

**Political Science & International Relations****Crash Course & Test Series - 2023****Test 6****Time Allowed: 3 Hours****Max Marks: 250****Name**Richa Choudhary**Test Date**19/08/23**Email Address****UPSC Roll No****Instructions:**

1. There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS and candidate has to attempt five questions in all.
2. Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any three are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each section.
3. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
5. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
8. Write the test in exam atmosphere.
9. **Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.**

| S. No.      | a | b | c | d | e | Total |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| 1           |   |   |   |   |   |       |
| 2           |   |   |   | X | X |       |
| 3           |   |   |   | X | X |       |
| 4           |   |   |   | X | X |       |
| 5           |   |   |   |   |   |       |
| 6           |   |   |   | X | X |       |
| 7           |   |   |   | X | X |       |
| 8           |   |   |   | X | X |       |
| Grand Total |   |   |   |   |   |       |

For any issue related to PSIR Test Series, write only at  
[psirtestseries@shubhviraj.com](mailto:psirtestseries@shubhviraj.com)



Always Ahead

25, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi 110005 | +91 9810212719 | www.shubhviraj.in

|                            | 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...!!!



Que.1 (a)

Highlight the relevance of Political Sociology approach to the study of Comparative Politics. (10 Marks)

Political sociology approach lies at the confluence of political science and sociology [ S.M. Lipset - 'A Political Man' ]

Maurice Duverger highlighting it's relevance in comparative politics suggest that political sociology ends the isolated study of politics and brings it into larger social phenomenon.

works of Atul Kohli, Arjun Kohli, Andre Beteille, Christopher J. Jaffar in Indian politics to understand it with sociological factors like caste, class, religion, ethnicity brings valuable insights to the discipline.

This highlights the essential unity of all social science.

Further the role of extra - constitutional movements like social movements, pressure group politics, and civil society movements like India against corruption, Form laws protest etc are explained.

However as Bertoni suggest, this approach ignore role of political factors in shaping society like Nehru's policy for modernisation of India.

Theda skocpol calls to bring back state to prevent political science from becoming sub discipline of sociology.

Reconciling this new institutionalism in works of March and Olsen address the sociological and political factors,



Que.1(b)

Mention the limitations of systems approach to international politics. (10 Marks)

Systems approach to international politics emerged with Behavioralism in works of David Easton.

According to systems approach, 'state represents a political system with demands and support and gives policies and decisions as output'.

This lead to value free, regular, systematic, technique based, approach which aims to make political science as pure science.

However as discipline of politics is not discipline of mathematics and ignoring values is like inability to differentiate between clean and dirty water.

This highlights the limitation of value free analysis.

Further due to limited number of Political system, devising an robust method is limited in possibility.

Systems approach also fails to explain the politics of primitive societies [Farriggs].

Hence in the 'credo of relevance' David Easton calls to 'bring back values' and develop an creative theory based on action and relevance.

This led to emergence of post behaviouralism that contributed to rich scientific test and analysis like voting behavior, electoral processes, Approval ratings etc.



Que.1(c)

Discuss the degree to which the nature and core functions of the state in advanced industrial societies have changed since WWII (10 Marks)

State is centre to the discipline of political science. It is said what money is to economics, state is to political science.

Advance industrial states are colonial superpowers represented in G7 and OECD. This societies have modern features like individualism and Rule of law.

However as the Nature of state changes with the change in politics they witnessed changes post World War II.

Firstly, due to high inequality welfare states emerged inspired by Fabian socialist like G.D.H. Cole and Social liberals like Rawls, Dworkin and Sen.

Later due to Overwelfare, demand to ~~bring~~ roll back of state emerged in 70's with Reaganism in US and Thatcherism in UK.

Washington consensus proposed for 'right watchman state' based on neo liberal paradigm of Nozick and Hayek.

Recently the state has reemerged with Cornwallis consensus taxing 15% minimum corporate tax.

Post Covid-19 the states have increased their surveillance capacity and rise of neo-right leaders is witnessed for eg. Georgia meloni, Donald Trump and recent elections in Finland and Sweden.  
Overall, the ~~state~~ state has taken centre stage in the broader social phenomenon



Que.1(d)

Discuss the constructivist critique of Realism. (10 Marks)

Realism is hegemonic school of studying international relationship based on empirical methods.

Derived from works of Kant, Sun Tzu in East, Thucydides, Hobbes and Machiavelli in the west. Realism profess to see the world as it is, rather than as it ought to be.

It gives the prescriptions of balance of power, deterrence and diplomacy to overcome security dilemma in anarchical state of international relations.

However Constructivists like Alexander Wendt accuse realist for portraying that anarchy will ~~even~~

Inevitably lead to security dilemma,  
[ Anarchy problem ].

Nicolas only suggest that anarchy  
exist but it is misconception of  
realist that it will lead to struggle  
for power

They hence suggest increasing  
dialogue, creating epistemic community to  
develop trust. for peace.

However they are criticised as  
they didn't address the critical question  
that states are not aware about  
intentions of other state that create  
trust deficit. For eg India-China or  
US-China relations.

Overall, they present a formidable challenge  
to realism that takes parochial view of  
international politics as power games.



Que.1(e)

Democracy as a Global Concern. Comment. (10 Marks)

Democracy in a narrow elitist sense is form of government where people elect their representative [Schumpeter], however Amartya Sen argues that democracy has its intrinsic value due to equality, social justice and liberty.

In the post cold war polity, Huntington has given waves of democracy. The ~~third~~ third wave marked establishing of democracies in eastern Europe.

However post 2008 financial crisis and covid-19, it is argued that fourth wave is democratic slump.

This raises global concern as world's flagbearer of democracy are slipping into authoritarianism.

Freedom house recently downgraded the democracy in USA. Hungary is in ~~low~~ permanent state of emergency.

Scandinavian countries like Finland, Sweden have marked rise of neo-right parties backtracking democracy.

It is highlighted that globalisation has led to post sovereign governance in form of transnational actors and superterritoriality with onset of digital leviathans like Apple, Microsoft and Amazon.

Today ~~as~~ there is need to revive the democratic ideals of vedas [samiti, vidhata] and communicative action suggested by Habermas and Hannah Arendt.



Que.2(a)

Explain the idea of hegemony in the theory of international relations. How far do you agree that hegemony brings stability to international politics?

(20 Marks)

Hegemony in traditional sense is defined as preponderance of military power, economic power, but in modern discourse post the Gramscian Analysis hegemony includes control over ideas, culture and strategic response.

In international relations, realist scholars have professed for seeking hegemony. Starting from EH Carr, who in '20 years crisis' professes states to pursue power.

Hans Morganthau taking hobbesian view of human nature professes dual nature of power in 'politics among nations'.

While Neorealist like keneth waltz and John mearsheimer believes in merit of security and regional hegemony.

According to Hegemonic stability theory of Robert Gilpin and Charles Kindleberger, hegemony brings stability in international politics because hegemon has power to punish the state which don't abide by the international law.

Another view of liberal internationalist like John Ikenberry suggest that hegemon brings order in the anarchical international system.

However this view is countered by neo realist like waltz and mearsheimer



with polarity of power shifts. They assert, hegemon becomes megalomaniac and overstretch itself as seen during American invasion of Iraq, Vietnam and Afghanistan.

Further free riders take advantage like Chinese growth in backdrop of American security umbrella.

They also highlight that hegemon can itself break the rule it formed as seen with U.S. withholding appointment in WTO or pulling out of Paris agreement under Trump administration.

Hence they suggest that bipolarity is most stable as it ensures checks and balances in the system.

Further the balance of powers formed around bipolarity ensures that states

In their influence abide by rule as seen during cold war period.

They further stress that multipolarity is most ~~unstable~~ unstable because of more actors and more hands on bigger.

~~Some~~ sociological liberals like Karl Deutsch believe in stability through multipolarity and oppose proliferation of nuclear ~~war~~ weapons.

However, the experience of cold war shows that bipolarity brings stability but it is always prone to risk of escalation ~~as~~ (Cuban missile crisis)

For global stability we should reflect to Ideals of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and respecting plurality and mutual respect for all.



Que.2(b)

Do you think that the international institutions play a significant role in making cooperation possible among the nation states? Give examples to substantiate your point of view. (15 Marks)

The realist prescription to state in an 'Anarchical international system' suggest self help and perpetual pursuit of power through diplomacy, deterrence and balance of power.

However neo realist paradigm that emerged during détente (1962-1979) in works of heerth waltz, 'theory of international politics' suggest that despite the condition of anarchy, states as rational actors contribute in international sphere.

Later post-cold war neo liberals and liberal institutionalist like John Keenberry suggest that international

Institutions bring stability to the ~~state~~ and make cooperation possible.  
United Nations as a core organisation  
fulfils this view with peacekeeping  
operations to ensure collective security.

Specialised agencies like WHO,  
UNESCO, UNCTD, UNODC helps in international  
cooperation.

Institutions like WTO, IMF and  
WTO as flagbearer of liberal international  
order brings cooperation in economic  
sphere.

EU as an supranational  
institution has brought vision of  
functionalism through security community.  
[ John Mc Cormick - 'Europeanism' ]



Holmes billiards ball model of state centrality opposes the view,  
For them institutions are extension  
of foreign policy to promote national  
interest.

Maoist critique institutions as  
cause for development of underdevelopment  
in Global South [Ah Frank] and  
drain of wealth [Immanuel Wallerstein]

Reconciling this view Headley Bull  
of English School gives concept of  
'neo-medievalism' suggesting that there  
is 'anarchical society'.

Despite the lack of global levitation  
states in their own self interest  
cooperate in international relations eg.  
NATO, QUAD etc.

Que.2(c)

How do feminist approach to international politics contribute in addressing the challenge of "the lack of women in global politics"? (15 Marks)

Feminist approach to international politics asks central question - 'where are the women' (Cynthia Enloe).

They take gender as an empirical factor in analysis of international relationships.

J Ann Tickner in her work

'Gender in international politics' highlights the lack of women in global politics.

Enloe in 'Bananas, Beaches and Bases' highlight that women have remained ~~confined~~ confined to workers in banana plantation, wives of diplomats and some workers in



military bases. Gayatri Spivak highlights that international politics has remained primarily an male dominated field.

Hence they demands for ~~reform~~ reforming the challenges of lack of women.

Tidener asks for state to focus on Human security more specifically women security against the Morgenthau's notion of National security.

Cynthia Enloe asks for increasing the participation of women in global geopolitics.

They demand institutional framework against war crimes and human rights violation during war crimes which led

to UN resolution 1325 which highlights the need to increasing women participation.

Beijing Convention on just war & makes violence against civilians illegal.

Further their demands have led to new generation of deinstitutionalised movements like eco feminism, 3rd wave of feminism to bring substantive equality.

Nancy Fraser's point of bringing affirmative action to the neglected half is care in point.

Today, as we aims to achieve SDGs #5 of gender equality, equal participation of women in international politics is essential and so just.



Que.5(a)

Define reformed multilateralism. (10 Marks)

Multilateralism as an antithesis of regionalism refers to global efforts to deal with shared challenges like United Nations, World Bank, WTO, IMF as supra multilateral organisation.

However due to lack of multilateral reforms, which begets the reality of world was too two has led to crisis of confidence in this institution.

Failure of WTO during Covid-19, WTO marred with lack of consensus on Doha round, IMF with 88% of U.S. rights and noles Wendi of appointing

American and European chiefs to World Bank and IMF has created dramatic deficit.

India is at the critical juncture of changing geopolitics demands for reform multilateralism.

G77 group of countries are working to reform UN, as a leader of global South India is sphereheading for NIEO.

Developing countries are demanding 5% and 7% transfer of voting power and quotas from developed countries in IMF and WB,

As PM Modi says, only a reformed Multilateralism under reformed UN can fulfill the aspirations of humanity.



Que.5(b)

Explain the South Asia's Hydro Diplomacy. (10 Marks)

Hydro diplomacy refers to using water for practicing statecraft and meeting national interest on natural resources.

South Asia has various instances of hydro diplomacy, some good, some bad.

India-Pakistan Indus water treaty is prime example of hydrodiplomacy and cooperation.

India-Bangladesh Ganges water sharing treaty is another instance.

However, China's whole of state approach creates apprehension.

Chinese project of Mekong dam  
(mega dam) of 60000 MW on Tsangpo  
makes large part of Indian and  
Bangladeshi population vulnerable.

Territor disputes and Tipaimukh  
disputes between India and Bangladesh  
is under negotiation.

India-Nepal's frequent disputes  
over Kosi river, Mahakali river and  
Seti river raises concerns.

The changing dynamics of Hydro diplomacy  
in the reg neighbourhood represent the  
importance of water for personal and  
agricultural use too large part of population  
vulnerable to poverty.

Hence, meaningful cooperation becomes  
imperative for regional cooperation.



Que.5(c)

Comment on India's current energy security dilemma. (10 Marks)

Energy security refers to the notion of secure supplies of energy resources i.e. oil, ~~gas~~ coal, solar power wind power etc.

Amid the geopolitical contestations post Ukraine war, we have witnessed weaponisation of energy supplies by Russia's threat to stop supplies.

This creates security dilemma for India which still imports 80% of its energy.

~~Here~~ Further climate change is creating an ~~an~~ immediate need for securing renewable energy.

Around such circumstances, India has gone on diplomatic offensive.

India's import of Russian Russian oil reach all time high crossing \$20B. ~~to~~ ~~for~~ further India is looking to diversify supply from Latin America from Venezuela, Brazil, etc.

In term of renewables, India has focused on domestic capacity building with ~~for~~ PLI schemes, PLI India, National Solar Policy, Green Hydrogen, Geothermal energy, tidal energy etc.

However for overcoming security dilemma and achieving net zero target by 2070 - ~~we~~ we need further push to our energy security agenda.



Que.5(d)

Discuss the challenges of India- Japan Relations. (10 Marks)

India Japan relations are connected with spiritual affinity since the time of visit of Bhadrabahu

while Geopolitical convergences bring India-Japan in Strategic and Global Partnership, spanning across trade, technology, space, economy, climate change, reformed multilateralism and multipolarity in Asia

There ~~are~~ exist challenges in the bilateral relationships.

Despite CEPA bilateral trade  
is only \$20B (China - Japan \$400B)

Japan-India defence cooperation  
has been weak specially delays in  
procurement of US2 amphibious  
aircraft.

Asia-Africa growth corridor has  
not saw onset of any single project.

Delays in implementation of projects  
such as Ahmedabad-Mumbai metro are  
issue.

Despite the challenges India-Japan  
relationship is emerging as an strategic  
handshake for multipolar Asia.



Que.5(e)

Discuss India's Presidency of G20 in 2023. (10 Marks)

G20 is group of 19 largest economies and European Union.

It represent 80% of world GDP,  
75% of trade and 60% of world population.

India's presidency of the organisation  
has been an beacon of hope in geopolitical  
 turmoil.

As PM Modi puts, India's presidency  
is action oriented, inclusive, ambitious  
decisive.

with vision of vasudha kutumbakam  
& India envision our world fighting  
shared challenges of climate, economic  
unsustainability and food security.

reformed multilateralism with the  
demand for membership of African  
Union

Women and development  
with idea for bringing women as  
an international politics as demands  
by feminist and customary ideas  
of social justice, equality and  
self dignity.

India's rising multilateral personality  
calls for a 'just world', with  
democratic functioning and rule based  
order ensuring security, sovereignty  
and human integrity of all.



Que.6(a)

Critically evaluate the role of Parliament in the formulation of foreign policy with the help of a case study. (20 Marks)

Foreign policy of a country is a statement of what it stands for, the role it takes up for itself and projects to the world - J.N. Dixit former foreign secretary

Parliament as an apex deliberative body and represents the 'popular will' plays a critical role in formulation of foreign policy.

Parliament with its departmental Committee on external affairs closely monitors the Ministry of external affairs. It scrutinise the budget grants

to the ministry.

further parliament with no confidence motion and censure motion can sanction the foreign policy or ask for the popular consent.

During the Indo-US civil nuclear deal, parliament played a key role in approval of the foreign policy.

Additionally, after the Serubani union case, 1951 supreme court held that parliamentary approval under Article 358 is required for transfer of territories in a border settlement.

Parliament further with its committees on subordinate legislation can



summarise foreign policy rules of the executive.

President as an integral part of parliament holds government accountable to adhere to the constitutional principles as seen during Bill Clinton visit when K.R. Narayana asked government to adhere to Panchasheel and non-alignment principles.

However with declining parliamentary productivity and lack of informed debates (V.P. Hamid Ansari), parliament has become a naïve board (Shashi Tharoor).

Another plabianisation of parliament with about 41% of legislators having criminal record and 29% having serious charges, parliament's role in foreign policy is questioned.

Amid such conditions it is even more imperative to adhere to parliamentary ethics and refer more bills for deliberation to committees (17% only referred - PRS research) .

With recent Acts such as High Seas Treaty, Act and Antarctica Act, Parliament is renewing to take greater role .

Further pillai committee recommendation to bringing domain expertise of foreign policy will strength parliamentary control .

As Parliament represent the horoscope of our sovereign democratic republic and symbol of General will [Rousseau] we should look at greater and meaningful role of Parliament .



Que.6(b)

Due to China's assertive foreign policy, EU has realised the importance of working with Asia's biggest democracy. Comment. (15 Marks)

Chinese president Xi Jinping during recent communist party meeting highlighted the key priorities including reintegration of Taiwan and making China largest economy in nominal terms by 2025.

This assertive Chinese policy is also observed in its wolf warrior diplomacy. China has recently released names of some village in Arakanah road.

Further its claim over whole of South China Sea, China calling itself as a 'near arctic state' have raised strategic concerns.

Chinese 'whole of state' approach  
of weaponisation of supply chains and  
leveraging economic interdependence  
for geopolitical interest.

Has raised concerns in  
Europe, that long believed in political  
modernisation [Edward shils]. of china will  
bring democracy.

Recent France's Indo Pacific  
strategy and Germany's Indo-Pacific  
policy statement highlights the importance  
of working with Asia's biggest democracy  
i.e. India.

Horizon 2047 as a 25 years  
strategic roadmap signed between India  
and France during recent visit of PM



Modi, and India - EU+27 Summit that  
Specifically focused on developing comprehen-  
-sive Strategic Partnership.

collaboration in Space with  
ISRO and ESA working together in  
Interim's Records.

Similar vision for multipolar  
world order and diverse supply chains  
resilient of geopolitics and climate  
catastrophe is shared vision for India  
- EU Partnership.

Partners EU as India's 2nd largest  
trading partner with bilateral trade  
of \$118 B during 2021-23 and one  
of the largest investor in Indian economy.  
Seeks to diversify and explore rising Indian  
markets.

Que.6(c)

Critically analyse the future prospects of India-Bangladesh relations by examining the challenges and opportunities existing in the current relationship. (15 Marks)

India - Bangladesh have a shared geography, religion, culture, language and historic affinities so much so that the relationship is called as Praternal friendship.

With an omprehensive strategic partnership, bilateral trade of \$18 B and various cross border exchanges through Integrated check post, Bangladesh and India are tightly net in complete interdependence.

World Bank in its recent report highlighted the potential of Bangladesh which is growing at 8% rate and politically stable.



This presents significant opportunities for India to trade, while having an large trade surplus already.

Further, increasing inter-waterways connectivity provides shared opportunity for reducing logistical cost and tourism, as seen with Ganga Vilas cruise launched by PM Modi.

Bangladesh also provides significant opportunities to connect north-east region. Angulma - Agartala rail line, Dhaka - Kolkata bus are prime example.

However various challenges remain unaddressed. Hydro diplomacy over Festha river water sharing and Tipaimukh project on Barak river is bone of contention,

Further Bangladesh often called as India's 'Mexico problem' due to illegal immigrants. NRC has left around 1.9 million people which Bangladesh refuses to accept.

Challenges with illegal arms smuggling and organised crime across border in Northeast. Naga insurgents find easy escape across border.

To address this challenges both countries are working along with other stakeholders like West Bengal.

Developing relationship through track 2 and track 4 diplomacy as per functionalism and 'Sociological liberalism' will certainly make India-Bangladesh relations as in Sorali Adhyaya (Golden Potal).



Que.8(a)

Discuss the current state of India-Africa relations. Examine the challenges and opportunities. (20 Marks)

India and Africa as two brothers and soulmates share historical affinity due to shared struggle against colonialism and racial injustice.

Historically India-Africa relations evolved in 4 phases. First phase from 1947-1962 was marked by India's support to decolonisation and anti-apartheid.

Second phase of relation nascent due to internal instability, post 1962. It also saw rising xenophobia against Indian diaspora.

Later on Africa ~~re-emerged~~ emerged on India's strategic radar post 1991 as an future partner in trade and as a ~~most~~ attractive market for export.

The current state of India -  
Africa relationship more phase of  
Afro-Asian solidarity.

India as voice of global south  
is demanding equal place for Africa in  
G20 and UNSC, with it's agenda of  
Multilateral reforms.

India's support to Africa during  
Covid-19 with vaccine Maitri delivering  
27 million doses and e-ITEC-Covid-19  
training African health professionals.

Further ever increasing bilateral  
trade reached \$98 B and has potential  
of reaching doubling by 2030.

Recent India-Africa defence  
dialogue came up with Handinagar  
declaration to boost defence partnership.



Project Mausam of ministry of culture seeks to revive the lost linkages to Africa in Indian-ocean region.

~~Further~~ Africa today as an continent comprising of 17% of world population going to reach 25% by 2050 present significant opportunities.

IMF predicts an market opportunity of \$5 Billion. Further NASSCOM suggest potential to boost Indian exports in Automobiles, Softwares, Dairy and Food processing to Africa.

As an continent with 30% of world's mineral wealth, Cobalt reserves in DRC and other rare earths are crucial for India's vision of self-reliance and reducing dependency on China.

Africa's ~~young~~ young population can be trained under ITEC programs and partnership in health, education and SuH development can bring mutual benefits.

Yet various challenges remains. India's Partnership is about one thirds of china (Bilateral trade \$282 B with Africa).

Political instability in Africa didn't nudge the private sector to take a proactive role.

Further ongoing civil wars limits like Somalia, DRC, Sudan etc limits deeper engagement.

In spite of that Africa 2063 and India 2047 have shared vision of development as equals. Shivshankar Menon call's Africa continent of future to develop greater engagement.



Que.8(b)

The relationship between India and USA is more robust than ever. However, the deepening of relationship is bound to bring its own challenges. Critically examine. Analyse the challenges and opportunities in India US Relations. (15 Marks)

From being called as estranged democracies by Dennis Kucinich during cold war, today India and US are called as engaged democracies embodying most defining partnership of 21st century.

The relationship between the two democracies during cold war was antagonistic. Delhi's reflexive Anti-Americanism and Washington's apprehension of Non-aligned movement left little room for diplomatic trust.

However post the cold war the relationship started thawing up. Indo-US civil Nuclear deal of 2005 brought

a new phase in India-US partnership.  
with recent comprehensive global  
strategic partnership, the India-US  
relationship is more robust than ever.

Recent visit of PM Modi brought  
two democracies unique opportunities  
to collaborate.

Cooperation  
ICAT initiative will bring, in  
Artificial Intelligence, Quantum computing,  
Robotics, Nanotechnology, biotechnology,  
next gen communication (5G/6G).

Defence relationship is now  
presenting opportunities for cooperation  
after 4 ~~foundational~~ foundational agreements  
i.e. BRCA, LEMOA, COMCASA, & GESMOR.



Recently conducted joint production of GE F414 engine by GE and HAL shows 'strategic convergences'.

India's procurement of MQ-95 UAV's for Aerial Surveillance in Indian ocean will bring domain awareness and maritime security in line with India's Vision of SAGAR.

Trade relationship are at all time high with \$122 B bilateral trade (India having \$28 B surplus) planning to reach \$500 B by 2030.

In spite of the no limit's partnership there are various challenges in the relationship.

America's import duties on Indian export of steel and Aluminium, removing GSP status.

Que.8(c)

With the world looking towards the Indian Ocean as critical for strategic engagement, it is time India focusses on a maritime grand strategy which will help in realising its global ambitions. Discuss. (15 Marks)

Indian ocean is key to seven seas, the one who control the Indian ocean will control the world - Alfred Mahan.

Today world is looking towards Indian Ocean as critical for strategic engagement. with over 75% of world trade and 50% of oil supply passing through the region it holds ~~as~~ geostrategic and geo-economic significance.

Critical sea lines of communication with Malacca Strait, Strait of Hormuz, Bab-al-Mandeb, Indian ocean has the potential to bring economies at halt. Lord Curzon recognised this strategic importance even in 19th century.



This makes India to focus on maritime  
grand strategy with Indo-Pacific vision.

Forging closer partnership with  
South-East Asian countries through  
Act East policy, Neighbourhood first  
policy to bring complete interdependence  
in South Asia through projects like  
BBIM motor vehicle agreement, Kaladan  
multimodal project, IMT Trilateral highway  
etc.

India's regional maritime cooperation  
with IONS, IORA, BIMSTEC, ~~IAF~~ IFC -  
IOR and agreements on free open  
and secure Indo Pacific are part of  
it's grand maritime strategy.

QUAD grouping aims to bring  
regional - convergence on geopolitics.

IPEF initiative, SCRI between JAI are ~~etc~~ aimed to bring geoeconomic interest to forefront.

This are going to help India reach it's global ambition for forging a multipolar world order in Asia and world.

Developed India by 2047 vision includes larger cooperation in region.

Ensuring the world to be safe for democracies where Rule based order prevails, is a key ambition for India.

Today as world's 5th largest economy, soon to become 2nd largest, military, technological powerhouse, India looks at Indo-Pacific as opportunity for getting it's rightful place in the comity of nation.