

# UNSC Resolution 2615

December 27, 2021

**In news-**Recently, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) unanimously passed a resolution permitting a carveout in sanctions against the Taliban to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan.

## **About the resolution(2615)-**

- It was put **forward by the U.S.**, and was passed after Security Council members, including veto-wielding China and Russia, had objections to a draft version.
- In passing the text, the **Council carved out an exemption for humanitarian assistance and other activities** that support basic human needs from sanctions imposed under resolutions 2255 (2015) and 1988 (2011), concerning individuals and entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to peace and security.
- **This carveout covers urgently needed humanitarian assistance and other activities that support basic human needs in Afghanistan.**
- It includes activities related to shelter and settlement assistance, food security, education, livelihoods support, energy, water, sanitation, health including COVID-related assistance, nutrition, and hygiene, among others.
- The resolution **mandates a review of the carveout every six months.**
- It also requests that an **Emergency Relief Coordinator brief the UNSC every six months** on the delivery of assistance and any obstacles to implementation.
- It also “calls on all parties” to respect human rights and observe international humanitarian law.

**Note:** Resolution 2593 (backed by India) was adopted recently that called on the Taliban to not permit Afghanistan to become

a training ground for terrorists.

### **What is a United Nations resolution?**

- It is a formal text adopted by the United Nations (UN).
- Although any UN body can issue resolutions, in practice most resolutions are issued by the Security Council or the General Assembly.
- Except concerning UN budgetary matters and instructions to lower UN bodies, General Assembly resolutions are non-binding.
- The General Assembly resolutions as the expression of member states' views, and as not legally binding upon member states.