

1 Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) (Source: The Hindu)

It is a permanent intergovernmental organization of oil-exporting countries.

Formation -

- It was established in 1960 by the five founding members Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela.

Headquarters:

- Vienna, Austria.

Mission

- To coordinate and unify the petroleum policies of its Member Countries.
- Ensure the stabilization of oil prices in the international oil markets, with a view to eliminating harmful and unnecessary fluctuations.

Members

- **Countries Currently Part of Grouping:** Algeria, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela.
- **Note:** Angola withdrew effective January 1, 2024, and Qatar terminated its membership in 2019. UAE Exit on April 2026





DATE: 29 APRIL 2026

OPEC+

- It is a group of oil exporters consisting of 23 member countries which meet regularly to decide how much crude oil to sell on the world market.
- It comprises 13 OPEC countries plus Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Russia, Mexico, Malaysia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Oman.

2 Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009 (Source: The Hindu)

The Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009, was enacted to ensure free and compulsory education to children in the age group of 6 to 14.

Features

- Free and Compulsory Education for children aged 6 to 14.
- Neighborhood Schools must be provided within an accessible distance.
- 25% Reservation in private schools for children from economically weaker sections (EWS) and disadvantaged groups.
- No Capitation Fees or Screening Procedures allowed for school admissions.
- Infrastructure Norms for schools, including classrooms, toilets, and playgrounds.
- Pupil-Teacher Ratio requirements to ensure quality education.



- No Detention Policy (initially) till Class 8, focusing on child progression.
- Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) system for student assessments.
- Qualified Teachers only; mandatory teacher qualifications and training.
- School Management Committees (SMCs) with parents and local authorities for school oversight.
- Prohibition of Physical Punishment and discrimination in schools.
- Special Focus on Marginalized Groups, including SC/ST, girls, and disabled children.



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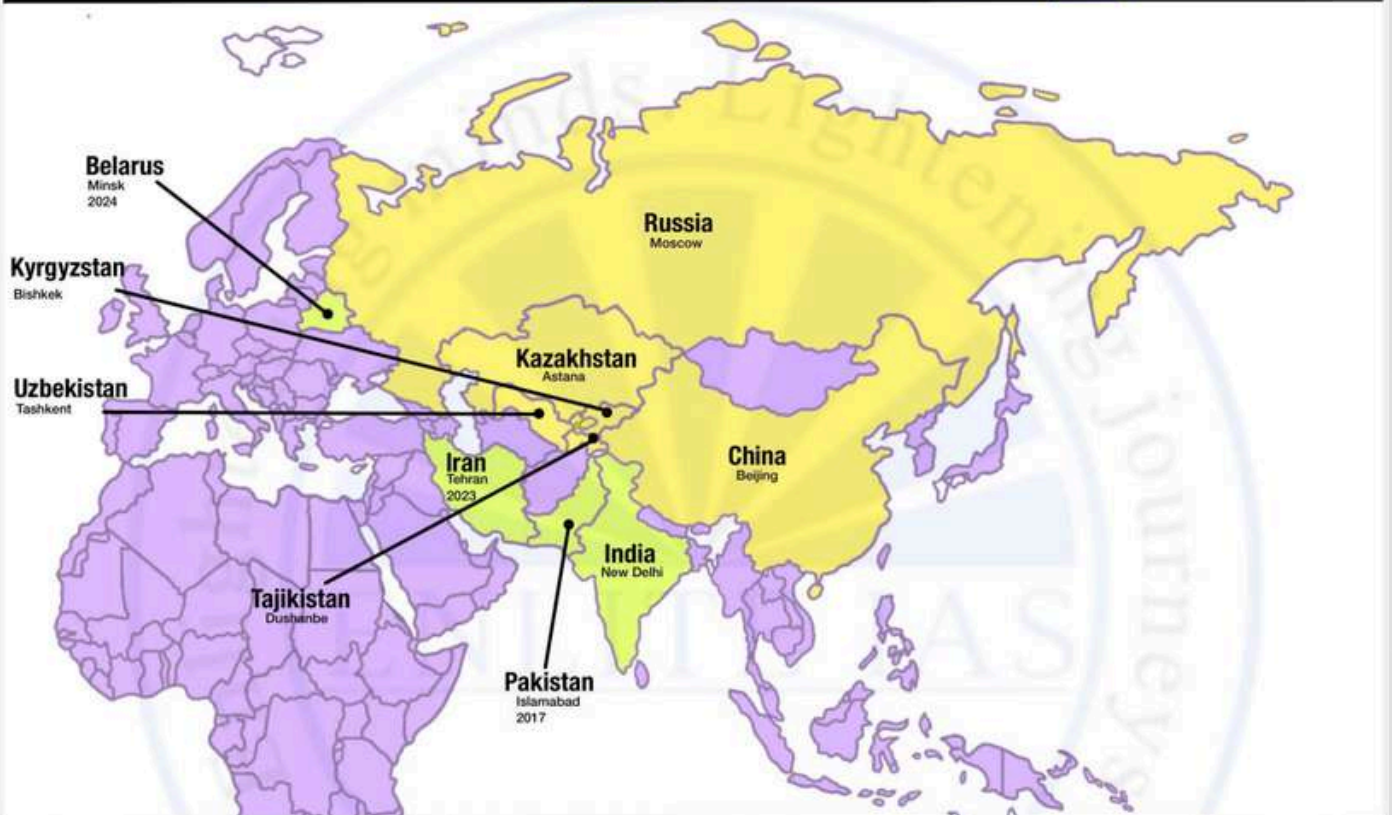
Link to the Constitution of India: 86th Amendment 2002

- **Article 21 A:** The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may by law determine.
- **Article 45 :** The State shall endeavor to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years..
- **Article 51 A:** 'who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or ward between the ages of six and fourteen years.'

3 Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (Source: The Hindu)

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

Founding Members (2001) : Recent Members :



Key Facts :

- Established 2001, in Shanghai China
- Charter Signed : 2002; came into force on 19th September 2003.
- Goals :
 - Strengthen regional peace, stability & cooperation
 - Combat, terrorism, separatism , & extremism
 - Foster economic, political & cultural collaboration
- Structure :
 - Supreme Decision-making Body - Council of Heads of State
 - Permanent Bodies - Secretariat (Beijing & Regional Anti - Terrorist Structure (Tashkent)
- Official Languages : Russian & Chinese
- Headquarters : Beijing, China
- SCO & India : Varanasi has been nominated as the first ever SCO tourism and cultural capital at the SCO summit in Samarkand 2022.