India elected to the United Nations Statistical Commission

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<u>In news</u>— India has been elected to the UN Statistical Commission for a four-year term.

About the United Nations Statistical Commission-

- It is the **highest body of the global statistical system** bringing together the Chief Statisticians from member states from around the world.
- It was established in 1947.
- It is the highest decision-making body for international statistical activities, responsible for setting of statistical standards and the development of concepts and methods, including their implementation at the national and international level.
- It oversees the work of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and it is a Functional Commission of the UN Economic and Social Council.
- The Commission consists of 24 member countries of the United Nations elected by the United Nations Economic and Social Council on the basis of an equitable geographical distribution according to the following pattern:
 - Five members from African States.
 - Four members from Asia-Pacific States.
 - Four members from Eastern European States.
 - Four members from Latin American and Caribbean States.
 - Seven members from Western European and other States.

- The term of office of members is four years.
- The officers of the Commission, also referred to as the Bureau, are the Chairman, 3 Vice-chairmen and the Rapporteur.
- The current members from the Asia-Pacific States are Japan (2024), Samoa (2024) as well as Kuwait and Republic of Korea, whose terms are ending in 2023.
- India secured an overwhelming 46 out of 53 votes. A second candidate is yet to be decided between South Korea and China for electing the remaining Asia Pacific States member.
- India was elected by secret ballot while Argentina, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Ukraine, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America were elected by acclamation for a four-year term of office beginning January 1, 2024.