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BRICS National Security Advisers Meet

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Why in News

Recently, Russia hosted virtual National Security Advisers (NSAs) meet of the **Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa (BRICS)** grouping.

Key Points

- **Draft Anti-terrorism Plan:**

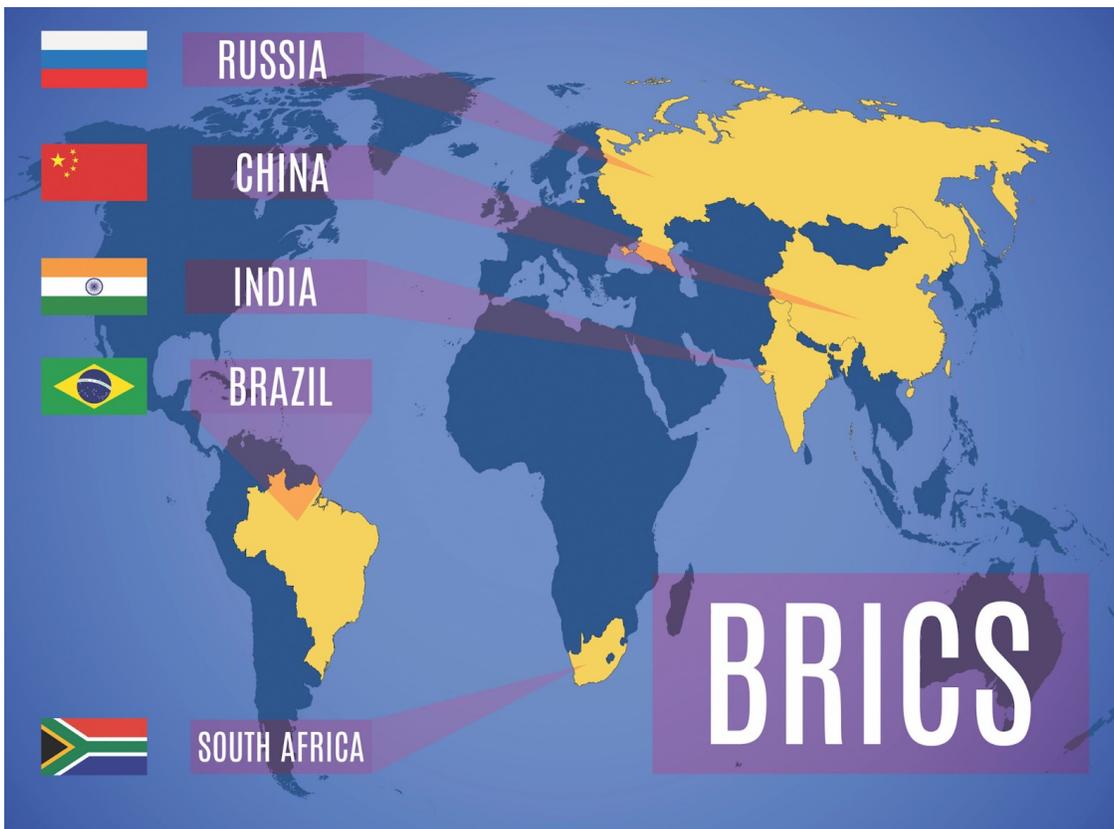
- The group discussed a **draft anti-terrorism strategy** that is expected to be approved at an upcoming summit.
- **The anti-terrorism plan** reflects fundamental aspects of the BRICS states, such as respect for sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs, adherence to international law and recognition of the **United Nation** (UN)'s central role in security matters.

- **Other Discussed Issues:**

- **Challenges and threats** to global, regional and national security.
- Called for **biological security cooperation** and **information and communications technology security**.
 - There was also a proposal to continue work on a system for **countering security threats in the sphere of information**.
- The Russian side criticised the **deployment of weapons in space by the USA** and the use of outer space for military operations.
 - It also expressed **concern** over the escalation of tensions with the USA in Iran, Venezuela and Syria.
 - It also proposed the creation of new mechanisms in the field of countering epidemiological threats and to conduct expert consultations on biosafety in the BRICS format.
- The five countries are cooperating within the framework of building a **multi-polar system** based on justice and equality.
- They have also agreed to work on **deepening coordination** at key international organisations and forums, especially the United Nations (UN).

BRICS

- BRICS is an **acronym** for the grouping of the world's leading emerging economies, namely **Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa**.
 - In 2001, the British Economist **Jim O'Neill coined the term BRIC** to describe the four emerging economies of Brazil, Russia, India, and China.
 - The grouping was **formalised** during the first meeting of BRIC Foreign Ministers' in **2006**.
 - **South Africa** was invited to join BRIC in December **2010**, after which the group adopted the acronym BRICS.
- The **chairmanship of the forum is rotated annually among the members**, in accordance with the acronym B-R-I-C-S.
- During the **Sixth BRICS Summit in Fortaleza** (Brazil) in **2014**, the leaders signed the Agreement establishing the **New Development Bank** (NDB - Shanghai, China). They also signed the **BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement** to provide short-term liquidity support to the members.



Way Forward

- Terrorism is a big threat to India. If the draft anti-terrorism strategy is adopted by the BRICS members, it will help India to counter the terrorism. It will also expose the terror sponsored countries.

- Although the **India-China standoff at Ladakh** was not discussed at the NSAs meet, BRICS is an important platform where India can engage with China diplomatically.

Source: HT