

Q#) Explain how the G20 summit hosted by India reflects the dynamics of multilateralism dominated by nationalism in contemporary IR.

Ans.

### I- Introduction:

The recent G20 summit hosted by India reflects the dynamics of multilateralism dominated by nationalism. The summit's main agenda revolved around containing China's BRI. Although it is a primarily economic forum but it was used for political means. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed between the member states for economic integration. However, the implicit gains were based on nationalist interests. India tried to flex its muscles for a global hegemon, whereas, the US and other western countries also agreed over multilateral plans to contain China.

### II- G20 summit in India: Dynamics of multilateralism : dominated by nationalism

#### a- G20 Summit in India - an insight:

The summit was based on following points:

1- India appeals to G20 countries to make African Union a permanent member.

2- India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) signed.

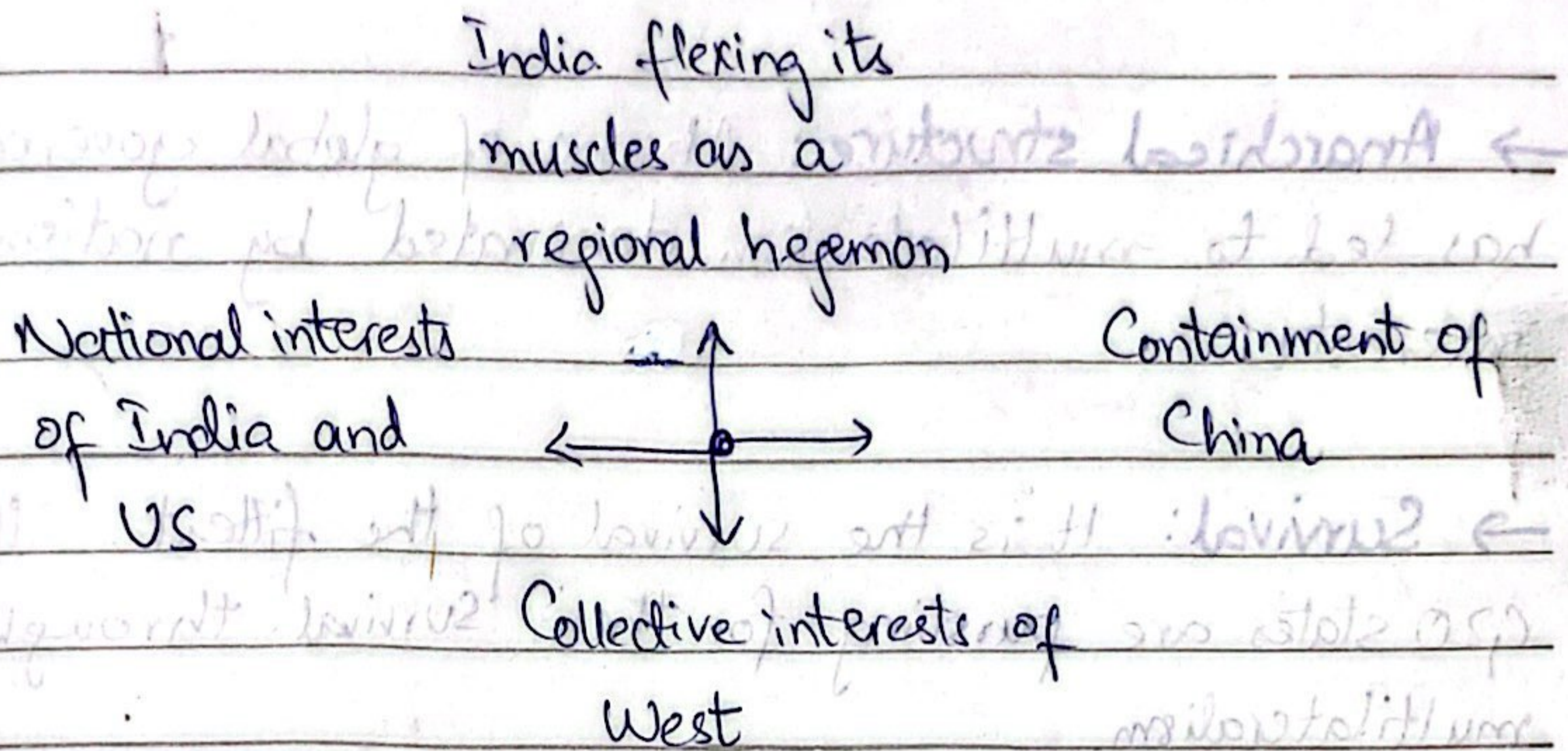
3- Russian and Chinese premiers absent.

4- G20 non-members were invited as guests.

5- Pakistan was deliberately not invited by India.

6- Russia was not openly condemned for Ukraine war.

## b- Dynamics of multilateralism dominated by nationalism:



## • Using Henry Nau's Perspectives on IR:

→ **National interests:** India had its own national interests behind the multi-lateral agreement and soft posture. India wants to dominate in the region and project itself as an emerging power.

→ **Balance of power:** The G20 countries have tried to balance the strategic equation through integrated economic agreements. In this summit, it was IMEC. Previously it had been 'Build Back Better World (B3W).'

→ **Alliances:** In order to balance the equation, an alliance has been formed against communist China and Russia.

→ **World System theory:** This theory suggests that the G20 summit depicts that world has shifted to

multilateralism. Previously the US dominated globally. The onset of global politics depicted in G20 summit showed that India too is emerging parallel to China and Russia.

### I. Introduction at G20 summit

→ **Anarchical structure**: Absence of global governance has led to multilateralism dominated by national interests.

→ **Survival**: It is the survival of the fittest. The G20 states are pursuing for their survival through multilateralism.

→ **Liberalism**: The flaws in the structure of the United Nations forced nation-states to pursue multilateralism dominated by nationalism.

→ **Constructivism**: India under Modi administration is trying to portray itself as emerging power, the emergence has been depicted through economic integration plan and appeals for African Union to become a member.

### III - Conclusion:

Nation-states try to survive in the an anarchical world through self-help. Likewise, at G20 summit, the portrayal of multilateralism was a survival ~~is~~ disguised by the instinct of nationalism. Western allied states and the US are vulnerable due to rampant Rise of China and Russia's aggression. The G20 summit was an attempt to contain China but unfortunately it doesn't bear many fruits.