



GS Advanced Program 2023

Generic Booklet

Test Name/Code/No. : 6920189

Name		
Email ID.		
Roll No.		0
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 -

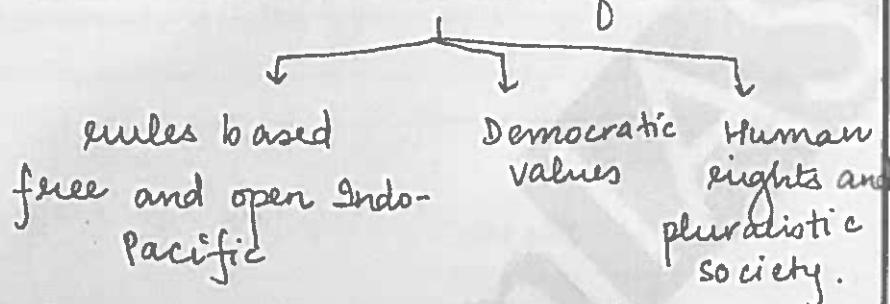
- Answers must be attempted in the QCA Booklet only.
- To upload the Answer Copies please visit to "My Course" section on -
<https://academy.forumias.com/>
- Only those copies will be evaluated which will be submitted before the next class.

Q. No.	Grade/Score
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
Overall Grade/Score	

Start Writing Here

Q.1)

India and USA are global strategic partners owing to shared democratic values and common areas of interests



The countries have a 2+2 (defence + External Affairs) ministerial mechanism.

Changing Relations of India and USA

- The growing pivot of USA towards the Indo-Pacific → a rules based, free order without hegemonies.
- USA's search for alternative supply chains → diversifying from China (Decoupling policy)

- Joint initiatives to combat global challenges such as vaccine production facility in India.
- Inclusion and Partnership with India in regional geopolitics through groupings like I2U2, QUAD.
- Defence Partnership → Malabar, Yudh Abhyas

Hence, USA is finding a vital partner in the Indo-Pacific through India while India finds benefits of a strong partner and resisting regional hegemonies. Countries are working in line with ambition of 'Sanjha Prayas - Sabka Vikas'

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.2)

The Russia-Ukraine war has divided the world into blocks with west bitterly criticizing Russia for its aggression in Ukraine.

India has abstained from naming and blaming parties while calling for cessation of violence and shift to negotiation. This has strained India's relation with the west as:-

- India abstained from voting on the UN Resolution against Russia.
- Increased its oil purchases from Russia.
- Has exercised restraint in condemning Russia on any forum.

India can however, strike a balance between the 2 sides as. by:-

- Emphasizing on areas of common interest between the two countries.
 Eg Free and open Indo-Pacific with US and Defence partnership with Russia.
- Use global forums like G-20 to develop common grounds for sake economic recovery in post-pandemic world order.
- Seek support of other countries facing similar dilemmas and forge common alliances with them.
- Focus on supply chain resilience.

India can well utilize forums like G-20, SCO, BRICS, QUAD to make its positions clear and endorse a return to peace and normalcy at the earliest.

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.3)

Sino-Indian relations date back to the independence of the two countries. Recently, there has been a divergence in world view and policies leading to conflict of interests and unfortunate border clashes (Galwan valley).

Points of friction in Sino-Indian relations

- Points of Friction
 - Border clashes → territorial disputes (Aksai Chin, Arunachal)
 - China's repeated attempts to shield terrorists at world forums.
 - Expansionist policies of China → String of pearls, 9-dash line.
 - China-Pakistan nexus → fear of 2 front war.
 - China's dumping of goods in Indian markets.
 - Chinese opposition to India's membership of NSG and UNSC.

Way Forward for the countries

The countries need to move past these conflicts by -

- Finding common grounds of convergence → sustainable development, climate change, technology exchange.
- They can jointly check western hegemony.
- establish rules based order in Asia.
- India can be the next component of the Yellow Peril (western fear of probable China-Japan alliance).
- Solving border issues with dialogue and diplomacy.

As former PM Manmohan Singh said "There is enough in this world for both India and China to grow". The 2 countries, should work together for a Asia pivoted world order.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.4)

India and UK as the 5th and 6th largest economies in the world have much to offer as solutions to global issues.

However, there are policy-constraints in the relations that need to be tackled

- Trade barriers → the countries have only \$13 bn. of bilateral trade with many tariff barriers as well as SPS barriers.
- UK has complained of the complexities involved in trade and investment in India → low ease of doing business.
- Brexit has created an economic boundary between UK and EU → preventing free trade for Indian businesses in the UK.
- Fragile economic conditions in UK → reduced demand and high inflation.

BREXIT i.e. UK's exit from EU has however paved way for new opportunities for India - UK relations.

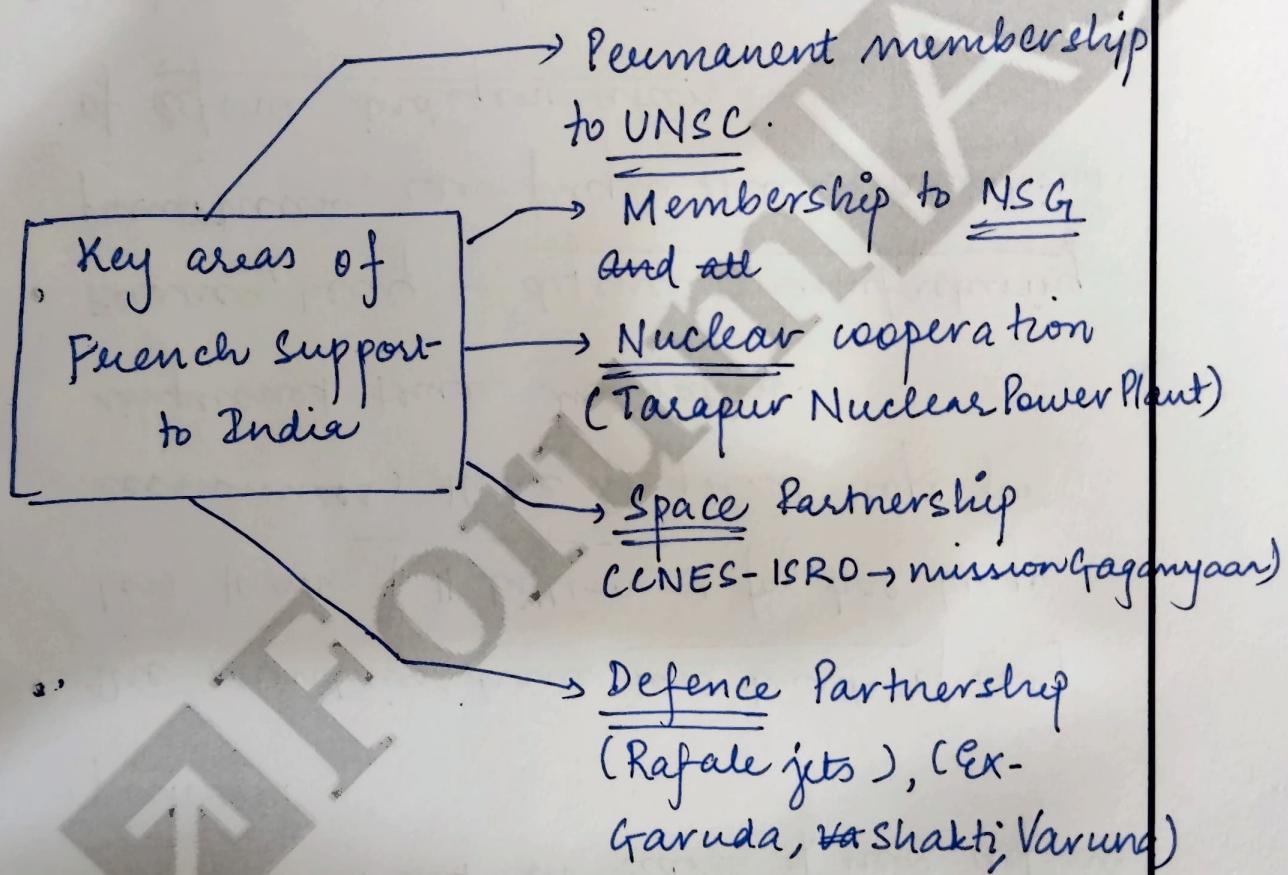
- India can fill the manpower and economic vacuum created in UK by easing visa requirements.
- India can develop partnership with UK based on bilateral interests only.
- India has a good opportunity to seal an FTA as UK looks for new economic partnerships.

India - UK relations have found common grounds (Eg additional 3000 visas for Indians announced by UK). There is a need to completely shun the colonial legacy and forge a dynamic, forward looking partnership .

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Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.5) Indo-French relations are characterized by a global strategic partnership (1998). France has been a consistent support to India on many key issues.



While Indo-French have blossomed over the years in all critical areas, there is great scope for greater partnership.

- France can be a reliable partner to India in the Indo-Pacific → the recent snub at AUKUS has left France antagonized and in search of new defence partners.
- The countries have low trade of only less than \$ 11 billion → for two large economies, there is great scope for improved trade integration.
- France, being a defence manufacturing powerhouse, can propel India's ambitions of defence indigenization.
- India can work on French complaints of hostile business and investment environment → augment ease of doing business.
- The unique and rich cultures allow

great scope for people-to-people contact.

- Remove semantic barriers and develop consumer preferences for each other's products.

Eg French Wine ↔ Indian pharma.

Thus, the two countries through Track 1.5 diplomacy (ORF-CAPS) have created bonhomie and fertile grounds for Track 1 diplomacy. Embracing each other would be in the best interests of both nations.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.6)

The US at present is facing threats of being dethroned from the position of its leading economy and global hegemon as the world has transitioned to a multipolar order with a stronger, more assertive China.

Since the Cold War, Russia has conventionally been considered as one the main rival of USA. However in the changed circumstances of soft-power diplomacy and economic might, China seems to be a greater threat to USA than due to factors like:-

Economically

- China has a robust and rapidly

growing economy. It was the only major economy registering positive growth in post-pandemic scenario of 2021. Russia never had such economic might.

- China has firmly established itself as the 'factory of the world' capturing almost 50% of global trade. USA has a trade deficit with China → this was not the case with USA.

Geo-Politics

- China has spread its influence in all directions through policies like debt trap, wolf-warrior diplomacy and military aggression → Eg BRI, Polar Silk route etc.

- China asserts 'seeking common goals with USA' while keeping aside 'differences'
→ veiled threats to USA.
- During cold war, UK USA was at the peak of its power while post its withdrawal from Afghanistan, its power has seen a decline.
- While Russia (USSR) had a leadership especially under Nikita Khrushchev, Chinese President has awarded himself an unprecedented 3rd term. etc

Hence, China seems to be a bigger threat to USA. It is robust economically and plans every move with great planning. An assertive China is preparing to establish a new hegemony in the world.

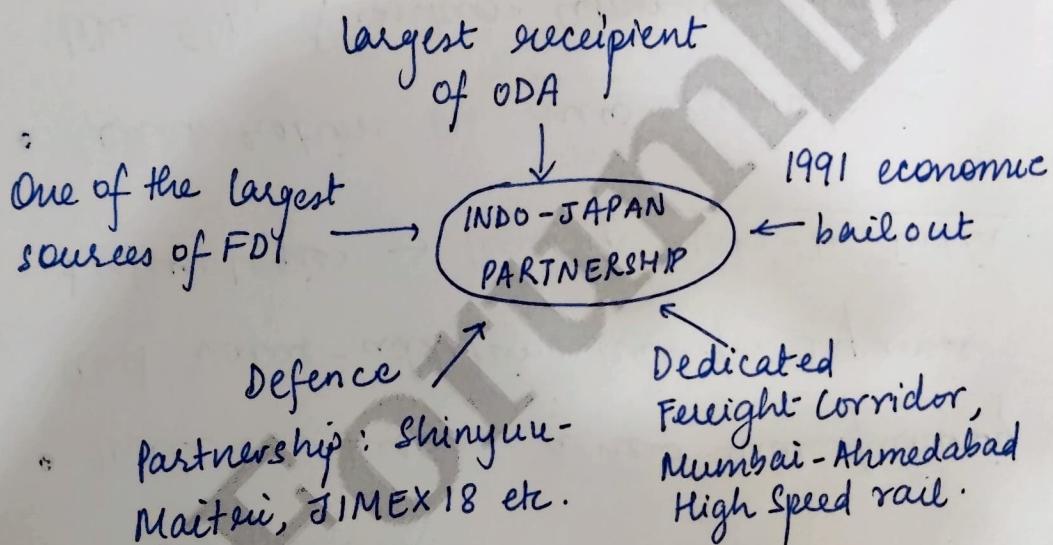
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Q.7)

India and Japan share deep spiritual, cultural and civilizational ties. There are shared areas of concern and interests as manifested in the Indo-Japan Vision

2025 : Global strategic Partnership



However, there is great scope for the relations to blossom further. Possible areas of further collaboration :-

- Develop and nurture the newly developed

- partnerships under QUAD → free and open Indo-Pacific.
- Develop solutions for newly emergent issues like Supply Chain Resilience through SCRI with Australia.
- India can become a new manufacturing and value-addition hub for Japanese technologies → leverage Make-In-India.
- Collaboration on new technologies like 5G, Quantum communications and Nanotechnology (Japan has great expertise in these areas).
- India has much to gain from disaster resilience and urban planning models of Japan → Kashi-Kyoto Partnership.

- Enhance People-to-People Contact → remove semantic barriers.
- As India has abstained from RCEP, the two countries have opportunity to bilaterally develop trade relations → FTAs.
- Partnership on climate change and sustainable development → Miyawaki technique.

Hence Japan and India have untapped potential to develop as a new Asian order. This shall be a true tribute to former PM Shinzo Abe of Japan who worked relentlessly for Indo-Japan relations.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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