

NEXT IAS

(To be filled by candidate)

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Roll No. : MT24 PSIL1009 Date of Exam.: 23-08-2024

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Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐ Bhopal ☐ Jaipur ☐
Mukherjee Nagar ☐ Prayagraj ☐ Online ☒

CSE (MAINS) TEST SERIES-2024

Test-07	POLITICAL SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Dated : 11-08-2024	

Time Allowed : Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

(Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions)

There are **EIGHT** questions divided in **Two** sections and printed in **ENGLISH**.

Candidate has to attempt **FIVE** questions in all.

Question No. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any **THREE** are to be attempted choosing at least **ONE** question from each section.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

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 a medium other than the authorized one.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of question shall be counted in sequential 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 Question cum Answer (QCA) booklet must be clearly struck off.

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(For filling by Examiners only)

Q. No.	Page No.	Max. Marks	Marks	Total	Signature
1. (a)	4	10			
1. (b)	6	10			
1. (c)	8	10			
1. (d)	10	10			
1. (e)	12	10			
2. (a)	14	15			
2. (b)	17	15			
2. (c)	20	20			
3. (a)	24	15			
3. (b)	27	15			
3. (c)	30	20			
4. (a)	34	15			
4. (b)	37	15			
4. (c)	40	20			
5. (a)	44	10			
5. (b)	46	10			
5. (c)	48	10			
5. (d)	50	10			
5. (e)	52	10			
6. (a)	54	15			
6. (b)	57	15			
6. (c)	60	20			
7. (a)	64	15			
7. (b)	67	15			
7. (c)	70	20			
8. (a)	74	15			
8. (b)	77	15			
8. (c)	80	20			
Grand Total					

Remarks

Observations:

SECTION-A

Write the following question in about 150 words.

Q.1 (a)

Evaluate the role of PMOs in formulating India's foreign policy.

(10 marks, 150 words)

PMO (Prime Minister's Office) is the nucleus of the executive decision making.

PMO is the highest central decision making authority. PMO is guided by the inputs of NSA, NEC and the principle advisor of Prime Minister.

Recently, the role of PMOs in formulating Indian foreign policy has increased. According to Sahabuddin Haider, PMO is no more paddling to the instructions of NSA.

example - there has been increase in visits, role of the security establishments etc.

Managing the bilateral relations with
neighbourhood.

Henry Morgenthau has acknowledged
the role of Actors in shaping foreign
policy. eg: Pt Nehru - Panchsheel and
NAM, Ek amral - amral doctrine &
PM Modi - high octane diplomacy.

However, as per Structural Realism
(Kenneth Waltz) the structures constrain
the action of actors eg: no
drastic change in of PMO with
the notion of 'strategic autonomy'
(earlier non alignment to present
multi-alignment).

However, PMO acts as a strong
executive decision making body to chart
the foreign policy to find rightful
place in community of nations.

Q.1 (b)

Examine the need to revise the India-Bhutan Treaty of perpetual peace and friendship.
(10 marks, 150 words)

Bhutan is an important Himalayan
neighbour which acts a buffer
state between India and China.

India-Bhutan treaty ~~was~~ is
a sign of cooperation with the
Himalayan neighbours with deep
economic, cultural, strategic and
security contacts.

But because of the present
change in the relations, because
of the involvement of China
interest, there is need to revise
the treaty.

It is said that, winds of
change are blowing in the Himalayas.
India is directly ~~and~~ engaging with

China for border talks. China is providing a package deal in exchange of Doklam. India is concerned whether Bhutan can manage China's charm offensives.

Because of Bhutan's concern over environment, our BBIN-MVA project is not operational. There is growing unemployment in Bhutan and fear of Chinese assertiveness is swaying the tendency of Bhutan to grow nearer to China.

There changes calls for reviving the India-Bhutan treaty. However any such change should follow the neighbourhood first policy and principle of non-reciprocity.

* we can change friends but not neighbours.

Q.1 (c)

Discuss the recent initiatives undertaken to ease the tensions in India-Nepal relations.
(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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India-Nepal relations are famously regarded as Roti-Beti ka Rishta, because of the deep cultural connect and ties.

Due to the growing Chinese influence and the political opportunism by the Nepali politicians there has been ~~growing~~ tensions in the relations. E.g. Kalapani disputes, border issues with respect to India's road agreements scheme.

India's initiatives like growing hydro cooperation with Nepal e.g. timely completion of the Pancheshwar projects.

more access to the Nepali goods in Indian markets, to

increase the economic ties to
better our relations.

Increase cultural connect like
Ramayana circuit, temple construction,
student exchange programmes. India
also develop infrastructure in Nepal
through developmental assistance.

However, to further boost relations
and ease tension, we need to stop
looking Nepal through China's angle
(SD Muni - we don't have Nepal
policy, Nepal is part of China's
policy of India)

There is need to stop micromanagement
of Nepal's relations, which is a reason
for trust issues.

we can adopt principle of
non reciprocity to resolve border disputes
which can improve our relations further.

Q.1 (d)

Write a short note- Role of public opinion in Indian Foreign Policy formulation.
(10 marks, 150 words)

Foreign policy making is a complex phenomenon. It involves different players and processes.

Public Opinion can act as one of the important factor in foreign policy formulation. It act as a soft power, hegemony in the minds of the people in favour of India. (Gramsci - manufacturing consent)

Public opinion can be built by direct public diplomacy (where government engages with the people), or by P2P contact, soft power etc.

Public diplomacy is old as time of Kautilya, where he focus on the role of the king to listen to the people. Similarly,

current PM Modi' foreign visit where he directly engage with the people, diaspora & form public opinion.

It helps in image building of India which attracts foreign investments like FDI, businesses setting up in India, tourists coming to India etc.

It helps in demystifying the myths like India's regional hegemony etc and help in improving with relations with neighbours (dialogue - leading to trust building)

However, India is currently functioning below its weight. It has to focus more on public diplomacy (increased funding and people) to shape public opinion as foreign policy options.

Q.1 (e)

India as a leader of NAM. Comment.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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Non-aligned Movement is considered as the first example of south-south cooperation.

It is a group of developing countries that come together as an alternative to cold war politics of alliance either with USA or USSR.

India was the founding member of NAM. The Bandung principles 1961 have been heavily drawn its inspiration from the Panchsheel

India has been the leading role in forwarding the agenda of NAM in its different phases.
eg: During the 70s and 80s, India

put forward the idea of NIEO (new international economic order) for the eradication of global poverty.

Simultaneously during 80s and 90s India advocated for disarmament.
Because of the soft medium and raising & showing, India able to develop Nuclear tests (PTBT)

Currently, India participated in both Annual anniversary where former MoS gave the template of future cooperation - Climate change, Pandemics and cyber Terrorism.

Recent, both NAM Summit and Sampriti declaration reflect India's role as leader of NAM.

Q.4 (a)

In what ways does India's foreign policy continue to navigate the delicate balance between idealism and realism? (15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

A country without foreign policy is like a ship in deep ocean without the knowledge of direction.

Indian foreign policy like any other foreign policy tries to ^{preserve} ~~fulfill~~ its core national interest (Hans J. Morganthau).

To preserve, protect and promote India's national interest, it requires fine balance and navigation between idealism and realism. Since, independence, Indian foreign policy has been doing that as evident through the 'Non aligned approach' that India took to sail through the choppy waters of cold war politics.

Non alignment was not just an idealistic posture (as criticised by JN Dixit as Naïve Idealism) but it was also based on the realistic assessment of the cold war position. (Shyam Saram).

The core objective of Non alignment was to safeguard India's strategic autonomy. India was at principled distance with both USA and USSR.

Indian foreign policy continued to navigate the delicate balance between idealism and Realism.

Today India follows Nonalignment 2.0 or "multi-alignment".

India is safeguarding its strategic autonomy through multiple alignment.

India's idealism reflected in its cooperation with Global South, African developmental assistance, cooperation for climate change, SAGAR initiative in Indian Ocean region.

India believes in liberal institutionalism (UN and multilateral institutions). On the other hand, India is participating and member of groupings like QUAD to safeguard its national interest in the Indian Ocean. (This reflects India's realism).

Though, the growing Chinese assertiveness ~~is~~ is creating challenge to India to maintain the free balance, India through its 'multialignment' approach able to safeguard its strategic autonomy or national interest.

Q.4 (b)

Hydropolitics impeding regional cooperation in South Asia. (15 marks, 200 words)Candidates
must not write
on this margin

South Asia is regarded as one of the most disintegrated region of the world, only after middle East.

It is least integrated because of the lack of regional cooperation among the South Asian countries. The intra regional trade is only 5%.

There are various impediments to this regional cooperation, out of which hydropolitics is one important impediment.

According to Brahma Chellaney, future wars are going to be water wars. Water is turning to be highly securitised in the South Asia region.

The member countries of South Asia are dependent on water (agriculture mode of economy). Hence, water has become an important economic & strategic issues.

India has Indus water treaty with Pakistan, which is considered one of the ~~most~~ best example of hydro-cooperation. ~~But~~ due to the current tensions with Pakistan, there are issues.

Pakistan objects India's projects (run off the river projects) like Kishenganga, Rattle on the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab). Pakistan also unilaterally violating the treaty by bypassing the graded dispute resolution mechanism.

With Nepal, Hydrocooperation can become the strongest pillar for cooperating with Nepal. But due to Nepal politics, hydrocooperation is difficult. Nepal constructs India's plan and projects in Nepal earthquake prone region (example - delay in Panchewar projects).

With Bangladesh, we share more than 54 rivers. Teesta sharing is a deterrent for hydrocooperation.

China is building dams along the Brahmaputra near Namcha Barwa is reluctant to share information.

Since Indian Subcontinent is a natural peninsular bloc, hydrocooperation is imperative for regional cooperation.

Q.4 (c)

Analyse how political instability in Myanmar affects regional security, with a particular focus on its implications for India. (20 marks, 250 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Myanmar is considered as the golden gate to South East Asia. With the military coup in Myanmar and political instability, there has been growing insecurity in the region.



Since Myanmar shares border with our North Eastern States (Nagaland, Manipur), there has been growing illegal immigration.

This cross border illegal immigration creating security issues in the region. The ~~not~~ Naga insurgents are having safe hideouts in Myanmar. There has been cross border movement of arms and ammunition, creating

crime security concerns in insurgency affected North Eastern states.

Myanmar and the region is famous for drug trade (Golden Triangle). This has given boost to ~~the~~ organised crime and money laundering (cross border cash flows).

With ~~politically~~ unstable Myanmar, cooperation to curb these illegal arms and drug trade has become a challenge for Indian security forces in North East.

Tribal projects in Myanmar and South East Asia are languishing.
Example - Kaladan multi modal project which connect Kolkata to Sittwe and then to Mioram is affecting cross border movement

of goods and trade.

The India - Myanmar - Thailand trilateral highway project is also at halt. It acts as a bridge between South Asia and South East Asia.

The halting of such projects has not only affected the regional development of India's North East but also affected geopolitical objectives of India's such as Look East and Act East.

India's connectivity to the North East reduced, because of the overreliance on Siliguri corridor (Chicken Neck). The transit projects offer an alternative to India's Siliguri dilemma (closer to Doklam where China has

deep interest).

The maritime security in the Bay of Bengal has also affected the closer link of Tatmadaw (military junta) with Chinese establishment, concerns India with respect to rule based world order in Indian Ocean (Bay of Bengal).

To solve ~~both~~ the insecurity in the region, multilateral cooperation is needed. India need to collaborate with ASEAN to bring peace in the region.

India also need to bilaterally engage with military junta and backchannel talks with the political groups and activists in 'national unity government' to safeguard its national interest in the region.

SECTION-B

Write the following question in about 150 words.

Q.5 (a)

Discuss the influence of the ideals of Indian national Movement on Indian Foreign Policy.
(10 marks, 150 words)

History acts as an important determinant in shaping foreign policy.

Indian foreign policy ~~has~~ is heavily influenced by the ideals of the Indian national movement.



Indian national movement was against colonialism, imperialism. Thus, post independence, India was part of NAM which advocated for anti-colonialism & anti-imperialism leading to decolonisation of Africa.

Swamy was an important goal of Indian national movement. India's foreign policy option of

Foreign autonomy is influenced by the notion of Swaraj. This is why India neither joined USSR neither USA and remain unaligned.

The foreign policy of 'Anti Americanism' influence till today which lead to trust issues in India - USA Relations e.g. Pakistan case

The notion of Indian Nationalism given by Aurobindo Ghosh as spiritual leader of the world has led to the principles of vasudai'v kutumbakam, Atithi' Devo Bhava, Sarve Bhramashtu Sukhina etc. India emerged as leader of global south in UNO frame - one world, one earth, one family.

Thus, ideals of Indian national movement continue to guide Indian foreign policy for prosperity of whole.

Q.5 (b)

Discuss the relevance of NAM in the context of India's pragmatic shift to realism
(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
must not write
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NAM is the earliest example of south-south cooperation.

According to JN Dixit, NAM is an example of Naive Idealism. ~~There is~~ There is a question of relevance of NAM as India is shifting towards realism to deal with the current geopolitical realities.

NAM has appeared as an alternative platform to put forward India's national interest. NAM is one of the largest grouping of developing countries.

Through cooperation with NAM, India can secure position in reforming the multilateral institutions.

like UNSC (permanent seat in UNSC),
in reforms, WTO negotiations (to
protect its agriculture interest).

When multilateralism is declining,
NAM can be acted as a regional
economic bloc for trade facilitation.

NAM can act as a platform for
climate change negotiations, cooperation
for counter terrorism and maritime
cooperation.

NAM has the potential to tide
the choppy waters of cold war 2.0
(geopolitical rivalry between USA &
China)

India is a natural leader in NAM
and so it has great relevance in
safeguarding the liberal world order
(addresses Chinese assertiveness).

Q.5 (c)

India emerging as a strategic actor in south - east asia.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
must not write
on this margin

India is considered as the central pillar in South Asia because of its geography, the west it has West Asia and East has South East Asia.

India's engagement with the South East Asia has emerged post 1991 (LPA reform and breakdown of cold war era).

Since then, ~~the~~ India's engagement has increased. first as Look East Policy and now the engagement has turned more strategic with Act East Policy.

India's vision of Act East is in line with ASEAN vision of Indo Pacific. India supports.

ASEAN led Indo Pacific architecture
(ASEAN centrality).

~~Due~~ Due to growing Chinese assertiveness
in South China Sea, India's strategic
engagement increased with the
countries in South East Asia eg: BRIMES
with Philippines, defence alliance
with Vietnam.

 Simultaneously the connectivity projects
and cluster impact projects in CMLR
countries led to more say of India
in South East Asia.

India's naval base in Andaman
Nicobar, close proximity to Malacca
Strait provides strategic advantage
to India.

Thus cooperation is required
with ASEAN. From QUAD to QUAD+
to maintain ASEAN centrality & to
act as strategic actor in SE Asia.

Q.5 (d)

Significance of South-east Asia for managing India's north-east region.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
must not write
on this margin

India's North East Region (NER) is isolated
with the mainland India and is
connected with narrow strip of land
i.e. Siliguri corridor. (Chicken neck).

Thus, the geographical
compulsion and the proximity of
the North East to the South East
Asian countries, requires more
deep relations with the South
East Asia.

The Kaladan multi-modal project
which connects Kolkata port to
Sittoung port, provides connectivity
to India's North East.

Similarly, the North Eastern
States share border with Myanmar,

Bangladesh. Thus the cross border
illegal immigration, illegal trade,
illegal drugs & arms sale affects
the security situation in NER.

There are ethnic ties with
the people across the borders eg:
Free movement require in Nagaland.
However there are misused like
safe haven to insurgents. Thus
cooperation with Myanmar is
required.

Cooperation is also required for
climate change, disaster management,
hydro cooperation etc. for improving
the development prospects of NER.

In this time India has Look East
policy and Act East policy to
manage NER along with SEA.

Q.5 (e)

Discuss the challenges in the economic integration of South-Asia

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
must not write
on this margin

South Asia is the least integrated regions in the world only after West Asia.

The intra regional trade is just 5%. There are multiple challenges to economic integration.

Lack of coherence policy
of economic integration - ~~eg~~ there is lack of connectivity & transit & the economies are supplementaries than complementaries.

There are protectionist economies with huge tariff and non tariff barriers. SAPTA adopted positive cost approach in which they never trade.

There is lack of external catalyst like USA as in case

of EU and ASEAN.

There is lack of positive mindset (lack of trust issues) because of border conflicts, illegal immigrations etc. presence of competing sectors across the border eg. Bangladesh & India both compete in labour intensive apparel industries.

Thus, from positive list we need to move to negative list. Border conflicts need to be addressed & generate confidence building measure.

India should show principle of non reciprocity (capital doctrine) by giving access to Indian markets.

Economic integration is necessary, because neighbours acts as the first market for economic products. It leads to peace (Economic dependence theory).

Q.6 (a)

Analyse the primary challenges faced by India's Look East Policy and explore the available foreign policy options to effectively address these challenges.

(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
must not write
on this margin

In 1992, during the Narasimha Rao government, India launched its look East policy (in the context of end of cold war).

India's look East policy focuses on engagement with the South East Asia, especially with the ASEAN countries. (Asian tigers).

Recently, there are challenges faced by India's look East which is decreasing its effectiveness.

The political instability in Bangladesh and Myanmar not only increases security risks in the region, but also puts

questions on the cooperation under
India's projects in South East Asia.
example: Trilateral highway project,
Kaladan multi-modal project.

China is another factor
which has given its influence
in the region, thus diminishing
India's role.

China has been able to break the
solidarity of ASEAN. Some countries
like Laos, Cambodia are seen as
pro China. This has reduced India's
effectiveness to engage with ASEAN
as a homogeneous group. eg: India
walked out of RCEP because of
the apprehension of Chinese goods
flooding Indian market.

China is also growing its
assertiveness in the South China Sea.

eg: increased conflict with Philippines
in South China Sea (Paracel Islands &
Spratley Islands). China is unilaterally
violating (challenging) rule based order.

India's foreign policy options
of both engagement and containment
of China in the region. India
is member of QUAD and signed defense
deals with USA, multilaterally
cooperating with IORA, IONS
to tackle China's influence in the
region.

India also engaging with China
in BRICS, SCO to have cooperation
in the region.

India focuses on ASBAN centrality
in Indo Pacific. There is convergence
of India's Act East and ASEAN
vision of Indo Pacific to address
these challenges.

Q.6 (b)

Examine India's approach to Pakistan in the light of recent terror attacks.

(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
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India and Pakistan are the two nuclear armed adversaries in the region, which makes South Asia, one of the most dangerous places in the world.

Since Pakistan has asymmetric power balance in terms of conventional warfare, it has policy of giving India thousand cents under Nuclear umbrella. eg: low scale ~~war~~ proxy war, state sponsored terrorism, growing militancy in Kashmir etc.
(Stability - instability paradox - Scott Sagan)

Earlier India's ~~used~~ approach was to apply thousand bandages, but recently India's approach changed. According to Ashley Telli, India

no longer is exhibiting strategic restraint and responding to Pakistan heavily.

India through 'preemptive non military responses' like surgical strikes has adopted more offensive approach to deal with Pakistan.



According to NSA Ajit Doval, India should respond to Pakistan in the language in which Pakistan understand. He suggested use of baluchistan card against Pakistan.

Similarly there has been talk of using India card against Pakistan.

India is strengthening its military capability and intelligence.

in border areas. use of overground
workshops, theatre commands,
technology like drones etc.

India in 2019, abrogated
Article 370 and made Jammu Kashmir
a UT, to strengthen the security
of the J&K. This will bolster
any attempt by Pakistan to
propel state sponsored terrorism.

Hopkinson Jacobs says that
India has dropped hesitation to
directly deal with military establishment
~~without~~ Rawalpindi. (Backchannel
talks between India's NSA and
Pakistan military)

Thus, these approaches have
reduced such attacks to an extent,
but long term P2P contact is needed
(security community - Karl Deutsch) to
address terror attacks and maintain
peace.

Q.6 (c)

Outline the reasons for the boundary disputes in South-Asia. Discuss how this is posing a challenge to cooperation South-Asia (20 marks, 250 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

South Asia is a place on the map and it is looking for its mental and physical existence — muchkund Dubey

South Asia is one of the least integrated regions - the intra regional trade is just 8-10%. There are many reasons for ~~just~~ such lack of integration in which border or boundary disputes holds prominence.

Indian subcontinent was as a whole part of the British empire. With independence, Britishers partitioned the subcontinent with artificial borders.

eg: Radcliffe award partitioning India with Pakistan (conscientious) leading to human rights

violations (communal violence)

These artificial borders have divided the people of same ethnicity across the borders. eg: cross border illegal immigration in Bangladesh.

Many boundaries are marked on the basis of Rivers eg: Kalapani dispute between India & Nepal because of the dispute of the origin of River Kali. Similarly, because of the changing course of the River Gandak, there is Susta dispute.

~~The too between~~ There are many boundaries which are unsettled. eg: The LAC between India & China is undemarcated leading to frequent clashes.

eg: The Sir Creek issue between India & Pakistan because of the disagreement

between India & Pakistan over Thalweg principle (India) & green line (Pakistan)

Same border disputes is related to sovereignty of state and sovereignty is an important element of core national interest - (eg: Saptang theory of Kautilya - Janapada)

This gives rise to constant conflict and tensions eg. Dispute between India & China, Doklam issues, Kalapani issue between India - Nepal.

Border conflicts or disputes are the major reason for lack of trust between the members. This trust deficit is reflected in other aspects of regional cooperation eg: Intra regional trade is just

5-1, SAFTA though signed has not become operational.

Trade and cooperation is also languishing because of the lack of connectivity and Transit eg: the border disputes affecting cooperation in connectivity projects. Thus needing regional cooperation.

Thus Functionalism approach (David Mitrany) has to be adopted which calls for peace by pieces. eg: Sir Creek issue is a double issue between India & Pakistan, this would ~~be~~ act as confidence building measures and boost cooperation.

Thus resolving border issues are must for regional cooperation. India can follow quid pro quo doctrine. (eg: India Bangladesh land agreement 2014)

Q.8 (a)

Analyse the influence of India's federal units on its relations with its neighbourhood.
(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
must not write
on this margin

A country cannot become great with its dwarfing neighbours. Relations with neighbourhood is necessary for growth and prosperity of any nation.

Domestic political and social structures are an important determinant in foreign policy.

Robert Putnam (2 level game theory) highlighted the role of consensus building at the second level ~~is~~ means domestic level for success of agreement at the international level.

In this context, India's federal units play an important role in its relations with its neighbourhood
eg! The Teesta ~~water~~ sharing.

agreement with Bangladesh is not able to 'conclusion', because of the opposition by the West Bengal government.

Similarly, the Tamil issue is a Sri Lankan, Tamil Nadu has a important influence in deciding the relations with Sri Lanka. eg: before 2014, due to compulsion of conditions, India voted in favour of the UN resolution condemning the actions of Sri Lanka against Tamilians.

In this context, Chakrabarti calls for promoting para diplomatic - have federal limits has potential for strengthening our relations with neighbours.

eg: Chakrabarti calls for promoting ~~Pangloss~~ Pangloss to improve relations with Pakistan.

This is in line with Karl Deutsch (security community) by decreasing P2P contact.

Similarly, Bihar and UP can have a greater role in improving relations with Nepal (Machhi's & Roti-Beti Rishita)

However, states federal units can act as a restraint in relations with neighbours, as we see in case of Bangladesh & West Bengal government.

Then Federal units need to be encouraged to have para diplomacy but overall steering of the foreign policy should be done by MHA & Union to prevent any anti national activities.

Q.8 (b)

Discuss global and regional challenges as determinants in Indian Foreign Policy.

(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
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on this margin

Foreign policy is the set of values, principles, strategies and actions that a state pursues in relations to other state and non state actors in the international system.

Foreign policy does not operate in vacuum. It is affected by various determinants like geography, international environment etc where it operates. Thus it is a dynamic concept.

Indian Foreign policy is also affected by the regional & global environment.

There are various regional & global challenges which is affecting Indian foreign policy.

Regional challenges like lack of integration in South Asia,

lack of cooperation with the south Asian neighbours as a regional unit & affected Indian foreign policy to look to South East Asia and BANSTAC, look East policy and Act East policy.

India wants BANSTAC to be the new SAARC (the non-obstructionist approach of Pakistan).

The Chinese influence in India's neighbourhood has influenced Indian foreign policy & adopt neighbour doctrine (principle of non-reciprocity)

eg: India planning to fund Pakistan's 13th five year plan, line of credit to Sri Lanka, infrastructure projects in Maldives etc.

The global challenges like US-China rivalry is manifesting

in terms of growing multipolarisation
in Indian Ocean. China is challenging
the liberal world order. India is
shifting its foreign policy to more
Realism - India acquiring ports in
Oman (Duqm Port), Arabiyan port
to increase its naval presence in
IOR.

Simultaneously India is member of
QUAD, IPBP and at the same
time part of SCO, BRICS to balance
ties with the two global rivals.

With dividing Global North &
Global South, India has emerged
as leader of Global South:

Thus, the Global and regional
environment has huge influence
in shaping Indian foreign policy,
apart from other determinants.

Q.8 (c)

Analyze the challenges posed by China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to India's influence as a regional power in its neighborhood. (20 marks, 250 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

One country cannot become greater with its dwarfing neighbours. India's vision of regional power in South Asia requires great influence of India in its neighbourhood.

According to Joseph Nye, there is a paradox of India growing as a global power, but reducing its role as a regional power. This ambition of India being a regional power is affected by the growing influence of China in the region.

China through its project Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) had a great influence by developing the infrastructure projects in India's neighbourhood. e.g. CPEC in Pakistan.

developing the Hambantota port, Hambantota port in Sri Lanka, sister city alliance in Bangladesh.

Since China has deep pocket it has the leverage to provide such BRI projects with huge investments and affordable loans (China's cheque book diplomacy). This has affected India's projects in the region.

Neighbourhoods are trying to balance India with China. Due to the power asymmetry between India and its neighbours, they see China as a balancing mechanism. vis-a-vis India.

This has deep economic and security concerns in the region. The countries are falling into the debt trap diplomacy of China. China is creating deep inroads in neighbourhoods eg: Docking ship

of china at Hambantota.

China can able to control India and check the rise of India. India's trade is also reducing with neighbours. The cheap imports from China is replacing Indian goods.

China's BRI projects like CPBC is also posing sovereignty issues (eg): CPBC passing through Myanmar and Bhutan. Most of the Chinese projects are in the ecologically vulnerable areas, posing threats like disasters. eg: trans Himalayan Railway link.

It is said that India promises to China donors. It means Indian projects face challenges like delays. Lack of timely completion of projects.

further led to the growing influence of China vis-a-vis India.

Thus, India needs to follow its foreign doctrine (principle of non-reciprocity), neighbourhood first policy. Border disputes need to be settled, which can act as confidence building measures.

India has a Residual power has advantage over China. India can promote P2P contact, culture as soft power and public diplomacy to ~~engage~~ engage ties.

India cannot become leader of global south without becoming regional leader, which requires ability to address the China challenge.