

Short Answer Questions

Q.1. Describe any two major objectives of Nehru's foreign policy. Objectives of Nehru's foreign Policy.

[CBSE Delhi 2016]

Ans. (i) To preserve the hard earned sovereignty of India

(ii) To protect territorial integrity

(iii) To promote rapid economic development (Or any other relevant objective)

(Any two)

Q.2. What were the objectives of Jawaharlal Nehru's foreign policy and what were the policies used to achieve these objectives?

Ans. The main objectives of Jawaharlal Nehru's foreign policy were to preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India and promote rapid economic development of India. Jawaharlal Nehru adopted the policy of non-alignment to assure that the foreign and economic policy of India remains independent of both superpowers. He also invited other nations such as USSR, Germany, etc. to invest in Indian economy and built trade relationships with newly independent Afro-Asian nations.

Q.3. Elaborate the main reasons that caused the War of 1971 between India and Pakistan.

Ans. The main reasons for the War of 1971 between India and Pakistan were:

(i) West Pakistan began to commit atrocities against the people of East Pakistan and this led to large flow of refugees from East Pakistan into India. This caused India to intervene in support of the people of East Pakistan.

(ii) Pakistan also attacked Indian border posts in Rajasthan, Kashmir and across the West Pakistan border. This caused India to retaliate in defence against the Pakistani forces. The Pakistani forces in East Pakistan surrendered to India and East Pakistan was liberated and emerged as a new country called 'Bangladesh'.

Q.4. Name any two leaders of the Non-alignment Movement. What were the three main principles of the first Non-alignment Movement conference?

Ans. Two leaders of the Non-alignment Movement: Jawaharlal Nehru and Marshal Tito. The three main principles of the first Non-alignment Movement were:

1. Cooperation: Majority of the members of NAM were third world countries and therefore desired to cooperate in economic development and nation building.

2. Anti-colonialism: NAM members supported anti-colonial and anti-imperialist measures in Africa, Asia and Latin America such as against Apartheid in South Africa.

3. Non-alignment: NAM intended to provide an alternative to the two blocs of USA and USSR and ensure that countries develop independent foreign and economic policies.

Q.5. Provide your view on the War of 1965 between India and Pakistan.

Ans. Pakistan launched armed attacks in April 1965 in the Rann of Kutch area of Gujarat against Indian forces and also in Jammu and Kashmir in August 1965. Pakistan hoped that it would get support from the local population but it did not happen. India retaliated in both the regions and Lal Bahadur Shastri ordered Indian troops to launch a counter-offensive in Punjab and the Indian troops reached almost to Lahore. The United Nations intervened and in January 1966, Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and Pakistan's General Ayub Khan signed the Tashkent Agreement.

Q.6. What were the main causes of War of 1971 between India and Pakistan?

Ans. The government of Pakistan began to violate the rights of the people of East Pakistan and subsequently large number of refugees from East Pakistan came into Indian region of Assam, Bengal and North-East. Pakistan also began to attack Indian border posts across the West Pakistan border in Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat. This caused India to retaliate in defence against the Pakistani forces and support the people of East Pakistan. The Pakistani forces in East Pakistan were defeated by India and a new country was formed called 'Bangladesh'.

Q.7. Discuss the Shimla Agreement.

Ans. The Shimla agreement was a peace treaty signed in Shimla, India, by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the President of Pakistan, and Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India in July, 1972. The treaty was signed after the War of 1971 between both the countries and effort was made to negotiate peace and cooperation. The agreement led to the diplomatic recognition of Bangladesh by Pakistan, the recognition of ceasefire line as LOC in Jammu & Kashmir and steps were decided to be taken to resume bilateral relations.

Q.8. Elaborate the Nuclear Policy of India.

Ans. India believes in the peaceful use of nuclear energy and has adopted Nuclear energy as a mean to resolve the electricity requirements of India. India had conducted nuclear tests in 1974 and in 1998 and subsequently acquired nuclear weapons. India supports nuclear disarmament if agreed upon by all nations. India has stated a 'no-first use' policy for nuclear weapons and has refused to sign the NPT and CTBT treaty as India considers the treaties as discriminatory. India is a responsible nuclear power and has followed the high standards of safety and regulations towards nuclear energy.

Q.9. How did a boundary dispute led to a war between India and China?

Ans. In 1914, the McMahon was agreed upon as the border between Tibet and India by British India and Tibet and in the presence of China at the Shimla Conference. In 1950, China occupied Tibet and began a construction of a road in Aksai Chin to connect Xianjing and Tibet. In 1957, India detected the building of the road and Jawaharlal Nehru started the 'Forward Policy' of establishing military posts in Ladakh and halt China. China then attacked India in 1962 and took control of the Aksai Chin region. Similarly, China claimed Arunachal Pradesh and took control over it but had to withdraw and India regained Arunachal Pradesh.

Q.10. Elaborate on any two Arms Control treaties.

Ans. Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is an agreement that bans any and all nuclear tests. It was signed in 1996 and is intended to prohibit all nuclear weapon test explosions. The Non-proliferation Treaty or NPT is an international treaty that seeks to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and its technology promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and achieve nuclear disarmament. CTBT bans the testing of nuclear weapons while NPT bans the development of nuclear weapons.

Q.11. Discuss an attempt for disarmament initiated by India.

Ans. India has committed to global, verifiable and non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament and therefore supports a nuclear weapons free world. In 1954, India under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru became the first country to propose an agreement to ban nuclear weapon tests and this led to the Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT) in 1963 that banned nuclear tests in the atmosphere in outer space and under water. India has also committed to the doctrine of credible minimum nuclear deterrence and of 'no first use'. India has adopted Nuclear energy as a mean.

Q.12. Give reasons supporting India's argument on Nuclear Disarmament.

Ans. India has supported global nuclear disarmament and a nuclear weapons free world. First nuclear explosion was undertaken by India in 1974. A significant component of his industrialisation plans was the nuclear programme initiated in the late 1940s under the guidance of Homi J. Bhabha. India wanted to generate atomic energy for peaceful purposes. Nehru was against nuclear weapons. So, he pleaded with the superpowers for comprehensive nuclear disarmament. However, the nuclear arsenal kept rising. When Communist China conducted nuclear tests in October 1964, the five nuclear weapon powers, the US, USSR, UK, France, and China (Taiwan then represented China) – also the five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council – tried to impose the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) of 1968 on the rest of the world. India has refused to sign the Non-proliferation Treaty and CTBT because it is discriminatory in nature and allows few countries to maintain nuclear weapons while prohibiting others and therefore does not guarantee a nuclear weapons free world or nuclear disarmament. India has also committed and maintained global nuclear safety standards and has clean record on proliferation also.

Q.13. Give details about the Tashkent Agreement.

Ans. An armed conflict had taken place after Pakistan attacked India in 1965. India retaliated and Pakistani forces suffered a defeat after India had reached the city of Lahore and defeated the

Pakistani offensive forces. The United Nations intervened and the Soviet Union mediated an agreement between Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and Pakistan's General Ayub Khan. The agreement was signed in the city of Tashkent in January, 1966.

Main points were:

1. Both the countries would go pre-war positions.
2. Restoration of diplomatic ties.
3. Leaders would promote and propagate peace in their own country.
4. Order to transfer prisoners of war.

Q.14. Give any four principles of Jawaharlal Nehru's foreign policy.

Ans. Four principles of Jawaharlal Nehru's foreign policy are:

1. Jawaharlal Nehru adopted the policy of non-alignment to assure that the foreign and economic policy of India remains independent of both the superpowers.
2. He strived for Afro-Asian unity and convened the Asian Relations Conference in Delhi.
3. Jawaharlal Nehru supported anti-colonial and anti-imperialist movements in Asia and Africa and supported liberation struggle in Indonesia, South Africa, etc.
4. He also strived for World peace and supported nuclear disarmament and peaceful resolution of disputes.