

TEST CODE : 5 1 0 0 6

FIAS – MGP 2022 (C-4) - Half Length Test #6

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GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate MAYUR HAZARIKA

Roll No.

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Date:

17/10/2021

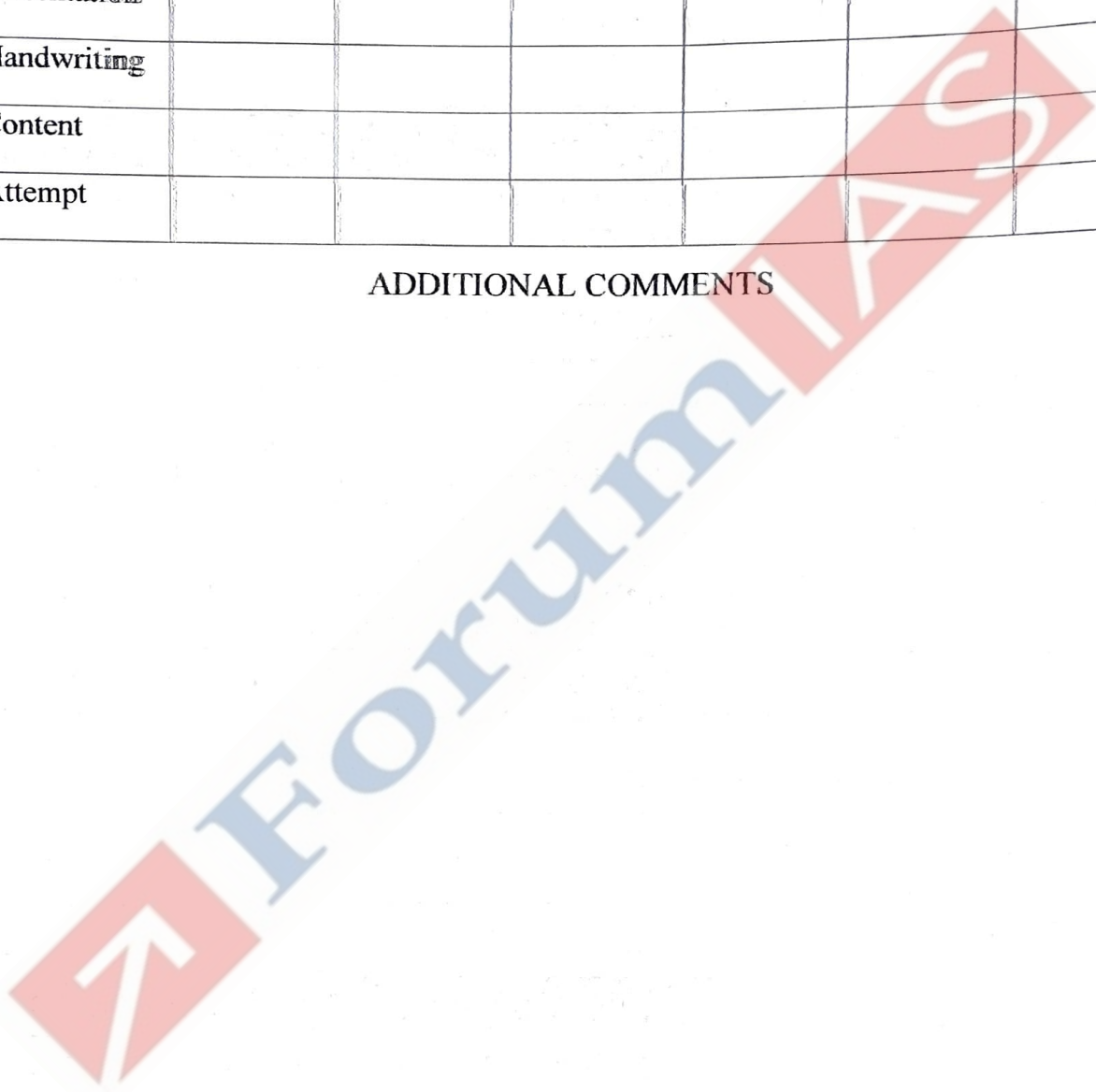
Time Allowed: One and Half Hours

Maximum Marks: 125

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 TEN questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, 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:	125		
Evaluator's Discretion:			For Student Only
			Start Time 9:00 pm End Time 10:30 pm
Total Marks:			Mode Of Examination: Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Evaluator's Discretion: This is the marks awarded at the discretion of the evaluator based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.			For Office Use Only
			ECN CODE: EG: Evaluation Date:

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
Handwriting						
Content						
Attempt						

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS



Q.1) India Bangladesh relation reflects an all-encompassing bilateral partnership based on equality, trust and mutual understanding despite some unresolved issues. In light of this statement, discuss the accomplishments and contentions between India and Bangladesh as they complete fifty years of bilateral diplomatic ties. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत-बांग्लादेश संबंध कुछ अनसुलझे मुद्दों के बावजूद समानता, विश्वास और आपसी समझ पर आधारित एक सर्वव्यापी द्विपक्षीय साझेदारी को दर्शाता है। इस कथन के आलोक में, भारत और बांग्लादेश के बीच द्विपक्षीय राजनयिक संबंधों के पचास वर्ष पूरे करने की उपलक्ष्य और विवादों पर चर्चा करें। (अंक 10, शब्द 150)

Ans: India and Bangladesh enjoy a special relationship based on their shared heritage, history, culture and language. The partnership has seen its fair share of accomplishments and contentions over the period of fifty years of diplomatic relations since 1971.

Accomplishments:

① Resolving border disputes:

(a) The Maritime Award 2014 announced by the Permanent court of Arbitration based on UNCLOS was accepted by both the countries.

(b) Land Boundary Agreement, 2015; After the 100th Constitutional amendment in India, the following issues were resolved:-

(i) 6.1 km of undemarcated border.

(ii) Enclaves.

(iii) Adverse possession.

② Border issues: Comprehensive Border Management Plan, 2011.

to synergize the efforts of both countries in securing the border peace and security.

③ Trade: Bangladesh is India's largest trading partner in South Asia. Bilateral trade and investment have grown

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rapidly over the years ; but balance of trade tilted towards India

- ④ Security: Bangladesh has helped fight the illegal groups of NE India like ULFA & NSCN taking shelter in Bangladesh.
- ⑤ Energy: India has contributed in developing the Rooppur nuclear plant and Rampal thermal station in Bangladesh.
- ⑥ Sharing River water: India & Bangladesh share 54 rivers. Joint River Commission has played a crucial role after its establishment in 1972 in resolving the issues. Ganges water Treaty, 1996 has been accepted by both countries.

■ CONTENTIONS:

- ① Teesta River water: remains the crucial bone of contention, since it is the lifeline of Northern part of West Bengal and also provides livelihood to more than 70% of Bangladeshis. No agreement has yet been reached.
 - ② Illegal immigrants: Issue of illegal immigrants is a sensitive topic for NE Indian states. But Bangladesh is unwilling to accept that issue.
 - ③ CAA-NRC: Bangladesh has proclaimed that no religious persecution of ^{non-Muslims} ~~minorities~~ happen in Bangladesh.
 - ④ Growing influence of China on Bangladesh: manifested as BRI.
- Conclusion: It is of utmost importance to resolve the issues at the earliest possible, so that both countries can cooperate in the development of South Asia.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.2) The foray of China into the Indian ocean through OBOR poses strategic, commercial, and diplomatic challenges for India. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

OBOR के जरिए हिंद महासागर में चीन का आक्रामक रुख भारत के लिए रणनीतिक, वाणिज्यिक और कूटनीतिक चुनौतियां पेश करता है। टिपण्णी कीजिए। (अंक 10, शब्द 150)

Ans! OBOR now known as Belt Road Initiative (BRI) is a China led global infrastructure development project which was started in 2013 and aims for economic development and better regional connectivity.

→ Entry of China into Indian Ocean Region (IOR)

• Complementing BRI with Debt Trap Policy, China has developed a stronghold in the IOR. This has ~~posed~~ created strategic, commercial and diplomatic ~~problems~~ challenges for India.

⇒ Strategic challenges:

① CPEC and Gilgit Baltistan: The CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) Project of BRI has been the major concern for India as it passes through Gilgit Baltistan and thus, in a way legitimizes Pakistan's control over PoK.

② China's encirclement ^{policy in IOR} through ~~the~~ for China through BRI has developed a number of ports, stations surrounding India eg Hambantota in Sri Lanka (99 yr lease to China).

- Guadar Port in Pakistan.
- Cocos Island in Myanmar.

• This "string of pearls" → can disrupt the oil supply to India in times of security crisis.

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③ Guadar Port and china's Malacca Dilemma: The development of Guadar Port in Pakistan can help china circumvent the Malacca chokepoint, which could have been a potential strength for India.

⇒ Commercial:

④ China emerging as leading trade partner for several South Asian countries.

⑤ Erosion of India's export market: as China fills them with cheap products.

⇒ Diplomatic:

⑥ China being used as a bargaining card: India's neighbours have started using china as a bargaining card especially BR1 against India.

⑦ India's ambition of being a regional leader in Indian Ocean Region: is being hampered as China's dragon progresses through BR1.

⑧ Weakening of SAARC.

⇒ Way forward:

India needs to come up with innovative ways to strengthen bilateral as well as regional partnership in IOR. Strengthening India's Act East Policy, "Neighbourhood First" policy seems to be the most viable option to counter China's rising dominance in Indian Ocean through BR1.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

- Instability in the Middle East: can spread to nearby countries
→ thereby endangering India's strategic and commercial interests
- Rise of radical Islamic groups: The rise of Hamas can encourage radicalisation in Indian Islamic terrorist outfits → Internal security issues.
- India's interest with Arabic countries: A number of Arabic countries support Palestine's claims. India has geo-economic interest in several such Arabic countries for oil, investment, etc
- Israel-Iran relation: Israel-Iran relation has not been the smoothest. India needs to safeguard its interest in Iran → Chabahar port and also Israel's co-operation.
- India's dehyphenation policy:
 - PM's visit: India's PM Modi's standalone visit to Israel and Palestine in 2018 underlines India's de-hyphenation of Israel & Palestine policy
 - India's stand: India believes in a "Two state solution" for Israel and Palestine through peaceful dialogue and mediant from both parties and way forward
 - Importance of dehyphenation: and way forward Dwing to the growing interest and co-operation with Israel, India needs to protect its interest with Israel through cautious handling of the situation. At the same time, India being the 1st Non-Arabic state to recognise Palestine has been vocal about "Two state policy". India's dehyphenation is a practical solution in dealing with both countries as independent entities.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.4) "Nations around the world might be queuing up to offer assistance to India as it battles a devastating Covid-19 wave, but the scene playing out at the World Trade Organization (WTO) contrasts significantly". In light of this statement discuss the current challenge that India faces in WTO. (10 marks, 150 words)

"दुनिया भर के राष्ट्र भारत को सहायता की पेशकश करने के लिए पंक्ति में लग सकते हैं क्योंकि यह एक विनाशकारी कोविड -19 लहर से जूझ रहा है, लेकिन विश्व व्यापार संगठन (WTO) में जो दृश्य चल रहा है वह काफी विपरीत है। इस कथन के आलोक में WTO में भारत के सामने वर्तमान चुनौतियों की चर्चा कीजिए। (अंक 10, शब्द 150)

Ans. WTO (World Trade Organization) is an international intergovernmental organization that regulates and facilitates international trade.

Foreign aid to India during covid:

The second wave of covid pandemic in India created a health crisis and to support India several countries such as the USA, UK, Russia, UAE, France, Taiwan, Bahrain, etc. came forward to help and provided several oxygen concentrators, oxygen generators, PPE kit, masks, etc.

Contrasting scene at the WTO:

India's appeal for an intellectual property right (IPR) waiver ^{for covid vaccines} ~~at~~ ^{at} WTO; The discussions on IPR waiver for Covid vaccines have been in a deadlock

→ While India advocates for equitable distribution of vaccines to meet the demand in this time of global crisis, → several other countries have opposed the IPR waiver citing that it will

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disincentivise research and development:

- Concerns over "compulsory licensing" of vaccines: India has been in favour of "compulsory licensing" which has been objected by many.

■ Other challenges faced by India at WTO:

- Agricultural subsidies: Subsidies provided by Indian farmers eg fertilizer subsidy has created discontentment among several countries who have complained at WTO.

- India-US solar dispute: USA had complained at WTO about India's solar power subsidies for domestic contents.

- Sanitary and Phytosanitary barriers: UK imposed ban on Alphonso mangoes exported by India based on sanitary and phytosanitary issues.

■ Way forward:

The Covid pandemic should be considered as a global crisis and an IPR waiver should be given on vaccines with due compensation to the countries. Also a government based fund should be created to fund such research & development activities related to vaccines.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.5) A united fight against coronavirus demands collective efforts of a wide array of partners to aid, motivate and mobilize people to beat COVID-19. In this context, discuss the role of 'Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI)' in the present crisis. How can India contribute to and benefit from this alliance? (10 marks, 150 words)

कोरोनावायरस के खिलाफ एक संयुक्त लड़ाई में लोगों को कोविड-19 को हराने के लिए सहायता, प्रेरणा और जुटाए जाने के लिए भागीदारों की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला के सामूहिक प्रयासों की आवश्यकता है। इस संदर्भ में, वर्तमान संकट में 'वैक्सीन और टीकाकरण के लिए वैश्विक गठबंधन (GAVI)' की भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। भारत इस गठबंधन में कैसे योगदान दे सकता है और इससे कैसे लाभ उठा सकता है? (अंक 10, शब्द 150)

Ans Global Alliance for Vaccines & Immunization (GAVI) established in 2000 is an international organization that works for creating equal access to new vaccines for children living in the world's poorest countries.

Role of GAVI in present covid crisis :

- Equitable distribution of vaccines through COVAX facility.
- GAVI alongwith CEPI and WHO are leading the COVAX initiative to ensure that the vaccines are not concentrated only in the strong, developed countries but also reach the developing countries → maintaining equity.
- However, its success in this respect is controversial as field reality shows that vaccine nationalism had an upper hand.
- Ensuring vaccine manufacturing at maximum possible: By providing funds and technical know how to various pharmaceutical manufacturers around the world.

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- Ensuring resilience of the conventional vaccination process:
Thus ensuring that the children are not deprived of the usual vaccines in the nose of Covid vaccines.

▣ India's contribution and benefit from GAVI

◦ Receiving vaccines under COVAX facility: India being a beneficiary of COVAX → can receive vaccines.

◦ Receiving funds & technical knowhow for vaccine manufacturing.

◦ India as a provider: India has been an active provider of vaccines to countries around the world → ensuring equitable vaccine access. India through GAVI's COVAX facility can reach the developing countries and help in vaccination.

▣ Way forward:

The ground reality exposes the stark inequality in access to vaccines - with the developing and poorer countries struggling to get vaccines. ~~For~~ GAVI has the potential of addressing this issue with required reforms in its functioning.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.6) The second decade of 21st century marks a collective failure of UN and its agencies. Examine this statement citing suitable examples. (15 marks, 250 words)

21वीं सदी का दूसरा दशक संयुक्त राष्ट्र और उसकी एजेंसियों की सामूहिक विफलता का प्रतीक है। उपयुक्त उदाहरण देते हुए इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए। (अंक 15, शब्द 250)

Ans

The United Nations (UN) was established in 1945 with the objective of ~~stabilize~~ ensuring global peace and security. Over the years, several agencies got associated with UN with different goals ranging from health to climate change.

• The second decade of 21st century (2010-19) has seen several incidents and trends which indicate towards failure

of the UN and its agencies: —

① Maintaining peace and order: was compromised as seen in case of Syria conflicts, 2011, border tensions between India-China, Israel-Palestine etc.

② Veto power of UNSC: has often been used to create deadlock on several important global issues. eg. In case of Syrian civil war.

③ Failure of WHO:

- to contain the coronavirus ~~is~~ timely which eventually led to the pandemic

- Natural mortality and child mortality still persists in the world (despite SDG)

- Failure to eradicate Polio.

⑤ Failure of UNESCO:

↳ To protect the heritage sites destroyed by ISIS.

⑥ Failure of ~~UNESCO~~ UNCLOS:

• Blatant disregard to the the arbitral award as per UNCLOS by China in its disputes with Philippines in the south China sea. This is due to lack of an enforceable framework.

⑦ Failure of FAO:

• Poverty and malnutrition still persists in many countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa.

⑧ Failure of UNFCCC:

• Despite the great talks on the importance of steps to combat climate change, the countries have failed to adhere to their commitments and the steps that are being taken are far from adequate to achieve sustainable development.

⑨ Failure of UN Human Rights' Commission:

To address the human rights violations in North Korea, Syria, and several African countries by Staby militant outfits such as Boko Haram.

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① Failure of UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees)

To deal with the issue of Syrian refugee, Rohingya refugee in an inclusive and comprehensive manner.

❏ Success of the UN:

- Despite the various shortcomings, the UN has served
 - its role in achieving the ~~SMA~~ Millennium Development Goals (MDG) to varying extent.
- As reported by MDG Report 2015, UN has achieved several parameters ~~targets~~ set for MDG ~~in~~ in different countries.

❏ Way forward:

The role of UN and its agencies in creating a global co-operation in achieving various objectives (SDG) through mobilization of resources and people ~~to~~ over the years has been admirable. A number of reforms for strengthening the UN (particularly UNSC) and its agencies is the need of the hour to make it efficient enough to usher the world into a better future.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.7) Analyze the likely impact of the complete withdrawal of US forces from Afghanistan on the region. How will this impact India's interest? (15 marks, 250 words)

अफगानिस्तान से अमेरिकी सैन्य की पूर्ण वापसी से क्षेत्र पर संभावित प्रभाव का विश्लेषण करें। यह भारत के हितों को कैसे प्रभावित करेगा? (अंक 15, शब्द 250)

Ans:

The US forces in retaliation to 9/11 attacked Afghanistan, dethroned the Taliban regime and replaced it with an interim government in 2001. After 20 years of war in Afghanistan, the US had finally decided to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan in 2021 under POTUS Joe Biden.

Likely impact of complete withdrawal of US forces:

1) Return of Taliban Regime: The Taliban forces captured Kabul in August, 2021 leading to the fall of the Afghan government. Following that, Taliban has formed a government in Afghanistan.

2) Afghanistan becoming a Pariah state again: No country has officially recognised the Taliban govt. in Afghanistan yet, although official links with a few has been set up.

3) Human rights violation: The previous Taliban regime had banned education for women including several other rights, imposing 'hijab', and other such Shariah laws. There have been reports of massive human rights violation during its previous regime.

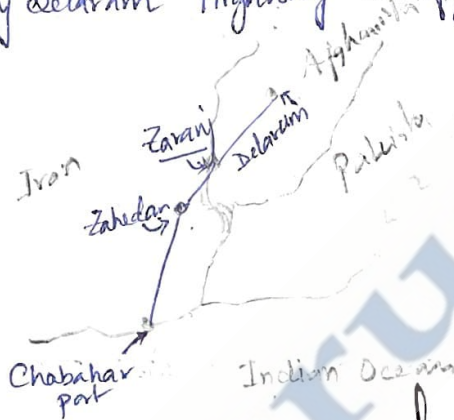
- 4) A non-inclusive government being formed: The recent Taliban govt being non-inclusive does not include women, minorities, etc. Further several members of the Taliban cabinet are UN recognised international terrorists.
- 5) Breeding ground and safe haven for terrorists: Afghan soil may become breeding ground and may be used for terror activities in other countries.
- 6) Radical Islamic groups maybe encouraged elsewhere.
Eg. China has concerns over ETIM (East Turkestan Islamic Movement) gaining.
- 7) Unstable central Asia: The instability can spread to other countries of Central Asia.
- 8) Higher expenditure by neighbouring countries for defence: Since no longer defended by USA.
- 9) Impact on India's interest:
- 1) Security issue: There are concerns that Afghan soil maybe used for terror activities in India.
 - 2) Strategic issue: China has already started talks with Taliban leaders and are actively pushing for their Belt and Road Initiative in Afghanistan.

3) Concerns over a China-Pakistan-Afghanistan nexus:
causing strategic loss for India in the neighbourhood.

4) Concerns over Taliban's stand on Kashmir issue.

5) Rise of radical Islamic groups: Encouragement to radical Islamic groups in India → Internal security issue.

6) India's interest in Central Asia: India had plans for accessing Central Asia through Chabahar port → Zaranj Delaram Highway in Afghanistan.



7) India's investment in Afghanistan: in the form of Salma Dam and Zaranj Delaram Highway have the role of being sunk investment.

Way forward:
India needs to tackle the situation cautiously to ensure that a friendly government in Afghanistan sustains which takes an anti-terrorism stance and helps thereby safeguard India's strategic interest in Afghanistan.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.8) The arrangements like 'Bi-laterals', 'pluri-laterals' and 'Mini-laterals' are gaining more traction over 'Multilaterals' in contemporary international relations. Give a reasoned account for such rise citing suitable examples and the challenges that come along with it.

(15 marks, 250 words)

'द्वि-पार्श्व', 'बहु-पार्श्व' और 'लघु-पार्श्व' जैसी व्यवस्थाएं समकालीन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंधों में 'बहुपक्षीय' पर अधिक रुझान प्राप्त कर रही हैं। उपर्युक्त उदाहरणों और इसके साथ आने वाली चुनौतियों का हवाला देते हुए इस तरह की वृद्धि के लिए एक तर्कपूर्ण विवरण दीजिए।

(अंक 15, शब्द 250)

Aim: Global diplomacy has seen a shift gradually towards smaller units in the form of "bilateral", "pluri-lateral" and "mini-lateral" ties among countries instead of "multi-lateral" platforms. Hereby, nations are forming platforms with lesser number of participants to achieve specific objectives.

Reasons for rise in bilateral, plurilateral platforms:

① Focus on "impact" rather than mere numbers:

The main aim of such ties has been to co-operate with the smallest possible number of countries that can produce the maximum impact, rather than non-impactful countries just for name sake.

Eg: (NATO) [North Atlantic Treaty organization] has become such a group where a \approx number of countries with no real impact in global security and defence has found a place, while only a few like USA, UK, etc. spending significantly on defence.

- ② Easier consensus building: Too large a body at times becomes impractical and redundant. Getting multiple ~~bodies~~ ^{countries} on the same page often becomes difficult.
- Ex: In the recent years, the WTO has seemed to enter into several deadlocks due to separation into 2 blocs - "developed" & "developing".
- ③ Quick decision making: A smaller number of participants allow quicker decision making and thus increased efficiency.
- ④ Quicker resolution of disagreements: Bilateral treaties in particular help in quicker resolution. Ex. India-Bangladesh border issue was solved through land boundary agreement, 2015.
- ⑤ Greater responsibility of the members: Being a smaller group, the responsibility of the members increase, and they cannot remain as mere spectators hoping the bigger and stronger countries will be the ones doing all the work.

Examples of Bilateral, Pluri-lateral and Mini-laterals:

① India-Japan: upgraded their relation to "Special Strategic & Global partner" in 2014.

② G-20 countries: Together constitute 80-85% of global GDP. → Any economy related major decisions can be taken by these countries.

③ QUAD: US, Japan, Australia, India have come together to secure their interest against in the Indo-

Pacific region against Chinese dominance.
 (4) RCEP: free trade agreement of 10 ASEAN + 5 other countries
 ■ Challenges to this new pattern.

① Issues of significant global impact: → Such issues cannot be dealt with by a handful of countries. Eg. Climate change

② Not inclusive: Since smaller countries are often neglected.

Eg. Sri Lanka has raised concerns over dominant rise of QUAD in the Indo-Pacific without its involvement.

③ Limits diplomatic ties: to only countries of impact or interest.

④ Can be undemocratic at times: Powerful countries may at times bulldoze the opinions of smaller countries.

⑤ Promotes 'groupings' / camps: Right now, the world politics seems to be undergoing a sort of 'Cold war' like situation divided into 2 camp → One led by USA and other China. Such smaller platforms can promote this phenomena. Eg: China has accused QUAD of being a NATO like alliance in the Indo-Pacific.

⑥ Creates strains in relations: Eg. AUKUS's alliance recently has created strains in US-France relations.

■ Way forward: With the great potential of such smaller plurilateral platforms, the nations need to find a healthy balance between it and multilateral platforms to build a more cosmopolitan yet efficient world.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.9) The spirit of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) is to prioritize the role of international law and promote a stronger regional architecture in the Indo-Pacific. How can India leverage its participation in the grouping? Does membership of Quad mark a shift in approach in India's foreign policy? (15 marks, 250 words)

चतुर्भुज सुरक्षा दार्ता (QUAD) की भावना अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून की भूमिका को प्राथमिकता देना और भारत-प्रशांत में एक मजबूत क्षेत्रीय वास्तुकार्य को बढ़ावा देना है। भारत समूह में अपनी भागीदारी का लाभ कैसे उठा सकता है? क्या क्वाड की सदस्यता भारत की विदेश नीति में दृष्टिकोण में बदलाव का प्रतीक है? (अंक 15, शब्द 250)

Ans: QUAD as an idea was floated by Japan PM Shingo Abe in 2007 and finally it was in 2017 that India, Japan, Australia and the USA came together to give shape to the idea. QUAD partnership seeks to secure the critical sea-routes in the Indo-Pacific from any unwanted influence.

India's opportunity:

① India's Act East Policy: The QUAD partnership is in line with India's Act East Policy → building better relationship with countries of South East Asia and also in the Pacific Region.

② Securing Indo Pacific Region: India can become a key player in securing the Indo Pacific Region → providing for enforcement of international laws.

③ Countering China's growing hegemony in the South China Sea: The blatant disregard of

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of China to the Arbitral Award in its dispute with Philippines on the South China Sea dispute → raises the need to counter such hard power exhibition by China.

④ India emerging as a key leader in the Indo Pacific Region: — by ~~emerging~~ becoming a "net security provider" with its strong naval forces.

⑤ India's economic interest: Becoming a key player in the region will open up multiple avenues for India's trade and investment growth.

⑥ As a card against China's aggressive foreign policy:

~~India~~ China has created concerns for India in several fronts: →

- ① Border tensions along LAC.
- ② Rising Chinese influence among India's neighbouring Countries.
- ③ Belt and Road Initiative.
- ④ "String of Pearls" → encirclement strategy.

India can leverage the position in QUAD to become a repose China's Malacca dilemma (in the Malacca Strait) and thus counterbalance China's aggressive policy.

QUAD: A shift in India's foreign policy:

- India for long has been following a non-alignment policy, seeking to take no sides.

- Shifting towards US camp: with the QUAD partnership, India has shifted towards the US camp slightly in the midst of a growing cold war like situation between China and USA. → which is a deviation from its non-alignment policy.

→ China has accused QUAD of being a NATO like alliance in the Indo Pacific Region.

- India has been actively participating in the QUAD initiatives such a Malabar exercise.

- This has created strains in India's relationship with China.

- India also a part of RIC and SCO: ~~How~~

→ However, India's "strategic autonomy" becomes evident from the fact that India is also involved in platforms with China such as SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organization) and RIC (Russia-India-China) initiative.

- In line with India's 'Act East Policy':

Way forward: Although the QUAD initiative seems to be a shift in India's foreign policy, it should be noted that India is simultaneously engaging in talks with China. India needs to maintain a balance between both to safeguard its strategic interests.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Q.10) India's interaction with world is no more restricted by the policy of non-alignment but is based on careful assessment of conditions confronting India. Explain with relevant examples. (15 marks, 250 words)

विश्व के साथ भारत की बातचीत अब गुटनिरपेक्षता की नीति द्वारा प्रतिबंधित नहीं है, बल्कि भारत के सामने आने वाली परिस्थितियों के सादरानीपूर्वक मूल्यांकन पर आधारित है। प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ स्पष्ट करें।

(अंक 15, शब्द 250)

Ans:

Non-alignment ^{policy} ~~movement~~ ~~(was)~~ originated during the Cold War Period at the Bandung Conference in 1955. It referred to the policy of the states who did not want to ~~set~~ formally align with the US bloc or the Soviet Bloc. Today, it refers to the policy of not aligning diplomatic interactions as per any stronger state.

■ Non-alignment during Cold War period:

• As a founder member: Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru as a founder member of non-alignment movement followed this policy during the Cold War period.

• India drifting towards ~~Russia~~ USSR: With US siding towards Pakistan and China and the Indo-Pak wars & Indo-Chinese wars, India started drifting towards USSR which created confusions in the NAM.

■ After collapse of USSR in 1991: After USSR's collapse, the world headed towards a period of USA's hegemony leading to a unipolar world. ~~But the NAM countries~~

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• Given in the midst of US hegemony, the non-alignment policy of India provided India with the required breathing space in its $\&$ diplomatic relations with other countries

• Prospects of a Second cold war in present context:

• US-China conflicts: Unlike the 1st Cold War which was a war based on 'principles', the US-China conflict is a race for dominance in global order. Recent case of US-China trade war is an example of the rising tensions ^{between} among the two countries.

• Assessment of conditions confronting India:

• Indo-China tension:

• China's aggressive foreign policy: China has been following an aggressive foreign policy in ~~India~~ in India's neighbourhood with its influence rapidly increasing.

• China's encirclement strategy: In the form of "string of pearls" \rightarrow Chinese naval bases network encircling India.

• BRI and CPEC: The CPEC passing through Gilgit Baltistan region raises concerns over the Kashmir issue.

• China's growing hegemony in the Indo Pacific and South China Sea in Particular: are in contrast and conflict with India's "Act East" policy.

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India drifting towards US camp, while still continuing dialogue with China:

- QUAD: QUAD partnership ~~on the~~ of US, Japan, India and Australia has been accused by China as ~~the~~ "NATO" like in Indo Pacific.

- Signing military agreements with USA: like LEMOA, COMCASA, BECA, etc.

- Military exercises with USA: eg Malabar exercise in the Indo Pacific Region

- India still in dialogue with China: in the platform such as SCO, RIC, BRICS, etc

Way forward:

Thus, ~~the~~ India is shifting away from non-alignment policy after analysis of its current situation and trying to make the best use of US's looking for a strategic partner in South Asia.

- India is also following the policy of de-hyphenation in its dealing with Israel and Palestine as a part of shifting away from non-alignment.

- Thus, it is clear that while India is ~~still~~ shifting from non-alignment as per need, India still believes in "strategic autonomy", balancing diplomacy and is still an advocate for multipolar world.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

-
-
-
-

Marking Scheme

Mark	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
✓✓	Key / Relevant Point		
✗	Vague / Irrelevant		

* Subject to change without prior notice.