



## Political Science & International Relations

### Crash Course & Test Series - 2022

#### Test 04

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 250

Name

Ayasha Fatima Sheikh

Test Date

10/8/22

Email Address

UPSC Roll No

7811744.

#### Instructions:

1. There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS and candidate has to attempt five questions in all.
2. Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any three are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each section.
3. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
5. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
8. Write the test in exam atmosphere.
9. **Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.**

S. No.	a	b	c	d	e	Total
1						
2				X	X	
3				X	X	
4				X	X	
5						
6				X	X	
7				X	X	
8				X	X	
Grand Total						

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	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Understanding of Questions					
Structure & Flow					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Conclusion					
(c) Overall					
Subject Knowledge					
Presentation					
(a) Underline					
(b) Paragraph					
(c) Overall					
Overall Remarks:					
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All the best for next test...!!!					

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1a)

Foreign policy is an integration of leadership, in a contested geopolitical space.

- Shyam Saran in "How India sees the world" book

The philosophical foundation of India dates back to Buddha and Ashoka.

In current foreign policy it is visible by:

① Peace and mutual co-existence as outlined by India's UN non permanent chairmanship by 5s approach (samman, samvad, samridhi,

2) Real politik and pragmatism of Arthashastra.

3) As noted by S. Jaishankar in "the

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India way book - Mahabharata's  
vision of Statecraft and strategic culture  
are bedrock of Indian philosophy.

4) Also, the Hindu and Buddhist philosophy  
of Madhyam Marg i.e. Middle path is  
the cornerstone of Indian foreign  
policy. For ex: India balancing Russia  
and US simultaneously post Ukraine -  
Russia war.

5) Spirituality, non violence of traditional  
philosophy of yoga, Mahatma  
Gandhi's pot concentric power  
circles are also highlights today's  
India's vision of Multilateralism

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b) SAARC region is a geo-political term, ranging from Hindukush to the bank of Indian Ocean i.e. Sri Lanka

It is land of paradoxes. The 21% world's population has only 5% trade connectivity.

Noted by Rajiv Sikheri in "Reimagining India's foreign policy" book - South Asia has been estranged in rhetoric of artificial boundaries. The region has been afflicted in geopolitics rather than the geoeconomic edge.

Brachma Chellaney also notes water as the war zone of South Asia. Evident in Indus water

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dispute, Tista water sharing.

Also the political instability of the region has made integration at stand <sup>still</sup> alone. like military coup in Myanmar, Tahrir-e-Inshaf destabilization in Pakistan, Sri Lanka's political turmoil.

Moreover, the extra power intrusion in the region causes stiffness in relation. like CPEC passing through Pok, Chinese string of pearls in Hambantota, Sittwe port (Myanmar) (Sri Lanka).

Thus, SAARC region required a functionalist approach of David Mitrany. To have a spillover effect of shared culture and ethnicity.

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Q) As per Ch Raja Mohan, the tectonic  
shift of power in the Asia territory  
has called for a vigorous Indo  
Pacific policy.

The connectivity of Indo-Pacific  
is central to Indian response. India  
has been looking for "a net security  
provider" status in the region.  
Such as Sagar mala, SAGAR doctrine.

India has been pursuing  
the soft power diplomacy. Like  
Atoll development in Maldives,  
financial relief package to Sri  
Lanka.

As the IA response to China's

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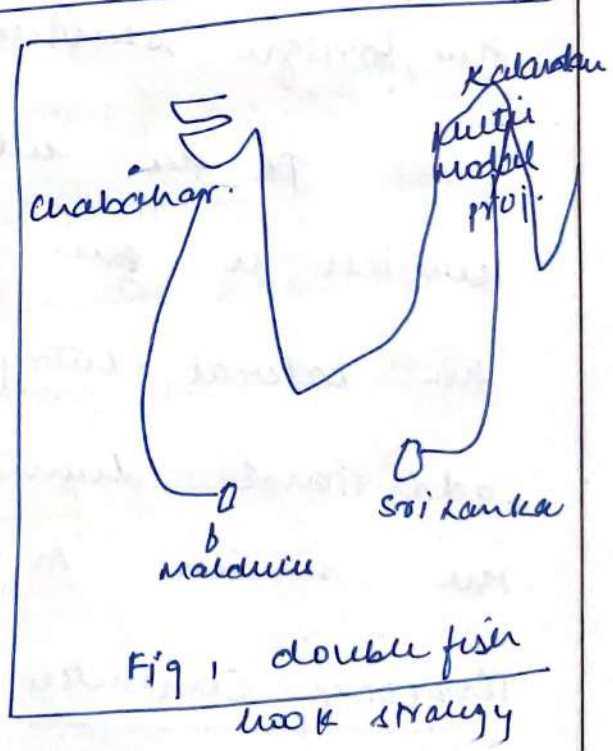
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strengthening string of pearls, India has been harnessing necklace of diamonds diplomacy. through strategic alignment with ASEAN, Vietnam's 2+2 Strategic talks.

The Indian foreign policy in Indo Pacific has also been termed as double fish hook strategy (Fig 1)

Thus, India's strategy in Indo Pacific is a response to internal faction of country and external interference of ~~the~~ China.





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d)

Indian foreign service combine  
the manpower of diplomats, strategist  
and scholars.

The lateral entry has been a  
back door entry of fine and inherent  
personalties into the service. It  
would provide a strategic edge to  
the foreign services.

As the entry point of foreign  
service is one gate i.e. IFS,  
the lateral entry would provide  
additional human resource to  
the service. As noted by Shashi

Tharoor Committee, the strength  
of Indian diplomats is minuscule

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as compared to its geography and role  
in world affairs. It is weaker  
than Singapore's strength.

The lateral entry however has  
been criticised as a way of  
backdoor entry of political faction  
and seen as dilution to executive -  
political separation

Therefore, a transparent merit  
based lateral entry can be done.  
Or a piecemeal approach can be  
followed for having what Joseph  
Nye in the "future of power" book  
terms smart power.

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e)

Foreign policy has been a cybernetic  
of various fields. Given the security  
angle of the policy formulation, Chief  
of defence staff <sup>(CCDS)</sup> becomes paramount  
in its role.

As India has been engaging  
in 2+2 dialogues (i.e. foreign  
ministry and defence ministry),  
CDs' input are strategic. He  
is the head of department of  
military affairs and thus  
influence the defence ministry's  
action.

Moreover, as a part of defence  
acquisition council, CBS has

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been increasingly participating in defence procurements. Like Rafael deal, 5400 deal from Russia. (from France)

India is further looking at techno strategic angle of defence. This makes CDS a very important decision maker in the same. He is the head of tri services and thus integrates the demands of all the services. For ex: Submarines Airant that is a second strike capability weapon of India.

Thus, CDS is a very strategic head and has paramount role in shaping defence partnership of Indian foreign policy.

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2a)

Non alignment was a call of  
newly independent countries in a  
bipolar cold war politics. As noted  
by J L Nehru, " we should either  
be ~~so~~ strong enough to produce some  
effect or not interfere at all "

The Bandung Conference  
culminated the call of NAM and  
helped guide the National Interest of  
the newly ~~developed~~ independent  
countries.

Non alignment refers to  
not taking either side of the  
poles of world order. For ex:  
During cold war, the NAM countries

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neither signed NATO nor Russia led  
collective security Treaty organization

whereas strategic alliance  
is a fine balancing act of nation,  
where though it aligns with  
the poles but also maintains its  
independent foreign policy.

Given the tectonic shift of power  
from Atlantic to Indo Pacific,  
India has been looking at strategic  
alignment. As noted by Shyam  
Sami & Suran, BRs shape the current  
world order → restructuring of global  
powers, reorientation of National  
politics and re alignment of Axis  
powers.

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In the scenario, India's strategic alignment can be viewed in its balancing of Sino Pacific i.e. Chinese strategy. India has been actively participating in SCO while also balancing it via Quad. India in Pacific Ocean has been strengthening its democratic necklace of diamonds like ASEAN outreach and supply chain resilience initiative with Australia and Japan. Other strategic balancing can be seen in Russia and US reshaping. India has signed Rupee-Ruble swap to overcome the hurde of SWIFT blockade of Russian

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banks. And on other side India has  
been engaging with US through I2U2,  
visit of Clinton, participation in  
D-10 US led partnership.

Thus, as noted by Terraviva  
Schaffer, India's multilateral  
personality rising needs strategic  
autonomy. And it has been in  
full display. But needs what  
C Raja Mohan says an enthusiastic  
push to lethargic and slowed approach.



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2b)

Russia and India have been  
termed as time tested partners.  
Both share what PM Modi says  
"all weather partnership".

The Russia - Ukraine war  
paints the realist notion of  
International relation. ~~The~~ Implying,  
state centric and war as inevita-  
-ble function of state.

Though Russia and India  
enjoy strategic partnership post  
2000 Agreement. The war huts  
the strength of the relationship.  
Russia has been  
termed as aggressor in us led

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resolutions at UN. India has  
abstained from voting. Moreover,  
the outward pressure from  
Eurasia to limit Russian oil  
imports has further tightened the  
rope of India - Russia war.

India and Russia have been  
actively engaging through projects  
like Vladivostok - Chennai link,  
Far East summit of Russia. The  
sanctions imposed on Russia complicate  
the bilateral relations. Like  
SWIFT banning Russian banks in  
communication called for  
Rupe - Ruble exchange agreement.

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The Russia Ukraine war has implications on the moral stature of Indo Russia relation as well. India has always <sup>Indians in</sup> called for peace and the Ukraine medical schools has further complicated India's problems. Thus the Russia Ukraine war has far reaching effect on Indo-Russia war. But has been tackled through pragmatism till now. And would further need more acts of balancing till normalcy.

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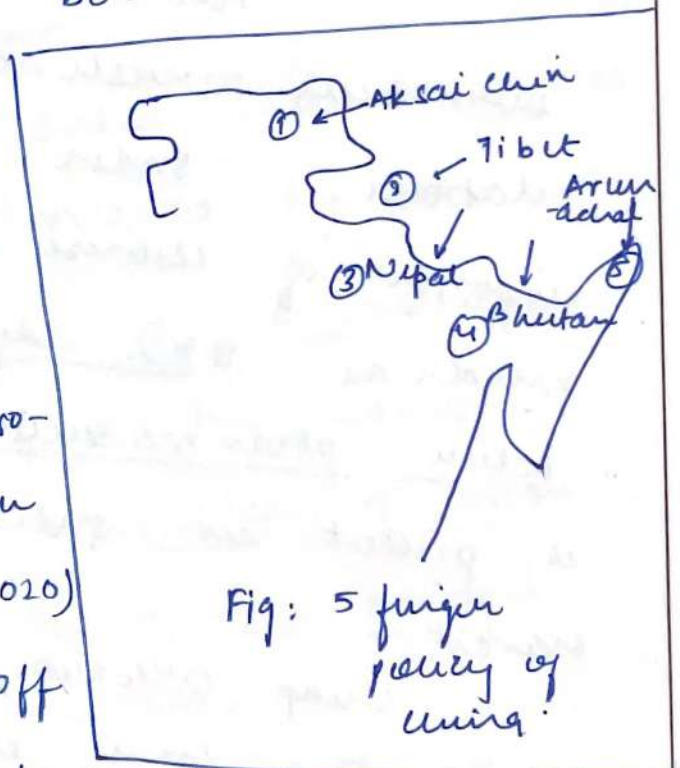
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5)

~~Sixth~~ China and India share 3400 km of border. The relationship between the two depicts the core of geo economics, where border tensions i.e. geo politics is surmounted by trade relations.

India and China have long standing border dispute. Tri-

angular by the 5 finger policy of China (fig). It has been visible through the Galwan valley clash (2020) Doklam standoff (2017) and frequent incursions at



Arunachal Pradesh.

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China's inability to accept Sino accords and Mc Mohan line has time and again led to expansionistic policy. As noted by S. Jaishankar in raising debate India can not look at world power tag with unchanging border disputes. However these disputes have not been overshadowed by trade relations. India is the largest importer of Chinese products. As much as 90% dependency of Active pharmaceutical ingredient is present in Indian pharma Market. Cheap over subsidised Chinese plastic toys have encompassed Indian Market. Also the dependency

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an semiconductor chip has made  
Indian industry dependent on  
China's trend.

Noted by Shyam Saran in  
"Now China see the world" book  
The dichotomy of trade and aggression  
has been visible not only in  
Indian mainland but in Pacific  
as well. ~~That~~

Thus, India - China relations  
have to be normalised by following  
9 point framework of S. Jaishankar.

And also bring on the same  
page in terms of perception of Asian  
power as noted by Kantai Bajpai  
in India vs China book.

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3a)

Quad is an example of collective  
defence partnership. An alliance  
of US, India, Japan and Australia.  
It is guided by shared values  
of democracy.

Quad is a call for rules  
based order. As the liberal  
international institutes like UN,  
WTO have become a geopolitical  
power display. QUAD has become  
an all-out call for cosmopolitan  
value of democracy. The

The platform of Quad  
has been turned as to contain the  
Chinese wolf warrior diplomacy and

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expansionism in Pacific. However, it is more than ~~two~~ just limiting China. It is a multi dimensional, and multi faceted partnership

As noted in 1 Quad summit, the relationship expands to health security, infra structure co-ordina-  
tion group. The strategic alliance of Quad provides an overview of linked Indo Pacific theatre as envisaged by C Raja Mohan in "Samudra Manthan" book.

The joint statement of Quad 2022 summit noted the territorial integrity of the region and to make it free from social, political and military coercion. This reaffirms the



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role of UNCLOS. ~~the~~

India is not the weakest  
link in the Quad. It has been  
termed weakest on the line of  
economic capacity. As opposed to  
the other three, India is compara-  
-tively slower in infrastructure  
development, technology advancement.

The nature of Indian society  
is also termed as "prismatic" (F.W.  
Riggs). Also the Indian society <sup>is</sup> sours  
dearage in harmony by inequalities  
and communalism. Gunnar Myrdal  
terms Indian state as "soft state"  
having limited capacity of implementation  
of rules.

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However, India can't be termed as "weak". It is infact one of the strongest link to Quad. It has better interlinkages with each member. Moreover it is a entry door for developing countries outreach.

Given the Indian leadership in III world countries, India provides a strategic edge to Quad. It also envisions Quad to multifarious and fulcristic alliance. rather than making it an alliance of just super powers. and revisionist powers.

Thus, Quad as summit has strategic edge and India is at equal footing in it.

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3b)

India Japan relations date back to Indian Monk Bodhi Sura. Both share long history of spiritual affinity and cultural civilization.

India and Japan upgraded their ties to special global and strategic partnership in 2014. Former PM Shinzo Abe termed relation as "natural partnership".

Japan aligns with Bilaterally India and Asia - Africa Growth Corridor. The ODA assistance of Japan is highest in India. Both of them have been actively engaging in MAHAR metro line project, western dedicated freight corridor.

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Also the cultural ties are eripped by smart cities and sister cities of Varanasi - Tokyo etc. India & Japan have also signed currency swap Agreement.

Multilaterally, Japan and India engage in QUAD, supply chain resilience initiative, G-20 summit. Both are active voice for reform of UNSC as G4. Moreover Japan joined India led ISA (International Solar Alliance).

convergence of the India's Act East policy and Japan's free and open Indo-Pacific has been seen in ASEAN centrality. But the bilateral ties between them have seen a decrease from 17 bn \$ to 15 bn \$ in 2019.

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- As termed by S Jaishankar in  
the India way book The Indo  
Japan ties are high in rhetoric  
and low in ambition.

Kersch V Pant also notes  
the US-India axis and US-Japan  
ties have made Japan-India  
ties a shadow zone.

Thus, a proactive push for  
India-Japan relation ~~is~~ is the  
need for the hour. As both the  
nations have similar vision of  
multipolarity and leadership, ties  
between the two are necessary.

31

India and US days has have been transformed from what Dennis Kux calls "estranged democracy" to unbedded democracy [in book "estranged democracy"].

Both the country's share a global vision of cosmopolitan democracy as outlined by David Held. The common vision has led to various partnerships not only bilateral but multilateral as well. Like the defence partnership - COMCASA, LEMOA, MESA shows an increased confidence between the two.

Post the cold war, as 9th world order was dominated by liberal international and institu-  
-tional world order, the 2 cont

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Countries began to strengthen the  
ties. As evident in 2002, Nuclear  
deal.

The interest of the countries conver-  
ge in security, Chinese extremist  
and technology. Climate change  
also highlight the another interest  
as evident in PACE fund. The  
rules based order vision has further  
strengthened the ties.

However, the 2 countries  
diverge at reforms of liberal  
international institutes reform. Like  
WTO dispute appellate body blocked  
by vs veto. UNSC permanent chair-  
man reforms.

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The 2 have also been engaged in  
dilemma of bilateral tie with  
other nations. like India - Russia  
S400 deal by CAATSA blockage. India  
- Iran relation at virtual standstill  
by JCPOA talks failure.

however the 2 countries have  
been on an increased cooperation  
via D-10 and call for expansion of  
G7. Thus, Biden - Modi relation  
are strengthened and also  
face undercurrents of development  
clash like currency manipulator  
list but guided by values and  
vision.



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9 a)

Indus water Treaty is a World  
Bank endorsed treaty between  
India Pakistan. As per the treaty,  
The <sup>west</sup> 3 West tributary have control  
of India while the 3 West have  
to be shared with Pakistan.

Jhelum  
Sutlej  
Ravi

Pakistan

Ravi  
Beas  
Sutlej

India.

Fig → Indus water Treaty.

However post the Pulwama attack,  
the treaty has been a major  
debate between the two countries.  
PM Modi noted " water and Blood  
can not flow together" Pakistan  
also objects towards the hydropower

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projects like Rattle on China, Sateij  
Yanmuna like Canal.

However as noted by bratuntra sanior  
chellany in the book "Reimagining  
the India" the conflict is more  
political than social. which should  
be resolved by greater co-operation  
and deliberations.

The failure of the Treaty  
lies in the cooperation of the  
2 states. Noted by foreign minister  
of Pakistan Zardari Zardari Rutto as Pakistan  
has to engage with India now or  
later. A comprehensive strategic dialogue  
with experts is needed as way  
forward

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b) South Asia has been termed as "land of paradox" with <sup>already</sup> less integration cross border terrorism was further complicated the ties.

The sheltering of terrorists or organisation like Mujaheddin in Pakistan, ties of National Socialist Army, Khaplang



Fig: Major security threats in the region.

Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.  
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The state sponsored terrorism like  
26/11 attacks, have led to complication.

As noted by Venkatesh Naider in  
SCD meeting, terrorism has been  
a major threat in the region that  
has been mainly due to state  
reluctance to solutions.

The non state actors that  
find the safe havens in the neighbours  
are major hurdles. Not only their  
strict check but a minute acknowledgement  
has also been seen as state  
oppression. This has called for multilateral

agendas like FATF grey listed Pakistan.

Thus cross border terrorism is  
a major hurdle in integration that  
should be sort out by confidence  
building measures.

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Q

Latin America has often been termed as last frontier of Indian foreign policy. Surrounded by out of sight, out of mind paradigm.

Post cold war, as India consolidated its ties in SAARC, look east and neighbourhood, Latin America remained unnoticed.

But post the BRICS formulation, India has been actively engaging with Brazil. 1<sup>st</sup> outreach summit with community of Latin American and Caribbean states happened in 2012.

Private players and PSUs like NALCO, BALCO are engaged in

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Lithium triangle countries like BOLIVIA,  
CHILE and Argentina.

The notion of South-South  
Co-operation has also deepened ties.  
However, the lacunae of the relations  
remain. The unutilised potential  
in energy security like Venezuela,  
(OPEC member) is very high. Moreover  
the commonality of challenges like  
forest, climate change, technological  
transfer further show way forward  
to the underutilised co-operation.

Thus, for India's multipolar  
world order call, it has to take  
an all encompassing continental reach  
to not only Indo Pacific but Indo  
Atlantic via Latin America.

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Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.  
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d India as noted by PM Modi has been a founding member of UN Peace Keeping whose genesis is from II World War.

Role of India:

- 1) Largest troop donor of the world.
- 2) Active participation in peace keeping mission like S. Sudan,
- 3) Parachute Ambulance in Korean War
- 4) Medical and Professional help via Doctors, vaccine at disturbed areas
- 5) India is the first country to send an all women battalion to the Peace Keeping force.

# UPSC

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- 6) Indian's troops were actively engaged in the 6 year war ceasefire call.
- 7) Also in the Suez Canal Crisis, Indian troops helped in demilitarizing the area of Egypt from France, UK militaries
- 8) Still the Indian troops are actively engaged in SAHEL, W. Africa region  
Thus, Indian role is very prominent in peace keeping. Highlighting India's active participation and morals of world as greater land or  
'Vasudev Kutumbhakam'



# UPSC

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2)

India and Israel enjoy a  
co-ordinating ties of strategic  
partnership

As per former pm, Nitanyabu,  
India and Israel have  
complementary needs rather than  
conflicting

The ideological convergence of  
India Israel are in the liberal  
democratic world vision. Both share  
a similar neighbourhood of  
"troubled politics". The mirror  
images of Indo-Israel positions  
also converge in idea of  
multilateralism. While India  
looks for net security provider in

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S. Asia, Israel does the same in W. Asia.

Both Israel and India have strong convergence of morality and strengthening security. Strategically both follow the mandal theory of friendship with "extended neigh-  
-bourhood like 12 U 2 initiative

Thus, India and Israel have ideological integration which is shown in dehypertension policy. And also rising security alliances which Narsinh U Pant calls the cornerstone of the Indo-Israel partnership.

# UPSC

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6a)

West Asia represents the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
concentric circle of Mandala theory  
in Indian foreign policy. The  
historical ties date back to ~~the~~  
Mesopotamia and Harappan linkage.  
W. Asia is a geopolitical  
link. The geography of W. Asia  
makes it of paramount importance  
to India's world order vision of  
Multipolarity. It provides  
energy security to the nation.  
Also acts as gateway to  
Central Asia, like Chabahar  
port and International North-  
South Transport Corridor. The  
The Zahedan - Delaram  
Transp Railway line provides an entry

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point to India's troubled neighbour-  
hood of Afghanistan. As per  
Rajiv Sikhari in "Rethinking India's  
Foreign Policy" book - W. Asia is  
a litmus test of India's strategic  
autonomy.

Apart from geopolitical angle,  
economic strength of W. Asia - India  
relations are also high. The crude  
oil transport provides energy security.  
UAE is the <sup>2<sup>nd</sup></sup> largest importer of  
Indian goods. Diaspora of 14  
million in W. Asia provides  
remittances of more than 54 billion  
dollar. This not only maintains  
economic goods demand but also  
cultural ties. Like first mind temple

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प्रश्न संख्या  
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in Abe Dhabi.

India West Asia के also  
transient- to trans national linkage.

The multi lateral I2U2 is symbolic  
of de-hyphenation policy. India also

acknowledges Abraham and David  
Accords for peace.

~~It~~ As noted by Talmiz  
Ahmad in book "West Asia at  
war", India is engaging with  
"like ruined countries" in the  
region for greater role and mult  
playing field in W. Asia.

However, as noted by Harsh  
V Pant India also has to see  
the dynamic power scramble in  
the region. The Turkey's resistance,

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Egypt's greater leader role and rising Saudi-Iran has have changed the equilibrium of the region. Moreover, the rising normalcy of countries with Israel (like David Accord) call for active entanglement in the region.

As noted by S. Jaishankar in "The India way" the H.U of India and W. Asia are no more an just energy security but elevated to strategic partnership. Thus India should further engage with W. Asia <sup>in</sup> by integrationist approach propounded by Karl Deutsch.

# UPSC

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6b)

India became a nuclear power post the '98 nuclear test. And has been vocal about its "peaceful use" through:

- ① No first use doctrine and
- ② Credible minimal deterrence.

The nuclear policy of India follows Kenneth Waltz's theory of Mutually Assured Destruction to avoid threats from immediate neighbours.

India's No first use policy has been criticised for increased proliferation of nuclear warheads. As per SIPRI, Indian warheads

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increased to 163. Vipin Narang  
note that Indian surgical strike  
is epitome that India does not  
follow a no first use policy. And  
would use its weapons when and  
where necessary.

However, the No first use  
policy is not mere symbolism. It  
is the core of India's Panchsheel  
and Gujarat doctrine. Where peace  
is paramount. The policy has  
shown India's moral stand.

As per Brahma Chellaney,  
India's warheads are nowhere  
equal to credible minimum deterrence  
of China (>312 nuclear warheads).



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Moreover, the weapons of mass destruction bill indicates India's strong stand towards not only nuclear peaceful use but other weapons as well.

India needs revision in expanding its doctrine to various weapons like inter continental ballis-  
-tic missile. It should also reiterate its stand at NPT.

The commitment of India for no first use is unquestionable given its engagement with Australian, Wassenaar Group. However it needs a proactive integration of consensus building to new modes of warfare as well.

# UPSC

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World order is system of power  
distribution in the international  
politics.

The various world orders are →

- ① Multipolar world order.
- ② Bipolar cold war order.
- ③ Unipolar world order.
- ④ Liberal institutional world order.
- ⑤ Rules based world order.

The current world order is  
in transient. The unipolar US

world order is getting challenged  
by revisionist power like China, Russia.

Harsh V Pant notes the weakened and  
fractured multilateral framework

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has led to proliferation of mini lateral forums.

<sup>Samir</sup>  
Shyam Saran in "The new world disorder" book noted rise of "gated globalisation" i.e. rising protectionism and regionalism.

In the current world order, India is navigating its own path. India advocates for a new world order.  
underlined by facts like →

- ① multipolarity
- ② futuristic outlook.
- ③ India in thought and spirit

i.e. internationalising Indian culture with Indian state authority

# UPSC

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## ④ Diplomacy

Post cold war, India has shed  
its idealism of NAM and had  
started looking for strategic alignment.  
The time and space of current order  
calls for Indian status rise.

Focusing on economic development  
we are also looking at cybernetic  
economic development. A blend  
of realism of liberalism in Indian  
view is paramount. thereby economic  
shaping political action and <sup>will</sup> political  
~~shaping~~ <sup>versus</sup>

Thus, India's multipolar character  
has pushed it to what Raja Mohan  
says <sup>^</sup> realignment, de alignment and  
multi alignment <sup>^</sup> simultaneously.

**Political Science & International Relations**

**Crash Course & Test Series - 2022**

**Test 04**

**Time Allowed: 3 Hours**

**Max Marks: 250**

There are **EIGHT** questions divided in **TWO SECTIONS** and candidate has to attempt five questions in all.

Question Nos.1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any three are to be attempted choosing at least **ONE** question from each section.

**SECTION A**

**Q.1 Answer the following in about 150 words each:**

- a) Discuss the philosophical foundations of India's foreign policy.
- b) Identify the reasons behind the low volumes of trade in SAARC region
- c) Highlight India's response to the geo-political construct of Indo Pacific.
- d) Discuss the relevance of Lateral entry in the Indian Foreign Services.
- e) Discuss the role of the chief of Defence Staff in India's foreign policy.

*Strategic culture way S. Jaishankar*

*PP not in 21/05*

*2+2 Prominents defra*

**Q2**

- ~~a) Distinguish between the concept of Non-alignment and strategic autonomy. Explain with the help of at least two examples as to how India has exercised its strategic autonomy in recent times.~~
- ~~b) What are the possible implications of Ukraine crisis for India Russia relations?~~
- ~~c) India-China ties are caught in cross-currents of border tensions and rising trade. Discuss.~~

**Q3**

- ~~a) How do you interpret the platform of Quad? Do you think that India is the weakest pillar in the Quad? Give arguments to support your point of view.~~
- b) Discuss the current state of India-Japan relations, In what way economy forms the pillar of the relationship?

- c) To what extent India-US global strategic partnership is based on shared democratic values and increasing convergence of interest? Discuss. ✓

**Q 4**

- a) Discuss the impact of Russia-Ukraine war on India's Act East Policy. Do you think India runs the risk of being side lined in an increasingly polarized Indo-pacific regional architecture?
- b) Do you think that India's long running dispute with Pakistan has soured any attempt to foster regionalism in Asia?
- c) For a country like India, multi-lateral trading system embodied by WTO provides security and predictability, however, India has had a chequered relationship with WTO. Comment.

**SECTION B**

**Q 5 Discuss the following in about 150 words each:**

- a) Future of Indus water treaty. ✓
- b) Cross-border terrorism as an obstacle to the integration of South Asia. ✓
- c) India's quest in Latin America. ✓
- d) India's role in UN Peace Keeping. ✓
- e) Ideological convergences in India-Israel relations. ✓

**Q 6**

- a) Explore the Geo-political dimension, economic ties and trans-national linkages between India and West Asia. ✓
- b) Do you think India's No-First Use policy is mere symbolism? To what extent, India needs the revision of its doctrine so that it gains substance? ✓
- c) How do you define the world order? What is India's perspective of the post-cold war world order? ✓

**Q 7**

- a) India and Africa's historical links have experienced a revival in recent years, and there are strong reasons for optimism that the partnership could be mutually beneficial. Comment.
- b) Enumerate India's contributions and achievements at UN in recent years. To what extent India's engagement with UN can be considered as strategic in nature?
- c) India's developmental role in Afghanistan has been globally acknowledged. However, since the change of guards, India is in search of new roles in Afghanistan. Discuss

**Q 8**

- a) India and the Central Asian countries have been rapidly consolidating strategic engagement in addressing the emerging challenges. Discuss.
- b) Given the regional complexities as well as India's own concerns, a more nuanced approach is needed for Myanmar. Comment.
- c) Over 60 years of friendship, both India and the EU have maintained robust strategic relation; however, in some critical areas, there is still room for enhanced cooperation. Comment.

**For any issue related to PSIR Test Series, write only at [psirtestseries@shubhrranjan.com](mailto:psirtestseries@shubhrranjan.com)**

## **Tips for Writing Good Answers: -**

- 1. Read the question carefully and at least 3-4 times.**
- 2. Note down concepts, facts, examples, keywords related to the question.**
- 3. Draw a rough outline of the flow.**
- 4. Pay adequate attention to the introduction and conclusion.**
- 5. Introduction must offer your brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it.**
- 6. Conclusion must summarize your response to the question.**
- 7. Make sure answer is**
  - a. Logical and coherent**
  - b. Clear connection between sentences and paragraphs.**
  - c. Written correctly giving adequate compatibility to your expression, style and presentation**
  - d. Do not exceed the word limit**
  - e. Write neatly**
  - f. Underline points you wish to emphasize.**