Syllabus subtopic: Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests

Prelims and Mains focus: about Industrial Security Annex and its significance in Indo-US relations, 2+2 dialogue

News: India and the US have concluded the Industrial Security Annex agreement, which will facilitate collaboration between defence industries by supporting the secure transfer of key information and technology.

Industrial Security Annex

- ISA will enable smooth transfer of classified technology and information between private entities of the U.S. and India.
- The ISA is a part of the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA), which India signed with the U.S. long back.

Indo-US 2+2 dialogue

- The ‘2+2’ dialogue is a meeting between the India Ministers for External Affairs and Defence, and the US Secretaries of State and Defence to focus on “strengthening strategic, security and defence cooperation” between the two countries.

Other agreements signed during the 2+2 dialogue are

- Finalisation of Defense Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) which will harmonise the two side’s processes for identification, development and execution of projects under the DTTI.

- Tiger Triumph Exercise: It has been decided to hold the India-U.S. joint tri-services and amphibious exercise ‘Tiger Triumph’ on an annual basis. It was first held in November 2019 as a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise.

- Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI): USA announced its commitment to being the founding member of the CDRI whose headquarters
Tough task at hand

India and the US have concluded an important defence pact, and have called for Pakistan to act against terrorism. While these are positive outcomes, the two sides tried to underplay the lack of progress on trade deal and the concern in Washington on the recent political turmoil. Delhi and Washington have a tough task at hand to keep their ties from not being affected by these challenges.