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Political Science & International Relations

PSIR Crash Course- 2025

Test 8

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 250

Name	Animesh Jain
Test Submission Date	11/8/25
Email Address	
Test Start Time	2:00
Test End Time	5:07
UPSC Roll Number	5810932
Phone Number	

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. Answers must be written in the medium authorised in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
4. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
5. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
6. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
7. Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.

Marks Table (To be filled by Evaluators):

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						

For any issue related to PSIR Test Series, write only at psirtestseries@shubhiraranjan.com



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Remarks by Evaluator

1. Contextual understanding

2. Content

3. Structure & Flow

4. Introduction

5. Conclusion

6. Language

7. Presentation



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Student's Queries :

Evaluation's Feedback :



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Que.1 (a)

आधुनिकीकरण सिद्धांत या "आधुनिकीकरण के रूप में विकास" सिद्धांत पर टिप्पणी करें। (10 अंक)

Comment on the modernization theory or "development as modernization" theory.

Modernisation theory was given by liberal scholars as a model of development for post colonial states. It was an alternative to political development theory given by F.W Riggs.

If political development stood for democratisation, political modernisation argue that state should go for economic modernisation irrespective of political system they adopt.

W.W Rostow in stages of economic growth suggest every society passes through similar stages irrespective of ideology. As per David Apter,



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modernisation consist of Secularisation,
Urbanisation, Rationalisation and
Industrialisation.

Theorist like Samuel P Huntington
believed if a country modernise,
it will automatically move towards
democracy. It became basis of including
China in WTO expecting democratisation
with time.

However modernisation theory is
criticised by Marxist scholars who
suggest it is an attempt for drain of
wealth from periphery to core countries.
Post colonial scholars criticise it as an
attempt to wipe out Western values in post
colonial societies. Despite criticism,
political modernisation theory influenced
policy of IMF and World Bank showing
its relevance.



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Que.3 (b)

अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय सम्बन्धों के प्रति फ़ंक्शनलिस्ट दृष्टिकोण की व्याख्या कीजिए। (10 अंक)

Explain the functionalist approach to International Relations.

Functionalism is a liberal school in international relations. It stand for peace by pieces in word of David Mitrany.

It means, dividing the relations between nations into high politics and low politics and going for cooperation in low politics areas like Health, disaster management, economic cooperation.

It is based on the belief that cooperation in low politics areas will create mutual trust leading to cooperation in high politics areas like security and defense.



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To create cooperation in low politics areas, non-state actors like NGO., civil society, think tanks are brought in. In word of Nicolas Onuf - 'Keeping the politicians out'.

The success of functionalist approach is visible in European Union which started off as a coal and steel community and evolved into a economic and security integration.

Functionalist approach has been criticised for neglecting the role of political actors. Thus emerged Neo Functionalism (Ernst Haas) which recommend political dialogue along with non-state actors.

Functionalism provides most successful alternative to realism in international relations.



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Que.1 (c)

बताओ कि कैसे NAFTA और इसका अद्यतन USMCA अमेरिकी राष्ट्र के लिए बरदान मानित हुआ है। (10 अंक)

Discuss how NAFTA and its updated USMCA have proven a boon to the American hegemony.

NAFTA / North America Free trade agreement was based on philosophy of complete interdependence (Reshene & Nye). Through regional integration, it was expected to strengthen American hegemony in North America.

NAFTA however proved to be a bane for American hegemony as industries shifted to Mexico and Canada due to low labour and environmental regulations.

American discontent with NAFTA led to its re-negotiation and US-Mexico-Canada agreement was signed. USMCA is seen as reassertion of

American hegemony in its strategic
backyard -

Under USMCA, American automobile
and dairy industry is expected to
benefit as Canada and Mexico lower
their tariff barriers. In Automobile,
62% of auto-components will be made
in USA under USMCA.

USMCA also strengthens Canada
and Mexico labor/environmental regulations
leading to industries shift back
to USA as they lose their cost
advantage.

Under digital trade rules, USA's
service industry is expected to get a
boost. USMCA thus enhances USA's
economic power at a time when
its hegemony is being challenged
by china.



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Que.1 (d)

स्पष्ट कीजिए कि राज्य का गतिशील चरित्र विकासशील समाजों की विदेश नीति पर किस प्रकार छाप छोड़ता है।
(10 अंक)

Explain how the dynamic character of the State leaves an imprint on the foreign policy of developing societies.

From classical realism and Republican liberalism perspective, domestic factors like character of state shapes its foreign policy choices.

In developing societies, states are post-colonial which suffer from development & underdevelopment. In 20th century, this underdevelopment shaped choices of states in form of demand of NIEO.

However, since 1990s, as these societies developed economically, demand for NIEO fell in background and they participated in free trade agreements.



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to reap benefit of comparative advantage.

Similarly, domestic political makeup shapes choices from Republican liberalism perspective. democracies in developing societies have a lesser propensity to go to war (Michael Doyle democratic peace theory).

Whereas when states in developing societies become authoritarian, instability and war ensues. Pakistan's antagonism towards India can be seen from this lens.

⊗ This view of international relations is contested by structural realist (Meershaunice) who suggest structure constrains the choices and states don't act independently.

Que. 1 (e)

21वीं सदी में वैश्विक अर्थव्यवस्था को नया आकार देने में ब्रिक्स की भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। (10 अंक)

Discuss the role of BRICS in reshaping the global economic order in the 21st century.

Global economic order since the end of Cold war has been shaped by USA to perpetuate its hegemony. Washington Consensus was used to spread liberal ideas and open markets for USA goods.

This economic order is challenged by rise of BRICS. As per Forced Zakaria, BRICS's rise symbolise post-American world order.

liberal

BRICS challenge institutions like World Bank and IMF through creation of alternative institutions like New Development Bank and Contingency Reserve arrangement. This challenge USA's



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hegemony since IMF and World Bank reflected its vision of economic order.

Similar suggestion of BRICS currency to replace the hegemony of USA dollar and its weaponisation has the potential to create economic order that is more resilient to USA's unilateral sanctions.

Countries like India through BRICS are pushing for more equitable and fair economic order through reforms in institutions like WTO, IMF and World Bank. In Johannesburg summit, PM Modi spoke of de-risking supply chains thereby creating a resilient economic order.

BRICS expansion shows the acceptance of its economic vision in countries of global south,



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Que.4 (a)

ईस्टन और आलमंड के विपरीत, जिनका काम मुख्यतः राष्ट्र-राज्यों के भीतर राजनीतिक प्रणालियों और दुनिया भर की अन्य राजनीतिक प्रणालियों के साथ उनकी अंतःक्रियाओं पर केंद्रित था, कपलान का अध्ययन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रणाली पर केंद्रित था। आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण करें (20 अंक)

Unlike Easton and Almond, whose works mainly centered on political systems within nation-states and their interactions with other political systems across the world, Kaplan's study was focused on the international system. Critically Examine

David Easton defined political system as a 'set of elements in a state of patterned interactions'. Political system approach emerged with Behaviouralism inspired by anthropologists like Redcliffe Brown.

Both Easton and Gabriel Almond work focus on political systems within nation states. Easton input-output model explains how inputs (support) gets converted into output (policy and decision) within the boundary of nation state.

similarly Almond and Powell structural functional approach explains



working of domestic systems in form of converting interest articulation and interest aggregation into rule making.

Robert Keplen in contrast focus on international systems. In his systems theory, he portrays international systems as ~~a unified~~ into following types:

1. Balance of power - multiple balancing states
2. Bipolar - only two superpowers
3. Lesser bipolar - emergence of swing states.
4. Hierarchical system - with a global actor like United Nations
5. Unit Veto system - when nations possess nuclear weapons.
6. Global hegemony - only one superpower.

Keplen's model thus suggest type of systems at international level.



However Kaplan's model cannot be properly called systems model as it does not explain input, output, environment and feedback. Stanley Hoffman thus call it 'huge misstep in the right direction'.

secondly, Kaplan's model is based on rigid ideal types. In reality global politics is more fluid which is not captured in Kaplan's systems theory.

Marxist criticise both Easton and Almond model along with Kaplan's model as status quoist. It ~~not~~ does not explain the crisis in systems like protest and revolution.



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Easton and Almond had presented their model for domestic political system but also has utility in understanding international organisation.

Input-Output model can be used to understand how demand is convert into policies within bodies like IMF, WB, UN. Similarly structural-functional model of Almond can be used to understand rule making, adjudication function of UNGA and ICJ respectively.

Thus model of Easton, Almond and Kaplan has utility in understanding international politics.



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Que.4 (b)

अलग-अलग परिवर्तन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा चर्चाओं में "थreat को बढ़ाते वाले" व. रूप में कैसे काढ़े जाते हैं? (15 अंक)

How does climate change act as a "threat multiplier" in international security discourses?

The traditional security discourse in international relations was state centric.

It emphasised on security of state from both conventional (state) and non-conventional (terrorism) threats.

The contemporary security discourse focus on security of both state as well as humans. Climate change acts as a threat multiplier in security of both.

For small island nations like Maldives, climate change is a existential threat as rising sea levels can submerge these island states.



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similarly, climate induced disasters like flood, drought can aggravate migration between nations leading to 'insecurity dilemma' caused due to demographic change and competition for resources.

Climate change also threaten human security. It can cause food insecurity due to droughts, uneven rain as witnessed in Somalia leading to hunger deaths.

similarly, the health impact can cause dip in productivity leading to economic hardships. ILO study finds rising temperatures will disproportionately hit rural women causing agricultural disservice.



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Climate change is indirectly causing tensions between nations over competition for resources. India has been raising concerns over Indus water treaty due to increased energy demands necessitating construction of dams.

Brahma Chellaney on this context concludes that future wars will be water wars. This is evident in river water disputes between India-Nepal (Kulepani), India-Bangladesh (Teesta) and India-China (Brahmaputra).

Tackling climate change requires international cooperation in spirit of liberal institutionalism (of UNFCCC) however rational interests as suggested by Realists will ³⁷ make this cooperation difficult.



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Ques 1 (c)

संश्लेषण और अंतर्निहित अंतर्निहितता की सीमा को तोड़ने पर स्पष्टीकरण के लिए संश्लेषण और अंतर्निहितता के सिद्धांत का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण करें।

Critically analyse "Theory of Complex Interdependence" as a challenge to the fundamental assumptions of traditional and structural realism.

~~Structural~~ realism is the hegemonic school of international relations. It visualises world as a Billard Ball model (Arnold Wolfers) marked by constant collisions / conflicts based on nation's pursuit of its interests.

Complex interdependence given by Keohane and Nye takes inspiration from John Burton's Liberal model. Against realists, emphasis on state centrality, they argue that most interactions between states occur between non state actors like MNC / civil society.



Complex interdependence suggest that world order need not necessarily be marked by war and conflict as suggested by realists as nations create mutual dependencies through trade, then acquire stakes in peace.

If realist emphasise on balance of power and bandwagoning, theorist of complex interdependence emphasise on trade and people to people connect among nations to reduce security dilemma.

Keshari and Nye give a positive picture of human nature based on rationalism against realist notion of man as inherently selfish.



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This rational nature push men to pursue for peace over conflict.

Complex interdependence suggest that world order is not necessarily anarchical as suggested by realist.

It is a anarchical society (Richard Ashley). global cooperation reduces anarchy and move it toward global society.

The success of complex interdependence is visible in successful experiment of European Union and ASEAN which reduced the security dilemma among nations. However, Cold War 2.0 between USA and China despite large economic dependence challenge the notion that dependence can check global anarchy.



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Que.5 (a)

"ग्लोबल साउथ" की अवधारणा भारत की विदेश नीति को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करती है? (10 अंक)

How does the concept of "Global South" influence India's foreign policy?

Global south refers to post-colonial countries that have witnessed under-development due to colonialism and Neo-colonialism.

India as a post-colonial state, has kept global south at centre of its foreign policy since independence. India's leadership of Non-Aligned Movement was an attempt unite global south amid geopolitical cold war rivalries.

India through NAM stood for de-colonisation, New International Economic order etc to raise political and economic concerns of global south. In WTO,



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India consistently provided leadership on issues like Agriculture subsidies arguing for fair and differential treatment for global south.

scholar like C. Raja Mohan argue that global south is India's natural constituency. As India moved towards strategic alignment with West after Cold war, there were concerns over its commitment to global south.

However, recent steps like - forming friend for UNSC reforms, inclusion of African Union in G20, Voice of global south summits and developmental aid through Sharing DPI has again reasserted centrality of global south in Indian foreign policy.



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Que.5 (b)

भारत के परमाणु सिद्धांत का पाकिस्तान के साथ सामरिक संबंधों पर प्रभाव की चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक)

Discuss the implications of India's nuclear doctrine on its strategic relations with Pakistan.

India-Pakistan relations has often been described as 'intractable rivalry'.

Stephen P Cohen in shooting for a century argued that both nations suffer from 'paired majority, minority complex'.

India unveiled its nuclear doctrine in 2003 to create strategic deterrence against Pakistan. Under this India committed to No first use but at same time upheld disproportionate and unacceptable damage in case India is attacked first.

As per scholars like Bharat Karnad, 'No first use' was seen as



'strategic restraint' by India. Pakistan went for unconventional warfare under its policy of 'thousand cuts' and played Nuclear ~~at~~ Card to check Indian response.

Thus Shahet learned agree that India should go for first use to strengthen its deterrence vis a vis Pakistan. However scholars like Rajesh Rajagopalan favor No first use as it check miscalculations in subcontinent.

However, operation Sindoor showed that instead of strategic restraint, India would go for strategic signalling. Its new policy is deterrence by punishment where it would strike with conventional options for a non-conventional attack on India. This changed scenario warrants a relook at India's nuclear doctrine.



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Que.5 (c)

व्याख्या कीजिए कि किस प्रकार भारत की राज्य सरकारें देश के बाह्य संबंधों में प्रमुख खिलाड़ियों के रूप में उभरी हैं विशेष रूप से आर्थिक पहलू में। (10 अंक)

Explain how India's state governments have emerged as key stakeholders in the country's external linkages - specifically, the economic aspect.

India's foreign policy has traditionally been led by the Centre as ~~union~~ but Constitution explicitly put foreign affairs in Union list. This led to marginal role of state in external policies as per Prof. Heppelman Jacob.

This began to change with economic liberalisation and rise of coalition era which increased the say of states in India's foreign relations.

State leaders increasingly go on foreign visits to attract investments to their states. Recent visit of Madhya Pradesh CM to Europe can be seen in this light.



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State leaders have also led high level economic delegations as was done by CM Chandrababu Naidu when he visited China in 2015.

State government also influence policies of central government through lobbying. India's decision to opt out of RCEP was a result political lobbying by Haryana and Punjab governments to protect farmers.

As per scholars like Shivshankar Menon, state's role need to be constitutionalised by creating MEA offices in state capitals manned by state level officials.

Involvement of state government however is seen as a threat to national security by C.P. Bhambhani who suggest states give preference to ⁴⁶ narrow interests over national interest.



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Que.5 (d)

2] नीची गरी में भारत की वैश्विक छवि का प्रभाव डालने में सॉफ्ट पावर की भूमिका को समझाएँ।
Examine the role of soft power in shaping India's global image in the 21st century.

Soft power refers to the power of attraction rather than It is an alternative to hard power / power of coercion in international relations (Joseph Nye).

India being a civilisational state, plural democracy and multicultural society has immense soft power at its disposal.

India's global image is important to emerge as a powerful state, attract investment and provide leadership on critical issues.

India's soft power was displayed in G20 summit with motto of Vasudha Kutumbakam. PM Modi: 'this is not the eve of war' was a reflection of



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Indian ethos based on non-violence and peace.

In Neighbourhood, India is often seen with suspicion ('big brother'), exercise of soft power can convince neighbours of Indian ethos of peaceful coexistence. PM Modi: panchamrit based on 5 S - Samman, Samved, Shanti, Samridhi and sanskriti reflect this.

However, Realist argue that soft power without hard power is ineffective. Thus India should focus on 'smart power' (Joseph Nye) combining hard power with soft power.



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Ques. 5 (a)

समष्ट कीजिए कि फिलिस्तीन के प्रति भारत की नीति किस प्रकार दीर्घकालिक एवं सुसंगत रही है। (10 अंक)

Elucidate how India's policy towards Palestine has been long-standing and consistent.

India has consistently stood for a 'sovereign, viable state of palestine with East Jerusalem' as its capital under two state solution.

India's policy marks continuity from pre-independence when Mahatma Gandhi held 'palestine belongs to arabs just like France belong to French'.

India even opposed the creation of Israel due to own horrors of partition. During cold war, India continuously opposed Israeli aggression and occupations in 6 day war, Yom Kippur war etc.



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After Cold War, though India established diplomatic ties with Israel driven by its realistic calculations, it continued to stand for 'two state solution'.

As per P.R. Kumaraswamy, domestic politics and ties with Arab nations guided India's approach towards Palestine.

In recent years, India-Israel have been strategic partners, yet India has criticised Israel in UN on the 'issue of Palestine'.

After Oct 2023 attack, India supported resolution for peaceful resolution and two state solution in UNSC. This shows the continuity in India's approach.



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Que.6 (a)

भारत की आतंकवाद-गथा चिंताएँ, जो ठोस सबूतों और अनुभवों में गहराई से निहित हैं, वैश्विक उदासीनता, कृतनीतिक दुविधा और प्रक्रियात्मक सहानुभूति के साथ जारी हैं। परीक्षण करें (20 अंक)

India's counter-terrorism concerns, deeply rooted in hard evidence and lived experiences, continue to be met with global indifference, diplomatic ambivalence, and procedural sympathy. Examine

According to Walter Laqueur, Terrorism is use of violence by state/non-state actors for political ends. India's counter terrorism concerns stems from its volatile neighbourhood particularly from Afghanistan-Pakistan.

India's concerns are not based on normative objections over use of violence but from its empirical evidence and lived suffering of victims of terrorism.

India has been a victim of Pakistan sponsored terrorism since past 75 years. Pakistan backed insurgent groups carried out terror attacks in



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India leading to death of innocent civilians.

From 1993 Mumbai bombings, to 2003 parliament attacks, from 2008 Mumbai attacks to 2025 Pahalgam massacre, hand of Pakistan based group. like Jaiish and Lashkar has been found all over.

India's evidence of Pakistan sponsoring terrorism were also proven when Osama Bin Laden was found within Pakistan. Pakistan also supported Taliban to fight against Soviets in Afghanistan, alongside United States.

Though steps like ^{UN} Convention on suppression of financing of terrorism,



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UNSC 1267 sanctions committee, 1373 sanction list has been taken, it has failed to address India's terrorism concerns.

The primary reason is global indifference and diplomatic ambivalence. states like USA and China have supported Pakistan through arms and funds, guided by their strategic interests thereby neglecting India's concerns.

Organisations like United Nations has failed due to exercise of veto by permanent members like China which was evident when it opposed listing of Hafiz Sayeed in 1373 terror list.



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even organisations like SCO which was formed to check terrorism has its recent summit in China failed to explicitly condemn terrorism forcing India to not sign the declaration.

Though countries give procedural sympathy after major attack, in concrete terms, the fail to censure the sponsors of terrorism. This was seen when Pakistan was elected to UN terror committee just after parhelgams attack.

Countries have even failed to agree on the definition of terrorism leading to non-acceptance of India's Comprehensive Convention on International terrorism. As PM Modi put it - 'time for double standard on terrorism is over'. India would go for ⁵⁴pre-emptive actions to address its concerns of terrorism.



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Que.6 (b)

भारत की "पड़ोसी प्रथम" नीति दक्षिण एशिया में उसके व्यापक गणितीय हितों के साथ किस प्रकार संरेखित है?
(15 अंक)

How does India's "Neighbourhood First" policy align with its broader strategic interests in South Asia?

South Asia is India's strategic backyard.
India's strategic interests in South Asia are multifaceted.

Since no nation has become
superpower without regionalism dominance,
India's interest is guided by increasing
its influence in the neighbourhood.

This goal is being realised
under Neighbourhood First through
developmental aid thereby earning goodwill
among the people. India gave \$46
billion of credit to Sri Lanka after COVID
as per of developmental aid.



second interest of checking the influence of China in south asia.
Against China's debt trap diplomacy,
India under Neighbourhood first is
providing demand driven and transparent
aid. The contrast is visible in China's
Hambantota grab and India's aid for
East Container project in Sri Lanka.

Another interest is checking
insurgency and terrorism in region.
Under Neighbourhood first policy, India
has gone for Counter-insurgency collaboration
with Bangladesh and Myanmar leading
to arrest and extradition of North East
insurgents.

guided by the logic of complex



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Interdependence, India wants to enhance Connectivity in South Asia to create win-win situation. Under Neighbourhood First projects like - Friendship pipeline with Bangladesh, grid connectivity with Nepal and port connectivity with Bangladesh are being taken.

The Neighbourhood First policy has also evolved into Act East, Look and Link West and Indo-Pacific

policy to give special attention to distinct theatres. Through groupings like BIMSTEC, IORA etc India is creating a regional architecture for enhanced cooperation to realise its strategic goals in ⁵⁷ Neighbourhood.



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Que.6 (c)

चर्चा कीजिए कि पिछले दो दशकों में भारत-जापान संबंध किस प्रकार विकसित हुए हैं। सबसे प्रमुख क्षेत्र विशेषकर साझेदारियों में से एक बन गए हैं। (15 अंक)

Discuss how over the past two decades, Japan-India ties have emerged and one of the most prominent and pivotal partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region.

Japan is India's Natural Friend under the Rauzilys Mandel Siddhanta.

The relations are guided by shared democratic values, economic interlinkage and values of rule based international order.

Despite natural synergy, India-Japan ties were constrained due to Cold war era's suspicion where both countries were in Opposite Camps. The ties picked up pace in 2005 when Japan collaborated in Humanitarian assistance during Indian ocean Tsunami.

Shingo Abe pushed the idea of



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QUAD as a strategic balance to China to ensure free and open Indo pacific. Its pm C. Raja Mohan, rise of China is primarily responsible for bringing India and Japan together.

Today, India-Japan tie is described as 'cherry blossom' phase (Renewal Subal). Japan is key pillar of India's act East policy and vision of Indo-pacific.

Under developmental partnership, Japan is engaged in developing Ahmedabad - Mumbai bullet train and industrial corridor projects. It is also a key partner in India's smart city and digital India projects.



Shinzo Abe had argued that

strong India is in Japan's favour
and strong Japan is in India's
favour.

To realise this vision, Japan recently
committed investments of \$75 b in
India over next few years. The
partnership has also expanded in
domains like - defense (chakra guardian
exercise), emerging tech (critical minerals
partnership), health and disaster
Management.

Being part of G4 both nations
have shared interests in UNSC reforms.

As per Harish V Pant, Indo-Japan
ties will define ^{not just} the evolving geopolitics
in Indo-Pacific, but the world order
itself.



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Que.7 (a)

भारत की समुद्री सुरक्षा रणनीति के लिए भारत में भागीदारी के माध्यम से भागीदारी की (20 अंक)

Assess the significance of India's participation in the Quad for its maritime security strategy.

As per Alfred T Mahan, the country which will control the oceans will rule the world. In 21st century, the Indo-Pacific has emerged as geopolitical hotspot due to rise of China and India.

Quad is a grouping of India, USA, Japan and Australia that emerged in context of 2005 Indian Ocean Summit, starting off as a humanitarian effort, its attention turned strategic as all four nations engaged in balance of power to counter China.

QUAD 1.0 dissipated due to



hesitancy of India and Australia, but China's aggressive behaviour in Indo Pacific has led to revival of QUAD after COVID pandemic.

Quad is significant for India's Maritime security strategy. India envisage free and open Indo Pacific guided by UN based law. This conception is threatened by China's unilateral actions in Indo Pacific (of creating artificial islands).

Though Quad India is creating strategic deterrence against China's unilateralism through balance of power. Another concern is maritime terrorism.



threatening critical supply chains of Indian trade (80% trade of India pass through maritime route). Quad's

working group on terrorism will help India in checking maritime terrorism.

Another maritime security threat is string of pearls i.e Chinese encirclement through military bases around India.

QUAD through transparent financing of projects is providing an alternative to China's debt trap diplomacy.

In recent years, climate change has emerged as maritime security threat. QUAD has formed working group on climate change to enhance of



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capabilities of countries to fight climate related threats.

QUAD policies align with India's vision of SAGAR with focus on economic growth of all countries in region. Initiatives like Cancer Moonshot initiative, supply chain working group are aimed at economic capability building of nations in the region.

Thus, as argued by Prof Hersch V Pant Quad has evolved beyond narrow strategic focus to have a multi-dimensional agenda. However, the disruption caused by President Trump by imposing sanction on Quad partners (India and China) raises concerns over future trajectory of the grouping.



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Que. 7 (b)

हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में चीन के प्रभाव का मुकाबला करने में भारत की "एक्ट ईस्ट" नीति के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।
(15 अंक)

Examine the significance of India's "Act East" policy in countering China's influence in the Indo-Pacific region.

Indo-Pacific region has emerged as arena of strategic rivalry due to rise of China and its aggressive tactics.
(of debt trap diplomacy).

In this light India upgraded Look East to ~~be~~ Act East in 2014.
Under Act East the focus has expanded to strategic domain from economic carriage and now includes countries like Japan, South Korea etc.

Under Act East, India is building connectivity projects between South Asia and South East Asia.
projects like Kabedan Multimodal



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project and India - Myanmar - Thailand
trilateral highway provide an alternative
to China's Belt and Road Initiative.

India is engaging with ASEAN
nations threatened by China's aggression.

Through defense partnerships with
Philippines, Vietnam and Malaysia,
India is sending a strategic signal
to China (eg export of Booths to
Philippines).

India - Japan engagement in
countries like Bangladesh and ~~China~~
Sri Lanka through developmental projects
like East Container terminal is providing
a challenge to Chinese projects in
region.



India's Act East policy is guided by free and open Indo Pacific and ASEAN centrality. This challenges Chinese vision of Unipolar Asia and provides scope of emergence of Multipolarity within Asia.

Through institutional engagements in BIMSTEC, BBIN, India- ~~ASEAN~~ ASEAN summits, Ques, India is providing depth to its engagement in the Indo Pacific region.



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Que.7 (c)

वैश्विक व्यापार चर्चा पर भारत का दख उसकी विकासात्मक प्राथमिकताओं को किस प्रकार प्रतिबिंबित करता है?

(15 अंक)

How does India's stance on global trade negotiations reflect its developmental priorities?

India as a post-colonial developing state has a priority in lifting people out of poverty which gets reflected in its bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations.

On global trade negotiations at WTO, India has taken the stand of special and differential treatment. At Doha Development agenda, it ~~protected~~ protected the rights of its farmers by pushing for peace clause on subsidies issue.

India has stood for lowering



of tariff barriers in developed nations to boost its exports thereby benefitting small businesses and farmers.

It has repeatedly fought USA and Europe on their phyto-sanitary standards which hurt Indian exports.

In regional trade ~~ag~~ arrangements such as RCEP, India refused to participate citing weak rule of origin norms and threat to its dairy industry.

In bilateral trade negotiations, India has continuously resisted against opening its market in sectors like Automobile, agriculture, textile which



could hurt its domestic industries.

On issues like developmental finance, it has asked developed countries to aid developing countries through transfer of developmental aid and grants.

Recent FTA ~~are~~ deals like with UAE, Australia and UK shows India's greater confidence in engaging in free trade. As per Rajiv Mohan, the time has come for domestic reforms to make our industries competitive rather than shielding from competition.