

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
1.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 20 questions.• All questions are compulsory• The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it.• Answer the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 words each. Contents of the answer is more important than its length.• Answers must be written within the space provided. <p>Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.</p>
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Name Kunal Aggarwal

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Date _____

Signature Kunal

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REMARKS

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Q1. As a rising China challenges the US primacy in Asia, navigating between Beijing and Washington is a major challenge for India. How shall India respond in order to find a new balance? (12.5 Marks)

China is emerging as a major opposition to the U.S. focused unipolar global politics. It has present economic as well as strategic challenges for the United States. India shares a cordial relationship with US and large land boundary with China. It becomes important for India to strike a balance between the two powers.

China's increasing influence in Indian Ocean region and Eurasia has emerged as a threat to US supremacy. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and AIB, New Development Bank appear to be balancing NATO and Bretton Woods institutions.

India has been projected as China's opposition in the Asian region under Pivot to Asia policy.

Due to the interests of India in both the countries, it is important to ensure a new balance. Similarly, US holds importance for India due to huge IT exports, BPO services and defence relationship.

Remarks

Following are the options that India has:

- India should act as a mediator and play a major role. With India's membership in SCO, the anti-US sentiment would decrease.

- India's policy of non-alignment and neutrality still holds ground where India should not pair with any of the powers permanently.

- India should effectively use its political influence to democratise international institutions and emphasize on rule/law based international order.

The new global order is an opportunity for India to build a strong democratic world order. We must settle existing disputes with China and cooperate for a peaceful society.

Q2. With no substantial development in SAARC, the moment for turning the Bay of Bengal into a zone of regional cooperation would be a right step for bringing South and South East Asia closer. Do you agree? Discuss initiatives taken for enhancing the cooperation in Bay of Bengal. (12.5 Marks)

South Asian Association for Region Cooperation (SAARC) - the member group of 8 South Asian states has been largely ineffective. Major reason for its ineffectiveness of bilateral issues of India with other neighbour. India plays a central role being economically, politically and socially more stable than other members. Failure of a Motor Vehicle Agreement, Anti-terrorism Operation and a free trade across borders led India to look for a SAARC - Pakistan options. India has used Bay of Bengal region as the next development zone.

- Resolving disputes with Bangladesh and settling maritime border issues.

Bring South and South East Asia closer would ensure a functioning organization. It helps India in fulfilling 'Act East Policy'.

Remarks

- This would ensure a stronger economic cooperation leading to flourishing trade through Bay of Bengal.
- It will help India counter China's influence in Indian Ocean Region especially Bangladesh and Myanmar and Sri Lanka.

Following are some initiatives that have been taken

- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a platform of states in Bay of Bengal and includes Nepal and Bhutan.
 - Trilateral highway to connect South Asia with Myanmar and Thailand.
 - BCIM project to build infrastructure for connectivity has been taken with Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar. This will ensure more trade and security. BBIN in South Asia will add to the infrastructure.
- South Asia's cooperation with South East Asia will be mutual help to both. Increased political, defence & economic cooperation will benefit all nations.

Remarks

Q3. India's Connectivity to South East and East Asia is a major challenge to the development. In this reference examine the significance of BCIM project to create a win-win relationship with a special reference to China? (12.5 Marks)

- India's relations with south east and east Asia has been weak because of connectivity.
- In the north and east India is bounded by Himalayas which has made it difficult to build infrastructure in the region.
 - South east is connected only through the Siguiri Corridor/Chickin's neck.
 - Lack of infrastructure even on border of India - Myanmar and India - China.

BCIM project is an infrastructure project which would connect Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar.

- It envisages building of road infrastructure in the region and border areas.
- Connects India with Myanmar and China which will flourish trade.

India's trade with China happens through the sea route which time-taking and

Remarks

resources consuming as well. The project will connect India and China over land route. This will increase trade with China.

In addition,

- India's north eastern region will see better infrastructure and employment opportunities.
- the corridor will help Myanmar, a new democracy, to settle its relations with China and Bangladesh.

However, there has been concern about increasing trade deficit with China and threat of insurgents along the Corridor. The four nations will need to come together to build this infrastructure.

Remarks

Q4. Recent visit of Kenyan President to India further deepens the ties in various areas. Discuss the avenues of engagement and challenges between India and Kenya. How India's engagement in Kenya is different from China? (12.5 Marks)

There has been improving relations between India and Kenya. Recent visit of Kenyan President during the vibrant Gujarat summit has called for an increasing cooperation in many areas.

Following are avenues of engagement

- Kenya has a maritime boundary in Indian Ocean and can provide naval cooperation in the region.
- India can help Kenya in development through connectivity, building social infrastructure.
- Providing pharmaceutical and education to the people of Kenya.

Challenges:

- ~~lack of~~ Poor connectivity between India and Kenya is a major problem.
- Lack of funds with India to invest in the region compared to China.

Remarks

China's investment in the regions differ from India in many respects :-

- ① China's investments are huge and bilateral whereas India has majority invested through organisations / multilateral forums -
- ② China has invested in Urban areas where returns are higher whereas India's investment is in rural areas focussing on development and rural infrastructure.
- ③ There is large scale involvement of private sector from China, whereas Indian private sector is largely absent.

India enjoys a better image for its cooperation with the African Continent. This should be further enhanced for mutual benefit.

Remarks

Q5. Stability in Afghanistan is beneficial for both India and Pakistan in particular and region in general. In this light discuss the significance of Heart of Asia Conference. Also critically analyse the Amritsar Declaration in this regard. (12.5 Marks)

Afghanistan is a land locked country and shares border with Pakistan ~~and India~~ and very small boundary with India. It has been affected by terrorism spread by Taliban, supported by Pakistan.

- Afghanistan is a gateway to central Asia.
- Disturbance in the region has an influence on Pakistan border and destroys the social infrastructure.

Heart of Asia Conference includes 14 nations, and puts Afghanistan at the centre. The conference is held annually to enhance cooperation bet all major states in the region for peace and stability of Afghanistan.

Indian investments in Afghanistan and its connectivity in Central Asia is threatened due to the Afghanistan disturbance.

Remarks

- The conference bring UAE, Iran, Pakistan, Russia, China, India on single platform. It opens huge potential for a real impact.

The latest conference was held in Amritsar Punjab. Amritsar Declaration was adopted by 14 nations to decrease the influence of Taliban and focus on peace resolution of sectarian conflicts.

Remarks

Q6. Rohingya crisis is not just an issue of Myanmar, it is impacting the whole region and India's response to it will determine its aspirations as a South Asian power. In this reference examine the need of India's response and suggest how India shall response to this crisis? (12.5 Marks)

Rohingya are a muslim minority in Myanmar who have faced major crisis in recent times. There have been large scale evacuation & killing of Rohingyas. They have migrated from Rakhine State to India and Bangladesh. Almost

4,00,000 refugees have been living in the India and Bangladesh.

- This has emerged as one of the largest refugee crisis in recent decades.

- There are large scale ~~the crisis~~ humanitarian crisis. Killing of minority children is a major issue.

- They have been living in poor habitations with minimum available facilities and no state rights.

India, to project itself as super power in South Asia needs to handle the crisis. It can not neglect this issue because ..

Remarks

- Incoming refugees may lead to domestic disturbances in India
- Minority persecution needs to be stopped and a superpower can not afford to let it happen
- It can leaprove India's image in muslim majority countries.
- These refugees are prone to extremist and terrorist organisation which could create further challenges.
- Following can be done
 - India should assess its capacity to support refugees and build an international support for them.
 - India should provide support (financial) to Bangladesh to provide humane facilities in camps.
 - International organisations ~~like~~ such as UN and regional organisations like ASEAN should be used to ~~that~~ resolve it with Myanmar.

Remarks

Q7. Does the change in stance regarding Baluchistan indicate a change in India's Foreign policy principles? What are the implications of this move on the Indian relations with Pakistan, China, and the rest of the world? Critically analyse. (12.5 Marks)

India's Foreign Policy of Panchasheel has clearly outlined that India will not interfere in internal affairs of other countries. India had not raised the issue of Baluchistan in Pakistan and their demand of self-determination in 6 decades.

However, recently India had raised this issue when Pakistan has been waging low intensity warfare in India. Pakistan's support to

separatist forces in Kashmir has led India to this step. This marks a change in India's policy from ~~restraint~~ restraint to

active first. ~~This~~ India had ~~not~~ not

supported leaders of Baluchistan but recently open support was granted. This will have implications for India's relation with the world including Pakistan and China.

Pakistan considers Baluchistan as one of its provinces. Indian stance has deteriorated the bilateral relations.

Remarks

- China is a close collaborator of Pakistan and has not stood with India against Pakistan.
- The world may see it as India's interference in internal affairs and this may impact relations with other neighbouring countries.

However, it is as per the historical context that Baluchistan has been an independent state and Pakistan occupied state. India's ~~support to illegal occup~~ stand against illegal occupation of ~~the~~ Pakistan shows its concern for rights of people.

- Baluchistan region if separated would be help for India in reaching West Asian region as well.

India needs to be cautious and ensure a peaceful resolution of disputes. Baluchistan issue will only increase tensions but it can be used as a counter to Pakistan's support to Kashmir.

Remarks

Q8. "If China is allowed to arm-twist weaker states, an international order, that has benefited the world, will erode". Elaborate on the statement in the context of South China Sea. (12.5 Marks)

South China Sea has China as a major power and many other south east Asian states such as Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia. These economies are much weaker in their economic and military power compared to China.

China's recent act of claiming South China Sea as its territory erodes the international order built on equality of states.

The international law of sea allows free passage and use of oceans for trade and commerce to all states.

The international order that has been built after the end of cold war based on cooperation b/w states will deteriorate.

- This conflict will lead to rule of super powers over other countries.

- This will disturb the peace and stable international order as the

Remarks

weaker states are US allies since the Cold war started.

- This may also lead to deterioration of these economies leading to huge problems for the whole world.

South China Sea falls on international sea lines of communication and has huge trade passing through it. It is home to large hydrocarbon reserves as well as rare Earth elements. It is strategically important for India to maintain its influence in Indian Ocean region.

China should follow international law and cooperate with smaller countries in the region. Expansion of China's military & arm-twisting is a threat for all countries and should be resolved collectively.

Remarks

Q9. What seems unconventional to India is now becoming a convention in China-Nepal relations, as the current development of new normal in China-Nepal relations is troubling for India. Critically analyze. (12.5 Marks)

Nepal has been a close friend of India since the Peace treaty signed in 1950. Nepal is a landlocked Himalayan state which has an open border with India,

- Nepal's trade with other countries happens through Indian ports.
- It has a geographical dependency on India as it has a difficult terrain on border with China.
- There are strong historical and cultural connections ~~with~~ between Nepal and India.

However, China has been trying to make inroads in Nepal and establish better relations. It has plans to extend Tibet railway to Nepal to provide them alternative routes for trade. This relationship has possible impact on Indo-Nepal relationship.

Remarks

- Deteriorating relations with Nepal
- China might use Nepal for military alliance future or deploy its military like in Pakistan.
- Nepal has been ~~first~~ ^{second} line of defence against China which will be gone with strong China-Nepal relations.

However, given the historical, cultural, geographical and economic conditions it is highly unlikely that China-Nepal relations are a threat.

Our focus should be on resolving issues with Nepal so that they do not look for alternatives to India.

- Unilateral support will help
- Building infrastructure to connect it with parts would help Nepal and thus improve relations.

Remarks

Q10. Is UN becoming another League of Nations? If yes, then how such a change shall be averted? Discuss in context of UN reforms. (12.5 Marks)

League of Nations was group of super powers made after World War I to avert future wars. It was highly influenced by few nations and was used for their national interest rather than a just global order. United Nations founded in 1945 after World War II for exactly the same purpose i.e. establishing peace and stability in the world.

However, lately it has become a group highly influenced by few powers. -- It has not stood against terrorism in all forms. Comprehensive Convention on Terrorism has been blocked by few states.

-- UN Security Council has five permanent members who can veto any decision of the organisation. It has been abused by the super powers.

Remarks

- UNSC is a small group of only 15 members which does not reflect the multi-polar geopolitical realities of current time.

- African Nations and Asian Nations demand equal powers of negotiations and veto rights.

- Unilateral sanctions, military support by superpowers have not been stopped due to P-5.

- P-5 have supported their allies even with gross inhumane offences like in case of Israel.

Developing world is emerging as strong economic and military power. They are demanding their rights.

- seats in UNSC for India, Brazil, Germany

- More power to African Nations in UN General assembly

It is threat to the world & peace. Democratisation should be embraced in the organisation to keep pace with time.

Remarks

Q11. Is the world coming towards a new multi-polar order with USA as a waning superpower and China-Russia axis as an emerging challenger? What would be the implications of such change for India? (12.5 Marks)

After the end of cold war, and U.S.S.R disintegration, United States emerged as a superpower and the global order became unipolar. This created a vacuum which has occupied by China emerging as a major power with strong economic and military resources. With the

- China-Russia resolving the disputes and increasing collaboration, it is a threat to the influence of US. ~~It will~~
- ~~provide more~~ China is asserting its power in Indian Ocean region, South China Sea.
- Chinese investments in the Eurasian region has been massive.
- Chinese is settling its disputes with its neighbours to focus on global power.

~~As~~ India is a close partner of all the three powers US, Russia and China, it

Remarks

brings new challenges for India like the Cold War era.

- Russia is an exporter of oil, defence to India
- China is an economic partner with huge trade in manufactured goods.
- India is dependant on US for its IT products export and huge investments from US.

India can not afford to neglect any of them.

- India will need to create a balance in the global ~~world~~ order acting as a mediator.

- Non-alignment will come handy for India again..

Remarks

Q12. Brexit has been so far the biggest shock to the European Union when it is already bleeding with the sovereign debt crisis and recession. What were the reasons of Brexit? What are the possible outcomes of the Brexit on England and the European Union?

(12.5 Marks)

Europe has seen major sovereign debt crisis and recession such as one in Greece. In addition, Brexit has been voted for by people of UK.

Brexit is the separation of UK from European Union which is an economic union providing single market to all members!

Following are the reasons for Brexit

- ① ~~UK~~ UK alleged huge benefits to other countries as people migrate to UK for work
- ② UK pays huge contribution to the European Union for membership but alleged that it does not proportional benefits.
- ③ UK businesses and people have not benefited from other countries in the Union.
- ④ ~~For~~ Negotiations in the Union Council were slow this separation is bound to have its impact on trade & investments in the region and UK.

Remarks

- The stock market in UK had crashed after the vote in support of Brexit.
- This will lead to outflow of investments and migration of businesses from UK.
- UK businesses will not have huge market access as they earlier had.

For European Union

- It may trigger an exit trend from EU in other countries like France, Germany.
- Labour ~~and~~ will have to migrate back and there will be problems of unemployment.

This has come out as a concern for India and Indian businesses as well. Europe needs to sign FTAs with other countries and European Union to counter Brexit's impact.

Remarks

Q13. Though BRICS is neither an economic union nor a political coalition, it creates space for India to move the contemporary International Order towards alternative models of development & governance. Comment. (12.5 Marks)

BRICS contains five major developing countries. i.e. Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The group has collaborated and emerged as a major counter to the existing west oriented order. It has worked towards moving the contemporary International order towards alternative models of development & governance.

- BRICS has established New Development Bank which would provide funds to countries. The Bank has provided equal rights to all countries & not the quota based rights in IMF.

- BRICS countries have shown that major powers like India and China can cooperate on developmental aspects.

- Recent combined meeting of BRICS and BIMSTEC in Goa provides Indian an opportunity to increase its influence.

Remarks

- BRICS nations have resolved to cooperate in the field of education as well. It ~~provides~~ has increased its scope from one field to ~~at~~ many others over time.

Remarks

Q14. The US Congress's willingness to designate India as a "Major Defence Partner" represents the culmination of a process that has slowly, but surely brought the two states into a mutually supportive defence cooperation relationship. Discuss the significance of this move. (12.5 Marks)

India is a transitional global power and is in need of defence equipment. Military strength is an important parameter to become a super power as well. Domestic production of defence equipment has been low and

India has been dependent on imports heavily from US, Israel, Japan, France etc.

- India in its neighborhood as Pakistan who is waging low intensity warfare.
- China has been increasing its influence in the Indian Ocean Region.
- India is a natural security provider to the oil corridor in West Asia.
- India needs to secure its maritime boundary and trade from non-state actors as well as states.

~~As a result~~ It is in this light that the US's step to designate India as "Major defence Partner" holds huge defence

Remarks

importance for India. ~~It adds~~

- It puts India on equal status with NATO allies of US in procurement of defence equipment.

- India will have access to high level defence equipment with much ease now.

US has emerged as a close defence partner.
 Recent logistics support agreement and

this status will help India and US move forward in defence collaboration.

Remarks

Q15. What are the reasons of rise of far right wing politics in many developed and developing countries? What does it hold for global politics, economic development and peace?

(12.5 Marks)

Right wing politics embraces protectionist and conservative attitude. They stand to maintain the status quo in the society, world and markets.

After the adoption of Globalisation/liberalisation of economies, both developing & developed world got connected. However, there has been increasing rise of right wing because:-

- ① Industries & business in developing countries has faced huge competition & deteriorated
- ② Developing world sees high budget deficits and unfair practices adopted by developed countries.
- ③ Institutions like WTO, IMF are run by developed countries.

from the perspective of developed countries

- ① They have lost the businesses which have migrated to cheap labour markets.

Remarks

- ① Skilled workers & professionals have migrated from developing countries to developed world.
- ② Labours in developed countries lost their jobs.
- ④ Increasing extremism, fundamentalism in regions. It has huge global political, economic development and peace.
 - ① It will increase conflicts b/w states and people. ~~Leading to~~
 - ② There will be less transfer of technology, investment and ideas.
 - ③ Global order of mutual cooperation and law to trade will fall apart.
- ④ This trend needs to be checked. Problems need to be fixed not through conservatism but cooperation.

Remarks

Q16. "The 1951 Refugee Convention is as relevant today, as it was at the time". How successful has been this convention in protecting the interests of the refugees. Does the world need a new UN convention on refugees? Comment. (12.5 Marks)

The 1951 Refugee Convention provides for refugees rights, their protection from killing and their absorption in other states. The convention has been very helpful in ensuring livelihood of refugees. It shows the humane and empathetic side of the world. Europe had recently allowed refugees from West Asia otherwise they would have been in trouble. America and many developing countries have also accepted refuge. India has accepted refugees even without signing the convention which shows the ideological impact of convention.

The world is changing and the type of refugees and reasons for refugee as well. The existing convention protects refugees from state persecution and war. However, new reasons have emerged: —

Remarks

- ① Environmental refugees who had to migrate due to sea encroachment or excessive pollution.
- ② Disasters have emerged as a major reason of migration and seeking refugee. This involves severe cyclones, earthquake & Tsunami etc.
- ③ Minority migration like LGBT ~~rights~~ groups
 the convention should be appropriately amended to include diverse reasons of refuge and keep up with the needs of time.

Remarks

Q17. Is engaging relation with Pakistan a necessity to solve terrorism problem in Afghanistan and India? Critically analyse. What should be the course of action to achieve peace in the region? (12.5 Marks)

India and Afghanistan has faced terrorism from non-state groups like Jem, Al-Qaeda and Taliban. These groups have been supported by Pakistan ideologically and financially.

Engaging Pakistan will have following benefits

- ① It is central to terrorism in both countries
- ② Issues can be settled & terrorist groups might come on table because of Pakistan's involvement.
- ③ If Pakistan supports India & Afghanistan, their ideological & political support will cut down.
- ④ Pakistan has also faced increasing terrorist attacks from TTPK in its own territory.

However,

- This puts Pakistan on a negotiating table and enhances its credibility as a mediator.
- Pakistan refuses to support these groups

Remarks

and thus might not act as mediator.
 - This groups will look for more sources like ISIS and continue their activities.

Problem of terrorism is emanating from Pakistan but these groups are in this for personal benefits and not state benefits.

Following can be done :-

- ① Financial Action Task Force should be strengthened to stop money laundering which provides financial resources.
- ② Comprehensive Convention on Terrorism pending in UN General Assembly should be adopted.
- ③ Strengthening surveillance on borders will help.
- ④ Involvement of all stakeholders of different sects and ideology should be brought on single platform.

Peace and stability in the region is important for India and the world and must be achieved through global cooperation.

Remarks

Q18. What is Project Europe? With the huge influx of refugees into Europe, it is said that this project is doomed or in a disarray? Critically comment. (12.5 Marks)

Project Europe envisions an integrated union of countries with single market, single currency and free flow of people and trade. It envisions a peaceful, educated and well-developed society in Europe.

- However, the recent influx of refugees into Europe has impacted the Project.
- There has been huge migration from Turkey leading to rise in social problems like unemployment providing them homes.
- It needs huge funds to be invested to settle these refugees.
- The value system of the native European community is different from the refugees leading to conflicts.

Remarks

these refugees. However, provide an opportunity to convert homogeneous European society into a heterogeneous multi-cultural society.

Tolerance and diversity have to be the strength of the society and it should embrace.

Remarks

Q19. In abandoning strategic restraint in favour of strategic proactivism, India is transiting from a strategic doctrine of offensive deterrence to compellence with respect to Pakistan. Is so? What do you understand by this? Discuss. (12.5 Marks)

- India has followed strategic restraint in its defence relations with Pakistan. The Indian border forces only retaliate if there is firing from the other side however, there has changes recently
- Surgical strikes were conducted across the border to destroy the launch parts of terrorists.
 - India has raised the issue of Baluchistan at global level as Pakistani illegal occupation and atrocities.
 - India has worked in G20, BRICS, SAARC to isolate Pakistan due to support to terrorism.
 - India recently tried to designate few people as terrorists in the UNSC, which has been blocked by China.
 - India refused to participate in SAARC summit which was followed by other countries on the pretext of Pakistan's

Remarks

- involvement in terrorism.
- These show the change from restraint to proachivism. This has helped India put global pressure on Pakistan.
- US has cut funding of Pakistan.
 - SAARC nations has supported India.
 - Increasing cooperation b/w India and UAE, which has been major partner of Pakistan.

Remarks

Q20. Despite the WHO declaring Ebola epidemic as an international health emergency, the international effort to stem the outbreak is dangerously inadequate to meet the needs required to control the spread of the virus. Critically analyze. (12.5 Marks)

Ebola epidemic had impacted many African countries. There was a threat of it spreading to other parts of the world. It is a deadly disease and spreads easily.

WHO had declared an international health emergency to stem the outbreak. International effort was put in to check the spread.

- ~~Doctors for~~ travel warnings were issued to people travelling to affected regions
- Screening of people at airports and ports were conducted to stem the spread.

However, the international health emergency called for much more than just controlling the spread.

Remarks

- The developed world majorly protected themselves.
- Not much funds were put in to diagnose and help people.

Remarks