

Test Code: 31047

FIAS - 2020 - GS7C/R

ForumIAS

ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	SURBHI SINGLA		
Email Id.		Roll No.	
Mobile No.		Date:	16/01/2020

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.</p> <p>2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH, all questions are compulsory.</p> <p>3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</p> <p>4. 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.</p> <p>5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.</p> <p><i>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</i></p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>
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Total Marks:			
Remarks:			Start Time 2:50 pm
			End Time 6:00 pm
			Mode Of Examination : Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline
ECN CODE:			Evaluation Date:

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Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
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Content						
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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Q.1) India's success at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) has showcased India's capability to handle bilateral issues with tact and diplomacy. Discuss with suitable examples. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Recently, the ICJ ruled in the case of denied consular access to Indian citizen Kulbhushan Jadhav (by Pakistan) ruled in favour of India, marking a diplomatic and victory for India.

ICJ victory : A diplomatic win :-

→ Use of relevant international mechanisms :-

India approached the ICJ citing Pakistan's violation of Vilna Convention on consular relations, showing a strong background.

→ ~~Fact~~ Distance from intervention by 3rd party countries, after learning from Kashmir experience of 1948.

→ international pressure on Pakistan through multiple mechanisms

Examples of India's superior diplomacy & capability to handle bilateral issues:

→ with hostile neighbours :- recent abrogation of Article 370 (n) was carefully & tactfully placed

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as an internal issue by India, putting to rest Pakistan's attempts to internationalize the issue.

• China's Doklam retreat & subsequent withdrawal is another case in point

8). With Superpowers:

- Careful mix of ^{use of} negotiations & use international mechanisms with USA :- Dialogue process to bargain ^{for} against CAATSA waiver, as well as WTO forums against steel tariffs.

Thus, India has evolved its bilateral diplomacy over the years into one of fearless leadership & mutual cooperation & gains focussed.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.2) India's membership of QUAD is just one way to pursue its objective of strategic autonomy in Indo-Pacific region. Evaluate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The QUAD - comprising of 4 countries - India, Japan, Australia and USA is an informal dialog forum of like-minded democracies with the aim of an inclusive, free & developed Indo-Pacific region, apart from others.

QUAD for strategic economy in Indo-Pacific :-

- Containing Chinese aggression in the region through diplomatic pressure & military deterrence
- Focus on building infrastructure towards a better connectivity & safety in the Indo-Pacific. Eg: Asia Africa Growth corridor - a project of India & Japan
- Joint military exercises. Eg: Malabar exercise between India, Japan & USA.

However, QUAD is just one leg of India's diplomacy for ~~make~~ an inclusive Indo-Pacific.

India is actively engaging on various fronts for the same :-

- with South East Asia & ASEAN :- ASEAN-centrality

is an important part of India's Indo-Pacific policy. It is reflected in projects like Nehru-Ganga Economic Cooperation.

→ with china - India has adopted a 'carrot & stick approach' with China. Use of informal Wuhan-1 & 2 summits for soft diplomacy, along with building a strong navy to deter the opponent.

→ Institutional approach :- Through mechanisms like Information Fusion Centre for the Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOCR) as well as ReCAAP, India is working towards a secure Indo-Pacific.

Thus, India is adopting a multi-pronged approach towards Indo-Pacific, in the backdrop of rising Chinese assertion.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.3] The recent decision to dissociate from the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), is not merely a geo-political call. Critically examine.
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

India recently announced to not be a part of the RCEP - a ^{proposed} trade & investment agreement between 16 countries (10 ASEAN members & its 6 FTA partners) & after a prolonged analysis on various fronts.

RCEP: A geopolitical analysis :-

Dissociation from RCEP could cause potential geo-political issues for India :-

→ Isolation from a rising & integrated geo-political Asia-Pacific region

→ A blow to India's association ^{& relations} with ASEAN and its Act-east Policy

→ Platform for greater integration with China, Australia etc.

~~However, not joining~~

Geopolitical considerations for not joining

However, the decision to not join has come ^{for} under considerations beyond merely geopolitical :-

→ Economic considerations:

Indian 'industries' lack in scale & technology

viz-a-viz the dairy industries of New Zealand, textile industries of Southeast Asia, electronics from China etc. with about 50% of Indian farmers drawing income from dairy, and 80-90% of companies being MSME, such a step could be disruptive.

Strategic considerations:

Disagreement over Mode-4 (movement of people & services) remained a pressing concern by India.

- Statistical: NITI Aayog in past reports has highlighted India's that India's trade deficit has only widened after FTAs, es. with Japan & S. Korea; mainly due to non-tariff barriers

Thus, decision to withdraw was a calculated decision based on multiple spheres.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.4) How far do you think the rise of Bangladesh in the economic hierarchy of South Asia has had an impact on India? Critically examine. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Formed in the aftermath of a bloody civil war, in 1971 Bangladesh has been a basket case for many developments, showing considerable economic growth & development in a short span of time.

Rise of Bangladesh in economic hierarchy:

→ Growth rate of ~~GDP~~ GDP: 7.6%.

→ Rising industries: textiles, sugarcane etc.

→ Progress on Human Development Indicators through programmes like Grameen Banks, Sanitation focus etc.

Impact on India:

→ India's industries, especially MSMEs face a tough competition from the textile & shoe manufacturing of Bangladesh.

→ Bangladesh's textile industry ~~has posed~~ had once flooded Indian markets.

→ Chinese investments in Bangladesh have risen, causing a security threat to India.

However, a rising Bangladesh could become a potential boon rather than threat for India as:-

→ Security: A developed Bangladesh will can root out naxalite & insurgency havens from its territory, & help promote cross border harmony.

→ economic: A developed Bangladesh can help India & the ~~or~~ two countries reap better benefit of global value chains through greater integration.

→ Rise of a 3rd pole in South Asia can help contain Chinese aggression.

Thus, while India should focus on its manufacturing industries through technical upgradation & incentives, which can also help reap benefits from a growing Bangladesh.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.5) The informal summit held recently between India and China acknowledge that they are not 'adversaries' but two large economic powers open to a healthy competition in a multipolar world. Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ther / Indian and Chinese

India & China recently had met for their 2nd informal summit in Mamallapuram, to carry forward the Wishan spirit of peace & friendship. as well as

Adversarial relations between India & China :-

→ Strategic & Defence

• China's aggressive stance in Indo-Pacific policy of 'string of pearls' and BRI to contain India.

→ economic :

• Dumping of cheap goods into Indian markets.
• A nearly \$50 bn balance trade deficit in favour of China.

→ Geo-political :

• territorial disputes : Aksai Chin & Arunachal Pradesh
• China-Pakistan-Russia Axis.

→ Historical : 1961 war

2nd Mamallapuram Summit : from Adversaries towards cooperation & healthy competition :

- Addressing mutual economic concerns:

Agreed to establish a High Level Dialogue mechanism for achieving enhanced commercial relations & better balance of trade.

- Cultural connect :- Mamalapuram as a region is witness to historical ties between India & China. (Earliest recorded security pact between the two in 8th century CE)

- Agreement towards a rule-based international order against issues like terrorism.

- Lack of mention of Kashmir represented diplomatic will to look beyond contentions.

Thus, the summit highlights China's acknowledgment of 'checks & balances' in the form of a rising India, & opened a window for healthy competition.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.6) The banning of 'Jamaat e Islami' in Jammu & Kashmir brought into focus the role of over ground workers (OGWs) in assisting terrorist organisations. Examine the role played by the OGWs in assisting terrorist organisations in insurgency affected areas. Discuss measures to neutralize influence of OGWs.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Overground workers are terrorist sympathisers who help provide a support system to terrorist groups in carrying out their activities in insurgency affected areas.

Role played by over-ground workers:

- ideological background: by helping to spread propaganda & building a support base among populace.
- logistics support: by helping to provide for items of daily need as well as planning an attack.
- financial support: by acting as a conduit for money laundering, print counterfeit currency, carrying out illegal trade.
- Recruitments & execution of attacks: gather intelligence & other information, as well as help supply human resource by recruiting youth.

Measures to neutralize OGWs:-

- Financial measures: Strengthen financial intelligence jurisprudence - closing down of shell companies, laundering routes to cut money supply. eg: FIU-IND works towards this
- Development & infrastructure in insurgency-affected areas, to address alienation among people & restore trust in government.
- International cooperation: sharing intelligence, repatriation treaties etc.

The role of OGWs in Jamat-e-Islami's activities highlights the severity of the issue & need for action. A citizen-centric approach ~~can~~ is the only way to deal with such a menace

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.7) Do you think that the recent amendments to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act proposed by the Government will help in reducing the instances of money laundering in India? Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

The government recently amended the Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2002, to address certain lacunae & make it stricter, in light of changing circumstances.

Money laundering, as per INTERPOL is disguising the identity of illegally obtained proceeds so they appear to have originated from legitimate sources. Recent amendments & analysis:

<u>Amendments</u>	<u>effect</u>
1) Definition of ' <u>proceeds</u> ' of crimes widened to include more assets & offences.	- will enable better <u>efficiency</u> in dealing with cases of money laundering.
2) more crimes added under the Act, such as those under <u>Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic substances Act</u> .	- will help address the inter-related nature of crimes like money laundering, & drug-dealing.
3) offence made ' <u>cognizable & non-bailable</u> '	

3). Increased relation between money laundering, terrorism etc necessitated an increase in severity!

Although the amendments are a welcome step, dealing with money laundering would need more steps:

- international cooperation :- to address tax havens & illegal accounts.
- proper coordination between centre & states.
- stringent KYC requirement with banks.
- Better border-surveillance, cross-border cooperation.

Money laundering is a wider security issue with huge cross-linkages. A multi-stakeholder approach is needed to tackle the issue.

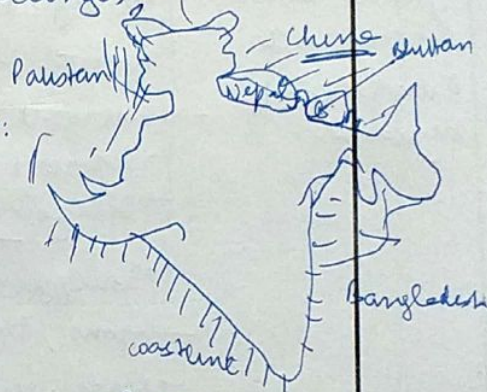
Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.8) Different sectors of our border pose different sets of challenges and complexities that cannot be resolved by a one size fits all policy. Highlight some effective measures required to tackle the challenges faced by the security forces deployed in the border areas. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

India is a geographical basket-case, sandwiched between hostile navals, as well as a 7500 km long coastline. It thus faces certain unique border & security challenges:

Different sets of Border challenges:



Border

challenges

- North-Western Border with Pakistan
- Kashmir Insurgency
 - Terrorist infiltrations
 - Money laundering & drugs smuggling from Golden Crescent
 - securing difficult terrains - Kargil, etc
 - border fringes & safety of borderline population

Solutions :

- 1) Diplomatic engagement with Pakistan. eg: Bus diplomacy, Kartarpur corridor
- 2) International Pressure. eg: FATF blacklisting
- 3) Greater integration & development of insurgency area of Kashmir
- 4) Better line of defense at border.

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2) Northern & N-E border with Kashmir. China

- Chinese aggression into regions.
- Occasional cross-fires.

- Bilateral engagement in 'Wuhan spirit'
- Upgradation of army technologically for enhanced deterrence.

3) North-Eastern borders with Bangladesh & Myanmar

- Safe havens to raxites raxalites, insurgent groups
- Porous borders
- Illegal immigration
- Smuggling of guns, arms, drugs etc.
- Border enclaves

- Better surveillance. (Integrated border management approach)
- use of drones, night-cameras, electric fencing etc.

4) Maritime Coastal borders.

- 26/11 attacks highlighted our vulnerabilities (terrorism)
- Fishermen attacks
-

- Mutual cooperation
- ~~be~~ Upgradation of naval capabilities; military exercises
- Specialized battalions.
- Institutional arrangements like IFC-106; Blue

Thus, one size fits all policy must be discarded & region-specific interventions be focused on.

Feedback [For OFFICE use only]

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.9) Rising instances of cyberattacks exposes India's vulnerability in terms of its capacity in dealing with cybersecurity. Examine the statement in the context of recent events.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

A report by Symantec recently released classified India as the 5th most vulnerable to cyber attacks worldwide. CERT-IN reported a total of 57,000 cyber breaches in 2017 alone.

Recent increase in cyber vulnerabilities :-

- CERT-IN reported 57,000 cyber breaches in 2017 alone
- Recent attack on Kudankulam Nuclear Facility as well as IBRD point to the seriousness of the issue.
- use of spyware programs to spy on 1000s of Indian citizens via whatsapp.

All above instances expose India's vulnerability in dealing with cybersecurity, especially with India's critical ^{digital} infrastructure.

existing cyber security infrastructure:

→ Institutional:

- CERT-IN & CERT-FIN :- as nodal agency for cyber security threats in the country.
- National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre :- to deal with critical infrastructure security.

Policy framework :-

- National cyber security policy, 2013 as well as IT Act provide the policy background for security.

Awareness : Cyber Shakti Bharat Initiative

International Collaborations :- Agreements with countries like US & Japan on cooperation.

However, lacuna :-

- use of obsolete softwares
- Most Indian companies lack a cyber security framework.
- lack of awareness: use of public USB ports, weak passwords, etc.

Thus, India must now become proactive in cyber security. Ratifying the Budapest convention & learning from countries like Estonia is the way forward.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

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Q.10) Amendments to the National Investigation Agency Act passed by the Government will enhance the capacity of the agency in dealing with the act of terrorism in a more efficient manner. Critically evaluate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

National Investigation Agency is India's premiere counter-terror agency, governed by NIA Act, 2008 was established in the wake of 26/11 Mumbai Attacks.

Recent Amendments & Rationale

- enhances the scope of offences to include crimes like human trafficking & money laundering. This will help address the inter-^{linked} nature of ~~crimes~~ terrorism with other crimes.
- Provision for constitution of special courts for fast track redressal of cases.
- Enhances jurisdiction of NIA to investigate cases outside India. Lack of such powers had prevented effective action in Italian marines-fishermen case of 2002.

Keeping in view of rising instances & complexity of crimes of terror, the amendments are welcome.

However, issues are

- Potential for misuse by political agents
- An already overburdened judiciary may get further compromised.
- Undue political interference may hinder transparent functioning.

A truly federal & autonomous agency, whose functioning is determined by the Rule of Law is best equipped to handle sensitive crimes like terrorism.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.11) The growing distance in relationship between Nepal and India could prove counterproductive to the interests of both the countries Examine.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Nepal, a historical ally of India, has recently grown closer to China, reflected in intensified cooperation under China's Belt & Road Initiative. This is a cause of concern for not just India, but equally for Nepal.

Nepal's growing distance from India: Reasons

→ Proximity to China :- due to Chinese investments in Nepal, as well as speedier delivery of projects. eg: Chinese railways connecting Lumbini to pilgrims from Tibet & mainland China.

→ India's 'big brother' attitude has caused insecurity among its smaller neighbours, turning them towards other regional powers.

→ Due to Nepal's landlocked geography & heavy reliance on India for export passages, have ~~been~~ not been addressed adequately by India.

→ India's perceived 'blockage' on border areas in wake of unfavourable constitutional amendments

by Nepal, added fuel to insecurities.

All the above factors caused Nepal to diversify its diplomatic ties & growing distance from India.

Detrimental for India :-

- extension of China's 'string of pearls' policy, erosion of buffer state.
- effect of on other regional neighbours, who might swing towards China as well. (Bhutan, Bangladesh etc)
- Hurdle in effective functioning of regional groupings like BIMSTEC etc.
- erosion of India's stature as 'net security provider', 'natural leader' of South Asia.

Detrimental for Nepal :-

- May become a 'pawn' at the hands of China's neocolonialism. eg: 70% of Maldives' debt is owed to China.
- erosion of sovereignty with greater Chinese inroads.
- territorial threats from China. India's intervention in the wake of Chinese aggression on Bhutanese Doklam valley is a proof of India's loyalty towards

its smaller neighbours

→ Indian investments in Nepal, as well as favourable treatment to Nepalese products.
customs

Wang prasad :

- Timely implementation of existing & promised infrastructure projects by India
- Complete non-interference in internal affairs of Nepal as per Panchsheel.

→ India & Nepal being natural & historical allies must address concerns through dialogue & bilateral engagements, to order to ensure an inclusive Indo-Pacific.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.12) In the context of Afghanistan, India should involve more proactively in the peace process and not shy away from its own red lines. In this context appraise India's role and interests in the Afghan peace process. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

USA's decision for withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan amidst growing presence of Taliban had resulted in initiation of the Afghan Peace Process with involvement of countries like USA, Russia, India & Pakistan.

India's interest in Afghan Peace :-

- Strategic interest :- A friendly & peaceful Iran can act as India's diplomatic leg towards Pakistan's containment.
- Connectivity to the Middle-East & Europe : Initiatives such as TAPI pipeline, as well as INSTC depend on Afghan peace.
- Infrastructure & investments by India in Afghanistan - such as Parliament building, Zelairam Darang highway etc.
- Crucial for India's energy security.
- India's soft diplomacy & role as 'net security provider' in the region.

Despite India's overarching interests in the process, India has been pushed to the sidelines in Afghan peace process. This is because of India's reluctance to negotiate with Taliban - which India sees as ~~not~~ does not see as legitimacy. India's insistence on 'Afghan-led, Afghan-owned & Afghan-controlled' and thus greater involvement of the Afghan government resulted in India staying away from talks.

However, recently, India has ~~do~~ adopted a more flexible approach:-

- Has shunned its red lines of not interacting with the Taliban, in light of Taliban being established as a legitimate stakeholder.
- More realistic approach of a united, peaceful & inclusive Afghanistan.
- New red lines emphasize on human rights, legitimately elected government as well as anti-terrorism.

Thus, India's flexibility & outcome-oriented approach can help India play a greater role in Afghan Peace Process, without compromising on its own ideals of democracy & constitutionalism.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.13) USA has time and again criticised the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for allowing developing countries to engage in unfair trade practices. What is the future of WTO in the present context of growing 'trade disputes' between developed and developing countries?

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

The WTO has been subject to criticism in recent times, both by developed & developing countries. While developing countries like the accuse WTO of biasedness towards developed ones, developed countries like USA blame WTO's preferential treatment to developing countries -

Criticism by developed countries :-

- ~~Before~~ Developing countries self-certify themselves as 'developing' in order to avail special & preferential treatment. even rich countries like China avail benefits due to this.
- Causes trade distortions unfavourable to developed countries.

Future of WTO : Current trends against WTO :

→ Rise of protectionism :-

- ~~is~~ seen in trade war between USA & China
- UK's withdrawal from EU, etc

→ Rise of regional trade agreements, eroding the stature of WTO:

- RCEP - b/w ASEAN and its FTA partners
- African countries signing the African Continent Free Trade Agreement; etc

→ WTO's internal issues:

- Dispute Redressal Mechanism: The Appellate Body has been rendered disfunctional due to USA's obstructions to appointment of members.
- Use of trade-distorting agricultural subsidies continues.
- ~~the~~ controversial USA practise of 'zeroing' to calculate anti-dumping duties.

Above practises have caused loss of faith in the functioning of WTO, especially in the context of growing trade disputes.

Future of WTO: Above disputes k still relevant:-

→ WTO's rules still provide the overarching framework to guide world trade. However, reforms are needed to keep it relevant:-

- Reform Dispute redressal mechanism :- to allow for voting based on majority rather than consensus.
- explicit accommodation of regional trade agreements.
- use of punitive sanctions to enforce decisions
- Review outdated rules related to subsidies, GATT.

In the backdrop of global slowdown arising from protectionism & trade disputes, WTO become even more relevant today. Need is to evolve a more inclusive, consensus-based mechanism within the boundaries of WTO

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.14) Indian diaspora has an important role to play in West Asian countries economy and society. Appraise the role of Indian Diaspora in West Asia in this context.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Indian diaspora refers to persons of Indian origin, residing in ~~for~~ other nations - either temporarily or as permanent citizens. They contribute ~~the~~ to the culture & economy of both place of residence & origin & are an important component of diplomatic engagements.

Role of Indian diaspora in West Asia :-

Economy :-

- Provides supply of cheap ^{skilled} labour to human resource-deficient West Asian countries.
- A good number of them settle & invest in huge amounts, especially in the energy sector.
- Also generate demand for various resources & ^{services} triggering a circular economy.
- Diaspora act as a link between host country & India, & attract Indian Engagements in the region.

Society :

→ enrich the culture & traditions of the host country by amalgamating their culture of origin with it. Presence of numerous temples, ~~as well as~~ Buddhist monasteries in West Asia is a manifestation of the same.

→ Values of 'Vasudhava Kutumbakam' & 'Atithi Devo Bhava' spread to West Asia & the globe.

→ Attract peace initiatives from India, contributing to peace.

Other contributions:-

→ Play an important role in western countries' south Asia diplomacy

→

~~India~~

with a 17.5 million strong diaspora, Indian diaspora is the largest in the world, West Asia being one of the most preferred destinations. The potential relations between the two may ~~to~~ ~~must~~ can be reaped to a larger extent, with diaspora as the basis.

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Structure		Content	
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Q.15) Some of the assumptions which governed India's foreign policy engagements have been fundamentally challenged in recent times. Elucidate with suitable examples how India's foreign policy has evolved in an environment of changing global order.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Post-Independence India has always given an overarching importance to its foreign policy owing to the lessons learnt from 200 years of colonial subjugation. It has also shown readiness to flexibility in changing as per need & lessons.

India's foreign policy: evolution over years.

Phase I :- 1947-1964 :- Nehruvian Era :-

- Guided by principles of 'non-alignment' due to fears of neo-colonialism, as well as development concerns. Eg: India's founding role in setting up NAM.
- low expenditure on military & defence. Caused an embarrassing defeat in 1962 China war.
- Inadequate diplomacy, resulting in defeat of Kashmir issue at UN, etc

Phase II :- Greater Regional Assertion (1965-1991)

- Guided by a more-realistic foreign policy.

- Adequate focus on defense & security. manifested in victory at 1965 & 1971 wars with Pakistan.
- Greater regional assertion of power, reflected in ^{support for} creation of Bangladesh in 1971.
- Nuclear test-I at Pokhran, inviting global sanctions.

Phase 3: (1991-2000) :- era of opening up

- 1991 LPG reforms: Greater economic engagement with the world.
- Declared itself a nuclear weapon state in late 1990s with Pokhran-II
- ~~Close~~ closer ties with world powers - USA etc.

Phase 4 :- 2000-2013 :-

- . India's rise as a regional power in Asia.
- . Closer ties with the USA.

Phase 5: 2014 - present: - Aggressive foreign diplomacy, tilt away from NAM.

- Multilateral engagements like Quad, Wuhan, RCEP.
- Regional role as 'net security provider'.

- Upgraded strategic relations with global powers.

~~way forward~~ Some constants over the periods :-

→ Respect for democracy, non-interference, human rights

→ Anti-colonialism & anti-discrimination

→ De-hyphenated & balanced relations with rival powers: US, Russia, Israel-Palestine, Saudi-Iran

~~way forward~~

~~with~~ with the world acknowledging India's rise as an ^{Asian} leader, India needs to take a

balanced approach - friendly smaller neighbours, multi-polar world order, as well as calculated risk-taking.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.16) While it may be undeniable that the Maoists still have the strength to make their presence felt in certain regions, it would be grossly untenable to say that they continue to pose an existential threat to the Indian state as they did earlier. Examine.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Maoists

The spread of Maoism in India can be traced to the Naxalbari movement of 1967, arising out of ineffective land reforms in the region as well as capitalist exploitation of local resources. The movement took a terrorist turn over years & continues to inflict insurgency in affected areas.

early years of Maoism: existential threat to India

- large scale polarization of local populations & support enjoyed over wide areas:- from North-eastern & eastern states to south India.
- huge student support-base.
- cut-off connectivity to LWE affected areas, rendering government of the day ineffective
- secessionist tendencies among affected areas.
- popular demands for a new establishment

of a communist state.

However, over the years, the government of India has adopted a unique approach to contain the internal security threat:-

- 1) Development initiatives :- from Road Connectivity Project for LWE areas to skill development, education & Assamuletion initiatives like ROSHNI. \rightarrow counter alienation & establish trust with government
- 2) Law & order initiatives : Modernized police forces, special powers like ARSPA Act to counter the spread of violence.
- 3) Greater devolution of powers to certain regions for as a reconciliatory approach:- such as Autonomous District Councils in Assam etc.

As a result of such initiatives, LWE today has been contained to a large amount.

Though it continues as a threat, it is no longer an existential threat:-

- limited to small pockets in Chhatisgarh, Andhra Pradesh & N.E.
- Reconciliation with a large number of Maoist organisations & absorption into mainstream democracy. eg:- CPI govt in Kerala, NSCN (IM) of Nagaland. ⇒ providing space within democracy
- enhanced connectivity makes their operations difficult.

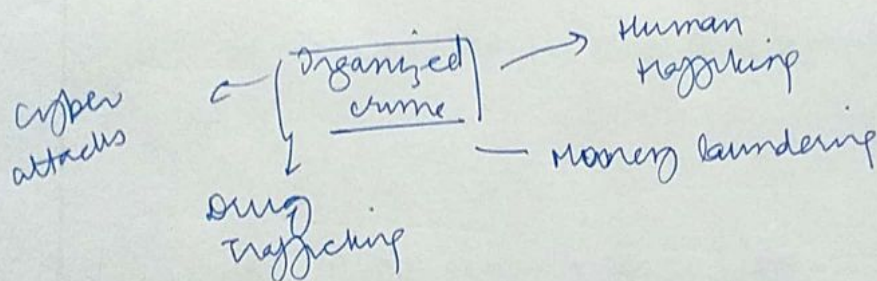
Thus, while some instances of violence continue to be reported, support base has shrunk exponentially. India's reconciliatory & accommodative approach is acted as a boon here.

Feedback [For OFFICE use only]

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.17) The linkage between the organized crimes and terrorism varies according to the geographical territory, which throws immense challenges to our national security. Discuss the measures required to break the link between organized crime and terrorism. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Organized crime refers to set of criminal activities that are run by sophisticated, powerful & highly centralized criminal networks with an underlying aim of illicit profit.



Linkage between organized crime & terrorism

North-west India :-

- proximity to the golden crescent
+
State-sponsored terrorism from Pakistan's side
+
insurgency support in J&K ⇒ counterfeit
currency, money laundering

⇓
linked with terrorism : terror-funding,
over-ground workers, etc

(Don't Write
anything in this Area)

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North-east and eastern India:-

→ LWE-affected areas + lower connectivity result in law & order issues, causing human trafficking, smuggling etc.

Above issues provide sponsorship & logistics support to mainly left-wing terrorism & insurgency. Also, proximity to golden triangle & porous borders (⇒ illegal migration) aggravate the issue.

South India :-

- maritime proximity give rise to cross-border smugglings & associated violence.

• Fishermen issue & LITE terrorist group in Tamil Nadu were linked to cross-border arms smuggle & local support.

Thus, different regions have different linkages
① organized crime & terrorism, calling for region-specific approach.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.18) To secure its vital interests in the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean region, India must place Africa significantly in India's maritime security calculus for various reasons. Discuss.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Africa and India have a long & rich history of interaction marked by cultural, economic & political exchanges. Amidst this, as well as geographical positions of India & Africa, Africa plays an important role in India's quest for maritime security.

Reasons for Africa's significance in ^{India's} maritime security:-

→ Geographical factors:

- The strategic
- The Horn of Africa' comprising Djibouti, Somalia & other nations is in proximity to the strait of Hormuz, a strategic choke point
- The Suez Canal ~~is~~ of Egypt forms another strategic channel & choke point for connectivity to Europe

→ Geo political factors: Shift towards

Indo-Pacific as ^{the} a new focal point of world power results in significance of Africa as a region for peace & security in maritime domain.

→ Trends towards
 1. Natural Resources :- with discovery of vast resources off the east coast of Africa, room for technical cooperation with India increases. India's pioneering efforts in sea-bed mining, polymetallic nodules can serve as base.

→ Maritime cooperation in the form of joint military exercises, patrolling efforts etc. have already been initiated.

→ India's mutual logistics sharing agreements with France (Djibouti port) and US. demand greater role of Africa.

Thus, India's cooperation with Africa needs to be strengthened in the maritime domain.

Asia Africa Growth Corridor led by India can act as a sound base in this regard.



Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.19) Use of social media for carrying out mass demonstrations, propaganda and rumor mongering is a major security concern. Suggest effective measures to curb the above threat.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

Growing penetration of mobile phones and internet in India, especially in the light of Digital India Mission, has caused India to become the 2nd largest market of social media players like Facebook in the world. This growing penetration of social media has brought certain concerns too.

Security concerns due to social media - measures to address.

<u>Issue:</u>	<u>Systemic Security Challenges</u>	<u>Measures to Address</u>
<p>→ <u>Fake news</u>: Fake propaganda, rumor mongering & spread of fake information has become a growing concern</p>	<p>→ <u>Rising mob lynchings</u>, esp targeted against <u>minorities</u></p> <p>→ <u>misinformed public opinion</u> affects <u>businesses</u>. Eg:- anti-lynchee news in wake of Bihar <u>NCS</u> deaths.</p>	<p>→ involvement of <u>social media giants</u> to track source of information.</p> <p>Recently, <u>whatsapp</u> took steps to trace source of messages.</p> <p>→ <u>Fake-image identification technology</u>.</p>

2). Propaganda:
spread of biased information by political parties, pressure groups etc.

→ May lead to public protests & disruption.
es: Associated with recent CAA-NRC
→ electoral malpractices
→ support base for left-wing & insurgency

→ Case study of telangana: presence of police officers on whatsapp groups -

→ establish accountability among political parties & unions, as done by eci in 2019 election.
→ use of technology to track target points.
→ surveillance programmes

3). Polarization
↳ mass demonstrations

→ Law & Order problem.
→ if turned violent, huge loss to life & property
→ used by radical elements to cause stir

→ proactive role of government & media, rather than post-mortem.
→ Smart policing.

Recent initiatives towards internal security threats on social media:

- voluntary code of ethics - by IMA and social media platforms for certain protocols, awareness campaigns etc
- Digital Geneva Convention for secure cyberspace
- Dedicated cadre of officers against fake news in telangana

As India is poised to create \$1 trillion of economic value from digital economy by 2025, it becomes all the more important to have a safe & secure cyberspace

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.20) To curb the menace of terror financing collective Inter/State efforts are required at global and regional levels. Discuss. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

India is a federal state, with division of powers between the Union & the States & supremacy of each in their respective domains. In the era of rising collaborate & cooperative federalism, states take a centre stage in security issues.

~~text~~ Global terrorism has been rising in complexity world-over, becoming ~~for~~ more and more faceless as well as cross-border linkages. This requires greater collaboration at regional & global level.

Need for inter-state efforts:

- linkages with organized crime
- Cross-border perpetration.
- Remote nature of cyber-attacks
- Global value chains \rightarrow logistics for terrorism.

efforts at Global level :-

- Bilateral & multi lateral Treaties for sharing of information on bank accounts, company operations etc.
- Global countering cross-border smugglings, requires soft diplomacy as well as cooperation
- Need for a comprehensive definition of global terrorism, and mechanisms to identify & ban terrorist organizations. (comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism).
- sharing of technology for better detection of financial frauds, etc.

Regional level :-

- enhanced & upgraded border surveillance.
- Regional treaties to curb smuggling & associated crimes.
- Superior technologies to check counterfeit currency.
- Development of border areas in collaboration with neighbours.
- Digitalization of transactions etc.

→ Ratifying global conventions on terrorism, organized crime etc.

To stay one step ahead of terrorism, a united global front is needed.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

- 1
- 2
- 3

Marking Scheme

Marks	Good	Average	Below Average
10 Marker	3.75 – 5.0	3.0 – 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 – 7.0	4.0 – 5.5	< 4.0

*Subject to change without prior notice.

For any suggestions and/or grievances regarding evaluation, please mail to :
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