



# India, US, UAE and Saudi Arabia Discuss Infrastructure Initiatives

**For Prelims:** [I2U2 initiative](#), [Abraham Accords](#)

**For Mains:** Groupings and Agreements including India and affecting India's interest

## Why in News?

Recently, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia hosted a special meeting of the [National Security Advisers](#) (NSAs) of India, the US, and the UAE.

## What are the Key Highlights of the Meeting?

- The discussions **aimed to strengthen relations and ties between the countries** in a way that **enhances growth and stability in the region**.
- The meeting **focused on regional initiatives on infrastructure**.
- The meeting sought to advance their shared vision of a more secure and prosperous **Middle East region interconnected with India and the world**.
- Among the projects discussed, a plan to **connect Gulf countries via a railway network and connect to India via shipping lanes from "two ports" in the region** is highlighted.
  - This is meant to provide a **counter to [China's Belt and Road initiative](#)** and other inroads in the region.
- The idea for the initiative came up during talks held over the past 18 months by the I2U2.
  - The [I2U2 Quad](#), works on connecting **"South Asia to the Middle East to the United States in ways that advance economic technology and diplomacy"**.

## What is the I2U2 Quad?

- **About:**
  - I2U2 is a new grouping formed by **India, Israel, the UAE, and the US**.
  - It is also referred to as the **West Asian [Quad](#)**.
- **Objectives:**
  - It is focused on **expanding economic and political cooperation in the Middle East and Asia**.
  - The framework aims to **foster support and cooperation in infrastructure, technology and maritime security**.
- **Formation of I2U2:**
  - I2U2 was initially formed in **October 2021** following the [Abraham Accords](#).
    - The Abraham Accords normalized relations between **Israel and a number of Arab Gulf countries**.
- **First Summit of I2U2:**
  - The first virtual summit of I2U2 took place on July 14, 2022.
  - The summit focused heavily on the **global food and energy crisis resulting from the**

[conflict in Ukraine.](#)

## What will be the Significance of I2U2 for India?

- **Advantage from Abraham Accords:**
  - **India will get advantage of the Abraham Accords** to deepen engagement with Israel without risking its ties with the UAE and the other Arab states.
- **Benefit Market:**
  - India is a **massive consumer market**. It's a massive producer of high-tech and highly sought-after goods as well. India will benefit from this grouping.
- **Alliances:**
  - It will help India in building alliances — **political alliances, social alliances**.

### UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question

**Q.** How will I2U2 (India, Israel, UAE and USA) grouping transform India's position in global politics? **(2022)**

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