

CSS: Current Affairs.

Mock 03.

Q.

The Ukraine-Russia war which began with Moscow's annexation of Crimea in 2014 has since been escalated into a full scale invasion in February 2022. It has caused massive human suffering, disturbed global food and redirected geopolitical alignment. While Ukraine is backed by US and NATO allies, Russia is determined to secure its strategic interest and prevent NATO membership.

Over the past two years, several attempts at negotiations have been held. Turkey, UN have tried to mediate however trust deficit and incompatible goals have prevented any breakthrough. The main agenda of ceasefire ~~rem~~ territorial concessions, Ukraine's NATO ambitions, prisoner swaps and ensuring security guarantees for both sides.

The US continues to provide military aid to Ukraine however some people from Washington are urging for negotiated settlement to prevent prolonged war. Occasional sign of willingness to end war exist but both sides believe they can improve their bargaining positions on the war ground before settling on the table. Which is why it does not seem plausible that the war would end anytime soon.

Where is the first part???

Take a stance first

Hurdles in the way of ceasefire

- ① **Territorial Dispute**: Russia's annexation of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia and Ukraine's refusal to concede them → create a deadlock.
- ② **Security concerns**: Russia requires assurances and guarantees against NATO expansion which the US and Ukraine refuse to give.
- ③ **Mistrust**: Previous agreements like Minsk Accord collapsed, creating further mistrust and feeling of ingenuity.
- ④ **Domestic Politics**: Leaders of Washington, Moscow and Kyiv face internal political pressures that discourage compromise.
- ⑤ **Geopolitical Competition**: This has now become a proxy contest between the Russia and the West.

Recommendations:

To move towards peace, a pragmatic and phased approach is required.

Kindly add content under headings
Write 5-6 lines

1. **Ceasefire**: To end human suffering should be the first priority. A Ceasefire monitored by UN should be established.

General instructions to get good marks in current affairs paper

Important Note:

Marks would be given on the following parameters:
a- Content 60%
References 15%
Subject specific language 15%
Graphs and charts 10%

2. **Peace - offering:** Both countries should take a step towards each other and perform 'confidence building' gestures. For instance, prisoner exchange and re-opening of grain export corridors.

3. **Neutrality Framework:** Any middle ground that guarantees security without NATO membership.

Add 12-13 headings in each question

4. **Territorial Moratorium:** A Territorial Moratorium the questions carry 3-4 parts... each part has equal weightage so discuss all equally. It can be pursued, such as when disputed region status is locked or frozen for long term international arbitration.

5. **Neutral Mediators:** Mediators like UN, Turkey and China should step up to ease tensions and play their role in settlement.

Give attractive introduction and Conclusion as well

6. **Chances of immediate settlement remain slim due to entrenched positions and geopolitical rivalry. However, sustained diplomatic engagement combined with incremental steps could actually pave the way for negotiated settlement, preventing the war from dragging into a protracted stalemate with catastrophic global consequences.**

link each of the argument to the asked part in the question... if you fail to do so, no matter how accurate content is, if your heading is not align with what is asked in the question, it won't be accurate

Good Luck