

# **G|S SCORE**

**An Institute for Civil Services**

## **IAS TOPPER'S**

**TEST COPY**

**SHREYA SINGHAL**

**RANK - 176**

**POLITICAL SCIENCE  
TEST - 7**



**www.iasscore.in**

# TEST 07

Enter number  
of question

Name : SHREYA SINGHAL

Module No.:

Date :

## REMARKS

Important points are missing. Make the  
points from your answers and give  
examples for better understanding.  
Please you mention all the  
key words for better understanding  
and give detailed comments.

(1)

(a)

Diplomacy refers to the means and ways by which a country conduct its relations with other countries and international organisations. The pandemic induced global lockdown brought the era of digital diplomacy i.e. diplomacy through information and communication tools rather than physical meetings.

Having realised the imperative of robust foreign policy and diplomatic outreach, the Ministry of External Affairs was among the first to adopt digital means like video conferencing among leaders, health ministers, using social media to address grievances of dispora, evaluate Indians from Wuhan etc. It conducted more than 50 diplomatic meetings including the high profile SAARC emergency meeting, NAM virtual meet, BRICS, G-20 etc. Even bilateral meetings were conducted

such as India-Australia summit etc.  
According to Rajiv Shastri,  
Indian diplomacy showed enterprise  
resilience and creativity by converting  
this crisis into opportunity to project  
India's leadership at a discrete time.  
With the pandemic,

Idea's Name: Even before the pandemic,  
digital.

Even so, digital

MEA has embarked upon a  
diplomacy through its Public diplomacy.

~~diplomacy~~ through mass outreach through distinguished  
~~division~~

*Acilius et*

Thus the flexibility shown by MEA has enabled India to supply medicines to 123 countries including US, UK, Russia etc.

~~Though certain issues such as absence of personal chemistry and touch and body~~

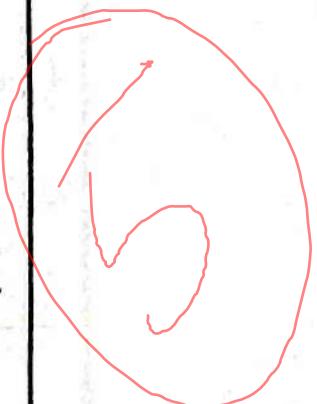
language due to virtual means, yet digital diplomacy has acted as lifeline for India's foreign policy.

(b)

India's "Act East" was unveiled at the 2014 ASEAN summit to accelerate trade economic as well as strategic ties with South East Asia including ASEAN. It is a successor of India's Look East policy.

The Act East policy is seen as India's strategic move given the shift of global geopolitics from Atlantic to Indo-Pacific. It ~~not only~~ increases scope of India's engagement to Indo-Pacific (Australia, New Zealand, Indo-Pacific Islands) as well as North East Asia with special emphasis on Mongolia.

Further, Act East not only aims at boosting infrastructure and connectivity but also intends to maritime security. It has <sup>huge</sup> convergence with India's Indo-Pacific policy of free, open



inclusive and rule based Indo-Pacific. This explains Indian initiatives such as INDS, IDRA, SAGAR as well as the recently operationalised QUAD grouping.

Further Act East is also linked to Look West. Thus, India would try to coordinate and balance relations with Gulf countries as well as South East Asia.

Act East policy is thus India's strategic response to growing Chinese assertiveness in Indo-Pacific (South China Sea, Belt and Road Initiative) as well as leverage historical, cultural and trade links with ASEAN. It also has a domestic dimension in Act East through North East.

1. (c) Nehruvian Consensus refers to the widely acceptable norms and principles, devised by Pt. Nehru to build a broad consensus among all competing ideologies and leaders. It emerged in a range of fields, from domestic to international politics.

Pt. Nehru is credited for ensuring democratic internal working of Congress and freedom of speech to all members. He accommodated concerns and grievances of various sections to build a loose consensus among all.

Nehruvian Consensus could be seen in India's secularism policy which is a mix of Gandhian (Art 25), Ambbedkarite (Art 29, 30) and his own (Art 14, 15) and based on principled distance formula.



Further, in international politics,

Nehru was able to mobilise support for his Non Alignment movement with backing of other developing countries such as Egypt, Yugoslavia, Indonesia etc.

This helped India to wade the turbulent waters of Cold War. It also balanced

~~Left (favoured USSR) and right (US) political parties~~

~~cooperation between~~  
~~discuss~~  
~~idealist~~  
~~interestate~~  
~~in place~~  
~~the role~~  
~~of state~~  
~~and non~~  
~~state~~  
~~power~~  
~~प्रश्न की संख्या~~  
~~लीजिए~~

Nehruvian consensus could also be seen in India's principled stand on Palestine issue where India sympathised with Jews but morally protested against Israeli occupation of Palestine.

Thus, Nehruvian consensus enabled India to secure its territorial integrity and sovereignty in turbulent times and build huge soft power.

I. (a) India, according to International Migration Organisation is the largest country of origin of migrants. India's diaspora stands at 90 million strong, spread across United States, Canada, Australia, UK and Gulf:

As per Rajamohan, India has, of late pursued a policy of active assimilation rather than active dissemination with the diaspora.

Strategic use of diaspora has been a hallmark of Modi government's foreign policy.

Strong diaspora linkages has always been a major factor in Indo-US relations, more so under Trump <sup>Pres.</sup> <sub>Indian</sub>, with Modi event etc. Diaspora also was instrumental in signing of 2008 Civil nuclear deal with US.

Relations with Gulf countries

The Saudi has been founded on huge expatriate Indian population in Gulf. It has helped build cultural and people to people connect strengthening India's soft power in Arab world and challenging Pakistan's narrative on Kashmir.

Indian Diaspora has also been instrumental in propagating yoga diplomacy, Talk II talks on free trade agreement (e.g.: EU) and building positive constituencies (Eg: Nepal). Vande Bharat mission showed India's agility & concern for its diaspora. However, Indian diaspora has also proved to be a hindrance, seen in Tamil issue (Sri Lanka), Madhesis (Nepal), Khalistan sympathisers (Canada, Australia)

Nevertheless, as the world becomes more deteriorated, diaspora would act as disseminators of India's culture and interests at global level.

1. (e) India has advocated for a complete, verifiable, non-discretionary and irreversible disarmament as the goal of its nuclear policy.

India, even after developing nuclear prowess post Pokhran 1998, continues to believe that its security is better served in a nuclear weapon free environment. Thus it has imposed self-restraint on further testing. Its nuclear doctrine also mentions principles of no first use, minimum deterrence, no use against non-nuclear weapon states, signifying that it does not intend to start a nuclear arms race, rather only ~~sets~~ committed to its own security.

Thus in this regard, India

is working with United States to build consensus on Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty.

However, India has not signed Nonproliferation Treaty as it divided the world into nuclear haves and have nots. It has also criticised the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty as it did not provide a timeline for complete disarmament and does not ban computer simulated testing.

Prof. Ramach Thakur have criticised India for unnecessary expenditure on building nuclear trial, CINS Chakra, Prithvi missile etc calling it destabilising and for entire South Asia.

Nevertheless, as pointed by Barry Buzan, security is the foremost imperative of any nation. India must continue its advocacy for nuclear weapon free world at global level.

3) (a) SAARC is a regional grouping of South Asian countries, formed in 1985 to leverage close geographic proximity and historical linkages. However, at present S. Jaishankar, calls SAARC as a "jammed vehicle"

SAARC has been a 'doormat' since 2016 when India boycotted SAARC meet accusing Pakistan of caging in Iln, Pathankot attacks.

Though & worsening India-Pak relations is a major challenge, SAARC also faces from other issues -

### ① Institutional :-

- i) no provision for ~~non~~ qualified voting - difficult to reach conclusions
- ii) Non operationalisation of SAARC free trade agreement due to para

tariffs, sensitive list concept,  
inadequate border infrastructure

② Economic - closed economies of  
member nations prevent development of  
complex interdependence (Keohane & Nye)

③ Trust deficit among members - huge  
asymmetry between India & other members,  
seen as "big bully brother"

④ Trust deficit, Identity crisis - ~~it is SASE~~  
member nations are newly developed  
nation states, so unwilling to lost their  
sovereignty as done by EU members

⑤ Concept of South Asia - not ingrained.  
It is said that South Asia is a name  
looking for place in the map. So India  
wants to be part of <sup>south</sup> East Asia, Pakistan  
feels comfortable with West Asia etc.

Nevertheless, the recent SAARC Emergency meet initiated by PM Modi revived hopes for SAARC revival. The meet led to formation of Covid response fund, sharing of best practices, common research platform and supply of essential medicines by India to SAARC nations.

Rajiv Bhattacharya credits Indian leadership for showing imaginative diplomatic to serve SAARC. He calls for SAARC 2.0 led by India & other friendly nations.

However, Hafizmian Jafar hints to absence of Pakistan PM at the meet, showing SAARC was a dead institution. Issue of Kashmir, cross border terror, rising footprint of China will continue to haunt SAARC.

Nevertheless, as PM Modi pointed, we can respond best by coming together, not going apart.

Candidates  
must not write  
on this margin

कर्मीदलारों को इस  
हासिल में नहीं  
सिक्खना चाहिए

In the words of P. Stoddart,  
South Asia has emerged as the  
battleground between two leading  
powers, India and China. South Asian  
states face dangers of getting engulfed  
in their great power games.

Since Independence, India  
has seen itself as regional hegemon  
in South Asia. Through its Gujral  
doctrine followed by Neighbourhood  
first policy, it has invested in infrastructure  
as well as development of its South Asian  
neighbours.

From technical and financial  
assistance to Bhutan for hydroslectricity  
projects, Nepal's rebuilding post 2015  
earthquake, Colombo housing project and  
Tiruvannamalai oil farms to inland water  
transit protocol with Bangladesh, India  
has shown commitment to regional

connectivity. Multilateral grouping such as SAARC, BIMSTEC and projects such as India - Myanmar - Thailand, Bhutan - Bangladesh - India - Nepal has highlighted the seriousness of India's commitment.

However, India has raised red flags over the rising Chinese footprint in the region. The flagship programme of "Belt & Road Initiative", called as "Chinese" Marshall plan" is based on debt trap diplomacy and non-transparent approach. It has raised concerns of entrapping India in a "string of pearls" from Gwadar (Pakistan), Hambantota (Sri Lanka), Kyukpyu (Myanmar) etc.

Further the China Pakistan Economic Corridor violates India's territorial sovereignty and also poses

Candidates  
must not write  
on this margin

समीक्षारों को इस  
प्रश्नाएँ में नहीं  
लिखना चाहिए

security threat to India. Chinese initiatives such as trans-Himalayan rail-road network in Nepal is also seen as attempt to seduce Nepalese dependence on India.

Thus, India does not have an issue with infrastructure development but concerned over unsustainability & debt (E.g: FoI: Maldivian debt owed to China) and geo strategic security implications SD Munir, in this regard points

out that "if you leave space empty, someone will come to fill it". He recommends PRAGATI model of infrastructure development, fast track project completion and show visible results. Shyam Saran advises India not to fall in competition game with China rather work on our strengths i.e human capacity building, ITC expansion, IT services, SAGAR, IURT etc.

3) South East Asia is 'second

Mandal' of India's foreign policy as per Kantilal Mandal Theory. Thus, it has acquired huge strategic importance in India's foreign policy especially since 1992.

Importance of Asia Pacific -

- 1) Economic - possess enormous marine resources, fishes, oil and gas.
- 2) Strategic - contains sea lines of communication and chokepoints such as Isthmus, crucial for economic security; further, rise of China's aggressiveness in South China Sea.
- 3) Political - upholding multi-lateralism, reform of global institutions, advocacy of free, rule based and inclusive Pacific.

It is in this context that India initiated its Look East policy in 1992 which seek to boost economic and trade ties with the ASEAN grouping. Further, under Atal Bihari Vajpeyi, it acquired a strategic dimension too as well as domestic dimension "Look East through North East"

"Act East" was announced at the 2014 ASEAN summit to accelerate economic and strategic ties with South Asia. Recognising the shift in global geopolitics from Atlantic to Indo-Pacific, it added a maritime dimension too (QUAD, Mekong, SAGAR).

Further, it expanded scope from Asia Pacific to Indo Pacific to draw attention to India's vision of Indo Pacific from shores of Americas to

Spices.

"Act East" boosted connectivity ties through projects such as Kaladan multi-modal Transit project, Indian-Nyawar Shalema highway etc. Further, it involved investment in oil and gas resources in Vietnam & South China Sea to diversify Indian energy sources.

India also increased ties with CMLV countries through centre of excellence, Humanitarian assistance, etc.

Further, Act East is key to boost bilateral diplomacy and leverage historical connect of India with the region. It could be seen in role of Archaeological Survey of India in restoring Cambodian temples, Thailand Pagodas, Khon mask festival of Thailand organised during Diwali etc.

समीकरणों को इन  
डायर में नहीं  
रिकॉर्ड करिए

However Act East policy  
itself faces critical challenges. Slow  
implementation of Indian infrastructure  
projects such as MMTP, IMT has  
ceded space to Chinese bid initiatives  
such as CPEC etc. India's refusal to  
join RLEP trade deal poses danger of  
Chinese economic hegemony in the region.

Further, Crisis such as  
Rohingya crisis, heightening US-China  
tension in the region, drug and arms  
trafficking pose major challenge to  
India's initiative.

Nonetheless, "Act East" is  
combination of energy, mindset and  
possibility. And convergence of India's  
neighbourhood first as well as neigh-  
borhood security & growth for all in the region  
(SAEM)

5) (g)

Ministry of External Affairs is the primary instrument of formulation and implementation of India's foreign policy. It is headed by Minister of External Affairs and is staffed by foreign services officers & personnel.

### Functions of MEA:

(1) Prepares foreign policy of the country, in consultation with ~~with~~ and in consultation with political leadership, Cabinet committee or security etc.

(2) Spokesperson - puts forward India's foreign policy stands and opinions on global issues. Eg: On US-China trade war.

(3) Conducts diplomacy - through foreign stationed diplomats, hosting foreign

Confidential  
material and writing  
on this margin

समीक्षकों द्वारा इस  
हासिल होने वाली  
सिफारिश कार्ड

dipnotaries, track 1.5 dialogue etc.

④ Assist Indian diaspora outside  
Eg: through visa grievance redressal,  
repatriation of Indians during covid  
pandemic. (Operation Vande Bharat)

⑤ Advises political leadership on foreign  
policy issues, acts as storehouse of expertise  
and experience. Eg, S. Jaishankar's  
The India way

However, as pointed by MEA  
Shashi Tharoor panel, ~~as~~ India's ~~foreign~~  
is understaffed, ill-worded and  
malaptely trained. Thus, we need  
domain experts, inter departmental  
coordination, lateral entry etc- to  
ensure India finds its significant place  
in country of nations.

5) (b)

Soft power, defined by Joseph Nye is ~~for~~ invisible power exercised through culture, ideas and ideology. Soft power is a hallmark of India's foreign policy.

India exercises <sup>univers</sup> soft power due to its vibrant democracy, freedom of speech, punjabi culture, religious tolerance and civilizational ethos of non violence.

However, India faces few impediments in exercise of soft power:

- ① Widely dispersed - not at the disposal of state to exercise as and when needed. E.g.: despite massive goodwill among common Afghan people, India could not convert it to strategic advantage in recent peace talks.

Candidates  
must not write  
on this margin

समीक्षारों को इस  
हासिल में नहीं  
रिकॉर्ड करायें

- ② Not effective always - In words  
of C-Rajniathan, world does not  
understand power of argument but  
argument of power. Eg: Balakot  
Strike on Pakistan
- ③ Political factors - often determine  
viability of soft power. Eg: withdrawal  
of GSP benefits by US despite huge  
diapora & cultural connect

However, India has learned  
to strategically use its soft power seen  
in internationalisation of yoga,  
cultural diplomacy with ASEAN etc.

In this regard, as C.Rajniathan  
points, India must understand that it  
cannot influence global issues through  
Bollywood, butter chicken & yoga. Thus it  
must work on development of great  
power (History Unboxed)

5) (c)

### Credible Minimum Deterrence <sup>(CMD)</sup>

Candidates  
must not write  
on this margin

is a key feature of India's nuclear policy unveiled post the 1998 Pakistani nuclear tests.

CMD refers to commitment of India to utilise nuclear weapons to enhance its security. It will maintain minimum forces necessary to give legitimate deterrence against enemies.

However, CMD has only added to vagueness of Indian nuclear doctrine. It has not defined what constitutes "credible" & "minimum". It has thus deepened security dilemma between India & Pakistan.

Tayntor passed argues to change Credible minimum deterrence to minimum credible deterrence to make it more explicit. It would allow

समीक्षार्थों को इस  
हासिल में नहीं  
रिकॉर्ड करायें

India to lose its nuclear arsenal adequately to encounter two front war from China & Pakistan.

5)  
However K Subramanian disagrees with such change. As per to him deterrence is a psychological concept, has nothing to do with number of nuclear weapons.

\* Manjeet Sethi, instead advises India to work on coordination, administration efficiency and training of forces for a strong deterrent effect.

discreet  
moderates &  
nuclear weapons &  
enforcement  
decrease  
believe of

5) (d)

According to Indian Foreign  
Secretary, Act East policy is the  
foundation of India's economic policy.  
Act East policy, unveiled

in 2019 ASEAN summit seeks to accelerate  
economic & strategic partnership of India  
with the South East Asia including  
ASEAN and extending upto Japan, Australia,  
Mongolia etc. Besides trade dimension,  
it also involves maritime security through QUAD, Mekong-India  
SAGAR.

Role of North East :-

During Vajpayee's era, domestic  
dimension of "Look East through  
North East" was added. North East acts  
as a land bridge between India + South  
East Asia. It is important node of

various connectivity projects such as KMMTP, IMT highway, Mehay Ganga Cooperation etc.

Further, Japan's partnership for quality infrastructure development in North East has deepened strategic relations ~~note~~ between India-Japan.

North East, due to geographic proximity also harbours significant cultural relations between cross border tribes & ethnic groups giving resilience to Art East....

However, North East also suffers from curse of geography. Cross border infiltration, proximity to Golden triangle, arms smuggling, difficult terrain or few impediments to Art East.

Nonetheless, North East Art East has emerged as natural platform of convergence of policies Indo Pacific & Neighbourhood first policy.

In the world of PM Modi  
security of India and Maldives is  
"indivisible".

Maldives is an crucial  
economic & strategic partner of India.  
It emerges as natural platform for Neighbour-  
hood First, as well as Security & Growth  
for all in Region.

In recent times, Maldives has  
emerged as crucial security challenge. It  
has highest per capita foreign fighters  
too to join ISIS. Further, given its strategic  
location in sea lines of communication  
of Indian Ocean, it has become all the  
more important.

Maldives is part of India's  
maritime security initiatives such as,

Indian IORA, BIMSTEC, SAGAR etc.

India has also initiated High Impact



Community development programmes under ITEC, construction of schools, desalination plant to improve developmental status. On secret visit of Raj Solanki, \$ 800m aid was given by India to build cricket stadium, boat tourism and infrastructure development for improving employment opportunities for youth.

Further, India trains over 70% of Maldivian defense forces, has implemented the Coastal radar surveillance system to boost capacity of Maldivian defense forces.

Further, Rajiv Dixit suggest grouping of India, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Madagascar & Seychelles to realise cooperative security approach in the Indo-Pacific.

6) (a) A former foreign minister remarked 'Rivers know no boundaries'

South Asia, owing to geographical proximity to the mighty Himalayas boasts of multiple river systems such as Ganga, Indus, Brahmaputra, most of them being transboundary rivers.

As a region where huge population is engaged in agriculture, has huge drinking water & industrial water needs, water plays ~~key~~ a critical role in foreign policy.

### Water as driver of peace & stability:

The Indus Water Treaty, brokered by World Bank in 1960 between India & Pakistan is known as a bright spot in otherwise depressing relations.

It has managed to stay severely despite

great downturn in relations, was etc; giving ~~to~~ a sensibility of peace.

The Ganga water treaty between India & Bangladesh has also proved to be major breakthroughs in peace and deepening of comprehensive dependence. It has also led to economic development, both sides of border.

Further, India's assistance to Bhutan & Nepal to construct hydroelectric projects and dams have helped to build mutual trust & goodwill.

Sharing of Brahmaputra waters with Tibet has been amicable too, broadly, despite no formal agreements & protocols.

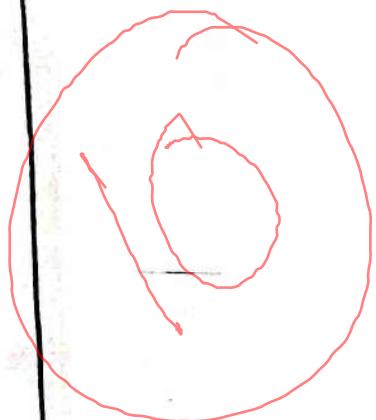
**Issues:** However, in recent times, water has emerged as a major thorn

in relationship of ~~host~~ South Asian  
members.

Pakistan's continued support  
to cross border terror has <sup>led to</sup> called for  
abrogation of Indus Water Treaty. There  
are long standing disputes over Treaty  
watersharing between India - Bangladesh  
as well as over Tripai Mukti dam.

Further, China withheld information  
regarding Brahmaputra port Doklam  
~~its own stand off~~. Dams construction  
on Kosi etc. has fuelled flood possibilities  
in Nepal.

Therefore, there is need for  
hydrodiplomacy (Brahmo Chellam),  
joint river basin management and regional  
joint river water commissioning to forge  
broad understandings & enable South Asia  
emerge as society community"



6) (b)

## Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)

Economic Partnership (RCEP) is free trade agreement between ASEAN and its partners like China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea. Recently finalised, India has refused to join it.

According to Indian opinion, the present nature of RCEP does not reflect RCEP guiding principles and addresses India's outstanding concerns. India had raised demand for stiffer rule of origin, exemption from liability obligation, liberalisation of services regime, auto trigger mechanism & protection for dairy industry.

However, as pointed by Biswajit Bhattacharya, the main concern was threat of China. Earlier the threat only existed on economic front with China overwhelming India markets but now it has emerged on

military front too. Chinese aggression in Southeast Asia, the warm offensive of BRI and irredentist claims at LAC were factors behind India's objections.

SR Ishaq also points that recent developments have made clear deleterious impact of Chinese centric supply chains. RCEP allows China which does not have a free trade agreement with India to further penetrate Indian markets through cheap technological products, 5G rollout etc. It endangers India's economic as well as data sovereignty.

~~They~~ Experts point to rising asymmetry between India & China in economic terms, disadvantageous

position for India for future border negotiations. Currently ~~India's~~ China's economy is 5 times that of India.

However, Shyam Saran advocated joining RCEP as it would allow India to increase share in world market, become more competitive & attract investments. Moreover, India is already part of APEC and WTO is in disfunctional state.

Nevertheless, India has initiated Resilient supply chain initiative with Japan, Australia et. al. as well as reiterated commitment to Act East policy.

Further, it would be prudent for India to join RCEP as observer as 'if you do not want to be on menu, you have to be at the table'.

Q) (e)

In the words of PM Modi,

Candidates  
must not write  
on this margin

India- ASEAN strategic partnership  
is based on cultural, historical and  
geographical interts.

ASEAN has emerged as  
India's core of India's vision for  
Indo-Pacific which envisages, free, open  
& inclusive Indo Pacific. It has  
converged with ASEAN's vision for  
Indo Pacific and has emerged as bedrock  
of relations in recent years.

Both India & ASEAN share  
complementarities and concerns in  
Indo Pacific. None wants it to emerge  
as battlefield of great power games  
between US & China. Thus both, look  
to each other as factors of stability &  
balance.

राजीवदारों को इस  
प्रश्न में नहीं  
सिखना पड़ेगा

India has initiated the Act East policy to include & reinforce security dimension and has operationalised QUAD as well as included Australia in Malabar exercises. It has reiterated ASEAN centrality in the emerging & narrative on Indo Pacific.

The India ASEAN vision document for 2021-25 envisages close cooperation in counter terror, humanitarian and disaster relief, cyber security etc. Further, seeks to ensure freedom of navigation for all in the Indo Pacific.

India & ASEAN have also emphasized on authority of UNCLOS to determine disputes in South China sea, as against Chinese aggressiveness and undermining role of international institutions.

## The silent & Indie - ASEAN

Defence ministers met also emphasized on rule of law and peace in Indo Pacific. Steps such as air services command at Adamson, logistics port with Indonesia (Sabang port), etc. SAGAR, BIMSTEC, IORA etc. highlight the importance of Indo Pacific paradigm in Indie - ASEAN relations.

However, ~~beyond~~ Indie's decision of not joining the RCEP came as a blow to vibrant relations. Author Quaid has possible impact of shifting focus from ASEAN to U.S. - Chinese rivalry.

In this regard, India has reiterated commitment to work Art East as fundamental economic policy that



would see continued engagement with ASEAN. Further, a swift review of ASEAN-India trade agreement in goods is needed to make it more fruitful. Happymon Jacob suggests India to incorporate ASEAN via the Quad Plus doctrine.

As pointed by EN Passier,  
Indian Ocean is India's lifeline. Thus it requires creative diplomacy.

~~Disrupt  
Indo-Pacific  
Ocean - Indian Ocean /  
Plan of Action  
of Indo-Pacific  
orders / Initiatives  
Pacific Explainer~~

7) (a)

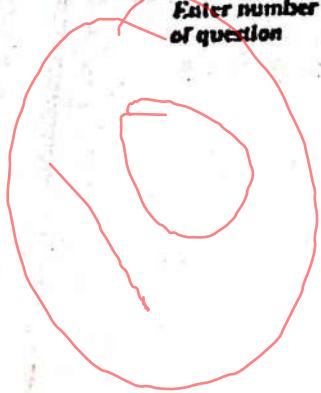
According to JN Dixit, Foreign Policy is <sup>(FP)</sup> statement of what a country stands for & role it seeks to play at world level. However, it is not made in vacuum.

Geography as factor of India's FP :-

Napoleon remarked that a country's FP is determined by its geography. Role in India's FP -

② Coastline of 7500 km in Indian Ocean -  
key player in Indo-Pacific, aspiration  
of to emerge as Net Security provider,  
maritime security alliances such as  
IORA, SAGAR, IONS.

It also helped India to  
impart Humanitarian assistance & relief  
programmes during Cyclones, Tsunamis and  
as in 2004



② Location in Indo-Pacific - allowed to conduct naval exercises like Malabar, operationalise QUAD - developing deep security linkages with US, Japan etc.

③ Proximity to Middle East - vulnerability to terror & radicalisation; shaped strategy of foreign policy imperative of counter terror, advocacy of CCIT. Posture wanted to play developmental role in Afghanistan, Central Asia etc.

④ Sandwiched between China & India - adversary for territorial sovereignty, opposition to BRI and need for strategic alliance with US as well as Russia

Leadership a factor - In words of Hausch Pant, fundamentals remaining same, leadership adds dynamism to FP.

① Nehru - Pledged FP; India wrote treaty with Pak, friendship and Non alignment movement

- ② Indira Gandhi - sealist FP,  
Bangladesh War 1971, friendly relations  
with USSR 1971
- ③ Rajiv Gandhi - increased role of  
technocrats, private sector
- ④ Vajpayee - accommodative foreign policy, bus diplomacy with Pak,  
Pokhran nuclear test
- ⑤ Manmohan Singh - economic diplomacy  
with Pakistan
- ⑥ Narendra Modi - Brand ambassador  
of India's foreign policy, increased economic  
dimension (Acting as a lone wolf), muscular  
diplomacy with Pak & China (Babbar shah,  
soldiers stand off) & strategic use of soft power  
(yoga diplomacy), military alliance like BRICS  
etc.

These leaders' FP has shown  
minimum adaptability, flexibility & creativity

(b) Non Alignment movement was formed as a line of 120 nations in the midst of cold war to reject alignment with any bloc & assert autonomy in fp. making.

Post end of cold war in 1991, it was thought that NAM lost its raison de être. As per L Raja Mehta, it should have been disbanded then & there.

However, Rajiv & Bhattacharya points to the immense relevance of NAM in the contemporary world dynamics. There is a emergence of new cold war between US & China that has created space for NAM. Just like NAM helped India to navigate through uncharted waters of cold war, it would help now to assert autonomy on issues like WHO's role in covid pandemic etc.

As the grouping of largest number of UN members outside UN, NAM holds great significance for reforms in global governance institutions like UN, WTO, IMF & WB. It would be of crucial importance to forge South-South Solidarity and accelerate developmental activities.

NAM has huge relevance in context of cyber security, counter-terror, climate change etc. Covid 19 has opened great possibility for joint governance arrangement of G20 Taskforce Sharing of best practices etc. It, enables a natural platform for India's leadership in a highly polarised world.

TV panel points to the increasing territorialensions, Militarisation of oceans & arm space where NAM

can act as "political cushion" using normative power of peace, justice and harmony.

However, Harsh Pant argues that India can no longer remain non-aligned in traditional sense of term. Given its security imperatives, it has to forge alliances with like minded nations like Qatar, Maldives etc. The recent NAM meeting is only a part of Modi's agenda to project Indian leadership at time of crisis. NAM is a discredited institution.

Foreign Secy. Bokhale too reminded that India is now a aligned country but based on interest.

Thus nevertheless, K. Subrahmanyam argues that being clear eyed about its limitations, India could go for skillful diplomacy at NAM.

(7) (c) Indian foreign policy is not made in vacuum, influenced by role of leaders, global environment etc.

### Realist Paradigm in Indian f.P. :-

The realist paradigm, in contrast to Nehruvian idealism seeks to maximise national interest through military as well as diplomatic means. It moves away from moral policies and views f.P. with clerical religion.

PM Sardar Patel was first to adopt realist paradigm by supporting Bangladesh war of independence 1971 as against Nehru's Panchsheel; the Crem signed Friendship agreement with Russia in 1971, rather than sticking to Non Alignment.

PM Vajpayee was also a realist in the sense that he would VIHOLISE the imperative of nuclear weapons & India & went ahead with Pakistan test 1998, despite international criticism. Later, with realist approach of EAM Jaovant Singh, India was able to lift economic sanctions.

The realist policy is also visible in India's ties with Israel and dehyphenation of ties from Palestine. Given Israel's importance in defense, food security etc., India has called Israel as "natural partners".

Multi alignment in India's Fp -

Post Independence, India was leader of NAM, advocate of non-alignment. However, post Cold War, NAM lost raison d'être.

Multi alignment refers to concept of engaging with multiple ~~per~~ states at some time to maximise national interest and secure strategic autonomy at the same time.

...A/c to ML Narayanan, India has left NAM for multi alignment. It could be seen in close defence ties with Russia, as well as signing of military agreements like LOMCASA, LEMOA etc with US. India has conducted bilateral exercises with

Candidates  
must not write  
on this margin



उम्मीदवारों को इस  
हारिए में नहीं  
लिखना चाहिए

Russia like India as well as

Malabar with US & Japan.

Arthur, Emerging US-China War  
war has given huge scope for multi-alignment  
India, on one hand has conducted informal  
summit meetings with China at Wuhan,  
while operationalised BIMSTEC on the other

As pointed by PM Modi in  
Shayri De Dikopne, a nation that  
stands on principles is most respected not  
by a nation that takes sides

Thus, India has moved from  
non-aligned past to multi-aligned

future

multilateralism  
in detail

discuss  
with example  
the views  
of India  
more