

General Knowledge - II

Current Affairs

Part - II

Q No: 2

Introduction: As the long standing rivalry between Iran and Israel in view of Ideology and ~~now~~ recognition of Israel as state and now uranium enrichment of 60% by Iran has pushed both countries into 12 days of war in July, 2025. The stepping of US into this war and showing strong support for Israel has added fuel to fire which will push the world further into another era of cold war which can no doubtly escalate into WWIII. As the US has attacked the Iranian Fordow Nuclear Facility by B₂-bomber jet. This bomb ~~clipped~~ deeply into ~~at least 8-10 meters~~ in mountains and destroyed the Iranian nuclear site where Russian Scientists work too. No doubt this escalation will bristle the ties not only between Iran and Israel but also between ~~Russia~~ Iran and US and this war would not be considered bilateral.

→ Implications on US Power and Global Image:

- 1) Re-assertion of Military Dominance:
US still consider itself superpower and

asserts its military dominance wherever it wants. Under Trump's Era, US new foreign policy agenda is: "We want world peace by asserting military dominance." which is obvious that it is not for world peace but protecting its own national interests and Israel's zionism.

2) Loss of Soft Power: US has long lost its image as soft power in the world which ~~can or will~~ de-escalate war between muslim states by its diplomatic efforts. It can also be seen in UNSC, that whenever ^{question of} recognition of Palestine as a state is raised, US veto it and ~~calls~~ ^{does not} palestine's hamas as terrorists.

3) Risk of Wider Conflict: The US faces the risk of being drawn into broader regional war which could ruin its economic interests and military assets in middle east.

→ Implications on China's Role and Strategic Interests

1) Strengthening of Anti-US Bloc.

In today's era of multipolarity, Russia and China are already doing their best to counter US in every aspect. This will give further edge to China to come close to Iran and to

Strengthen its ties with Iran under 25 years Strategic Partnership signed in 2021.

2. Impact on Belt and Road Initiative: Further escalation in middle east can also endanger China's BRI especially in Iran, Pakistan and Central Asia.

3. Narrative of Responsible leadership: Now China has got a chance to capitalize itself through diplomatic engagement to de-escalate any war in the middle east.

→ Implications on Russian Global Strategy:

1) Emergence of US-Israel vs. China-Russia-Iran Axis:

^{between} This military action deepens divide ~~the~~ western and eastern blocs with Iran as a pivotal ally for both China and Russia.

2) Breakdown of Multilateralism:

UN paralysis in condemning the attacks further give rise to multi-lateralism where the veto power remains divided.

3) Energy Leverage: Rising instability in the gulf region will fuel oil prices benefiting Russia as the ~~sole~~ ^{major} supplier of oil to

Europe and Asia. As it is already said by Iran that in case of any escalation, it can close the Strait of Hormuz from where $1/5$ th of the world's oil supply passes and in this case if it happens, then the oil prices will increase which will ultimately benefit Russia.

Conclusion:

The recent military attack of US on Iran can trigger WWIII. This will further strengthen anti-US blocks where both China and Russia emerge as stronger allies and next greatest economies in the world. This will further lead to arms race and nuclear proliferation in the world as Iran will now ultimately develop its nuclear weapons for its safety and to fight Israel. Moreover Russia will see another leverage in invading further in Ukraine and escalate its war in Ukraine as US and world power attention is towards Iran-Israel war. and Already it's enough to begin 21st century cold war which can further escalate into WWIII and nuclear armed attacks as already seen in WWII, US attacked Japan with nuclear arms. The implications will be seen far beyond Tehran or Tel Aviv - right into the corridors of power into Washington, Moscow and Beijing.