

Long Answer Questions

Q.1. Why did Jawaharlal Nehru regard conduct of foreign relations as an essential indicator of independence? State any two reasons with examples.

Ans. Jawaharlal Nehru considered that the conduct of foreign relations as an essential indicator of independence because a country can continue to remain independent by ensuring that it can form and change its foreign policy. By conducting its own foreign policy, a nation can showcase the will of the people and pursue its national interest. Jawaharlal Nehru intended to maintain good relations with both USA and USSR and used the policy of non-alignment. India remained equidistant to both the superpowers and both USA and USSR invested in the Indian economy while India refused to join either of the blocs. Similarly, India did not participate in the Cold War rivalry and take positions that might harm its national interest.

Q.2. Describe India – China relations from 1947 to 1962.

[CBSE (AI) 2016]

Ans. Indo-China relations from 1947-1962:-

- i. After the Chinese revolution in 1949, India was one of the first countries to recognize the communist government of China.
- ii. When China annexed Tibet in 1950, both the countries developed some differences.
- iii. In 1954, joint enunciation of Panchsheel was made by the Indian Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai.
- iv. In 1959, India gave political asylum to Dalai Lama. This annoyed China.

Q.3. Give details of the War of 1962 between India and China.

Ans. China invaded Tibet in 1950 and in 1959, the Dalai Lama and the people of Tibet fled to India and were granted asylum by the Indian Government. This was opposed by China. China also wanted the control over 'Aksai Chin' in Ladakh as it linked Tibet to Xianjing province of China while India claimed Aksai Chin as it lied on the Indian side of the McMahon Line. China refused to accept the line and occupied Aksai Chin and built a road there. India began the 'Forward Policy' across the Indo-China border. In October of 1962, when the World was occupied by the Cuban Missile Crisis, China attacked India across Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh. China declared a unilateral ceasefire and withdrew its troops in Arunachal Pradesh but not Ladakh. The War caused a dent in the image of India and Jawaharlal Nehru's government suffered a loss in stature and the Defence Minister had to resign.

Q.4. Give four causes of tension in the relation between India and Bangladesh.

Ans. The main reasons of tension in the relations between India and Bangladesh are:

- i. There is a continuous flow of refugees from Bangladesh into India that has caused resentment in the local population of North-Eastern States and raised concerns of security threats.
- ii. Bangladesh has supported Chinese and Pakistani policies against India by allowing its territories to be used in Anti-India activities such as cross—border terrorism.
- iii. There is a dispute with regards to water-sharing from River Ganga and Teesta and boundary disputes along the Indo-Bangladesh border.
- iv. There have been instances of violation of Human Rights by Bangladesh against the soldiers of Indian Border Security Force (BSF).

Q.5. Assess the positive and negative aspects of India's relations with Bangladesh.

[CBSE Delhi 2015]

OR

Mention the areas of cooperation and disagreement between India and Bangladesh.

[CBSE Sample Paper 2015]

Ans. Positive Aspects of India's relations with Bangladesh

Relations between India and Bangladesh are based on the moral support given by India during the freedom struggle of Bangladesh. India had to bear the influx of more than 80 lakh refugees. But the rapid change of governments and assassination of Mujib impacted the strong relations between the two. But still some positive aspects do exist:

1. Bangladesh is a part of 'Look East Policy'.
2. On disaster management and environmental issues, the two states have been cooperating regularly.
3. A few differences have been resolved amicably.
4. Both sides are trying to identify the common threats and areas of cooperation.

(Any three points)

Negative Aspects of India's relations with Bangladesh

1. Illegal migration of Bangladesh in the states of India.
2. Dispute over sharing of Ganga and Brahmaputra river waters.
3. Islamic fundamentalist groups are against having good relations with India.
4. Bangladesh government has felt Indian government as a regional bully.