Syllabus subtopic: Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India’s interests, Indian diaspora.

Prelims and Mains focus: About the crisis in Libya and its impact on the regional and global geopolitics

News: Both sides in Libya’s conflict agreed to a ceasefire from Sunday to end nine months of fighting following weeks of international diplomacy and calls for a truce by powerbrokers Russia and Turkey.

Background

The oilrich North African country has been wracked by bloody turmoil since a NATObacked uprising killed longtime dictator Moamer Kadhafi in 2011, with multiple foreign powers now involved.

Events leading to ceasefire

- Since April last year, the UNrecognised Government of National Accord (GNA) in Tripoli has been under attack from forces loyal to easternbased strongman Khalifa Haftar, which days ago captured the strategic coastal city of Sirte.

- Late on Saturday, Haftar’s forces announced a ceasefire in line with a joint call by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin.

- Early on Sunday, the head of the GNA, Fayez alSarraj, announced his acceptance of the ceasefire, saying it had taken effect on Sunday.

- The UN mission in Libya welcomed the announcements.