

**GS Advanced Program 2023****Generic Booklet**Test Name/Code/No. : **692020 (#20)**

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.

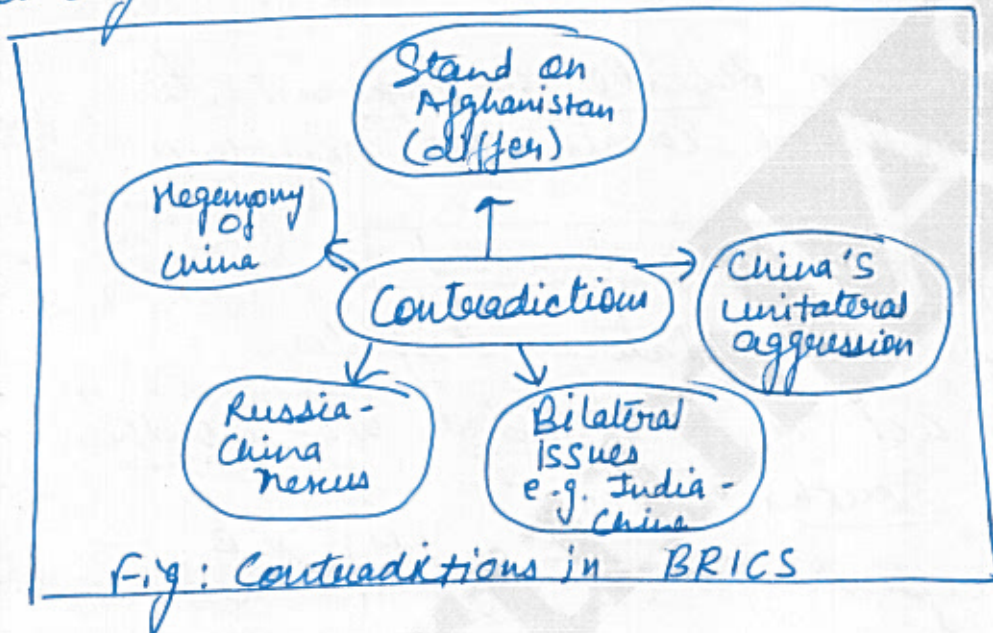
Q. No.	Grade/Score
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Overall Grade/Score	

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Q.1)

BRICS is a grouping of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa working towards co-operation ~~and~~ in the economic field.



BRICS Achievements

- New Development Bank and Infrastructure projects - more than ~~70~~ 70 projects approved in 2014 Brazil summit.
- Towards reforms in quota of IMF reserves - increased to around 6%. (India and China's share increased)

- Moving towards its own SWIFT mechanism.
- Also moving towards its own credit rating agency as western agencies are discriminatory.
- Contingency Reserve Arrangement to counter BOP crisis in countries.

Need for a way forward

- Solve the bilateral disputes
- Can act as a bridge b/w North and South.
- Can push for WTO, ^{IMF, WB} ~~WHO~~ reforms

Recently many countries like Saudi, UAE etc have shown interest in joining BRICS which is proof that BRICS is doing well and will survive in spite of its contradictions.

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.2)

Bretton Woods institutions include IMF and WB which were formed post WWA to establish a gold and foreign exchange based arrangement and work for reconstruction of World post WWA.

IMF - work for the surplus and look into the BOP of countries.

WB - work toward assistance in developmental projects.

~~IMF as the tool~~

Issues with IMF & WB

→ Conditions imposed are intensive and strict

→ Voting rights in IMF is allocated according to funding share - unequal nature.

→ Developmental socio-economic projects
- at times hampers socio-economic condition
e.g. construction of dams in Africa displaced indigenous population.

- Supported autocratic rules in Latin American countries.
- Help is given only if a country complies with 'Washington Consensus' which hampers the low income countries.

However certain advantages also

- Helped countries in liquidity crisis - e.g. Greece, Cyprus, Sri Lanka.
- Still a better alternative from major new mechanism.

The ~~so~~ credibility of IMF and WB has been time and again questioned so there is a need for reforms for a non-discriminative regime. The emergence of alternative bodies like AIIB are a proof of need for reforms in IMF & WB.

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.3)

SCO (Shanghai Co-operation Organisation) ~~is~~ with Russia and China as its member is seen as a counter to NATO, while QUAD with US and its allies is seen as a counter to China-Russia.

India is part of both and is 'balancing' between both.

Historical Examples.

→ Pakistan during 1950's was part of CENTO as well as was close to China.

→ Turkey is a NATO member and is also close ties with Russia.

→ U.S is part of QUAD and has also instituted AUKUS with similar objectives as QUAD.

→ U.S, China, Russia has formed triad on the issue of Afghanistan.

- There is a future possibility of U.S - Russia - China nexus to cooperate in Arctic circle.

The above examples show that its not a new phenomena to offer conflicting options at the same table.

India is using its 'strategic autonomy' based on its National Interest. And formation of allies does not mean complete alligence. e.g. in SCO all members are some way or the other part of China's BRI but not India.

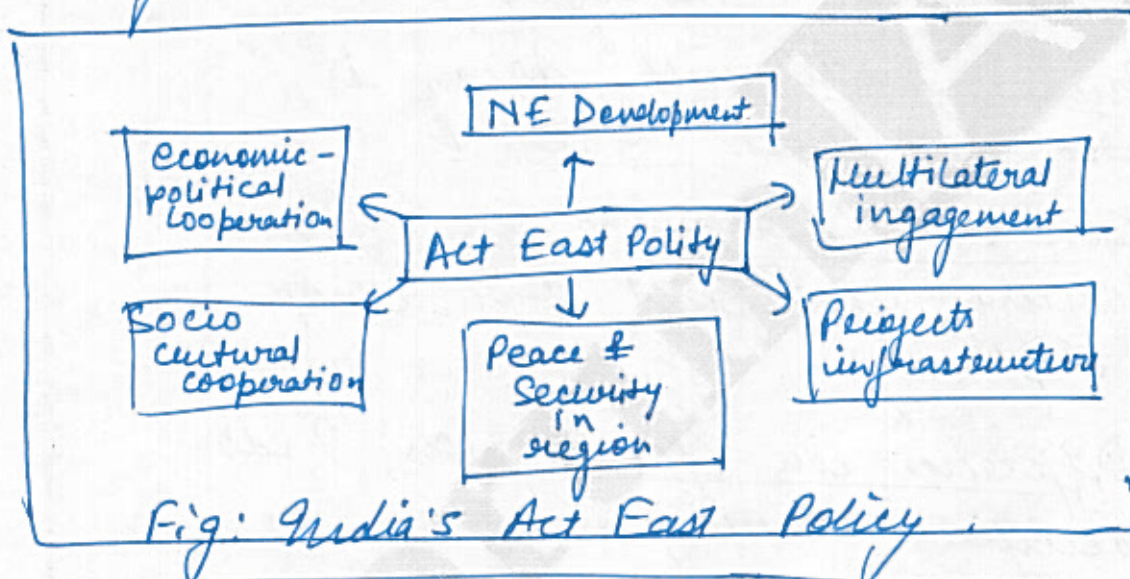
This shows India is balancing its options in geopolitics and multilateral institutions.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.4) India's 'Act East Policy' is for the cooperation in the field of economy, security, diplomacy with South east Asian countries and ASEAN is a central part of it.

Role of ASEAN



Role of ASEAN in development of NE

- Cultural Role. — Shares border and cultural ties.
- Strategic Role. — through multimodal projects. e.g. Kaladan project, IMT
- Security Role. — counter organised crimes, drug

trafficking through golden triangle.

→ Geopolitical role. - can engage in direct development of NE through investment

→ Trade potential with NE

However certain challenges

→ India trade with Asian is ~~also~~ not over \$100 B

→ China's hegemony in south China sea and debt trap diplomacy.

→ Difference in opinion on 'Indo-Pacific' naming.

ASEAN is a very important partner for India it is important to leverage this through people to people engagement, shared history, enhanced trade to develop N-E region and ensure its peace and security.

Overall Grading (✓)

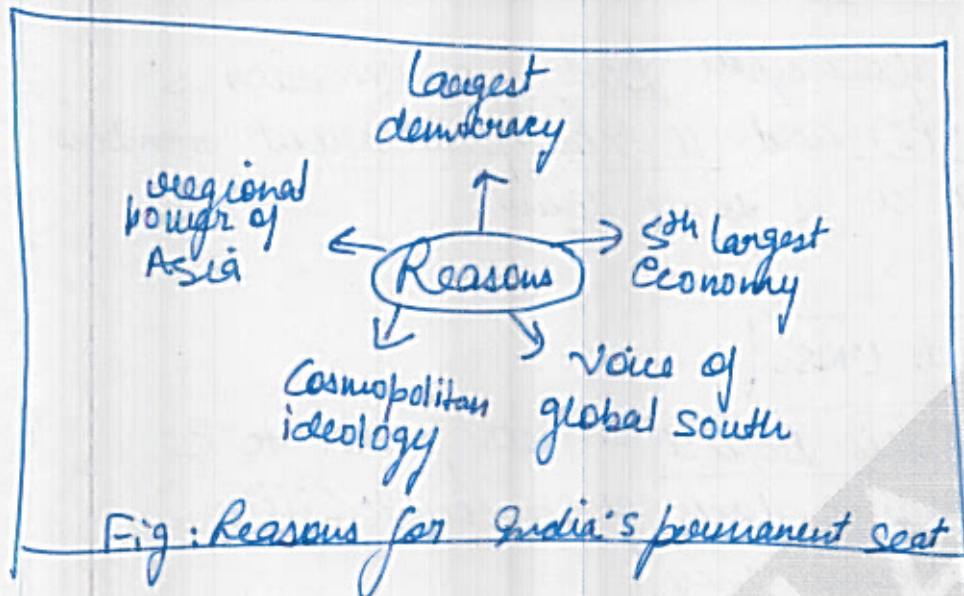
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Q.5) UNSC is a principal body of UN with 5 permanent (P5) and 10 non-permanent members selected for a 2 year term.

Issues with UNSC

- Democratic Deficit - Veto power to P5 members, lack of accountability and transparency.
 - Ineffective in its role of conflict prevention.
e.g. - genocide in Rwanda, Russia-Ukraine war.
 - Non representative - no representation of Africa and Latin America in P5.
 - Facing the issue to credibility.
 - Polarisation within P5 - P3 & P2 (China-Russia)
- These issues combined with rigid nature of UN charter is hampering its reforms.

India ~~is~~ has always stand for UNSC reforms stating the seat in UNSC is not for sale to the highest bidder.



Impediments faced by India

- Blockade by China - P5 members against India's addition to permanent membership.
- Coffee Club - group of around 40 countries countering reform demands e.g. Pakistan, Italy, Argentina etc.
- No consensus on type of reform - whether expansion of permanent membership or removal of Veto power etc.
- Rigid UN charter - amendment needs 2/3rd majority from UNGA and support from all P5 members.

Efforts India is making

- ① Formation of G4 (India, Japan, Germany, Brazil)
 - Emerging economies and like minded countries.
- ② Support from U.S, France, Russia for India's permanent membership.
- ③ Asserting itself at global level through pushing for reforms, ~~also~~ using 'quiet diplomacy'.

India has UNSC if was formed post WW-2 and it does not represent present world order. So it is losing its credibility and confidence. As highlighted by PM Modi "Only reformed multilateralism ~~with~~ with reformed UNSC at its centre can meet the aspirations of humanity".

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.6) G20 is the group of 20 most developed and developing nations of the world. India got its presidency for one year term. ~~2022~~

Opportunities for India

- ① Voice of the global South - India has always raise the issues of the developing and least developed nations.
- ② Push towards reforms of UN, WTO etc - to counter the discriminatory nature of these institutions
- ③ Push towards the fulfillment of promises by west
- towards climate finance in global South and island countries.
- ④ Towards commitment for technology sharing by west.
- ⑤ Towards sustainable living and transition to 'clean ~~new~~ energy'

⑥ Move towards resilient food and energy security in global south.
 - through co-operation on 'supply chain resilience'

⊗ The theme for India presidency in G20 is 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' it highlight the need for cooperation for better future.

However, certain impediments are there

- unofficial Cold war situation between US and China - hampering the trade potential.
- Russia - Ukraine war - led to supply & chain disruptions mostly in poor countries.
- Countries pursuing import substitution
- climate change and associated problems like diseases, floods, droughts.

The above problems hampers the interest of global south in particular and world in general.

Way forward Urgent needs.

- To mediate between Ukraine and Russia near through negotiations
- To provide humanitarian assistance in most affected nations.
- Work toward climate change, green economy, AI, IoT etc.

India's aim is 'inclusive, ambitious, decisive and action oriented' policies for G20 presidency. It's a high opportunity to raise the voice of Global South and represent itself as world leader.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.7) The relationship between EU & India has remained co-ordial on most of the issues b it strategic partnership, space etc. but FTA remains a hurdle in the relationship.

Importance of EU for India,

- India-EU have a trade of around \$115 B
- EU is India's largest trade partner & India is EU's 4th largest trade partner.
- EU is a major investor in Indian market.

Impediments in FTA between India-EU

→ Trade

- EU demands lower tariff on wine and other products, India hesitate due to non reciprocal nature

→ is = non-tariff Barrier on Indian products → aliso mango was banned on the issue of quality.

→ IPR regime.

- EU demands for better IPR protection in India.

→ Indian pharmaceutical issues

- quality certification by WTO
many Indian pharma has no certification so EU does not allow.

→ India opposes status of MFN in investment.

→ Compliance to law related laws.

- related to human rights, labour laws, is demand of EU.

→ Strict visa norms by individual countries and no stand of EU on that.

way forward.

→ Need to negotiate on lesser strict deals and find common ground.

→ co-operation with France to push toward FTA with EU.

→ Finding new areas of cooperation like green Technology.

- Improving the quality standards of our export products
- Better compliance of laws is IPR laws etc.

The FTA was first proposed in 2007 and post 2013 talks were stopped however, in 2021 F India-AU Summit a statement for re-negotiations was given this is a 'bright spot' in moving forward in India-EU relations.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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