

VISION IAS

www.visionias.in



GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1063)

Name of Candidate	Shaw Mittal		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	80110
Center	DL (Kareel Bagh)	Date	21/07/18

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
- There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI.
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- 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.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

75, 3rd Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar Market, Near Axis Bank, New Delhi – 110060

103, 1st Floor, B/1-2, Ansal Building, Behind UCO Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi – 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. Explaining the significance of RCEP, discuss various aspects of India's engagement in this initiative. (150 words) 10

RCEP के महत्व की व्याख्या करते हुए, इस पहल में भारत की सहभागिता के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर चर्चा कीजिए।

RCEP is a proposed Free trade agreement between ASEAN and its 6 Free trade partners - India, China, S. Korea, Japan, Australia and New Zealand

Significance

- ① RCEP countries account for almost 50% of global population and 40% of global GDP
- ② It will be the largest trade block if comes into force
- ③ It will be significant for India's Act East policy
- ④ Help in normalizing and improving ties between India and China and also in resolving issues related to South China sea

- ⑤ Help in boosting India's service sector and movement of skilled workers under Mode - 4 of WTO

India's engagement -

- ① India wants greater freedom for movement of professionals to boost its service sector.
- ② Free trade agreement in goods may harm its Make in India initiative especially due to cheap imports from China
- ③ There are issues related to India's IPR regime and India is reluctant to agree on 'data exclusivity' as it may hamper India's Pharma industry
- ④ RCEP seeks to go beyond WTO with respect to labour and environmental laws which India is objecting to. Its summit level meeting recently took place in Manila

2. It has been acknowledged widely that smart power is the best possible way for achieving intended foreign policy outcomes. Examine in the context of India. (150 words) 10

यह व्यापक रूप से स्वीकार किया गया है कि स्मार्ट पावर विदेश नीति के अपेक्षित परिणामों को प्राप्त करने का सर्वोत्तम संभव तरीका है। भारत के संदर्भ में इसका परीक्षण कीजिए।

Smart power means a power who balances its hard power and soft power for achieving its foreign policy outcomes

① India has utilized its soft power for great outcomes

Eg. ① Designation of 21st June as international Yoga day by UN

② Our reach towards diaspora

③ Promoting ties with ASEAN and Africa through initiatives like Project Mausam

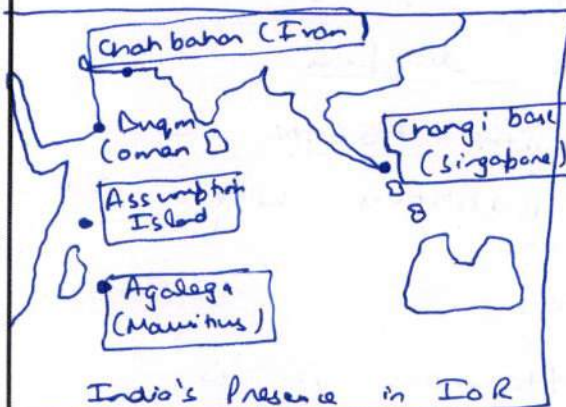
However it is a well acknowledged fact that soft power is not effective unless a country has a certain threshold of hard power as well

India has also been utilizing its military powers and economic might in foreign relations

Eg. ① Line of credit for countries of Africa during Africa India Forum Summit 2015

② Talks for military base in Assumption Islands (Seychelles)

③ Expansion of presence in Indian ocean. (Fig. 1)



However, there has to be a balance between two otherwise situation may backfire. Eg. Imposing of economic blockade on

Nepal

A well balanced approach is needed especially in the light of China's rise and 'Public diplomacy forum', Project Mausam etc. will be crucial.

3. On the one hand, water has the potential of bringing closer regional integration in South Asia, on the other it has remained symbolic of the trust deficit between the countries in India's neighbourhood. Analyse.

(150 words) 10

जहाँ एक ओर, जल में दक्षिण एशिया में क्षेत्रीय एकीकरण को और अधिक घनिष्ठ बनाने की क्षमता है, वहीं दूसरी ओर यह भारत के पड़ोसी देशों के बीच विश्वास की कमी का प्रतीक रहा है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Water has become an important
part of India's foreign policy

Potential of water

waterway

- ① Connectivity :- Various projects like
Kaladan Multimodal project (via sea) and inland
transport projects with Myanmar and
Bangladesh (Fig. 1)



- ② Water scarcity will
be a major issue
for South Asia
especially in the
light of climate
change which should
boost regional
Co-operation

- ③ A no. of other initiatives like
Project Mausam, Sagarmala will

boost India's cultural ties and connectivity with neighbourhood via sea route.

④ Port development like Triconmalai in Sri Lanka can be another area of co-operation.

Challenges :- ① Rising issues of water disputes. Eg. ① Indus water treaty with Pakistan
② Teesta river dispute (B'desh)
③ Chinese projects on Brahmaputra.

② China's growing presence in IOR (Indian ocean region) through Maritime Silk route and its "string of pearls" is another cause of concern.

③ Issue of climate refugees due to rising sea level with Sri Lanka

④ Fishermen issue In this light,

India should focus on becoming a blue economy through Sagarmala initiative along with proper water diplomacy

4. Despite a strong case for a Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) between India and the European Union (EU), negotiations have been stuck for long owing to multiple factors. Analyse. (150 words) 10

भारत और यूरोपीय संघ (EU) के बीच व्यापक आधार वाले व्यापार और निवेश समझौते (ब्रॉडबेस्ड ट्रेड एंड इन्वेस्टमेंट अग्रीमेंट: BTIA) हेतु सुदृढ़ परिस्थितियां होने के बावजूद कई कारकों के चलते वार्ता लम्बे समय से अटकी हुयी है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

BTIA is basically a trade and investment agreement proposed between

India and EU which will encompass various dimensions like free trade in goods and services, investor protection, Sanitary and Phytosanitary issues etc.

Strong case :- ① India has EU as its largest trade partner with trade upto 90 billion \$ but potential is far more

② Investments of EU in India will increase from current 80 billion \$

③ Complementary economies :- EU has expertise in manufacturing whereas India can leverage its strength in services

- ④ Rising protectionism all over the world and trade wars

Issues :-

From EU side

- ① Has issues with India's tariff on wine and automobiles.
- ② Issues of data protection in India.
- ③ It wants to negotiate investor protection before negotiations on BTIA.
- ④ Wants relaxation of stringent IPR laws.

From Indian side

- ① India has issues with EU's stringent sanitary and phytosanitary trade barriers.
- ② Wants EU to give India data secure status.
- ③ Simultaneous negotiations on investor protection and BTIA.
- ④ Free movement of professionals under Mode-4.

Owing to common shared values and rising protectionism,

India EU BTIA holds significant potential for the world

5. Non-alignment, though much debated, has retained its significance over the years in India's foreign policy engagements. Comment.

(150 words) 10

गुट-निरपेक्षता ने काफी विवादित होने के बावजूद भारत की विदेश नीति संबंधी विषयों में वर्षों से अपना महत्व बनाए रखा है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Non alignment as a policy was introduced by Nehru to keep away from military alliances with USA and Soviet union during cold war era

It is debated because

- ① In present scenario, keeping away from military alliances will weaken India's hard power
- ② Need to strengthen its military
- ③ Non-alignment did not lead to sufficient balance between relations with USA and USSR

Its significance :-

- ① Rift between Russia and USA is further increasing especially after USA sanctions

on Russia ~~after~~ under CAATSA

② China has become another major player in Cold war and India can't afford to sever ties with it due to deep economic relations.

③ Growing nexus of Russia - China - Pak due to India's closeness with USA

④ Maintaining strategic autonomy over various issues like sanction on Iran and stand on issue in Syria and Iran

⑤ Ensuring support of smaller nations in Non-alignment group for foreign policy targets like entry into NSG, UNSC etc.

Hence the importance of Non-alignment can't be overemphasized and it should be marked by multilateralism rather than isolation

6. India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950 forms the bedrock of the India-Nepal relations. However, considering recent changes in the region, revising the treaty would be a prudent step. Analyse. (150 words) 10

भारत-नेपाल शांति एवं मैत्री संधि, 1950 भारत-नेपाल संबंधों की आधारशिला निर्मित करती है। यद्यपि, इस क्षेत्र में हाल में हुए परिवर्तनों पर विचार करते हुए, इस संधि में संशोधन करना एक विवेकपूर्ण कदम होगा। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India nepal treaty of Peace and
Friendship ¹⁹⁵⁰ provided for

- (i) Free movement of people across border
- (ii) Easy transit for Nepalese goods through India
- (iii) Nepal to consult India in matters of foreign relations.

The treaty has worked so far in a great manner as India and Nepal have shared healthy ties since its inception.

Eg. (1) Over 6 million Nepalese work in India.

- (2) Military ties - (i) Gurkhas in Indian army
- (ii) Military Exercises like Surya Kiran

- ③ Trade has been boosted over 6 times in last 2 decades.

Need for rebalancing :-

- ① Rising infiltration of drug markets and terrorists through open border
- ② Nepal wants to have amendments regarding provision of consulting India in foreign matters
- ③ Growing Nepalese - Chinese ties especially after agreement on transit and oil supply
- ④ Nepalese perception that India has used two treaties to act like a big brother.
Eg. Imposition of economic blockade.
Hence the treaty may be discussed to allay fears of Nepalese regarding their strategic autonomy, however keeping in mind India's deep rooted and historic relations with Nepal

7. Accession to the Ashgabat agreement is valuable for connecting India to its extended neighbourhood. What is the Ashgabat Agreement? Assess its significance for India. (150 words) 10

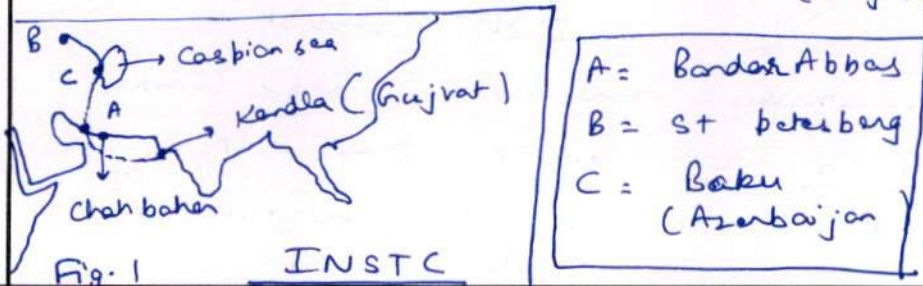
अशगाबात समझौते में शामिल होना वस्तुतः भारत के लिए अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस से जुड़ने की दृष्टि से मूल्यवान है। अशगाबात समझौता क्या है? भारत के लिए इसके महत्व का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Ashgabat agreement is a multimodal transport agreement between Iran, India, Oman, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan to connect Persian gulf to central Asia.

It was signed in 2011 and recently in 2018, India became one of its members.

Significance :-

- ① Connectivity :- (i) Through projects like International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC) especially with development of Chahbaha port. (Fig. 1)



② Energy :- (i) It will boost
takes over incompleated projects like
TAPI pipeline

(ii) Most of the countries are major
oil supplier to India

③ Economic :- Besides boosting trade
India may also negotiate Eurasian
Economic free trade agreement with
countries in the group.

④ It will give boost to India's
Connect Central Asia policy ²⁰¹² and
will counter Chinese presence in
the region

⑤ Boost Counter terrorism initiatives
especially with Co-operation of
Iran and Oman

India should
diplomatically deal with US sanctions
on Iran to ensure that it
doesn't hamper India's engagement in
the region.

8. The peace initiative of the Afghan government has raised some difficulties for India, nonetheless India's engagement with Afghanistan is strong enough to withstand such difficulties. Discuss. (150 words) 10

अफगान सरकार की शांति पहल ने भारत के लिए कुछ कठिनाइयां उत्पन्न की हैं, इसके बावजूद भी अफगानिस्तान के साथ भारत की भागीदारी इस प्रकार की कठिनाइयों का सामना करने हेतु पर्याप्त रूप से सशक्त है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently afghan govt. has offered a unilateral peace agreement to Taliban forces as even USA has talked about diplomatically talking with terror. groups

Difficulties for India

- ① The step will once again bring Pakistan at the forefront of Afghan peace process
- ② It may be reversal of USA's tough stance on Pakistan's terror support taken last year under New Afghan policy
- ③ Reduced checks on Pakistan will increase terror related issues in India

④ It has been seen as one
again differentiating between 'good
and bad terrorists'

Despite these issues,
India's engagement with Afghanistan
will be strong due to various
policy measures.

① Economic support of over 2 billion
\$ and creation of infrastructure
like Salma dam, Parlamanet etc.

② Defence relations in the form of
supply of arms, Shurua - helicopters
etc.

③ Creation of goodwill via support
to human capital. Eg. in
Scholarships for students etc.

④ Age-old cultural ties

India, rather
than focusing on Pakistan, should
continue its healthy engagement
with Afghanistan to deal with terror
issues as well as development process

9. The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a natural choice for India to fulfill key foreign policy priorities. In this context, discuss the issues behind hitherto slow progress and the reasons for reinvigorated optimism regarding BIMSTEC.

(150 words) 10

बहु-क्षेत्रीय तकनीकी एवं आर्थिक सहयोग के लिए बंगाल की खाड़ी पहल (BIMSTEC), भारत के लिए अपनी विदेश नीति संबंधी प्रमुख प्राथमिकताओं की पूर्ति हेतु एक स्वाभाविक चयन है। इस संदर्भ में, अब तक हुई धीमी प्रगति के पीछे निहित मुद्दों और BIMSTEC के संबंध में पुनर्जीवित होते आशावाद की चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently BIMSTEC completed 20 years
of its inception in 2017.

BIMSTEC is a
regional grouping comprising
India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan,
Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand and
came into being in 1997

Natural choice :-

- ① Poor functioning of SAARC due to
regional tensions between India-Pak
makes BIMSTEC natural choice
- ② BIMSTEC is seen as bridge
between South Asia and S.E. Asia
- ③ Healthy ties of India with all
the countries
- ④ It is in line with India's

Neighbourhood first and Act East policy

Issue :- ① So far, in 2 decades,
only 4 summit level meetings
have took place.

② Poor progress on various
Connectivity projects like Kaladan
Multimodal project, IMT highway
etc.

③ Inability to agree upon Motor
Vehicle agreement.

④ Rising Chinese presence in the
region. Eg. ① Kyaukse - Kunming
highway (Myanmar)

② Transit agreement with Nepal
etc.

⑤ Lack of progress on Free trade
agreement.

⑥ Issues of refugees. Eg. Rohingya
refugee crisis.

India should
fasten the diplomatic process of increasing
engagement with BIMSTEC and
completion of projects

10. Highlighting its mandate, discuss the significance of International Solar Alliance in positioning India to a key global leadership role.

(150 words) 10

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सौर गठबंधन के अधिदेश पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत को एक प्रमुख वैश्विक नेतृत्वकर्ता की भूमिका में स्थान दिलाने में इसके महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

International solar alliance came into being during Pars summit of UNFCCC (COP-21) through initiative of India and France.

Its mandate is to ensure collaboration between tropical countries, wholly or partially between 30° N and 30° S to ensure development of solar energy through viable funding mechanism.

Significance for India

- ① The initiative has been lauded by UN as an important measure to achieve INDCs as well as adhering to Pars principles to reduce global warming.

- ② It is first region inter govern-mental organisation with headquarters in India (Gurgaon ~~India~~)
- ③ It puts India into leadership position regarding development of solar energy.
- ④ Leadership of India will be especially crucial for Africa who lie mostly in tropical region and hence boosting ties
Eg. African development bank has signed various agreements with ISA
- ⑤ Unlike Chinese Cheque book policy leading to debt traps as in Sri Lanka. India, through ISA can provide soft loans to poorer countries while most of the countries are set to miss INDC as per UNDP report. India can assume leadership by achieving its targets

11. India's engagement with its extended neighbourhood in West Asia has evolved into a 'Look West' approach in recent times. However, multiple faultlines in this volatile region require a balancing act on the part of India. Discuss. (250 words) 15

पश्चिम एशिया में अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस के साथ भारत की सहभागिता हाल के दिनों में 'लुक वेस्ट' दृष्टिकोण के रूप में विकसित हुई है। हालांकि, इस अस्थिर क्षेत्र में उपस्थित कई फॉल्टलाइन्स भारत की ओर से एक संतुलनकारी कार्यवाही की मांग करते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

India's engagement in its western extended neighbours i.e. Central Asia and Middle East region has expanded immensely in recent times. Centred around India's "Look West" policy.

Examples → India's

① Entry into platforms like SCO, Ashgabat agreement etc.

② Strategic :- ① Agreement over development of Chahbahar port (Iran)

ii) Logistics support agreement with Duqm port (Oman)

③ Infrastructure and Connectivity

i) Initiation of talks over

International North South transport
Corridor (INSTC)

(ii) UAE 75 billion \$ investment in
India's infrastructure (NIIF fund)

④ Energy :- ① TAPI pipeline
was initiated recently

(ii) UAE investment in India's
strategic oil reserves.

⑤ Defence :- Defence ties have
also strengthened especially with
~~Is~~ Israel - Eg. BARAK-8 missile,
Phalcon AWACS etc.

⑥ Other spheres like Agriculture,
tourism, e-network project with
central Asia etc.

⑦ Talks over Eurasian Economic
FTA

Issues :- ① Rift between Arab-

Israel relations, especially Israel - Palestine.

② Issues of Shia - Sunni divide between Iran and Saudi Arabia, especially in light of crisis in Yemen, Syria etc.

③ Divide in Middle East over Kashmir issue in India-Pak relations

④ Cutting of diplomatic ties with Qatar by Saudi Arabia

⑤ All these issues coupled with rising oil prices and USA's sanctions on Iran threatens India's look west policy.

A balancing act like recent dehybridizing of Israel - Palestine relations is needed to maintain healthy relations with all the nations.

12. While India and Russia have enjoyed good relations since the Soviet era, relying on the past may not be enough to deal with shift in the relationship in light of the rapidly evolving geopolitical realities. Comment.

(250 words) 15

यद्यपि सोवियत युग से ही भारत और रूस के संबंध मधुर रहे हैं, तथापि अतीत पर निर्भरता तेज़ी से विकसित होती भू-राजनीतिक वास्तविकताओं के प्रकाश में, संबंधों में आये बदलाव से निपटने हेतु पर्याप्त नहीं भी हो सकती हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India and Russia share special
and privileged strategic Partnership

Owing to their good relations
since cold war era.

This can be
seen through various instances

① Russian support to India on
Pakistan and Kashmir issues

② Supply of defence and space
related technology. Eg. ① Akula
class submarine (ii) Various satellites
like cryogenic technology

③ Energy Co-operation especially
nuclear energy. Eg. ① Setting up
of Kudankulam plant.

- ④ Treaty of friendship in 1970
during Indo - Pak war
- ⑤ Support for India for seat in
UN security council.

Changing geopolitical realities

① From Russian side

- i) Russia - China share deep
economic and strategic relations

Eg. ① Russia - China massive
400 billion \$ gas deal (2014)

- ② Both are termed by USA as
strategic rivals and hence both
share common geopolitical interests

Eg. Trump called them revisionist
power

- ③ Russian growing relations with
Pakistan. Eg. Both conducted
military exercise jointly for the
first time in 2017

② From Indian side(i) Growing relations with USA(ii) USA sanctions on Russia
through CAATSA act may force
India to cut/reduce relations
to avoid sanctions.(iii) India doesn't agree with
Russian stand in issues related
to Syria and Guinean peninsula(iv) Reduction in arms import from
Russia and its compensation by USA
Hence Indianeed to revamp its ties with
Russia rather than relying on
past.Way forward :- ① Utilize platforms like
SCO
② Completing deal of
S-400 tripartite missile defence system③ Negotiating with USA for
waiver from CAATSA④ Completing projects like INSTC to boost
Connectivity

13. India-China ties, marked by a broad convergence on transnational issues, on one hand and geostrategic rivalry on the other, have profound implications not only for the two countries but also the current international system. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारत-चीन संबंध, जो एक ओर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्दों पर व्यापक अभिसरण और दूसरी तरफ भू-रणनीतिक प्रतिद्वंद्विता द्वारा चिह्नित होते हैं, इनका न केवल इन दोनों देशों के लिए बल्कि वर्तमान अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रणाली के लिए भी गंभीर निहितार्थ हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

India China share historic ties
which are reflected in Panchsheel
agreement of 1954.

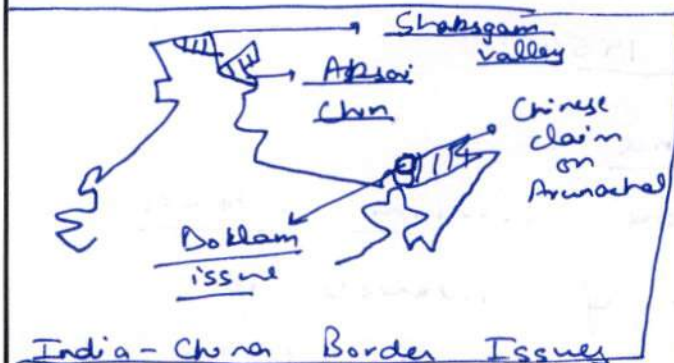
Broad Convergence :-

- ① Both share common interests
in protection of interests of
developing countries in WTO,
UNFCCC Summits etc.
- ② Convergence on issues related
to reforms in institutions like
WTO, World Bank, IMF etc.
Eg. Setting up of BRICS has
this as one of the cause.
- ③ Both want open and free trade
in the time of rising protectionism
and trade wars

Geostrategic Rivalry

① Dominance in Indian ocean
and Indo pacific. Eg. String of
pearls policy of China

② Border issues (Fig. 1)



India-China Border Issues
Fig. 1

China
claims on
Arunachal
Pradesh and
its
control over
ports of
Kashmir
claimed by India.

③ Issues related to Tibet and
Dalai lama are cause of concern.

④ India reports Chinese unilateralism
in South China sea where as
China see initiatives like Quad
and Malabar exercise as a
challenge to it.

Impact :- ① These issues have led to increasing military expenditure and reduced focus on social development.

② Impact trade between the two

③ It has hampered India's ambition of entry into UNSC and NSG whereas Chinese ambition of having India in its OBOR initiative.

④ Disagreement over terror groups in Pakistan has promoted terrorism

⑤ Intermittent skirmishes have the potential to escalate to war as seen in Doklam issue

For world :- ① Both are among the largest economies and any trade issue impact whole world.

② Threat of nuclear war

③ Countries have to choose between one of the two sometimes which hamper global ties. Eg. Sri Lanka and Maldives

14. For BRICS to remain relevant, its members must make a realistic assessment of the initiative's opportunities and inherent limitations. Discuss. (250 words) 15

BRICS की प्रासंगिकता बनाये रखने के लिए, इसके सदस्यों को इसे उपलब्ध अवसरों और अंतर्निहित सीमाओं का वास्तविक मूल्यांकन करना चाहिए। चर्चा कीजिए।

BRICS is a grouping of 5
major emerging economies -
Brazil, Russia, India, China and
South Africa. Its major aim
was to provide funds, alternate to
funding mechanism of World
Bank and IMF, which are
dominated by the West, for
infrastructure development.

It came into
being in 2009 and BRICS
bank was established in 2014
via Fortaleza declaration

However since
its inception, the group hasn't
been able to live upto its

potential, especially related to boosting trade ties.

Opportunities :- Besides providing alternate funding mechanism, the group should look at other opportunities like

- ① Tackling protectionism [↑] led by Donald Trump in USA
- ② Improving ties between countries especially Russia, India and China
- ③ Convergence on various issues related to developing world like UNSC reforms, forging consensus on issues in WTO related to food security.
- ④ Tackling newer issues like Climate Change, terrorism etc.
- ⑤ Improving Maritime Connectivity

⑥ India can use the platform to fund the requirements of creating infrastructure needed in programmes like BharatMala

Limitations :- ① Funding capacity is limited compared to World Bank

② Organisational setup is still weak compared to other institutions

③ Chinese major focus is on A11B, rather than BRICS:

④ Regional rivalries especially between India - China

⑤ Lack of convergence on issues except those related to economic issues

BRICS provide immense potential, ~~also~~ to and hence India should use platform like IBSA, SCO to boost engagement in BRICS for multiple benefits

15. Sluggish progress of the Doha round signals that the WTO is proving to be ineffective in promoting free trade. Identifying the factors behind this, comment on the relevance of WTO in present context. (250 words) 15

दोहा दौर की धीमी प्रगति संकेत करती है कि WTO, मुक्त व्यापार को प्रोत्साहित करने में अप्रभावी सिद्ध हो रहा है। इसके पीछे उत्तरदायी कारकों की पहचान करते हुए, वर्तमान संदर्भ में WTO की प्रासंगिकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

In the light of recent failure of WTO ministerial meeting in Buenos Aires to provide even a joint statement has raised question marks over effectiveness of WTO and Doha round

Reasons :

- ① Divergence between developing and developed world
 - (i) Developed world want new issues like e-commerce, investor facilitation to be included
 - (ii) Latter wants completion of Doha issues first.
- ② WTO works on the basis of Consensus which is hard to forge.

- ③ President Donald Trump's (USA) transactional policies and rising protectionism under "America first" policy
- ④ Doha round involve serious issues related to Food security which are non-negotiable from Indian point of view
- ⑤ Rivalries between countries like Geopolitical USA and China

Relevance of WTO

- ① It is still relevant to establish a rule based, free and open trade in the time of rising protectionism.
- ② One of the largest groups in the world after UN
- ③ It has been able to bring a

number of relevant agreement like
Trade Facilitation Agreement.

- ④ It provides platform for
developing countries to especially
Least developed countries to get
Concessional agreements.

Eg. Duty free Cotton trade for
LDCs during Nairobi Summit

- ⑤ It is the sole platform to
deal with global economic
issues like Trade wars, global
meltdown etc.

The Consensus between
developing and developed countries
need to be forged diplomatically
Way Forward :- Rather than the
whole package of Doha agenda,
it may be taken in a
peaceful manner where there is
Consensus to keep the talks
moving

16. The India-France Strategic Partnership launched in 1998 seems to have finally come of age. Comment. (250 words) 15

1998 में आरंभ भारत-फ्रांस रणनीतिक साझेदारी, अंततः परिपक्व होती प्रतीत हो रही है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

France has been an important strategic partner for India as Strategic Partnership in 1998 was established after India's Pokhran-II nuclear tests when rest of the Western Countries went against India

Recent Surge in relations

① Space agreements :-

- i) Agreement to go for joint interplanetary Mars mission
- ii) Various satellites related to climate change like Megha Tropique, TRISHNA (for water related issues) etc.

② Defence :- i) Rafale deal

- (ii) Development of Scorpene submarine under project K-75 with french help.
- (3) Both have recently shared a Joint vision on Indian ocean in the light of Chinese expansion which points towards growing geopolitical convergence.
- (4) MoUs on tackling terrorism
- (5) International Solar alliance has been set up by both the countries in India which mark a step forward in energy Co-operation.
- (6) France has further ~~committed~~ ^{Committed} to speed up setting up of Nuclear plants in Jaitapur. (6 EPR with 1600 Mw each)

⑦ Agreement on boosting trade
and finalizing BTIA between
India and EU.

⑧ France has also committed to
invest in India's Smart cities
mission in 3 cities

Moreover, India's
entry into various groups like
Wassenaar arrangement, Australia
group etc. will further boost
defence ties between the two
nations.

Further in the light of
~~America~~ USA's "America First"
policy, both have shared interest
in boosting economic ties and
connectivity.

17. Despite the great strides made, India-ASEAN relations have not measured up to expectations. Critically examine in the context of recent commemoration of relations by the two sides through the Delhi Declaration. (250 words) 15

उत्कृष्ट प्रगति के बावजूद, भारत-ASEAN संबंध अपेक्षाओं पर खरे नहीं उतरे हैं। दिल्ली घोषणापत्र के माध्यम से दोनों पक्षों द्वारा हाल ही में मनाये गए संबंधों के स्मरणोत्सव के संदर्भ में आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

India ASEAN dialogue initiated
in 1992 which recently completed
its 25th years and was celebrated
via Delhi declaration

Strides made :-

- ① Economic :- (i) Trade has grown
up to 80 billion \$
(ii) FTA in 2009 and CECA in
2013
(iii) Talks in final stages on
RCEP.
- ② Connectivity :- ① Projects like
Kaladan Multimodal project and IMT
trilateral highway (Fig.1)
- ③ Strategic :- (i) Both share

Strategic partnership

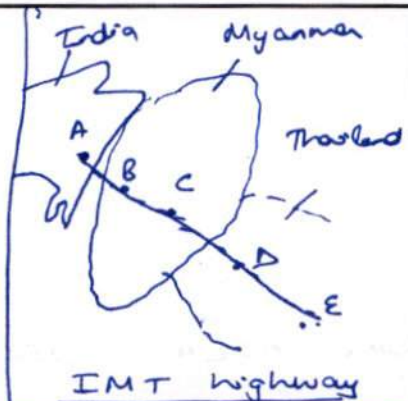
since 2011

ii) ASEAN wants

India to play a
greater role in

South China sea to

Counter China's
expansion



IMT Highway
A = Moneh (Manipur)
B = Tamu
C = Yagon
D = Mae Sot
E = Bangkok

④ Defense :-

Eg. ① Plans to provide Vietnam
with Brahmos Missiles

② Logistic ~~exchange~~ ^{support} agreement with
Singapore's Changi Naval base

⑤ Cultural :- Both share immense
cultural ties due to Buddhism
roots in India

Issues :- ① China shares deep economic
ties with the region. Eg.
Chinese trade with Vietnam alone

is over 70 billion \$

② Incomplete projects like IMT
highway and Kaladan project.

③ India has so far played a
limited and cautious role in
issues of South China sea

④ Tourism and People to people contact
has not increased much

⑤ Recent Rohingya refugee crisis
has added another issue between
India and Myanmar

⑥ ASEAN countries do not want to
alienate China and hence
strategic ties remain limited.

ASEAN - India

relations hold immense potential

for both, especially for India's

North East region and Act East policy

and all issues must be sorted out
diplomatically

18. India's expanding interests rather than endorsement by others should be the basis of its engagement with what is being termed as the Indo-Pacific. Analyse. (250 words) 15

हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में भारत की संलग्नता अन्य देशों को समर्थन के स्थान पर भारत के विस्तृत होते हितों पर आधारित होनी चाहिए। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Indo Pacific has become a theatre of global geopolitics as even USA's security document referred to region as Indo-Pacific rather than Asia Pacific signifying increasing role of India. Focus on our expanding interest.

- ① Recent grouping of USA, India, Australia, Japan should be platform to boost Act East policy and enhanced role and multilateralism in Indo Pacific. Quad shouldn't be a tool for military expansion of USA in Indian Ocean.

② India shouldn't create strategic rivalry with China with Indo Pacific as USA may endorse, rather it should seek Cooperation

③ Projects in South China sea like joint exploration with Vietnam should be for energy security and ensuring freedom of navigation rather than explicit goal of Countering China as envisaged by Vietnam on USA

④

19. In what ways has the engagement between India and its diaspora evolved over the years? What role can the Indian diaspora play in furthering and shaping India's foreign policy goals? (250 words) 15

भारत और इसके डायस्पोरा के बीच सहभागिता बीते वर्षों के दौरान किस तरह विकसित हुई हैं? भारत की विदेशी नीति के लक्ष्यों को आगे बढ़ाने और आकार देने में भारतीय डायस्पोरा क्या भूमिका निभा सकते हैं?

According to recent World Migration report 2018, India has the largest diaspora population of around 16 million in the world

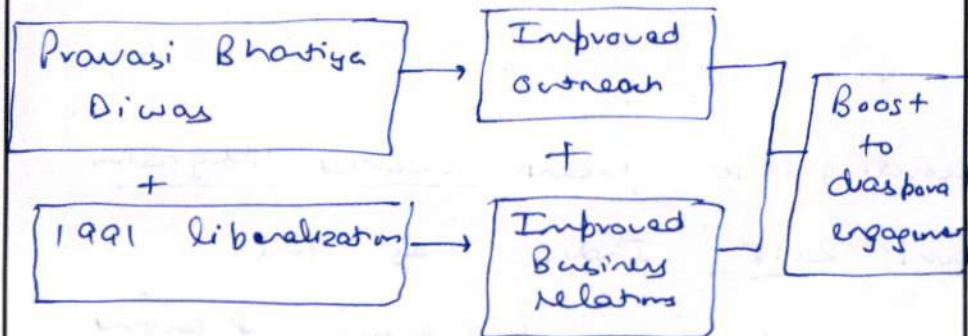
Evolution of engagement

- ① In the early years, economic engagement was limited due to various restrictions on foreign investment and trade under FERA act.

Examples of engagement

- (i) Remittances received were high.
- (ii) Focussed on security of diaspora. Eg. Operation desert storm in Kuwait to rescue Indians

- ② Since 2009, Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas was initiated



- ③ Further after 2014 a number of other steps were taken to boost ties.

Eg. ① Merge of PIO and OCI

② Proxy voting for NRIs

③ Greater engagement with Business groups and diaspora public.

Eg. With Google via Sunder Pichai
to install wifi on 500 railway stations

Diaspora role :- ① Economic role

(i) Huge remittances - India
receives largest remittances

Globally

(i) Ensuring foreign investment.

Eg. Microsoft and Google's investment in India.

(2) Boost India's ties with nations

Eg. (i) India's ties with Malaysia

(ii) Ties with Middle east which holds largest Indian diaspora

(iii) Boosting ties with Canada due to Sikh community.

(3) Diaspora creates a "Brand India"

in the host countries and also shape cultural ties between the nations

(4) Presence of ambassadors of Indian origin in countries like USA

(Richard Verman) have created Pro-India atmosphere

The need of the hour is to have a unified diaspora policy and dedicated department to engage with diaspora

20. India-Bangladesh relations have been termed one of fraternal friendship. What have been the key achievements in this context in the last few years? Also, identify steps to further consolidate these relations. (250 words) 15

भारत-बांग्लादेश संबंधों को भ्रातृत्व पूर्ण मित्रता में से एक कहा जाता है। बीते कुछ वर्षों में इस संदर्भ में प्रमुख उपलब्धियां क्या रही हैं? साथ ही, इन संबंधों को आगे और सुदृढ़ बनाने हेतु कुछ उपायों की पहचान कीजिए।

Bangladesh and India share deep rooted cultural and historic relations as both were geographically and politically united before 1947

Recent achievements

- ① Signing of Land Boundary agreement for exchange of enclaves via 100th Amendment Act in 2014
- ② Transit agreement to allow transit via inland water ways
- ③ Agreement on bus connectivity
 - (i) Kolkata - Dhaka - Agartala
 - (ii) Dhaka - Shillong - Guwahati
- ④ Energy :- (i) Indo-Russia joint

venture on Roopur Nuclear power plant

(ii), Various hydel power projects in Bangladesh.

(iii), Setting up of thermal power plants by Reliance group in Bangladesh

⑤ Economic :- ① Extension of 2 billion \$ worth credit line by India in 2014-15

(ii) Talks over Free trade agreement under SAFTA

(iii) Agreement on BBIN motor vehicle agreement

⑥ India's recent operation Insaniyat to enable Bangladesh to deal with Rohingya refugee crisis is another example of Cooperation

⑦ Counter terrorism exercises to deal with menace of ISIS

Further steps

- ① Conclusion of Teesta river water dispute through diplomacy
- ② Fast tracking various hydel power and nuclear power projects
- ③ Addressing issues of porous borders through joint talks and proper fencing
- ④ Investment by India on Border haats on both sides to ensure and tourism and enhance trade [→] Eg. Petro-pole-Banapole Integrated Check Post has huge potential
- ⑤ Conclusion of Free trade Agreement and addressing issue of trade deficit of Bangladesh.
- ⑥ Support for refugee crisis.
- ⑦ Cooperation on climate change issues
- ⑧ Investment in human capital is needed to generate trust