

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

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.

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Understanding is good

Better if you write in your own name

Sorry for the delay

1. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name MATTHEWS  
Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature [Signature]

## SECTION A

1. Answer the following questions: (150 Words Each)

(10 × 5 = 50)

- (a) Enhanced role of India in Afghanistan.
- (b) US-China Trade War and its possible impact.
- (c) A short note on India-South Korea Relations
- (d) Doklam Issue: Lessons Learnt.
- (e) India Maldives Relations: Need for activism with caution.

1. a)

Afghanistan is India's bridge to C. Asia, which helps in energy security. It is a hotspot for terrorism which perpetually plagues India. Economic opportunities are also opening up.

For this reason, scholars like Shashank Joshi have called for an enhanced role for India.

Traditionally Indian role was limited to big developmental projects, small capacity building measures, humanitarian assistance and democracy building. India has built the Salma Dam, Aul-e-Kaumi power line to Kabul, Afghan Parliament, protein biscuits supply, etc

Remarks

Recently India gifted Mi-25 Helicopters to Afghan military, which is seen as an inflexion point for strategic engagement.

However, Ashley Tellez has warned of difficulties. The security environment is precarious, with government controlling less than 60% territory. ~~about~~ recently Taliban rejected call for ceasefire. National Unity government is facing a legitimisation crisis due to clash between Abdullah Abdullah and Ashaaf Ghani - Donor fatigue is causing an economic crisis.

The way forward must be multilateral engagement, due to India's geographical and resource limitations. China, Japan and Russia have shown willingness while USA explicitly mentions India in its 'New Security Strategy'. INSTC (North South Corridor) & Chabahar Port (Iran) are good starting points.

Remarks

what does  
a enhanced role  
mean in this  
context?

what are the challenges  
associated with India  
increasing its sphere  
of influence?

5

b) US administration recently hiked the import duties for steel and aluminium products by more than 25%, mainly targeting China. China has put up ~~ret~~ retaliatory tariffs.

This trade war can have global implications.

At a systemic level, it promotes protectionism, hampering globalization. Realist scholars like Randall Schweller classify US as a status quo power and China as a revisionist power, which makes conflict inevitable. This can provoke an arms race and a new cold war affecting diplomatic autonomy of countries like India.

At a national level, India is directly impacted by the import duty hike. Steel giants like Mittal and Tata have considerable

steel exports.

At a sub-regional level, its impact would be to sharpen US-China rivalry, especially the Indo-Pacific and South China Sea. India is a part of SCO with China, and the "Quad" with USA which can create contradictory pressures. India's growing closeness with US, seen through LEMOA, Malabar exercises, acquisition of ~~\$2 bn~~ \$2 bn worth of Guardian drones, etc can be seen as hostile actions by China.

Former NSA M K Naayagan has advocated embracing closer relations with US, while G. Parthasarathy calls for balancing both sides, which seems more pragmatic.

Don't go generic  
 in report  
 on cases. Possible  
 impacts for all  
 stakeholders in all  
 global economies &  
 order

?

Remarks

c)

South Korea is an economic powerhouse, and a tech and industrial giant. It is a regional rival of China and is a close ally of USA.

Until 1990s, India-S. Korea relations were negligible because of

- ① Cold war. India was with NAM and USSR, while S. Korea was a close ally of USA.
- ② India preferred import substituting industrialisation & autarky while S. Korea preferred an export led growth.

Due to factors like end of cold war, India's economic liberalization, globalization and geopolitical compulsions against China in Asia has forged closer relations.

Economic relations are the cornerstone. S. Korea is a major

investor, best seen in mega investment of ~~20000~~ steel plant in W. Bengal, industrial corridors etc. Bilateral trade has not been significant despite complementary economies. India's uncertain policy environment and restrictions on services in Korea are major causes.

India has openly criticised N. Korean nuclear testing, and lauded the recent rapprochement with Panmunjom declaration. There are no bilateral strategic initiatives, yet strategic cooperation has been negligible.

India as a part of G-4 is a rival of S. Korea for the UNSC seat.

The way forward must be to deepen diplomatic and military engagement. Cooperation in multilateral fora like FAS and RCEP can be used for economic ties.

Remarks

5

Give examples of some of the recent engagements

What are the emerging areas of cooperation?

d) Doklam is the trijunction of India-China and Bhutan which was territorially claimed by both China and Bhutan. India came strongly on Bhutan's side mobilising its military along the border, which forced China to back off.

India has learnt several lessons from this confrontation.

As realists like Mearsheimer says, there is no substitute for military power. Due to close engagement in Indo Pacific, countries like Japan declared open support. US, France, etc released statements supporting respect for sovereignty, which is India's stand. This showed ~~diploma~~ activist diplomatic engagement can bring rewards.

Contrary to popular perception, India simultaneously opened Track-II negotiations with



China, to which quickly defused the situation. China has recently supported a "2+1 dialogue" with dealings with India's neighbours. This showed the importance of linkages between P2P, B2B academia and the DMO-level talks.

As ~~far~~ John G. Garner argued, while India is no pushover, the peace in border will not survive an assault China. China's fighter jets, destroyers and submarines outnumber India 4 to 1. China is also India's second largest trading partner with \$51 bn deficit.

Therefore, India must focus on interdependence, while simultaneously engaging neighbours and other strong states, like 'Quad'.

work on  
pointwise  
margin  
near  
border  
strategic  
refrain  
Bilateral relations with  
India's  
Security  
Proceed

Remarks

3

e)

Maldivees is a part of 'Neighbourhood First' strategy for India. It is an essential part of SAARC, BIMSTEC, FORA, SAGAR, Mausam, etc. ~~Its recent~~

- Recently Maldivees signed FTA with China and returned India's Dhruv helicopters. It has pulled out of Milan exercises with India. President Gayoom has also declared 'Emergency' against the Supreme Court Order supporting ex-President Nasheed, who was considered close to India. This has shown a bias against India, and towards China.

There have been calls for Activism, with opposition parties in Maldivees asking for Indian military intervention against the subversion of democracy.

Remarks

But the pragmatic approach would be tempered with CAUTION. India has been accused by smaller neighbours like Sri Lanka and Nepal of micromanaging their affairs. It paves way for India bashing for later nationalists.

Also, it can lead to ~~one~~ groups identifying itself as pro-India & anti-India permanently, as seen in Awami League and BNP of Bangladesh.

Military solution can lead to disasters, as seen in IPKF experience. It would also unnecessarily antagonize China and create apprehensions among neighbours.

Way forward must be to facilitate dialogue between government and opposition. China is also playing a mediator role, which can be brought on board.

Being  
Alert  
of  
terror

Remarks

4

Focus on the China factors

Cost of India's  
foreign policy

Does India to  
counter the  
Chinese influence  
in Maldives

2. Attempt all questions:

- (a) "Whoever controls Indian Ocean, dominates Asia." Examine the statement in context of need for greater cooperation between democratic powers in Indo-Pacific region. (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (b) New Delhi will need to start delivering on the ground if the India-Africa partnership has to move beyond high level visits. Explain. (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (c) In the light of Contentious issues between Indian and Nepal, discuss nature of engagement between both, is it correct to say India lost geopolitical space to China in Nepal? (250 Words) (20 Marks)

2.a) Donald L. Beal of US Naval war college declared that Indian will be the "strategic heartland" of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Its importance comes from its strategic location. 70% of India's energy imports and most of trade by volume passes through it. Chinese foray through the OBOR, Maritime Silk Route and Kra canal show that Chinese presence will only increase. 'String of Pearls' military bases of China from Colttagong, to Guadar and Djibouti has created fear of encirclement of India.

At the same time, there

Remarks

is huge potential for cooperation among "democratic" powers of USA, Japan and Australia.

They have collectively formed the Quad. All have similar geo-political stake in the region. US considers the 'Indo-Pacific' as key to the 'Pivot to Asia' strategy. Japan is wary of Chinese assertion, as seen in Senkaku/Diayou dispute. Australia has identified India as a key partner in its Navy white paper, giving refuelling facilities for India.

India's present policy is ~~not~~ to engage in strategic engagement with the Quad, as seen in the Malabar exercises. Cultural component is added through Project Mausam and TORA. India has signed LEMOA with US and is considering COMCASA and BECA.  
Military deals like Guardian

Remarks

You need to write more on QUAD

what are the opportunities

Inhibition of each member regarding

Quad specially India

7

drones and US-21 aircraft is also underway.

While there is convergence in interests for security cooperation, the way forward is not to unnecessarily antagonise China which is the largest trading partner of all Quad members. PM Modi also recently reiterated this.

b)

India and Africa share historic and cultural ties. It is very rich in natural resources, helping food security and energy security. It has 6 of world's fastest growing economies as per World Bank, showing potential for trade and investment. Diplomatic support for UNSC and NSG membership is also valuable.

India's present approach was mostly "developmental".

India has initiated technology and capacity building programme like ITEC, Team 9, AARD skill development, etc. Solar Mamas and ISA (solar alliance) are recent areas of cooperation.

However, as C. Rajamohan has pointed out, there is a wide gap between proposed objectives and ground results and reality. There have been huge time and cost overruns.

This has paved way for countries like China to outdistance India increasing its economic and diplomatic footprint exponentially. For example, China Africa trade is more than \$200 bn while India - Africa trade is only \$72 bn.

The way forward must be a commitment for time-bound service delivery. Engagement with other like minded countries like Japan, as seen in the

recent Asia Africa Growth Corridor is a good start. China has also expressed willingness for cooperation which can be engaged wherever possible. G2G dialing must be supplemented by B2B and people to people linkages. Africa studies has been relatively neglected.

Also, the <sup>Am</sup> present focus on capacity building and "developmental approach" must be stepped up to political and security cooperation especially in the Indian ocean region. India must engage African Union as an entity as well.

good analysis  
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 ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓  
 ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

Talk about the new & a comprehensive approach to challenge the Chinese. Check scale diplomacy.

Remarks

9



c) India and Nepal has had long historical linkages. Its porous borders have led to intermingling of cultures. Nepal is a part of 'Neighbourhood First' policy, SAARC, BBIN, BIMSTEC, ~~SAARC~~ SASEC, ~~BBIN~~, etc. India is Nepal's largest trading partner and crucial transit corridor for its exports.

Yet, there has been several contentious issues.

\* Michael Mandelbaum's "strong state/weak state" pattern is applicable for India and Nepal, with Nepal trying to distance itself being suspicious of Indian actions. Indian diplomats ~~to~~ have been accused of trying to micromanage domestic affairs.

Nepal is dissatisfied with the Friendship Treaty which is considered anachronistic. It denies it autonomy in foreign and

military affairs.

India is dissatisfied with the 2015 ~~new~~ Nepal constitution which discriminates against the Terai region. The consequent Madheshi blockades and India's poor response worsened relations.

India considers Nepal as within its exclusive sphere of influence and often overreacts whenever Nepal politicians play the China card. ~~India is unhappy~~

There is dissatisfaction in power sharing agreements. India has refused to buy power from China built projects.

Nepal's domestic politics especially nationalists and Maoists have often resorted to India bashing.

~~China~~ For these reasons India is said to have geopolitical space to China. China has signed a Transit agreement with Nepal.

It has recently conducted military exercises. Nepal is a part of OBOR. China is involved in infrastructure creation, especially in power sector.

However, as SP Muni pointed out, India need not press the panic button with each engagement with China. India's approach is solely geopolitical and takes an exclusively security perspective. India must move towards an environmentalist perspective to build cooperation. Nepal studies and open-border tourism must be promoted. India must assure Nepal's identity and interests will not be compromised, increasing trust, while showing the inevitability of geography, which can be beneficial.

Analyze the critical mistakes of India made from the start which led to rise of an China Model.

what measures are being taken to reverse this?

Remarks

8

Attempt all questions:

- (a) Examine to what extent BRICS has been successful in fulfilling its objectives and what new measures are needed to protect its relevancy.  
(200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (b) Discuss the various dimensions of 'Action Oriented Partnership' of India with Japan.  
(200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (c) What are the challenges associated with adopting an aggressive strategic approach towards Pakistan on the issue of cross border terrorism as a long term measure.  
(250 Words) (20 Marks)

4. a) BRICS refers to an economic grouping which was estimated to grow faster than the G-7 by 2050, in a paper by Goldman Sachs.

Its main objectives are to promote a multipolar global order. They call for reform of west-led financial institutions like IMF and World Bank. It wants to promote economic and diplomatic cooperation on wide range of issues from WTO to climate change. It seeks to promote North-South and South-South cooperation.

It has had some successes

Remarks

to its credit. They have established the Brics Bank to ensure investment and funding for infrastructure and development. They have come up with the Joint statement against Terrorism. Economic ties have also increased, with China becoming the biggest trading partner of most members.

However, Joseph Nye predicted that BRICS will not become a serious political grouping because of diversity of members and significant geopolitical fault lines. India and China are rivals. Size of economy is very different, with China's GDP five times that of India and more with other BRICS members are "rule-takers" rather than "rule-makers" with role limited to "non-decision making". Haash Pant agrees, saying it is now struggling to retain relevance.

However, as Ashok Sajankar argues, it has huge potential and

Remarks

Russian China  
 Issues  
 Brazil India  
 A.S.A. problem

can regain relevance through reforms. Functionalist approach through trade and investment can reduce internal tensions. Evolving a common position on global challenges like Terrorism and Climate change is necessary.

Informal meetings on the side of recent events at Sochi or Wuhan must be ensured. Para-diplomacy of regional units ~~can~~ have high potential, because the states <sup>are</sup> not affected by geopolitics.

8

Talk about  
their achievements  
Initiatives in Non-  
Route / Non-strategic  
areas of cooperation

b)

India-Japan relations have undergone a paradigm shift since the end of Cold War. Japan is an economic powerhouse, the 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy; 3<sup>rd</sup> largest investor, 3<sup>rd</sup> largest aid donor. It is a strategic ally in the Asia Pacific due to its India & Japan's

mutual rivalry with China and the absence of bilateral irritants.

The new "Action Oriented Partnership" with Japan has several dimensions.

C. Rajamohan has pointed out that despite economic potential, it is strategic ~~needs~~ cooperation which has brought India & Japan together. Japan has invited India to be a part of "Quadrilateral" dialogue with US and Australia. Japan unequivocally supported India's sovereignty (eg. during Doklam case) and issued joint statement against terrorism. Malabar exercises & the recent joint Vision 2025 statement are positive.

Military deals like the US-21 aircraft is becoming key, with the new security outlook of PM Shingo Abe.

Infrastructural investment is a major component. A special desk has been formed in Commerce Ministry for Japan. Japan is already part of DMIC and other upcoming industrial corridors like DFC, AEC, etc.

Private investment from Japan has been facilitated as seen in the recent deals of Soft Bank.

~~Present~~ Bilateral trade is expected to reach \$50 bn by 2020 ~~however, present trade is not much.~~

Joint international forays like the Asia Africa Growth Corridor has been envisaged.

Civil nuclear cooperation is a major component, because of Japanese expertise in Calandria reactor vessels.

Reform of international institutions like ~~G-4~~ UNSC is envisaged through participation in G-4.

However, the present relations especially economic ties are much below potential, when compared to China-Japan trade of \$350bn trade. Though cultural component is emphasised, tourism has not picked pace. Red tape in Indian economy is cited as a major



kurdle for investment.

Despite this, a neorealist perspective of the "structure" of international politics predicts a closer relationship ties, according to Harsh Pant.

9  
 good examples but not the major determinant of the relationship. Wrote more on China factor. Talk about Indo Japan vision 2025.

c)

After the Uri and Pathankot attacks, India has adopted an aggressive stance on Pakistan and terrorism. Pakistan continues to support anti-India groups like LeT and Ju D. Hafiz Saeed and Mazood Azhar has not faced any meaningful action. Kashmir valley is more restless in recent years, and India sees a Pakistani hand.

India's policy towards this has been

① Low level military action like "surgical strikes", and "bullets"

Remarks

"no war for bullets" approach for cross border firing.

② Intense campaigning in multilateral fora. eg: BRICS declaration against terrorism.

③ Engaging traditional allies of Pakistan like Saudi Arabia, UAE, Turkey and Iran to weaken its ideological & financial support. eg: Recent joint statement with Saudi against terror.

But such an approach has challenges.

It weakens the democratic elements in Pakistan, lowering chance for "democratic peace". Ayesha Siddiqui shows, aggressive moves of India only strengthen the influence of military and the conservative elements.

It draws Pakistan closer to China which is China recently allowed Pakistan to manufacture JF aircrafts and the \$60bn CPEC violates Indian sovereignty.

It will only incentivise disruptive behaviour in Afghanistan, SCO, SAARC, etc where India has significant stake.

Even in utilitarian terms, an aggressive approach has not stemmed the terror activities or propaganda, but only fuelled it.

Dr M K Narayanan the ex-NSA argues that Pakistan should not become the centrepiece of India's policy. Conventional tit-for-tat is ineffective. He advocates evolving a "counter-force doctrine" and developing "cybersecurity & warfare" capabilities.

Rajesh Basra advocates increasing people to people ties. Military level engagements like DAND talks must be promoted because they hold the key to peace. At the same time, US and China can be engaged in areas like Afghanistan, to give them an equal stake against terrorism.

10

Remarks

Talk about fear of next attacks in retaliation  
 & possible negative internationalization of the issues  
 India would not want

## SECTION B

5. Answer the following questions: (150 Words each)

(10 × 5 = 50)

- 20 years of BIMSTEC.
- Is there a decisive shift in India's Palestine Policy? Discuss.
- The Potential for South-South Technical Cooperation between India and the Latin American region
- Issues in India-USA bilateral trade.
- India and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)

5a) BIMSTEC is a group of countries surrounding the Bay of Bengal mainly. It consists of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand and Sri Lanka. It links S. Asia and S.E. Asia.

BIMSTEC has focused on economic and technical cooperation. An F.T.A in goods has been signed. FTA for services and investment is under negotiation. It has identified 14 priority sectors including Tourism, Energy, Agriculture. People to people linkages is a special component. Infrastructure agreements like IMT, Trilateral highway and Kaladan project has been signed.

Remarks

BIMSTEC has had renewed importance to India in the background of the dysfunctional state of SAARC. India is free from rivalry with China and Pakistan. The presence of Myanmar and Thailand serves as a link to ASEAN. It is also instrumental for developing India's North East, and easing the choke of the chicken neck Siliguri corridor.

Despite its potential, the progress has been slow. Delays in implementation of projects like Kaladan and hesitations of Bangladesh to provide transit agreement are reasons. Intra region trade is only 5%, while for East Asia, it is 35% of total.

Therefore BIMSTEC deserves a higher place in foreign policy priorities.

Two less meetings  
Internal & international  
Pohangya crisis  
Nepal is reluctant  
of Article

b) Palastine policy of India was always tied up with India's Arab

policy, suspicion of US motives and distaste for the ethnonationalism based on Religion of Israel. Support for Palestine was advocated by Gandhi and Nehru.

Since the end of cold war and economic reforms in India, India's policy has changed. C. Rajamohan views the abstention at UNHRC vote in 2015 & 16 as a paradigm shift away from Nehruvian moralism and idealism, towards a realistic foreign policy. Israel consistently supported India on Kashmir, supp helped during Kargil War and now has become 2nd largest defence supplier. It provides high end arms like Phalcon AWACS, co-development of Barak-8, and agriculture techniques for micro irrigation. PM Modi's visit ~~was~~ to Israel was declared as the final evidence for it.

9

Remarks

You need to elaborate on the changes in west Arab geo politics which has helped bring this change Arab countries are no longer enthusiastic about relations

However, as Nicolas Blaseel argued, India's policy still retains its traditional elements. Saudi and Iran are important for energy security and the Muslim minority in India. It is important to reduce support for Pakistan and terrorism - financial and ideological.

This was best seen in the recent vote against US and Israel when President Trump declared Jerusalem as the new capital of Israel. Thus, its old policy has not been fully abandoned.

c) Latin America is called the last frontier for Indian diplomacy. Though some were a part of NAM, Latin American countries often sided with the US in the Cold War. Also geographical distance and lack of democracy hindered engagement. With the advent of globalization, end of cold war,

political changes in L. America and economic reforms in India, there is high potential for cooperation.

As Deepak Bhojwan notes, there is high complementarity in energy, natural resources and services sectors. India can diversify its export destinations.

There is an absence of political disagreements. L. America has highly developed agriculture and food industry and expertise in storage and exportation.

Presently 16% of crude oil imports come from L. America.

Multilateral engagement is increasing, as seen in BRICS with Brazil and G-77. In the PM's 2017 visit, India was made an observer state in Pacific Alliance. They have reiterated support for UNSC reform and NSG membership. Agreements on telemedicine, tele-education and



e-governance show promise.

However there are stumbling blocks. The lack of direct shipping lines along with geographical distance hampers trade. China has already made deep forays into the region. Cooperation lacks a political and strategic dimension. India's high tariffs are causing them concern. There is also a deficit in language skills for Spanish and Portuguese. These must be solved to reinvigorate the relations.

Talk about

new emerging

area

operator

Renewable

Diplomacy

Space

Nuclear Power

d)

USA is India's largest trading partner with more than \$70bn bilateral trade. India enjoys a surplus of \$20bn, driven by services exports.

India's items of export range from pharma and software services, iron and steel to precious stones. US's main items are automobiles,

Remarks

4

manufactures, food products, luxury goods, ~~etc~~ solar panels, technology products, etc

Despite strong relations, there has been some issues:

India's IPR policy is still a prickly point. US requires patent provisions beyond WTO norms. India's generic drug manufacturers and refusal to renew patents of life saving drugs have caused discontent. India ~~is~~ often figures in the USTR Special 301 report and watchlist. US has taken India to the WTO over solar panels acquisition issue, whereby US alleges discrimination.

Recently US hiked the import duty of steel and Aluminium products by 25% and more. US has demanded decrease in taxes for automobiles and luxury motorcycles.

India's service sector is affected by US's new immigration laws and restrictions on H1B visa.

~~Despite the obstacles~~

These obstacles must be dealt with amicably to maximise cooperation.

~~Solar dispute  
what are the initiatives being taken to resolve the issues~~

65

e) RCEP is a regional economic grouping between ASEAN and six of its FTA partners, i.e., India, China, Australia, New Zealand, S. Korea and Japan.

It aims to minimise or eliminate import duties and streamline port procedures. However, there have been some issues:

India is worried about China flooding India with goods if import duties are eliminated. Other ASEAN countries are also primed for exports, which Indian domestic manufacturing isn't. India's south east can also be affected.

Remarks

~~Add  
RCEP is effectively a FTA with China which India doesn't want~~

3

Attempt all questions:

- (a) Discuss India's role in Defence cooperation in SCO. (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (b) What are the emerging complications for India in US-Iran declining relations. (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (c) India-ASEAN relationship is more show than substance. Discuss. (250 Words) (20 Marks)

6.a) SCO is security grouping including China, Russia, India, Pakistan and C-Asian powers headquartered in Shanghai.

It is seen as a rival to NATO led by the USA. Its main objectives are to ensure security of members deal with challenges of terrorism, drug trafficking, money laundering, etc. It works to insure a multi polar world. For India, it also helps overcome access to the energy rich growing markets of C-Asia.

India's role in defence cooperation is multifaceted. RATS, the security wing of SCO recently held "Joint Counter Terror Exercises" in Russia which are a

Remarks

top priority of Indian foreign policy. Cyber security is also focussed, as seen in last years Xiamen cyber-terrorism drill. It paves way for multilateral cooperation against terrorist individuals, as declared by Astana declaration last year. Pakistan had to declare Hafiz Sayeed's organisation as illegal to join.

It is a forum for India to highlight its security concerns, especially regarding Pakistan and China. It is a vital source of information regarding security situation in Central and South Asia. Also greater engagement with C. Asia in defence can help create a positive climate for North South Transport Corridor.

However, S.C.O is a China-led institution. It does not recognise state-backed terror like that of LeT.

Remarks

9

Authoritative challenges security with cooperation Pakistan increased of China in whole of S.C.O

Suhasin Harder points to 3 contradictions for India

- ① Regarding OBOR and CPEC, which India opposes
- ② Increasing India-US ties and 'Quad' grouping
- ③ India-Pakistan rivalry can spill over.

These must be dealt with in a cooperative atmosphere to increase India's effectiveness.

b) Recently, the US administration announced withdrawal from JCPOA, or the Iran Nuclear Deal, which was agreed to by P5 + Germany and EU. The main reasons cited were:

- ① It does not deal with Iran's missile program
- ② It does not deal with Iran's nuclear programme after 2025.
- ③ Iran did not restrict the work of IAEA supervisors.

④ Iran's role in Syria and Yemen. India and EU expressed disappointment. It will have several emerging complications.

Iran was India's 3rd largest supplier of hydrocarbons in 2017. CAATSA sanctions of ~~the~~ US will sharply reduce it, for affecting India's energy security.

Iran has recently declared the US unreliable and can restart its nuclear program, destabilising the middle east.

Oil supply will sharply reduce causing price rise and unpredictable atmosphere, causing inflation.

India is engaging Iran in infrastructure projects like the Chabahar Port and INSTC (North South Corridor) which will improve access to C. Asia. These will be stalled.

Iran is a crucial stakeholder in Afghanistan's stability, which is a key area of interest for India.

US sanctions on Iran is a zero sum ~~game~~ situation for India. If it makes the choice to abandon one party for the other. Christine C. Fair has argued that India can use its historical ties and good relations to act as a mediator and ensure the crisis does not spill over or reach a breaking point.



Work more on CAFTA  
 Impact on India  
 Connect Polity  
 Central Asia  
 As been official  
 Indian stand on this

c)

ASEAN is an economic grouping of S.E. Asian states. Indian relations with ASEAN started from 1990s, with the end of Cold War and economic reforms.

Present ties are driven by economics. Bilateral trade is around \$72 bn India



is engaged with the RCEP which consists of ASEAN and its FTA partners. India engages in EAS and is an observer of APEC. ASEAN - Asean India Action Plan 2016-20 is the guiding document. Tamir Kaloua section of IMT highway has been linked with ASEAN. Green Fund, Science Fund and a Technology Fund has been established. Recently Space cooperation, ~~and~~ disaster management and mineral exploitation has started with RESOURCE SAT and OCEAN SAT.

However, it is said to be more show than substance. India prefers bilateral deals and has strong relations with Singapore and Vietnam which is now strategic level. It has not achieved it with ASEAN itself. Even the trade is declining from \$80bn in 2011 to \$72bn in 2016. China's trade is \$450bn.

RCEP progress has been delayed and India is accused of being obstructionist. Also, ASEAN is part of China's sphere of influence despite its antagonism, with them part of OBOR and ~~AS~~ Maritime Silk Route.

India must remove stumbling blocks in economic ties, especially RCEP, while increasing cooperation to political and strategic levels, especially regarding sovereignty, sea lanes of communication and Terrorism.

Discuss the  
 limitations &  
 hindrances from  
 both sides

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Need for India to engage  
 as net (reliable)

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Security partner.

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Services Trade  
 FTAS

(9)