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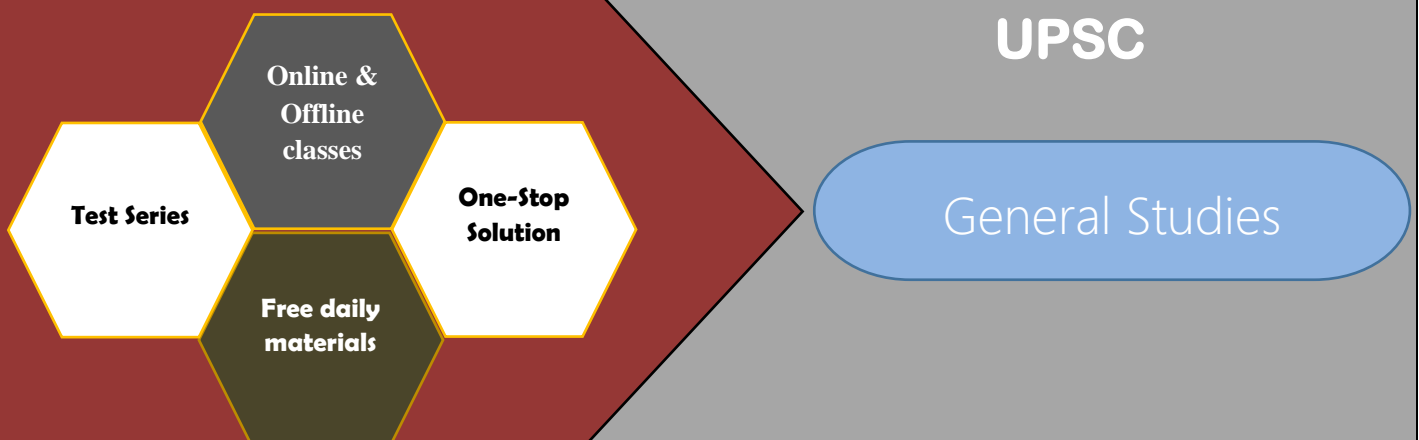
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Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

Notes for civil services preparation



Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

Background

- The Non-Aligned Movement was formed during the Cold War as an organization of States that did not seek to formally align themselves with either the United States or the Soviet Union, but sought to remain independent or neutral.
- The basic concept for the group originated in 1955 during discussions that took place at the **Asia-Africa Bandung Conference** held in Indonesia.
- The **first NAM Summit Conference** took place in Belgrade, **Yugoslavia, in September 1961**.
- It has **120 members** as on April 2018 comprising 53 countries from Africa, 39 from Asia, 26 from Latin America and the Caribbean and 2 from Europe (Belarus, Azerbaijan). There are **17 countries and 10 international organizations** that are **Observers** at NAM.
- The Non-Aligned Movement was founded and held its first conference (the Belgrade Conference) in 1961 under the leadership of Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia, Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, Jawaharlal Nehru of India, Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, and Sukarno.
- The purpose of the organization was enumerated in Havana Declaration of 1979 to ensure "the national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of non-aligned countries" in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, and all forms of foreign.
- During the cold war era the NAM played a vital role in stabilizing the world order and preserving peace and security. Non alignment of NAM doesn't mean the neutrality of state on global issues, it was always a peaceful intervention in world politics.

Importance of NAM for India

Support for India's Candidature in UNSC

- NAM's total strength comprises 120 developing countries and most of them are members of the UN General assembly.
- Thus, NAM members act as an important group in support of India's candidature as a permanent member in UNSC.

Global South Cooperation

- India is widely perceived as a leader of the developing world. Thus, India's engagement with NAM will further help in the rise of India's stature as the voice of the developing world or global
- In times of increasing protectionism, NAM can provide a platform for South- South cooperation.

Strengthening of Multipolar World Order

- A multipolar world order is in concurrence with Indian foreign policy's.
- Thus, NAM can help in formation of a multipolar world with India becoming a major pole.

