UAE, Israel reach agreement to establish diplomatic ties

Context:

- The United Arab Emirates has become the first Gulf Arab country to reach a deal on normalising relations with Israel.
- The United Arab Emirates and Israel have agreed to establish full diplomatic ties as part of a deal to halt the annexation of occupied land sought by the Palestinians for their future state.
- The development caps years of discreet contacts between the two countries in commerce and technology.
- The so-called “Abraham Agreement”, announced by United States President Donald Trump, secures an Israeli commitment to halt further annexation of Palestinian lands in the occupied West Bank.
- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has sought to build settlements on lands sought by the Palestinians and embraced a Trump proposal that would allow him to annex large parts of the occupied West Bank while granting Palestinians limited autonomy in other areas.

Advantages of the UAE-Israel deal

- For the UAE, it further polishes its international campaign to be seen as a beacon of tolerance in West Asia despite being governed by autocratic rulers.
- Delegations would meet to sign deals on direct flights, security, telecommunications, energy, tourism and health care. The two countries also will partner on fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.
- It is believed that opening direct ties between two of the Middle East’s most dynamic societies and advanced economics will transform the region by spurring economic growth, enhancing technological innovation and forging closer people-to-people relations.

Abraham accord:

- Israel-United Arab Emirates Peace Agreement or the Abraham Accord was agreed to by UAE and Israel.
- UAE will be the third Arab country to sign a peace agreement with Israel after Egypt (1979) and Jordan (1994).
- It will also be the first Persian Gulf country to sign an accord with Israel. The agreement is expected to be signed by this September in the White House.
- The name Abraham is to honour the patriarch of three major Abrahamic religions of the world - Judaism, Islam and Christianity.