



An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

SARA ASHRAF

RANK - 316

**POLITICAL SCIENCE
TEST - 8**

300

GS SCORE

TEST - 08

150.0

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Time Allowed: 3 hr.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- There are EIGHT questions. Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
- Question no. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
- Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
- Attempts of questions shall be counted in chronological order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the answer book must be clearly struck off.

- ① Draw Contextual Maps/Diagrams
- ② Apply IR & paper-2 theories to explain your points
- ③ Quote Current Affairs/Ambassadors

Name SARA A.

Mobile No _____

Date _____

Signature [Signature]

1. Invigilator's Signature _____

2. Invigilator's Signature _____

REMARKS

GS SCORE

SECTION-A

Attempt all questions:

1. Answer the following questions in about 150 words each:

(10 × 5 = 50)

- India's priorities in the Gulf
- Opportunities and challenges for India in SCO
- India's Contributions in UN Peacekeeping
- Blue Economy and India-Africa Cooperation
- India views on China and the Quad

(a) 'Choppy waters' of the Gulf with presence of Saudi, UAE, Qatar, Iraq, Oman pose a 'foreign policy challenge' for India (Chinmay Ghare Khan)

India's priorities in the Gulf are multi-faceted:

⇒ Geo-political Priorities:

to emerge as leader of the 3rd world India requires cooperation with Gulf. It is also important with respect to India's seat at UNSC. India-led L-69 also contain significant Gulf

Remarks

Apply IR theory
Explain
P.H.

1.0

Great
Dynamic Content
Adding Off

Country like Saudi Arabia.

→ Geo-Economic Priorities:
by ensure the highest given India
imports 80% of its energy needs.
Countries like KSA are called as
"gas station of India". Also important
for huge remittances (\$70 bn) which
India receives from the Gulf.

→ Geo-strategic Priorities:
to maintain multilateral world order
Counter Chinese hegemony and fight
non-state actors.

(b) SCO presents grouping of Russia,
China, India, Pakistan and 4-states
of Central Asia pose immense
opportunities as well as challenges.

25

GS SCORE

SCO strengthens India's regional ties.

Parag Mehta suggested post-Covid, de-globalisation trends will increase bringing renewed focus on regional bodies.

It provides connectivity with Central

Asia - region rich in resources and only platform with India-Pak. But also

Challenges - hostile bilateral ties between India-Pak, India-China.

However, SCO poses immense opportunities for all its members given the present world order is in a state of flux.

(C) "UN wasn't created to make heaven out of this world but to stop it from becoming a hell" — Dag Hammarskjöld.

raw connectivity Map

Explain in terms of

National Interest theory

Remarks

6.5

GS SCORE

Peace-Keeping operations have kept UN's role relevant amid fractured collective security.

And India's contribution is immense. As one of the largest peacekeeping force-contributing country of upto 2000 troops.

India has also sent medical mission to Koza Peace-keeping. And first all-women contingent to Liberia and now to Congo.

Contributing also through donation of helicopters and choppers. According to Syed Akbaruddin "India's Peace-keeping

forces present immense ^{goodwill} & are most liked in host countries". India's

contributions become base for its role in the committee on a. -

(d) Blue Economy and India-Africa Cooperation :

"India - Africa ties are woven in history by golden threads"
- Nelson Mandela.

India-Africa cooperation are multi-dimensional. One such emerging area is Blue Economy. Harnessing ocean-based resources to gain economic activities and revenue.

Kenya's issue of 'Blue Bonds' hint at geo-economic interest in Blue Economy. India has meanwhile come out with a Blue Economy Policy. The long coastline of both countries provide immense opportunities.

Quote
Scholar/
Amb. /
Report
on
the
topic

C.S

GS SCORE

Partnering for sustainable fishing
through providing safety of its
fishermen at sea, India has
provided GAGAN-enabled satellite
phones to them.

Quote
Current
Affairs

Joint exploration and development
of ~~their~~ unconventional sources of
energy along Tanzania coast - of
Coal-Bed Methane and shale gas.

DP

Africa's readiness to partner with
India show its trust in us. Given
huge "trust-deficit" created by
China's cheque-book Diplomacy.
As suggested by Sriram Chavla "we
are not here to exploit but be
partners in development".

Remarks

Apply
theories
like
National
Interest

(c) The current world order is in a state of flux. Given the loose bipolar order created by USA and China, applying Kaplan's systems Theory.

China's belligerence in the south China sea with its 9-Dash line and increasing footprints in the Indian Ocean

- Hambantota (Sri Lanka)
- Gwadar (Pakistan)
- Djibouti (Africa)
- Fayndoo Finsbu (Maldives)
- leasing of land in Solomon Is.

Shⁱⁿ through Mal

Has compelled responsible democracies in the Indo-Pacific to form alliance

Discont.
Recent
Development

7.0

GS SCORE

- a conventional Realist method
to achieving Balance of Power
is presented by QUAD of which
India is also a member.

India views QUAD not solely from
anti-china prism but also as
legitimacy to its growing power
status. while Malabar Exercise
Andaman Sea greatly exploiting China's
Malacca Dilemma.

As S. Jaishankar suggests "India is
no more a balancing power but
a leading power". India's views on
China : QUAD and our foreign
policy of Strategy Autonomy suggest
the new-found status.

Remarks

Answer the following questions:

- (a) Discuss India's Approach in Central Asia. Also highlight India's efforts to connect with the region. (200 Words) (15)
- (b) Discuss Security Concerns of China and India in South Asia as Asia's two largest nuclear powers. (200 Words) (15)
- (c) Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) to India has been driven primarily by strategic considerations. Examine. (250 Words) (20)

(a) Central Asia comprise of countries like Iran, Afghanistan and 5-stans. Historically called "graveyard of empire". It holds immense significance.

Going by Kautilya's Mandel Siddhant, Central Asia forming second-concentric circle becomes important for India.

India's approach in Central Asia has been of "if speech is silver, silence is golden"; as suggested by Chimay Ghare

Khan. India has followed "No Boots on the Ground" Doctrine has earned much

Draw
Connectivity
Map of
the
Region

Remarks

respect and goodwill for India. We have invested heavily through our High Impact Community Development Project.

However India with its "Diplomatic Activism" has entered the Great Game.

As suggested by S. Jaishankar "India is no more a balancing power but leading power. Hence its foreign policy must reflect the same."

"Diplomatic Activism" has involved, India's efforts at connecting with the region using Multilateral platforms like SCO & INSTC. Improving connectivity through Iran's Chabahar Port which will link us to Afghanistan through

Remarks

Draw
Diagrams/
Maps

Add
Current
Affairs

9.5

GS SCORE

Chabahar Zahedan Rail Link

India's "Look West" is another attempt.

Further, involving joint production of Farzad-B gas field along with ONGC Videsh will make the link stronger.

India's efforts to connect have been heightened by China's BRI & its 'Peripheral Diplomacy' and USA's withdrawal from Afghanistan & the region. However, S. Jaishankar (Min. of Ex. Affairs) suggests India will "match Act East with Look West".

(b) China presents biggest Foreign Policy challenge for India at the moment. Jeff Smith in "Protracted Conflict" calls India-China relations

Remarks

as "Cold Peace".

Complexity has heightened with recent Gakhar Valley and Pangong Tso Conflict.

And different worldviews of both nuclear powers do not align —

India's Multipolar world vs. China's

"Middle Kingdom Syndrome"

Similarly, their security concerns in South Asia differ. Despite both

with similar "NFU posture".

India's concerns relate to Pakistan as Rogue State and proxy of China.

And China's "Peripheral Democracy"

influencing India's neighbors like Bangladesh & Nepal & Pakistan (CPEC).

Remarks

Apply
Security X
Indo-Pak
Dilemmas

9.0

GS SCORE

Nepal's PM Oli suggesting "Nepal is not landlocked but China locked" signals the crisis. However, India must remind its vulnerable neighbors of China's "charm offensives" and its "Debt-for-Leverage Diplomacy."

Incorporated current file

Chinese interference has toughened the hard borders of South Asia.

While, China's concerns in the region relate to India's rise and Indian hegemony as a geo-political and geo-strategic threat to it.

Galam Doklam

Kanti Bappai in his "Routledge of China-India Relations" suggests it has become multi-faceted and complex ^{conflicting} given "National Interests" of each. However, despite the differences, we need to implement "Wuhan spirit", & "Chennai Connect" along with

2+1 Framework in full spirit.

Remarks

(c) India - Japan Relations have historically been referred to as "Hippid" (by David Malone is "Don't the Elephant Dance"). Has now entered its "Cherry Blossom phase".

Align your Content with Core Demands
AIB & ADB
Japan's ODA to India form part of their geo-economic ties involving projects like technical help in Western Freight Corridor (WFCR) and Railway Connectivity Network in India's North East.

However, this is primarily driven by Japan's strategic considerations of containing Chinese Hegemony in the region.

Remarks

Given geographical proximity of India's N-E with China and Japan's presence will sure provide deterrence to Chinese.

However, the strategic considerations are not unilateral. As suggested by Realist School scholar "Kenneth Waltz" "nations cooperate purely out of National Interest".

Containing Chinese hegemony and belligerence in Arunachal and Aksai Chin are also of utmost importance to India. Given, how India's neighbors (except Bhutan) have fallen for Chinese "charm offensives".

and joined BRI. Presence of another

Remarks

Neo-Colonialist
&
"Soft" Policies

Asian Power - Japan will be a
good counter-Balancing strategy
bringing the Balance of Power.

As suggested by Morgenthau "whether
may be the ultimate end, power is
always the immediate end".

Indo-Japan strategic convergence extend
beyond Indian subcontinent to the
Africa - Asia-Africa Growth Corridor.

QUAD and Malabar Exercise in Bay of
Bengal (Andaman Sea) exploiting Chinese
"Malacca Dilemma" are a case in point.

Hence, India said no to alliances, but
yes to strategic partnerships, as suggested
by Rajesh Basrur. Despite, Indo-Japan should
look beyond Chinese prism since both are
natural allies.

Answer the following questions:

- (a) Discuss institutional flaws in WTO. Give a major area of objection to WTO's negotiations as raised by the developing nations and India. (200 Words) (15)
- (b) It is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain a genuinely strategic partnership between India and Russia without a solid economic pillar. Discuss. (200 Words) (15)
- (c) Do you think China's ascent to great power status is leading towards emergence of new Cold War between China and the United States? Examine. Also give India's position. (250 Words) (20)

(a) WTO aims to establish a rule-based, free, fair and open Trade amongst all, where each leverages its 'Comparative advantage'.

However, WTO is not without its institutional flaws. Its Dispute Settlement Mechanism is expensive and unaffordable by developing and poor countries.

Further, WTO has fallen prey to geo-political rivalry. USA has obstructed appointment of judiciary to its

Remarks

Dispute Settlement Body. Hence, USA is Destructive Isolationism (Trade Tariffs) clearly paralyzing WTO.

Further, India & other developing countries have raised their objections to WTO Agreement on Agriculture. Issue of subsidies under Amber Box (as trade-distorting measure) have negatively impacted developing countries.

As suggested by J. Wallerstein's World system Theory, greater interdependence has led to top-sided & uneven development.

Doha Development Agenda (DDA) aimed to resolve the crisis has suffered as imposed due to failure of North-South Negotiations. It is on India to emerge

Remarks

as leader of the 3rd World and take charge of the situation

Describe
Doha / Nairobi
Balw Summit
Current
Dyffanmoddy

4 (b) PM Modi on his visit to Moscow in 2017 gave the statement "an old friend is better than two new ones" emphasizing the flawed utilitarian perspectives of China and Pakistan. And historical ties between India-Russia.

PM Modi's statement delineated the truly strategic partnership between both countries. Russia is among two countries with whom India has "Head of the State (PM) - level annual Bilateral Summits."

However, the strategic partnership is difficult to sustain ^{given weak} economic ties. Bilateral Trade stands at mere \$10 bn.

Remarks

ADA
Complex Inter
Economic Diplomacy

Q.5

GS SCORE

According to Neo-liberal Scholars

Nye & Keohane is this Complex
Interdependence economy is foremost

to develop stakes in each others
peace & stability.

Russia is now no more India's
biggest defence supplier. Joint production

& sale of equip arms & ammunitions
like Brahmos is not upto the mark.

We need to diversify - our
economic trade. Russia can be a huge

market for India's beef exports and
its agri-products. While Russia needs

to speed-up oil & gas extraction in
Siberia with ONGC Videch.

Given the loose Bipolar World Order led
by USA & China, Indo-Russia can be

Remarks

poles of stability.

Good Attempt

Keep it improving

Diversify your Ans

Agri. Trade

(1) Cold War term was given by Bernard Baruch to define us-Soviet relations post-WWII. However, Cold War 2.0 has come to be associated with Status Quo Power USA and Revisionist Power China.

China suffering from "Middle Kingdom Complex" has threatened geo-political aspirations of USA. Chinese Premier Xi Jinping promised to make a "Sino-Centric World Order" by 2050 (100 years of Communist Party (CPC)).

From a Realist perspective, China-US are seen going into "Thucydides Trap". Explaining war doesn't happen when there is Balance of Power but

Remarks

Role of AIB, OBOR
 ↓
 100% Colonial policies
 Sino-US
 Pence
 2020

One state starts acquiring power -

~~Organic's~~ 'Power-Transition Theory'

Cold War 2.0 has also permeated to strained geo-economic relations between both. Trade war amounting to \$400 bn where USA cited

'National Security Clause' under WTO to raise tariffs & barriers.

Cold War also seen under geo-strategic rivalry. USA's 'Pivot to Asia' policy containing 'Free & open Indo-Pacific' countering Chinese belligerence in South China Sea -

its Nine-Dash line (extension of Indo-Pacific).

NATO also conducted its biggest exercise in history amid China's growing influence in Central and Eastern Europe with '17+1' Framework. USA-sponsored 'Blue Dot Network' against China's BRI.

Similarly, China-established NDB and AIIB to counter ^{Global North} US-led IMF and World Bank & ADB.

Fareed Zakaria suggests we have entered a "post-US world order".

Also affirmed by Parag Mehta!

"Chaos Theory" where post-COVID

will see complete decline of USA-led World Order.

Remarks

While, Kishore Mahbubani in his "Hes China Won" suggests China still lags behind militarily and ideologically.

Cold War 2.0 has led to "perfect congruence" of US-Indo vision in East C-Indo Pacific). Rising China also pose a threat to India's hegemony in South Asia.

India using "hedging strategy" to go along with USA (QUAD, RIMPAC), while not isolating China and engaging through SCO, BRICS, RIC & AIIB.

Hence, Cold War 2.0 sees India using principles alongwith pragmatism as suggested by C. Raja Mohan and following its

Remarks

"Strategic Autonomy"

Add
Current
Affairs

SECTION-B

Attempt all questions:

5. Answer the following questions in about 150 words each:

(10 × 5 = 50)

- Act West and the Indo-Pacific
- India's diplomacy at the G7
- India as a member of Multilateral Export Control Regimes
- Defence and Security relation between India and Israel
- Geostrategic Significance of Indo Pacific and security Challenges in the Region

(a) The current world order is in a state of flux. Geo-political hotspot has shifted from Atlantic to the Indo-Pacific.

Amid USA's 'Asia Pivot' and FOIP and Chinese belligerence, India's 'Act West' stands out.

It aims to not just secure a Free & Open but also an Inclusive and Equitable access to Indo-Pacific.

Draw Contested Map of the Region

Remarks

Quote
Policy
Initiatives

Change from Think-~~west~~^{east} to
Act-~~west~~^{east} has expanded scope
for India's outreach in the
region. Affirmed at "A-ECAN
Centrality" and its worldview of
"Bharat varsha as just one discip"
suggest India's inclusive approach
and its civilizational ethos.

As opposed to "Middle Kingdom
Complex" of China, India's Act ~~west~~
East is inclusive. However, its
"Act ~~west~~" also based on same values
and principles. S. Jaishankar aims to
integrate Act East ~~with~~ and Indo-
Pacific with Act ~~west~~.

Remarks

(b) At the recently held G7 Summit India has been invited as a guest. Given the world order is in a state of flux with fractured multilateralism - (e.g. WTO, WHO, Climate (Paris) Agreement).

India showcasing its "leading power status" (S. Jaishankar) has adopted "Diplomatic Activism" at G7 conveying its concerns.

Amid the "Westlessness" created due to USA's "Destructive Isolationism" and divergent national interests of Western powers, India presented a pole of stability.

Remarks

Quote
Context
Current Affair
G7 →

(c) India is a member of 3 out of

4 Multilateral Export Control Regimes (MECR) - Wassenaar Agreement, Australia Group and MTCR while only out of NSG.

As a member of these MECR India has increased access to trade in dual-use technology alongwith sophisticated weaponry capable of travelling more than 300 km.

According to Morgenthau, "whatever maybe the ultimate aim, power is always the immediate end". Hence being members of these groups has expanded power status of India.

Remarks

① Add Current Affairs

② Apply IR/Pol theories

6.0

GS SCORE

Entry to NSG is blocked by China and also given India is a non-signatory to NPT. However, India can lobby with friendly countries. Leverage its membership is MTCR in negotiating with China, where it wants in.

As suggested by K. Waltz "nations cooperate when it comes to their National Interest".

(d) India - Israel are strategic partners since 2017. Benjamin Netanyahu claimed India - Israel relations are a "marriage made in heaven".

Remarks

6.5

One area of heightened cooperation is between India & Israel is Defence and Security Relations.

Israel has become India's 2nd largest arms supplier. Both to (eg. Barak). Both countries also contemplating a joint production and sale of Defence equipments.

Historically, Israel has helped India during 1962 War and 1971 War.

Also, another aspect is India learning from Israel's counter-terrorism and

Border security and surveillance technology. Hence, providing much opportunities for their collaborations.

Remarks

① Apply IP
Theorie

② Add Current Affairs

Quote Ambassadors

(c) Indo-Pacific present the current Centre of Gravity of Global Politics which has shifted from the Atlantic.

Draw
Contextual
Connectivity
Map of

The new-found status present geo-strategic significance of Indo-Pacific. Also heightened by the fact that most of World's trade pass through Indo-Pacific - more than 40%.

the
Region

located as Rim countries are the India, China, Indonesia & South Africa - the global Economic Engines of today and major powers of tomorrow. Spykman in his "Rimland"



theory suggested rise of
Amphibious powers.

USA's renewed focus with 'Asia
Pivot' highlight increased significance
of Indo-Pacific.

Despite, certain security challenges
in the region prevail - Chinese
belligerence (9-Dash line) and
growing militarisation of ocean. Have
increased hostility with western powers.
Unconventional threats posed by
piracy, disaster-prone (earthquake),
rising sea level, submergence of
islands like Kiribati are major concerns.

Show
Strategic
Points / Choke
Points

Quote
Scholars/
Ambassadors

Answer the following questions:

- (a) Elucidate India's agricultural partnership with Africa. (200 Words) (15)
- (b) BRICS relationship is marked by broad agreement on approaches to key international security issues but differences with regard to bilateral matters among the member countries. Analyse. (200 Words) (15)
- (c) The US "maximum pressure" policy on Iran has adversely affected India's desire to convert its commitments into concrete actions on ground. In the light of the given statement analyse India's advances as well as challenges in implementing the Chabahar port project. (250 Words) (20)

(a) "India - Africa ties are woven golden threads of history"

-Nelson Mandela.

Indian partnership with Africa is multi-sectoral and multi-faceted.

But, their agricultural partnership is a case in point.

India - Africa trade amount to \$70 bn where more than 50% comprise of agri-products.

Africa provides scope for India's Food Security - given India's land

Remarks

scarcity (2.4% global land supporting 18% of global population) and land degradation (upto 30% as pointed by IPCC/RCCCL) in India.

India also imports fertilizers - Phosphorus (from Western and Sub-Saharan Africa). India has contributed by export of rice and wheat to food scarce regions.

Extending partnership to agri-allied sectors - India trains 'solar mamas' from Africa in maintenance and operation of solar energy panels.

PM Modi on his visit to Rwanda gifted more than 200 cows ensuring nutritional security of its people. Hence, our relations are not purely Transactional. As S.D. Munni suggest 'we are not here to exploit, we are here to be

Remarks

Write
theoretical
Perspective
Complex
Interdependent

(b) BRICS forms group of Developing countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa. Representing 20% of global population and 40% of global GDP.

BRICS Fortaleza Declaration and establishment of New Development Bank ended investment & aid concerns. Given the restricted and conditional & unequal access to West-led Liberal Economic Order - WB & IMF.

Enhanced trade among BRICS countries provide solution to faltered WTO. Broad agreements have also emerged on geo-strategic issues.

of dealing with non-state actors, terrorism and increasing radicalization.

Agreements also marked for Paris Climate Agreement and its principles

of CBDR-TR. BRICS have formed IBSA to negotiate.

Realist scholars K. Waltz suggest countries cooperate only for National Interest. Hence, differences emerge over Bilateral issues — Indo-China Border Conflict, Trade Deficit.

Dumping of goods and China's unilateralism in South-China sea.

Despite, BRICS provides platform for South-South Cooperation and addressing

Remarks

key global security issues.

Look
on
More
Relevant
Content
Briefly

c) Choppy waters of West Asia present a foreign policy challenge for India. Moreover, heightened by intervention of external powers like USA.

USA's CAATSA aimed at sanctions on Iran has also impacted India's vision of relations with Iran.

Posing challenge to India's commitment in the region - development of Farzad-B gas field (with ONGC Videsh) and development of Chabahar port.

Chabahar is of utmost importance to India's National Interest -

to connect with Afghanistan,
bypassing Pakistan to counter
access larger west Asia, Central
Asia. Improving India's connectivity
with Russia and Europe through
INSTC.

It will also aid concessional
oil & gas supply to India protecting
our energy security. Given India
imports 80% of its energy needs
(Iran, Iraq, Saudi)

Biggest challenge posed by U.S.A.'s
"maximum presence" is in finding
financiers, operators and developers
for the project.

S. S. Menon in his book "Choices" calls India-US relations with respect to their worldview in West Asia (Iran & Pakistan) as "creative tensions".

If India advances on the project it can hempor us-India relations which have recently "overcome" the hesitations of their past".

India's presence is also required amid the political vacuum created which will be created post us withdrawal in Afghanistan.

However, as S. Jaishanker suggests "India is no more a balancing

130

power but a leading power" and its foreign policy must

reflect the same

India can go for back-channel diplomacy with USA to seek

waiver for Chabahar development.

Exploiting USA's vulnerabilities is

the region esp with respect to Afghanistan and Pakistan's non-state actors.

India can act as a balancer between Iran & USA, the democratic win of

Joe Biden may allow the same.

India must remind USA how much it needs India.

Using its hedging strategy and "diplomatic activism" to

convert enemies into neutrals, neutrals

Remarks

into friends and friends

into allies.

Quote
S. Jaishankar

Recent
Development