



SHUBHRA RANJAN

Always Ahead

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PSIR Answer Writing Module 2023

Test 15

Time Allowed: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Max Marks: 120

Name: Rishabh Choudhary

Test Submission Date: 26/12/22

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,



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Que.1

The Ministry of External Affairs is losing its importance in the making of India's Foreign Policy with the parallel rise of the PMO. Explain. (200 words, 15 Marks)

According to former secretary of external affairs J.N. Dixit, a country's foreign policy is an statement of what it stands for and Role it takes for itself and project in the world.

Ministry of external affairs historically been centre for policy making starting from Visishna Menon to current MEA S. Jaishankar

But PMO has always played a key Role, the Leadership of PM has been Pivotal in foreign policy making.

J.L. Nehru singlehandedly headed India's foreign policy after independence.



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During the Coalition governments, Cabinet Committee played Role above it's weight due to Balancing act of PM line P.V. Narsimharao, Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

But Recently under the government of PM Modi, PMO has amassed influence in foreign policy making, NSA emerged to be key advisor to the PM in Matters of foreign policy and security.

Foreign policy of the country is determined by various factors at play, Central government, states and growingly civil societies, trade blocs and aftermath of Chinese intrusions, widespread public perception is playing significant Role.



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It is imperative for all the stakeholders to work in tandem for formation of a coherent and forward looking policy keeping Best interest of Nation in mind.

Indian foreign policy is often referred as continuity in change, as it had kept its coherence and a independent attribute in the turbulent global environment.



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Que.2

India's current foreign policy marks significant qualitative shifts from that of the previous regimes. Discuss. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Foreign policy of a country is the statement of what it stands for!, and the Role it takes up for itself and project to the world.

In the stroke of midnight, when India awoke to freedom, J.L. Nehru stated that indian foreign policy would be working towards well being of Indian, voice for the global south and for development of whole humanity.

His foreign policy emerged from the inspiration of gandhian thought that led to emergence of Non-alignment Movement



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in Belgrade. (1961).

After the Indo-China war of 1962, foreign policy had steered away from idealism towards Realist Paradigm, as Nehru stated, "There can be no non-alignment w.r.t. China."

During Indira Gandhi's regime due to emergence of Sino-Pak-U.S. Axis, India had moved towards Soviet with treaty of friendship, peace & cooperation

After the end of cold war, Under ~~PM~~ PM Narshima Rao, India opened up its economy with LPG reforms and this started thawing of India's relationship with the western countries, in particular U.S.A.



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Under Current Regime, India has adopted policy of strategic alignment.

As PM Modi states we have moved from policy of equal distance to policy of equal partnership.

India qualitatively is more vocal and open on its alignment and interest.

EAM S. Jaishankar remarks that India stands on its own ground and will have its own policy based on its own assessment of its interest and values.

Amid the changing world order and shift from Atlantic to Pacific, India has an opportunity to leverage the geopolitical tussles and chart its way towards development of its own destiny.



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Que.3

"The World Trade Organisation (WTO) serves as the guardian of free and rules-based world trade. Unfortunately, the multilateral organization finds itself confronted by significant challenges." In light of recent conflict between USA and China, discuss the prospects of WTO in post pandemic world order. (200 words, 15 Marks)

WTO was established in the aftermath of cold war with Marrakesh Treaty in 1995. It envisaged open, free and inclusive trade in the world.

After the establishment of WTO, Trade as part of GDP of countries has significantly increased. It is attributed to reducing poverty at a scale never observed in the History of Humanity at world scale.

Unfortunately, the Multilateral trade organisation finds itself in the geopolitical tussles between developed &



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developing countries.

Developed countries, spearheaded by U.S.A. are moving towards protectionism and pull back of globalization.

Rising custom duties on the exports from developing countries, favouring domestic companies violates the principle agreement of WTO about 'fair & equal treatment'.

Further developing countries prominently led by India, China and ~~and~~ ~~G77~~.. are demanding for trade liberalization, ~~service~~ opening up to trade in services and providing preferential treatment to developing countries.

Dispute settlement mechanism



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In WTO had become disjunct due to
Blockage of appointment of arbitrators by US.

In the post pandemic world order,
emergence of Regional trade Blocs like
RCEP, USMCA, EU, AU, MERCOSUR etc
had ~~had~~ devalued the importance of WTO as
primary trade organisation.

India on its part is engaging
with countries ~~in~~ on Bilateral Basis (India-UAE
FTA, Australia ^{deal} ~~PEC~~) for mutual advantage.

WTO still remains largest trading
Bloc and Regulating more than 90% of
trade between its member countries.

Reformed Multilateralism is key for
Inclusive, Rule-Based, open trade in the world.

Que.4

(b) Elucidate India-Myanmar relation in light of the recent Rohingya Crisis. (200 words, 15 Marks)

India & Myanmar shares historical Relationship of trade, culture, Religion and people to people contact.

Buddhism emerged in India had spread from Myanmar to whole of South-east Asia.

India shares an long-open border with Myanmar in it's sensitive and strategic location of North-east.

With Myanmar having a dubious record for democracy, human right and drugs trafficking across border (Golden triangle).

India takes a pro-active approach towards dealing with Myanmar to prevent any spillovers in the North-east.



Rohingya Muslims are ~~Religious~~ ethnic minorities in Myanmar, Persecuted by Junta government which refuses to accept Rohingyas as citizens and award equal status and rights.

Further atrocities in the Rohingya's Population done by military added to their right for fleeing the country.

Effects of crisis can be seen as ~~UNHCR~~ UNHCR suggest that more than 2 million Refugees fled Myanmar and are seeking shelter in India, Bangladesh, South-east Asia and other countries.

India' being a proponent of democracy and Human Right had taken a



Balanced stance for dealing with crisis,
It's strategic interest in the Region,
Connectivity project for Northeast like
Kaladan Multimodal Transport via Sitwae port.
And growing Chinese influence is causing
delhi to walk a tight rope.

Recent Visit of India's foreign
Secretary to Myanmar suggest that India
is Ready to deal with the junta government,
and Ready for working towards Peace &
Stability in the Region.

As the gate of India to Northeast
and forerunner of India's Neighbourhood first
policy and Act east policy. New delhi has
to find a way to offer Myanmar mutually
agreed terms with keeping its best interest in mind.



Que.5

⁽¹⁵⁾
Define the term Strategic Culture. Do you think India has a Strategic Culture? (200 words, 15 Marks)

Strategic culture is defined as presence of strategic thinking along with open discussion on the key issue pertaining to National Interest.

The idea of strategic thinking emerged in U.S.A starting from monroe doctrine of isolation from world affairs and looking at own backyard.

Further strategic thought changed to truman doctrine after a wire received from Mr. X (George Kennan), of active participation in world to contain communism.

This reflect the strategic culture and the way it keeps on developing over a period of time.



India after its independence started with strategic thinking under P.M. J.L. Nehru.

The policy of non-alignment was adopted to prevent herself from great power politics of the bipolar world.

Later on policy of alignment with Soviet Union after treaty of Peace, friendship & cooperation surfaced signify soft alignment towards USSR.

Under Vajpayee government idea of Strategic Autonomy surfaced for gaining political space in negotiations with respect to U.S.A.

current regime defines it as Strategic Autonomy 2.0, asserting that India will align for its self interest and secure equal partnership with all.



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This kept strategic thinker guessing that India don't have any strategic culture and coherent foreign policy.

Tarvi Madan in her book fateful triangle write that India's strategic culture is always aligned against balancing china.

There we can see an continuity in change in India's strategic culture.

In my view India's strategic culture was always defined to protect it's sovereignty & territorial integrity at the same time in aftermath of LPG reform for economic development as well.

India's strategic culture was always about how India can rise and get it's Rightful place in the comity of Nation.



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Que.6

"Non-alignment was for a specific era and India is no longer a bystander"—S. Jaishankar. Comment on India's contribution to Non-Aligned movement. Do you think the movement is relevant at present? (200 words, 15 Marks)

Group of Newly independent countries, freshly out of colonialism gathered in Bandung Indonesia in 1956 to chart a course for their development protecting their sovereignty & territorial integrity in the bipolar world order.

NAM originated in ~~the~~ Belgrade, the then Yugoslavia in 1961 to deal with the challenges of the time.

Jawaharlal Nehru along with Kwame Nkrumah and other leaders of third world countries aligned ~~to~~ themselves for collective moral voice in various international concerns and matters.

During the apartheid movement of south africa, India unequivocally support the democratic rule by the people of country.

In Korean crisis, India alongwith Non aligned countries worked for preparing draft for ~~the~~ ~~peace~~ ceasefire.

Egypt crisis for control of Suez Canal was also supported by India in NAM.

Further India's Role is significant in decolonization of many colonies reflected from the fact that UN membership is increased to 193 as of Now.

In present context, India's Policy is reflected from the expression 'South - west' power.

Earn S Jaishankar suggest that India is emerging as an leading power in the world, where it will not be bystander and sit on a fence, rather play a prominent role in sharing & shaping of global agenda.

Some critiques like C. Raja Mohan suggest that NAM is passing through crisis of identity and agenda deprivation after end of world war.

But PM Modi's remarks during recent virtual summit suggest that NAM is still relevant as 'World's moral voice' and significant for India's Agenda for Reforming Multilateralism, fair share of trade, and dealing with challenges such as climate and food shortages.

Que.7

'The two words - 'continuity & change' sum up the historical & current engagement of India with Africa'. Critically examine. (200 words, 15 Marks)

India & Africa share historical relationship since the time of Ancient trade & people to people contact between two countries.

This relation as defined by EAM S. Jaishankar is of 'equal Partnership in growth'

India's engagement with Africa was started with NAM summits and for providing collective front against bipolar world order.

Historically due to closed economy, India-Africa trade relationship was not well developed.



Further people to people Relationship was present due to immigration of indian labour during british colonial era, but was not materialised in growing & deepening ties.

In current time the relationship is experiencing change in India's approach towards Africa.

India - African Union shares similar vision of 'India 2047' and 'Africa 2063' for shared development.

Further, cooperation in ~~all~~ cultural Relationship is deepening with more than 10000 African students trained in Indian universities.



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Unlike China, India's Relationship was always based on co-development and mutual sharing of agenda.

As one Tanzanian Minister remarks 'Chinese have build the hospitals but India's have trained Doctors & Nurses'.

India's policy of continuity is reflected in its democratic & Multilateral attitude, treating Africa as equal partner and change is reflected in growing closeness and proactive engagements in economic, strategic, social & political domains.

Shiv Shankar Menon In his book 'choices' remarks that Africa is the continent of future with 1.6 Billion people, India should prevent and Nurish this historical & Strategic Relationship.



Que.8

According to Ashley Tellis, the antagonism between India and Pakistan, the two nuclear rivals remains one of the greatest tragedies of 'Asian Politics'. In light of this statement, discuss the prospects of SAARC in the post-pandemic world order. (200 words, 15 Marks)

SAARC was the Brainchild of Yashwantrao Chavan, established to foster the Regional Cooperation in the South Asia by Dhaka Treaty.

The SAARC is an classic case of failed Regionalism due to Antagonism between India & Pakistan.

Initiation for Regional Integration like SAFTA, BBIN and South-Asian University Remains paralysed due to consistent blockage by Pakistan.



~~How~~ UNCTAD suggests that Intra SAARC trade amount to only 9% of total trade of this countries as compared to 25% of ASEAN or 60% of EU.

In post pandemic world order
Q. the destiny of SAARC largely depends on India-Pakistan Relationship.

But India's wary of Chinese presence as an emerging state in SAARC presents challenge of converting a bloc into Anti-India group.



It is imperative for us to grow
Regional integration through
functionalism & economic interdependence
in the Region.

Destiny of India is a great
puzzle is like child how it projects
itself in the Region.