

Political Science & International Relations
Crash Course & Test Series - 2023**Test 4****Time Allowed: 3 Hours****Max Marks: 250****Name**

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Test Date

20/ Sept / 2023

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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						
5				X	X	
6				X	X	
7				X	X	
8						
Grand Total						

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	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Understanding of Questions					
Structure & Flow					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Conclusion					
(c) Overall					
Subject Knowledge					
Presentation					
(a) Underline					
(b) Paragraph					
(c) Overall					

Overall Remarks:

Dear Student,

All the best for next test...!!!

Page 1 (a)

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Que.1 (a)

Role of Parliament in the Indian Foreign Policy making. (10 Marks)

Foreign Policy of a country is a sum total of its principles, interest and objective on the international forum. Foreign policy documentation is a very complex task and thus requires number of agencies and actors that are involved.

One of the major role is played by the Parliament, where the foreign policies are being discussed and debated. It provides for constructive criticism and helps in ensuring inclusive policy making. The parliament also plays an important role in



amendment of the existing policy as foreign policy is seldom static and is in constant state of influx.

Despite its huge significance we must understand that Parliament is too large a body for meaningful debate, and another important impediment is lack of experts on foreign policy in the parliament which mostly has MPs and MLAs.

Thus, the task of shaping the final foreign policy is entrusted in Cabinet Committee on Security headed by PM and is then placed in front of the house for passage and then it converts into concrete foreign policy.

Que.1(b)

Impact of Abraham Accord on India's West Asia Policy. (10 Marks)

Abraham Accord is a peace deal brokered by USA among UAE and Israel in 2020. With this, UAE became the 3rd Arab nation to recognise diplomatic relations with Israel after - Egypt and Jordan.

The accord has been further supported and joined by other nations i.e., Morocco, Bahrain & South Sudan. This accord holds huge significance to ensure peace in West Asia.

India has its "Look West Policy" in order to cultivate its relations with nations of West.



Asia as the region hold significance because of its geography, demography, natural resources and India's energy security.

Abraham Accord will have a positive impact on India's West Asia policy as it will lead to cordial relation among Arab nation and Israel, which will ease India's dilemma as India has good relations with both of them.

It will also help the nation to come up with two-state solution and also provide access to religious places like Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem. Thus this accord is a progressive move by USA.



Que.1(c)

Non-Alignment 2.0. (10 Marks)

The policy of Non-alignment has been considered as foreign policy option for third world countries which emerged from the darkness of colonial rule. The NAM came into existence in 1961 as a result of efforts of leaders from 5 countries:- Ghana (Nkrumah), India (JL Nehru), Egypt (Abdul Nasser), Indonesia (Sukarno) & Yemen (SB Tibi).

Scholars like Tanvir Madan has viewed NAM as a policy of Isolationism practised by 3rd world countries, however Nehru has held that - NAM is not about abdication of choice rather freedom of choice.



NAM has been criticised for being suffering from Agenda deprivation in post cold war phase (C. Rajamohan).

However - Rashid-ud-din has

held that NAM is a timeless organ-
sation as the purpose for which
it was formed still remains relevant
thus he advocates for NAM
2.0 which shall be based on
idea of south-south cooperation
along with ensuring collaboration
on issues relevant for developing
world eg:- Trade, economy, soci-
-economic development, etc

At the same time world should not forget that a new ^{cold} world-
war is unravelling between
USA & China and NAM 2.0 will
ensure resilience of 3rd world
countries

ue.1(d)

Indian ocean has become a key determinant of India's foreign policy at present. Critically examine. (10 Marks)

In the recent times, no other factor has impacted the geopolitical scenario more than Indo-Pacific. It is a home to 65% of the world's population and 62% of Global GDP.

This region has become a new chessboard for international politics. Here, we see emergence of several actors ranging from countries surrounding the Indo-Pacific region eg:- USA, China, India, Japan, Australia, etc to the nations that have literally no continuity & presence in the region eg:- Britain, France, Germany, etc

This has shifted India's focus on Indo-Pacific as a key determinant of Indo-Pacific. India has started several initiatives like IONS, IORA, FIPIC, Project Mausam, SAGAR, etc to ensure its status as a net security provider in the region, along with being the first responder in case of disaster (HOADR diplomacy)

Apart from this India has also collaborated with other significant players eg- USA, Australia, Japan in OBAD, to ensure its dominance in the region. Along with this India has clearly stated its approach at Shangri La as non-aggressive & peaceful.

India-Japan Relations. (10 Marks)

Que. 1(e)

India and Japan share a cultural, spiritual and historical ties dating back to visit of Buddhist monk Bodhisena in 752 AD. These two nations have never been adversaries in any phase of international politics.

According to Kautilya's mandala Sādhana - Japan lies in the second concentric circle and is considered to be India's natural ally. The two nations have bilateral trade of ₹ 20 bn \$ and along with this they have CEPA and currency swap agreement.

Not just transactional economy, rather India is also the largest recipient of Japan's official development assistance (ODA), with huge

Investments specially in the north-east region. The two countries collaborate at several multilateral platforms like - G20, Quad, G4, etc and are also partner in various infrastructural projects eg:- Asia-Africa Growth Corridor, Supply chain resilience initiative, etc.

Despite these intense relation some of the irritants are - India opting out of RCEP, Data localisation norms (Osaka Track) etc

Thus we must understand that the smoothness of relationship overweighs the differences yet as S. Jaishankar has highlighted - India must focus on furthering the partnership by carefully calibrating its role & responses.

ue.2(a)

India's China policy is of profound importance for the current Indian government. What strategic goals India should pursue to protect its vital Interest? (20 Marks)

India and China are considered to be two major Asian Giants, that have been making their strategic imprint in the realm of international politics, especially in the post cold war era.

The simultaneous rise of the two countries has also become the reason of conflict and contradiction between these two nation. Post -2013 the world has been witnessing aggressive rise of China which started with its launch of Belt and



Road initiative.

Though rise of china is a cause of concern for developed nations like USA, Japan, Australia, etc, but India because of its geographic proximity has a lot more on stake

Thus C. Rajamohan highlights that India's china policy has to be built on its strategic goal in order to protect its vital interest. one of the major goal for India is to ensure its territorial integrity which has been continuously forgotten by china because of an unstable border. The recent

Hawan crisis was one of the manifestation of existing border dispute, apart from this China has continuously pushed beyond its jurisdiction - especially in the Eastern sector (Arunachal Pradesh)

Apart from Border Dispute, China has been taking aggressive stand in the Indian Ocean region as well. Recently China organised - China Indian Ocean forum which called for 49 Indian Ocean countries, except India.

Chinese increasing presence in Indian Ocean is a part of Greater string & pearl strategy which aims to contain India. Thus India's strategic goal must

focus on ensuring open, free and
Inclusive Indo-Pacific

China has also impacted India's
sovereignty through it's BRI
project passing through CPEC, which
is also a cause of concern. In order
to counter China, India first needs
to focus on de diversification and
decoupling of it's trade & economy
with China.

India through it's Amani-
Sahas Bharat Program, Make in
India, defence Indegenisation, etc
has started to move in correct
Direction. Brahma Chellany has
also appreciated India's realist
approach of collaborating with
important players eg: USA (QUAD) to
counter China.

Que.2(b)

Discuss India's vision of the New World Order and its approach to the changing world order. (15 Marks)

World order is not a static concept, it is continuously in state of influx and hence keeps changing. The world has underwent evolution from Balance of power politics in 18th century to liberal world order based on multilateralism in 19th century & 20th century.

The present 21st century the world is again witnessed the death of multilateralism with rise in regionalism in world politics, rise of unilateralism, etc



India views the world currently as a multipolar world order, with struggling state of multilateral institution. With the change in world order C. Rajamohan highlights that India has moved from non-alignment towards multiple alignment.

The current state of world order provides opportunity for India to rise as a voice for global south and creates its strategic position in the Indo-Pacific region.

India has been utilizing

this opportunity very strategically as it has been evident during India's Presidency of G20. To strengthen its geopolitical stature and also its ties with African countries, India has facilitated the entry of African Union in the G20 conference in 2023.

India's Approach has been proactive engagement based on concept of "overall growth & prosperity" for all, with special focus on the countries of Global South.

Tanvi Madan has highlighted India's optimistic manoeuvre in Geopolitics, which has provided India with a strong pole in current world order.

Que.2(c)

How do you look at India's current approach towards Quad? Do you think Quad is India's China containment strategy or India's own strategic outreach to position itself in emerging world order? (15 Marks)

Brahma chellany has held that just like Germany's aggressive rise has led to formation of Triple Entente, similarly in present times rise of China has led to emergence of several groupings one of which is Quad.

The concept of 'Quad' first found mention in a paper by Gurpreet Khurana and has later been popularised by former Japanese President - Shiro Abe in 2007. It is a regional cooperation between - India, USA, Japan, and Australia.

Though it is an informal grouping with no fixed agenda, however one of the majority priority area is ensuring - Free, Inclusive & Open Indo-Pacific.

The Grouping has been veiled by China as a part of ABC Club of USA i.e., Anybody but China which is aimed at countering China's presence in the region.

However PM Modi at Shanghai - La dialogue has highlighted that

India does not believe in coalition for conflict rather

supports coalitions for coordina-
tion & collaboration, and thus

Quad is India's attempt
toward ensuring maritime

security, peace, prosperity along with focus on creating free & Inclusive Indo-Pacific.

Thus Quad is not India's futile attempt of countering China rather, it an optimistic move to impose itself as a net security provider in the Indo-Pacific region.

In line with this strategy India has also come up with other initiatives like - Indian, Ocean Rim association (IORA), Forum for Indo-Pacific Island countries (FIPIC), Indian ocean naval symposium (IONS), etc. Thus the aim is much more than just countering China.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. (10 Marks)

Que.5(a)

The concept of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam has been mentioned in Mundaka Upanishad, which means "World is a family". Since the ancient times India has adhered to this philosophy.

Recently this has been used as the theme for G20 summit under India's presidency, which said- "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam! - one earth, one world, one family."

India role as a vishwaguru has been seen since the ancient times, however if we look at it from the middle of 20th century the international

politics from Indian perspective has been guided by this ~~philosophy~~ philosophy.

It is evident from India acting as a lynchpin for establishment of NAM, to India's Nuclear Policy doctrine to the recent India's role during COVID-19, where India has assumed a responsible role and has adhered to its policy of Vishwakaalpan.

India's rise in the recent times has thus been viewed by nations as a positive growth which has been fuelled by selfless, strategic and diplomatic stand on India on international forum.

Que. 5(b)

India's recent approach to Israel-Palestine conflict. (10 Marks)

Israel-Palestine conflict is one of the major cause of instability in west Asia. Since the advent of the dispute, India has always been against - human rights violations and state sponsored terrorism.

Thus, India has outrightly opposed Israel's claim in 1947. However with evolving geopolitical scenario - India made peace with reality and thus established diplomatic relation with Israel in 1990s.

Since then India has been following the policy of de-hyphenation. In international relations

de-hyphenation policy means dealing with two adversaries in an independent manner.

India has maintained independent ties with both Palestine and Israel, however has always supported the idea of resolution of the disputes between these nation.

In the entire asian continent only Israel and India are known as two true democracies, these countries have defence cooperation (Barak missile) along with technological cooperation, etc Along with this India has always been responsive to needs of Palestine and has had a relationship based on no conditionalities.

Que. 5(c)

International Solar Alliance. (10 Marks)

International Solar Alliance is a part of India's great solar dream which was mooted by India in collaboration with France at COP21 in 2015.

This is a part of India's renewable energy project and the aim of decarbonisation & clean transition. The Alliance has been joined by many countries lying in tropical and sub-tropical belt, which aims to maximise the utilisation of solar energy for power generation.

This project is in line with India's Panchsanti Targets

put forward at COP26 - which talks about 50% of energy from renewable sources by 2030; 500 GW of energy from solar, decreasing emission intensity by 45% of GDP, and decreasing emission by 1 billion ton of CO₂. India has also pledged to be net zero by 2070.

Thus the International Solar Alliance is considered to be India's responsive move toward helping in clean transition and decoupling of economy from emission, and is thus regarded as a good milestone in this regard.

Atmanirbhar Bharat. (10 Marks)

Que. 5(d)

The idea of Atmanirbhar Bharat has been launched in 2020, but it has its root in swadeshi movement of colonial era and 6th five year plan in the post-independent phase.

The idea is to ensure self-sufficiency along with becoming a champion of the third world countries. This is aimed at decreasing India's import dependency and reducing the foreign outflows.

This is a solid move towards countering India's

dependency on china for
huge imports, this will also
help India in focussing on
creation of high value export

The Atmanirbhar Bharat
has proved to be successful
in case of food security under
India's Green revolution mission

which not only helped India
being self-sufficient in food
production, but also largest
exporter of food grains.

Also during COVID-19, India's
indigenous vaccines under Atma-
nirbhar program has helped India
tackle the pandemic at domestic
as well as international level
(Vaccine matter).

Que. 5(e)

India's Strategic culture. (10 Marks)

India views itself as a Jwambudeep i.e. an Island in comity of nation, since its emergence as an independent nation in 1947, India's status has undergone evolution catering ^{to} India's changing strategic priority & the international order.

In order to ensure its survival, India's strategic culture has played a significant role as an important determinant of its foreign policy.

India has always focused on its soft power diplomacy because of its comparative advantage and has equally

worked on strengthening its hard power as well.

India has shifted its stance from non-alignment to multiple alignment with the change in international world order. This has helped India take a principled and autonomous stand on the international platform.

India's strategic culture is based on cultivating ties with like minded nations in order to further its ideology and strengthen its position in the realm of international politics.

Que. 6(a)

Discuss the importance of UN Peacekeeping. What is India's contribution to UN Peacekeeping? Highlight the reforms that India has proposed for the same. (20 Marks)

United Nation is a collective security organisation that came into existence in 1945. It is based on liberal ideology of multilateralism. It aims to ensure a rule-based world order and prevent future wars.

Though UN is tasked with several responsibilities one of the major responsibility is Peacekeeping in order to avoid conflicts and war like situation.

UN's Peacekeeping mission is sustained through two components i.e. Funds and Troops. The third world

and developing countries have actively participated in Troop contributions, while the Developed nations have been entrusted with responsibility of Funds.

There has been misappropriation of funds by the developed nations. India is one of the largest contributors of troops (~ 17 million). Recently India has deployed its All women contingent to Liberia. Indian troops are one of the most demanded peacekeeping forces across the world, especially in African countries.

However, India is not just involved in contribution of troops, but also actively

participates in training of troops of other countries eg! - Bangladesh, Bhutan, etc as well

In recent time, there has been increase in violence against the peacekeeping forces. Harsh V Pant has held that - India being the largest contributor to the peacekeeping forces has suffered the most in terms of loss of lives.

To tackle this menace because of growing presence of non-state actors, developed nations have given the concept of "resolute peacekeeping" i.e., armed peacekeeping forces for self defence. This has been contradicted by India as it defeats the entire purpose of

peace keeping mission. India has however suggested for several reforms such as:-
The focus should move from "peace keeping" towards "peace-building" in order to minimise instances for strife & tussle.

India advocates use of technology to ensure safety of Peacekeeping force and the world should adopt Zero tolerance approach toward any form of violence be it sexual or physical against the peace keeping forces.

Thus the aim to prevent the loss of lives and ensure peace and prosperity across the world as emphasised by India.

Que. 6(b)

Give the reasons for China's deepening interest in the Indian Ocean region. Mention some of the initiatives China has taken to step up its regional diplomacy. Analyse India's responses. (15 Marks)

Recently china has convened its first china-Indian Ocean forum, which involved 19 countries from the Indian Ocean region except India.

This move of ~~china~~ china shows its deepening interest in the Indian Ocean region.

Not just china, but other super-powers like USA, Japan, Australia, etc have also expressed their interest in the region, thus indicating a new shift in the geopolitics, which is focussed on the Indian Ocean region.

The region holds significance because >90% of world's trade by volume & 775% of world's trade by value passes through this region, this region also holds huge potential for mineral resources on it's floor (eg:- Polymetallic nodules), etc

Thus China has been strengthening it's hold in the region through various initiatives like:- Belt & Road Initiative, String of pearl strategy, etc and has been practising it's Debt trap diplomacy in India's backyard:- eg:- Hambantota Port (Sri Lanka) and also other projects eg:- Sittoung port (Myanmar), Gawadar Port (Pakistan), acquired

a naval base (Djibouti), etc

In response to this India has clearly stated its objective at Shanghai-LA dialogue - which is to ensure - Free and open Indo Pacific. In order to ensure this India has been collaborating with other nations on platform like - Quad, Coalition for disaster resilience (CDRI), supply chain resilience initiative (SCRI), IORA, IONS, FIPIC, IPEF, etc.

However India has always abstained from aggressive military diplomacy. External Affairs minister S. Jaishankar in his book "The India Way" states that India sees Indo-Pacific as a new battleground for great game.

Que.6(c)

China's deepening ties with Iran raises critical concerns for India. Discuss. Suggest how India should navigate its interests in the region? (15 Marks)

West Asia forms a part of India's extended neighbourhood and lies in the second concentric circle of mandal shiddhant as given by Kautilya. The region holds huge geopolitical significance because of its strategic location.

West Asia lies at the cross road of 3 continents - Europe, Asia and Africa and is located around some of important choke points. Though West Asia as a whole plays a significant role in India's Energy security, India-Iran relation are one of the most controversial owing to deep India-USA ties.

Recently, China exhibited its great diplomatic excellence by hosting a peace talk between two major adversaries in the region i.e., Iran & Saudi Arabia. This is a great win for China, but a cause of concern for India.

As India has huge stakes involved in both the countries, India & Iran have partnered over some of the strategic infrastructure projects like - INSTC, Chabahar port, Sakheed Baheshi port, etc. which is important for India's economic interest, to counter Pakistan (in order to reach afghanistan) as well as China (as ^{Chabahar} it is located 150 km from Gwadar port) and will also help India in reaching central Asia.

However china's presence can lead to chinese dwarfism of India as India does not equates with China in terms of economic diplomacy.

Thus India must shift its focus from countering China to collaborating with Iran, and play on its strengths i.e. soft power diplomacy. Though India has invested in infra projects but it is said that "India promises, while China delivers" — India needs to change the narrative by ensuring timely completion of project to avoid cost overrun.

Apart from this India can also focus on establishing people-to-people ties and build its relationship on cultural & historical ties.

Que. 7(a)

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Q.8(a)

India has shown diplomatic resilience & leadership for forging unity in neighborhood in the war against Covid pandemic. Elucidate. What are the prospects of SAARC 2.0 in the current geopolitical environment? (20 Marks)

COVID-19 is known as the tragedy of century which has created an everlasting impact on global community. Most of the countries are still struggling to get over its after effect.

During this time of crisis India has emerged as a Vishwaguru and has exhibited exemplary act of diplomatic resilience & leadership, especially in the neighbourhood in general and for the third world countries in particular. Through its initiatives like Vaccine Maitri and has provided more than

3 billion doses of India's made vaccines for COVID. Apart from this India has helped countries overcome the impact eg! - line of credits to Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan; economic aid to Sri Lanka during the economic crisis, etc

Apart from this India has been actively engaged in Afghanistan not just for COVID related aid but also humanitarian assistance in the nation. Thus India under its Neighbourhood Policy has always stood firm on its responsibility.

Despite knowing the significance of the potential that the South Asian region holds, the

countries have not been able to utilise its potential which is evident from poor inter-state trade in South Asia, existence of bilateral issues like - border dispute, terrorism, water disputes, infiltration, illegal migration, drug menace, etc

In order to tackle this SAARC (South Asian Association for region cooperation) was created in 1985 under Bhakra declaration and after this even Free trade agreements (SAFTA) and agreement for services (SATIS) was also chartered out, yet SAARC has remained a failure, especially because of Ind-Pak rivalry and

Other smaller nation aversion towards India's Big brother Attitude

Thus, the experiment of SAARC has remained a failure, however C. Rajamohan has highlighted its significance for overall development of the region and thus has mooted for revival of SAARC in form of SAARC 2.0

SAARC 2.0 must be based on the model of "Development as Equality" and India must ensure that the smaller nation do not fear India's growing prominence, rather must feel that they are a part of India's growth story. Along with this region must focus on improving Infrastructure, Trade and Collaborate our counterterrorism agenda as well.

Que.8(b)

Discuss the pros and cons of India's Nuclear Policy of No First Use. Do you think India should change this policy in light of Pakistan's recent terror adventurism? (15 Marks)

India charted out its first explicit Nuclear Policy doctrine in 1999. It is based on 3 main pillars - i.e., No first use policy, Credible minimum deterrence and no use against non-nuclear states.

The Indian Nuclear Policy has strengthened India's diplomatic position along with helping it in evading western sanction. Thus India's No-first use doctrine has helped India gaining membership of MTCR, Wassenaar arrangement, Australia group despite being a non-signatory of NPT 2

CTBT.

Realist scholars like Leinhardt
Waltz & Mearsheimers have held
that nuclear weapons helps in
ensuring international peace
as they act as a deterrent to
wars & aggression.

However this view has
not been supported by Scott
Sagan who has held that
Nuclear weapon creates security-
insecurity dilemma. The best
example for this Russia-Ukraine
war.

Thus in this backdrop
India's No first^{use} policy is in
line with views of Scott Sagan
which has its own pros and
cons. Pros are that it has

Exposed India's generosity and its responsible behaviour, it's in line with India's policy of non-aggression (Panchsheel) and has helped India evade western sanction

However, it has its own set of cons as it gives upper hand to other nations, as India has pledged for No first use and only developing - Nuclear weapon for ensuring minimum credible deterrence.

Despite, its cons however it should not be seen as India's idealism, rather it's India's pragmatism and India must adhere to its policy, because it is true that - Nuclear war is not even beneficial for victor.

Que.8(c)

"Till very recently India was seen a predominantly poor developing country with low visibility in global affairs. However, at present India seems to be writing a new dynamic future for itself." Elucidate. (15 Marks)

Recently with the launch of Chandrayan-3, India became the first country in the world to achieve soft landing on south pole of the moon. Thus, joining the rank of the developed nations.

Not just space, but India has been creating strategic mark in all aspects of international relations from military to economy, from trade to tourism and from IT to Infrastructure.

Since it's emergence as an independent nation in 1947 India has always advocated for

Strategic autonomy and independence, which was evident from India's move to create NAM as an independent platform for third world nation.

But back then India only had limited resources to create its influence. However since the 21st Century, India has seen a tremendous progress and thus is writing a new dynamic future for itself.

During COVID-19, India emerged as a sole humanitarian supported for third world nation of the global south. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar as held that

India's motive is not to compete with developed nations to win the race, rather its aim is to ensure overall growth & development of all and to create a peaceful International Order."

Recent tenure of India as a chair of G20 has highlighted India's priority from clean energy to counterterrorism; from trade to technological advancement and has also voiced the concern of Global South & in this regard, India's historic attempt has been towards inclusion of African Union in G20.