Syllabus subtopic: Important International Institutions, agencies and fora - their Structure, Mandate.

Prelims and Mains focus: about ICC: powers and how it is different from ICJ

News: Sudan has agreed to hand over ousted autocrat Omar al-Bashir and others to the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Background

- Bashir is accused of serious crimes in a conflict that broke out in Darfur in 2003 and led to the deaths of 300,000 people and the displacement of some 2.5 million others, according to the United Nations.

- The International Criminal Court (ICC) issued two arrest warrants against Al-Bashir, in 2009 and 2010, on charges of committing war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide in Darfur. Thus, the ousted president denied the charges and accused the ICC of being politicized.

What now?

- Authorities said the former president, and others charged by the ICC, should appear at The Hague to face a tribunal.

- The commitment came at peace talks between Sudan's government and rebel groups from the Darfur region.

- If al-Bashir is handed over, it would be only the second time a country has surrendered a foreign leader to the ICC. Ivory Coast transferred former President Laurent Gbagbo in 2011 to The Hague, where he was acquitted last year of crimes against humanity charges linked to alleged involvement in post-election violence.