

2. Pushes for BIMSTEC trade pact, vows \$1m aid

- Indian PM pushed for early progress on the proposal of BIMSTEC free trade agreement (FTA) to enhance mutual trade among member states.
- He also announced that **India will provide \$1 million** in financial aid to augment the operational budget of the BIMSTEC secretariat.

WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM)

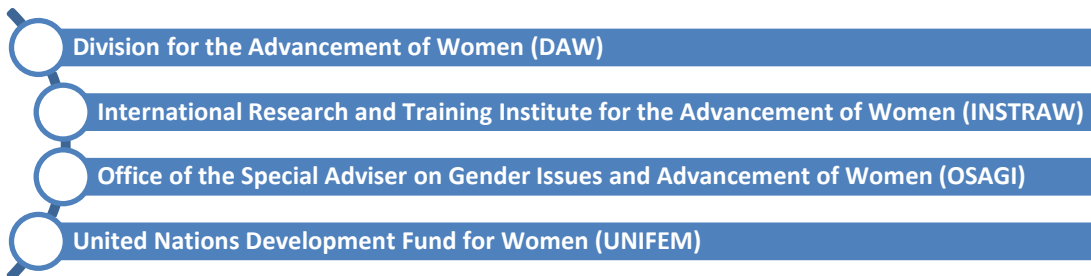
- PM Modi laid the foundation stone of WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM).
- GCTM is a knowledge centre for **traditional medicine** which is being termed as the first and only global outpost centre for traditional medicine across the world.
- The Centre is **located at Jamnagar, Gujarat**.
- India is a **lead investor** in the WHO GCTM. It has committed an estimated **US\$ 250 million** to support the Centre's establishment, infrastructure and operations.

GCTM lays down five goals. These are:

- It aims to create a database of traditional knowledge system using technology.
- It will create international standards for testing and certification of traditional medicines so that confidence in these medicines improves.
- It should evolve as a platform where global experts of traditional medicines come together and share experiences.
- Mobilize funding for research in the field of traditional medicines.
- Develop protocols for holistic treatment of specific diseases

India Contributes to UN Women's Core Budget

- India has contributed \$500,000 to the **UN Women** for their core budget.
- UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. It was created In **July 2010** by the **United Nations General Assembly**.
- This organization works for the rights of girls, women, and LGBTIQ+
- It was created by merging the four bodies of the UN system:



- It is headquartered at the United Nations in New York.

Veto Use Reform

- The UN General Assembly adopted by consensus a **resolution requiring the five permanent members of the Security Council to justify their use of the veto**.
- The measure is intended to **make veto-holders more accountable** while exercising their power.
 - So far more than **200 Security Council proposals have been vetoed**.