

Q NO. 8

Russia-China Vs Global power politics

Introduction:-

The growing strategic alignment between china and Russia has become a defining feature of 21st century's international relations. The china-Russia relation ~~tion~~ deepened significantly in recent Ukrain war and increasing western sanctions on Russian energy as more than 80% cut in oil and gas import then china become the importer of Russian oil & gas due to cheaper in price than Europe. This growing china Russia partnership comes amid an increasingly complex global landscape marked by heightened great power competition. This alignment reflects increasing cooperation in politics, economic and military spheres. The impli-

cations of this relationship are profound for global power structures as it challenges the Western led liberal international order and accelerates the shifts toward multipolarity.

19 ~~9~~ Elements behind the China Russia Relationships

★ Geopolitical convergence

Both oppose the Western liberal order and seek a multipolar world. Russia ~~weight~~ aims to breakout of International isolation; China benefits from a counterweight to US led coalitions.

★ Economic Interdependence

Bilateral trade reached 240 billion dollars, ^{in 2024} a 29% rise from 2022 as Russia redirected export toward east (Reuters, Dec 2024)

China imports over 2 million barrels of Russia oil per day and significant volumes of LNG often at discounted rate make it

biggest importer of China

Decollarization & Counter SWIFT:-

Over 90% of trade of both countries in Yuan or Rubble through CIPS (Crossborder Interbank Payment System) as a alternative to SWIFT (USA's bank). In 2021 one dollar was equal to 84 Rubbles that became 88 in 2024. CIPS operate in almost 67 countries.

Military and security cooperation

China purchase weapon from Russia - as Russia one of the greatest weapon producer. China and Russia held joint Bomber patrols over the sea of Japan during QUAD meeting in 2022, a calculated display of strength mentioned in The Diplomat, 2022.

Diplomatic coordination:-

China has abstained from condemning Russia at UN over Ukraine and Russia support China's stance

On Taiwan.

In Global organizations like BRICS and SCO they promote alternative governance norms.

Implications on Global Power politics:-

1) Erosion of U.S led Liberal Hegemony:-

The Russia-China relationships directly confronts the "Liberal International Order" built around U.S leadership, democratic values, free market market capitalism and multilateral institutions like UN, WTO, IMF and World bank.

In UN Council, both have used Veto Power to block resolutions on Syria, Myanmar and Ukraine, limiting the Western interventionism (UN Voting record 2022-2024)

2) Shift toward multipolarity

Their Cooperation accelerate the

decline of multipolarity, a hallmark of Coldwar politics and contribute to the rise of multiple power centers. BRICS 2024 expansion to balance G7 influence and also SCO expansion gives middle power (India, Brazil, Turkey) and regional players more room to maneuver, promoting strategic autonomy.

Polarization & Realignment of Global Alliances

The closer Russia-China move the more pressure build on other states and alliances to realign.

US and EU strengthen NATO and push for AUKUS expansion. AUKUS and QUAD are being reinforced to counterbalance China in Indo Pacific.

This creates fluid but polarized international environment where middle power hedge their bets between blocs.

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Technology and Decoupling

China and Russia are jointly driving a technological and financial decoupling from the West. Huawei, ZTE, Beidou (China) and Rostec, Yandex Cloud promote the tech sovereignty. Russia's bank are now deeply integrated with CIPS and disconnected^{etc} with SWIFT. If successful these systems can split the internet. Create parallel tech ecosystem and reduce Western leverage.

Conclusion:-

The implications of China-Russia partnership are broad and transformative. While they do not offer a cohesive global alternative to Western, they provide enough diplomatic, economic and technological infrastructure to challenge the global power politics.

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Subjective Part II

The Post conflict diplomatic drives of Pakistan and India.

Introduction:-

On May 7, India attacked ~~an~~ Pakistan, in accusing of pahlgham attack in Indian occupied Kashmir without any evidence. Pakistan retaliated these attacks and military crises between both countries escalated. On May 10, these crises de-escalated by the mediation of **USA**.

May 2025 conflict of India and Pakistan marked a turning point in South Asia's strategic landscape. Crises between India and Pakistan are not new over past two and a half decades, the region has seen its share of escalatory

Spirals from Kargil (1999) to Pulwama (2019). But this one was different. The pace of escalation was faster. The weapons were more precise. The domains of conflict had expanded, no longer just air and land but also space, cyberspace and the contested arena of narrative warfare. This conflict was followed by a flurry of diplomatic activity.

Diplomatic drivers refers to the core motivation, strategic interest and external pressure that compel states to engage diplomatically. Both India and Pakistan are currently engaged in diplomatic efforts, to shape international perceptions and garner support. India is actively accusing Pakistan of supporting terrorism, particularly in context of attacks in Kashmir. Pakistan in turn is trying to be a

responsible state and seeking International intervention to address the situation.

⇒ **India's and Pakistan's Diplomatic Drive:-**

⇒ **Seeking International Interventions:-**

Pakistan is open to international involvement and mediation to resolve the long standing conflict over Kashmir, a position that contrast the with India's preference for bilateral talks. In Recent clash Pakistan welcomed the mediation by USA while **India** denied any mediation.

"PM Modi told president Trump clearly that during this period there was no talk at any stage on subjects like US mediation between India and Pakistan"
Said Indian foreign secretary Vikram Misri.

⇒ Call for Neutral Investigation

After the Pahalgam attack India accused the Pakistan. Without any evidence, India gave hasty and reflexive response in form of "Operation Sindoor". While Pakistan call for neutral investigation of Pahalgam attack, on 26th April 2025, Prime Minister Shahbaz said "Pakistan is open to participating in any neutral, transparent and credible investigation".

⇒ Diplomatic Sanctions:-

- ★ India's Actions:- Suspended the
 - India's Water treaty Unilaterally
 - Closed the Attari-Wagah border
 - Canceled Pakistani Visas under SAARC St Scheme, and revoke the previous Visas.
 - Expelled the Pakistani military advisors from New Delhi and reduced Pakistan's high commission staff.

Pakistan's Action

- ★ Severely reduced the diplomatic ties including expelling Indian personnel and suspending bilateral agreements under similar framework.
- ★ Imposed airspace restrictions banning Indian aircraft and suspending trade, including transit via third conflict countries.
- Declared India suspension of the Indus waters treaty as an **Act of War.**

⇒ Diplomat Narratives

India's narrative

India's narrative was unilateral and illegal. India holds the Indus water treaty with narrative "Blood & Water can't flow Together".

Accusing the Pakistan for cross border terrorism without evidence.

Pakistan Narrative:-

As per the statement of

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Pakistan's foreign Minister,
whenever they ask for dialogue, at whatever level, we are ready but we are ^{not} desperate.

The diplomatic approach of India and Pakistan reveals a stark contrast in their policies after the recent standoff.

India's aggressive posture has largely damaged its credibility at the international level.

Pakistan's response was more measured; consistent and responsible, avoiding any isolation at the international level.

The end

Q # 04

Water Politics

Introduction:- The geopolitics of South Asia are increasingly being shaped by water disputes, with transboundary rivers becoming flashpoints for regional tensions. Two recent developments have exacerbated these concerns: India's reconsideration of the Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan, and China's groundbreaking 170 billion dollar hydropower project on the Brahmaputra river, which originates in Tibet and flows into India and Bangladesh.

India's move out of IWT:

A Shift in Policy

India's this decision mark a significant in South Asian water diplomacy. The IWT brokered by World Bank has survived multiple wars and conflicts, largely because it ensure fair distribution

of Indus Basin waters. India's dissatisfaction stem from, Pakistan repeated objections to India's run of river hydropower in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Broader deterioration of bilateral relation after Pahalgam attack. India's reassertion of its rights over the eastern rivers (Ravi, Sutlej, Beas) and more assertive interpretation of permissible use of western rivers could reshape water availability downstream in Pakistan which already (Pakistan)'s faces severe water stress.

China's Brahmaputra Mega

Dam:-

In bold move China has begun construction what it claims will be the largest hydropower project, dwarfing the Three Gorges Dam. Located along a 50km stretch where

the Yalu River (Zangbo/Brahmaputra in India and Bangladesh), drops 2000 meters from Tibet plateau.

This infrastructure venture is part of Beijing's strategy to ensure clean energy transition. However China has provided minimal transparency ~~etc~~ about technical details, environmental safeguard, or water sharing mechanism. This lack of disclosure has intensified anxieties in India and Bangladesh both of which riparian nation rely on Brahmaputra for agriculture, hydropower and drinking water.

^{ee} Dam could dry out 80% of the river passing through Indian state while potentially inundating downstream areas such as neighbouring Assam state"

(CM of Arunachal Pradesh)

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Date: _____

These both moves rooted in national interest but risk destabilizing regional cooperation.