

## **SHORTNEWS:**

### **1.QUAD AT SEA SHIP OBSERVER MISSION**

**Context:** The **QUAD at Sea Ship Observer Mission** has been launched by the coast guards of **QUAD nations** recently under the **Wilmington Declaration**.

#### **About the Mission**

- **Participants:** The initiative is launched by the **Indian Coast Guard, Japan Coast Guard, United States Coast Guard, and Australian Border Force**.
- The initiative will involve **two officers from each nation**, embarked on board the **United States Coast Guard Cutter Stratton**.
- **Objective:** To **strengthen and deepen maritime cooperation** which is free, open, inclusive and rules-based in the Indo-Pacific.
- **Significance:** The mission will **reinforce joint maritime readiness** through enhanced **interoperability, domain awareness, humanitarian assistance** and operational coordination.

#### **India's Participation**

- The Indian participation will help **reinforce its strategic maritime vision of SAGAR** (Security and Growth for All in the Region) and complement national efforts under the **Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)**.

#### **Wilmington Declaration (2024)**

- It was issued by the **leaders of the QUAD nations** during the QUAD Leaders' Summit in Wilmington, USA.
- It reaffirms the **commitment of the QUAD nations** to ensuring a free, open, inclusive, and resilient Indo-Pacific, with an emphasis on respecting:
  - **Rule of law**
  - **Democracy**
  - **Territorial integrity**

### **2.OTTAWA CONVENTION**

**Context:** Recently, **Ukraine** has withdrawn from the **Ottawa Convention**.

#### **Anti-Personnel Landmines Convention, 1997**

- It is an **international agreement aimed at eliminating the use, production, stockpiling, and transfer of anti-personnel landmines**.

- Commonly known as the **Ottawa Convention** or **Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty**.
- It includes provisions to **assist victims**, many of whom have lost limbs and suffer from other permanent disabilities.
- **Adopted:** September **1997** at the Diplomatic Conference in **Oslo**.
- **Came into Effect:** March **1999**.
- **Scope**
  - Prohibits anti-personnel mines only.
  - Does not cover anti-vehicle or anti-tank mines.
- **Obligation:** Signatories were required to **destroy all anti-personnel landmine stockpiles** within four years of joining.
- **Current Parties:** 166 States (as of June 2025).
- **2025:** Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland and Ukraine decide to leave the Ottawa Treaty.
- **Non-Parties:** **India, US, Russia, China, Pakistan have not signed or ratified the treaty.**

#### About Anti-Personnel Landmines

- Anti-personnel landmines are **generally hidden** in the **ground** and designed to **detonate automatically** when someone **steps on them or passes nearby**.
- **Purpose:** To target enemy personnel (troops) and to destroy or disable armored vehicles.
- **More than 80% of mine victims are civilians**, according to the **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**.