

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

Test Name/Code/No. : 692020

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 -

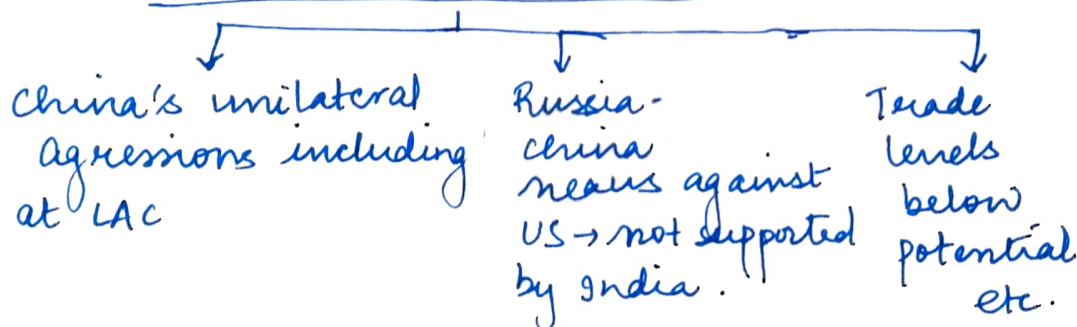
- Answers must be attempted in the QCA Booklet only.
- To upload the Answer Copies please visit to "My Course" section on -
<https://academy.forumias.com/>
- Only those copies will be evaluated which will be submitted before the next class.

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

Start Writing Here

Q.1) The BRICS grouping of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa is a forum for economic cooperation created with objective of creating alternatives to the Bretton Woods Institutions.

The group is marred with some internal contradictions.



However, the institution preserves its relevance and has a promising future as:-

- The New Development Bank (NDB) formed 2014 → approned 70+ infrastructure projects.

- Remote Sensing Satellites → constellation of 6 Satellites launched jointly.
- Developing BRICS currency and alternative to SWIFT.
- Contingency Reserve Arrangement → to tackle short term BoP issues.
- Was able to increase IMF quota for India and China.

Therefore BRICS has proven its relevance and survivability. It can furthermore:-

- focus on joint Research
- Improve intra-BRICS trade.
- Add more members (as are willing to join) to make it more inclusive.
- Promote good governance.

BRICS is important element of India's foreign and economic policy and promising a thriving future.

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.2) The Bretton Woods Institutions comprising The World Bank and IMF was formed after 2nd WW to facilitate gold and foreign currency based exchange standard and implement Washington Consensus Guidelines.

Due to its emphasis on liberal trade and Laissez Faire, these institutions are often blamed of targeting developing countries as:-

- These policies are conditions imposed for granting assistance. However, they fuel inequalities, dumping of goods from developed countries and anti-poor policies.
- They have set western standards of economic governance on developing countries → one size fits all approach.
- Often World Bank assisted projects have socio-economic repercussions → displacement

of indigenous people in Africa due to hydro-power projects.

Issues in functioning of IMF and WB

- Undemocratic → quota system skewed in favour of west. (Eg) EU has disproportional 14% quota.
- Harsh conditionalities → of fiscal prudence and laissez Faire economy.
- Support for autocratic regimes → (Eg) Brazil and Argentina in military rule → disregard for good governance.

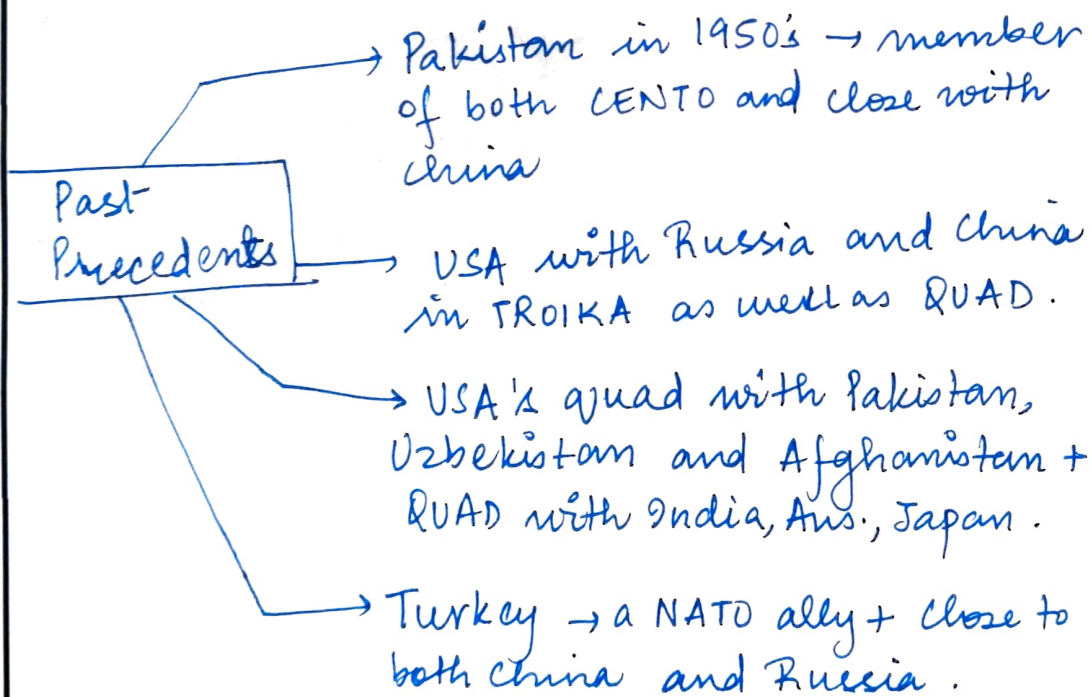
Thus, the IMF and WB have some inherent weaknesses. However, they have been instrumental in restoring financial stability (Eg Sri Lanka) and development projects (Eg DRIP project in India). With emergence of new institutions like NDB, AIIB, ADB etc it's important for IMF and WB to reform and reinvent.

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.3) India is an active member of both the QUAD and the SCO. QUAD with US and allies is seen as a check on China while SCO is seen as a check on US led western hegemony. Hence they are often considered conflicting.

However, in today's multilateral world order, such groupings are not uncommon. In fact, ~~they were~~ there are precedents even from cold war era.



India has found common ground with members of both groups:-

QUAD

- Rule based world order especially Indo-Pacific
- Supply chain resilience
- Climate change
- Technology, science and R&D.

SCO

- Connectivity.
- Economic cooperation.
- Counter-terrorism → RATS.
- Regional issues → human trafficking, narcotics, smuggling, piracy. etc.

Hence, both institutions are vital elements of India's foreign policy. India has amply emphasized the fact that QUAD is not an Asian NATO nor is SCO an anti-NATO grouping. From India's perspective, they are complementary and not conflicting.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.4)

The ASEAN or Association of South East Asian Nations is a group of South-East Asian

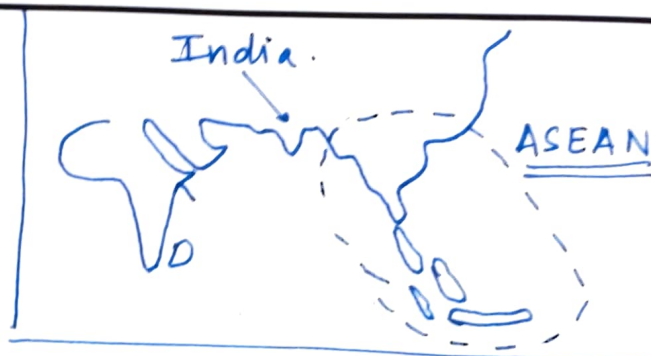


Fig. ASEAN region.

neighbours in India's extended neighbourhood

They are a vital part of India's Act East Policy → a foreign policy with focus on trade, connectivity and maritime security partnership with India's eastern neighbours.

The ASEAN, because of its proximity with the NE of India can play the role of accelerators in NE India's development story:-

- Maritime Connectivity → Provide sea-port access to India's land-locked NE.

↳ Situa Port

- Ready Market → the vibrant economies

of ASEAN can provide markets and unlock trade potential of north East.

Eg Indigenous crafts like Mizo shawls.

- Technology transfer → manufacturing giants like Vietnam and Malaysia can be sources of technical know-how transfer.
- Suppress separatist tendencies → well permeated development creates opportunities and reduced violence and unrest.
- Cultural connect and People-to-People contact → already shared ethnic ties with Myanmar
- Develop NE as new strategic point for countering hegemonic tendencies in East Asia.
- Boost tourism → 1st Greenfield airport of Arunachal Pradesh launched.

Hence ASEAN, as a key focus of Act East Policy can unlock the untapped potential of India's vibrant North East.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.5) The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) with 15 members → 5 Permanent (P5) and 10 temporary, is the cornerstone of the UNSC tasked with maintaining world peace and security.

However, there is an urgent need for reforming the UNSC as highlighted repeatedly by India due to the internal contradictions that have infested the organization:-

- Exclusive Permanent Membership → of the P5 with disregard to changing world scenario. → NO representation to Africa and the Global South.
- Veto Rights → of the P5 ^{make} ~~create~~ decision making almost impossible as there is little consensus within P5.

- Disregard to demography → India with 1.4 Bn + people has been left out of P5 while Africa, the fastest growing population has no representation in P5.
- A toothless tiger → No mechanism to ensure implementation of resolutions.

Impediments in India's Permanent membership

- China → being a P5 member, has not supported India's membership.
- Resistance to Reform → P5 countries not willing to dilute their powers of veto and hegemony over UNSC.
- Financial contributions → India has not been able to match the P5 in terms of its financial contribution to UN.
- Resistance from some countries → as UNSC Permanent Membership requires consensus of General Assembly → countries like Pakistan create impediments as P5

membership may portray India as leader of global south.

Efforts made by India

- G4 grouping of India, Japan, Germany and Brazil seeking P5 membership.
- Created bipartisan consensus in Russia and USA both, through diplomatic manoeuvring.
- Earned support of UK, France and many countries of global south as well.
- Emphasized on its contributions to UN → COVAX, largest contributor to UNPKF, donations to WFP eg. recently in Afghanistan.
- Positioned itself as 1st responder in HADR for Indo-Pacific and IOR → Sagar, Act East.
- Put forward its case as responsible nuclear power (No first use); → record 8 times non-permanent member of UNSC.

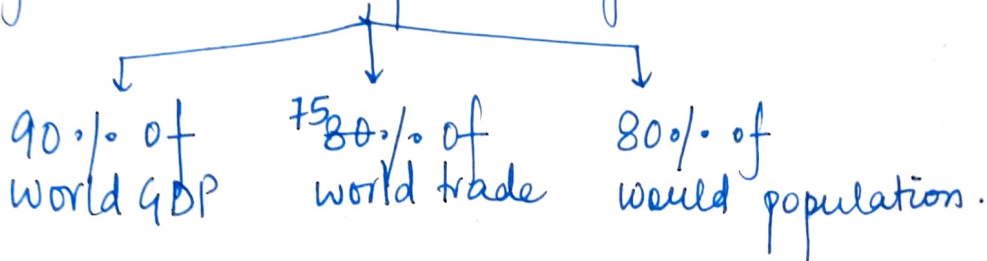
Hence India ~~have~~ has time and again proven its valid membership of P-5. As an emerging Super Power, it deserves this rightful place in the world order.

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Q.6)

G-20 or Group of 20 is a multilateral forum of 20 most influential economies of the world. representing



India has proudly assumed the Presidency of this influential grouping focused on shared cooperation for economic cooperation and global peace.

The representation of the Global South is inadequate in the G-20. India is thus well positioned to become the voice of this global south at a time when the world grapples to recover from COVID-19 pandemic and geo-political tensions.

How can India become the voice of global South in the G-20

- India ~~has~~ PM Modi has, immediately upon assuming presidency the declared India's presidency to be inclusive, decisive, action oriented.
- India ~~can~~ can voice the issue of food security in the global south endangered primarily due to Russia-Ukraine war (80% wheat supplies from these two countries).
- Engage countries on ensuring energy security → fuelling inflation (Eg. Sri Lanka's fuel crisis).
- PM Modi's statement - "Today's era not of war" resonated with the world → India can push for negotiated peace in the Russia-Ukraine war.

- Can emphasize on climate justice → developed worlds to transfer technology and funds → expedite loss and damage fund agreed on at Sharm-At-Sheikh (COP-27).
- Emphasize on supply chain resilience → urge countries to find common ground for accelerated recovery.
- Take up issue of reforms at UNSC, WTO, IMF, WB in favour of global south.

Hence India has through its theme for G20 (2023) → "One World - One Family - One Future" has already shown its intent at inclusive G20. ^{Her} ~~its~~ vast soft-power and skillful diplomacy makes India fit for being a voice for Global South at G-20 as well as the world stage.

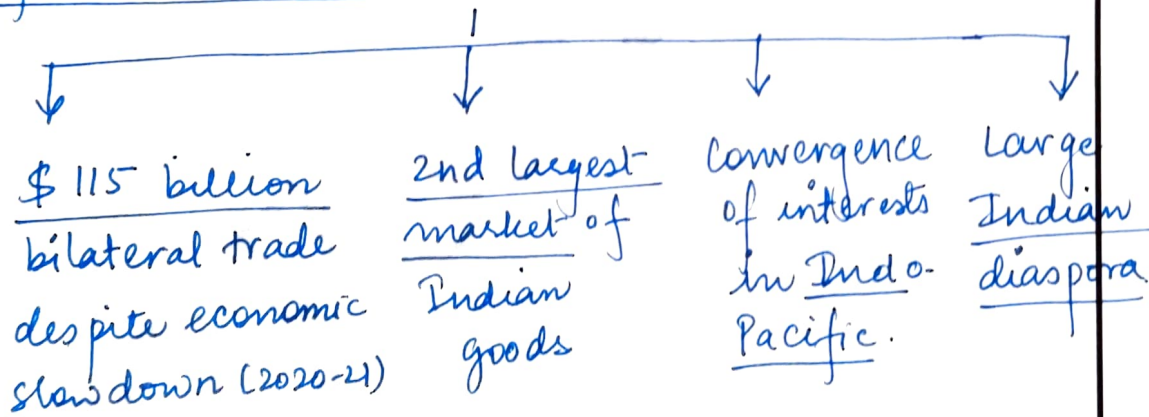
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Q.7)

The European Union (EU) → a socio-political of 27 countries in the European continent is a dominant power and one of the largest economies of the world.

India and EU have a strategic partnership and hold special significance for each other. EU is an important partner for India as:-



However, the bilateral relations have not blossomed upto potential. Trade, especially has remained stagnant. A major reason has been the slow India-EU FTA process

- Initiated in 2013, the deal remains in limbo. While negotiations were re-started, an FTA agreement doesn't seem in sight due to reasons like:-
- India does not desire MFN status in investment → India is wary of flooding in of foreign investments. It wants to give a push to domestic investment.
- EU wants MIC or Multilateral Investment Court for ~~settling~~ Inter State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) → India has not made its stance clear on the same.
- Non-Tariff Barriers imposed by both countries
 - ↓
 - India → on agricultural commodities
 - ↓
 - EU on pharmaceuticals.

inhibiting market access to each other's important sectors.

- Data Protection → India's data protection norms not in sync with European standards (General Data Protection Rules). India's insistence on data localization is also a point of contention
- India's demand of uninhibited access to service sector especially IT.

Hence there is a need for the two parties to resolve differences. Post Brexit, EU is also looking for new economic partners and India must use this opportunity to its best interests. The two powers have much to offer to the world economy. The need is to-

- Develop common ground with partners like France
- Catch the low hanging fruits to begin with.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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