Operation Ganga

For Prelims: India's Evacuation Operations, Location of Ukraine and other neighbouring countries

For Mains: Ukraine-Russia Conflict and India's Interests in Ukraine and Russia, Implications of Conflict on India.

Why in News?

The **Government of India** has launched a **'multi-pronged' initiative** named **'Operation Ganga'.**

- A dedicated Twitter handle **'OpGanga Helpline'** to assist Indian evacuation from Ukraine has also been announced.
- The **tensions between Russia and Ukraine** are currently heightened, with war erupting in Ukraine after the Russian military launched a series of attacks recently.

//

What is Operation Ganga?

- It is an evacuation mission to **bring back all the Indian nationals who are currently stranded in Ukraine.**

    - There were **around 20,000 Indians** including students stuck in Ukraine.
    - Till now, three Air India flights have been able to bring back more than 900 Indians from Ukraine to India.
- The Indian evacuation flights are **operating from neighbouring countries** like **Romania and Hungary.**
- The government is **also facilitating evacuation of stranded Indians from its borders crossing Romania, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.**

What are the Evacuation Operations carried out by India?	
Operation Ganga (2022):	▪ It is an evacuation mission to **bring back all the Indian nationals who are curren** ▪ The **tensions between Russia and Ukraine** are currently heightened, with war eru military launched a series of attacks recently.
Vande Bharat (2020):	▪ When the **Covid-19 pandemic** hit the world, the Centre launched the Vande Bharat stranded in foreign countries. ▪ In the multiple phases of the operation, **about 60 lakh Indians** were brought back a
Operation Samudra Setu (2020):	▪ It was a **naval operation** as part of the national effort to bring home Indian citizens **pandemic.** ▪ It successfully brought back **3,992 Indian citizens** to their homeland by sea. ▪ Indian Naval ships **Jalashwa (Landing Platform Dock)**, and **Airavat, Shardul and** participated in this operation which lasted over 55 days and involved traversing more
Evacuation from Brussels (2016):	▪ In March 2016, Belgium was hit by terrorist strikes at Brussels Airport in Zaventem, a central Brussels. ▪ A total of 242 Indians, including 28 crew members, returned to India in a Jet Airways f
Operation Raahat (2015):	▪ In 2015, a conflict raged between the **Yemeni government and Houthi rebels.** ▪ Thousands of Indians were stranded and Yemen was not accessible by air due to a no ▪ Under Operation Raahat, India **evacuated nearly 5,600 people from Yemen.**
Operation Maitri (2015):	▪ It is the **joint relief and rescue operation** by the Indian government and the Indian 2015 Nepal earthquake. ▪ The joint Army-Air Force operation brought over 5,000 Indians back from Nepal by Air army successfully **evacuated 170 foreign nationals** from the US, the UK, Russia ar
Operation Safe Homecoming (2011):	▪ India launched 'Operation Homecoming' to **bring back Indian citizens stranded in** ▪ Under the operation, **India evacuated 15,400 Indian nationals.** ▪ The air-sea operation was conducted by the Indian Navy and Air India.
Operation Sukoon (2006):	▪ As Israel and Lebanon broke into military conflict in July 2006, India rescued its strand operation, which is now famously known as **the 'Beirut Sealift'.** ▪ It was the **largest naval rescue mission** since the **'Dunkirk' evacuation.** ▪ The task force **evacuated about 2,280 people** including some Nepalese and Sri La
1990 Kuwait Airlift (1990):	▪ In 1990, when 1,00,000 Iraqi soldiers armed with 700 tanks marched into Kuwait, the Arabia. ▪ The general public was left behind to fend for themselves. ▪ **Over 1,70,000** of those stranded in Kuwait were Indians. ▪ India **kicked off the evacuation process** in which over **1,70,000 Indians were ai**

Source: TH

PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/operation-ganga