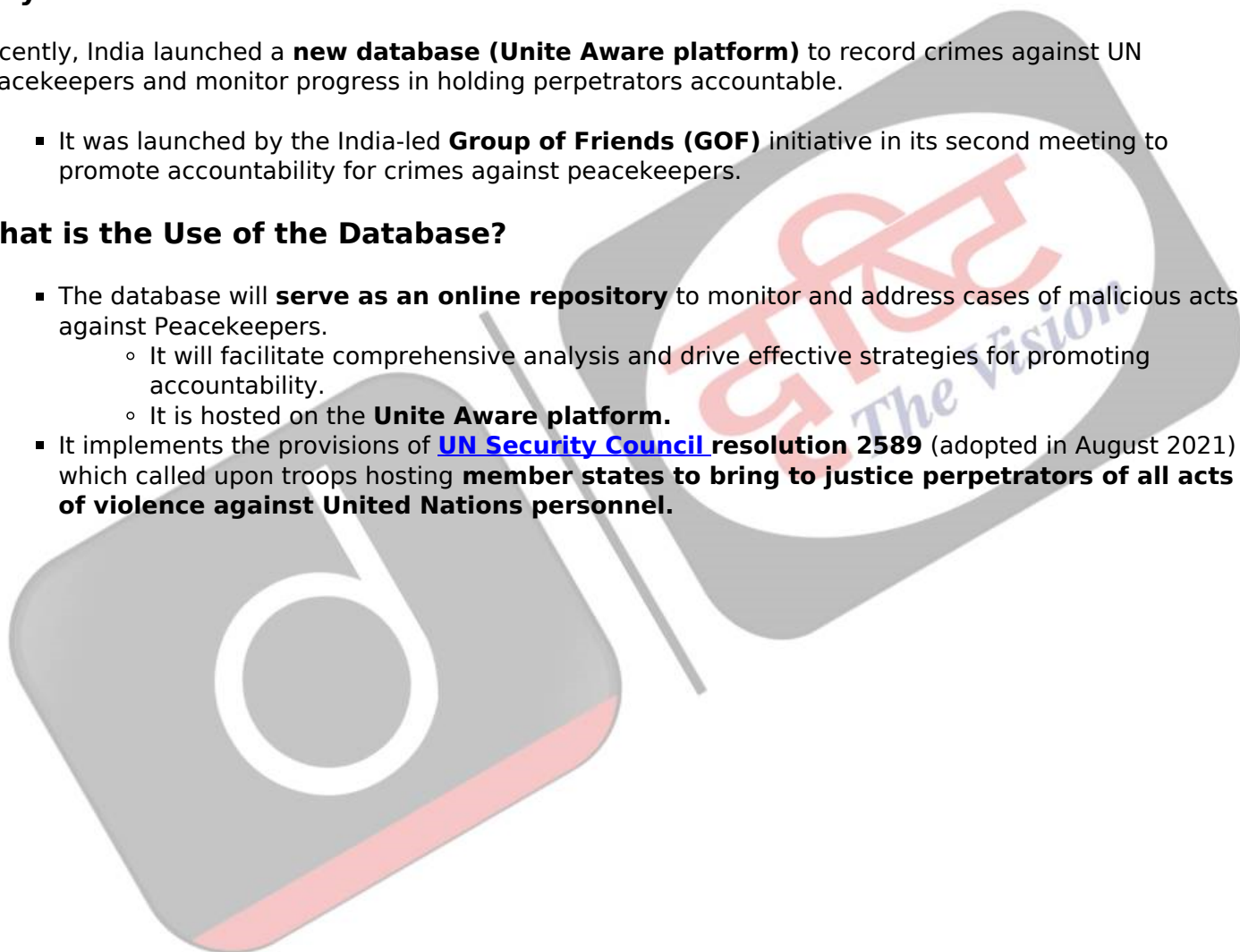
Recently, India launched a **new database (Unite Aware platform)** to record crimes against UN peacekeepers and monitor progress in holding perpetrators accountable.

- It was launched by the India-led **Group of Friends (GOF)** initiative in its second meeting to promote accountability for crimes against peacekeepers.

### What is the Use of the Database?

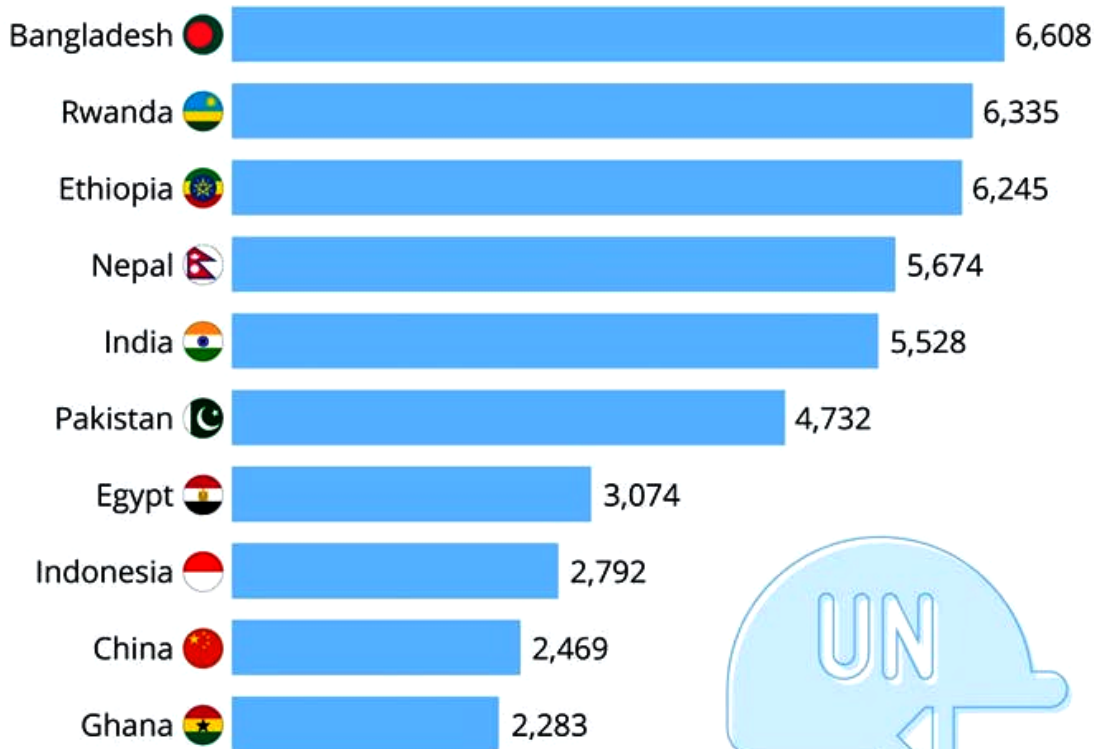
- The database will **serve as an online repository** to monitor and address cases of malicious acts against Peacekeepers.
  - It will facilitate comprehensive analysis and drive effective strategies for promoting accountability.
  - It is hosted on the **Unite Aware platform**.
- It implements the provisions of **UN Security Council resolution 2589** (adopted in August 2021) which called upon troops hosting **member states to bring to justice perpetrators of all acts of violence against United Nations personnel**.

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# The Biggest Contributors To UN Peacekeeping Operations

Main contributors of uniformed personnel to UN peacekeeping operations as of March 31, 2021\*



## What is GOF?

- **About:** On 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, **India launched a 'Group of Friends'** to promote accountability for crimes against peacekeepers. **It comprises 40 member states.**
  - It calls on member states to **investigate, arrest, and prosecute perpetrators** of crimes against **peacekeepers (Blue Helmets)** in line with international obligations, and to promote **accountability both within and outside the UNSC in practical terms.**
    - India has lost 177 of its peacekeepers in the line of duty, the largest by far from any troop-contributing country.
- **Co-chairs:** India, Bangladesh, Egypt, France, Morocco and Nepal.
- The GoF will convene **two meetings of its members per year**, organise and **host one event per year** to inform and galvanise support for promoting accountability for crimes against peacekeepers.

# UN Security Council (UNSC)

The UN Charter vests the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the UNSC

## About

One of the **6 principal organs** of UN; established in **1945** by UN Charter

## Headquarters

New York City

## First Session

17 January 1946 at Church House, Westminster, London

## Membership

- 15 members - 5 Permanent Members (P5), 10 Non-Permanent Members elected for two-year terms (5 elected each year)
- P5 - the US, the UK, Russia, France and China

## Presidency

- Rotates every month among the 15 members
- India's Presidency for year 2022 - December

## Voting Powers

- 1 member = 1 vote
- P5 have **veto power**
- Members of UN sans membership of UNSC participate without vote

## UNSC Committees/Resolutions

### Terrorism

- Resolution 1373 (Counter Terrorism Committee)
- Resolution 1267 (Da'esh and Al Qaeda Committee)

### Non-Proliferation Committee

- Resolution 1540 (against nuclear, chemical and biological weapons)

## India and UNSC

- Served **7 times** as non-permanent member, elected for the **8<sup>th</sup> time** for 2021-22; **advocates for a permanent seat**
- Arguments for a permanent seat:
  - 43 peacekeeping missions**
  - Active participation in **formulating Human Rights Declaration (UDHR)**
  - India's **population, territorial size, GDP, economic potential, cultural diversity, political system** etc.



## G4

Group of 4 countries (Brazil, Germany, India and Japan) which advocate each other's bids for permanent seats in the UNSC

## Uniting for Consensus (UfC) Movement

- Informally known as the **Coffee Club**
- Countries **oppose the expansion Permanent Seats** of UNSC
- Prime movers of the club** - Italy, Spain, Australia, Canada, South Korea, Argentina and Pakistan
- Italy and Spain are opposed to Germany's bid; Pakistan - India's bid; Argentina - Brazil's bid and Australia - Japan's bid

## Major Challenges in UNSC

- Usual UN rules don't apply to UNSC deliberations; **no records of meetings kept**
- Powerplay in UNSC; **anachronistic veto powers** of P5
- Deep polarisation** among P5; frequent divisions end up blocking key decisions
- Inadequate representation** of many regions among of the world



Drishti IAS

## UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Prelims:

**Q. The Security Council of UN consists of 5 permanent members, and the remaining 10 members are elected by the General Assembly for a term of (2009)**

- (a) 1 year
- (b) 2 years
- (c) 3 years
- (d) 5 years

**Ans: (b)**

**Q. With reference to the "United Nations Credentials Committee", consider the following statements:**

- It is a committee set up by the UN Security Council and works under its supervision.
- It traditionally meets in March, June and September every year
- It assesses the credentials of all UN members before submitting a report to the General Assembly for approval.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (2022)**

- (a) 3 only
- (b) 1 and 3
- (c) 2 and 3
- (d) 1 and 2

**Ans: (a)**

**Mains:**

**Q.** Discuss the impediments India is facing in its pursuit of a permanent seat in UN Security Council.  
**(2015)**

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