

**GS Advanced Program 2023****Generic Booklet**

Test Name/Code/No. : 69201A

Name			
Email ID.			
Roll No.			
Mobile No.		Date	

Allotted Time : 60 Minutes

Instructions to Candidates -


- There are 7 Questions in this Question paper.
- All Questions are Compulsory.
- For all updates, please visit the noticeboard -
<https://noticeboard.forumias.com/gsap-2023/>

Important -

- Answers must be attempted in the QCA Booklet only.
- To upload the Answer Copies please visit to "My Course" section on -
<https://academy.forumias.com/>
- Only those copies will be evaluated which will be submitted before the next class.

Q. No.	Grade/Score
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Overall Grade/Score	

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 **ForumIAS**

Start Writing Here

Q.1) SAARC is the least economically integrated region in the world. What are reasons behind it? Can BIMSTEC replace SAARC to fulfill India's regional aspirations? (150 Words))

SAARC is a regional organization to bring peace, connectivity and economic into the south asian region.

SAARC is least economically connected

- 1) SAARC could not cross 5% trade of its GDP in decade.
- 2) Internal conflict among the countries ex. India-Pakistan, India-Bangladesh.
- 3) Disruption of annual meetings due political reasons ex. 14 times annual meet postponed.
- 4) Countries moving towards bilateral ties rather than the SAARC
- 5) Very less developed of local industry and dumping of cheap Chinese goods into the SAARC economy

Why BIMSTEC can't replace SAARC?

- 1) SAARC is a regional organization where BIMSTEC is subregional co-operation.
- 2) SAARC is natural alliance and alliance of interconnected countries but BIMSTEC is not.
- 3) SAARC can full fill india's goal to be a net security provider into the Indian ocean region.
- 4) BIMSTEC has very weak secretariat where SAARC have well established.
- 5) BIMSTEC itself very ignored and used by India when SAARC not delivers.

BIMSTEC is valuable for its diversity and provide bridge between South asia and South east asia so it may help strengthen SAARC and ASEAN relations.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Q.2)

How India's 'Look East policy' shaped in post-cold war era to achieve its economic and strategic objectives? (150 Words)

India started pursuing 'Look East Policy' in early 90s to integrate with ASEAN countries.

Achievements of Look East policy

- 1) Brought closer to ASEAN which are in Indo-Pacific.
- 2) Helped into economic integration of Indian economy with growing economy of ASIA.
- 3) Helped into attracting the foreign in form of FDI or FPI.
- 4) Gave strategic avenue in Indo-Pacific after collapse of India's single benefactor USSR.
- 5) Extension of Look East to Act East gave opportunity to strategic partnership in maritime security.

Challenges to Look East Policy -

- 1) Direct and close contact with China.
- 2) No direct land connectivity to mainland.
- 3) ASEAN economy is more connected with China.
- 4) Region very disturbed in maritime security which makes exploitation of resources difficult.

Move of India from Look East to Act East is very appreciative as it will increase strategic presence in Indo-Pacific region.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.3) The issue of energy security has always remained the 'Look West' policy of India. In this light discuss the changing dimensions of India's relation with the west Asian countries. (150 Words)

India and west asia have cultural, traditional and civilisational links. The vibrant people to people contact due to lots of Indian diaspora.

West Asia and energy security

- 1) West Asia is energy rich and India is energy deficient.
- 2) Better quality of crude oil of Saudi Arabia and Iran than the Venezuela and other South American nations.
- 3) Production of crude in west asia impacts on price volatility in India.

Changing dimensions in relations.

- 1) West Asia linking and searching avenue to diversify the economy.

2) India need the investment of them and can provide a diversified economy.

3) Increasing security concerns into region and India can act as net security provider.

4) India has got more venue for energy needs e.g. USA, Russia and Venezuela.

India and west Asia are complementary to each other and I2U2 is the solid step into mix direction.

Overall Grading (✓)

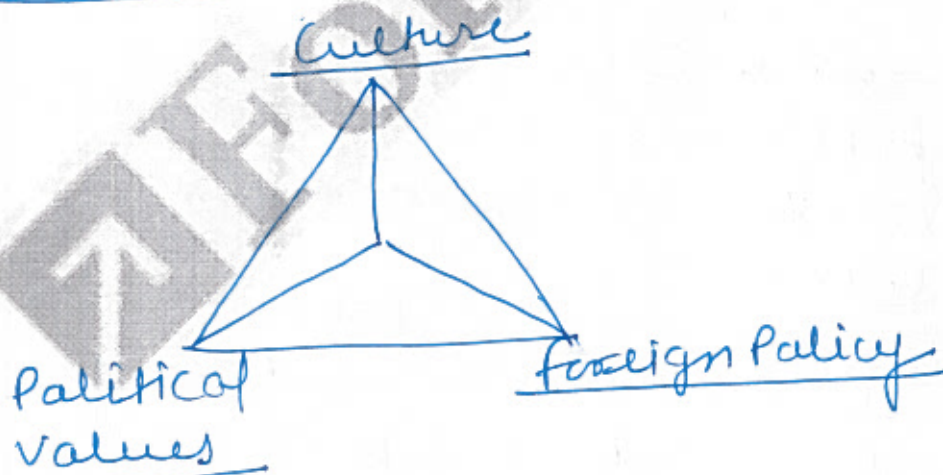
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Q.4) What instruments of soft power India has to use to further strengthen its relations with its neighborhood. How can India use them to counter external influence in the neighboring countries? (150 Words)

Census based foreign policy through non-military options like movies, sports, cuisine etc. is called soft power.

India can be variously described as model of soft power or a country which makes poor use of it. — Shree Jaishankar.

Instruments of soft power to strengthen relations with neighbours



1) It is based on attractiveness of cultural values, political values and foreign policy.

2) Culture values are used as symbiotic relationship ex- Indo-Bangladesh some culture,

3) Political values like democracy and sovereignty helps into building confidence

4) Use of Soft power to counter external influence in neighbourhood.

1) By providing soft loans and line of credit

2) By following Gandhi doctrine.

3) Provide help in crisis like pandemic or economic crisis

4) Help them to preserve democratic values ex. operation ~~keel~~ in maldives.

India promises and china delivers nation need to be changed by taking steps in right directions.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.5) The re-emergence of Taliban in Afghanistan has changed the strategic dimensions for India in the region? How can India engage with Taliban to protect its interest in the region without providing legitimacy to the current regime in Afghanistan? (250 Words)

Kautilya in Mandala Siddhanta mentioned Afghanistan as second concentric circle and natural ally of India.

Change in strategic dimensions due to rise of Taliban 2.0.

- 1) Increasing influence of China after exit of USA.
- 2) Increasing involvement of Pakistani deep state (ISI) as Hakkani network controlled by ISI.
- 3) Any terrorist activity in Afghanistan will bail the situation in UT of Jammu and Kashmir.
- 4) Direct involvement with Taliban would motivate terrorist out in J&K and ask for some treatment.
- 5) Lots of public projects under threat as under the progress.

Method to engage with Taliban without giving them legitimacy

- 1) Start engaging with comparatively lesser extremist Taliban group.
- 2) Increase community engagement by working in high impact community development projects eg. hospital, dams.
- 3) Providing basic amenities like housing, schools etc.
- 4) ISIS branch of Khoresan can be countered by augmenting the Taliban.
- 5) Help them on humanitarian ground in crisis as provided the vaccine during pandemic.

Challenges in engagement

- 1) Undemocratic and Anti women belief of Taliban.
- 2) Excessive involvement of china and Pakistan.
- 3) Against democratic ethos of our country.

Way forward

- 1) Taliban seems to be more liberal than the earlier/last time.
- 2) India has huge investment at stake but Taliban has promised for their safety.
- 3) India can leverage his soft power as humanitarian work has generated lots of good will.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.6) The size and location of India has led to growth of 'Big Brother Syndrome' in its neighboring countries. What are the implications of this? How can India counter this narrative? (250 Words)

India's approach towards its neighbours to deal foreign policy matters with masculinity has led to Big Brother syndrome among neighbour states.

Reason & events which lead to tag of Big Brother —

- 1) Unequal treatment to Nepal in signing of perpetual friendship treaty in 1950.
- 2) Attempt to amendment in Nepal constitution
- 3) Causing petroleum product crisis in Bhutan
- 4) Admission 'not pursued' in Myanmar without state Myanmar in confidence

Implication of Big Brother syndrome

- 1) Increases the distrust and disrespect among nations.
- 2) Impacts vision of India to be net security provider in the region.
- 3) Causes Anti India movement in countries. ex. In Maldives and Nepal.
- 4) Interrupts the dialogue with countries.
- 5) Countries started searching an option of India and may have got China which is very interested.
- 6) Impacts people to people contact as some are working in India.
- 7) Rise of insurgent groups if neighbours do not cooperate.

Steps to counter the narrative

- 1) Just declarations are not enough need to take concrete step.

2) Be very precise when taking strategic decision between intervention or non-intervention and how to intervene

3) Do not compel them to act in a particular manner rather use sort of persuasion

4) Use Gyanai Doctrine and help them without reciprocity.

After 2019 Lok Sabha general election, Prime Minister went to Nepal which gave the message that our neighbours are our priority irrespective of their size.

Overall Grading (✓)

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Q.7) The pandemic allowed India to discover new routes of engagement with countries around herself. What role India played in assisting its neighbors during the pandemic? (250 Words)

UN secretary general lauded that the way India helped its neighbours and other nations in supplying medicine and vaccine during pandemic.

Routes of engagement during Pandemic

- 1) Regular meets with neighbours on video conferences.
- 2) Addressed the medical supply needs of neighbours.
- 3) Creating air bubble to start the aviation services.
- 4) Diplomatic ties used to extract people from other countries.
- 5) Sending humanitarian aids and vaccines to African nations.
- 6) Increasing pharmaceutical production to full fill the need of world.

Role of India in assistance

- 1) Provided online medical training to medical staff of neighbours.
- 2) Helped other countries by providing vaccine
- 3) Capacity building by developing structure
- 4) Sharing food supply and fuel supply
- 5) Collaborating for research and development on vaccine

Challenges in providing assistance

- 1) Air connectivity was not present so need to use Air force every time
- 2) Unavailability of raw material as whole world is shut

3) Late approval of Indian vaccines by WHO.

4) A propaganda in Brazil about Indian developed vaccines.

India really done and executed the principle of 'vasudhaiva kutumbakam' and helped everyone while helping their own people.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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