Syllabus subtopic: Bilateral, Regional and Global Groupings and Agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.

Prelims and Mains focus: about the Brazilian President’s visit: agreements to be signed and their significance; about India-Brazil relations

News: The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved an agreement on bilateral legal and criminal cooperation to be sealed during the coming visit of President Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil.

Context: Brazilian President Bolsonaro is scheduled to arrive on Friday to be the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations.

Aim of the agreement

- To enhance effectiveness of both the countries in investigation and prosecution of crime through cooperation and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters.

- It is expected to bolster counterterror cooperation between the two countries.

Other agreements to be signed

Three pacts, covering:

1. research in minerals and mining,
2. child behaviour and
3. energy cooperation.

MoU for cooperation in the oil and natural gas sector

- The MoU in the energy sector will allow for joint exploration in the petroleum and natural gas segment.
• Under the MoU, both sides will work towards establishing cooperation in the E&P (exploration & production) initiatives in Brazil and India, research & development in this sector, exploring collaboration in liquefied natural gas projects in Brazil, India and third countries.

• It will also encourage collaboration in oil energy and environmental issues, including energy policies such as energy efficiency, energy research development and expansion of the regional energy infrastructure networks.