



SHUBHRA RANJAN

Always Ahead

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Political Science & International Relations

Crash Course & Test Series - 2022

Test 04

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 250

Name

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Test Date

19th Aug 2022

Email Address

UPSC Roll No

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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Discuss the philosophical foundations of India's foreign policy. (10 Marks)

Foreign policy is totality of a country's dealing with its external environment, to secure its sovereignty, territorial integrity and national interests (Palmer & Lincoln)

Foreign policy makers in India have taken inspiration from ancient Indian philosophical traditions since beginning.

While Buddha's pacifist tradition influenced India's foreign policy in early years, = seen from - Panchsheel doctrine & Non-alignment movement,

in contemporary times, Indian foreign policy is guided by hard headed realism of Kautilya - de hyphenation of Israel - Palestine, doctrine of strategic autonomy & pre-emptive strikes against Pakistan

However, some aspects of India's philosophical tradition remained ^{constant} as continuous source of influence, such as Aurobindo Ghosh's idea of India as Vishwaguru (Yoga, Ayurveda promotion) and India's rich civilizational past behind India's desire to seek rightful place in comrity of nations.

The current Modi administration is making attempts to come out of Nehruvian imprint on Indian foreign policy. As alternative to panchsheel, they advanced Panchamrit (Samvad, Samraksha, Samman, Sanskrit Ekam Sabyata & Samridhi).

They philosophical foundations play major role in conception of India's foreign policy.

Q.1(b)

Identify the reasons behind the low volumes of trade in SAARC region. (10 Marks)

SAARC, which came into existence with signing of SAARC Charter, 1985, was conceived as vehicle of regional integration. But, SAARC today appears as jammed vehicle.

Despite coming into existence of SAFTA in 2006, intra-regional trade continues to remain stagnant at 5% of total regional trade (WB report "Glass half full"). In contrast, ASEAN FTA signed in 1992, increased intraregional trade from 17% to 24% (2018).

Major reasons for low volume of trade are:—

- i) Concept of 'sensitive list' - About 36% of total traded goods are outside of tariff reduction negotiations. In contrast,

it is only 4% for ASEAN

ii) 'Para-tariffs', which are tariffs imposed only on imported goods, like port duty of Sri Lanka, are outside purview of negotiations.

iii) Lack of comparative advantage among economies. Economies in the region are competitive (textiles, foot wear, etc) than being complementary.

iv) High logistics cost for trading across border due to lack of well developed infrastructure & connectivity.

World Bank report suggested that by reducing size of sensitive list and eliminating para tariffs, South Asian countries can increase intra-regional trade from \$ 27bn to \$ 67bn. However, given protectionist nature of economies, it seems unlikely.

ue.1(c)

Highlight India's response to the geo-political construct of Indo Pacific. (10 Marks)

Among the three major theatres of International Politics - Eurasia, Arctic and Indo Pacific - centre of gravity of international politics (IP) is shifting towards Indo-Pacific.

The geopolitical construct of Indo-Pacific was first developed by USA, with its 'Asia pivot policy' to contain the rise of China. USA's approach towards Indo-Pacific is visible from its initiatives like Quad, AUKUS, IPEF, etc.

India outlined its vision of Indo-Pacific in 2018 Shanghaï dialogue. PM Modi held that India believes in Inclusive Indo-Pacific, with ASEAN

as central to India's vision

India's vision of Indo-Pacific is aimed at ensuring rules-based order, freedom of navigation and peace & prosperity for all. India launched SAGAR initiative, which aims to promote security & growth of all.

However, although India denied of anti-china concept of Indo-Pacific, yet in recent times, due to Chinese provocation at border & its strategy of encirclement (string of pearls), India we can see India tilting towards embracing USA's view. This is reflected from inclusion of Australia in Malabar exercises & more recently, joining IPEF, to ensure resilient supply chains in the region.



ie.1(d)

Discuss the relevance of Lateral entry in the Indian Foreign Services.
(10 Marks)

Kautilya, in his saptanga theory of state power, emphasised on the importance of amatyas (ministers), the most important of whom is foreign minister, as he represents country abroad.

Indian foreign servants (IFS) are India's ambassadors, who play key role in protecting and promoting India's national interests.

However, India's IFS size is extremely small, comparable in size to Singapore. As a result, Shashi Tharoor argues, India is punching below its weight. Pillai committee called for lateral entry in IFS.

Lateral entry can augment the size of IFS, while bringing in expertise in areas like strategic technologies, climate change, etc. to effectively negotiate India's position in multilateral forums.

However, lateral entry can lead to bypassing of UPSC, and may promote opaqueness in appointments. Further, lateral entrants may bring conflict of interest, and may not effectively protect national interest.

Hence, the way forward is to experiment lateral entry in divisions like New & Emerging Strategic Technologies (NEST) of MEA, and depending on results, it can be extended to IFS.



ie.1(e)

Discuss the role of the chief of Defence Staff in India's foreign policy..
(10 Marks)

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) is long pending military reform, first recommended by Kargil review committee (1999).

India recently created post of CDS, to act as principal military advisor to Raksha mantri, in all tri-services matters. Further, CDS heads department of military affairs and is also part of National Security Council (NSC).

As one of the key aims of foreign policy, as held by Morgenthau, is to protect country's security & territorial integrity, CDS's role becomes important in Indian foreign policy (IFP).

CDS coordinates military inputs



from army, navy & air force and helps in having comprehensive assessment of security threats. His role becomes vital in framing national security strategy by NSC.

Further, in the backdrop of increasing aggressiveness of India's neighbours, CDS can ensure effective deployment of armed forces by coordinating with all three wings & also creation of integrated theatre commands.

Moreover, as India's stature as net security provider in Indo-Pacific region is increasing, CDS can help in bolstering India's defence capabilities through joint planning & in acquisition of arms, and training of armed forces.

ie.2(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. (20 Marks)

Foreign policies of countries are not designed in vacuum. They are influenced by national interests and external environment. If Non-alignment was the signature identity of India's foreign policy during cold war times, strategic autonomy is the current mantra.

Doctrine of non-alignment is rooted in India's peaceful strategic culture. In the backdrop of cold war bloc politics, non-alignment meant not aligning with any superpowers and focusing on domestic development, while

Safeguarding ~~strategy~~ sovereignty and national independence. India's non-alignment policy was based on both idealist (Panchsheel, Gandhi's emphasis on non-violence) & realist (materially weak, proximity to two communist giants) considerations.

With the end of cold war, unipolar world order came into existence. When there is only one superpower, other countries have no option, but bandwagoning. Hence, many scholars questioned India's non-alignment. Further, the current complex interdependent (Joseph Nye & Keohane) world calls for multiple alignments.



Strategic autonomy is India's grand foreign policy strategy to navigate through contemporary geo-politics. It is based on idea of engagement without entanglement (Shiv Shankar Menon). Instead of being non-aligned, it calls for issue-based alignments (Vijay Gokhale), which gives enough flexibility without getting entangled in other countries' rivalry. It is also known as non-alignment 2.0.

According to Happy Mon Jacob, India's response to the recent Russia-Ukraine crisis presents textbook example of strategic autonomy. India refused to join western wagon & sanction Russia,



nor did it justify Russia's action.
Keeping in view huge stakes with
both west & Russia, India took
an independent stand by calling for
negotiations.

Further, India's simultaneous
participation in Quad, seen as Asian
NATO by China and SCO, seen as
alternative to NATO by west is another
example of India displaying strategic
autonomy.

To conclude, as EAM S. Jaishankar
observed, in this ever-dynamic world,
perfect convergences are difficult to
emerge. Hence, the way forward is
issue-based partnerships, while safeguarding
strategic autonomy.

e.2(b)

What are the possible implications of Ukraine crisis for India Russia relations? (15 Marks)

The EU Foreign policy chief Josep Borrell termed Ukraine crisis as the 'darkest moment' in post world war 2 Europe. The Ukraine crisis once again brought the conditions of cold war, splitting world into two blocks.

While critics of Russia consider Russia's action as one motivated to avenge disintegration of USSR, critics of west, see it as USA's attempt to get Russia engaged in Ukraine quagmire, to prevent emergence of Eastern power.

The Ukraine crisis has severe implications for India's relations with Russia. Some sections of scholars argue that India's independent stand is well appreciated by Russia and it can further deepen India Russia ties.

India has already defied western sanctions & worked out Ruppee-Rouble arrangement to buy Russian oil. From being nowhere, Russia now accounts for 25% of India's oil imports. Further, given Russia accounts for 46% of India's defence imports (SIPRI), the crisis, which impacted Russia's access to Europe markets may further push closer to India.

However, alternate views also exist. Some believe that India cannot remain on the fence for longer and it will be pushed to make choices. Already President Biden termed India's position as 'somewhat shaky'. As India's major security threat is China, India may choose USA over Russia, given shared convergence on containing China's rise. This can strain India's relation with Russia and strengthen Russia-China axis.

However, it is too early to predict implications of ongoing crisis accurately on India Russia relationship. It remains to be seen how south block walks the tight rope.

Que.2(c)

India-China ties are caught in cross-currents of border tensions and rising trade. Discuss. (15 Marks)

Former PM Vajpayee's assertion that "one can choose one's friends, but not one's neighbours", made with respect to Pakistan, seems more relevant in present times with China.

China has emerged as principal strategic threat to India. The Galwan clash, which marked first bloodshed in last 45 years, has brought the relationship to 'dangerously low point' (EAM S. Jaishankar).

Ananth Krishnan in his book "India versus China" argues that the major reasons why they are not friends are 'perimeters' and 'power asymmetry'.



India and China lack mutually agreed borders. The Panchsheel framework no longer is working to ensure 'modus vivendi' in border areas. The Peace and tranquility agreement and Border defence cooperation mechanisms, were violated when Chinese indulged in beligerence in LAC in 2020.

Even after more than 15 rounds of disengagement talks at military level, in areas like Pangong Tso, disengagement remains bleak possibility. Further, recent new border law and Chinese attempts to promote villages in Arunachal Pradesh has made the issue even more complex.

The economic asymmetry in trade



is very high between both. The trade deficit is over \$50bn and is in favour of china. In retaliation to border standoff, India's imposed restrictions on Chinese FDI and banned several apps. However, India china trade increased in 2020-2021 crossing \$100bn. One of the reasons for India's withdrawal from REEP is fear of cheap chinese goods flooding Indian markets.

Given the high levels of distrust, India china rapprochement seems very unlikely. However, as S. Jaishankar held India is not going to abandon the difficult dialogue with china.

3(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. (20 Marks)

Quad is strategic consultation framework between USA, India, Australia and Japan to ensure stable, secure and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

Quad has humanitarian origins, when all four countries came together to aid 2004 Tsunami relief efforts. The idea of Quad was originally proposed by Shinzo Abe in his confluence of two seas speech. However, Quad 1.0 couldn't make progress due to reluctance of India & Australia to provoke China.

However, member countries re-joined in negotiations during 2017.



ASEAN Summit. In the context of Galwan clash, India is putting renewed energy in Quad. In the first heads of state summit in march, 2021, PM Modi held that members of Quad are closer than ever before.

In the strategic community, there is ambiguity about nature of Quad. For some it is anti-china alliance. China called it Asian NATO. It sees Quad as 'embryonic rise to counter alliance'. China's rise. However, India is reluctant to idea of alliances & calls Quad as 'strategic handshake'.

We cannot deny that renewed momentum in Quad is due to China's not so peaceful rise and threats posed by China to rules-based order in Indo-

Public All members of Quad share similar concerns with Chinese aggressiveness. For India, China's behaviour at LAC was provocative, for Japan, China's claims of Senkaku islands is cause of concern & for Australia, China's aggressive imposition of tariffs in wake of its call for independent investigation into origin of corona virus is a serious threat.

However, Quad cannot be seen from 'narrow China lens'. Foreign Secretary Harshvardhan Shringla held that Quad doesn't stand against anything, it stands for something. Quad's agenda is also broad, it includes vaccine initiative, climate change, supply chain resilience & emerging technologies.

India is seen as weakest pillar in Quad as it is the only

country which has not explicitly called for containment of China. India always supported inclusive Indo-Pacific. Further, India is worried about preserving its strategic autonomy, and is reluctant to make Quad a 'military alliance'.

However, it cannot be said that India is the weakest pillar. India's approach is pragmatic as it shares long border with China and cannot provoke China for fear of military confrontation.

In recent times, there is growing understanding among Quad members of India's stance, and hence they are looking for alternative platforms like AUKUS, while simultaneously being engaged with India on Quad.



b) Discuss the current state of India-Japan relations. In what way economy forms the pillar of the relationship? (15 Marks)

In contemporary times, India-Japan relationship is comparable to Indo-Soviet relationships. Former Japanese PM Shinzo Abe in his book "Towards Beautiful country" called India natural ally. Kautilya's mandala theory also makes Japan India's natural friend.

During the cold war, relations remained taped as both belonged to opposite camps, and India, being a closed economy, was not of much attraction to trading state, Japan.

However, end of cold war created conducive environment for deeper cooperation. The present phase of relationship

is described by Kanwal Sibal as
'Cherry blossom phase'. Both countries are
strategic partners.

Geo-politically, India - Japan share
similar aims of multipolar world and
reformed multilateralism. They support each
others bid to UNSC permanent seat through
G4 grouping. Geo-strategically, both are
concerned with China's rise and cooperate
on platforms like Quad.

However, geo-economically, their
relationship remains weak while Japan
is a major investor in India's infrastructure
projects like Delhi-Mumbai Industrial
corridor, bilateral trade remains weak.
Even after signing EEPA in 2012
covering goods & services, trade remained



at ₹ 17 bn (2017). In contrast, China - Japan trade stood at ₹ 200 bn.

Japan frequently raised concern on red-tapism, protectionism and bureaucratic delays for its investment projects. Further, Japan raised issue of subsidies on steel and agriculture at WTO.

The recent withdrawal of India from REEP also caused apprehension in Japan on India's commitment to Act East policy and its role as balance to China.

As India - Japan relationship is force for global good (PM Modi), both should resolve economic concerns & deepen their strategic partnership.



Que.3(c)

To what extent India-US global strategic partnership is based on shared democratic values and increasing convergence of interest? Discuss. (15 Marks)

India and USA, which are world's largest and world's oldest democracies, have come a long way from being 'estranged democracies' during cold war to global comprehensive strategic partners.

India, USA became strategic partners in 2000, which was later elevated to global comprehensive strategic partnership. The signing of India-US civil nuclear deal (2001) is seen as landmark in their relationship. Further, during Trump administration, USA brought out India strategy paper and elevated India to major defence partner status.



Shared democratic values are a major driver of the relationship. Both countries are committed to rule of law, liberal international order & human rights.

In recent times, there is increasing convergence across all spheres of relationship. Geo-politically, US supports India's entry to UNSC & NSG. Geo-strategically, both work towards ensuring peaceful rise of China (Malabar exercises, Quad), and have similar concerns w.r.t. countering terrorism. Geo-economically, USA is largest export market to India & third largest trading partner for India (bilateral trade stood at \$85bn in 2019-20).

However, there are irritants in relationship. USA's lecturing on India on

rights of minorities, and India's reluctance to buy US's argument of Ukraine crisis as light betw on democracy shows divergence in democratic values.

Further, while USA's china policy is 'containment', India favours 'engagement where possible & containment where necessary'.

In the economic sphere too, USA withdrew GSP status to India and ~~has~~ both have differences on WTO agricultural subsidies.

However, as former US S-O-S Mike Pompeo observed 'great friends are bound to have great differences'.

India-US partnership is a global public good.



(a)

Future of Indus water treaty. (10 Marks)

Indus water treaty was signed in 1960, which governs allotment of Indus river water between India and Pakistan.

Former US president D. Eisenhower termed it 'one bright spot' in otherwise depressing world. India, being a generous upper riparian state agreed to share 80% of water from Indus river system to Pakistan. India got control of three eastern tributaries - Ravi, Beas and Chenab for utilisation of water & India can construct run-of-the-river dams on western tributaries - Indus, Jhelum, Chenab.

The treaty has withstood 1965, 1971 & 1999 wars between India and Pakistan. However, in recent

times, ~~as~~ there have been calls from Indian side to abrogate the treaty, due to Pakistan's reluctance to give up state support to terrorism.

Pakistan has accused India of utilising water even in share than what was allotted. Further, numerous Indian dams on Ravi & Sutlej came under scrutiny from Pakistan.

However, it is unlikely that India will unilaterally modify the treaty. Any such action will impact India's relations with lower riparian states - Bangladesh. Hence, the treaty is likely to continue.



(b)

Cross-border terrorism as an obstacle to the integration of South Asia. (10 Marks)

South Asia is the least integrated region after West Asia. Despite numerous initiatives like SAARC, SAFTA, BIM, etc. progress on regional integration is weak due to numerous obstacles.

Cross-border terrorism is a major obstacle impeding regional integration. After 2016 Uri attack, India boycotted SAARC summit & adopted policy of "no talks with terror".

Given the porous nature of borders in South Asia, terrorist infiltration is a major security threat in neighbouring border regions. For India, Western border with Pakistan is susceptible to movement of

Pakistan's ISI sponsored terrorists like Jem, LeT, etc. India's border with Bangladesh is vulnerable to HUII terrorist infiltration. In North Eastern states, extremists like ULFA separatists ~~impede~~ pose security challenges.

To comprehensively tackle cross-border terrorism, India has setup Comprehensive Border Integrated checkpoints, fenced its borders with Pakistan & Bangladesh.

With Taliban in Afghanistan, South Asia is further expected to become vulnerable to cross-border terror threats, thus impacting regional integration.



(c)

India's quest in Latin America. (10 Marks)

For to Latin America is traditionally seen as 'forgotten continent' in Indian foreign policy. Former PM Indira Gandhi described her visit to Brazil as 'Voyage of discovery'.

From 'period of bare acquaintance' during cold war, India Latin America relations have qualitatively changed due to opening up of Indian economy and institutionalisation of democracy ('Brasilia consensus') in Latin America.

~~Present~~
Geo-economically, Latin America holds rich mineral resources. Argentina - Bolivia - Chile together account for 50% of Lithium reserves. Indian steel giant Tata Steel invested \$ 6bn in Bolivia.

Latin America is a major market for Indian pharma & automobiles. The 2010 Inter-American bank held that India, Latin America & China are world's new growth poles.

India signed PTA with MERCOSUR in 2004.

However, India Latin America trade remains paltry at \$ 14 bn (2019); in comparison to \$ 300 bn (2019) of China. Unlike China, which brought LAC policy in 2008, India lacks dedicated Latin American policy.

Further, lack of political will is also major reason for poor state of relationship. Between 1948 & 2019, only 11 times Indian PM visited LAC. India should come out of 'out of sight, hence out of mind' approach and re-energise its Latin American policy.

(d)

India's role in UN Peace Keeping. (10 Marks)

UN Peace keeping is an extra-constitutional mechanism to ensure peace in conflict torn regions. It is devised to fulfil UN's mandate of ensuring international peace & security.

India has been an enthusiastic participant since beginning. In 1950, India sent medical team during Korean crisis. Until now, India sent over 209 lakh peacekeepers, who participated in 50 out of 71 UN peacekeeping missions.

Indian peacekeepers are known for their professionalism and their rapport with local people. In peacekeeping won UN medal for their efforts in south Sudan. India accounts for largest number



of peacekeepers who made supreme
sacrifice.

Despite huge contribution towards
peacekeeping, India feels that its concerns
such as reluctance of PS members to
involve troop contributing countries and
non-transparency in financial allocation
are not addressed well. Hence, India
down sized its role lately.

However, PM Modi in 2020
UNGA address assured to the world that
India will play expanded role in
peacekeeping. India hosted UNSC
open debate on reforming peacekeeping.
too. India developed UNIT-AWARE
app to provide situational awareness
to UN peacekeepers & ~~ensure~~ to
"protect the protectors".

(e)

Ideological convergences in India-Israel relations. (10 Marks)

From voting against the creation of Israel in 1947, to becoming strategic partners, (2017), India-Israel relations have come a long way.

It was once said that in context of Israel-Palestine issue, India was acting more Arab than Arabs. How

- even, since 2014 India adopted de-hyphenation policy. Since 2017, India dropped reference to East Jerusalem in its statements on conflict, thus showing tilt towards Israel.

There is strong ideological convergence between present administration and Israel, which see each other as

Strong state dealing strongly with terrorism.

Further, there is convergence on their world view too. Both believe in a multipolar world, with reformed UN at its center. In addition, both have convergence in their relation-ship with USA.

However, despite convergence, divergences also exist, especially with respect to relation with Iran. For India, Iran is critical for access to Central Asia, where as Israel - Iran are arch rivals. Further, while India supports two-state solution, recently elected Yair Avid of Israel considers it as unfeasible.

Areas of convergence are expected to further increase with I2U2.

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. (20 Marks)

India and Africa were connected since ancient times through maritime routes. Since independence, Africa occupied pre-eminent role in India's foreign policy.

During cold war times, India was leading supporter of campaign against colonialism, racism and strongly supported right to self-determination of several African countries. India and African countries collaborated through NAM platform too.

India's engagement with Africa acquired new momentum since 2008, with the setting up of India Africa Forum Summit. In the past decade, with present administration's forward looking

policy, there is growth in engagement with Africa.

In 2018, in his address to Ugandan parliament, PM Modi ~~elucidated~~ India's Africa strategy, which is based on 'Africa's priorities', to liberate Africa's potential.

Africa has emerged as largest beneficiary under ITEC program. Further with focus Africa program, there is steady improvement in trade ties, with Africa now being India's largest trading partner, and bilateral trade stood at \$ 67 bn.

The India - Africa relationship is based on the spirit of 'developing'

together as equals and is mutually beneficial.

For India, Africa, with 54 countries, holds immense geo-political significance, for its UNSC ambitions and reform of multilateralism. Economically, Africa is critical to India's energy security. Nigeria is fifth largest supplier of crude oil (2020). Further, Africa is important market for India's pharma, IT & agri exports. In addition, Africa's rich mineral wealth, especially rare earth metals are key to success of India's 'make in India'.

For Africa, India is one of the leading development partners. At 2015 India Africa summit, India announced \$10 bn Line of credit. India supplied

Covid vaccine to several African countries.
Indian pharma industry has been game
changer for Africa, as companies like Ranbaxy
played key role in ensuring affordable
access to life saving drugs.

Further, unlike China, India
believes that "best resources in Africa lie
above it, not under it". Hence, capacity
building and development partnership are
integral pillars of India's Africa's
policy.

Going forward, as Rajiv Bhatia
in "re-energising Africa policy", suggested,
India should develop capacity to sustain
bilateral engagements individually with
all African countries to give further
impetus to India Africa ties.

7(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? (15 Marks)

UN is the successor to League of Nations, which came into existence in 1948 to convert jungle of international politics to zoo. India's approach towards UN can be described in Nehru's words as "wholehearted cooperation".

India is one of the founding members of UN. India has been an active participant in UN peacekeeping since beginning. So far, Indian peacekeepers served in more than 50 of 71 missions. India has unique distinction of sending all women contingent to Liberia.

India took several measures at UN to counter terrorism and help

UN achieve its aim of ensuring international peace & security. In 1996, India proposed CCIT to give definition to terrorism.

India also served as non-permanent member of UNSC, which is the nucleus of UN, eight times so far. In its August 2022 presidency, India hosted open debate on maritime security, counter terrorism and reforming peacekeeping.

Under India's tenure, UNSC 2593 resolution was passed ~~was~~ on Afghanistan which stated that Taliban shouldn't allow Afghan soil to be used against other countries.

India's engagement with UN

is seen by some as moral politik ignoring real politik. They argue that

India's claims to UNSC seat is based on its moral credentials, such as ancient civilization, 2nd largest democracy & champion of global south, than hard headed realist considerations -

However, as Shiv Shankar Menon held, India has displayed most forged diplomacy since independence. Despite having extremely small number of diplomats, it has been successful in achieving its national interests. Even in the current geo-political flux & great power disagreements, India could get its agenda listed in UNSC & could successfully get resolution of Afghanistan passed. This shows India's depth diplomacy.

Que.7(c)

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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 (15 Marks)