



SHUBHRA RANJAN

Always Ahead

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PSIR Answer Writing Module 2023

Test 17

Time Allowed: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Max Marks: 120

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Test Submission Date: 18-06-2023

Email Address: _

Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. All questions are for **15 marks** each.
3. Word limit for each question is **200 words**.
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. **Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.**

Q. No.	Marks	Q. No.	Marks
Q1		Q5	
Q2		Q6	
Q3		Q7	
Q4		Q8	
Total Marks:		Evaluator Code:	

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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:

Dear Student,

[illegible]



Que.1

"Theory is always for someone and for some purpose." In the light of the given statement critically analyse Robert Cox's Idea regarding world politics? (200 words, 15 Marks)

Robert Cox in his work "social forces, states, world order beyond IR Theory" has proposed the critical theory of International Relations. He refers to them as problem-solving theory - where they are as it is - social & power relations - organising institutions as a framework.

Attacking Realists like Morgenthau and Waltz, Cox proposes that realism as a method is based on 17th century social and power relations method.

However, it is not



concerned about the current realities - the civil society as a distinct identity.

Cox proposes that at present the civil society and state are intertwined and Realism as a theory was meant to support the particular class.

Robert Cox proposes that Marxism and Gramscian theory are truly critical theories and present an alternative method of social forces and processes into account



Thus, Cox proposes theories are not objective, but shaped by particular social & historical context

They are not value free, but embedded in power relations and serves the interest of particular group

Cox "social forces" primarily focussed on state as central actor and ignore broader social and economic factors that shapes international politics.

However, critics suggest that Cox theory underplays the role of other actors like culture, identity and agency in shaping world politics and is overly focussed on economic determinism of Marxists

Yet, one can't deny that Cox approach opens up space for alternative perspectives and a deeper understanding of complexities of global affairs.



Que.2

Evaluate national interest as a determining factor of Foreign policy?
(200 words, 15 Marks)

National Interest means survival -
the protection of physical,
political and cultural identity
against encroachments by
other Nation states

- Morgenthau.

Every nation aims to
secure its interests, aims,
objectives and aspirations
in IR. As states aren't
self sufficient, no nation
can live without maint
aining inter state relations.



Morgenthau classifies National Interest at two level - vital and secondary. Vital interests such as security of state, fundamental values etc while secondary are difficult to define such as trade developments etc

National Interest is determined domestically, within the national government but has to function internationally, thus becomes vague, subjective and dynamic

Raymond Aron refers to it as vague or pseudo theory as it carries meaning as per context

To secure the goals and objectives of foreign policy, several methods can be adopted including

Diplomacy i.e presentation of goals and objectives of National Interest in a way to persuade others



to accept these as just and rightful demands of nation.

others include propaganda i.e. art of salesmanship to convince others about justness of goals.

other methods include Alliances and treaties that are concluded by 2 or more states for securing interest.

like Morgenthau, Mahendra Kumar observes, the only level at which it can be defined is level of survival. Not being clearly defined quantity.

National Interest is a psychological phenomena that is subject to drastic changes that may result from internal shifts in power or a change in nations values.



Que.3

In the present geo-political scenario, EU and India appear to be natural partners yet FTA remains elusive. Discuss (200 words, 15 Marks)

India - EU engagement can be traced to the ^{1st} summit in 2000. Since then, India and EU have seen several engagements.

However, there seems to be a longstanding standstill in a potential India-EU FTA.

In 2021, PM ^{Modi} and European Council & European Commission later resumed negotiations for comprehensive trade agreements.

However, issues exist. When it comes to tariff reduction, patent protection, data security

and the right of Indian professionals to work in Europe.



Trade prospects with EU are high. EU is the 3rd largest trading partner of India where trade accounts for € 88 billion. (2021).

Both share a vision for a common democratic value system and a vision for multipolar world order.

In the wake of rise of belligerent China, EU wishes to pivot away from China. EU-China had signed a comprehensive agreement on Investment with China. However, it has drawn a lot of backlash in EU. ~~Now~~, the ratification has been suspended because of diplomatic tensions.



Post EU sanctions on China on the issue of rights of Uighur Muslims, the relationship seems to have little progress.

In the given geopolitical context, there are new opportunities to move forward on long standing agenda.

The first round of negotiations started in July 2022, focussed on trade and investment agenda, to include services, IPR, sanitary and phyto sanitary measures, technical barriers to trade, rules of origin, custom facilitation, Dispute settlement, GI etc.



Que.4

CoP 26 was considered as a failure by both Global North and Global South as they blamed India and China for hijacking the discussion. Discuss India's proposals made during the CoP 26 conference? Do you think India betrayed the Global South with these proposals? Give reasons. (200 words, 15 Marks)

The 26th COP to UNFCCC was declared successful from Indian perspective but a failure by both the Global North and Global South.

All 197 countries adopted the Glasgow climate Pact, despite 11th hour intervention by India in which final agreement was watered down from "phasing out" coal to "phasing down".

India and China successfully pushed for change in wording despite strong opposition from developed world.



India relies on coal for 70% of electricity needs. and less than 2% on nuclear power (Shri.endra Yadav). highlighting India's cause, Minister highlighted that India needs to forward its developmental agenda and poverty eradication.

At the conference, developing countries such as India argued that they are being put under pressure to move from fossil fuels to renewables, while developed countries are not helping financially and with technology.

Panchamurti of India's climate action :-

- i) Reach 500 Gw nonfossil fuel capacity by 2030.
- ii) 50% energy requirement from renewable energy by 2030.



- iii) Reduction of total projected carbon emissions by 16 tonne to 2030
- iv) Reduction of carbon intensity of economy by 45% by 2030, over 2005 levels
- v) Achieving Net zero by 2070

Apart from this - the Mantle of LIFE - lifestyle for Environment to combat climate change was also shared.

climate politics are nothing new. But with recent rise of frequent and more devastating natural disasters - there is a new urgency surrounding Glasgow.

Given that richer countries like Australia, S. Korea emit far greater emissions, yet they seemingly want to force unrealistic goals on developing countries and then fail to provide them with the resources they need to transition. Yet point fingers at India and China for refusing to commit the end use of coal.



Que.5

What is Globalisation? Why is there an intense debate about globalisation and its consequences? (200 words, 15 Marks)

The debate now is about the consequences of globalisation, not about the reality of globalisation

- Anthony Giddens

Globalization is a long term historical process that denotes intensity of worldwide interconnectedness, resulting in a 'shrinking world'. Anthony Giddens associated it with the compression of time & space.

Globalisation has had far and wide implication: in economics, politics, societies and culture

Though it is commonly understood that globalisation led to economic transformation - with linking of domestic and international markets. It is a phenomena of global being local and local being global



which scholars popularly refer to as 'glocalisation'. Setting of MNCs and global leverage to domestic products - local art like Madhubani, Kalamkari are all effects of globalisation.

Globalisation has reduced the geographical boundaries between people. It led to the creation of 'supra-territoriality' or 'de-territorialisation' and the rise of 'global civil society'

The debate was unfolded between statists and hyperglobalisers. Statists argue that global trading market, currency exchange, mass migration existed even before. Thus, there have no significant developments.

Others like hyperglobalisers trumpeted a world of dramatic transformation and new global dynamics - cooperation & technology



Globalisation has led to creation of new jobs, opportunities and raised the standard of living (Jagdish Bhagwati) Others, believe globalisation created an unfair world where the rich countries exploit world's poorest people (Noam Chomsky)

Thomas Piketty has highlighted the divergence in income between countries and people, and widening inequality among and within people.

However, one can't outrightly deny globalisation - as it would result in creation of next North Korea. Countries should look for the golden middle path like Chile and Singapore, which tend to thrive, channeling the enormous opportunities offered by an expanding world economy for the benefit of their citizens.



Que.6

Explain the success of ASEAN as a regional organisation. What can SAARC learn from ASEAN? (200 words, 15 Marks)

The Association for South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional grouping that aims to promote economic and security cooperation among its 10 members.

Kishore Mahbubani, former Singaporean ambassador declared that ASEAN was born on 8 Aug 1967 was destined to fail - given the region is one of the most diverse regions with people of all religions, 800 languages, innumerable ethnicities and most diverse regions in the world.

In an era of growing cultural pessimism, ASEAN is a miraculous counter example of co-existence.



When SAARC was established in 1985, it had similar goals as ASEAN. Yet it failed to deliver due to the conundrum of regional political atmosphere and historical mistrust.

There are several reasons for it as follows :-

While seamless connectivity among ASEAN countries has been one of the major factors behind integration of ASEAN, but SAARC faces challenges in integration. Where bottlenecks exist for visa exemption - limited only to few countries.

ASEAN has been able to resolve disputes swiftly and without bilateral tensions. (North Borneo between Philippines & Malaysia) while in case of SAARC, political conflicts, deep mistrust, ever growing tensions between India - Pakistan has toppled regional stability aspirations (Kashmir issue).



ASEAN's intra-regional trade constitutes 25% of total trade. On other side, SAARC's member trade accounts for mere 3%.

security issues in SAARC are far more complex than ASEAN. Yet we can learn that,

MANDATES among nations should move from least disputed to hard to achieve targets.

COOPERATION ensures sustainability by amicably resolving disputes and adopting peaceful mechanisms

TRADE ensures liberalisation & protection of cross border investment operations

India is a member of SAARC, and is closely associated with ASEAN and other bilateral trade dealings. India can learn from the 'ASEAN way'

As Kishore Mahbhubani writes,

"One big lesson from ASEAN is that having regular meetings makes a huge difference to trust levels."



Que.7

PM Modi said, "Blood and Water cannot flow together." In light of Pakistan's continued support to cross-border Terrorism, do you think Indus Water Treaty should be revoked? What is India's stand on the Indus Water Treaty ? (200 words, 15 Marks)

Indian leaders have time and reiterated that utility of Indus Water Treaty (IWT) has diminished, given the spirit of mutual love, harmony and cordial relations is not being honoured by the neighbouring country.

Post 9/11 attack, PM Modi chaired a review meeting to assert that "Blood and water can't flow together."

The IWT has continued for over 60 years and delimits the rights of use of waters of Indus River. The treaty was signed between India and Pakistan for sharing of water and brokered by world Bank. The treaty is considered the most successful in the IIIrd world, despite 4 wars between India & Pakistan.



Post this, India didn't convene a Permanent Indus Commission

This, was successful in a means to box Pakistan into a corner, because it robbed Pakistan the chance of pushing ahead with the complaint over the issue.

C. Raja Mohan has warned that India can't abrogate an international treaty. However, at present there are no such steps that have been taken.

India is looking for a revisit of the treaty, which doesn't mean disowning it, rather means securing India's interest to the fullest within the parameters of the pact

Recently, the 2019 meeting couldn't convened because of the Pulwama attack. Then in 2020, due to COVID 19 Pandemic



the parties couldn't meet. The meeting revival in 2021 was welcomed as a return to seemingly mundane exchanges of technocratic details, contributing to hopes of wider diplomatic re-engagement.

In 2022, both reiterated their commitment to implement the IWT in its true spirit and expressed hope that the next meet of PIC would be held at an early date.

However, both countries don't see the Indus talks as a precursor to a more substantive engagement between them.



Que.8

Discuss India's current concerns with the Rohingya issue? (200 words, 15 Marks)

India's policy towards Rohingyas has evolved over the last decade. Initially, India welcomed their presence, however, now has adopted a more stricter approach towards them as their settlements are seen as hubs of crime and terrorism.

Rohingyas are the most persecuted minority in the world. The native Muslims of western Myanmar (Rakhine) area has faced wrath & persecution at the hands of ^{Buddhist} Myanmar. Today, they are stateless distribution across South Asia and South East Asian countries.



India essentially viewed it as an internal affair of Myanmar, and is sympathetic to Myanmar government. Around 40,000

illegal immigrants entered India via Bangladesh.

The MHA had ^{now} asked for their deportation.

On the Rohingya issue, UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan had submitted a report and asked liberal tolerant countries like India to accept refugees.

But it is to be noted that India is not a party to the UNHCR treaty on refugee and doesn't recognise them.

India faces tough time on the Rohingya issue. With constant pressure from Bangladesh, India finds itself locked in a catch



22 situation.

As P. B Mehta highlights that the presence of Rohingyas is associated with a spill over effect, radicalisation and security argument.

At present, India has adopted a quiet diplomacy on the issue. India and ASEAN have come forward to deal with the crisis which involves engaging in socio-economic development, constructive engagement with them & not mere megaphone diplomacy. - to ensure proper habitation to them.



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