

International Day of Clean Air for blue skies

September 8, 2022

In news– Every year, International Day of Clean Air for blue skies was observed on September 7th 2022.

History of International Day of Clean Air for blue skies-

- During its 74th session, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution to hold an International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies on December 19, 2019.
- The resolution also encouraged the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate the day's observance in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders.
- In the lead-up to the passing of the resolution, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition collaborated with UNEP and the Republic of Korea to advocate for the day.
- The **'Air We Share' was the focal theme** for the 2022 edition(3rd).
- It emphasises the need for collective accountability and action by understanding that the existence of air pollution stretches across national boundaries.

What is Air pollution?

- Air pollution is contamination of the indoor or outdoor environment by any chemical, physical or biological agent that modifies the natural characteristics of the atmosphere.
- Household combustion devices, motor vehicles, industrial facilities and forest fires are common sources of air pollution.
- Carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen oxides, ground-level ozone, particle pollution (often referred to as

particulate matter), and sulfur oxides are major air pollutants.

Clean Air and Sustainable Development Goals-

- In the **outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**, entitled **“The future we want,”** countries committed to promoting sustainable development policies that support healthy air quality in the context of sustainable cities and human settlements.
- Also, the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, which outlines a **road map to achieving sustainable development**, environmental protection and prosperity for all, recognizes that air pollution abatement is important to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.