



Proposed Expansion of G7

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Why in News

Recently, the USA has suggested the **postponement of the 46th G7 (Group of 7) Summit** which was scheduled to be held in June (2020) at Camp David (USA).

Additionally, the USA President has also proposed the **expansion of the G7 to be called 'G10 or G11'**.

G7

- **Description:**



- The G7 or 'Group of Seven' consists of **Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States.**
- It is an **intergovernmental organisation** that was formed in **1975** as an informal forum to discuss pressing world issues.
Initially it focussed on economic issues but later it focussed on the several challenges such as the oil crashes of the 1970s, terrorism, arms control, and drug trafficking, etc.
- The group does **not** have a **formal constitution or a fixed headquarters.** The decisions taken by leaders during **annual summits are non-binding.**
- The G7 nations meet at annual summits that are **presided over by leaders** of member countries on a **rotational basis.**
- **Host Country of the Summit:**
 - The host country **not only holds the G7 presidency** but also **sets the agenda for the year.**
 - It also gets a chance to **invite dignitaries from outside the G7** to attend the Summit.
- **Presence of Sherpas:**
 - The groundwork for the Summit, including matters to be discussed and follow-up meetings, is done by the **sherpas.**
 - The sherpas are generally personal representatives or members of diplomatic staff such as ambassadors.

Key Points

- **Expansion of G7:**
 - The proposed expansion has suggested **inclusion of India, Australia, South Korea and Russia** in the grouping of the largest advanced economies.
 - The existing **G7 group** has been called an **outdated group of countries** as it does not include emerging economies of the world and thus it is believed that the group **does not follow** the current world order.
 - It is **unclear** that the proposed expansion will be **permanent or temporary.**

- The proposed expansion may also help G7 to be a more representative institution than current G7 and subsequently to establish an equal platform at global level.

Source:IE