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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2082)

Name of Candidate	KABIL BHARGAVA		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	
Center		Date	25/07/2022

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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20	15	
Total Marks Obtained:		
Remarks:		

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH** इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.** सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- 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.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. सौर ऊर्जा की पूर्ण क्षमता का दोहन करने में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुदाय की मदद करने के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सौर गठबंधन (ISA) द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

Discuss the role that the International Solar Alliance (ISA) can play in helping the international community realise the full potential of solar energy. (Answer in 150 words) 10

International solar alliance was launched by India & France in 2019 to harness the potential of solar energy of especially tropical and subtropical countries.

role that ISA can play to realise potential of solar energy →

1) technological upgradation

↳ help solar range countries with efficient ^{technology} tech. transfer.

↳ to increase productivity of their solar panels etc.

2) financing projects → mobilise funds in equitable and sustainable manner for all countries.

- 3) promote research, development and innovation → of partner countries. → collaborate for increase efficiency, affordable and inclusive solar design and equipment.
- 4) integrate one world, one sun, one grid → for resilient management of resources and energy security for all.
- 5) capacity building and training of every country's institutions as well as workforce.

☞ -

Hence, ISA can help fulfil SDG-7 → clean and affordable energy and ensure energy security globally.

2. प्रवासी भारतीय दिवस नई संभावनाओं को फिर से जोड़ने और पुनः परिकल्पना करने का क्षण है तथा यह परिवर्तन लाने, नए संबंधों की खोज करने एवं नवीन विचारों को विकसित करने का एक नेटवर्क है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

The Pravasi Bhartiya Divas is a moment to reconnect and re-imagine new possibilities and a network to drive change, discover new ties and develop new ideas. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Pravasi Bharatiya ^(PBD) divas was started in 1998 as an annual summit to connect with the Indian diaspora to maintain cultural ties as well as foster their skills for harnessing India's growth story.

Significance of PBD →

- 1) Reconnect → helps us as well as diaspora connect and maintain healthy cultural ties. eg: Bharat dauban.
- 2) re-imagining new possibilities →
 - ↳ help us to foster their potential in various areas as well as
 - ↳ help in bringing/using their

skill investment to foster India's development. eg: Sundar Pichai investing in Indian market.

3) network to drive change → help in positioning India's soft power abroad, policy advocacy and project Indian growth story. eg: CII-CEO forum helping drive sentiment invest

4) discover new ties and new ideas →
↳ new ties, commitments and ideas are shared by diaspora with India → helping in tech growth, social upliftment in hometowns and helps institutions.

Hence, Indian diaspora plays a key role in Indian growth story.

PBD is an opportunity to reconnect and harness the possibility.

3. वर्तमान भू-राजनीतिक वास्तविकताओं को प्रतिबिंबित करने हेतु 'न्यू ओरिएंटेशन फॉर ए रिफॉर्मड मल्टीलेटरल सिस्टम (NORMS)' के लिए भारत के हालिया प्रयास के पीछे निहित तर्क पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

Discuss the rationale behind India's recent pitch for 'New Orientation for a Reformed Multilateral System (NORMS)' to reflect the present day geo-political realities. (Answer in 150 words) 10

In the recent times, India has been demanding for a reformed multilateral system to reflect the present geopolitical reality.

Rationale →

1) Non-representative: → current multilateral system (MS) are of post WW-2 era and don't include present realities of various regions.

eg: lack of representation of African union.

2) skewed towards developed world →

↳ the US and western european countries hold key positions and decision making powers.

eg: WB chief → USA, IMF chief → EU.

3) ideological bias and non-inclusivity

↳ MS see the world from western culture perspective and

↳ don't take into account recent growth or local conditions.

↳ rating agencies giving India govt BBB⁻ rating even though No default.

4) UNSC veto → deters effective decision making and hinders diplomatic or security efforts.

↳ Ukraine-Russia conflict.

5) Non representative of current world order like eco. progress, political system etc.

Hence, Need to make multilateral system more oriented as per current realities to make them relevant, responsible, effective.

4. ग्लोबल साउथ द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली नवीन और आगामी चुनौतियों के आलोक में, ग्लोबल साउथ की आवाज को मजबूती देने में भारत द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

In light of the new and upcoming challenges faced by the Global South, discuss the role that India can play in empowering the voice of the Global South. (Answer in 150 words)

10

India has been advocating a strong voice at the global institutions like IMF, UN, World Bank, G-20 as president for the Global South.

New and upcoming challenges for global south →

1) lack of representation in global multilateral institutions.

↳ global south = majority of countries but minority decision making power

2) Major and disproportionate brunt of climate change

↳ face major vulnerability - economic & social etc. of climate change.

eg: Small Island developing countries
Threat from sea level.

3) lack of access to finance, emerging technologies, capacity building.

India's role in empowering global south

1) making institutions inclusive

↳ India pitching for reforms at global bodies.

eg: inclusion of African union in G20.

2) providing technology and capacity building to developing countries

↳ ~~eg~~ India provided its digital stack.

~~eg~~ satellite launches for global south.

3) leveraging goodwill with both western world and global south → to bridge gap and promote coop.

4) financial initiatives via WB, ADB and others.

5) promoting infra-resilience → like coalition for disaster resilient initiative (CDRI)

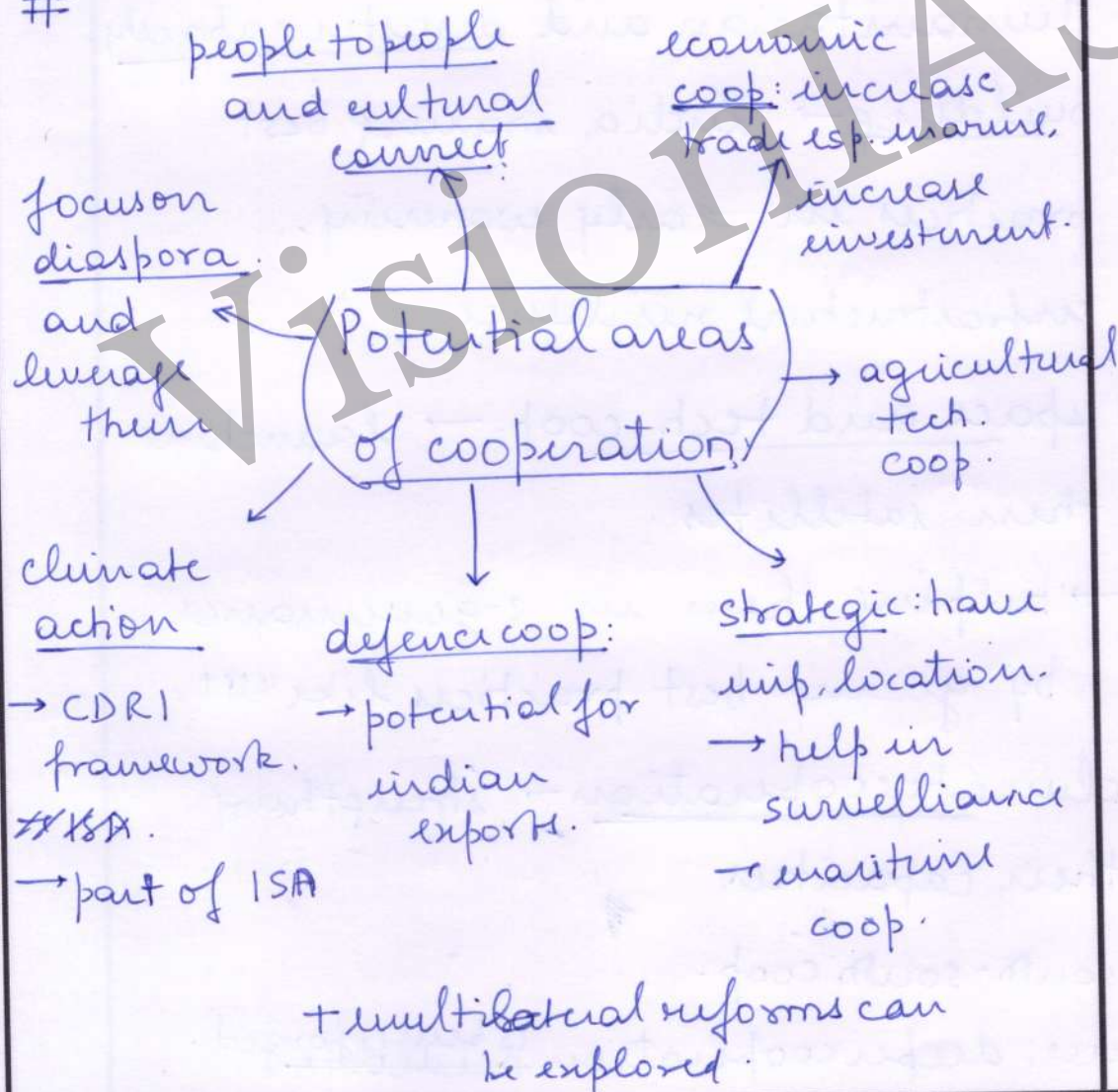
• global south-south cooperation needed and India can become representative

5. भारत और CARICOM सदस्य देशों के बीच सहयोग के संभावित क्षेत्रों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उन विभिन्न उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए जो हाल के दिनों में कैरेबियाई देशों के साथ भारत के संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए किए गए हैं। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

Highlighting the potential areas of cooperation between India and CARICOM member states, discuss the various measures that have been taken in recent times to strengthen India's relationship with the Caribbean countries. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Caricom are group of countries (their customs union) in the caribbean islands which act together as a regional group.

#



measures taken →

- 1) increase in trade and investment cooperation with CARICOM.
 - 2) focussing on Blue economy → maritime surveillance and exchange, fisheries etc.
 - 3) Humanitarian and disaster capacity building → India sharing best practices in early warning, infrastructure resilience.
 - 4) space and tech. coop. → launching their satellites.
↳ helping them in e-governance by giving best practices like UPI.
 - 5) climate cooperation → strengthening their capacities.
 - 6) south-south coop.
- Hence, deeper cooperation ~~needed~~ ^{is being forged}.

6. भारत को प्राप्त शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (SCO) की अध्यक्षता न केवल इसे मध्य एशियाई देशों के साथ अपने संबंधों को मजबूत करने का अवसर प्रदान करती है बल्कि इसके आर्थिक और सुरक्षा हितों को भी बढ़ावा देती है। विवेचना कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

India's presidency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) not only provides it with an opportunity to deepen its relations with the Central Asian nations but also promote its economic and security interests. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

SCO is an important grouping for India to extend influence / relations with central Asian countries & Eurasia. (CA) region.

#

China playing major role.

Pakistan-China bonhomie.

Challenges in

SCO

support for BRI.

seen as

anti-west front

lack of connectivity.

opportunity to deepen relations and also economic-security interest

1) economic interest →

↳ potential to boost trade relations with CA countries.

↳ increase investment & coop. in region

- ↳ act as market for indian goods.
- 2) security interest → RATS provide a platform for counter-terror coop.
→ Afghanistan issue is discussed.
→ regional stability
- 3) energy and mineral security →
↳ CA countries have immense mineral resources and natural gas reserves
- 4) connectivity →
↳ The INSTC will provide connectivity to CA countries, Afghanistan, Russia and Europe
- 5) counter to China-Pak influence in region.

Need to leverage SCO and bilateral relations with central Asian countries to promote India's economic and security concerns

7. यू.एन. पीसकीपिंग संबंधी प्रयासों में भारत के योगदान का वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, यू.एन. पीसकीपिंग फोर्सों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों को भी रेखांकित कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)
Bring out India's contributions towards the UN peacekeeping efforts. Also, highlight the challenges faced by the UN peacekeeping forces. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India has been the largest contributor to UN peacekeeping missions and has been consistent in commitments.

India's contribution to UN peacekeeping efforts →

- 1) providing troops as per demand and across conflict regions.
- 2) medical supplies → like nurses, ambulances, medicines have been provided at all levels.
- 3) help in social cohesion → aimed forces interacting with societies affected.
- 4) all women contingents → have been

provided and helped in taking stock of gender related issues.

- 5) financial backing
- 6) efforts to restore peace by diplomacy and constructive work on ground.

Challenges faced by UN peacekeeping forces

- 1) lack of effective decision making → UNSC decisions have been at times motivated by self interest.
- 2) financial dependency on member states
- 3) lack of knowledge of local terrain and customs → result in setbacks
- 4) lack of constructive work and diplomacy on ground.

Need to make UN peacekeeping forces more capable, inclusive, efficient & restore diplomatic route

8. दक्षिण एशिया से एकमात्र G20 सदस्य के रूप में, भारत के लिए G20 का नेतृत्व वैश्विक स्तर पर दक्षिण एशिया की आवाज को बुलंद करने के लिए एक प्रभावी मंच के तौर पर इस समूह का उपयोग करने हेतु एक आदर्श अवसर है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

As the only G20 member from South Asia, the G20 leadership is an ideal opportunity for India to use it as an effective platform to amplify South Asia's voice at the global stage. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India is the president for G20 for 2023 → giving opportunity to use it to emphasize South Asia's regional interest.

G-20 presidency as opportunity for South Asia's voice →

1) economic: → can leverage help from G20 countries to foster investment in region. ~~eg~~ more FDI from G20.
~~eg~~ taking best practices to enhance regional trade ⇒ revive SAFTA.

2) connectivity: → can setup MoUs with G20 countries to foster infrastructure and connectivity projects in region as G20 infrastructure fund.

~~eg~~ in inland water way connectivity.

~~eg~~ multimodal regional connectivity.

3) cultural: As G20 representatives visit India, South Asia's unique culture can be showcased to them.

↳ Buddhist heritage.

4) environmental: India can use G20 to portray South Asia's concerns regarding climate change and its impact → bring international collaboration.

5) regional peace: cybersecurity, terrorism, finance from narco and arms trafficking including crypto can be brought to fore.

↳ help in Regions peace.

Hence, India can harness G20 presidency as a means to foster greater collaboration and as voice of South Asia to bring peace, prosperity and inclusive development to the region.

9. नाभिकीय सुरक्षा के क्षेत्र में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय परमाणु ऊर्जा एजेंसी (IAEA) द्वारा निभाई जाने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)
Discuss the role played by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the field of nuclear safety. (Answer in 150 words) 10

International Atomic Energy agency (IAEA) is an autonomous organisation under United Nations (UN) established in 1957 at Geneva.

Role played by IAEA in nuclear safety →

1) developing consensus as per charter → promoting peaceful use of nuclear energy, and not for military purpose or military purpose.

2) monitoring international energy nuclear plants → for their safety, following international standards and treaty.

(eg) Iran's nuclear use program is comprehensively monitored.

3) developing international standards and consensus for its safe use.

↳ limiting uranium enrichment below safe levels.

4) preventing nuclear leaks and attacks on nuclear sites during conflicts.

↳ Ukraine - Russia conflict → prevented and secured Zaporizhzhia plant.

5) helping in safe discharge of nuclear waste and safely closing down nuclear sites.

↳ Japan post Fukushima disaster took help of IAEA.

Hence, IAEA has played a key role in safe and judicious use of nuclear energy and preventing nuclear proliferation.

10. भारत-यू.ए.ई. CEPA दोनों देशों के बीच आर्थिक संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए एक उत्प्रेरक के रूप में कार्य करेगा तथा भारत को इस क्षेत्र में व्यापक पहुंच प्रदान करेगा। विवेचना कीजिए।

The India-UAE CEPA will serve as a catalyst to bolster economic ties between the two countries and give India greater access to the region.
Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India - UAE signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).
bolstering ties in a wide ^{range} of goods and services.

catalyst to boost economic ties →

- 1) covers most goods → tariff reduction and greater market access to most goods traded.
↳ includes rules of origin, merchandise trade rules.
- 2) includes services → Indian service sectors will benefit from inclusion of services agreement in software, telecommunication.
- 3) increase in investment flow between the countries.

4) covers digital trade and e-commerce rules → boosting economic ties.

5) greater technological cooperation, movement of people, skill development

greater access to region →

↳ it will help access to various middle eastern nations for Indian goods. eg: Saudi, Iraq.

↳ also can use Suez canal and boost trade to Eurasian and Europe region.

↳ deepen economic and trade, investment, market access to Indian goods and companies

India-UAE CEPA along with bilateral agreement to trade in local currencies will boost economic & strategic ties between the countries

11. कुछ चुनौतियों के बावजूद, भारत और बांग्लादेश के बीच आपसी समझ ने दोनों देशों के 'गोल्डन चैप्टर (सुनहरे अध्याय)' को जारी रखा है। विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

Despite certain challenges, the mutual understanding between India and Bangladesh has allowed the 'Golden Chapter' of the two countries to continue. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

India-Bangladesh have completed 50 years of partnership ties and are one of the most comprehensive partners in the South Asian region.

Golden chapter in ties →

1) economic ties: Bangladesh is India's largest trading partner in South Asia.

↳ trade and investment between the two countries has increased steadily.

2) strategic ties → cooperation in

strategic areas like port building,

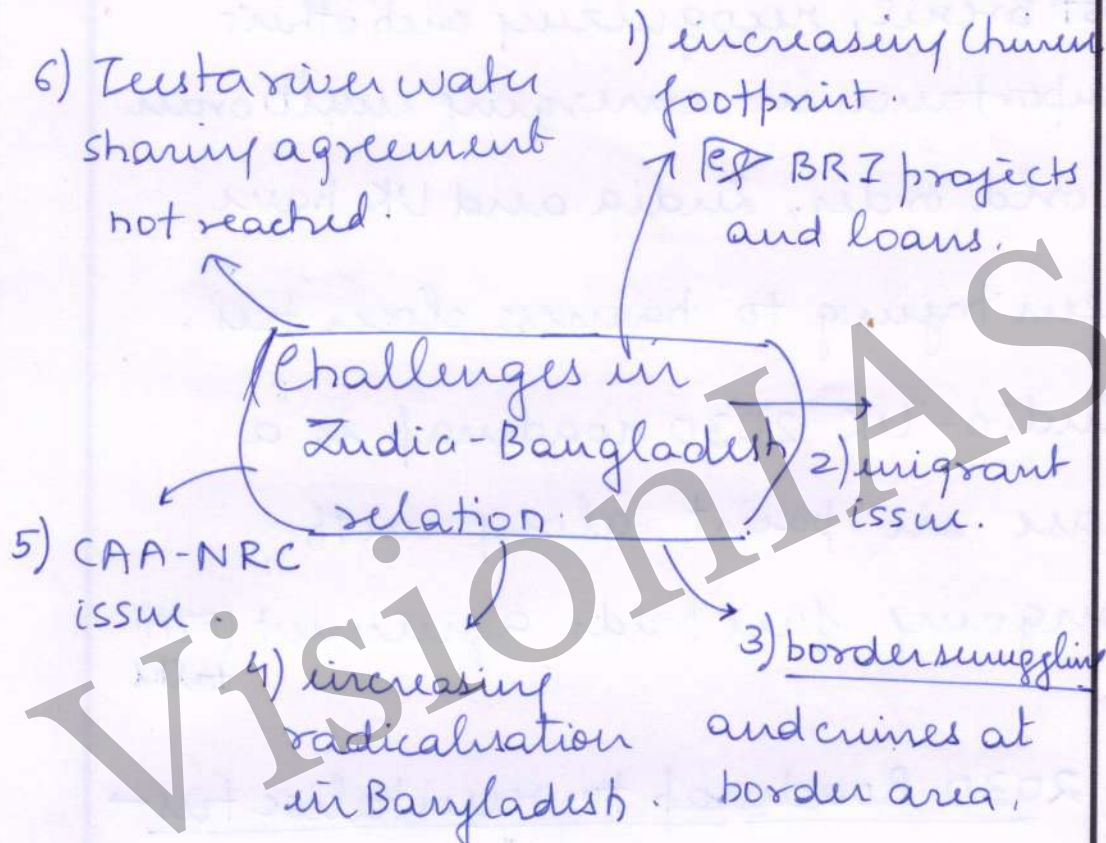
↳ nuclear power plant build by India-Russia in Bangladesh.

↳ India exporting defence items to Bangladesh. ↳ combined trilateral defence exercises.

- 3) regional cooperation: via ^{eg} SAARC, BIMSTEC regional forums.
- 4) connectivity: improving border infrastructure
 ↳ Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal (BBIN) motor vehicle agreement.
 ↳ Land water connectivity.
 eg recent MGVilas cruise connectivity.
- 5) cultural cooperation: respecting each other traditions, strong Bollywood and sports tie, people to people connect. eg: Prez inaugurating Kalibari temple.
- 6) humanitarian and disaster management → in Bay of Bengal region. eg: sharing data, early warning system.
- 7) river water sharing data and India being responsible upper riparian state

8) settlement boundary dispute →
via 100th Constitutional amendment
Act

Headwinds →



Challenges remain but we need to resolve them via dialogue and diplomacy to usher in holistic partnership with Bangladesh for regional peace, prosperity and connectivity.

12. यद्यपि भारत-यू.के. के भविष्य के संबंधों के लिए 2030 के रोडमैप का उद्देश्य दोनों देशों के बीच संबंधों को पुनर्जीवित करना है, तथापि कुछ ऐसी प्रमुख चुनौतियां विद्यमान हैं जिनका समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

While the 2030 Roadmap for India-UK future relations seeks to revitalise the relationship between the two countries, there are major challenges that need to be ironed out. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Post Brexit, recognizing each other's importance in emerging multiorder world order, India and UK have been trying to harness closer ties. India-UK 2030 roadmap is a case in point along with ongoing free trade agreement (FTA) talks.

2030 Roadmap to revitalise ties →

- 1) economic ties: increase trade and investment between the two countries.
- 2) strategic cooperation → collaborate in emerging technology like D-10 (for SG club, Global Alliance in Artificial Intelligence like GPAI).

- 3) space and technology collaboration
↳ combined space research and technological innovation
- 4) deepen cultural ties → immigration, people to people connect, diaspora ^{leverage}
- 5) reformed multilateralism and collaboration in global stage.
- 6) environment → address climate change including glasgow commitments, one world one sun one grid etc.

Challenges remain →

- 1) FTA talks: need to be concluded at earliest. ↳ reduce non-trade barriers
↳ increase investment opportunities for both countries.
- 2) divergent ~~views~~ views on Indo Pacific:
↳ UK-AUS-US nuclear submarine partnership. and UK having more focus on western pacific

- 3) historical mistrust → need to be strengthened via building mutual trust
- 4) UK interference in internal affairs: farm law issues, residing Khalistan elements in UK etc.
- 5) divergence in geopolitical interest:
↳ UK supporting Ukraine whereas India seeking diplomatic solutions.
- 6) lack of access to UK market for Indian software firms etc.
- 7) racial discrimination.

Hence, the 2030 vision document will act as a game changer → helping foster closer ties between India and UK. Issues need to be resolved and partnership strengthened for strategic and economic partnership.

13. पश्चिम एशिया में चीन का बढ़ता प्रभाव यू.एस. के प्रभुत्व के अंत और एक नई बहु-ध्रुवीय व्यवस्था की शुरुआत का संकेत प्रदान करता है। समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

The growing influence of China in West Asia signals the end of the US hegemony and the dawn of a new multi-polar order. Critically discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

The current world order is changing from the post cold war era US dominance to a multipolar world order with greater emphasis on strategic autonomy, regional grouping and issue based alliances.

growing influence of China in west Asia →

- 1) resolving age old disputes between rival factions : Saudi Arabia and Iran → China brokered peace deal is a significant milestone.
- 2) China increasing its economic footprint in the region.
→ China largest trading partner of most

3) increasing Chinese infrastructure projects in the region as part of Belt and Road Initiative. \rightarrow new projects in Iran, oil deals with Saudi.

4) China signing long term comprehensive deals with nations in west Asia.

\rightarrow China-Iran 25 year vision.

5) increasing defence and military footprint in region.

\rightarrow logistic agreement with Saudi

\rightarrow military port development in UAE.

declining US hegemony \rightarrow

1) withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan \rightarrow Non-achievement

- of objective, impacting regional security.
- 2) growing mistrust with Iran, Afghanistan.
 - 3) thaw in ties with Saudi Arabia over journalist death, OPEC oil supply.
- # growing multipolar order in west Asia →
- 1) 12 U2 → India-US-Israel-UAE partnership for regional peace, economic and strategic partnership.
 - 2) Abraham Accords → between Israel and Arab world like UAE, Bahrain etc. brokered by USA.
 - 3) emerging Iran-Pakistan-China-Russia axis.

Hence, there is need to use multi lateral organisation to counter balance China in region and secure Indian Interest.

14. भारत अपने दक्षिण एशियाई पड़ोसी देशों के साथ अपने दृष्टिकोण में अब 'केवल द्विपक्षवाद' के लिए प्रतिबद्ध नहीं है। विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, इस क्षेत्र में प्रभावी सहयोग से संबंधित चुनौतियों को भी रेखांकित कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

India is no longer wedded to 'bilateralism only' in its approach with its South Asian neighbours. Discuss. Also, highlight the challenges pertaining to effective cooperation in the region. (Answer in 250 words) 15

South Asian region is one of the most non-integrated region in the world with trade between countries low and poor connectivity. Hence, India has changed its approach from only bilateral in early part to effective multilateralism also.

growing multilateralism in South Asian region →

1). Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral technical and economic cooperation (BIMSTEC).

↳ 1997, to encourage technical, economic engagement between

- South Asian region → maritime security, trade improvement, space exploration etc
- 2) South Asian Association for regional cooperation (SAARC) → although not much gain due to India Pakistan issue.
 - 3) SAGAR → security and growth for all in Region → aims to boost security, strategic and maritime cooperation in region.
 - 4) BBIN → Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal motor vehicle agreement to boost connectivity.
 - 5) IMT and Kaladan multimodal connectivity projects.
 - 6) space cooperation → SAARC satellite.
 - 7) disaster management → regional early warning system.

challenges in regional cooperation →

- 1) India-Pakistan bilateral tensions

- have spilled to SAARC effective cooperation.
- 2) transborder crimes and security issues hinder efficient trade.
 - 3) migrant crisis especially Rohingya issue has created humanitarian issue and mistrust
 - 4) growing Chinese footprint in region → Belt and road initiative.
↳ CPEC, Bangladesh infrastructure
 - 5) Border disputes → India-Nepal Kalapani dispute; India-Sri Lanka fishermen
 - 6) environment activism leading to lack of consensus on BBIN.

Need of the hour is to address these issues, forge consensus for a truly inclusive and effective regional partnership for regional peace, prosperity and integration.

15. ऑस्ट्रेलिया-जापान-यू.एस. त्रिपक्षीय समूह के मजबूत होने सहित संपूर्ण इंडो-पैसिफिक क्षेत्र में किए जा रहे सुरक्षा सहयोग संबंधी नवीन प्रयासों के आलोक में, वर्तमान भू-राजनीतिक परिदृश्य में क्वाड (QUAD) की प्रासंगिकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

In light of the new security cooperation efforts springing up across the Indo-Pacific, including strengthening of the Australia-Japan-U.S. trilateral, discuss the relevance of the QUAD in the present geopolitical climate.
(Answer in 250 words)

15

In the changing world order and growing geopolitical considerations, Indo-Pacific region is gaining prominence. This is evident with renewed cooperation agreements between various countries to exert their influence in the region.

- #
- New security coop. agreements/efforts springing up across Indo-Pacific
- 1) AUS-UK-US nuclear submarine partnership
 - 2) India's vision of SAGAR (security & growth for all in region) with neighbouring countries.
 - 3) QUAD - between India, USA, Australia, Japan.
 - 4) China's belt and road initiative.
 - 5) Australia-Japan-US trilateral

still, Quadilateral security dialogue between India-USA-Australia-Japan holds relevance.

Relevance of Quad →

- 1) strategic: promote international rules based order and free and open Indo pacific region.
- 2) defence and military cooperation →
 - ↳ mutual logistics agreement between countries [eg] India-USA, India-Japan.
 - ↳ participate in defence exercises [eg] Malabar in Indian ocean.
- 3) democratic vision and principles of territorial and sovereignty in the region.
- 4) effective balance to China's unilateral actions, especially in South China Sea

5) diversifying partnership in emerging domains.

↳ eg Health: Covid-19 vaccine production and distribution network.

↳ eg infrastructure development and cooperation in sustainability-like Blue dot network.

↳ eg cooperation in emerging tech like AI, semiconductors.

↳ establishing various supply chains.

eg Aus-Japan-India Supply Chain Resilience Initiative.

Therefore, Quad has become a comprehensive partnership expanding partnership beyond military only.

Hence, it is becoming more relevant in changing world order and growing multilateralism in Indo-Pacific.

16. भारत को "पड़ोस प्रथम" नीति को मजबूती प्रदान करने के लिए नेपाल के साथ एक संवेदनशील और उदार भागीदार बनने की आवश्यकता है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत-नेपाल संबंधों में हालिया बाधाओं का उल्लेख कीजिए और आगे की राह सुझाइए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

India needs to be a sensitive and generous partner to Nepal for the "Neighbourhood First" policy to take root. In this context, mention the recent roadblocks in the Indo-Nepal relationship and suggest a way forward.
(Answer in 250 words)

15

India and Nepal have had a cordial relationship since their 1950 ^{peace and} friendship treaty, which came to be famously known as 'Roti-Beti Ka Rishita'. It is an important part of India's neighbourhood first policy.

Recent Roadblocks →

- 1) territorial disputes → over Kalapani, Lipulekh and Limpiyadurga during to different view on previous treaties (eg: Sagauli treaty).

↳ Nepal redrawing and publishing maps.

- 2) increasing footprint of China → resulting into new projects for China and increasing hostility of Nepal Parliament to India.
- 3) alleged roadblock and aid block during Nepal 2016 disaster → turned relation downwards.
- 4) hostility at border → killing Indian civilian.

Way forward → But, Nepal PM recently visited India was an encouraging sign in improvements.

- 1) resolve disputes amicably →
 - ↳ diplomacy must take centre stage.
 - ↳ consider treaties comprehensively.
- 2) improve trade, investment in Nepal to encourage its economic prosperity

- 3) improve connectivity → fast track BBIN etc. and give Nepal greater access to Indian ports.
- 4) ensure humanitarian and disaster aid in times of need.
- 5) complete hydropower projects on time for mutual benefit
→ project on river seti
- 6) deepen cooperation in regional peace, prosperity and forums like BIMSTEC, SAARC.

Hence, India needs to be generous and sensitive to Nepal's need and to make its Neighbourhood first policy a success → for deeper regional integration.

17. भारतीय डायस्पोरा भारत के आर्थिक हितों का लाभ उठाने और इसकी विदेश नीति को आकार देने में एक निर्णायक भूमिका निभाते हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारतीय डायस्पोरा द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली प्रमुख चुनौतियों और उनके साथ जुड़ाव को बढ़ाने के लिए भारत द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों की विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

The Indian diaspora plays a decisive role in leveraging India's economic interests and shaping its foreign policy. In this context, discuss the major challenges faced by the Indian diaspora and steps taken by India to enhance engagement with them. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Indian diaspora is one of the largest diaspora in world ranging from semi skilled workers in middle east to highly skilled and politically influential in the West.

They have helped play an instrumental role in India's emergence as economic superpower

Challenges faced by Indian diaspora →

- 1) lack of social security → due to various countries not have safety nets for immigrants. ↗ in west Asia
- 2) visa issues: especially in USA and UK → where Indians demanding jobs/educations much more than visa

3) racial discrimination: various incidents of racial discrimination in US, Europe have come to fore.

4) lack of labour laws and poor working conditions → especially in ^{eg} Kafala labour system in west Asia → human rights abuse

5) threats from anti-social and secessionist sections: eg Khalistan supporters defacing Indian embassy and threatening Indians in Canada.

Steps taken by India to enhance engagement with them →

1) Pravasi Bhartiya divas (PBD).

↳ biennial event connecting with diaspora across world.

2) issuing OCI cards and relaxed visit, investment norms.

- 3) implementing social security schemes for Indians in countries where it's not available.
- 4) taking up visa issues with various countries like Australia, US.
- 5) providing 24x7 helpline in Ministry of external affairs.
- 6) encouraging participation in Indian cultural programmes overseas.
- 7) taking operations in cases of distress situation. \rightarrow operation gauge in Ukraine.

Hence, Indian government is connecting well with the diaspora to leverage their economic & technical prowess and help them project India in good light as ambassador in host nation.

18. चूंकि भारत अपने पड़ोस की पुनः कल्पना कर रहा है, इसलिए उप-क्षेत्रों के माध्यम से सीमा-पार कनेक्टिविटी तेजी से महत्वपूर्ण होती जा रही है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)
As India re-imagines its neighbourhood, cross-border connectivity through sub-regions is becoming increasingly vital. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words) 15

South Asia remains one of the least integrated regions in world, as per World Bank, in terms of trade and connectivity.

It is essential to bridge this for a successful 'Neighbourhood first' policy and regional prosperity.

Challenges in connectivity →

- 1) deep mistrust in region → especially between India and Pakistan.
- 2) lack of effective regional forums → SAARC is almost defunct and BIMSTEC trade agreement hasn't seen light.
- 3) issues of terrorism and regional

peace is missing.

- 4) No investment and promotion of cross border projects.
- 5) increasing Chinese influence via Belt and road furthering Chinese interest.

Importance of cross-border connectivity

- 1) economic prosperity: results in increase in trade, investment and competitiveness of region.
- 2) strategic importance: helps in countering regional issues and resolve border issues.
- 3) deeper cultural connect and people to people ties.
- 4) increased peace and stability in region.
- 5) spillover to positive social impact like reduced poverty, decline in regional issues.

Initiatives taken →

- 1) Bangladesh- Bhutan- Nepal- India (BBIN) motor vehicle agreement.
- 2) India- Myanmar- Thailand (IMT) trilateral highway.
- 3) Kaladan multimodal project.
- 4) TAPI energy pipeline.
- 5) Inland water development.
- 6) SAGAR vision and BIMSTEC charter for maritime connectivity.

Way forward → resolve disputes like border issues, address environment concern like of Bhutan, take all stakeholder on Board.

And, fasttrack development of connectivity projects to enhance regional integration, peace, prosperity.

19. 'एक्ट फार ईस्ट' पॉलिसी को अपनाना भारत के लिए सुदूर पूर्व क्षेत्र के महत्व को रेखांकित करता है। विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, सुदूर पूर्व में भारत के हितों के समक्ष विद्यमान बाधाओं को भी रेखांकित कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

The adoption of 'Act Far East' Policy underlines the significance of the Far East region for India. Discuss. Also, highlight the impediments to India's interests in the Far East. (Answer in 250 words) 15

After a successful 'Act East' Policy, India has adopted 'Act Far East' policy due to the region's growing importance as well as India's growing stature in the International arena.

Significance of Far East Region for India

- 1) energy security: the far east region has vast reserves of natural gas, crude and marine resources
→ can ensure India's energy security.

eg ONAC Vidish doing project in Russian East.

- 2) economic opportunity: trade and investment is still low, presents an opportunity to increase trade with like minded like Japan, South Korea
→ and foster FDI from region.

- 3) connectivity: \rightarrow Chennai - Vladivostok marine link, \rightarrow India - Japan maritime logistic can be explored.
- 4) geostrategic: region caters to important sea line of communication and growing share in world trade.
- 5) technological cooperation: companies like Foxconn, Samsung etc. can be leveraged to setup emerging technology deal and foster ecosystem in India.
- 6) employment opportunity: Far East has an aging society \rightarrow offers opportunities for Indians to settle and employ.
- 7) diversify supply chain links \rightarrow \rightarrow Supply Chain Resilience Initiative between India, Australia, Japan
- 8) cultural connect: influence of Buddhism, people to people ties.

Impediments in the regions relation with India →

- 1) lack of direct connectivity.
- 2) growing Chinese footprint and dependency of countries on China.
eg → Russia-China partnership.
- 3) lack of awareness and research by Indian firms on consumer preference in region, language barrier etc.
- 4) competing interests in wooing companies leaving China, trade with West etc.

Due to growing importance of region, India's 'Far Act East' policy is a welcome step. Need to address challenges and foster close collaboration and development in region.

20. दक्षिण-पश्चिम हिंद महासागर में सुरक्षा खतरों के स्वरूप और उनकी बारंबारता में वृद्धि के मद्देनजर, इस क्षेत्र में लघु द्वीपीय विकासशील देशों (SIDS) के संबंध में भारत द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

As security threats increase in form and frequency in the South-West Indian Ocean, discuss the role played by India in relation to small island developing states (SIDS) in the region. (Answer in 250 words) 15

South west Indian Ocean (SWIO) region is an important region catering to huge volume of global trade (including energy supply) and also are important sea lines of communication.

Increasing security threats in the regions →

1) greater acts of piracy in region

↳ esp. of the African coast

↳ loss of trade and harm to innocent lives.

2) increasing political instability in the region.

↳ ~~eg~~ Maldives government

has been in turmoil in recent years.
eg crisis in Sudan.

3) rising radicalisation and terrorism

↳ due to rising socio-economic unrest.

4) increasing Chinese footprint.

role played by India in security of SIDS of the region.

1) SAGAR policy: ↳ security and growth for all in Indian region
↳ prioritising India's commitment to strength & be Net security provider.

2) assisting in political stability and economic development in region.

↳ eg greater Male connectivity project.

↳ eg grants to SIDS as part of IDEAS programme.

- 3) capacity building of government institutions and people.
↳ by providing training in Indian institutes
- 4) encouraging community led projects
- 5) sharing technology like India stack for efficient governance in region.
- 6) enhancing maritime security and cooperation in region.
↳ mutual navy logistics agreement
- 7) using regional forums to address concerns. ↳ Indian ocean rim association.
- 8) disaster and humanitarian assistance
Hence, India has emerged as a net security provider in region and ensuring economic and social development of the region.