



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
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# East Asia Summit

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**Why is in news?** Union Minister Anupriya Patel attends East Asia Summit Economic Ministers' Meeting in Cambodia

- This meeting reiterated India's commitment to **strengthening the EAS as an ASEAN-led organisation** and supporting the EAS Forum in strengthening regional economic architecture.
- The pivotal role of East Asia Summit in **strengthening multilateralism and promoting peace, stability, and economic prosperity in the region**.
- Also reiterated India's willingness to collaborate with East Asian partners in the production of vaccines, generic drugs and medical technologies used for treatment of COVID patients.
- The meeting saw representation from all 10 ASEAN countries as well as eight partner countries including Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Russia and the US.
- The Ministers exchanged views on **global and regional economic developments** including the outcomes of the **12th WTO Ministerial Conference**, post-pandemic economic recovery efforts, measures adopted to mitigate the impact of global supply chains disruptions and strong inflation pressure.
- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is a **regional forum held annually** by leaders of, **initially, 16 countries** in the East Asian, Southeast Asian, South Asian and Oceanian regions, based on the ASEAN Plus Six mechanism.
- Membership **expanded to 18 countries** including Russia and the United States at the Sixth EAS in 2011.
- Since its establishment, ASEAN has held the central role and leadership in the forum.
- EAS meetings are **held after the annual ASEAN leaders' meetings**, and plays an important role in the regional architecture of Asia-Pacific.
- The East Asia Summit is the **Indo-Pacific's prime forum for strategic dialogue** at which all key partners meet to analyse political, security, and economic concerns faced by the Indo-Pacific. This forum possesses a major role to play in advancing closer regional cooperation.
- **India is one of the founding members of the East Asia Summit**. At the East Asia Summit in Bangkok in November 2019, India had unveiled India's **Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)**, which is aimed at forging partnerships to create a secure and stable maritime domain.

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