

Question

India has emerged as economic and political power in recent years. What are the wide ranging implications of this development for regional strategic dynamics in general and for Pakistan in particular?

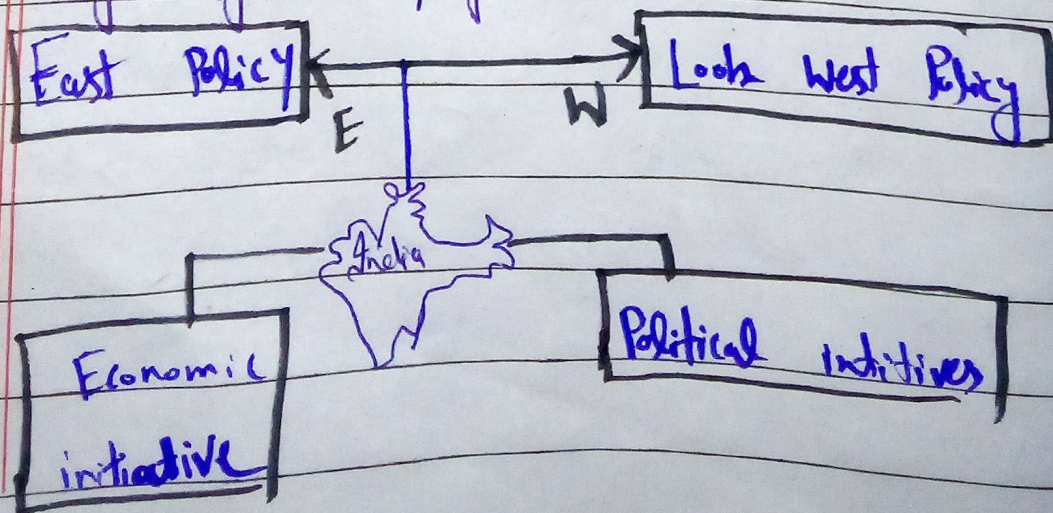
Introduction

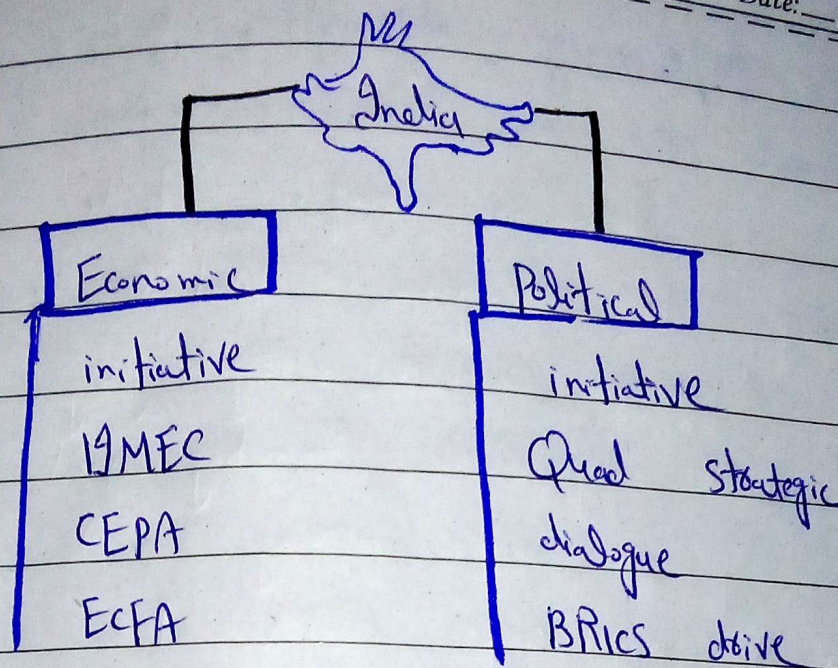
Amid global power dynamics and geopolitical dominance rivalry India has become important country both in economic and political terms. Its growing economy, stronger military and active role in international organizations have increased its influence in the region and beyond. This rise is changing the regional balance of power and affecting how countries deal with each other. For Pakistan

India's growing role brings some challenges and concerns especially in the areas of security, diplomacy and regional cooperation.

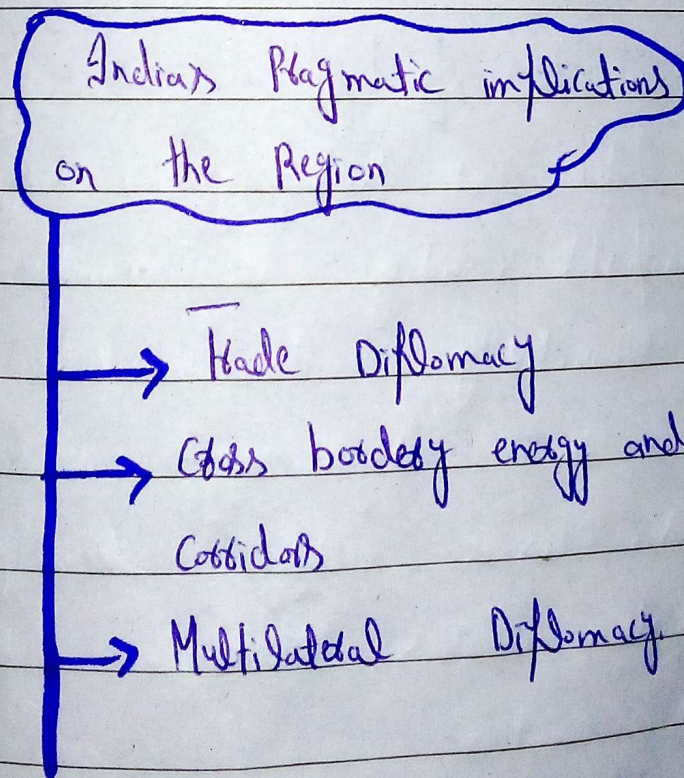
Demonstrating Regional engagement showcasing India's political and economic dominance.

India is actively deepening its regional engagements under its Act East and Look West policies to showcase its growing political and economic dominance. Through trade initiatives, strategic dialogues and diplomatic maneuvers, India aims to emerge as a key regional player.





3- India's regional role transforming South Asian Strategic Dynamics



a) Trade Diplomacy strengthening bilateral ties and economic integration.

India is using trade diplomacy to strengthen bilateral ties with different countries. By signing free trade agreement, launching joint economic forums and offering market access to neighbouring states. For instance IMEC is strategic trade route launch to connect India with Europe via Middle East.

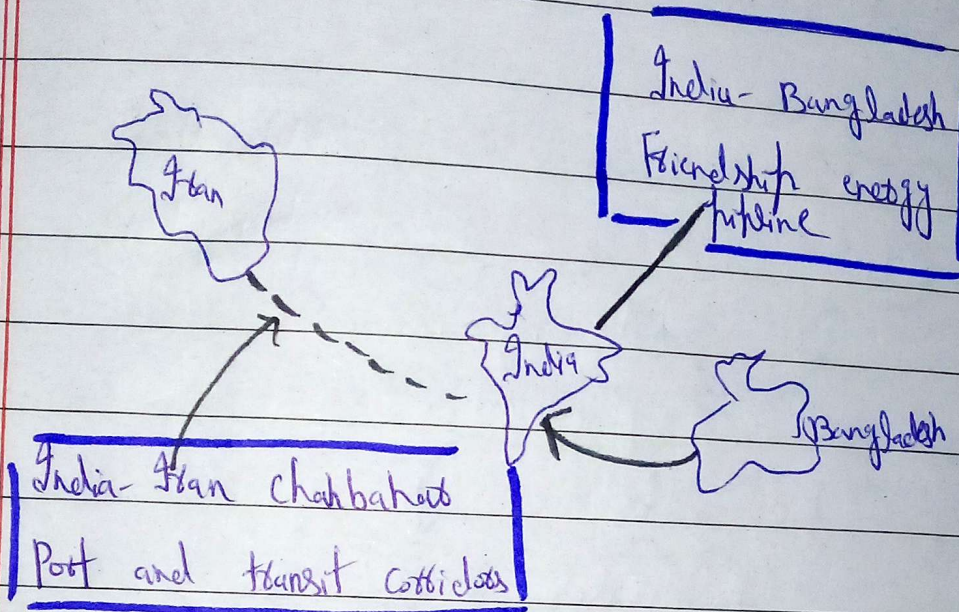
b- Energy and Transport Corridors:

India is developing energy and transport corridors to improve regional connectivity and secure strategic access. The projects enhance trade routes, ensure energy security and strengthen India's presence in neighbouring countries.

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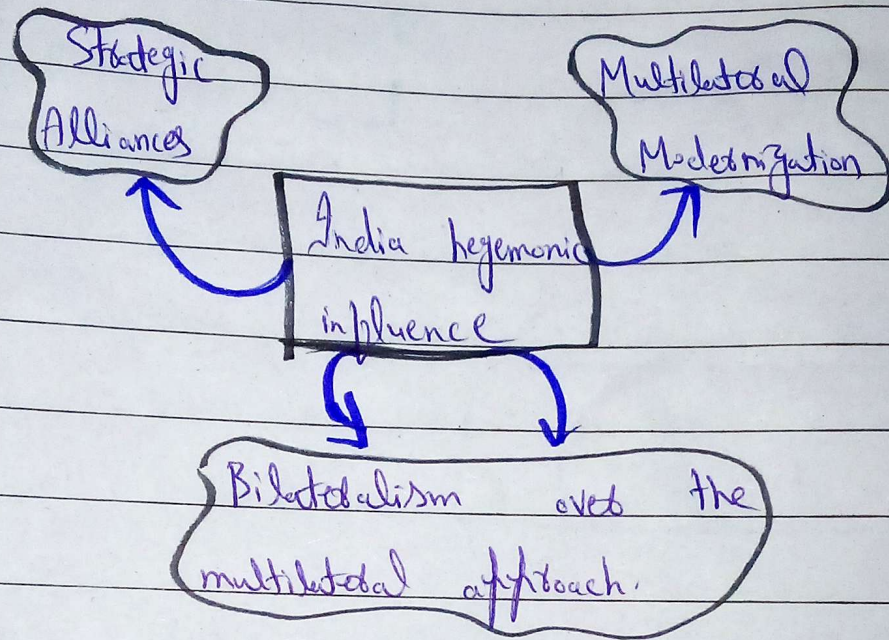
Example



C- Multilateral diplomacy enhancing regional stability.

India is using multilateral diplomacy to promote peace and stability in the region. By actively engaging in platforms like SAARC, SCO and BRICS it is encouraging dialogue, cooperation and conflict resolution. India can also address security, poverty and public health through these initiatives.

India's hegemonic posture disrupting South Asia strategic equilibrium:



Strategic Alliances with west:

India's growing strategic alliances with west are undermining its traditional image as neutral regional actor. This has strong concerns among neighbouring states especially Pakistan and China. India is part of Western led QUAD, BECA COMCASA.

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Military modernization:

Moreover, India's investment in advanced weaponry missiles and defence system is raising concerns among Asian states. As these development will intensify security delimites. India has become major importer of weapons in recent years.

c) Bilateralism over multilateralism Weaken SAARC relevance:

India's relevance and preference for bilateralism over multilateralism is weakening the institutional relevance of regional associations like SAARC. India has massive influence over SAARC initiatives and her agreement and strategic partnership with west is reflecting bilateral approach of India.

Rising Indian influence undermining
Pakistan's regional standing and
strategic autonomy

Implications for Pakistan

- Challenge to Pakistan's strategic position
- Role displacement for Pakistan
- Internal and external security threats.

India's military buildup is challenging
Pakistan's strategic position:

India's growing military modernization and alliances with global powers are placing sustained pressure on Pakistan's strategic position. This shift is compelling Pakistan to reassess its security, diplomatic posture and its regional engagement. I2U2 alliance of India with Israel and USA is major concern in this regard.

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Trade displacement for Pakistan:

India's western centred policies are reshaping regional trade dynamics which is causing trade displacement for Pakistan.

India signed trade deal with UAE (CEPA). It makes Indian products cheaper with low tariffs for UAE market and reduce the demand for Pakistan.

Internal and external security threats to Pakistan:

Lastly, India has major contribution in weakening the already fragile security situation of Pakistan through her sponsored terrorism in the country. India is using hideouts in Afghanistan and Iran to carry attacks in Pakistan. India is also sponsoring rebellious groups in country.

Conclusion

To conclude, India has emerged as a major power over the years owing to her military and economic might. This ascendance poses a major threat to other regional powers in general and Pakistan in particular. Pakistan has to recalibrate its diplomatic and military approach to counter the Indian hegemony.