

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Time Allowed: 3 hr.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- There are EIGHT questions. Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
- Question no. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
- Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
- Attempts of questions shall be counted in chronological order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the answer book must be clearly struck off.

109

Some of the answers are too simple & short
IR section needs more factual elaboration.
Content and understanding in IR are quite good

Overall good performance

Name Abhijeet Bhanawat

Mobile No. _____

1. Invigilator's Signature _____

Date _____

2. Invigilator's Signature _____

Signature Abhijeet

Just add more examples & news of events.

SECTION-A

Attempt all questions:

1. Answer the following questions in about 150 words each: (10 × 5 = 50)
- (a) Anarchy is what State makes of it. Comment. Vendt
 - (b) State in IR: Realist vs Critical theories. Elaborate.
 - (c) Feminist analysis has placed particular emphasis on developing a gendered conception of security and war - Tickner. Comment.
 - (d) Critically examine Noam Chomsky's views on US hegemony.
 - (e) Realism and human rights. Analyse.

(a) This statement presents the post-modernist analysis of anarchy as given by Alexander Vendt.

Vendt rejects the Realist paradigm of anarchy which treats anarchy either as a construct of human nature (Morgenthau) or as a structure in itself (Waltz).

Vendt states that ~~anarchy~~ is an outcome of state's perception of it. He has given the concept of "anarchy problematique". He states that

Remarks

3) Explain the agent-structure relationship
 Role of Ideational factors
 Write note on role of perception
 Limitations of this approach

A specific interpretation of anarchy by the Realists leads to security dilemma and then to war, which further reinforces the Realist view.

He cites the Cold War as an example and states that specific perception of anarchy led to rivalry between USA & USSR. However, after the end of Cold War, there was cooperation between the two. This shows that anarchy is a product of states' perceptions.

(b) Realist conception of state

Realists look at state as the chief actor in international relations. They reject the role of domestic institutions, social forces and non-state actors like MNCs and believe that all the other factors are always in control of state. The state in their conception

Remarks

has mainly political role.

* State in Critical theories

- ↳ Marrxists believe state to be an instrument of bourgeois class as shown by Wallerstein in World System theory
- ↳ Peripheral Realism scholars like McAyub note that states in 3rd world perform poli economic and social role as well apart from political role.
- ↳ Feminist challenge the masculine nature of state in form of policies like war and militarization and with less concern for peace and cooperation.
- ↳ Post-modernists like Venot believe that behaviour of state is influenced by its perceptions which may not be based on objective analysis of reality.

Remarks

Also include the Post Colonial viewpoint

6

good analysis (structure)

(C) Feminist analysis in IR challenges the "mainstream" theories like Realism, Liberalism, etc. and has given an alternate paradigm for concepts like war and security.

* Conception of security & war

Mainstream theories take a state-centric view of security while feminists take a human-centric view. They believe that women security should be treated at par with state security because women and children are the worst sufferers in a war.

They also believe that incorporation of feminist viewpoint in foreign policy will enable peaceful resolution of conflicts.

This analysis is gaining ground as evident in adoption of feminist foreign

Remarks

Focus on security issues & war

3

You need to write on how military globalization impacts women & how feminism views it

Policy by Sweden, UNSC Resolution 1325, incorporation of women rights in UK's policy during war, etc.

Despite limitations like "add women & stir approach" and ethnographic approach, global community seems to be ~~aggressing~~ agreeing with feminist analysis of ~~the~~ international relations.

(d) Noam Chomsky believes that US hegemony is based on hard-core geopolitics and dirty tactics and not on some noble policies like democracy and human rights.

He has criticized US foreign policy as an attempt to gain hegemony by diverting tax payer resources to weapon manufacturers. He states that US does not hesitate in going to war to protect

Remarks

its hegemony. He adds that USA has still not stopped using terrorists as foreign policy tool to maintain hegemony.

Noam Chomsky has been criticized by Realists who say that anarchical structure and security dilemma forces USA to intervene. Liberals also believe that US's competitive edge in free trade enables it to maintain its hegemony.

You need to analyse how Chomsky over exaggerates the negative side of US while overlooking the positive influence & impact.

(3)

Remarks

3. Answer the following questions:

- (a) Theory of nuclear deterrence is full of shortcomings. What are its major criticisms. (200 Words) (15)
- (b) The solution of terrorism must be global as terrorism has become a global problem. Analyse the statement in context of different approaches for curbing terrorism? (200 Words) (15)
- (c) Comment on the role of Robert Cox and Andrew Linklater to the post-Marxist tradition of international relation? (250 Words) (20)

(a) Theory of Nuclear Deterrence states that possession of nuclear weapons prevents war and ensures peace and stability. This theory is supported by classical and neo-realists. Mao Waltz states that MAD (Mutual Assured Destruction) prevents states from going to war. Mearsheimer adds that second strike capability ensures deterrence.

They cite the non-use of nuclear weapons even during Cold War as success of deterrence theory.

However, Liberals and Social Constructivists do not agree with the realists and they highlight many ~~and~~ shortcomings of the theory.

Remarks

Liberals like Scott Sagan suggest that "nuclear deterrence makes the inevitable mistake more deadly". Liberals have the following issues with Nuclear Deterrence:

1. It requires rational actors and civilian control
2. It does not address non-state actors and accidental use
3. Second strike capability is not guaranteed
4. Effective communication and credibility of a state are key in ensuring deterrence.
5. Its failure will lead to mass murder.

Even Social Constructivists like Nina Tannenwald suggest that since reputation and credibility is crucial, if nuclear deterrence can go either way. It can ensure peace, but can also bring massive destruction.

Remarks



good points but you need to add more arguments like

- It is only a theory, requires confidence
- Gives false sense of confidence in nuclear
- It eventually result in nuclear proliferation

Apart from these, there are other issues like ambiguity with respect to capability of states like Pakistan, North Korea and Israel which prevents effective functioning of deterrence.

(b) Terrorism refers to using violence to achieve political ends (Instrumental approach): It evolved as a foreign policy strategy of states, e.g. USA nurtured Mujahideens in Afghanistan to fight Soviets. But now, it has become a global problem.

Terrorism, as a global problem is evident in the following:

1. Rise of ISIS which wants to establish an Islamic Caliphate, i.e. political goal not local
2. geographical extent of operation has increased, e.g. Easter Sunday attacks in Britain

Remarks

3. Ideology professed is also global in nature, ~~is~~ evident in lone wolf attacks by persons who get radicalized online
4. Use of sophisticated technology like social media to radicalize and get new recruits
5. Organizations like Al Qaeda & ISIS are expanding by "acquiring" local defunct organizations.

Thus, GQASI

6. Earlier states used terrorism as tool of foreign policy, but now non-state actors are themselves emerging as more powerful.

Thus, global cooperation is needed to solve the global menace of terrorism. Different approaches that can be used to tackle terrorism include:

1. Political assimilation

Remarks

2. Economic development to check alienation and provide avenues for growth
3. Respecting social fabric and not imposing western norms as being done by USA.

The geopolitics of terrorism will also need to be addressed as being seen in Syria and Yemen. Adoption of CCIT along with successful treaty negotiations under Nuclear Security Summit could be the way forward.

For short

you need to elaborate

on different approaches (headers)

- Political

- Institutional

- Social

- Financial

with exmples

(6)

Remarks

(C) Both Robert Cox and Andrew Linklater belong to the Lyonsian school and have analyzed the role of culture, norms and civil society in international relations (IR)

Robert Cox believes that all the mainstream IR theories ~~have been~~ like Realism and Liberalism ~~have been~~ constructed to serve the western interests. He believes that no theory can be universal and is ~~specific~~ based on time and space. In his words, "every theory is for somebody and some purpose"

Applying the Lyonsian idea of "hegemony", Cox states that the global order has been 'hegemonized' by the western liberal societies and we are moving towards a uniform value

Remarks

All knowledge must reflect a certain context, a certain time and a certain space

based order which is based on western ideals like democracy, human rights, etc.

He states that not only the order has been hegemonized, but also there is no scope of change in this order. Thus Cox presents a dark-gloomy picture of the world order.

How will this system come to an end?

Andrew Linklater has given his theory as a critique to ~~Cox's ideas~~. He belongs to the 'Emancipatory School' and rejects the dark, deterministic picture presented by Cox.

They are not a critique of each other

Linklater states that not the whole order has been hegemonized. There exists numerous spaces where indigenous norms are followed and where interaction of different indigenous groups takes place.

Remarks

Linklater rejects the territorial boundaries and presents the idea of moral boundaries, free from domination and based on true emancipation of individual.

Thus, we can say that Cox's analysis is more deterministic and takes things as they are. While Linklater, who is also inspired by Young Marx's notion of alienation, presents an alternative paradigm where true emancipation is possible.

He argues for recognizing non national form of discrimination & idea of transnational community

8

Remarks

SECTION-B

Attempt all questions:

5. Answer the following questions in about 150 words each: (10 × 5 = 50)

- (a) Energy Diplomacy of India. Elaborate. *Realism*
- (b) Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. Analyse. *SCOR, MIP, NCF, NCFI*
- (c) Do you agree that we are losing to China in terms of influence in South Asia. Provide arguments. *points*
- (d) How are India and developing countries interests affected by Nairobi package at WTO? Discuss.
- (e) Diplomacy of Buddhism. Elaborate. *SC*

(a) Energy Diplomacy refers to use of energy trade to not only fulfill a nation's energy needs, but also to achieve diplomatic objectives.

India is one of the largest importer of energy in the form of oil, gas, etc. India's energy diplomacy mainly operates in Neo-Realist and Neo-Liberal paradigms.

* Neo-Realist paradigm

1. Agreement for strategic reserves with UAE
2. Good relations with both Shia and Sunni camps in West Asia
3. In return for energy trade, India is also strengthening strategic partnerships

Remarks

In the region

4. Connectivity projects like Khabahar, INSTC, TAPZ fulfil both objectives: energy as well as diplomatic leverage.

* Neo-Liberal paradigm

- 1. With energy & diplomacy, India has also strengthened economic ties, e.g. Saudi Aramco is investing in Reliance
- 2. India has initiated many projects like TAPI, INSTC and OVL recently got its first bid in Central Asia
- 3. India has diversified partners, ranging from Venezuela to Indonesia and Australia, along with West Asia.

Thus, as a major global player, energy diplomacy ^{is} ~~has been~~ is a key component in India's strategy to secure its national interests.

Remarks

6

Good content
 There is no particular need to discuss this with the approach sense / renewable

(b) Mackinder has said that "one who controls Indian Ocean will control the world, as it is the gateway to seven seas", highlighting the crucial role of Indian Ocean in global geopolitics.

Peace in the Indian Ocean is very important as it handles 40% of global oil trade, is home to many fast growing littorals, is very resource rich (e.g. methane hydrate) and has regional rivalries.

* Threats to peace in Indian Ocean

- Threats
- piracy
 - smuggling
 - militarization, e.g. String of Pearls of China
 - growing rivalry between India-China and unfolding of US-China conflict.

Various measures have been taken to ensure peace in the region, like: ~~India's~~

Remarks

2) 1020P is an old concept what is being revisited. Analyse why India should attempt not to revise it

1. SAGAR: security & growth for all in the region
2. IONS, IORA, exercises like MILAN, Malabar, etc.
3. Shangri La dialogue
4. India has launched AAGC with Japan.

India has also assumed the role of 'net security provider' in the region, amidst the growing notion of 'Indo-Pacific' geographical construct.

(c) India's focus on global geopolitics in form of NAM as well as classical Realist foreign policy of ^{PM} Indira Gandhi, led to alienation of our neighbours. This provided space to China to meddle in South Asia, evident in the form of following:

1. Support to Myanmar's military rule → now COCOS Island has Chinese facility
2. China is the largest trading partner of almost all South Asian nations

Remarks

Ingest Investor
Donor
Arm Supplier

3. With BRI, China is utilizing its deep pockets to gain economic & political influence
4. Countries like Maldives & Sri Lanka have had governments which were openly pro-China.

Along with Indian policies, Cartan and Shengal model also explains why "Peripheries" go for balancing "core" by "intrusive powers" like China. Realising the threat India is now trying to reclaim its pivotal position in the region evident in steps like:

1. Neighbourhood First policy & Gujarat Doctrine aim for non-reciprocal engagements
2. India is providing aid, loan, capacity building in the region
3. India has launched AAGC with Japan in which South Asia has critical role
4. India has launched South Asia satellite

Remarks

4

Content needs to have a lot more factual examples
 Need to specifically elaborate why we are losing to China

and is also developing Colombo and Thincumalee ports

5. Defense relation with Bangladesh is also being strengthened

Thus, it may not be fair to say that India is losing to China in influence in South Asia. Rather they are engaged in a healthy competition

(d) Nairobi package at WTO provided a "peace-clause" to India and other developing countries, to continue with government support in food security programs till the time a permanent solution is found.

The positive effects of the package are the following:

1. Ind Nations can continue with their food security programs
2. Since, most-developing nations are agriculture based, their farmers need support to come out of poverty.

Remarks

3. It provides respite from the archaic 1985-86 calculations for subsidies.

However, the package does not solve many problems like:

1. Developed countries disguising their subsidy regimes

2. India has not been allowed SSM (Special Safeguard Mechanism) to handle surge in agricultural imports

3. Doha-round has stalled and no consensus on agriculture seems to be difficult.

To break the stalemate, what can be done is to allow pluri-lateral negotiations and special safeguards for developing nations should be given.

There is no concrete agreement of SSM

Need to include more issues
Public food stock holding mechanism
Restructuring of agri subsidies vs USA
IPR issue on generic medicine

Remarks

34

4

(e) B With the rise of soft power in Indian foreign policy, India is aggressively pursuing its diplomatic objectives through its cultural heritage, Buddhism being one of them.

Diplomacy of Buddhism

1. It comes under Social Constructionism paradigm in which India's status as originator of Buddhism is utilized to better ties with other countries.
2. India has used Buddhist diplomacy in numerous ways:
 - (a) Nalanda University has ~~collaboration~~ from many Buddhist countries
 - (b) ASI restored Buddhist sites in ~~Myanmar and Sri Lanka~~
 - (c) PM Modi visited ~~Sri Lanka~~ for Vesak Day celebration
 - (d) Under Buddhist circuit in Swadesh Sarekha Scheme, India is trying to woo foreign tourists

Remarks

International
Buddhism
Promotion
Dias

(e) India has also established study centres and has cultural exchange programs with SE Asian Countries.

(f) Relation with ~~Japan~~ also has a Buddhist angle.

Thus, Buddhist diplomacy creatively uses India's rich cultural heritage to earn diplomatic capital and goodwill among foreign nations.

Why we are adopting
Buddhist diplomacy?

How will it serve our
Foreign policy interests?

3

Remarks

7. Answer the following questions:

- (a) Discuss the role of MEA in foreign policy making along with a brief description of its specialised structure. *PLUai Coming, Shashi Mishra, 200 Words (15)*
- (b) What is considered to be soft power. Discuss the rise of softpower as a part of the Indian foreign policy? *Joseph Nye (200 Words) (15)*
- (c) Indian commitment to nuclear disarmament remains unchanged from Nehruvian era. How far is it true to assume that the Indian nuclear doctrine is committed to non-proliferation? *Recent remarks of Def. Minister (250 Words) (20)*

(a) Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is the primary foreign policy formulating and implementing body of Government of India. It has its origin to the similar body constituted by East India Company to deal with its external relations in South Asia.

Role of MEA in foreign policy making

1. It is the main coordinating ~~body~~ between information provided by different agencies of government like armed forces, intelligence etc.
2. It has specialized officers (IFS) who man Indian missions abroad as well as assist the minister in foreign policy formulation.

Remarks

3. MEA established Public Diplomacy Division in 2006 to gather inputs from public as well
4. MEA also coordinates with government think tanks like ORF, IPSA to get specialized policy inputs.
5. MEA has established ICCK to cover the soft power aspect of foreign policy.

what are its detailed functions
 take it comes to foreign policy making implementation

Structure of MEA

1. Headed by Cabinet Level Minister
2. 8 secretaries (including foreign secretary)
3. Specialized Divisions: 36, e.g. Public Diplomacy
↳ based on purpose
4. Territorial Divisions
↳ based on territorial division of globe
 e.g. Africa, Central Asia, etc.

The 8 secretaries are assisted by specialized inputs from different divisions as well as from Indian missions.

7

Remarks
 Need - more elaboration on the functions of MEA
 Also elaborate on some of the initiatives he undertake in foreign

However, as pointed out by Shanku Tharoon Committee and NR Pillai Committee, MEA faces various challenges like lack of specialization, less inter and intra ministerial coordination, shortage of manpower, etc. lack of institutionalization of role of PMO, etc. These need to be addressed to bring out the true potential of MEA.

- (b) Soft power is attempt by states to make other states do what they want by their own will, and without force or coercion. Joseph Nye is a key proponent of the idea of soft power.

In line with Social Constructivism school of thought, soft power utilizes the culture, cuisine, communication, tourism, movies, etc. to build goodwill for the nation.

However, unlike hard power, it is more diffused in nature, less controllable and

Remarks

takes time to give results.

It is being widely talked about as a component of Comprehensive National Power (CNP) concept.

Rise of Softpower as a part of Indian Foreign Policy (FP)

Softpower, as a part of Indian foreign policy, has gained prominence after the LPG reforms of 90s.

Earlier during the Non-alignment era of Nehru and Classical Realist policy of Indira Gandhi, soft power was not given much importance in Indian FP discourse, although some efforts were still made, e.g. Raj Kapoor's movies in USSR, gifting elephant to Japan, establishment of ICA, etc.

The vibrant economic growth post LPG reforms made the need felt for ideological backing for India's growing

Remarks

material power. Thus, various efforts were made, including:

1. Buddhist diplomacy with ~~SEACIA~~
2. Bollywood movies centred on AKI's
3. Promotion of Yoga → e.g. 21 June is International Yoga Day
4. Popularity of Indian Cuisine → e.g. 'Butter Chicken diplomacy'
5. Promotion of India's heritage and civilization values
6. Student exchanges & capacity building programs like ITC.

Reserve efforts in natural disasters

These efforts have greatly helped in establishing India on a firm footing in the comity of nations. However, challenges like less resources for devoted for the purpose, negative propoganda by enemy countries, focus on hard power based realpolitik etc. still remain. Addressing these through innovative means, including technology and social media will greatly aid in India's effort to influence the world order.

8

Remarks

What are the limitations of our soft power approach?

Development initiatives in Africa, Afghanistan also has helped enhanced our positive image

(c) Right from the time of PM Nehru, India has been a votary of nuclear disarmament. PM Nehru himself considered nuclear weapons as the "most diabolical use of science".

India's commitment is visible in the following:

1. PM Nehru and Indira Gandhi led efforts for disarmament as a part of NAM
2. ^{PM} Rajiv Gandhi proposed an action plan on Disarmament in UN in 1988 with a target of disarmament by 2010
3. Even after the Pokharan-II tests, India has explicitly included its commitment to disarmament in its nuclear doctrine.
4. India has consistently supported global, verifiable and transparent disarmament as under the genewa based consultation

Remarks

India's Commitment to non-proliferation

Non-proliferation refers to prevention of more states acquiring nuclear weapons because this could threaten world peace, stability and has a risk of mass annihilation.

India's commitment to non-proliferation is questioned because of the following:

1. Not signing global agreements like NPT and CTBT
2. Active build up of stock of nuclear weapons
3. Tests in 1998 despite global pressure not to do so
4. Recently Defense Minister Rajnath Singh remarked that 'No-first use policy' is "not etched in stone", indicating possible changes in India's nuclear doctrine.

Remarks

However, these criticisms are partially correct at best. India's commitment to non-proliferation is evident in the following:

will India sign now agree to it?

1. India is ready to sign treaties like NPT provided they become non-discriminatory in nature
2. India has consistently promoted global, verifiable disarmament under Geneva based consultations
3. Under bilateral agreements with Japan and USA (123), India has committed itself to no further testing
4. India's doctrine has non-proliferation as one of its targets.

Thus, Indian nuclear arsenal is only for protection from hostile neighbours and India is ever ready for non-proliferation and disarmament provided the process is fair and non-discriminatory.

Remarks

10th good arguments
 you need to elaborate on how India's stance has been evolving as per the changing security scenario in its backyard

12

8. Answer the following questions:

- (a) Ideologically and strategically, India seems to be utilising its soft powers better than Pakistan in dealing with their resourceful neighbour, Afghanistan. Comment. (250 Words) (20)
Iran, Pakistan, anti-Taliban propaganda
- (b) Elucidate the major challenges to Indian foreign policy in the Afghan peace process. (200 Words) (15)
Taliban, China,
- (c) Discuss Iran's role as a regional connector. How would you like to evaluate Indian efforts to realize geo-economics of that area. (200 Words) (15)

Soft power is an attempt by countries to make others do what they want without force, and with willingness. It uses tools like cultural exchanges, student programs, capacity building, cuisine, etc. to achieve diplomatic objectives.

Afghanistan is one such theatre where India is carefully deploying its tool of Soft power.

How India is using soft power in Afghanistan?

1. Capacity building programs like ITEC, training of diplomats, etc. have earned India goodwill
2. Indian support for education & sports is greatly appreciated, e.g. Afghan cricket team is based in India.

Remarks

Indian
3. Television programs and Bollywood movies are loved in Afghanistan.

These, and many other such initiatives have helped gain an ideological edge which is as per Sociological liberalism framework, i.e. more communication creating more trust. Even strategically, as per Neo-Realist paradigm, India is securing its investments in the region (HINSTE, Chabab, etc.) by promoting peace & stability.

However, in certain domains of soft power, Pakistan has an edge over India:

1. Pakistan funds most madrasas in Afghanistan which propagate anti-India sentiment.
2. Pakistan has control over many publications which show venom against India.
3. Taliban fighters are under Pakistan's control who hate India.

Remarks

(f) Need to elaborate on a lot more Indian initiatives in Afghanistan

Need a lot more examples

Also comment on hard power

how Pakistan's facts have failed to counter our soft power

Thus, by controlling the means of communication, Pakistan is trying to create an anti-Muslim and anti-Pakistani image of India. India needs to adopt soft diplomacy to counter this propaganda, given that India's strategic presence in Afghanistan is limited, as compared to Pakistan.

(b) Under the Afghan peace process, US is currently negotiating with the Taliban for the ending of 2-decade long war, and withdrawal of US troops and arrangements for subsequent peace in the region.

Trump administration seems to be in a hurry to end the war and the whole process has created many challenges for India.

Foreign Policy Changes for India

1. India, despite being a direct stakeholder in the security and stability in the region has not been made party to the process.

Remarks

This means India has no say in shaping the geopolitics which directly affects India's security and investment.

2. Taliban are in regular contact with China and Pakistan. This has raised worries in India about India's adversaries gaining prominence in the region where India has direct stakes.
3. Afghan government, which is pro-India, has also been sidelined. India worries that about possible takeover of whole of Afghanistan by Taliban once US leaves.
4. Some scholars believe that US just wants that Afghan territory not to be used against USA and is not concerned with a stable regional arrangement. This creates major challenges for India, particularly for its security, Kashmir issue and investments in the region.
5. India is also wary about a possible resurgence of terrorism, particularly

Remarks

in the Kashmir valley, as Pakistan would like to deploy its "out-of-work" terrorists ~~else somewhere~~ else other than Afghanistan.

6. Another core challenge is that India may lose its voice in future in shaping the regional order, which is detrimental to India's aspirations of being not only a regional leader but a global leader.

To tackle these challenges, India will have to do deft walk on a tight rope. India needs to engage all stakeholders in the region including Taliban. To its credit, India started engagement with Taliban by sending an informal delegation to Moscow. But since the time is running short, India needs to be agile to leverage its position to secure its interests.

Proliferation in drug & human trafficking

Also resurgence of Taliban would our connect Central Asia & our would end of our investment in INSTC & cluster will be pointers. Analyse

Remarks

(10)

(c) Iran, with its vast-oil resources and strategic location, is an important power in West Asia. Owing to its geographical location, it acts as a regional connector in a number of ways:

1. It links West Asia, Central Asia and South Asia
2. Through projects like INSTC, it is also emerging as connector between Europe (particularly Russia) and Asia
3. Iran's strategic presence at Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormuz makes it key in sea connectivity, particularly for oil.

Indian efforts for geo-economics

To harness the economic potential and its larger diplomatic objectives, India has initiated a number of steps for geo-economic in the region, including:

Remarks

1. Chabahar port : connecting Afghanistan, Central Asia and bybessing Pakistan
2. INSTC, Ashgabat agreement : India has also signed these
3. Before the US sanctions, India was ^{Sudan} India's third largest oil supplier
4. In the wider region, India has initiated Connect Central Asia policy, capacity building programs, etc.

Evaluation of these programs

1. India's efforts have been inspired from both Neo-Realist and Neo-Liberalist paradigms, quidient in efforts to gain geo-political stake and energy security, investment, market, etc. respectively
2. India is trying to balance other powers in the region like China, Pakistan, Russia, etc.

Remarks

3. However, India's project execution has been slow

4. Also, India is under pressure of USA to not trade with Iran. This reduces India's strategic autonomy as well as diminishes credibility as a regional power.

Thus, India needs to ramp up its efforts through additional deployment of resources and diplomatic capital to stay & hold a stake in the fast-changing geopolitical order in the region.

⑨ Use examples of Chinese connectivity initiatives & analyse why & how far are we lagging behind in utilising Iran's location.

Remarks