



China Blocks Proposal to Blacklist Pakistan-Based Terrorist

Why in News?

China's recent move to block a **proposal at the [United Nations \(UN\)](#)** to designate a **Pakistan-based LeT terrorist as a global [terrorist](#)** has drawn attention and raised concerns among the international community.

- In September 2022, **[China had put a hold](#)** on the proposal to designate the terrorist at the UN.

What is the Concern Raised Regarding China's Decision to Block the Proposal?

- The **blocked proposal, brought forward by India and the United States, aimed to blacklist a wanted individual for his involvement in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, under the [1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee](#) of the [UN Security Council](#).**
- This is **not the first time China has blocked efforts** to blacklist Pakistan-based terrorists under the **UN Security Council's sanctions committee.**
 - China has consistently placed holds on listings that target individuals associated with terrorism in Pakistan including in **2009, 2016, 2017.**
- China's actions have **raised concerns among countries that seek to combat terrorism globally**, as it appears to prioritise its relationship with Pakistan over international security cooperation.
 - It also highlights the challenges of achieving consensus within the **UN Security Council on sensitive issues related to terrorism.**

What is the 1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee?

- The committee is part of the **UN Security Council** and its job is to implement international sanctions against terrorists.
 - The other two committees with similar roles are the **[Counter-Terrorism Committee](#) and the [Security Council Committee](#).**
- The **Al Qaeda committee was established as the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee on October 15, 1999**, after Security Council Resolution 1267 designated al-Qaeda and the Taliban as terrorist bodies.
 - In 2011, **a separate committee was formed for the Taliban.**
- Under the **Committee regime**, any UN member state can **propose the name of an individual or group to be designated as a terrorist.**
 - Decisions are made by consensus in the 1267 Sanctions Committee, which comprises all members of the UNSC.
 - **A committee member can block blacklisting proposals by raising objections or applying a “technical hold” on a proposal.**
- An individual or entity listed as a terrorist is subjected to an **assets freeze, travel ban, and arms embargo.**

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 8th 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



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)

Source: TH

