

PSIR topic-wise Previous Year questions

PSIR Paper-I

Section A: Political Theory

1) POLITICAL THEORY: MEANING AND APPROACHES.

Systems Approach (Year: 2022, Marks: 10)

1. Examine the importance of behavioural approach in political theory. What led to its decline? (Year:2021-Marks:15)
2. Discuss the significance of a normative approach to Political theory. (Year-2020-Marks: 15)
3. Comment on resurgence of political theory. (Year:2019-Marks:10)
4. Comment on the decline of Political Theory. (Year:2018-Marks: 10)
5. Comment on the post behavioural approach. (Year:2016-Marks:10)
6. Comment: ...Political theory is not an escape mechanism but an arduous calling'. (John Plamanetz). (Year:2014-Mark:10)
7. Discuss the differences between normative and empirical theories of politics. (Year:2012-Marks:12m)
8. Examine the significance of the behavioural revolution in politics. (Year:2011-Marks:30)
9. 'Political Theory is, quite simply, man's attempt to consciously understand and solve the problems of his group life and organization. It is the disciplined investigation of political problems. Not only to show what a political practice is, but also to show what it means. In showing what a practice means, or what it ought to mean, political theory can alter what it is.' (Sabine). Comment. (Year:2009-Marks: 20)
10. Explain the changing analytical perspectives in the development of political theory. (Year: 2008-Marks:60)
11. Examine the arguments in the Normative vs. Empirical debate in the study of political theory. (Year: 2002-Marks:60)
12. Comment. Relevance of contextualist approach to the study of political theory. (Year:2001-Marks:20)
13. 'Post-behaviouralism is not a negation of the behavioural revolution but only its corrective'. How does it seek to raise the status of the discipline of Political Science? (Year:2000-Marks: 60)
14. Critically evaluate and bring out the weakest aspects of behavioural and post-behavioural approaches to analysis of political systems. What measurable and quantifiable criteria are available in political science to evaluate political behaviour? (1999/60m)
15. What is meant by behavioural approach to politics? Is it a fool-proof approach? How far is it correct to say that the behavioural approach to political analysis appeared in order to counteract the Marxist approach? (1998/60m)
16. Discuss the basic assumptions of behaviouralism. In what way post-behaviouralism differs from behavioural theory? (1996/60m)
17. Examine the fact-value dichotomy in political science. To what extent has post-behaviouralism resolved the conflict in the dichotomy? (1995/60m)
18. Examine the place of 'obligation' in political theory. (1995/60m)

2) THEORIES OF STATE

Examine the liberal theory of State in contemporary politics. (Year-2022; Marks-20)

1. Comment on feminist critique of the State (2021/10)
2. Comment on post-colonial theory of the state. (2020/10)
3. Write a short note on pluralist theory of the State. (2019/10)
4. Critically examine the neoliberal theory of State. (2018/20)
5. Comment on neoliberal perspective of the State. (2017/10)
6. Discuss the feminist theory of the State. (2016/15)
7. Examine the challenges to sovereignty of the State in the contemporary world. (2015/20)
8. Discuss in what sense Marx's understanding of State can be considered as materialistic. (2013/15)
9. What is meant by 'relative autonomy' of the State in Marxist analysis? (2012/20)
10. Make an assessment of the post-colonial understanding of the State. (2011/30)
11. Evaluate Marx's instrumentalist approach to the State. (2010/30)
12. Do you think that the modern nation-state has been declining in the wake of globalization ? Justify your answer. (2010/30)
13. Critically examine Hamza Alvi's formulation of the 'Overdeveloped State'. (2009/60)
14. 'State is the result of the irreconcilability of class antagonism'. (Lenin). Comment. (2007/20)
15. 'Because the society is federal, the authority must also be federal'. (Laski). Discuss. (2007/20)
16. Discuss the impact of globalization on State Sovereignty. (2006/20)
17. Comment: 'The discovery of Sovereign in a federal State is an impossible adventure'. (Laski) (2005/20)
18. "Since society is federal, authority must be federal". (Laski). Comment. (2004/20)
19. Comment: "Will, not force, is the basis of the state". (TH Green) (2002/20)

3) JUSTICE

Dr. Ambedkar's idea of social justice leads to 'egalitarian justice' as compared to Rawls' justice as fairness' which aims at the notion of 'pure procedural justice'. Comment. (Year 2022, Marks:20)

Examine the entitlement theory of justice. (Year 2022, Marks:15)

1. How has Rawls enriched the idea of justice in liberalism? (2021/20)
2. Representative democracy means the people as a body must be able to control the general direction of government policy. (J. S. Mill). Comment (2020/15)
3. Make a comparative assessment of the Greek perspective of Justice with the Rawlsian concept of Justice. (2020/20)
4. Examine communitarian perspectives on justice. (2019/15)
5. Comment on distributive justice. (2018/10)
6. Analyse John Rawls' justification of discrimination to achieve the goals of justice. (2018/15)
7. 'Rawls' theory of justice is both contractual and distributive'. Examine. (2017/20)
8. Critically examine John Rawls' argument for democratic equality. (2016/15)
9. Comment on difference principle in the Rawls theory of justice. (2015/10)
10. Explicate the conception of justice in the critiques of communitarian theorists. (2014/20)
11. Comment on 'Originalne position'. (2013/10)

12. Write a short note on 'veil of ignorance.' (2010/15)
13. To what extent does the Rawlsian goal of achieving social justice depend on an overarching consensus among cultural, religious and ideological groups? (2000/60)
14. "We believe that as a matter of principle each member of society has an inviolability founded on justice". (Rawls). Comment. (1999/20)

4) EQUALITY

"Equality of estates caused equality of power, and equality of power is liberty." Comment. (Year 2022, Marks: 15)

1. Comment on affirmative action (2021/10)
2. Comment on equality of outcome as a political idea (2021/10)
3. Comment on equality of opportunity. (2020/10)
4. Equality means fair treatment rather than equal treatment. Comment. (2018/15)
5. Comment on affirmative action. (2016/10)
6. How is liberty a precondition for equality? Explicate the relationship between equality and liberty. (2014/15)
7. Enumerate the differences between equality of opportunity and equality of outcome. (2012/12)
8. Why is 'affirmative action' important in provision of equal opportunity? (2012/20)

5) RIGHTS

Cultural Relativism (Year 2022, Marks: 10)

Human Rights are complex and contested social practice that organises relations between individuals, society and the State. Comment. (Year 2022, Marks: 15)

1. Can there be a universal conception of human rights? Give your arguments. (2021/15)
2. Assess the significance of right to property in political theory. (2020/15)
3. Discuss the doctrine of 'rights as trump'. (2019/15)
4. What do you understand about the three generations of human rights? (2018/20)
5. What do you understand about the concept of multiculturalism? Discuss Bhikhu Parekh's views on multiculturalism. (2017/20)
6. The implementation of human rights is regarded as a matter of changing the conduct of states. Comment. (2016/15)
7. Comment on the idea of Natural Rights. (2015/10)
8. Analyze the relation between natural rights and human rights. (2013/20)
9. Explain Berlin's notion of value pluralism. (2013/20)
10. Examine the multicultural perspectives on rights. (2012/25)
11. Critically examine the cultural relativist approach to human rights. (2010/30)
12. Explain as to why Jeremy Bentham dismisses the theory of natural right as 'nonsense upon stilts'. (2009/20)
13. "Human rights are basic moral guarantees that people in all countries and cultures possess, simply because they are people." Explain the statement. (2008/60)
14. Discuss the evaluation of the theories of human rights from natural rights to collective and environmental rights. (2002/60)

6) DEMOCRACY

Elitist theory of democracy denies the possibility of democracy as 'rule of the people'. Elucidate. (Year 2022, Marks: 15)

1. Free and fair deliberation is key to the foundation of democracy." Explain. (2021/15)
2. Write a short note on Deliberative democracy. (2019/10)
3. Comment on Substantive democracy. (2018/10)
4. Critically examine MacPherson's views on democracy. (2018/15)
5. Deliberative democracy does not have its salience without participation and Participatory democracy does not have its credence without deliberations. Comment. (2017/15)
6. Explicate the features of representative democracy. (2016/15)
7. Elaborate the difference between participatory and deliberative democracy. (2015/10)
8. 'India has thrown up a form of judicial democracy that has no parallel anywhere else, and has nurtured a kind of civil society that is uniquely its own'. (Bhikhu Parekh). Comment. (2014/10)
9. Explicate the features of Deliberative democracy. (2014/15)
10. Discuss the issues of debate in contemporary democratic theory. (2012/12)
11. Examine the Participatory Model of Democracy. (2011/30)
12. Discuss Robert Dahl's concept of deformed polyarchy. (2010/15)
13. Assess the deliberative theories of democracy. (2010/30)
14. Political process in a country is merely the manifestation of political culture. Elucidate. (2007/60)
15. Comment: 'The general will is not so much the will of the State as the will for the State'. (MacIver). (2006/20)
16. 'Democratic theory presupposes self-determination, human rights and social justice'. Discuss this with particular reference to MK Gandhi. (2005/60)
17. The modern pluralist democracies have posed a great threat to the fabric of nation state. Discuss (2000/60)
18. Examine the nature and limits of the rights of Resistance and Revolution recognized in modern political theory. (1997/60)
19. Discuss the philosophical basis of doctrine of popular sovereignty, and its significance for mankind. (1997/60)

7) POWER

Base of Power (Year 2022, Marks: 10)

1. Political ideology is primarily concerned with the allocation and utilization of Power." Comment. (2021/15)
2. Comment on tools of legitimating of the State (2021/10)
3. Examine the nature and meaning of power. (2020/15)
4. Explain the relationship between power, authority and legitimacy. (2018/15)
5. Distinguish between power and authority. (2015/15)
6. Discuss the 'crisis of legitimacy' in capitalist societies. (Habermas). (2015/20)
7. Examine the conditions that are required for the maintenance of legitimacy in modern societies. (2014/15)
8. Distinguish between the concepts of legitimacy and hegemony. (2012/20)
9. Attempt a Comparative examination of the views of Marx and Weber on 'Power'. (2011/30)
10. Comment: "Power flows throughout the system like blood in the capillaries of our body." (Foucault) (2010/15)

11. Discuss 'politics as a power' concept. (2008/20)
12. 'In so far as national events are decided, the power elite are those who decide them'. (C Wright Mills). Discuss. (2002/20)
13. Write a short note on Polyarchy. (2001/20)
14. Discuss the Constitution as a power map. (2001/20)
15. Distinguish power from authority. How does reliance on authority affect the nature of power? (1996/60)

8) IDEOLOGIES

8.1) LIBERALISM

Factors like community, culture and nation weaken the hegemony of neo-liberalism today. Discuss. (Year 2022, Marks: 20)

Examine the liberal theory of State in contemporary politics. (Year 2022, Marks: 20)

1. Comment on liberalism as a revolutionary idea. (2020/10)
2. Compare negative and positive concepts of liberty. (2019/15)
3. The political ideology of Globalization is neoliberalism. Comment. (2016/20)
4. Discuss the communitarian critique of liberalism. (2013/20)
5. Comment on the proposition that liberal constitutionalism precedes liberal democracy. (2009/20)
6. Do you agree with the view that liberal theories are based on atomism, whereas communitarians have a social thesis? Present your line of argument. (2005/60)

8.2) SOCIALISM

1. Define socialism. Discuss the salient features of Fabian socialism. (2017/15)
2. Discuss the key features of pre-Marxist socialist theory, (2015/15)
3. Comment on the view that 'socialism in the 21st century may be reborn as anti-capitalism'. (2014/20)
4. 'Socialism is a much used hat, whose original shape no one can define' (CEM Joad). Comment. (2009/20)
5. Analyse the post-Marxian developments in socialist thought. (1995/60)

8.3) MARXISM

"Revolution in Permanence" (Year 2022, Marks:10)

1. What is the contemporary relevance of Marxism? (2019/15)

8.4) FASCISM

1. 'Nothing against the state, nothing over it, nothing beyond it'. (Mussolini). Comment. (2018/10)
2. Examine the conception of state in the ideologies of Fascism and Marxism. (2014/15)
3. "Fascism is the destruction of liberal ideas and institutions in the interest of those who own the instrument of economic power." (Laski). Discuss. (2008/20)

8.6) FEMINISM

1. Distinguish between liberal feminism and radical feminism. (2019/15)
2. Comment on Ecofeminism. (2017/10)
3. Comment on 'personal is political'. (2013/10)
4. Discuss the differences between Liberal and Radical forms of Feminism. (2012/12)
5. 'Personal is political.' Comment. (2010/15)
6. Distinguish between liberal feminism and socialist feminism in detail. (2010/30)
7. 'Women have always been man's dependent, If not his slave; the two sexes have never shared the world in equality'. (Simone de Beauvoir). Comment. (2009/20)

8.7) POSTMODERNISM

1. Comment on Postmodernism. (2017/10)

8.8) END OF IDEOLOGY

1. Discuss the end of Ideology debate. (2019/10)
2. Write a brief note on the End of History. (2017/15)
3. Examine the debate on the 'End of Ideology'. (2011/30)
4. Define ideology. Critically examine the End of Ideology Debate. (2001/60)

9) INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

9.1) DHARMASHASTRA

1. Explain the sources of ancient Indian political thought. (2020/15)
2. Examine the significance of Dharma in the ancient Indian political thought. (2013/15)
3. Compare and contrast Dharmashastra and Arthashastra with reference to State power. (2010/30)
4. Comment on 'four Purusharthas' in Indian tradition. (2004/20)
5. Write a short note on the main political ideas contained in the Manusmriti. (2003/20)

9.2) ARTHASHASTRA

1. Discuss Kautilya's views on the elements of the State. (2019/15)
2. What do you understand by the notion of statecraft? Discuss the theory of statecraft as given by Kautilya. (2017/15)
3. Compare and contrast the views of Kautilya and Machiavelli on statecraft. (2015/15)
4. Analyze, as per Kautilya, the Saptanga theory of the state. (2013/15)
5. Draw parallels between 'Arthashastra' tradition and the 'Realist' tradition represented by Machiavelli. (2012/20)
6. Compare and contrast Kautilya and Machiavelli on statecraft. (2009/20)
7. In the happiness of his subjects lies the king's happiness and in their welfare, his welfare. (Kautilya). Comment. (2007/20)
8. Critically examine the **Sapta Prakriti** of state as envisaged by Kautilya. (2007/60)
9. Of those (officers) the ways of embezzlement are forty. (Kautilya). Discuss. (2005/20)
10. Write a short note on Mandal theory. (2003/20)

9.3) BUDDHIST POLITICAL TRADITION

1. Do you think that the Buddhist traditions have lent greater ethical foundation to the ancient Indian political thought? Give your arguments. (2021/20)
2. Examine the contribution of Buddhist tradition to Indian political thought. (2014/15)
3. Write a note on the Buddhist tradition in Indian political thought. (2012/20)

9.4) SIR SYED AHMED KHAN

1. "When a nation becomes devoid of arts and learning, it invites poverty." (Sir Syed Ahmad Khan). In the light of this statement, assess the role of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan as a reformer in modern India. (2021/15)
2. Syed Ahmed Khan as a moderniser. Comment. (2013/10)

9.5) SRI AUROBINDO

1. According to Sri Aurobindo, Swaraj is a necessary condition for India to accomplish its destined goal. Comment. (2017/10)
2. Discuss Sri Aurobindo's views on cultural nationalism. (2016/20)
3. Comment: 'Nationalism is not a mere political program, but a way of life like religion'. (Aurobindo). (2014/10)
4. Comment on Sri Aurobindo's idea of freedom. (2013/10)

9.6) MK GANDHI

1. Explicate the ideological components of Gandhism. (2020/20)
2. Discuss MK Gandhi's concept of Swaraj. (2019/10)
3. Examine Gandhi's critique of modernisation. (2016/15)
4. Comment on Gandhi's views on the state. (2015/10)
5. Examine the Gandhian idea of village community as an ideal unit of self-governance. (2012/20)
6. "Real rights are a result of performance of duty". (Mahatma Gandhi). Discuss. (2008/20)
7. Explain Gandhi's ideas regarding State and highlight their relationship with modern democracy and principles of anarchism (2006/60)
8. 'The true source of right is duty. If we all discharge our duties, rights will not be far to see'. (MK Gandhi). Discuss. (2002/20)
9. Validity of the statement that, most prominent among Gandhian principles are non-violence, adherence to truth and dignity of labour. Comment. (2001/20)
10. What are the major components of Modern Indian Political Thought? Examine then with reference to Gandhi and MN Roy. (2001/60)

9.7) BR AMBEDKAR

1. Comment on Ambedkar's ideas on constitutionalism. (2020/10)
2. Discuss Ambedkar's ideas on Annihilation of Caste. (2018/15)
3. 'Political democracy could not last unless social democracy lay at its base'. (BR Ambedkar). Comment. (2017/20)
4. Discuss Dr. BR Ambedkar's idea of state socialism. (2016/10)
5. Examine Ambedkar's critique of Marxism. (2013/15)
6. Discuss views of Gandhi and Ambedkar on 'social justice'. (2011/15)

9.8) MN ROY

1. Comment on the Marxist and Radical Humanist phases of MN Roy's thought. (2012/15)
2. Analyse MN Roy's ideation journey from Marxism to Radical Humanism (2002/60)
3. What are the major components of Modern Indian Political Thought? Examine then with reference to Gandhi and MN Roy. (2001/60)

10) WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

10.1) PLATO

1. Trace the evolution of Western Political Thought from ancient to contemporary period. (2020/20)
2. Explain Aristotle's critique of Plato's Idealism. (2019/20)
3. 'Plato was an enemy of the open society'. (Popper). Comment. (2015/20)
4. 'Western thought, one might say, has been either platonic or anti-platonic but hardly even non-platonic'. (Popper). Discuss. (2009/20)
5. Plato's communism is a supplementary machinery to give effect to and reinforce that spirit which education is to create. (Nettleship). Comment. (2007/20)
6. Comment: 'State is an individual writ large'. (Plato) (2006/20)
7. Plato's theory of education 'is the logical result of his conception of justice'. Discuss. (2004/60)
8. Explain Plato's communism and compare it with modern communism. (2003/60)
9. 'Until philosophers are kings or kings and princes of this world have the spirit and power of philosophy, cities will never have rest from evil'. (Plato). Discuss. (2000/20)

10.2) ARISTOTLE

1. Explain the Aristotelian view of politics. To what extent do you think it has contributed to the development of modern-day constitutional democracies? (2021/20)
2. 'Everywhere inequality is a cause of revolution'. (Aristotle). Comment. (2017/15)
3. Comment on Aristotle's conception of equality. (2015/10)
4. Central to Aristotle's political thought is his classification of the different types of political constitutions in the POLITICS. Evaluate. (2014/15)
5. "The State is a creation of nature and man is by nature a political animal." (Aristotle). Discuss. (2011/15)
6. Attempt a critique of Aristotle's ideas on slavery. (2006/60)
7. Comment: 'The polis exists by nature and that it is prior to the individual'. (Aristotle). (2002/20)
8. Policy or constitutional government may be described generally as a fusion of oligarchy and democracy. Comment. (1999/20)
9. 'Polity is the best practicable form of government'. (Aristotle). Discuss. (1998/20)
10. Comment: 'Slavery is natural and beneficial both for the master and the slave'. (Aristotle). (1996/20)
11. 'Rule of law is better than the rule of men' (Aristotle). Discuss. (1995/20)

10.3) MACHIAVELLI

1. Comment on Machiavelli's secularism. (2020/10)
2. Critically examine Machiavelli's views on religion and politics. (2018/15)
3. Compare and contrast the views of Kautilya and Machiavelli on statecraft. (2015/15)

4. Explain how Machiavelli's application of empirical method to human affairs marks an important stage in the evolution of political science. (2014/20)
5. Draw parallels between 'Arthashastra' tradition and the 'Realist' tradition represented by Machiavelli. (2012/20)
6. Compare and contrast Kautilya and Machiavelli on statecraft. (2009/20)
7. Discuss the importance of Machiavelli in the history of political thought. Is it correct to say that Machiavelli's theory is narrowly local and narrowly dated? (2007/60)
8. Machiavelli's political philosophy was narrowly local and narrowly dated. (Sabine). Discuss. (2003/20)
9. 'Power is an end in itself and he (Machiavelli) inquires into the means that are best suited to acquire, retain and expand power, thus separates power from morality, ethics, religion and metaphysics'. (Ebenstein on Machiavelli). Comment. (2000/20)
10. The prince must be fox and the lion at the same time (Machiavelli) (1998/20)

10.4) THOMAS HOBBS

Individualism is inherent in Hobbes' absolutist ideology. Comment. (Year 2022, Marks:15)

1. Comment on Hobbesian notion of political obligation. (2017/10)
2. How would I and my fellow human beings behave if we were to find ourselves in a state of nature, and what does this behaviour tell us about our innate predispositions? Thomas Hobbes. Discuss. (2016/10)
3. Comment: 'Covenants without swords are but words and of no strength to secure man at all'. Hobbes. (2013/10)
4. Comment on the assertion of Laslett that Filmer and not Hobbes was the main antagonist of Locke. (2013/15)
5. Discuss Hobbes as an individualist. (2011/15)
6. It is said where there is no law there is no liberty. Give your views on this statement. (2011/30)
7. 'Hobbes starts as an individualist, but ends as an absolutist'. Comment. (2004/20)
8. 'Liberty or freedom, signifies properly the absence of opposition in external impediments of motion'. (Hobbes). Comment. (1999/20)
9. 'Hobbes relieved sovereignty completely from the disabilities which Bodin had inconsistently left standing'. (Sabine). Comment. (1998/20)
10. Rousseau's theory of Social Contract is Hobbes Leviathan with its head chopped off. Discuss. (1998/60)
11. 'The end of every man is continued success in obtaining those things which he, from time to time, desires'. (Hobbes). Discuss. (1995/20)

10.5) JOHN LOCKE

Locke's Social Contract (Year 2022, Marks: 10)

1. John Locke is a father of liberalism. Explain. (2018/20)
2. 'Locke is an individualist out and out.' Substantiate this statement. (2012/20)
3. "The great and chief aim of men's uniting into a Commonwealth and is putting themselves under Government is the be preservation of property." (Locke). Discuss. (2008/20)
4. Comment: The reason why men enter into civil society is the preservation of their property. (Locke). (2003/20)
5. Comment: 'The great and chief end, therefore, of men uniting into commonwealths, and putting themselves under government, is the preservation of property; to which in the state of nature there are many things waiting. (John Locke). (1999/20)

6. 'Whoever therefore out of a State of Nature united into a Commonwealth must be understood to give up all the Power necessary to the Ends for which they united into Society, to the majority of the Community'. (Locke). Discuss. (1997/20)
7. 'No man can be deprived of his property without his consent'. (Locke). Comment. (1996/20)
8. 'It is hard indeed to turn the Lockean doctrine into any kind of unqualified democratic theory'. (MacPherson). Discuss. (1996/60)

10.6) JS MILL

1. Comment on J. S. Mill's ideas on women suffrage (2021/10)
2. John Stuart Mill is a 'reluctant democrat'. (CL Wayper). Comment. (2018/10)
3. Discuss, 'All silencing of discussion is an assumption of infallibility' (JS Mill) (2014/10)
4. "The worth of a State... Is the worth of individuals composing it." (JS Mill) Comment. (2011/15)
5. The sole end for which mankind is warranted, individually or collectively, in interfering with the liberty of action of any of their number is self-protection. (JS Mill). Discuss. (2005/20)
6. 'Mill was the prophet of an empty liberty and abstract individual.' (Barker). Comment. (2004/20)
7. In the first place, it is mostly considered unjust to deprive anyone of his personal liberty, his property or any other thing which belongs to him by law. (John Stuart Mill). Discuss. (1999/20)
8. Discuss how early radical liberation was modified by John Stuart mill. (1998/60)
9. The worth of a State, in the long run, is the worth of the individuals composing it (J. S. Mill). Discuss. (1996/20)
10. 'Punishment should be preventive and corrective rather than retaliatory'. (Bentham). Discuss. (1995/20)
11. Comment: 'The worth of a state, in the long run, is the worth of the individuals composing it'. (J S Mill). (1995/20)

10.7) KARL MARX

1. Marx's concept of 'alienation' is an essential part of the reality in capitalism. Explain. (2021/15)
2. Discuss Karl Marx's concept of class. (2020/15)
3. Differentiate between freedom and liberty. Discuss Marx's notion of freedom. (2017/15)
4. Explain Marx's understanding of human essence and alienation. (2016/15)
5. Discuss the relationship between base and superstructure in Marxist theory. (2015/15)
6. Examine in detail Marx's prescription for ending alienation and reaching the stage of de-alienation. (2009/60)
7. ".....that the anatomy of this civil society, however, has to be sought in political economy" (Marx). Comment. (2006/20)
8. The root of politics, according to Marx, does not lie in the state; it lies in the social conditions underlying this institution, that is, in the material conditions of life as reflected through the mode of production. Comment. (2005/60)
9. Explain Hegel's theory of dialectical idealism. (2004/60)
10. The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggle. (Karl Marx). Comment. (2003/60)
11. Critically examine Marxist theory of the state with reference to the dictatorship of the proletariat. (2001/60)
12. Comment: State is a march of God on the Earth.(Hegel). (2000/20)
13. '...all human history is a process whereby ideas objectify themselves in material reality' (Hegel). Discuss. (1999/20)
14. Marx's work could be seen as a compound of three elements-Greek philosophy, English political economy and French socialism (Lenin). Discuss. (1999/20)
15. Leninism is Marxism in the epoch of imperialisms and proletarian revolution. (Stalin). Discuss. (1998/20)

16. 'It is not the consciousness of men that determine their being, but, on the contrary, their social ou being determines their consciousness'. (Marx). (1997/20)
17. 'Contradiction is the very moving principle of the world'. (Hegel). Discuss. (1996/20)

10.8) GRAMSCI

1. According to Gramsci, 'hegemony is primarily based on the organisation of consent.' Comment. (2019/20)
2. Comment on Gramsci's concept of hegemony. (2016/10)
3. Discuss Gramsci's notion of organic intellectuals. (2015/15)
4. Explain, as per Gramsci, the distinction between hegemony and domination. (2013/15)
5. Critically examine Gramsci's concept of Hegemony. (2008/60)
6. Is Gramsci a theoretician of V super-structures? Give reasons to your answer. (2004/60)

10.9) HANNAH ARENDT

1. Critically examine Hannah Arendt's conceptual triad of labour, work and action. (2019/20)
2. Discuss Hannah Arendt's analysis of the role of ideology in the modern totalitarian regime. (2016/20)
3. 'Power is never the the property of an individual; it belongs to a group and remains in existence only so long as the group keeps it together'. (Hannah Arendt). Discuss. (2014/10)
4. Discuss Hannah Arendt's conception of the 'political'. (2012/12)
5. Discuss the political philosophy of Hannah Arendt. (2003/60)

10.10) ROUSSEAU

1. I give the name to every state that is governed by laws, no matter what the form of its administration. (Rousseau). Discuss. (2000/20)

PSIR Paper-I

Section B: Indian Government and Politics

1.1) POLITICAL STRATEGIES OF INDIA'S FREEDOM STRUGGLE

Syllabus: Indian Nationalism:

- **Political Strategies of India's Freedom Struggle: Constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience; Militant and revolutionary movements, Peasant and workers' movements.**
- **Perspectives on Indian National Movement: Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical humanist and Dalit.**

Previous Years Questions

Analyse the workers' movement in India in the pre-Independence period. (Year 2022, Marks:10)

1. Trace the role of militant and revolutionary movements in Indian national movement. (2020/15)
2. National movement in India was anti-imperialist and increasingly radical in its socio-economic and political programmes. Discuss. (2019/20)
3. The Revolt of 1857 was a 'sepoy mutiny' or 'first war of independence'. Discuss. (2018/10)
4. The success of Mahatma Gandhi lay in transforming both political and non political movements into a unified nationalist movement. Discuss. (2017/10)
5. Differentiate moderate nationalism from extremist/militant nationalism in terms of their objectives and means. (2017/15)
6. Comment on Satyagraha as a strategy in the Indian national movement. (2015/10)
7. Explain how the peasant movement promoted nationalist ideas during the struggle for Indian independence. (2014/15)
8. Discuss efficacy of Satyagraha as moral resistance to colonial rule. (2012/12)
9. Discuss the significance of the Civil Disobedience Movement. (2011/15)
10. Discuss Indian nationalism as depicted in S.N. Banerjee's 'A Nation in the Making' (2010/15)
11. "Swaraj is the culmination of Swadeshi and Sarvodaya". Comment. (2008/20)
12. Critically examine the role and contribution of India's bureaucracy in nation building. (2006/60)
13. Explain the federal scheme under the Government of India Act 1935. Why could this scheme not be implemented? (2005/60)
14. Comment: Surat Split (1907). (2004/20)
15. Comment: The Government of India Act, 1919. (2004/20)
16. Highlight Mahatma Gandhi's role in the Indian National Movement. (2004/60)
17. Comment: Simon Commission. (2003/20)
18. Discuss Gandhi's concept of Truth and Non-violence. Why was he opposed to modern civilisation? (2003/20)
19. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru comes before us as a great nationalist, Internationalist and Humanist. Discuss. (2003/60)
20. Write a short note on Dyarchy under Montague-Chelmsford reforms. (2002/20)
21. Examine the salient features of the Indian Independence Act 1947 relating to the transfer of power. What specific provisions did this Act make for the lapse of paramountcy. (2002/60)
22. Discuss the ideas of Gokhale and Tilak and their impact on the Indian struggle for freedom. (1999/20)
23. Raja Ram Mohan Roy as a social reformer. Comment. (1998/20)
24. Discuss Jinnah's two-nation theory. (1997/20)

25. Comment: Swadeshi movement. (1996/20)

1.2) PERSPECTIVES ON INDIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT

1. Analyse the Marxist perspective of the nature of Indian National Movement. (2021/10)
2. Discuss the role of socialists in Indian National Movement. (2020/10)
3. Discuss the Dalit perspective on Indian national movement. (2019/10)
4. Critically examine the Radical Humanist perspective on Indian National movement. (2016/10)
5. Comment on Marxist understanding of India's freedom movement. (2013/10)
6. Write a short note on Dalit perspective on Indian National Movement. (2011/15)
7. Comment:rbis Radical dam (2009/20)
8. Analyse the problems of nation building in India. (1996/60)

2) MAKING OF THE CONSTITUTION

The making of the Indian Constitution is described as an attempt towards 'social revolution'. Comment. (Year 2022, Marks:15)

1. The Constitution of India is a product of a historical process, rich with constitutional antecedents." Comment. (2021/10)
2. "The Constitution makers faced the great task of forging a common national identity in the face of unparalleled social and cultural diversity in India." Comment. (2021/10)
3. Discuss Indian constitution makers' concerns on social inequality. (2020/10)
4. Unity and integrity of India was perhaps the single uppermost factor in the minds of the Constitution makers. Comment. (2019/10)
5. Indian constitution is a Lawyers Paradise. (Ivor Jennings). Discuss. (2018/10)
6. Discuss the extent to which the Indian Constitution reflects successful reconciliation of alternative perspectives. (2012/30)
7. "The Constituent Assembly was a one party body in an essentially one party country. The Assembly was the Congress and the Congress was India." (Granville Austin). Discuss. (2010/20)
8. Discuss the dominant external and internal influences in the framing of the Indian Constitution. (2008/60)
9. Critically examine the impact of the national movement on the making of the constitution of India. (2001/60)
10. Discuss the influence of Gandhi, Nehru and Ambedkar in the framing of the Indian Constitution. (1999/20)
11. The origins of the Indian political system are rooted in the history of British India. Comment. (1997/60)

3) SALIENT FEATURES OF INDIAN CONSTITUTION

3.1) PREAMBLE

The Preamble of the Indian Constitution reflects itself as a 'social contract'. Elucidate. (Year 2022, Marks:10)

1. Mention the founding principles that define India's Constitution. (2021/10)

2. The purpose of the 42nd constitutional amendment was to make the economic and social democracy explicitly visible. Discuss. (2016/10)
3. Comment on secularism in Indian constitution. (2015/10)
4. In the light of new economic policies adopted since 1991, examine the relevance of the term socialist in the preamble of the Indian constitution. (2015/20)
5. Comment on the significance of the Preamble. (2013/10)
6. Secularism in Indian politics is a myth. Discuss. (2011/20)
7. "Minorities are the natural custodians of the secular state." (D.E. Smith) Discuss. (2010/30)
8. Write a short note on the type of Government enshrined in 'the Preamble of the Indian Constitution. (2008/20)
9. Explain the main principles embodied in the Preamble to the Constitution of India. What is their significance? Do you think that they are the political horoscope of the country? Discuss. (2004/60)

3.2) FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES

1. Constitutionally reconciling the Fundamental Rights with the Directive Principles of State Policy has led to frequent amendments of the Constitution and judicial interventions." Comment. (2021/20)
2. Discuss the right to constitutional remedies in India. (2020/10)
3. Right to privacy is an intrinsic part of the right to life. Comment. (2017/10)
4. Discuss the right to education and the concerns raised by it. (2015/15)
5. What are the constitutional provisions for the protection of the right to freedom of religion and how far have they succeeded in promoting secularism in India? (2014/15)
6. Analyze the significance of article 32 of the Indian constitution. (2013/15)
7. Examine the significance of the verdict of the supreme court in the **Golaknath** and **Keshavananda Bharati** cases for an understanding of the scope of article 368 in regard to fundamental rights. (2013/20)
8. In what ways do civil liberties and human rights movements influence the working of Indian democracy ? Give your answer with suitable examples. (2010/30)
9. Write an essay on Fundamental Duties under Article 51A of the Constitution of India. (2005/20)
10. Do you agree with the view that Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy Constitute the Core and Conscience of the Indian Constitution? Comment on the emerging trends in their interrelationship. (2005/60)
11. Comment: Fundamental Duties in the Indian Constitution. (2004/20)
12. Write a short note on Right against exploitation under the Indian Constitution. (2003/20)

3.3) DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY

1. Comment on the relevance of the Directive Principles of State Policy in an era of liberalization and globalization. (2019/15)
2. Critically examine the provisions made in the constitution for the protection of the environment. (2016/15)
3. Comment on increasingly higher focus on Directive Principles of State Policy. (2014/10)
4. Examine the relevance of Directive Principles in the era of liberalisation and globalization. (2012/30)
5. Examine the significance of the Directive Principles of State Policy in achieving the goal of socio-economic justice. (2011/30)
6. The Directive principles of state policy are not mere pious declarations but clear direction for the guideline of state policy. (2007/20)
7. Do you agree with the view that Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy Constitute the Core and Conscience of the Indian Constitution? Comment on the emerging trends in their interrelationship. (2005/60)

8. The Directive Principles of State Policy are not mere pious declarations but clear directions for the guidance of State Policy. Comment and show how they have been applied in practice. (2003/60)

3.4) PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM

1. Differentiate parliamentary supremacy from parliamentary sovereignty. Would you consider the Indian parliament as a sovereign parliament? Examine. (2017/20)
2. Comment: Parliamentary Committees in India. (2004/20)

3.5) AMENDMENT PROCEDURE, JUDICIAL REVIEW AND BASIC STRUCTURE DOCTRINE

The Doctrine of Basic Structure of the Constitution has enhanced the power review of the Supreme Court. Examine. (Year 2022, Marks:15)

1. Underline the significance of the first constitutional amendment. (2021/10)
2. "The basic structure doctrine is implicit in the Indian Constitution; the Supreme Court has only given it an explicit form." Comment. (2019/20)
3. Article 368 does not enable parliament to alter the basic structure or framework of the constitution. Comment. (2016/10)
4. Discuss the efficacy of judicial review in India. (2015/20)
5. Examine the significance of the verdict of the supreme court in the *Golaknath* and *Keshavananda Bharati* cases for an understanding of the scope of article 368 in regards to fundamental rights. (2013/20)
6. Comment on the Doctrine of Basic Structure of the Indian Constitution. (2012/12)
7. Right to Constitutional Remedies under Article 32 of the Indian Constitution and application of the principle of *Res Judicata*. (1999/20)
8. Write a short note on Keshavananda Bharati Case. (1996/20)

4) PRINCIPAL ORGANS OF GOVERNMENT

4.1) EXECUTIVE

1. The role of the President of India becomes more significant during a minority government and a coalition government. Explain. (2021/15)
2. Has the thrust of the government tilted towards the executive in contemporary Indian Politics? Give your arguments. (2020/15)
3. The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has emerged as the most powerful institution in India. Discuss. (2019/15)
4. Do the lieutenant governors have more power than the governor of the states? Explain. (2018/15)
5. How is the President of India elected? Outline the salient characteristics of the electoral college of the Indian President. (2017/15)
6. Critically examine the role of governor in recent times. (2016/15)
7. Critically analyze the discretionary powers granted to the governor by the Indian constitution. (2015/15)

8. Analyze the position of prime minister of India in a coalition regime. (2013/15)
9. In normal conditions, the Governor is a constitutional executive but in case of constitutional crisis, he can become a to powerful and effective executive. Discuss. (2011/30)
10. Discuss the concept of committed bureaucracy. (2001/20)
11. Indian democracy began with the unique advantages of an efficient civil service and a well organized political party, yet its record is dismal. What are the causes for such poor performance? (2001/60)
12. Discuss corruption in administration in India and its impact on socio-economic reconstruction. (2000/20)
13. Critically evaluate Weber's ideas Bureaucracy and highlight the significance of the Weberian model from India's point of view. (2000/60)
14. The role of Indian Prime Ministers in the federal system was always controversial. Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer with apt examples. (2000/60)
15. Discuss representative bureaucracies. (1995/20)
16. Illustrate from contemporary Indian experience, the theory of circulation of elites. (1995/60)

4.2) LEGISLATURE

The Speaker represents the freedom and dignity of the House. Examine. (Year 2022, Marks:15) The

Legislative Council is a house without any effective powers. Comment. (Year 2022, Marks:10)

1. Comment on the decline of Indian parliament. (2013/10)
2. Discuss the patterns of legislative-executive relationship prevalent in the world today. What factors and forces have enabled the executive to overpower the legislature, in most countries. (1997/60)
3. Discuss the role and limits of the Indian Parliament in check-mating political corruption, with special reference to the Bofors pay-off and the Securities scams. (1997/60)
4. The function of a legislature is not merely making of laws. What other functions are of a modern legislature? (1995/60)

4.3) JUDICIARY

1. Examine the evolution of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India as a Constitutional Court. (2021/15)
2. Discuss judicial overreach in India. (2020/10)
3. Whether judicial activism has undermined or strengthened parliamentary democracy in India? Discuss. (2018/20)
4. Judiciary has acquired the role of both, legislature and an executive in recent years. Examine with suitable examples. (2017/20)
5. Comment on the 99th amendment of the Indian constitution. (2015/10)
6. Examine the debate on the appointment procedure of judges to the higher judiciary in India. (2014/15)
7. Examine the role of the supreme court as the final interpreter of the Indian constitution. (2013/15)
8. Discuss judicial activism and social change. (2012/12)
9. Critically examine the arguments being advanced for review of the present system of appointment of judges to the higher judiciary of the country. (2009/30)
10. Explain the concept of judicial activism and examine its impact on the relationship between executive and judiciary in India. (2007/60)
11. Discuss Judicial Activism. (2006/20)
12. How does the Supreme Court of India function as the "Guardian of the Constitution" and "protector of the rights of the citizens"? (2004/60)

13. Discuss the debate over judicial activism in India. (2001/20)
14. Comment: Public Interest Litigation and Judicial Activism. (1999/20)
15. The recent spate of judicial activities has created problems for the operation of parliamentary democracy in India. Discuss. (1998/60)

5) GRASSROOT DEMOCRACY

"The Panchayats with Gram Sabhas should be so organised as to identify the resources locally available for the development in agricultural and industrial sectors." Examine the statement in the context of Gram Swaraj. (Year, 2022 Marks: 15)

Examine the unique features of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment. Do you think this Amendment would contribute in achieving the goal of empowerment of marginalised sections of the society? (Year, 2022 Marks: 15)

1. Do you think that despite having significant limitations the Panchayati Raj institutions have strengthened the process of democratic decentralization? Give your views. (2021/15)
2. To what extent have 73rd and 74th amendments of the Indian Constitution enhanced women's empowerment ? (2020/15)
3. Political decentralization has not been matched by administrative decentralization at the grass roots level. Explain. (2019/10)
4. New Panchayat Raj is an effective instrument for women empowerment. Discuss. (2018/10)
5. Examine the provisions of Panchayat Extension in Scheduled Area (PESA) Act, 1996. (2018/20)
6. Has the 73rd constitutional amendment empowered women in Panchayat in India? Discuss. (2017/15)
7. The goal of good governance will be achieved only by strengthening the grass root level for democracy. Comment. (2016/20)
8. Examine the role of Panchayat raj institutions and urban local bodies in deepening of democracy in India. (2015/20)
9. Explain how participation of women impacted the functioning of rural bodies in India. (2014/15)
10. Examine the changing structure of panchayati raj institutions with special reference to the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act. (2013/15)
11. The panchayati Raj institutions and district administration should develop a new relationship for achieving the goal of good governance. Comment. (2007/20)
12. Discuss how far the grass root democratic institutions have remained successful in accelerating the process of rural development after the 73rd constitutional amendment. (2007/60)
13. Highlight the impact of 73rd Constitutional Amendment on the working of the Panchayati Raj institutions in India (2006/60)
14. Discuss the role of Gram Sabha under the Constitution (Seventy third-Amendment) Act 1992. (2005/20)
15. Bring out the common and unique features of the 73rd and the 74th amendments to the Constitution of India. Do you think that these amendments would contribute to the achievement of gender and social justice at the grass root level? (2002/60)
16. Write a short note on the concept of empowerment. (1998/20)

6) STATUTORY INSTITUTIONS / COMMISSIONS.

How far is the National Commission for Backward Classes an empowered body? Assess its role in the context

of rising demand for backwardness among dominant communities. (Year 2022, Marks:10)

Discuss the policy initiatives of the Fourteenth Finance Commission aimed towards promoting and strengthening agricultural development in India. (Year 2022, Marks:15)

1. The success of electoral democracy can partly be attributed to the status and role of the Election Commission of India." Explain. (2021/20)
2. Examine the role and functioning of the Election Commission of India and the Comptroller and Auditor General in the last two decades. (2020/20)
3. The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India enhances the accountability of the Government and serves as the watchdog of the finances of the Government. Explain. (2019/15)
4. Discuss, in brief, the role of the National Commission for Women. Do you think it is a toothless organization? (2019/15)
5. Analyze the arguments in favour and against the lateral entry into higher civil services in India. (2018/15)
6. Examine the role of the National Commission for Minorities in preserving, promoting and protecting the rights of minorities in India. (2017/15)
7. Examine the objectives and role of the National Human Rights Commission. (2016/15)
8. Comment on the role of Comptroller and Auditor General of India in promoting good governance. (2014/10)
9. Discuss the working of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes to curb violence against Dalits. (2014/20)
10. Evaluate the role of the National Commission for Women in India. (2012/12)
11. Discuss the role of National Commission for Scheduled Castes (2011/15)
12. Make an assessment of the role of the Election Commission of India in the conduct of free and fair elections. (2011/30)
13. Assess the effectiveness of the National Human Rights Commission in redressing grievances pertaining to human rights violations in India. (2010/30)
14. Discuss the Functions, duties and powers of the appropriate National Commission as laid down in clauses (5), (8), and (9) of Articles-338 of the constitution. (2009/20)
15. Make an assessment of the composition, functioning and the role of the Election Commission of India in the conduct of free and fair elections. (2005/60)
16. Write a short note on the Union Public Service Commission. (2003/20)
17. Write a short note on Comptroller and Auditor General of India (2002/20)

7) FEDERALISM

Discuss the composition and functions of the Inter-State Council extent has this body been successful in achieving its objectives? (Year 2022, Marks:15)

1. Do you think that there has been a gradual shift in the basis on which the demands for the creation of new States have been raised in different regions of India? Explain. (2021/15)
2. Discuss mechanism for settling inter-state disputes. (2020/10)
3. Does the functioning of federalism in India tend to make it appear as a unitary state in practice? (2020/20)
4. Despite constitutional mandate the Inter-State Council has not come of age. Discuss. (2019/10)
5. Implementation of GST and NEET is a major challenge to Indian federalism. Comment. (2018/10)

6. Discuss asymmetrical federalism in India. (2018/15)
7. The Indian federation has moved from cooperative federation to competitive federation. Discuss. (2017/10)
8. The philosophy and administration of the distribution of powers between centre and state is required to 2903 be re-accessed. (2016/10)
9. Comment on cooperative federalism in India. (2015/10)
10. Identify the contested areas in centre state relations in India. (2015/15)
11. 'Cooperative federalism produces strong central, or general government, yet it does not necessarily result in weak provincial governments that are largely administrative agencies for central policies. Indian federation has demonstrated this'. (Granville Austin). Examine the uniqueness of Indian federalism in the light of the above statement. (2013/20)
12. Discuss the demands for the creation of new States in India. (2012/12)
13. Examine the efficacy of available mechanisms for resolving inter-State disputes in India. (2012/30)
14. It is not constitutional law but political factors that ultimately determine Centre- States relations in India. Comment. (2011/20)
15. Write a short note on Inter-State water disputes. (2010/15)
16. "Articles 2 and 3 of the Indian Constitution are inconsistent with the spirit of federalism". Comment. (2010/20)
17. Inter State Committees. Discuss. (2009/20)
18. Discuss whether coalitional politics has led to a different pattern of federalism in India. (2006/60)
19. Write a short note on Tribal people movement in the North-East. (2002/20)
20. Discuss the factors for the growth of regionalism in India. (2001/20)
21. Shared rule to be as important as self rule in explaining the possibility of federal power sharing. Comment. (2000/20)
22. What are the salient features of Sarkaria Commission Report as regard to federal restructuring in India with special reference to autonomy demanded by states? (2000/60)
23. Discuss cooperation federalism in India and its problems command prospects. (1998/20)
24. Comment: Co-operative noi federalism. (1996/20)
25. Discuss ethnic separatism. (1995/20)

8) PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

1. What explains India's modest improvements in social development outcomes even as the rate of growth has accelerated since the initiation of economic reforms? (2021/15)
2. 'Liberalisation of the Indian Economy has not been accompanied with adequate reforms'. Comment. (2020/15)
3. What has been the political fallout of the Green Revolution in India? Explain. (2019/15)
4. Examine the various causes of agrarian crisis in India. (2018/20)
5. In the post liberalisation era, Indian politics is moving from ascriptive politics to developmental politics. Comment. (2017/10)
6. What do you understand by green revolution? Do you think that a second green revolution is needed to adequately address the agrarian challenge in contemporary India? Examine. (2017/15)
7. Critically examine the politics of economic growth in India. (2016/20)
8. Land reforms have failed in the eradication of rural poverty. Comment. (2016/20)
9. Comment on the structure and function of NITI Aayog. (2015/10)
10. Compare the Nehruvian and Gandhian models of development (2015/15)
11. Comment on Gandhian perspective of development and its 20 contemporary relevance. (2013/10)
12. Critically examine the Green Revolution as a strategy for sustainable agricultural development. (2012/30)
13. Discuss economic liberalisation and uneven development among Indian States. (2010/15)
14. Do you think that the post-1991 reforms in India mark a significant shift from the Nehruvian model of economic development? Justify your answer. (2010/30)

15. Discuss the correlation between democracy and development in India. (2008/20)
16. Discuss Nehru's View on socialism. (2007/20)
17. Comment: Decentralized Planning. (2006/20)
18. Write a short note on the New Economic Policy (1991). (2002/20)
19. It is generally believed that federalism suffers in the system of centralized planning. Do you agree with this point of view? Would you advocate decentralized governance for India in the context of liberalization since 1991? (2002/60)
20. Discuss the impact of disinvestment and privatization on Planning in India. (2001/20)
21. Discuss Political Dimensions of Development Administration. (1997/20)

9) CASTE, RELIGION AND ETHNICITY IN INDIAN POLITICS

Ethnicity is the underlying cause which poses a great challenge in the resolution of the problems in the North-East region of India. Comment. (Year 2022, Marks:15)

1. Explain how caste as a social category is also becoming a political category in the democratic politics of India. (2021/15)
2. Examine the role of religion in Indian Electoral Politics in contemporary times. (2020/15)
3. Development has overshadowed the influence of caste in electoral behaviour in recent elections. Discuss. (2019/20)
4. Critically examine the ethnic conflicts in North East India. (2018/15)
5. Religion is still an important factor in Indian politics. Discuss. (2017/15)
6. Cultural and regional differences are the enduring bases on which politics is played out in India. Discuss. (2016/10)
7. Comment on the emergence of backward classes in Indian politics. (2016/15)
8. Comment on relations between ethnicity democracy (2014/10)
9. Explain the phenomena of ethnic politics in India in recent times. (2013/20)
10. Indian politics has influenced caste and caste has influenced Indian politics. Discuss. (2011/20)
11. The OBC politics has challenged the nature of dominant caste politics in the states. Critically examine this statement and bring out your conclusion. (2009/60)
12. Examine the effect of caste and community in Indian politics. Do you foresee their continued relevance in the country's politics? (2008/60)
13. The instability of national policies is due to the rising influence of religious politics. Discuss. (2007/20)
14. Discuss caste and religion as operative factors with Indian policy. (2000/20)
15. "The electoral behaviour of Indian votes is more or less caste-ridden, including the selection process of party candidates". In the light of the above statements, critically examine the positive or the negative role of caste in the Indian political system. (1999/60)
16. Discuss how far the politics of regionalism and communalism have affected nation- building in India. (1998/60)
17. Discuss minority government in India. (1997/20)
18. Write a short note on Creamy Layer and social justice. (1995/20)

10) PARTY SYSTEM

How far is it correct that the regional parties have strengthened democracy and federal system? Substantiate your answer with suitable examples. (Year:2022, marks:15)

1. The Indian party system is shaped by a complex interaction of the country's federal structure, electoral system and social cleavages." Explain. (2021/20)
2. To what extent has the inadequate intra-party democracy affected the functioning of Indian Democracy ? (2020/20)
3. The changing socio-economic profile of our legislators does not augur well for the health of Indian democracy. Comment. (2019/15)
4. Political personalities are more significant than political parties in India. Discuss. (2018/10)
5. Explain the increasing role of regional political or parties into national politics. (2018/15)
6. India has moved from one party dominance system to one party-led coalition. Discuss. (2017/20)
7. Discuss the pattern of political parties from one party dominant system to coalition politics in National politics. (2016/15)
8. Identity politics has trumped development politics in India. Comment. (2015/15)
9. Account for the rise of regional political parties and their role in contemporary India. (2015/15)
10. Comment on the marginalisation of the left ideology in India. (2014/10)
11. Account for the changes in socio-economic profile of legislators during the last one decade in India. (2014/15)
12. Explain to what extent the concept of one party dominance (Morris Jones) model is relevant in Indian politics today. (2013/15)
13. Examine the impact of coalition-politics on the Indian political system. (2012/30)
14. Discuss upsurge in political participation among the marginalized communities in the Indian General Elections during the last two decades. (2010/15)
15. "The principle of collective responsibility, *à la* Cabinet system of government, has eroded in the context of the emergence of coalition governments in India." (2010/20)
16. Bring out the changing educational profile of the members of the Lok Sabha over the years, up to the present (15th Lok Sabha. (2009/30)
17. Political reforms must precede, not follow social reforms. (Tilak). Elucidate. (2007/60)
18. Coalition Governments in India has been at the Centre since 1998. Comment. (2005/20)
19. Discuss the views of Lenin, Michels and Duverger on political parties. (1999/20)
20. Discuss divisionism in Indian political parties with special reference to Janta Dal, Congress, CPI and Akali Dal. (1999/20)
21. Comment on the impact of modernisation and new communication technologies on political processes of Afro-Asian countries. (1999/20)
22. Discuss politics of terrorism in India. (1998/20)
23. Comment on the Process of Political socialization in Afro-Asian societies (1997/20)
24. Write a short note on Proportional representation. (1996/20)
25. The roots of India's growing problems of governability are more political than socio- economic. That is, they are located in India's political structure. Discuss. (1996/60)
26. Examine in the light of India's experience the Weberian concept of Charismatic leadership. (1996/60)
27. Politics of terrorism. Comment. (1995/20)
28. Bring out the linkages between political culture and civic culture with special reference to India. (1995/60)

10.2) ELECTORAL BEHAVIOR

Electoral behaviour of voters is governed more by the social and economic factors than the political factors. Explain. (Year:2022, marks:20)

1. State subvention / funding may be an effective instrument in strengthening electoral democracy in India. Discuss. (2017/10)

2. Discuss the nature of reforms of the electoral process in India and explain the further scope for reforms. (2014/20)
3. Examine the changing pattern of electoral behaviour in India. (2011/30)
4. Discuss the implications of the use of Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) on electoral politics. (2009/20)
5. Revision in the Election Code of Conduct. Comment. (2008/20)

10.3) PRESSURE GROUPS

1. Explain how pressure groups have been influencing public policy-making with suitable illustrations. (2014/20)
2. Discuss trade unions as pressure groups in Indian politics. (2011/15)
3. In what ways do pressure groups and movements exert influence in politics? In the Indian political context, discuss the implications of such influence being exerted. (2008/60)
4. Identify the major pressure-group in Indian politics and examine their role in it. (2003/60)
5. Differentiate a political party from a pressure group. Explain the role of RSS and Bajrang Dal units of Sangh Parivar as a pressure-group in the Indian political system. (1999/60)

11) SOCIAL MOVEMENT

High concentration of economic activities and consumption patterns in the post-liberalisation period has led to the failure of environmental movements in India. Elucidate. (Year 2022, Marks:10)

1. Examine the nature of the civil liberty movement in India. (2020/15)
2. Write short note on the significance of Chipko Movement. (2019/10)
3. Critically analyze the environmentalist movement in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu. (2018/15)
4. Discuss the Right to Information and underline challenges being posed before it. (2016/15)
5. Comment on the dilemmas of the human rights movement in India. (2014/10)
6. Examine the scope and limitations of women's movement in India. (2014/15)
7. Compare and contrast Chipko movement with Narmada Bachao Andolan. (2013/10)
8. Point out and comment on the historical importance of the document 'Towards Equality 1974', for women's movement in India. (2013/15)
9. Discuss the impact of environmentalist movements on government policies in recent years. (2012/30)
10. The environmental movements have challenged the policy and pattern of economic development in post independent India. Analyze with examples. (2009/60)
11. Discuss Ambedkar's concept of Social Justice. (2006/20)
12. Discuss the concept of Women Empowerment. (2006/20)
13. Comment on the views of Jaya Prakash Narayan on 'Total Revolution'. (2005/20)
14. The women activists did not support Quota till 1974. What led to the subsequent change in their stand ?(2001/60)
15. Discuss women empowerment in India and its impact on democracy. (2000/20)

PSIR Paper-II Section A:

Comparative Political Analysis and International Politics

1) COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Discuss the main limitations of the comparative method to the study of Political Science. (Year:2022, Marks:10)

1. Discuss the political economy approach to the comparative analysis of politics. (2021/10)
2. Discuss the subject matter of comparative politics. Outline the limitations of comparative political analysis. (2020/10)
3. Examine the significance of the comparative method in political analysis. Discuss its limitations. (2019/20)
4. Describe the changing nature of comparative politics. Briefly explain the Political Economy approach to the study of comparative politics. (2018/10)
5. Explain the Political-Sociological approach in the field of comparative politics and discuss its limitations. (2017/10)
6. Critically examine the Marxist aspect of Political Economy approach to the study of comparative politics. (2016/10)
7. Which are the major approaches of comparative politics? Explain in brief, the Political Economy approach to the study of comparative inquiry. (2015/10)
8. Discuss David Easton's model of systems analysis. (2015/15)
9. "Examining political phenomena through a process of cross-global investigation has become the fundamental function of Comparative Politics." Discuss. (2012/12)
10. Elucidate the transdisciplinary nature of modern comparative politics and identify the contributions of political sociologists towards this goal. (2012/15)
11. "Structural-functional approach to political analysis focuses more on status quoism, and less on change." Elucidate. (2011/30)
12. How is the modern comparative politics approach different from the traditional legal-institutional approach? (2010/20)
13. How does comparative political sociology help in understanding the socio political process of different countries of the world? (2008/20)
14. Examine the relevance of the Political Economy approach to the study of comparative politics. (2007/20)
15. Write a short note on input-output functions of the political system. (2006/20)
16. Do you agree with the view that Political culture of a society is a highly significant aspect of the Political System? Give reasons in support of your answer. (2006/60)
17. Critically evaluate the nature of the capitalist model of development and its usefulness and limitations for developing countries. (2005/60)
18. Comment on the importance and limitations of the Political Economy Approach. (2004/20)
19. Discuss the structural-functional analysis of politics. (1998/60)

2) (STATE IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE)

1. "The post-colonial state was thought of an entity that stood outside and above society as an autonomous agency." Explain. (2021/20)
2. Describe the changing nature of state in the developing societies in the context of inclusive growth in the 21st century. (2018/10)

3. A combination of internal pressure (ethnic and regional forces) and external threats (EU, UN, TNC, global market etc.) has produced what is commonly referred to as a 'crisis of the nation state'. Elaborate. (2016/10)
4. Do you subscribe to the view that the modern constructs of the state and politics are pre-eminently Eurocentric and not indigenous and appropriate for the analysis of non-western societies? (2015/10)
5. Minimal state ensures maximum of individual liberty. Examine the concept of minimal state. (2013/15)
6. "Nations and States have become virtually synonymous." Elucidate. (2012/15)

3) POLITICS OF REPRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION

How has the electoral democracy augmented the participation of people in the democratic process ?
(Year:2022, Marks:20)

Discuss the role of social movements in strengthening the democratic processes in developing societies.
(Year:2022, Marks:15)

1. The modernization thesis asserts that affluence breeds stable democracy. How do you explain the success of India being the world's largest democracy as an exceptional case? (2021/20)
2. Explain the impact of electoral systems and cleavages in shaping party systems with reference to developing countries. (2021/20)
3. "Political parties and pressure groups are sine qua non of democracy." Comment. (2021/10)
4. Has the increased participation of the underprivileged in the political process of the developing societies strengthened democracy or created political chaos and conflict? Comment. (2020/10)
5. Analyze the contribution of liberal democratic principles in the democratization of Indian polity. (2020/10)
6. Explain the reasons for low voter turnout in democratic countries with suitable examples. (2019/15)
7. Write an essay on 'The New Social Movements' in developing countries. (2019/15)
8. Is democracy promotion in developing countries a feasible idea? (2019/15)
9. How big a role does identity play in determining political participation in the developing countries? Discuss your answer with suitable illustrations. (2018/10)
10. Examine the LGBT (lesbian gay bisexual and transgender) movement in developed societies and how it is affecting the political participation in developing societies. (2017/10)
11. Comment on the decline of political parties and examine whether new social movements shall be alternative strategies for establishing link between government and society. (2016/10)
12. Do interest groups help to promote democracy or to undermine it? Give your opinion. (2016/15)
13. What is the difference between interest groups and pressure groups? Are the pressure groups in India in a position to fully protect or promote the interest of their members? (2015/10)
14. Struggle for democracy has been marked by bitter strife and tribulations. Examine the statement illustrating the cases of Pakistan, Nepal and Myanmar. (2015/20)
15. The Party System in India is neither western nor indigenous. Explain. (2014/10)
16. In what respect, is the new social movement, new in nature? Discuss. (2014/10)
17. Compare and contrast social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies. (2013/20)
18. Is the rise of social movements a sign of opening up of popular space in the political process or decline of representative politics? Examine. (2013/20)
19. How did the struggle for representation increases the level and quality of democracy in industrial societies? (2012/12)

20. Evaluate the nature and distinction of anomic and associational interest groups in the pressure politics of developing countries. (2012/15)
21. Examine the significance of ideological and policy aspects in the structural growth of modern bsc political nove parties. (2012/20)
22. What is The New Social Movement (NSM)? Explain the main challenges of the NSM in the developing countries. (2011/20)
23. What are the indications of the emergence of a global civil society? (2010/20)
24. Is it necessary to evolve a distinct theoretical framework for analysis of emergent politics in the developing world? (2009/20)
25. Examine the comparative advantages of democracy and autocracy in restraining political violence. Do you think that autocratic societies are more prone t political violence? Illustrate your answer with a comparative study of a few societies. (2009/60)
26. How does the functioning of interest groups differ from political parties? Discuss with appropriate examples. (2008/60)
27. Analyse the basic goals of the Third World movement for global justice. What is the importance of South-South cooperation to but achieve these? (2005/60)
28. Assess the nature of the political process in the Third World. (2001/20)

4) GLOBALIZATION

What are the main challenges faced by the developing countries in the era of globalisation ? (Year:2022, Marks:10)

1. What is globalization? Why is there an intense debate about globalization and its consequences? (2021/15)
2. Critically examine the impact of the process of globalization from the perspective of the countries of the Global South. (2020/10)
3. Critically examine the globalization in the past 25 years from the perspective of the Western world. (2017/10)
4. Discuss the impact of globalization on the internal functioning of the state. (2016/10)
5. Is globalization essentially a process of 'universalisation of capitalist modernity'? (2015/10)
6. How is it that economic and neoliberal globalization is being interrogated from inside even in developed countries? What are the economic consequences of such globalization? (2015/15)
7. What is Global Village? Elaborate its main characteristics and also the factors that contributed tobib its growth. (2014/15)
8. How would you describe the contemporary worlds beyond the languages of 'North/South' and 'Developed/Developing'? Is the present transformation driven by domestic compulsions, or external overall crisis of the global economy ? (2012/20)
9. Examine the nature and dynamics of contemporary globalization. (2011/20)
10. Critically examine globalization from a Third World perspective. (2010/40)
11. Elaborate the factors which cause North-South divide in the age of globalisation. (2008/20)
12. Rethinking on sovereign state. Discuss. (2000/20)
13. Liberalization and Globalization are feared by the developing countries, as the Trojan Horses of the developed countries. Elucidate. (2000/60)
14. Bring out the contradiction between Internationalism Scandra Globalization. (1997/60)

5) APPROACHES TO STUDY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

5.1) IDEALIST / LIBERAL TRADITION

1. What is 'complex interdependence'? Discuss the role of transnational actors in the international system. (2021/15)
2. What are the core assumptions of idealism as an approach to study International Relations? Explain its continuing relevance in peace building. (2020/10)
3. What according to Joseph Nye, are the major sources of a country's soft power? Discuss its relevance in contemporary world politics. (2018/10)
4. Discuss the main factors that have contributed to the gradual transformation of the world from 'Billiards Ball model' to a 'Cobweb model'. (2014/15)
5. Building peace by pieces is the basis of Functionalism. Elaborate. (2013/15)
6. Do you agree that liberal international theories are essentially 'Eurocentric' and not necessarily imperialist? (2012/12)
7. What are the major critiques of liberal internationalization? (2009/20)
8. "Sin, therefore is the mother of servitude, and first cause of men's subjection to men". (St. Augustine). Discuss. (1997/20)
9. Discuss the role of Ideology in International Relations. (1995/20)
10. "The traditional principle of sovereignty which plays a central role in the foreign policies of all states, is now increasingly counteracted by the growing facts of interdependence. ..." Discuss. (1995/60)

5.2) REALIST

Discuss the commonalities between the Marxist and Realist approach to the study of International Politics. (Year:2022, Marks:10)

What is the realist prescription to the States to ensure their survival in an anarchical world ? (Year:2022, Marks: 15)

1. Discuss the emergence of neo-realism and its basic tenets (2021/15)
2. Bring out the major differences between the classical Realism of Hans Morgenthau and Neorealism of Kenneth Waltz. (2018/10)
3. Is Realism the best method to understand international relations? Examine this in the context of classical Realism. (2017/20)
4. Identify the major differences between the classical Realism of Hans J Morgenthau and the Neorealism of Kenneth Waltz. Which process is the best suited for analyzing international relations after the cold war? (2015/10)
5. Examine major principles of state centric world-views. (2013/20)
6. Write a note on intellectual precursor of Realism. (2013/15)
7. What are the great debates between 'classical' and 'modern' realists ? Is there any thin line of continuity between these two traditions? (2012/20)
8. Examine the postmodernist critique of Realism in international politics. (2010/20)
9. Discuss the Realist and Neorealist approaches to the study of International relations. (2008/60)
10. Write a short note on Game theory for the study of International Politics and its limitations. (2005/20)
11. Comment on the realist vision of 'national interest'. (2004/20)
12. Comment on traditional approach and its significance. (2003/20)
13. Clearly explain Realist theory to the study of International Politics. (2003/60)

14. 'The decision-making is only a partial theory of international politics'. Critically examine the above statement. (1999/60)
15. 'Realism as an approach to international relations helps to explain why states fight and threaten each other, but it is less effective in explaining much of the cooperative behaviour we see...' Comment. (1996/60)
16. Discuss the role of Ideology in International Relations. (1995/20)

5.3) MARXIST

1. "Marxist approach to the study of international relations has lost its relevance in the post-cold war era." Comment. (2021/10)
2. Explain the relevance of the Marxist approach in the context of globalization. (2019/20)
3. How does Marxist approach explain contemporary international relations? (2013/15)
4. Does the perspective of Dependency Theory offer a robust critique on the nature of mainstream development processes taking place in Africa and Latin America? (2012/20)
5. Do you agree with the notion that Marxist approach to the study of International relations is largely based on economic reductionism? Give reasons. (2008/60)
6. Discuss Marxist approach to international politics. (2002/20)
7. Write a short note on neocolonialism. (1998/20)
8. Comment: Cultural Imperialism. (1997/20)
9. Discuss the role of Ideology in International Relations. (1995/20)

5.4) FUNCTIONALIST AND SYSTEMS THEORY

1. Critically examine the Functionalist approach to the study of international relations. (2018/15)
2. Examine the World Systems approach as developed by Immanuel Wallerstein (2017/15)
3. Critically examine the Functional and System approaches to the study of international relations. (2016/10)
4. Mortan A Kaplan's system theory is contrary to the fundamental precepts of the Systems approach. Comment. (2014/15)
5. Explain the uses of Systems approach in international relations and examine the relevance of Kaplan's system analysis. (2011/30)
6. Discuss the Systems Approach to the Study of International relations. (2004/60)
7. 'Scientific politics can develop only if the materials of politics are treated in terms of systems of actions'. In the light of this statement of Kaplan with regard to application of systems theory to political science, critically examine the drawbacks of its application. (1999/60)
8. Examine the explanatory potential of Kaplan's system theory in explaining the phenomenon of international politics in the present context. (1998/60)
9. Discuss the importance of Systems Theory in modern political analysis. (1997/60)

6) KEY CONCEPTS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

6.1) NATIONAL INTEREST

National Interest is an essentially contested concept. Comment. (Year:2022, Marks:10)

1. Explain the instruments and methods devised for the promotion of national interest. (2016/20)

2. 'National interests are dynamic'. Identify the dynamic nature of national interest in contemporary world politics with suitable examples. (2013/15)
3. Should National Interest be viewed as a constant category or is it situation-specific? (2010/20)
4. 'National interest and national peculiarities: A guide to foreign policy.' Discuss. (2001/20)
5. Comment: National Interest and Ideology. (1999/20)

6.2) SECURITY AND POWER

1. Critically assess the changing nature of the concept of national security. (2014/15)
2. What constitutes 'national security discourses'? How far have the IR Feminists questioned how 'security' has been problematised? (2012/15)
3. Is power a zero-sum or variable game in international relations? Can a zero-sum game explain the mixture of conflict and cooperation of the present dynamics of international relations ? (2012/20)
4. Examine the idea of a 'balance' between 'security' and 'liberty' in modern international politics. Do you think that the liberal international order is more 'security-friendly'? (2012/20)
5. What is a comprehensive approach to national security? (2011/20)
6. Do you agree with the view that over-widening of the concept of 'national security' has made it a more amorphous concept? Discuss. (2011/40)
7. Examine the changing nature of security in the recent times. (2010/20)
8. Explain the difference between security dilemma and insecurity dilemma. (2008/20)
9. International politics, like all politics, is a struggle for power. Comment. (2006/20)
10. Discuss changing nature and dynamics of national security. (2002/20)
11. Discuss various elements and limitations of national power. (2002/60)
12. Discuss information Technology as an element of national power. (2000/20)
13. International politics, like all politics, is a struggle for power. Comment. (2000/60)
14. Comment: Power. (1998/20)
15. Discuss, 'effective government as a source of national power' (1997/20)

6.3) BALANCE OF POWER

Bipolar structure of the world is more stable than the multipolar one. Comment. (Year:2022, Marks:10)

1. Explain the concept of balance of power. What are the various techniques of maintaining balance of power? (2020/20)
2. Identify the benefits of a multi-polar world. (2019/15)
3. 'The notion of balance of power is notoriously full of confusion'. In the light of this quotation do you think that the concept of balance of power is relevant? (2016/15)
4. Why is the 'polarity of power' thesis less relevant and meaningful in the present architecture of 'balance of power'? (2012/12)
5. Explain the concept of 'Hegemonic stability'. (2008/20)
6. Discuss balance of power and its impact on world politics. (2003/20)
7. Comment: Alliances. (1998/20)
8. The relations of the Balance of Power to Collective Security have been, at the same time complementary and antagonistic. Elucidate. (1997/60)

6.4) DETERRENCE

1. Discuss the utility of Nuclear Deterrence theory in the context of the recent stand-off between India and Pakistan. (2019/10)
2. Discuss the theory of Nuclear Deterrence. Did nuclear deterrence prevent superpower war? (2015/15)
3. How would you explain the future of 'Nuclear Deterrence'? Do you think that 'preventive war' is a good substitute for Nuclear Deterrence ? (2012/20)
4. Define 'geopolitical' and account for its prevalence even in the modern nuclear age. (2007/20)
5. Discuss relevance of Diplomacy in the Nuclear Age. (1999/20)

6.5) TRANSNATIONAL ACTORS

1. Some feel that multinational corporations (MNCs) are a vital new road to economic growth, whereas others feel they perpetuate underdevelopment. Discuss. (2018/15)
2. Discuss the changing nature of modern state with reference to transnational actors. (2017/15)
3. How do you explain the growing importance of MultiNational Corporations (MNCs) and civil society in contemporary international politics? (2014/20)
4. Transnational actors have become driving forces of global politics. Elaborate. (2013/20)
5. Review the increasing role of MultiNational Corporations in the policy making process of developing countries. (2012/12)

6.6) COLLECTIVE SECURITY

Discuss the conceptual dimensions of collective security. (Year:2022, Marks:15)

1. Enumerate the challenges in the operation of the principles related to collective security in the UN Charter. (2020/15)
2. Collective Security and Collective Defence are the institutional and state mechanisms to sustain the domination of powers that be in international politics. Elaborate. (2013/15)
3. A well established system of collective security is a guarantee of world peace. Explain. (2006/20)
4. The relations of the Balance of Power to Collective Security have been at the same time complementary and antagonistic. Elucidate. (1997/60)

6.7) WORLD CAPITALIST ECONOMY

1. How has the development of Global Capitalism changed the nature of Socialist economies and developing societies? (2017/15)
2. How far the existing international economic order is unjust and hegemonic towards developing countries ?(2002/60)

7) CHANGING INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ORDER

7A) RISE OF SUPERPOWERS & 7C) COLLAPSE OF SOVIET UNION

Russian-Ukraine crisis has cast a dark shadow on the energy needs of the member states of the European Union (EU). Comment. (Year:2022, Marks:15)

1. Critically examine the decline of the United States of America as a hegemon and its implications for the changing international political order. (2021/15)
2. Critically analyze the implications of Sino-American strategic rivalry for the South and South-East Asian region. (2020/15)
3. Discuss the consequences of Trump's 'America first' and Xi Jinping's 'Chinese dream' on world politics. (2018/15)
4. Examine in brief the rise and fall of the Cold War. (2016/15)
5. Discuss the positive and negative impacts of Soviet Union's disintegration on developing nations. (2016/15)
6. Discuss the collapse of the Soviet Union and its impact on international politics. (2015/15)
7. The Ukraine crisis is the product of power politics and geopolitics. Comment. (2014/10)
8. Who was Mr. 'X' in international politics? Elaborate his approach to foreign policy. (2014/15)
9. Identify the major changes in the international political economy in the post Cold War period. (2013/15)
10. Identify the challenges to American hegemony in the post Soviet world. (2013/10)
11. Explain the meaning and application of the concept of 'strategic engagement'. (2010/20)
12. Explain how far Deutsch's model explains the framework of international interdependence. Do you think that the processes of interdependence and integration have grown steadily in the post Cold War Globalisation trajectory? (2009/60)
13. The Afghanistan Civil War gave the US a long awaited upper hand in south Asia. Discuss. (2007/20)
14. How would you differentiate the post cold war global order from its predecessor? (2007/60)
15. Discuss the impact of the collapse of the Soviet Union on international politics. (2004/20)
16. Analyze critically the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 as an instance of superpower relations during the Cold War. (2004/60)
17. Do you think the Cold War still exists after the disintegration of the Soviet Union? (2003/60)
18. Critically examine the roots of the Afghan Civil War. What role did the Soviet Union and the United States play in it? (2002/60)
19. Discuss Cuban Missile as a factor in the US relationship with the USSR. (2001/20)
20. The Arab-Israeli conflict is basically a conflict between two resurgent nationalism. Discuss. (2001/60)
21. Comment: Pan-Americanism. (2000/20)
22. Comment: Conventional Arm Trade. (1998/20)

7B) NON-ALIGNMENT MOVEMENT (NAM)

1. Discuss the ways to strengthen the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to enable it to address the challenges faced by the developing countries. (2020/20)
2. Write a brief note on the 17th NAM Summit in Venezuela. (2019/10)
3. Discuss the significance of Non Aligned Movement as a unique contribution of the non-western world to world politics. (2018/20)
4. Do you endorse the view that the end of bipolarity and the rise of multiple regional organizations has made non aligned movement (NAM) more or less irrelevant? (2017/15)
5. Highlight the major features of the 'Non Alignment 2.0' document. (2013/15)
6. Plausible aims of the Non-Aligned Movement in the post-Cold War period. Discuss. (2010/20)
7. Discuss the relevance of Non-Alignment in the Post-Cold war era. (2005/20)
8. Do you agree with the stand that the Non-Alignment Movement needs to be reinvented? (2000/60)
9. In a unipolar world, non-alignment has lost its relevance. Do you agree with this view? Give arguments in support of your answer. (1999/60)
10. The change in the position of the people of Asia and Africa and their relations with Europe was the surest sign of the advent of a new era. Discuss. (1997/60)
11. Comment: Agenda before NAM. (1995/20)

8) EVOLUTION OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM

Identify and evaluate the reasons for deadlock in the WTO negotiations on fisheries between the developing and developed countries. (Year:2022, Marks:20)

1. Critically evaluate the role of the United States of America in the World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute settlement mechanism and its implications for the future of the WTO. (2020/15)
2. Explain the significance and importance of the demand raised by the developing countries for a New International Economic Order (NIEO). Are they likely to achieve their objectives of NIEO in the foreseeable future? (2020/15)
3. How are the rising powers challenging the USA and Western dominance in the IMF and the World Bank? (2019/20)
4. The IMF, World Bank, G7, GATT and other structures are designed to serve the interest of TNCs, banks and investment firms in a new imperial age'. Substantiate with examples of governance of the new world order. (2016/20)
5. How far is the world governance mechanism dominated by the IMF and World Bank legitimate and relevant? What measures do you suggest to improve their effectiveness in global governance? (2015/15)
6. Sketch the leadership role of India in WTO negotiations. (2013/10)
7. Sketch the journey of global political economy from Washington Consensus to the present. (2013/10)
8. Explain the role of non-state actors, like the IMF, World Bank, European Union and MNCs, in modulating and transforming the broad dynamics of international relations. (2009/60)
9. How has geoeconomics replaced geopolitics in the present International scenario? (2008/20)
10. How far have institutions like the WTO and IMF have influenced India's political and economic sovereignty? What has been India's response to these? (2005/60)
11. Discuss main features of WTO. (2003/20)
12. Critically examine the various controversial issues in the functioning of the World Trade Organization from the point of view of developing countries, particularly India. (1999/60)
13. Intellectual Property Rights and free world trade. Comment. (1996/20)
14. Analyze the unjust and hegemonic aspects of the existing international economic order and the factors which perpetuate such an order. (1995/60)

9) UNITED NATIONS

Describe the composition of the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Discuss its voluntary jurisdiction. (Year:2022, Marks:15)

1. What measures have been undertaken by the United Nations for its reforms? (2021/10m)
2. Discuss the significance and urgency of the UN Security Council reforms. Explain the relevance of the reform proposals made by the UN Secretary General António Guterres for the developing countries. (2020/20)
3. In what way does the predominance of the USA in the UN funding affect its decision-making? (2019/10)
4. Do you think that sustainable development goals are really attainable by 2030? (2019/10)
5. Evaluate the role of the International Court of Justice in inter-State disputes. (2019/15)

6. Discuss the relevance of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on the security of women in conflict zones. (2018/20)
7. Do you agree with the view that despite the limitations in the functioning of the UN, it has distinguished and unique achievements to its credit? (2017/15)
8. Do you endorse that the United Nations needs major changes in its structure and functioning? Suggest changes for efficient improvements. (2016/15)
9. What are the real objectives of Millennium Development Goals (MDG)? Do you think that MDGs have been able to achieve the desired goals of poverty alleviation and sustainable development? (2015/15)
10. Has the reform of the economic and social arrangements of the United Nations been effective? (2015/20)
11. Do you agree that the UN has failed to contain transnational terrorism? Elaborate your answer with examples. (2014/10)
12. Argue a case for UN reform in the context of changing global milieu. (2014/20)
13. Bring out the objective of India seeking a permanent seat in the Security Council. (2013/10)
14. How far have the UN reform efforts of 2004-5, transformed the concept of 'Sovereignty' as a fundamental principle of International Law? Do you think that UN reform discourse represents a 'biopolitical reprogramming' of contemporary sovereignty and global governance ? (2012/20)
15. How far have the efforts to maintain international order in the post-Cold War period by the UN have been successful? (2011/30)
16. What are the major impediments to UN Security Council reform? (2011/30)
17. Analyze critically the major changes in the role of United Nations (UN) since the onset of new millennium. (2007/60)
18. Write a short note on the International Court of Justice. (2006/20)
19. Few agencies of International cooperation have been more successful in tending to the welfare of humanity than the ILO. Discuss the organization of activities of the International Labour Organization in the light of the above statement. (2006/60)
20. Critically examine the protection and enforcement of Human Rights under the UN System (2003/60)
21. Comment: IMF and India's development (2003/20)
22. Discuss the compulsory jurisdiction clause under the statute of the International Court of Justice. (2001/20)
23. Comment: The UN General Assembly Millennium Summit (Sept. 2000). (2000/20)
24. Analyze the challenges and prospects of the UNO in becoming to a world state. (1998/60)
25. Judged from the past, the UN does not hold much promise to free the Third World from the clutches of neo imperialism. Elucidate. (1996/60)
26. From the start, the United Nations became a microcosm of world policies, with developments within the institution tending to mirror the atmosphere and happenings outside its walls. Comment. (1995/60)
27. Discuss the role of International Law in international cooperation. (1995/20)

10) REGIONALISATION OF WORLD POLITICS

1. Explain India's relations with the European Union in the context of Brexit. (2021/15)
2. Explain the success of ASEAN as a regional organisation. (2021/15)
3. Critically analyze the role of ASEAN in the promotion of regional peace and security through economic cooperation and trade. (2020/15)
4. Evaluate the role of BIMSTEC in multi-sectoral technical and economic cooperation. (2019/10)
5. Since its inception the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has failed to deliver on its promise. What initiatives should be taken to reinvigorate the organisation? (2018/15)
6. American President Donald Trump's proposal to withdraw from NAFTA would bring unforeseen consequences to the regionalisation of world or politics. Elaborate. (2017/10)

7. Has the BREXITs affected the regionalisation process initiated by European Union? And what could be its likely impact in the regionalisation process of World politics? (2017/15)
8. How does regionalism shape world politics? Explain with examples. (2016/15)
9. The European Union has become the most politically influential, economically powerful and demographically diverse regional entity in the world. Discuss. (2015/15)
10. Despite so many agreed areas of cooperation, innumerable institutional mechanisms and a permanent secretariat, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has not taken off as a meaningful regional grouping. Discuss. (2014/20)
11. Give reasons for regionalisation of world politics. (2013/15)
12. Substantiate APEC as a regional economic and trade arrangement. (2013/15)
13. The effort in restricting illegal migration from Mexico to the USA and Canada has been one major gain for the United States through NAFTA. Comment. (2012/15)
14. Outline the constraints SAARC is facing to emerge as an effective organisation. (2008/20)
15. The establishment of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has opened the gates of mutual cooperation among the State of South Asia. In the light of this statement examine India's role in the South Asian region. (2006/60)
16. How did the European Union emerge as a successful case of regional organization? Is it replicable in other regions? (2004/60)
17. Discuss obstacles in the way of SAARC'S smooth functioning. (2003/20)
18. ASEAN as the third world model of regional cooperation. Comment. (2002/20)
19. Comment: The European Union. (1999/20)
20. Comment: SAPTA and SAFTA. (1997/20)
21. Comment: Maastricht Treaty. (1997/20)
22. Comment on the US role in the OAS. (1996/20)
23. Comment: OAU and conflicts in Africa. (1995/20)

11) CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL CONCERNS

11.1) DEMOCRACY

Refer to topic 3: Politics of Representation and Participation.

11.2) HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Discuss the importance of personal data protection in the context of human rights. (2019/15)
2. Critically examine the notion of Asian values in the context of the ongoing debates on human rights. (2018/20)
3. Why does global human security need to be emphasized along with economic security? Explain with examples. (2016/20)
4. "Human Rights constitute the Third Generation of Rights." Analyze the range and complex dimension of Human Rights in the globalized era. (2012/12)
5. Critically examine the protection and enforcement of Human Rights under the UN System (2003/60)
6. Discuss human rights and humanitarian intervention. (2002/20)
7. Moral claims of today become the human rights of tomorrow. Trace the efforts in the international protection of human rights in the twentieth century (2001/60)

11.3) ENVIRONMENT

1. Discuss the five proposals made by India in the recent COP-26 conference held in Glasgow. (2021/10)

2. Examine the role of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other major efforts by the UN to address the global environmental crisis. (2020/15)
3. Would you agree that the ongoing debates on international environmental politics continue to be marred by a new North-South ideological divide over historical responsibility and developmental model? Illustrate your answer with suitable examples. (2018/15)
4. Recent move of the USA to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement is a setback in the consensus achieved on protecting the world environment. In this context, assess the future prospects on climate control. (2017/20)
5. Examine the main problems and challenges involved in looking after environmental world politics. (2016/20)
6. Critically evaluate the approaches of the odd global south towards addressing environmental concerns. (2014/15)
7. Compare and contrast Sino-India approaches to global environmental concerns. (2013/15)
8. Global commons belong to global society and require global attention. Comment. (2013/10)
9. Bring out linkages between environmental degradation and neocorporatism in the globalized era. (2012/15)
10. Discuss the different perspectives on global environment that have emerged in the context of the Copenhagen Summit. (2010/20)
11. Development in contemporary discourse has dimensions larger than just economics. Bring out the significance of the statement. (2007/60)
12. Sustainable Development. Comment. (2005/20)
13. The need for, and the hindrances to the development of a common global approach to ecological concerns. (2004/20)
14. Identify some of the major issues challenging the North-South countries. (2001/60)
15. Agenda 21 and after. Comment. (1999/20)
16. People are concerned about the degradation of the environment and the problems that go with it. Discuss the international response. (1998/60)
17. Technology and state sovereignty over water resources. Discuss. (1996/20)

11.4) GENDER JUSTICE

1. Give an assessment of the feminist critique of contemporary global issues. (2017/10)
2. Do you endorse that the conventional discourse on human rights has failed to include women's rights? Explain in the context of feminist theories. (2015/20)
3. 'The feminist approach to international politics is biased'. Comment. (2014/10)
4. Identify the role and place of gender in the global economy. (2013/15)
5. State the place of gender justice in the global political agenda. (2013/10)
6. Comment on the contribution of global feminism to the consolidation of global society. (2009/20)
7. In What sense has gender justice become an urgent global concern today? (2007/20)
8. Discuss the basic issues in movements for Gender Justice. (2005/20)

11.5) TERRORISM

Discuss the efficacy of global conventions to combat international terrorism.(Year:2022, marks:15)

1. Do you agree that the UN has failed to contain transnational terrorism? Elaborate your answer with examples. (2014/10)
2. Is 'terrorism' an essentially 'contested' concept ? What are the different manifestations of 'terrorism' as a concept, and as practice? (2012/20)
3. "Either terrorism triumphs or civilisation triumphs." Comment on the above statement. (2011/20)

11.6) NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. Discuss the implications of the Trump Kim Singapore summit on the prospects of denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. (2018/15)
2. Development of advanced missile technology and nuclear threat by North Korea is a challenge to the American hegemony in South East Asia. evaluate the above statements in the context of recent developments in the region. (2017/20)
3. Discuss the evolution of non proliferation of nuclear weapons in the post Cold War period. (2016/15)
4. What rules do norms, taboos and epistemic communities play in the context of nuclear proliferation? (2013/20)
5. Assess in detail the prospects of the emergence of a nuclear-weapons-free world. (2010/40)
6. What is the significance of the increasing global diffusion of nuclear and long range delivery vehicle technology? (2009/20)

PSIR Paper-II

Section B: India and the World

1) INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY

1.1) DETERMINANTS OF FOREIGN POLICY

Peaceful co-existence remains the cornerstone of India's foreign policy. Comment. (Year:2022, Marks:10)

Critically examine the major factors responsible for a turnaround in the trajectory of India's foreign policy in the post-cold war period. (Year:2022, Marks:15)

1. Explain the philosophical foundations of India's foreign policy. (2021/10)
2. Examine the increasing significance of maritime security in India's foreign policy. (2019/20)
3. Do you agree with the view that the Indian foreign policy is increasingly being shaped by the neoliberal outlook? Elaborate. (2018/10)
4. India is often said to have a rich strategic culture. Discuss. (2018/10)
5. India's current foreign policy marks a significant qualitative shift from that of the previous regimes. Discuss. (2018/10)
6. Examine the Indian National movement and geographical location of India as determinants of India's foreign policy. (2017/10)
7. Which determinant factors play an important role in making India's foreign policy? Illustrate with examples. (2016/10)
8. The social structure of a country influences its foreign policy making. How does the social structure of India impact the course and direction of its foreign policy? (2015/10)
9. Economic interest has emerged as the main component of India's foreign policy. Discuss the statement in the light of India's initiative to improve relations with China, Japan and the Central Asian republics. (2015/15)
10. Identify the elements of change in India's foreign policy. (2013/10)
11. Economic content of India's foreign trade is increasingly growing. Substantiate the statement with economic diplomatic engagement of India in the last decade. (2013/20)
12. What have been the main challenges to India's foreign policy in the last two decades? Are these essentially 'concerns' with domestic politics or 'strategic' issues? (2012/15)
13. Comment on the essential elements of India's foreign policy that are required to secure energy and security in the Indian Ocean region. (2012/12)
14. "India's policy in the post Cold War era is tilted towards pragmatism and wisdom." Discuss. (2011/30)
15. Domestic problems and Historic legacies, apart from other factors, constitute major strains on Indian foreign policy. Discuss this statement with suitable examples. (2009/60)
16. Analyze and evaluate the role of decision-making theory as a tool of foreign policy analysis. (2006/60)
17. India's Foreign Policy could have matched with the fast-changing international system. (2006/20)
18. Describe and assess the role and importance of Geopolitical and Geoeconomic factors in the determination of foreign policy of a country. (2005/60)
19. Comment on the Pre-independence origins of India's foreign policy. (2004/20)
20. Summit Diplomacy. Comment. (2000/20)
21. Evaluate the foreign policy of India with special reference Pakistan and China in the present context. (1998/60)
22. Discuss the role of idiosyncratic factors in foreign policy. (1996/20m)

1.2) INSTITUTIONS OF POLICY MAKING

1. How do the constituent states influence the foreign policy making process in India ? (2021/15)
2. Describe the structure and function of the National Security Council of India. What role does it play in the formulation of Indian foreign policy? (2020/10)
3. Examine the role of 'parliamentary diplomacy' in India's foreign policy. (2019/10)
4. Discuss the role of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in promoting India's soft power abroad. (2018/20)
5. How does the parliament determine and influence the making of India's foreign policy? (2015/10m)
6. "Federal units are critical in making India's foreign policy". Examine this statement with the role of West Bengal vis-à-vis Bangladesh. (2014/15m)
7. The Ministry of External Affairs is losing its importance in the making of India's foreign policy with the parallel rise of PMO. Explain. (2014/20m)
8. Assess the scope and importance of setting up the Public Diplomacy Division in the Ministry of External Affairs in strengthening India's Foreign Policy. (2012/20)
9. Explain the role of the Parliament in the shaping of 123 Agreement between India and the US on Civil-nuclear Cooperation. (2011/20)
10. Explain the impact of coalition politics on India's Foreign Policy since the late 1990s. (2011/30)

2) INDIA AND THE NON-ALIGNMENT MOVEMENT

1. "Non-alignment was little more than a rational strategy on the part of a materially weak India to maximize its interests with a bipolar distribution of global power." Comment. (2021/20)
2. Compare and contrast Non-alignment 1.0 with Non-alignment 2.0. (2019/10)
3. Comment on India's contribution to non alignment movement and its contemporary relevance. (2016/10)
4. Non alignment has been the basic principle of India's foreign policy since independence. Discuss its relevance in the contemporary context. (2015/10)
5. India's policy of Non-Alignment has been guided by the genius of the Indian people and their interests. Explain. (2014/15)
6. Do you think that Iran's 'victory in the NAM on the nuclear issue has brought in a new debate on the relevance of the Non-Aligned Movement? (2012/20)
7. "India's policy of non-alignment was based on both idealist and realist calculations." Comment. (2011/30)
8. Was there any domestic socio-political basis for India to pursue the policy of non-alignment? Discuss. (2007/20)
9. Give a critical estimate of India's role in the Non-Aligned Movement. (2006/20)
10. Comment: India as leader of Non-Aligned movement. (2005/20)
11. What were the major determinants of India's Foreign Policy of Non-alignment? Indicate the changes in India's Foreign Policy since the 1990's. (2004/60)
12. Critically examine the view that in the Post-Cold War era, India's policy of non-alignment has become irrelevant. (2003/60)
13. Discuss India's contribution to the growth and development of the Non-Aligned Movement. (2002/60)
14. Comment: India and Bandung Conference: Hope and Reality. (2001/20)
15. Has the Non-Alignment Movement lost its relevance in the present day situation? And how India has evolved its foreign policy goals to the changing international scenario? (2001/60)

3) INDIA AND SOUTH ASIA

3.1) REGIONAL COOPERATION

Discuss the ways and means to realise greater economic co-operation among the Member States of South Asia. (Year:2022, Marks:10)

Discuss the consequences of illegal cross-border migration in India's north-eastern region. (Year:2022, marks:15)

1. Why South Asia is considered as the world's politically and economically least integrated region? Explain. (2021/20)
2. Outline the reasons for the low volume of trade in the SAARC region. (2020/10)
3. What are the impediments in the development of the South Asian free trade area (SAFTA)? (2017/10)
4. Sometimes we visualize that SAARC's effort comes to halt because of various impediments to regional cooperation. Elaborate with reasonable examples of impediments. (2016/10)
5. Identify the constraints / challenges to the regional cooperation in South Asia. (2015/10)
6. Illustrate the issue of illegal cross-border migration in South Asia and its impact on regional alliances and bilateral relations. (2012/12)
7. Comment on the essential elements of India's foreign policy that are required to secure energy and security in the Indian Ocean region. (2012/12)
8. Discuss the implications of ethnicity and nation-building in South Asia, and their impact in the relations of states within South Asia. (2011/30)
9. Assess the problems being faced by India on account of illegal migration into the country. (2010/40)
10. Examine India's role in strategic terms with regard to the land-locked countries in South Asia. With regard to Nepal, to what extent has the involvement of major powers such as China, the US and the EU impacted India's strategic interests. (2009/60)
11. Analyse the basic causes of insurgency and terrorism in two majors areas that are affected in the country. In this regard, to what extent have state policies to counter terrorism been effective in these areas? (2009/60)
12. Domestic turmoil in neighbouring South Asian countries often constitutes a strain on Indian Foreign policy. Discuss with illustration. (2007/60)
13. SAARC: Problems and Prospects. Discuss. (2001/20)
14. Write a short note on SAARC. (1998/20)
15. Discuss the prospects of a free-trade area in South Asia. (1996/20)

3.2) INDIA-PAKISTAN RELATIONS

1. How does cross-border terrorism impede the achievements of peace and security in South Asia? (2020/10)
2. Despite the differences between India and Pakistan on various issues, the Indus water treaty has stood the test of time. In the light of this statement, discuss the recent developments over the issue. (2017/15)
3. Discuss the shift of India's foreign policy towards Pakistan in light of Pathankot incident. (2016/15)
4. River water disputes are emerging as a major source of irritation between India and its neighbours. Identify sources of conflicts and Suggest remedial measures. (2015/15)

5. What are the political and environmental contexts of the Siachen Glacier conflict? Comment on the possibility of environmental peace-keeping and collaborative arrangements being worked out with Pakistan on this aspect. (2012/20)
6. Critically review the progress of the India-Pakistan peace process since the Kargil War. (2007/60)
7. Explain the importance and limitations of recent Confidence Building Measures in Indo-Pak relations. (2005/60)
8. Indo-Pak relationship veers around the peaceful settlement of the Kashmir issue. Critically evaluate various alternatives for its solution (2000/60)
9. Discuss Islamic factors in Indo-Pak relations. (1996/20m/200w/5d)
10. It is said that India's bashing by its neighbouring countries is directly or indirectly linked to their internal social conflicts. Explain with the help of development of Indo-Pak and Indo- Sri Lankan relations. (1995/60)

3.3) INDIA NEPAL & INDIA BHUTAN RELATIONS

1. Discuss the future prospects of Indo-Nepal relations in the context of the recent publication of new Nepalese map wrongly claiming Indian territory. (2020/10)
2. The treaty of perpetual peace and friendship between India and Bhutan needs to be revised with more pragmatic, realistic obligations and responsibilities. Comment. (2017/10)
3. River water disputes are emerging as a major source of irritation between India and its neighbours. Identify sources of conflicts and suggest remedial measures. (2015/15)
4. Examine India's role in strategic terms with regard to the land-locked countries in South Asia. With regard to Nepal, to what extent has the involvement of major powers such as China, the US and the EU impacted India's strategic interests? (2009/60)
5. Comment on the distinguishing features of Indo-Nepal Relations. (2004/20)
6. Discuss some of the major issues of conflict and cooperation between India, Nepal and Bhutan. (1999/60)

3.4) INDIA - BANGLADESH RELATIONS

Discuss the steps required to realise 'hydro-co-operation' between India and Bangladesh. (Year:2022, Marks:10)

1. Write a brief analysis of the ethnic conflicts and cross-border migrations along India-Myanmar and India-Bangladesh borders. (2021/15)
2. Analyze the impact of hydropolitics on Indo-Bangladesh relations. (2020/10)
3. Ethnic conflicts and insurgency in North East India can be better managed by improving relations with neighboring countries. Substantiate the statement with suitable examples. (2015/10)
4. River water disputes are emerging as a major source of irritation between India and its neighbours. Identify sources of conflicts and suggest remedial measures. (2015/15)
5. Identify the persistent points of friction between India and Bangladesh at present. (2007/20)
6. Give an account of the major contending issues in Indo Bangladesh relations. Assess the prospects for greater cooperation between the two countries. (2004/60)
7. Discuss India's role in the independence of Bangladesh. (2003/20)
8. Discuss contending issue between India and Bangladesh. (1998/20)

3.5) INDIA - SRI LANKA RELATIONS

1. Discuss the role and consequences of IPKF in Sri Lanka. (2002/20)
2. It is said that India's bashing by its neighbouring countries is directly or indirectly linked to their internal social conflicts. Explain with the help of development of Indo-Pak and Indo- Sri Lankan relations. (1995/60)

3.6) INDIA - SOUTHEAST ASIA RELATIONS

What are the implications of 'Look- East' Policy on the north-eastern region of India ? (Year:2022, Marks: 15)

1. Discuss the strategic implications of India's 'Look East Policy' transforming into 'Act East Policy'. (2021/10)
2. How is India responding to the idea of Indo-Pacific? (2019/10)
3. Evaluate India's stand on the recent Rohingya refugee issue. (2018/10)
4. Analyze the significance of India's Look East policy in the light of concerns of the indigenous peoples of North East India. (2018/10)
5. What are the hopes and aspirations of the 'Look East policy of India? Explain (2016/15)
6. Ethnic conflicts and insurgency in North East India can be better managed by improving relations with neighbouring countries. Substantiate the statement with suitable examples. (2015/10)
7. Ethnic conflicts and insurgency in North East India can be better managed by improving relations with neighbouring countries. Substantiate the statement with suitable examples. (2015/10)
8. "Despite the potentialities, India's 'Look East Policy' requires a major course correction." Discuss. (2012/15)
9. Explain the major flaws in India's 'Look East Policy'. Is it possible to steer and implement the policy successfully in views of China's emergence as a high-tech power in Asia-Pacific? (2011/30)
10. Would it be to India's benefit if it were to pursue a more serious relationship with South-East Asia? Critically evaluate. (2010/40)
11. Do you think that India's Look East policy would help a common Asian market, unlike European common market? (2009/20)
12. What are the motivations for India's Look East Policy? (2007/20)
13. India's interest in ASEAN. Comment. (2005/20)
14. Comment on the prospects and problems of India's relations with South-East Asia. (2004/20)
15. Discuss Look East policy of India. (2002/20)
16. Council for Security Cooperation in Asia Pacific. Discuss. (1995/20)

4) INDIA AND THE GLOBAL SOUTH

4.1) RELATIONS WITH AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA

1. Identify the drivers of India's new interest in Africa. (2021/15)
2. How do the guiding principles of India-Africa relations seek to enhance harmony and mutual cooperation between India and Africa? (2020/20)
3. How is India pursuing her foreign policy objectives through the IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa) Dialogue Forum? (2019/10)
4. India's capacity building programs under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) has earned much Goodwill for it in Africa. Discuss. (2018/15)
5. India Research and Information System (RIS) for developing countries is a major initiative in the area of South-South Cooperation. Discuss. (2018/15)
6. Suggest measures so that India's partnership with Africa becomes a true symbol of South-South Cooperation, delivering clear cut economic and political divisions to both sides of the equation. (2017/20)
7. Discuss factors for the decline of India's presence in Latin America. (2015/15)
8. Identify India's contributions and assistance in the process of nation-building in South Africa. (2009/20)
9. Give a critical account of India's role in the affairs of the Third World countries. (2006/60)

10. Describe, explain and suggest improvement in the state of India's relationship with Latin America. (2004/60)
11. Discuss North-South conflict at Rio. (1997/20)
12. Give an analysis of India's Africa policy. (1997/60)

4.2) NIEO AND WTO NEGOTIATIONS.

Discuss the relevance of the demand for New International Economic Order (NIEO) in the present era of globalisation. (Year:2022, Marks:10)

1. Explain India's position on the waiver of intellectual property rights on COVID-19 vaccines in WTO. (2021/10)
2. India's coalition diplomacy with the WTO has earned it wide appreciation. What accounts for the success of India's coalition diplomacy? (2018/20)
3. Analyze the stalled progress of the Doha No round of WTO negotiations over the differences between the developed and developing countries. (2017/15)
4. Explain the concept of the North South divide and suggest how structural inequalities between the high wage, high investment industrial North and low wage, low investment predominantly rural South can be reduced. (2016/15)
5. 'The constant breakdown in WTO negotiations suggests too many disagreements in world politics.' Would you agree? (2008/60)
6. Does India's rise as a major market power in a globalized world mean that it is no longer concerned with the 'new international economic order' that it once championed ? Discuss. (2008/60)
7. Discuss India and the emerging International Economic Order. (2006/20)
8. How far have institutions like the WTO and IMF have influenced India's political and economic sovereignty? What has been India's response to these? (2005/60)
9. Comment: India and the WTO. (2004/20)
10. Discuss the New International Economic Order (NIEO). (2000/20)
11. Explain the role of the Third World countries in the promotion of NIEO. (1997/60)
12. Write a short note on India and the WTO. (1995/20)

5) INDIA AND THE GLOBAL CENTERS OF POWER

5.1) INDIA-USA

Explain the significance of Basic Exchange and Co-operation Agreement (BECA) for Indo-US strategic relations. (Year:2022, Marks: 10)

1. Discuss the significance of Indo-US strategic partnership and its implications for India's security and national defence. (2020/15)
2. How is the current stand-off between the USA and Iran affecting India's energy security? (2019/15)
3. Discuss the role of the Indian diaspora in promoting Indo-US relations. (2018/15)
4. The natural behaviour of India and the United States is likely to serve each other's interests. Hence a deliberate strategy of dovetailing their efforts will obviously benefit both. Elaborate. (2017/20)

5. Comment on India's growing relationship with the USA in the background of constrained relations between India and China. (2016/15)
6. Before the year 2000, the Indo-US relationship had been marked more with estrangement than cordiality. Why? (2015/20)
7. Do you agree with the view that the USA is off late willing to treat India as a partner rather than merely a camp-follower? Give reasons for your answer. (2014/10)
8. Examine India's response to the Af-Pak policy of the US. (2010/20)
9. Comprehensively examine the major development / trends in Indo-US relations since the early 1990s. Do you visualize the strengthening of ties between the two nations? Substantiate. (2007/60)
10. Examine the areas of cooperation and conflict in the Indo-American relations. (2003/60)
11. Examine Pakistan as a factor in Indo-American relations during the Cold War. (2001/60)
12. Examine the changing perspective of the US foreign policy towards South Asia in recent times and its implications for prospects of peace in the region. (1999/60)
13. Write a short note on Diego Garcia. (1997/20)
14. What, in your option, is the objective of the US policy in South Asia, status-quo or peaceful change? Examine the strategies adopted by Washington in this regard. (1995/60)

5.2) INDIA - EU

1. Explain Britain's ouster from the EU and bring out its consequences on the world economy in general in India in particular. (2016/20)
2. EU-India relations have a long way to go before they can purposely be termed strategic. Discuss. (2014/10)
3. Examine the nature of the issues currently being debated with the European Union. (2010/20)
4. Examine the trends in India's relations with the European Union. (2007/20)
5. Write a short note on India and the European Union. (2002/20)

5.3) INDIA - JAPAN

What are the main drivers of India-Japan Strategic and Global Partnership? (Year:2022, Marks:20)

1. Write about the growing significance of QUAD (2021/10)
2. What are the notable features of the recently concluded pact or the Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) between India and Japan? How is it likely to address the security concerns of India? (2020/15)
3. Do you agree that the growing assertiveness of China is leading to multi-layered Indo-Japan relations? Comment. (2018/15)
4. Do you subscribe to the idea that in the new evolving Asian dynamics Japan and India have not only moved closer in economic cooperation, but also in strategic partnership? (2017/15)
5. Evaluate the recent changes into Indo-Japan relations. (2014/20)
6. Examine the recent development in India Japan relationships. (2013/10)
7. Discuss the emerging areas of cooperation between India and Japan (2005/20)

5.4) INDIA - CHINA

Critically examine the rise of People's Republic of China (PRC) as a great and its implications on Asian Political order. (year 2022, Marks:20)

1. Examine the Geo-strategic points of contention in the bilateral relationship between India and China. (2021/15)
2. Explain the defence and foreign policy options of India to address the challenges emerging out of the current India-China standoff at the Line of Actual Control (LAC). (2020/20)
3. Describe briefly China's 'One Belt One Road (OBOR)' Initiative and analyze India's major concerns. (2019/20)
4. What are the current issues in Brahmaputra River water sharing between India and China? (2019/15)
5. Critically examine India's position on South China Sea Dispute. (2019/15)
6. Critically assess the evolving convergence of India and China in the areas of trade and environment. (2018/15)
7. How is the belt and road initiative of China going to affect India China relations? (2017/20)
8. Illustrate the main causes of tension between India and China. Suggest the possibilities of improving relationships. (2016/10)
9. Some of the major changes that occurred in India's foreign policy after the Sino India war in 1962 were within the larger framework of continuity. Discuss. (2014/15)
10. Is there any linkage between a shift in China's relations with Japan to a perceived shift in her relations with India? Examine in the light of China's so called 'anti-encirclement struggle.' (2012/12)
11. Do you think that India should sign a treaty with China on water-sharing of Brahmaputra River, similar to what she did with Nepal and other neighbouring states? (2011/20)
12. 'The relationship between India and China is characterized by high levels of conflict and cooperation. Comment. (2008/20)
13. Discuss the impact of the Sino-Indian conflict of 1962 on International Politics. (2003/20)
14. Examine the recent developments in Sino-Indian relations. (2002/60)
15. Examine China's foreign policy towards Pakistan in the present context. (1999/20)
16. Write a short essay on China and the Nuclear Weapons. (1997/20)
17. It is not ideological differences but national interests and considerations of leadership in world affairs that are responsible for Sino-Russian schism. Discuss the statements and show its impact on India. (1997/60)
18. Examine the changes in China's India policy in the 1990s. Do you attribute these changes to the altered global environment or to the domestic factors? (1996/60)
19. Discuss the economic determinants of Chinese foreign policy. (1995/20)

5.5) INDIA-RUSSIA

1. "Relations between India and Russia are rooted in history, mutual trust and mutually beneficial cooperation." Discuss. (2021/20)
2. The recent differences between India and Russia are the result of misconceptions rather than facts. Elucidate. (2017/15)
3. Analyze the drivers of Indo Russia relations in the post Cold War era. (2014/20)

4. Comment on the recent trends in Russia's foreign policy. (2010/20)
5. Discuss the present state of Indo-Russian relations. (2006/60)
6. Discuss the areas of cooperation between India and Russia. (2003/20)
7. Write a short note on Indo-Russian Summit 1997. (1999/20)
8. Russian foreign policy is described as the tyranny of the weak. Explain how judiciously Russia has made use of her weakness vis-a-vis the West and USA. (1996/60)
9. Russia and NATO. Comment. (1995/20)

6) INDIA AND THE UN SYSTEM

Explain the factors which justify India's claim for a permanent seat at the UN security council. (Year:2022, Marks:15)

1. Discuss the "Sustainable Development Goals" as set by the United Nations. (2021/15)
2. Explain the importance of India's claim for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. (2020/15)
3. Analyze the recent trends in India's role in the UN peacekeeping operations. (2019/15)
4. Discuss the various impediments in India's way to a permanent seat in the Security Council. (2018/15)
5. India has been the largest and consistent country contributing to the UN peacekeepers worldwide. Examine India's role in this perspective. (2017/10)
6. Uniting for Consensus also known as Coffee Club has opposed the claims of India and other countries for permanent membership of the UN security council. Point out their major objections. (2017/15)
7. Critically analyze China's role in international politics against India's demand for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. (2016/15)
8. The United Nations completed 70 years of its establishment in 2015. What reforms is India asking for to strengthen the global institution of governance and why? (2015/20)
9. Is India's quest for a permanent seat in the Security Council a possibility or just a pipe-dream? Elaborate on with reasons. (2014/10)
10. Evaluate India's participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations over the years. (2014/15)
11. Bring out the role played by Indian armed forces in UN peace-keeping efforts in various parts of the world. (2010/20)
12. "The UN today is more of a social service organisation than an exclusively security-oriented body." Critically examine. (2010/40)
13. Bring out India's perspectives and concerns on reform in the UN Security Council. (2010/20)
14. Outline India's contribution to UN peace-keeping activities. (2008/20)
15. Evaluate the role India has played in UN peace-keeping activities and the cause of global disarmament. (2005/60)
16. Examine India's claim for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. (2002/20)
17. Write a short note on India and the UN peacekeeping force. (2001/20)
18. Is the reforms of the UN and India's claim on the permanent seat in the Security Council rational and equally justifiable? Elucidate (2000/60)
19. Write a critical essay on the role of the Third World in international relations, especially in the United Nations. (1999/60)
20. Discuss India's claim to a permanent seat in the Security Council (1996/20)

7) INDIA AND THE NUCLEAR QUESTION

Discuss the reasons behind India's refusal to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT). (Year:2022, Marks:15)

1. Examine the evolution of India's role in the global nuclear order. (2021/15)
2. Discuss the efficacy of India's 'no first use' policy (nuclear weapons) in the context of the evolving strategic challenges from its neighbours. (2020/15)
3. Given the recent developments in the region, do you think that there is a need to change India's 'No First Use (NFU)' nuclear policy? (2019/15)
4. Nuclear non-proliferation treaty - NPT, has failed to achieve the ultimate objective of global nuclear disarmament. Discuss the deficiency in the provisions of NPT. (2017/15)
5. Critically analyze India's nuclear policy. (2016/10)
6. Explain the socio-economic impacts of arms race and identify the obstacles in the way of disarmament. (2016/20)
7. In 1998, India declared itself a nuclear weapons state. India refuses to sign NPT and CTBT. What would be the implications for India's nuclear policy in case it signs both the treaties? (2015/15)
8. Discuss the grounds for India's opposition to NPT. (2014/10)
9. Is India's nuclear doctrine a viable one? (2013/10)
10. What does the pace of nuclear proliferation in the post Cold War suggest? (2013/10)
11. "While India opposes NPT as discriminatory, it opposes CTBT on the ground of ineffectiveness." Comment. (2011/20)
12. Explain the role of the Parliament in the shaping of 123 Agreement between India and the US on Civil-nuclear Cooperation. (2011/20)
13. In the context of developments on the nuclear weapons front in the neighbourhood, do you think that any change in India's defence strategy is indicated? (2009/20)
14. The growth and possession of WMD has seriously undermined international security. Discuss. (2008/60)
15. Give arguments in defence of India's approach to Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). (2006/60)
16. Discuss India's claim for acceptance as a nuclear power. (2005/20)
17. Assess the merits of India's case against signing the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. (2003/60)
18. Critically examine India's objectives to CTBT and NPT. (2002/60)
19. India's opposition to the Non Proliferation Treaty: A realist paradigm. Discuss. (2001/20)
20. Explain India's role in global disarmament. (2001/60)
21. Write a short note on Peaceful Nuclear Explosions (PNE). (2000/20)
22. Comment: Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. (1999/20)
23. Comment: Use of nuclear energy. (1998/20)
24. Analyze the barriers to arm control. (1998/60)
25. Explain the differences between India and the USA on the question of CTBT. Why has India decided to link CTBT with the elimination of nuclear weapons? (1996/60)
26. Examine the issues raised in the context of renewal of NPT both by its advocates and its critics. (1995/60)

8) RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY

Discuss the role of public diplomacy in the enhancement of India's global standing. (Year:2022, Marks:10)

How does India-Israel bilateral ties reflect the autonomy of India's foreign policy choices? (Year:2022, Marks:20)

Discuss India's vision of a New World order in the 21st century. (Year:2022, Marks:15)

1. How does the recent takeover of Afghanistan by Taliban impact India's strategic interests (2021/10)
2. "The war in Afghanistan is crucial from the point of view of India's national security. If the Americans withdraw and Jihadis emerge with a sense of triumphalism, India will face an increasing onslaught of terrorism." Comment. (2020/20).
3. Identify the key sectors of cooperation between India and Israel since 2014. Examine their significance in strengthening the bilateral ties between the two countries. (2020/15)
4. Critically examine the role of India in shaping the emerging world order. (2020/15)
5. "The growing closeness between India and Israel will strengthen the cause of Palestine." Comment. (2019/10)
6. Write a brief note on India's interests in West Asia. (2019/15)
7. Evaluate India's vision of a new world order. (2019/20)
8. Do you think that India's capacity building role in Afghanistan has shrunk the strategic space for Pakistan there? Discuss. (2018/20)
9. Has the recent Indo Israeli relationships given a new dynamics to India's stand on Palestinian statehood? (2017/10)
10. Vision of the new world order has emerged as the major objective of India's foreign policy. Discuss the policy initiative taken by India in this regard and challenges faced by it. (2015/20)
11. Discuss the realistic foreign policy initiatives taken by India to balance its relations between Israel and the Arab World. (2015/15)
12. Discuss the humanitarian role played by India in the crisis-stricken Gulf countries of Yemen and Iraq. (2015/15)
13. Afghanistan is a litmus test for India's ascendancy as a regional and global power. Discuss. (2014/10)
14. Examine the implications of turmoil in Iraq and West Asia for India's security and foreign policy concerns. (2014/15)
15. In the history of foreign policy, seldom have relations between any two nations blossomed as fast as they have in the case of India and Israel. Discuss. (2014/15)
16. Is it correct to conclude that the 'Arab Street' revolutions have radically altered the political power scenario of the West Asian countries? (2012/12)
17. To what extent is multilateralism a reality with regard to India's constructive strategic partnership with Central Asian states? (2011/30)
18. Can Israel be termed a 'natural ally' of India? (2010/20)
19. To what extent is India's policy in regard to Afghanistan dictated by a vision of the Global South, rather than compulsions? (2009/20)
20. Write a short note on the Oil crisis and its impact on India's development strategy. (2006/20)
21. Examine the Israel-Arab conflict as a conflict of interest between the USA and the Soviet Union. (2000/60)
22. Comment: The Gulf Crisis 1991 - 92. (1999/20)
23. Comment: Palestine-Israel conflict in the present context. (1998/20)
24. Discuss West Asia Peace Conference at Madrid, 1991 (1997/20)
25. Write a short note on Hamas and peace in West Asia. (1996/20)