

Current Affairs

Date _____

Question # 02

Answer # 01

1) Introduction

The United States of America and China, according to many scholars like Meersheimer, are in cold war. They are also in so called Thucydides Trap where established power and emerging power are going to be in inevitable conflict. America uses its leverage in every region to contain China. Similarly, India becomes a natural ally for the USA. China and India have issues related to border and ambitions. America has increased strategic partnership with India in order to contain China. However, Pakistan's interests in this equation are being undermined. The interests of Pakistan are at stake if the US continued to increase strategic partnership with India. Pakistan must find ways to address these issues in order to remain safe from hegemonic ambitions of India.

2) Growing US - Indo - alliance to contain China

The USA has increased strategic

2.6) Recent G-20 Summit in New Delhi

Lastly, the G-20 summit held in Delhi where American President also came to India and signed many more deals including the new geo-graphic connectivity deal. That will go from Mumbai, India to KSA and to Europe. This is said to be against the ambitious project of Xi-Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative. Similar project of B3W, Build Back Better world was also signed by the US, ~~India~~, UK and other states in Europe. American policy has been to contain Chinese ascent at any cost.

3) US - India Strategic Partnership and Pakistan

The strategic partnership of the USA and India is hurting Pakistan's interests in many ways. The trilateral relationship of US - India and China hurts Pakistan. With the growth of power of India, balance of power in the South - Asia is being disturbed, it is increasing arms race and compelling Pakistan to spend more

on the weapons. Pakistan's position on Kashmir is being undermined by the strategic partnership. India is being aggressive and conducting tactical operations in the Kashmir. Moreover, the growth of Indian military power is a threat to the survival of Pakistan.

3.1) US-Indo Strategic Partnership is disturbing Pakistan and Balance of Power

The US granting military weapons to India is disturbing Pakistan. As the growth of offensive India in military context disturbs the balance of power in the region.

3.2) Compelling Pakistan to Spend more on weapons

The US strategic alliance with India is hurting Pakistan's stance and economy. Pakistan is being compelled to spend more on the weapons than utilizing that money on the humans. It is crippling Pakistan economy as if it is spending its large share on weapons.

3.3) Kashmir Case of Pakistan is being undermined

The alliance of the USA and India also undermines the Kashmir case of Pakistan. When the 1 exploiter of Kashmir is being strategically helped by the super-power, no one will bother to listen the reservations of Pakistan against India.

3.4) Pakistan's role in regional organizations is being reduced

Moreover, Pakistan's role in regional organizations like SAARC and SCO are is being reduced by the alliance between the two countries. India, with the support of America is bullying Pakistan without fearing any dire consequences.

3.5) Strategic support to India is threat to Pakistan's Survival

American strategic partnership is focused to China. However, India use it against other countries as well. The growth of Indian military power is the threat to Pakistan's very survival.

4) Ways for Islamabad to follow

Islamabad has many ways which can be followed to protect itself from the increasing power of India.

4.1) Improving Economy is pre-requisite in this context

Pakistan's case in any field is undermined because of the weak economy of Pakistan. Pakistan must improve its economy in order to manufacture or buy weapons and maintain the balance of power in the region.

4.2) Intensify strategic partnership with China

Pakistan must intensify its strategic partnership with China in order to be safe. India has been an all weather friend and it is also an option against China as India and China are the opponents.

4.3) Inform the US of its Reservation

Pakistan must inform the USA

about the reservations regarding Indian ambitions against Pakistan. ~~and~~

4.4) Manufacture own weapons

Pakistan should manufacture own technology like JF-17 Thunder and Missiles in order to manage the balance of power and keep countering India

4.5) Seek alliance against India

Pakistan should seek alliances against India. For instance, there has been diplomatic standoff between India and Canada, so Pakistan should approach Canada and seek alliance against India. Moreover, Pakistan should portray India in this context as violator of international law.

5) Conclusion

In a nutshell, it can be said that diadic relationship of the USA and China is having domino effect on other states' relations. In this context, it is India and Pakistan's

relations. It is being affected
by the ~~the~~ cold war.
As the USA is supporting
India to contain China.
It is affecting Pakistan
in various ways. However,
it can be avoided through
various policy options.

Question # 05

Answer # 05

1) Introduction

The war in Ukraine started on 24 February ~~20~~ 2022. It has been still going on. Both parties to the conflict Russia as well as Ukraine plus NATO and the USA refuse to end the conflict. Instead of deescalating the conflict, US and NATO is providing weapons to Ukraine to fight. It is further adding fuel to fire. The states directly and indirectly involved in the conflict must take measures to end the conflict. There is always some perceptible way through which the war can be deescalated.

2) Critical analysis of the Situation where US/NATO is aiding Ukraine instead of deescalating the Conflict

Firstly, it is important to discuss that why did the conflict in the beginning

start?

2.1) Encroachment of NATO Eastwards

Russia always informed West of its concerns about the expansion of NATO eastwards. However, NATO kept encroaching to the borders of Russia. It became the reason why Russia started war in the Ukraine.

2.2) US and NATO thinks Russia can be weakened through this war

US and NATO is providing weapons to Ukraine because they think they can gain beat Russia the way they had done in the past to Soviet Union.

2.3) Western aid to Ukraine will further aggravate the situation

Moreover, the Western aid of military weapons will further aggravate the situation in Ukraine and it will intensify the conflict. Russia will be compelled to use all the resources of military as in

Ukraine. This also puts Ukraine and the whole world on the verge of nuclear catastrophe. This will further compel Moscow to use nuclear weapons and destroy the Ukraine at once.

3) Options with Russia and NATO to diffuse the alarming situation

The two should back off from their positions and ensure the political settlement of the conflict.

3.1) Policy of Negotiation

NATO and Russia should negotiate and settle the dispute. This has been done in the history as well where the Russians and the USA signed various treaties despite of the cold war.

3.2) Meet halfway

Both should meet halfway, Russia should stop insisting upon controlling the conquered lands and NATO

should stop encroachment to the Russian border.

3.3) Not an inch to eastwards Policy

NATO should either be dissolved or come to its original formation when ~~it was~~ Soviet Union was disintegrated. Gorbachev was assured that NATO will not inch to eastwards. However, if kept encroaching the borders of border of Russia and finally reached to the Ukraine an immediate neighbour of Russia.

3.4) Announce Ceasefire or End the Conflict

NATO should hold detailed deliberations with Russia and assure if of no anti-Russian policies in the West. Russia should no more be seen as the Soviet Union. It will help them to end the conflict.

3.5) Follow the UN-Charter

Both should follow the principles of UN charter and international law in order to diffuse the situation.

Chapter VI, which is Pacific Settlement of disputes should be followed and the conflict should be resolved.

3.6) Follow the policy of Cooperation not Confrontation

Both NATO and ~~the~~ Russia should follow the policy of cooperation instead of confrontation. The NATO should stop being an Anti-Russian organization. Russia should also stop its policy of imposing its policies on other states.

4) Conclusion

The NATO and Russia should find peaceful means to end the conflict. US/NATO instead of fueling the fire should act responsibly and save Ukraine through the peaceful means. If the attitude of war is continued, it can produce the disaster of nuclear

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attack on Ukraine Moreover,
the both parties should
follow UN - charter and let
the sanity prevail.

Question # of _____

Answer # of _____

1) Introduction

The chessboard of global politics has again become multi-polar. The same that was before World War-II. Recently, the surge of India, China and resurgence of Russia, former Soviet, has hinted at change in the global politics. The situation in which there are more than ~~one~~ ~~or~~ two powers, it is called as multi-polar world. The Uni-polarity ended with the rise of China, and bi-polarity ended with rise of Russia and India. However, it has somehow affected the US hegemony and on various issues, it has maintained its leadership.

2) Emergence of multi-polar World

Twenty-first century has seen the change in global politics. Other than China and the USA,

powers have also come to the fore.

2.1) Rise of China

China became the first state to challenge the hegemony of the USA. China ended the monopoly of the USA in economic context. In 2016, China even surpassed the exports of America and became world's largest exporter.

a) Chinese ambitious project of BRI

China launched an ambitious project of BRI which will connect China with the rest of the world. It will open more avenues for the Chinese products.

2.2) Resurgence of Russia

The resurgence of Russia has also been witnessed by the world. The invasion of Ukraine by

17310
Russia marked the formal announcement of a resurgence of Russia as a global power.

2.3) Rise of India and Brazil

Moreover, the rise of India and Brazil as a global power has also been witnessed by the world as a global power.

2.4) Rise of SCO and BRICS

Moreover, the world has also seen strong alliances in defense as well as economic area where SCO is seen as a challenge to the NATO and BRICS is seen as an economic alliance vis-a-vis European Union.

2.5) Rise of the Rest

There are many countries in all of the regions where states have emerged as the power-houses in the regions. It is true that the world has become multi-polar.

3) US power has declined

There are many instances which prove that the US influence has declined. However, it has not declined completely.

3.1) Defeat in Afghanistan

International news compared the US withdrawal with the Vietnam. International newspapers even started questioning the power of US as a super power.

3.2) De-dollarization

Soviet Union
~~Russia~~ was contained because it wanted to introduce its own social economic system. Henry Kissinger once said that China will not be contained unless it started challenging American-led economic system in the world. However, recently, states have even started to stop using dollar as their reserve currency. States are openly condemning the hegemony of the dollar.

3.3) Europeans are deviating from the US policy

Another evidence of this is that Europeans have also on many instances deviated from the US policy. For instance, the US asked European countries to stop buying energy from Russia but they kept buying Russian energy.

3.4) India acting against US Policy

Despite being close ally of the US, India despite US reservations kept on buying the Russian oil for its country. It shows that the US influence is decreasing in the world.

3.5) KSA - Iran normalization in ties

The US was nowhere in the deal between KSA and Iran. It means the role of US as a mediator is also being replaced by the other states.

4) The US power has declined surely but not completely

The US power has declined surely but not completely. The US is still the power of the world. It leads in the exports, in inventions, in ingenuity, in military weapons and increasing involvement in all regions of the world.

5) Conclusion

The global chessboard has been changed from unipolar to multipolar where states like ~~the~~ India, China, Russia and Brazil have surfaced on the global arena. However, with the passage of time, this multi-polar world has also changed the leadership of the world. The ~~power~~ power of the US has surely declined owing to many factors. However it has not completely declined.

Question # 08

Answer # 08

1) Introduction

The expansion of BRICS will be a breakthrough for the member states. If RSA and other countries are joining the BRICS, it will be the organization which will control the oil of the whole world. It means it will control the petrodollar economy. Moreover, it will also create the opportunities for member states as well as other states. Moreover, this organization will also be an important geo-political organization without the USA. However, there are some hurdles to the organization also which must be removed for the well-functioning of the organization.

2) Geo-economic implications of BRICS expansion

The BRICS expansion includes the states which are prosperous and the expansion would further strengthen the organization.

2.1) Geo-Economic Connectivity

This is the organization which has the membership from Europe, America, Asia, and Africa, which will ensure the economic connectivity if it is further expanded.

2.2) Control petro-dollars

If KSA and Iran joins the BRICS, it will be the organization after OPEC which will have the membership of most oil producing countries. It means this organization will control the petrodollars of the world.

2.3) Increase in trade deals and Free Trade Agreements

The expansion of the BRICS will ensure that there are more

trade deals and free trade agreements. It will increase the economy of not only member states but also the other states.

3) Geo-political implications of BRICS Expansion

Moreover, the BRICS expansion will also trigger the political tensions in the regions. The organization includes the countries like Russia, China and India which are the global powers of the world. Hence, their existence in the organization will put the organization on the verge of tensions with the USA.

4) Hurdles to the organization

There are various hurdles to the BRICS. The states for example India and China continuously try to promote their own policies. This kind of actions undermine the

effectiveness of the organization.

95) Conclusion

The expansion of BRICS has economic as well as political implications. It can ~~not~~ bring cooperation and connectivity to the whole world. It can also increase the trade volume of the world and diffuse the tensions.