CURRENT EVENTS of Global and National Importance

Study Material for Civil Service Aspirants

Dr. Manan Dwivedi, Faculty, IR and IO, IIPA

Table of Contents

National Importance Themes…….

Chapter 1: Democracy and Polity

In a democracy, there is nothing more important than the credibility of the electoral process. Recently, many political parties in India have been seeking for a return to

the ballot paper.

EVMs have brought a structure to the electoral process that did not exist during the ballot paper days when the number of invalid votes would often be high and incidents of booth capturing were a common phenomenon. However, recently the transparency and efficacy of EVMs have been questioned. The Election Commission of India faces the following challenges in this regard:

☐ To prove to the electorate and the parties that the EVMs are not manipulated and tempered.

- The EVM s are selected by computers on the principle of randomization which does not allow a prior knowledge or planned setting for a particular EVM in particular constituency or at a particular polling booth. But, the challenge before the commission is to account for the authenticity of these processes.
  - It is also being opined that the present EVMs are not technologically advanced and secure.
  - Ensuring an independent and robust verification system in the whole exercise of manufacturing and placement of EVMs and registeration and counting of votes.
  - Though EC has decided to use Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) machines in all future elections, it is yet to take a decision on tallying all votes cast through EVMs. So far, it has only ordered recounting of VVPAT slips on pilot basis.
  - In recently concluded by-elections (e.g. in Kairana Lok Sabha by-elections) there were reports of last minute glitches with EVM and VVPAT which raises doubt about their functioning.
  - Another challenge is to procure required VVPAT without delay for the Lok Sabha elections2019.
  - Considering the complexity VVPAT is introducing in to electoral process there is need for competent polling officers.
  - VVPATs are very complicated and slight mishandling can resultinfailure. E.g. In Meghalaya Assembly by polls more than 33 per cent VVPATs failed as the paper used was not suitable for the humid weather there.

Chapter 2: Mob Violence

Rule of Law and such attendant Incidents

Over the past few years, there have been increasing incidents of loss of life and property due to mobviolence–whether it be inJ harkhand over rumours of child kidnapping, in UP and Rajasthan by cow vigilantes, in Kashmir by violent crowds or over reservation by Jats in Haryana. Mob violence can be seen as a reflection of thedisplacement of responsibility by the state, which blames people for taking law into thei rown hands, and by citizens,who justify their actions on state inaction.

Causes for Increasing Mob Violence

o Motivated rumours spread through social media which acts as an anonymous force multiplier.

o Climate of impunity - Mob violence and vigilantism happens because criminals expect to getaway withit. State deterrence is not perceived to be credible, especially when policemen are rendered as mereby-standers at the scene of violence.

- General erosion of law and order situation - inadequate response to societal disorder and its inability to aggressively prosecute those involved in vigilante killings further encourages mob violence.
- Silence by society –People who are mute witnesses to such incidents, are just responsible when they stay away from expressing their disapproval to such incidents for the fear of being caught in the cross-fire.

Consequences of increasing Mob Violence

- There is deficit of justice when incidents of lynching across states happen,without those Responsible being held accountable.
- There is perversion of democracy, which confers upon the people an absolute monopoly on violence.
- Mob Violence threatens the very existence of dignified and meaningful existence in India enshrined in one of the Fundamental rightsi.e. **"RighttoLife"**(Art21). Therefore, there is need for comprehensive police reforms and efficient criminal justice delivery system which acts as a deterrence to people from resorting to mob violence in the name of justice.

Chapter 3-The unlawful activities (Prevention) Act, (UAPA), 1967 and the NIA Act.

More Details

The Union Government by amending NIAA ct and UAPA Act seeks to provide **more powers to India's anti-terror agency** and **expand the scope of India's anti-terror law,** there by providing a **big push to India's internal security machinery**.

Under the **UAPAAct**, the Central Government can designate an organization as a terrorist organisation if it commits or participates in acts of terrorism; promotes terrorism; or is otherwise involved in terrorism. Currently, only an organisation can be declared a terrorist. The amendment allows government to **designate individuals** suspected to have terror links as**'terrorists'**.

Likewise, the amendment to **NIA Act** widens the powers of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to investigate crimes related to human trafficking, counterfeit currency, dealing in prohibited arms, and cyber-terrorism. These were earlier under State police. NIA can also investigate a crime irrespective of its place of occurrence.

These amendments are in pursuance of the government's **zero-tolerance policy against terrorism**. These hold significance in the context to the prevailing security environment.

☐ Terrorism emanating from Pakistan has been a consistent challenge whereby terrorist organizations have been devising new methods to threaten the stability of the region.

Chapter 4: Anti Terrorism Day, 2022

It is recommended by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare that while organising a programme for the occasion, it is imperative to follow preventive measures like maintaining social distance, wearing masks, sanitising hands, etc., in view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The objective of the day is to promote national harmony, mitigate terrorism, and unity among people of all caste, creeds, and sex. The day holds importance when it comes to 'terrorism'.

The day spread awareness about the violence caused by the terrorists. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it will be observed with precautions. MHA has advised that the 'Anti-Terrorism Pledge" may be taken solemnly by the Officials in their rooms/offices itself, keeping in view the safety of participants and organisers and avoiding public gatherings.

- This often included formation of new terrorist outfit by the individuals if their previous organisation was banned. This issue emerged during India's efforts to designate Masood Azhar as terrorist when some foreign diplomats questioned India's domestic law which didn't provide for individual's designation. Now, declaring an individual as a terrorist will help the government to deal with such situations.

- Besides, there is growing menace of terror financing and organized crimes like human trafficking, cyber terrorism etc. An empowered NIAis a good step in this direction

However, human rights organizations allege that these amendments violate the basic human rights and seek to **create a police state**.

- The UAPA does not clearly define a 'terrorist act'.

- The **presumption of innocence** is considered a universal human rights principle but the UAPA creates a presumption of guilt for terrorist offences based on the seized evidence.

- Moreover, there is no set procedure for designation as a terrorist. By excluding judiciary and empowering the executive to designate, it dilutes the difference between a terrorist and a terror accused.

- Similarly, the term **'affecting the interest of India'** in NIA act is undefined and the civil society fears that it can be used to curb freedom of speech and expression.

Thus, though the changes are required to meet the prevailing security environment, the policy framework dealing with terrorism must incorporate the state duty to protect against human rights abuses and greater access of victims to remedies. Apart from dealing with terrorism, emphasis should be on to improve the functioning of the police force and to make India's judicial mechanism faster.

Chapter 5

International Museum Day 2022

International Museum Day 2022: It is observed on May 18th annually to spread awareness about museums, which are the means of cultural exchange, the development

of mutual understanding, cooperation, and peace among people. Take a look at this year's theme for some interesting quotes, wishes, and messages to share.

International Museum Day 2022: Museums help to preserve and promote our cultural heritage, are a good source of entertainment, and are a storehouse of old artifacts, sculptures, objects, history, etc. Also, museums help in research and study; they are the main attraction for tourists and a good source of knowledge. Every year, International Museum Day is celebrated on May 18. As per ICOM, in 2021, more than 37,000 museums participated in the event in about 158 countries and territories.

Chapter 5

HIV Vaccine Awareness Day 2022:

It is observed on May 18 annually across the world to spread awareness and provide information about AIDS and its immunisation. The day also highlights the importance of the vaccine to prevent HIV infection. It also provides a chance to thank community members, volunteers, health professionals, and scientists for working together to find a safe and effective preventive HIV vaccine. As we know that after so much research, still there is not a vaccine for AIDS/HIV.

The day also educates people about the disease of AIDS and the HIV vaccine. Human immunodeficiency virus or HIV infects cells of the immune system in the body which leads to a life-threatening condition or AIDS. According to WHO, 37.9 million [32.7–44.0 million] people were living with HIV at the end of 2018. Therefore, educating people about AIDS precautionary measures and misconceptions is important.

Chapter 6

What is AIDS?

AIDS is Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome. That is *Acquired* - This condition is acquired that is a person becomes infected with a **virus**. *Immuno* - Virus HIV affects the immune system of the person. *Deficiency* - The person's immune system becomes weak and not able to work properly. *Syndrome* - It may happen that a person suffering from AIDS may also experience other diseases due to a weak immune system.

In 1981, AIDS was first reported in the United States and since then becomes a worldwide epidemic. We can say that AIDS is the most advanced stage of infection caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). A person suffering from HIV infection is said to have AIDS when his or her immune system becomes so weak that it can't fight other kinds of infections and cancers like PCP a type of pneumonia, KS is Kaposi sarcoma which is a type of cancer that affects the skin and internal organs, TB, etc. It is also seen that even without these infections a person is diagnosed with HIV infection or AIDS if his or her immune system weakens, as is indicated by the number of *CD4 cells* in his or her **blood.**

Chapter 7

What are CD4 cells?

HIV virus attacks immune cells known as CD4 cells which are a type of T cell. These are white blood cells that move around the body, defecting faults and anomalies in cells as well as infections. When HIV targets and infiltrates these cells, it reduces the ability of the body to combat other diseases.

Do you know that if the CD4 **cell** count is less than 200 then the person is given a diagnosis of AIDS? It may take 2 to 10 years or longer for someone with HIV to develop

AIDS if he or she is not treated. It is also seen that most people with HIV will not develop AIDS if they start proper treatment soon after becoming infected.

So, we can say that the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is an infection that can lead to AIDS. It damages the immune system due to which it becomes easy to get sick.

Chapter 8: Causes of HIV

HIV is transmitted in the body through:
- Blood
- Semen
- Vaginal secretions
- Anal fluids
- Breast milk

It is also said that if a woman suffering from HIV infection is pregnant and gave **birth** to a child then might be the disease also transferred to her child during pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding. The risk of HIV transmission through blood transfusions is extremely low in countries that have effective screening procedures in place for blood donations.

Chapter 9: Symptoms of HIV infection

Several people do not show symptoms of suffering from HIV infection until months or even years. Also, around 80% of people may develop a set of flu-like symptoms known as acute retroviral syndrome around 2 to 6 weeks after the virus enters the body.

Some early symptoms are:
- Fever
- Joint Pain
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- **Enlarged glands**
- Sweating particularly at night
- Red rashes on the body
- Tiredness

-   Weakness
- Unintentional Weight loss etc.

Chapter 11: Is AIDS a curable disease?

Currently, there is no safe cure for HIV. Once HIV enters your body it can't be removed but Antiretroviral therapy (ART) can prevent or reverse the damage to your immune system. Most people stay healthy if they are adherent to ART. There are several other drugs that can prevent or treat opportunistic infections (OIs). It is also seen that ART has also reduced the rate of most OIs. Drugs may help in reducing the infection but they can't be cured properly.

Chapter 12: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID)

NIAID provides training opportunities at a broad level to individuals from several educational backgrounds ranging from high school to postdoctoral level. It is also committed to conducting HIV/AIDS research to prevent new infections, end HIV-related deaths, and complications, and discover a cure.

Therefore, HIV/AIDS Awareness Vaccine Day is observed on 18 May to spread awareness about the infection caused due to the HIV virus which may lead to AIDS. It is necessary to educate people so that they can take proper treatment, and precautions when needed.

Chapter 13: How Genetics define the hereditary characteristics of human?

The fundamental characters which easily transmit generation to generation from their parents are called genetic character and the processes of transmission of such heredity and the studies of their causes are called Genetics. Gregor John Mendel is known as Father of Genetics who made the scientific study of heredity and genetic theory. He established the principles of segregation, dominance and independent assortment which became the most fundamental basis of the science of genetics.

Chapter 14: Fundamentals of Genetics

he fundamental characters which easily transmit generation to generation from their parents are called genetic character and the processes of transmission of such heredity and the studies of their causes are called Genetics. Gregor John Mendel is known as 'Father of Genetics' who made the scientific study of heredity and genetic theory. His method was based on cross breeding of various kinds of the garden peas that had the opposing pairs of obvious traits. He established the principles of segregation, dominance and independent assortment which became the most fundamental basis of the science of genetics. Gene (factor by Mendel) is the core component of chromosome which carries heredity characteristic.

Chapter 15:
Mendel's Experiment

Gregor J. Mendel studied the various pea plants through the cross breeding and propounded a comprehensive theory on the basis of genetic heredity which is called Mendel's law of Inheritance. He had randomly selected seven pairs of pea's species in which it was seen the inheritant characteristic of the one pair suppressed the inheritant characteristic of another pair in his experiment. The first pair he called as Dominant written with a capital letter like for tallness 'T' and another pair as Recessive written with small letter as for Dwarfnes 't' which are responsible for the heredity as genetic symbol.

According to Mendel there are two factors to express the same inheritant characteristic in every reproductive cell and whenever these two factors are same then it is called Homozygous but when these two are opposite then it is called Heterozygous. He studied

one or two pair species of opposite characteristic to diagonise the hereditary characteristics of the cross breeded species. So, one pair cross is Monohybrid Cross and two pair is Dihybrid Cross.

Chapter 16: Monohybrid Cross and law of segregation

Inheritance is the transmission of genetically controlled characteristics from one generation to the next. In this we will discuss about the inheritance of single characteristic or trait such as plant height. (i) Mendel first crossed pure-breed tall pea plants with pure-breed dwarf pea plant and found that only tall plants were produced in the first generation or F1 generation. No dwarf pea plants were obtained in the first progeny.

Parental Cross

Parents' phenotype (Appearance) ⟶ Tall plant   ×   Dwarf plant

Factors of inheritance ⟶   TT   tt

Gametes ⟶   (T)   (T)   (t)   (t)
(Formed from separation of factors)

Crossing of gametes ⟶
during fertilisation

F₁ generation genotype ⟶   Tt   Tt   Tt   Tt

F₁ generation phenotype ⟶   Tall   Tall   Tall   Tall

(All tall plants)
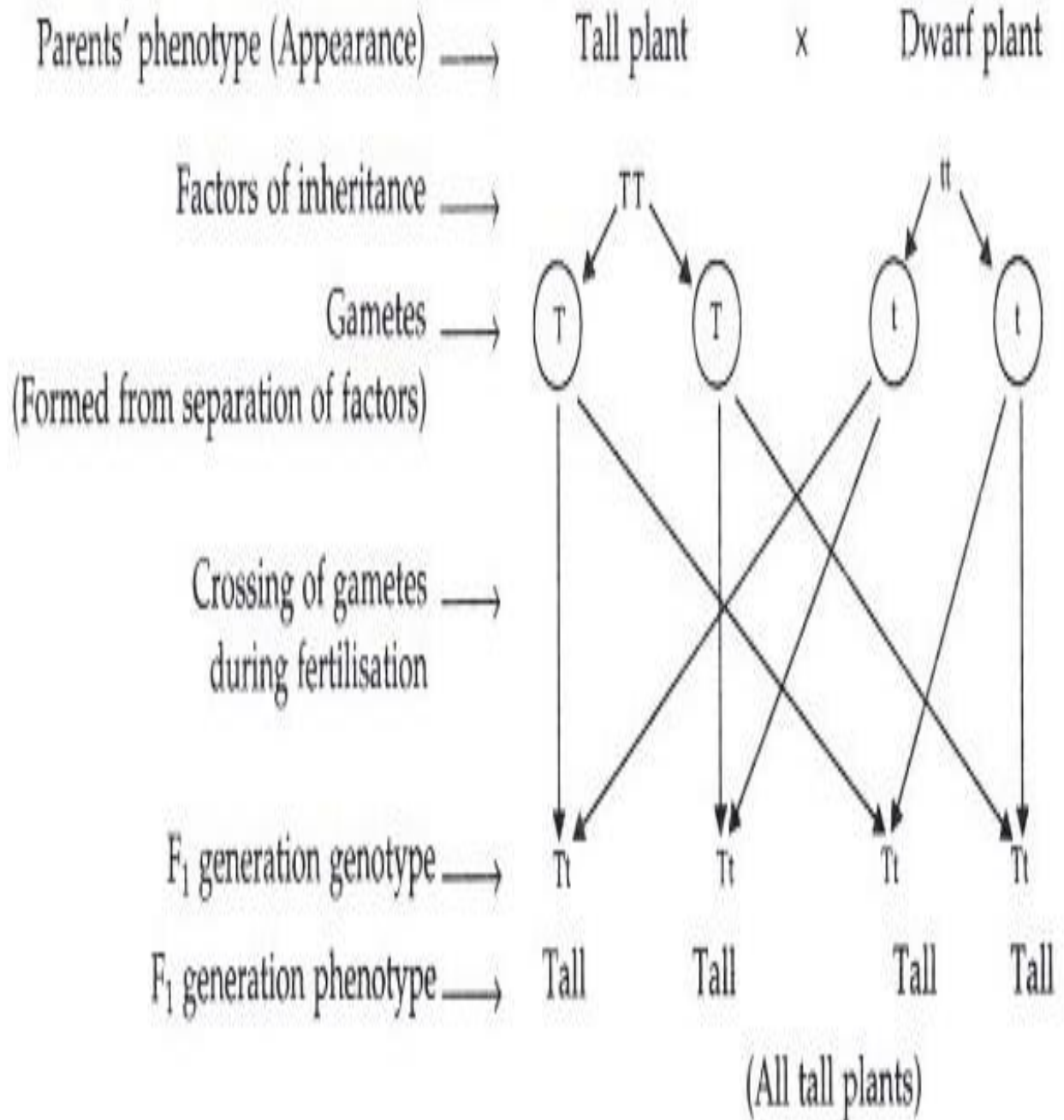
(ii) Mendel then crossed the tall pea plant of F1 generation and found that tall and dwarf plants were obtained in the second generation ie F2 generation in the ratio of 3:1.

F₁ Cross

F₁ generation phenotype (Appearance) →	Tall plant	×	Tall plant
Factors of inheritance →	Tt		Tt
Gametes → (Formed from separation of factors)	(T) (t)		(T) (t)
Cross of gametes → during fertilisation			
F₂ generation genotype →	TT Tt		Tt tt
F₂ generation phenotype →	Tall Tall		Tall Dwarf

(Three tall and one dwarf plant)
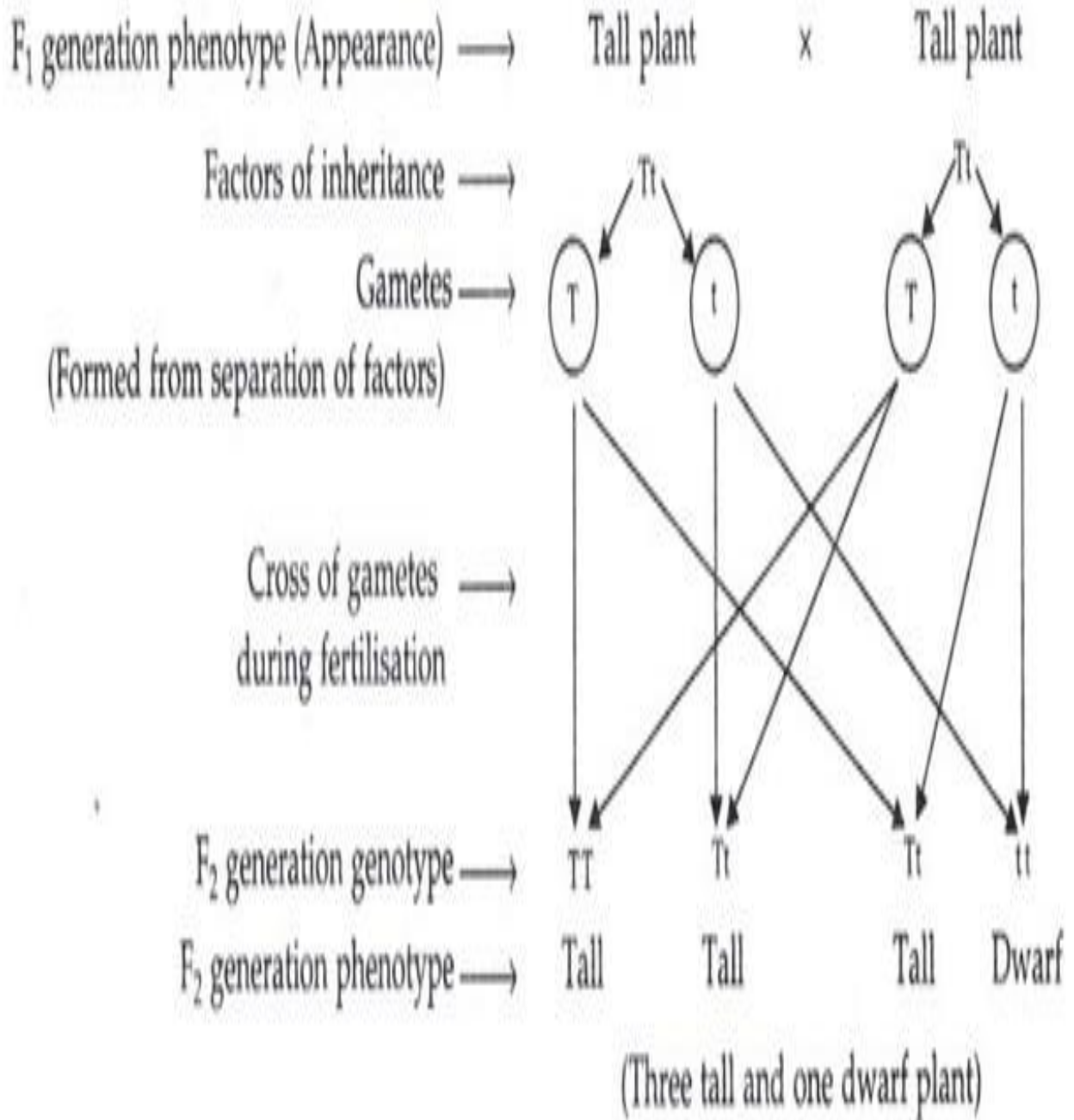
The ratio 3:1 is known as Monohybrid ratios i.e. 3 (tall) and 1(dwarf).

According to Mendel's first law of inheritance is the characteristic of an organism are determined by internal 'factors' which occur in pairs. Only one of a pair of such factors can be present in a single gamete.

2. Dihybrid Cross and Law of Independent Assortment

This involves the inheritance of two pairs of contrasting characteristics chosen by Mendel were shape and colour of seeds: round-yellow seeds, and wrinkled – green seeds.

Chapter 17: How are characteristics or traits transmitted to Progeny?

The characteristics or traits of parents are transmitted to their progeny (offsprings) through genes present on their chromosomes during the process of sexual reproduction. As genes work in pairs one is dominant and other one is recessive and each parent possesses a pair of genes for each characteristic on a pair of chromosomes. Thus, the male and female gamete carries one gene for each characteristic from the gene pairs of parents. But when male and female gamete fuses during fertilization zygote is formed, which grows and develops to form a new organism having characteristics from both parents which it has inherited through genes.

Chromosome pair

Genes

Gene for tallness (T)

Gene for dwarfness (t)

Different forms of same gene
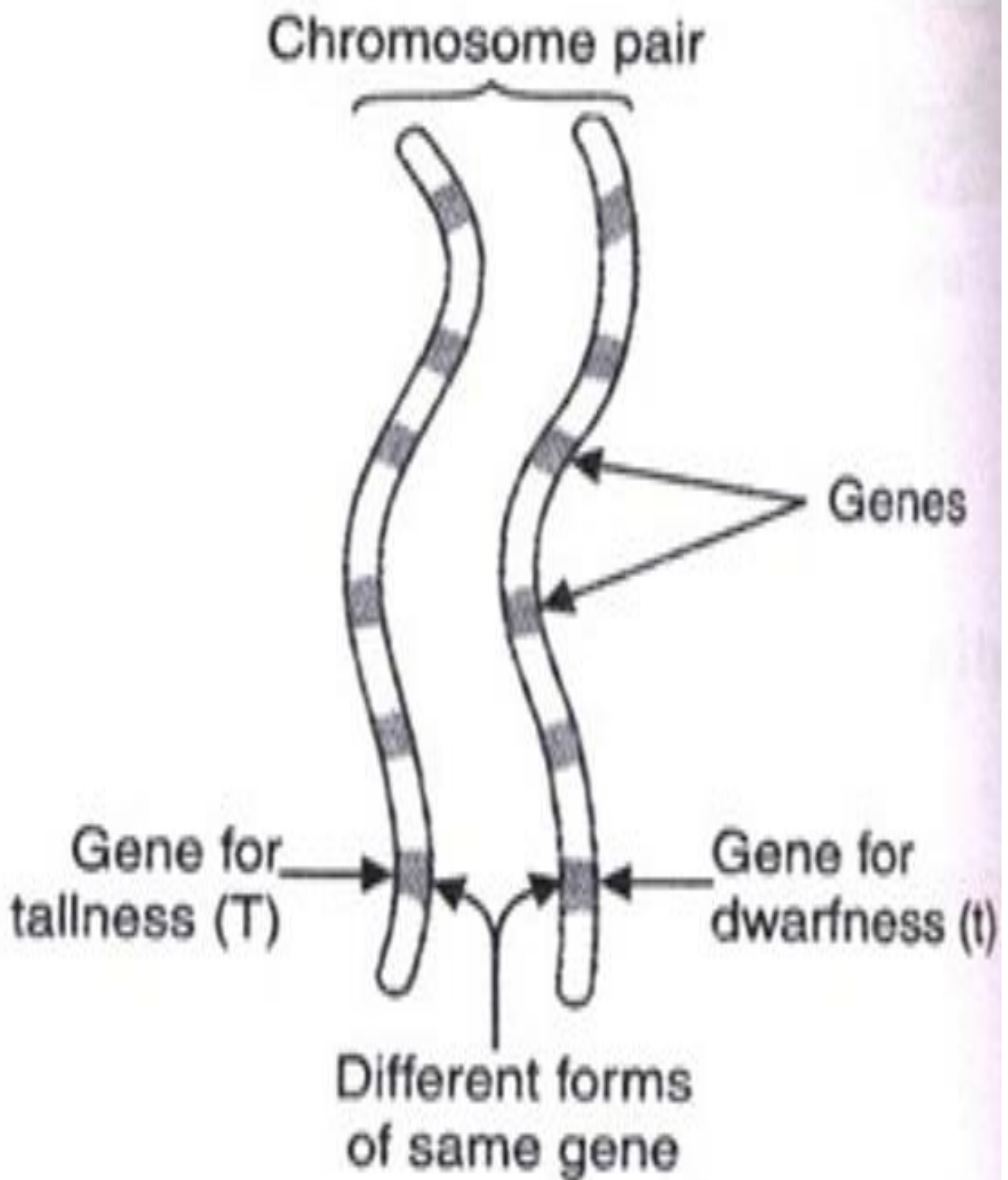
Please note that though the progeny inherits two genes or a pair of genes for each trait from its parents but the trait shown by the progeny depends on which inherited gene is dominant of the two.

Chapter 18: Gene Function and nature

A gene is the section of DNA on a chromosome which codes for the formation of a protein controlling a specific characteristic of the organism. Suppose a plant progeny has gene for the characteristic called 'tallness'. Now, the gene for tallness will give instructions to the plant cells to make a lot of plant growth hormones. And due to this, the plant will grow too much and hence become tall and if the plant has a set of gene for dwarfness, then less plant growth hormone will be produced and remain short and become dwarf. Just like plants the characteristics in animals are also transmitted from the parents through genes by the process of sexual reproduction.

Chapter 19: How Blood groups are inherited?

There are four Blood Groups in a person: A, B, AB or O. This blood group system is controlled by a gene which has three different forms denoted by the symbols IA, IB and IO. The genes IA and IB show no dominance over each other. So, they are co-dominant, but dominant over the gene IO. In other words, the blood gene I0 is recessive in relation to genes IA and IB. Although there are three gene forms (called alleles) for blood, but a person can have only two of them. So, the blood group of a person depends on which two forms of the genes he possesses.

(i) If the genotype (gene combination) is IAIA, then the blood group of the person is A. And if the genotype is IA I0 even then the blood group is A (because I0 is a recessive gene).

(ii) If the genotype is IBIB, then the blood group of the person is B. And if the genotype is IB IO even then the blood group is B (because IO is a recessive gene).

(iii) If the genotype is IAIB, then the blood group of the person is AB.

(iv) If the genotype is IOIO, then the blood group of the person is O.

Chapter 20: Buddha Purnima 2022:

Buddhism is one of the major religions and philosophical systems of southern and eastern Asia and the world. Followers of Buddhism are known as Buddhists. All forms of Buddhism celebrate several events in the life of Buddha Gautama, consisting of his birth, enlightenment, and passage into nirvana. The day marks the birth anniversary of Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. On this day Gautama Buddha attained enlightenment. The festival falls on a full moon night between April and May and this year it will be celebrated on May 16.

Chapter 21: The Jammu and Kashmir Act

On 5th August 2019, President of India in the exercise of the powers conferred by Clause (1) of Article 370 of **the Constitution had issued the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019**. Through this, Government of India has made modifications in Article 370 itself **(not revoked it)**. With this, the Government of India has dramatically **altered the relationship between the state of Jammu and Kashmir and the Indian Union**.

Chapter 22: Background of Article 370

- On October 17, 1949, Article 370 was added to the Indian constitution, as a **'temporary provision'**, which exempted Jammu & Kashmir, permitting it to draft its own Constitution and restricting the

Indian Parliament's legislative powers in the state.

- It was introduced into the draft constitution by N Gopalaswami Ayyangar as Article 306 A.

- **Under Article 370:** The Constituent Assembly of Jammu & Kashmir was empowered to recommend which articles of the Indian Constitution should apply to the state,

  - The J&K Constituent Assembly was dissolved after it drafted the state's constitution. **Clause 3 of the article 370** gives the President of India the power to amend its provisions and scope.

- **Article 35A** stems from Article 370 and was introduced through a Presidential Order in 1954, on the recommendation of the J&K Constituent Assembly.

  - Article 35A empowers the Jammu & Kashmir legislature to define the **permanent residents of the state**, and their special rights and privileges.

  - **It appears in Appendix I of the Constitution.**

Chapter 23: Key Changes in Article 370

- The Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019 **has replaced Presidential Order of 1954**.

- Subsequently, **the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, 2019**, passed by Parliament divides the **state of Jammu and**

Kashmir into two new Union Territories (UTs): Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

- o **This is the first time that a state has been converted into a UT.**

- o Of the **six Lok Sabha seats** currently with the state of Jammu and Kashmir, **five** will remain with the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, while one will be allotted to Ladakh.

- o **The UT of Jammu and Kashmir will have an Assembly, like in Delhi and Puducherry.**

- o Instead of 29, India will now have 28 states. Kashmir will no longer have a Governor, rather a Lieutenant Governor like in Delhi or Puducherry.

Chapter 25: Status of J&K Union Territory

- o J&K Assembly will have a **five-year term, not six**, as was the earlier case.

- o **Section 32 of the J&K 2019** Bill proposes that the Assembly can make laws on any subjects in the State and Concurrent lists **except on state subjects relating to "public order" and "police"**.

- This is **similar to Article 239 A** of the Constitution that is applicable to Union Territories of Puducherry and Delhi.

- However, **by insertion of Article 239AA** and by virtue of the **69th Constitutional Amendment, the Delhi Assembly cannot legislate on matters in entry 18 of the State List, i.e. land**.

- **In the case of J&K, the Assembly can make laws on land.**

▪ **The special status provided to J&K under Article 370 will be abolished.**

  o Jammu & Kashmir will **no longer have the separate constitution, flag or anthem**.

  o The citizens of Jammu and Kashmir will **not have dual citizenship**.

  o As the new union territory of Jammu and Kashmir will be subject to the Indian Constitution, **its citizens will now have the Fundamental Rights** enshrined in the **Indian constitution**.

  o Article 360, which can be used to declare a **Financial Emergency, will now also be applicable**.

  o **All laws passed by Parliament** will be applicable in Jammu and Kashmir, including the **Right to Information Act and the Right to Education Act**.

  o **The Indian Penal Code will replace the Ranbir Penal Code of Jammu and Kashmir.**

- o **Article 35A,** which originates from the provisions of Article 370 **stands null and void**.

  - Since Presidential Order has extended all provisions of the Constitution to Jammu and Kashmir, including the chapter on Fundamental Rights, **the discriminatory provisions under Article 35A will now be unconstitutional**.

Chapter 26: The Need for Changes

- Article 370 was added in the Indian constitution to **provide autonomy to J&K**.

  - o However, it failed to address the well-being of Kashmiris who have now endured **two generations of insurgency and violence**.
  - o It **contributed to the gap** between Kashmir and the rest of the nation.

- **International events**

  - o The situation emerging in the western neighbourhood and the possible **re-ascendance of the Taliban in Afghanistan** call for greater attention and care.

  - o More so, the emerging geopolitical dynamics in Afghanistan and the resultant **United States-Pakistan rapprochement** could

have potentially led to more heat on the Kashmir situation in the months ahead.

Chapter 28: Challenges before the Reformers

- **Constitutional challenges**

  - Presidential order that sought to abrogate of Jammu and Kashmir's special status, according to Article 370 (3) the President would **require the recommendation of the constituent assembly of Jammu and Kashmir to make such a change**.

  - However, **the 2019 Presidential order adds a sub-clause to Article 367, replacing** the terms:

    - **"Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir" to mean "legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir".**

    - **"Government of Jammu and Kashmir" to mean "Governor of Jammu and Kashmir acting on the aid and advice of the council of ministers".**

  - The government sought to dilute the autonomy under Article 370 **without bringing a Constitutional Amendment** that would require a two-thirds majority in the Parliament.

    - **This provision is currently under challenge in the Supreme Court on the ground that it added article 35A in**

the Indian Constitution only through a Presidential Order.

- Conversion of Jammu and Kashmir into a Union Territory is in **violation of Article 3, as the Bill was not referred to the President by the State Assembly**.

  o In the reorganisation of the state, the Presidential order also requires the concurrence of the government of the state. However, since Jammu & Kashmir is **currently under Governor's rule, the Governor's concurrence is deemed to be the government's concurrence**.

- **Chapter 29: Federalism issue**

  o The **Instrument of Accession** was like a treaty between two sovereign countries that had decided to work together.

    - The **maxim of pacta sunt servanda** in international law, which governs contracts or treaties between states, asks that promises must be honoured.

  o In Santosh Kumar v. State of J&K & ors (2017), the **SC said that due to historical reasons, Jammu and Kashmir had a special status**.

- In SBI v Zaffar Ullah Nehru (2016), the SC held that **Article 370 cannot be repealed without the concurrence of the Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir**.

Chapter 30: Possible Consequences

- **Rise in Militancy:** Article 370 was seen by Kashmiris as a marker of their **separate identity and autonomy**.

  - There is a **possibility of widespread protests and violence** as a reaction to the dilution of Article 370.

  - **Terror elements in Pakistan** would find Kashmir to be the most fertile ground for breeding terrorism.

  - The unrest can affect the democratic progress that has been made so far.

- **Out-maneuvering Pakistan:** Pakistan used 370 to wage a **proxy war,** internationalise Kashmir, supporting terrorism, **all that is gone** now.

Chapter 31:Way Forward

- A 10-year strategy for **education, employment and employability** should be deployed for uplifting Kashmir.

- The **Gandhian path** of non-violence and peace should be adopted to solve the **legitimacy crisis** in Kashmir.

- The government can mitigate the challenges emanating out of Action on article 370 by launching a comprehensive outreach programme to all Kashmiris.

- **In this context, Atal Bihari Vajpayee's version of Kashmiriyat, Insaniyat, Jamhooriyat (inclusivity culture of Kashmir, humanitarianism and democracy) for Kashmir solution,** should become a cornerstone of the forces of reconciliation in the State.

Chapter 32: Terror Spectacle

Alamgir looks after JeM's fund collection activities from Pakistani nationals and routes the funds to Kashmir in India. "Alamgir has been involved in facilitating infiltration of Afghan cadres and coordinating terror attacks on Indian security forces in Jammu and Kashmir...the central government believes that Mohiuddin Aurangzeb Alamgir is involved in terrorism and should be notified as a terrorist under the said Act," said the notification.

Forty CRPF personnel were killed in the attack allegedly coordinated by Pakistan-based JeM in Kashmir. The home ministry said in a notification that Alamgir alias Mujahid Bhai is a senior member of the banned terrorist group and is a resident of Bahawalpur in Pakistan. "Mohiuddin Aurangzeb Alamgir has been involved in Pulwama Central Reserve Police Force convoy attack of 2019...is involved in anti-India terror activities on behalf of Jaish-e-Mohammad," said the notification.

Chapter 34: Pulwama Travesty

On the anniversary of the Pulwama terror attack, India's Chief of Army Staff General MM Naravane today paid homage to the martyrs.

40 CRPF personnel were killed on February 14, 2019 when a Jaish-e-Mohammed ultra rammed an explosives-laden car into their vehicle. It was one of the worst attack ever on Indian security personnel.

Chapter 35: The Saga of Air Commodore Abhinandan

Indian air force pilot Abhinandan Varthaman, captured by Pakistani forces on Wednesday, has become the point of focus amid tensions between the two countries.

The fighter pilot, who has 16 years of experience, is from the southern city of Chennai (formerly known as Madras).

His jet was shot down in what Islamabad called a "retaliation" to India conducting air strikes in its territory. His capture was seen as a major setback for India.

The government demanded his immediate release and Indian social media was full of tweets about him, with many calling him a hero and praying for his safe return.

He was returned to much jubilation two days later, in what Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan described as a "peace gesture".

Chapter 36: More About Abhinandan

Dramatic details of how he was captured in Pakistan have been revealed.

"I saw the Indian flag on his parachute and knew he was Indian. I also saw his plane get hit and saw him float down," Mohammad Razzaq Chaudhry, a resident of Bhimber district in Pakistani-administered Kashmir who witnessed the moment the jet was shot down on Wednesday, told BBC's Ilyas Khan.

He added that locals rushed to the fallen pilot and that he was "afraid" that they might harm him.

Mr Chaudhry said that some of the men were angry and attacked the pilot while others tried to stop them. "I told them not to harm him - to leave him alone until the army comes."

Chapter 37: Pulwama Diplomacy

The **2019 Pulwama attack** occurred on 14 February 2019, when a convoy of vehicles carrying Indian security personnel on the Jammu–Srinagar National Highway was attacked by a vehicle-borne suicide bomber at Lethapora in the Pulwama district of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. The attack killed 40 Indian Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)[a]personnel as well as the perpetrator—Adil Ahmad Dar—who was a local Kashmiri youth from the Pulwama district.[5][6] The responsibility for the attack was claimed by the Pakistan-based Islamist terroris group, Jaish-e-Mohammed.[8] India blamed neighbouring Pakistan for the attack, while the latter condemned the attack and denied having any connections to it.[9] The attack dealt a severe blow to India–Pakistan relations, consequently resulting in the 2019 India–Pakistan military standoff. Subsequently, Indian investigations identified 19 accused. By August 2021, the main accused along with six others had been killed, and seven had been arrested

Chapter 38: Background

Kashmir is a disputed territory, claimed both by India and Pakistan with both countries administering part of the territory.[10] Pakistan has sought to gain control of Indian-administered Kashmir.[11][12] An insurgency began to proliferate in Indian-administered Kashmir in the late 1980s. Pakistan provided the insurgency with material support.[13][14] Since 1989, about 70,000 people have been killed in the uprising and the Indian crackdown.[10][15] According to *Time*, unrest in Kashmir grew in 2016 after India killed a popular militant leader, Burhan Wani.[10] A rising number of young locals from Indian administered Kashmir have joined the militancy.[16][17] Many sources state that the majority of militants in Kashmir are now local, not foreign.[18][19][20] In 2018 alone, the death toll included 260 militants, 160 civilians and 150 government forces.[15]

Since 2015, Pakistan-based militants in Kashmir have increasingly taken to high-profile suicide attacks against the Indian security forces. In July 2015, three gunmen attacked a bus, and police station in Gurdaspur. Early in 2016, four to six gunmen attacked the Pathankot Air Force Station.[21] In February and June 2016, the militants killed nine and eight security personnel respectively in Pampore. In September 2016, four assailants attacked an Indian Army brigade headquarters

in Uri killing 19 soldiers. On 31 December 2017, the Commando Training Centre at Lethpora was also attacked by militants killing five security personnel. These attacks took place in the vicinity of the Jammu Srinagar National Highway.[8]

Chapter 39: Pulwama Attacks

On 14 February 2019, a convoy of 78 vehicles transporting more than 2,500 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)[a] personnel from Jammu to Srinagar was travelling on National Highway 44. The convoy had left Jammu around 03:30 IST and was carrying a large number of personnel due to the highway having been shut down for two days prior. The convoy was scheduled to reach its destination before sunset.[8]

At Lethpora near Awantipora, around 15:15 IST,[27] a bus carrying security personnel was rammed by a car carrying explosives. It caused a blast which killed 40 CRPF personnel of the 76th Battalion and injured many others.[1] The injured were moved to the army base hospital in Srinagar.[5]

Pakistan-based militant group Jaish-e-Mohammed claimed responsibility for the attack. They also released a video of the assailant Adil Ahmad Dar, a 22-year-old from Kakapora who had joined the group a year earlier.[8][28][29] Dar's family had last seen him in March 2018, when he left his house on a bicycle one day and never returned.[30] Pakistan denied any involvement, though Jaish-e-Mohammed's leader, Masood Azhar, is known to operate in the country.[31][32]

It is the deadliest terror attack on India's state security personnel in Kashmir since 1989.[27]

Perpetrator

The perpetrator was identified as Adil Ahmad Dar, a 22-year old from Kakapora.[28] According to Dar's parents, Dar became radicalized after he was beaten by Indian police.[33][34] Between September 2016 and March 2018, Adil Dar was reportedly arrested six times by Indian authorities.[35][36] However, each time he was released without any charges.[35]

Chapter 40

Investigation of Pulwama

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) dispatched a 12-member team to probe the attack, working with the Jammu and Kashmir Police.[5][8]

Initial investigations suggested the car was carrying more than 300 kilograms (660 lb) of explosives,[8] including 80 kilograms (180 lb) of RDX, a high explosive,[37] and ammonium nitrate.[38] Lt Gen Hooda said that the explosives might have been stolen from a construction site. He initially said that it was not possible that they were smuggled from across the border, but later said that he could not rule it out.[39]

National Investigation Agency was able to establish and confirm the identity of suicide bomber as DNA samples from "meagre fragments of the car" used in suicide attack matched with Adil Ahmad Dar's father. However, even after a year of investigation, NIA was unable to trace the source of explosives.[40] The charge-sheet filed by the NIA in August 2020 named 19 accused.[4]

Chapter 41: Aftermath

Candle light march organised in Mehsana, Gujarat

State funerals of security personnel killed in the attack were held in their respective native places.[41][42] The government of Punjab announced ex gratia compensation of ₹12 lakh (US$16,000) each to the families of the killed security personnel from the state and a government job to the next of kin.[24] India revoked Pakistan's most favoured nation status.[5] The customs duty on all Pakistani goods imported to India were raised to 200%.[43] The government of India urged the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) to put Pakistan on the blacklist. The FATF decided to keep it on the 'grey list' and gave Pakistan time till October 2019 to comply with the 27 conditions it had laid down in June 2018, when it was put on the 'grey list', with an attending caveat. If Pakistan failed

to comply, it would be added to the blacklist.[44] On 17 February, the state administration revoked security provisions for separatist leaders.[45]

Protests, bandhs and candle light marches were held across India.[46][47][48] There were violent protests in Jammu resulting in a curfew being imposed starting 14 February. The Indian community in the United Kingdom held protests outside the Pakistan High Commission in London.[49] A delegation of Indian doctors cancelled their visit to Pakistan for the 13th Association of Anaesthesiologists Congress, organised by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, in Lahore on 7 March.[49] Indian broadcaster DSport said it would no longer broadcast Pakistan Super League cricket matches.[50] The All Indian Cine Workers Association announced a ban on Pakistani actors and artists in the Indian film industry, and stated that strong action would be taken on any organisation violating it.[51] The Indian Film and Television Directors Association also announced a ban on Pakistani artists in films and music produced in India; the president of the organisation threatened to "vandalise" the sets of any Indian film production with Pakistani artists.[52]

On 20 February 2019, Pakistani prisoner Shakarullah, who was serving a life term in India's Jaipur Central Jail under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, was stabbed and beaten to death by four other inmates.[53][54] India claimed that Shakarullah was allegedly killed in a brawl among the inmates over television volume. Pakistan claimed that he was killed in retaliation of the Pulwama incident.[55]

Chapter 42: Gunfight with the militants

Following intelligence inputs, in the early morning hours of 18 February, a joint team comprising 55 Rashtriya Rifles, CRPF and Special Operations Group of India killed two terrorists and two supporters in an anti-terrorism encounter operation in the ensuing manhunt for the perpetrators in Pulwama. One of them, Abdul Rasheed Ghazi alias Kamran, was identified as a Pakistani national and was considered the mastermind of the attack and a commander of the terrorist group Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM).[56] In addition, local JeM recruit Hilal Ahmed, along with two sympathisers who housed Ghazi and Ahmed to evade capture, were also shot dead in the encounter. Four security personnel were killed in the gunfight.[57][58][59]

Chapter 43: Anti-Kashmiri backlash

Kashmiri students living in other parts of India faced a backlash after the attack, including violence and harassment,[60] and eviction from their homes.[61] In response, many Indians offered to house Kashmiris who may have been evicted.[62]

It was reported that number of Kashmiris fleeing from the rest of India had reached "hundreds".[63] Jammu and Kashmir Students Organisation reported that 97% of Kashmiri students

in Dehradun had been evacuated.[64] Two Indian colleges in Dehradun announced that no new Kashmiri students will receive admission.[65] One of those colleges, Alpine College, suspended its dean, who is a Kashmiri, after some groups called for him to be fired.[66]

Tathagata Roy, the governor of the Indian state Meghalaya, tweeted support for a boycott of "everything Kashmiri". Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad disagreed with this view.[67] A Kashmiri merchant was beaten in Kolkata; the attack was condemned by West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee.[68]Kashmir police chief Dilbagh Singh said they had asked affected states to protect students."[69] Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah met with Rajnath Singh seeking assistance.[70]

Chapter 44: Balakot airstrike

On 26 February, twelve Mirage 2000 jets of the Indian Air Force crossed the Line of Control and dropped bombs into Balakot, Pakistan.[71][72] India claimed that it attacked a Jaish-e-Mohammed training camp and killed a large number of terrorists, reported to be between 300 and 350.[71][73] Pakistan claimed that they quickly scrambled jets to intercept the IAF jets, who dropped their payloads to quickly return over the Line of Control.[74]

Chapter 45: India-Pakistan standoff

On 27 February, Pakistan Air Force conducted an airstrike into Jammu and Kashmir in retaliation for the Indian airstrike the day before. Both Pakistan and India agreed that no damage was caused by Pakistan's airstrike. However, in an ensuing dogfight between Indian and Pakistani jets, an Indian MiG-21 was shot down over Pakistan and its pilot captured. Pakistan released the pilot on 1 March.[75]

Pakistan arrests suspects

On 5 March, Pakistan arrested 44 members of various groups, including the Jaish-e-Muhammad. Some of those arrested had been named by India in a dossier it gave to Pakistan in the aftermath of the Pulwama attack.[76] Pakistan said those arrested will be held for at least 14 days, and if India provided further evidence they would be prosecuted.[77] Among those arrested were relatives of JeM leader Masood Azhar, including his son Hamad Azhar and his brother Abdul Rauf.[76]

Arrests and operations in India

By August 2021, Indian security forces had killed seven of the accused, including Saifullah, while seven had been arrested.[2]

Chapter 46: India and Pakistan

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi condemned the attack and expressed solidarity with the victims and their families. Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh assured that a strong response will be given to the terror attack.[8] India blamed Pakistan for the attack.[78] *BBC News* has said that the involvement of the Jaish-e-Mohammed in the bombing "directly links" Pakistan to the attack, while also pointing out that Jaish-e-Mohammed had attacked Pakistani military targets in the past.[79] It is widely accepted among security analysts that Jaish-e-Mohammed is the creation of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence.[80] Pakistan banned the group in 2002,[81] but it has resurfaced under different names and retains ISI's support.[82][83][84] The *New York Times* questioned the nature of the link to Pakistan, pointing out that the bomber came from Indian-administered Kashmir and the explosives may also have been locally procured.[85]

The Indian Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has said that India would completely isolate Pakistan in the diplomatic community.[43] Pakistan denied the allegation of a link to the attack,[86] and Pakistani foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi condemned the bombing.[9] Fawad Chaudhry, Pakistan's federal information minister, said that Pakistan was taking action against Jaish-e-Muhammad and that Pakistan would be able to assist India in taking action against terrorist groups.[87] *The Nation*, a Pakistani newspaper, called the assailant a "freedom fighter" who eliminated members of an "occupying force".[88][89] Pakistan and India both recalled their ambassadors for "consultations" in a tit-for-tat move.[90]

On 19 February 2019, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan said that providing safe haven to terrorists was not in Pakistan's interest.[91] He asked for proof of Pakistani involvement and warned India that any military response would be met with retaliation. Indian Ministry of External Affairs responded by criticising him for not condemning the attack and not offering any condolences for the victims. It said that claims by Adil Ahmad Dar and Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed was sufficient proof. It said that promises of investigation was unconvincing due to a lack of progress in Mumbai and Pathankot attack investigations.[92][93] In response to Indian criticism, the newspaper *Dawn* pointed out that Pakistani Foreign Minister Qureshi had expressed sympathies with the victims soon after the attack.[94]

Following the attack on the Indian territory, the producers of the Indian Hindi films, including *Notebook*, *Kabir Singh* and *Satellite Shankar*, decided not to release the films in Pakistan.[95][96]

Former Indian cricket players and Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) called for the boycott on the 2019 World Cup group match fixture between India and Pakistan with raising concerns on

banning Pakistan cricket team from playing in the 2019 Cricket World Cup tournament.[98][99][100] However, after conducting a press meet in Dubai, the International Cricket Council (ICC) rejected BCCI's statement regarding banning Pakistan from the World Cup and assured that the scheduled match will go ahead as planned despite the ongoing standoff between the two nations.[101][102]

On 8 March 2019, the India national cricket team wore camouflage military caps in tribute to the CRPF personnel killed in the attack during the third ODI against Australia at Ranchi. The players also donated their match fees to the National Defence Fund. The Pakistan Cricket Board wrote to the ICC to protest the gesture. The ICC stated that BCCI had asked for, and received, permission to wear the caps.[103]

Chapter – 47: Safeguarding the Indian art heritage is the need of the moment:

Vast Indian Heritage and its Preservation:

India has a vast basket of diverse art and cultural heritage which need institutional support and encouragement to address areas critical for their survival and preservation.

We need to preserve our art heritage because of the following reasons.

- Presently, many Indian art forms are on the verge of extinction such as Manjusha painting of Bihar, traditional art of Puppetry, Parsi embroidery,Nagacraft, Dhokrahandi craft, etc., which need protection and preservation.

- India has a unique identity in the world for its art and culture which represents Indian

  Civilization on world platform and if it vanishes the uniqueness of India will get affected.

- For many tribal communities, art and craft is the source of income.

- This is also the source of attraction for tourism which contributes to economic development of the country.
- Art heritage also represents "unity in diversity"of India and builds a bridge between people

living abroad to get connected with their native country.

☐ Art and culture is also a part of soft power in world politics.

Government has started many initiatives to preserve the rich art heritage of the country, such as, Scheme for Conservation of Wall Painting (1996-97), Ek Bharat Shresth Bharat programme,Tribalhaats,GItag to the local products,e-haat,etc. Apart from strict implementation of such programmes, Government should provide financial assistance to strengthen regional and local museums, preserve art heritage through virtual media, and promote local paintings on products like wallet, mobile cover, pillow cover, etc. 6. Affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy is the sine qua non to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Chapter 48

The Attendant Details: Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy (SDG-

It is the sine qua non to achieve SDGs as it is directly or indirectly linked to othersustainable goals such as industry, innovation and infrastructure, health and well being,genderequality,sustainable cities andcommunities etc.

India has a crucial role to play in shaping the SDGs and has done a commendable job inprovidingcleanandefficientenergytothepeople.

- Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana(PMUY) has provided 50 million connections till date

   And aims to provide 80 million LPG connections by 2020 to BPL households.

- Government is committed to provide 24x7 reliable and quality power supply to the

   People by 2019. In this direction Deen Dayal Upadhyaya GramJyotiYojana(DDUGJY)

   Scheme and SAUBHAGYA scheme have been launched to achieve 100% village

   Electrification and last mile connectivity. Because of all these efforts till now around 78%

   Rural households have been electrified.

- India has increased the share of renewable energy which is around 3 times what it was in

   2007. On30thNovember,2017 total installed capacity in India was around 330 GW out

   Of which 18% was from renewable energy sources.

- Ministry of Finance has issued guidelines for mandatory installation of energy efficient

   Appliances in all Central Government buildings which is implemented by Energy

   Efficiency Services Limited(EESL) by2020.

According to Lawson, there is reduction in gender gap in India by half over the period2008-17 which was the result of access to modern energy sources to the women and girlthereby leading to the positive impact on girl's education and employment. But there arefew cases raising question on accessibility of sustainable and affordable energy, like wideregional gapsin electrification of households.Howeveron thebasisof thepaceofdevelopmental work, we can say that India will be able to achieve the goal of SDG-7withinthedecidedtimeframe.

Chapter 49. The scourge of terrorism is a grave challenge to national security

Attendant Details

India has been hit by terrorism since a long time, like, 1993 Bombay blasts, attack on Parliament in 2011, the 26/11 Mumbai attacks, Pathankot attacks etc. In view of such attacks it becomes imperative for India to check this rising menace, for which the following steps can be taken:

o Ensure co –ordination among the intelligence and security agencies to check in filtration of Terror activity.

o Empowering and engaging with civil society and local communities can help in countering radicalization and to stop the spread of violent extremism.

o Given the important role of educational establishments in promoting the values of non-violence, peaceful coexistence and tolerance, education must feature prominently in counter radicalization programs.

o Several initiatives that promote alliance of civilizations and intercultural dialogue must be promoted to counter terrorism. For instance, the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas celebrated on31stOctoberpromotes unity in India.

o Enhancing security presence along the international boundaries and seal the porous borders.

o Undertaking policies to tackle economic and social inequalities will help in deterring disgruntled youth from being lured towards terrorism.

o Terrorist organizations have successfully taken advantage of the great benefits of the Internet. Hence,countering radicalization on digital media must be given priority.Governments should intervene in this matter through monitoring and counter-propaganda programs

o Incorporating 'SAMADHAN' insecurity operations in LWE affected areas and at same time focusing on development projects in Red corridor districts.

Chapter 50: Sources of Terror funding

o NGO,charities and donations are animportant sourcing off unds for terrorism. These Funds are mostly claimed through religious appeal, coercion and fears of victimization.

o Counterfeiting of Indian currency not only funds terrorism, but,more importantly,it is used as a tool by neighboring states to destabilize the Indian economy.

o Drug financing are also a major source s of terrorism financing in India.

o Biggest source of internal funding for terrorist groups in India remains extortion. This is especially relevant for groups in the North-East and the Maoist-affected areas.

The use of internet and social media has become a powerful tool in the hand of non-state actors such as terrorist organizations.

Use of Internet, by terrorist organization such as **ISIS in recruiting youth** all around theworldhasbecome a reality.Cyberwarfareisgainingimportance due toincreasingdensity of internet. The **Stuxnet** virus affected half of the world targeting Iran nuclearfacilities.

Cyber espionage is also a great threat that exposes the vulnerability of any organization,or country. The recent theft of data of lakhs of ATMs cards in India is recent example ofmisuse ofinternetbynon-stateactors.

Social media is also been used by the like-minded individuals as a tool for radicalization.Muzaffarnagar riots in Uttar Pradesh got intensified because of misuse of social media bynon-state actors.

In these circumstances effective strategies should be adopted to curb the threat posed byinternetandsocialmedia.Followingaresomeoftheguidelinesthatcanbeveryuseful.

☐ India recently appointed firstChief Information Security Officer (CISO). It will helpIndiaindevelopingthevisionandpolicytofightcybercrimeandmanagecybersecurity moreeffectively.

☐ Creation of National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA) would improve India's resilienceanddefensesystem.

- Monitoring of content on internet by intelligence agencies such as Intelligence Bureau,RAWcanpreventanyattempttoradicalizeyouths.

- National Cyber Security Policy 2013 aims at protection of information infrastructure incyber space, reduce vulnerabilities. A National and sectoral 24×7 mechanism has beenenvisaged to deal with cyber threats through National Critical Information InfrastructureProtectionCentre(NCIIPC)

- Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has been designated to act as Nodalagencyforcoordinationofcrisismanagementefforts.

Chapter 51: India and the illicit opium growing

Thereexistlinkagesbetweendrugtraffickingandotherillicitactivitiessuchasgunrunning,moneylaundering andhumantrafficking,whichare asfollows:

- Anincreasinginteroperabilityhasbeenwitnessedbetweendrugcartelsandothercriminal groups. In Afghanistan around 85% of the opium growingareafalls underTaliban. Taliban uses the funds from drug trade in many different ways like weaponssmuggling,humantrafficking,andproliferationofterrorismetc.

- Drug trafficking groups also get attracted to human trafficking activities as there is someoverlapbetweentheroutesusedandthereareadvantagestobegainedbysharingestablished logisticalinfrastructure,whichincludestransportationandstoragefacilities.
- Similarly, gunrunning and money laundering require logistics supports which are sharedby these organizations.Attimes these activitiesseem tosustain each othersuch assmuggling drugs by hiding itin human body parts. The revenue generated from drugtrade is laundered to create assets such as casinos, bars, hotels etc. which again becamebreedinggroundsforothercrimes.Nexusbetweendruglordsandarmedgroupsgivesrise tothrivingweapons business.

Followingcounter-measurescanbeoptedagainstthesecrimes:

- .

methodsofborderguarding.Workingon boththefrontcan probably addresstheexistingproblemsofinternalsecurity.

Chapter 51: Left Wing Extremism (LWE)

The Government's approach is to deal with Left Wing Extremism in a holistic manner, in the areas of security, development, improvement in governance and public perception management. Recently, Government has come out with operational strategy 'SAMADHAN' tofight Left Wing Extremism in the country.

Government' s Approach:

- **Governance and Development:** The foremost focus of Government is to strengthen the connectivity in these areas so as to improve its engagement with the rest of the country. Infrastructural enhancements like road,railways and airport construction, instalment of Mobile tower s are taking place. For example-National Policy and Action Plan.

- SmartLeadershipandbettercoordinationwiththeStategovernmentsisbeingencouraged by the Government to expand its reach in the LWE affected areas.

- An aggressive strategy is being followed to modernise and strengthen the capacity of armed forces.

- Special emphasis is being laid on the implementation of Forest Rights Act and ensuring entitlement of local communities over Minor Forest Produce.

- **No Access to Financing:** To stop the maintenance and sustained survival of Left Wing Extremism, the Government is attempting to block Left Wing Extremist outfits' access to financing.

- **Rehabilitation and Surrender:** Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation Scheme is being implemented to ensure militants' rehabilitation and return to the mainstream.

- **Public Perception Management:** To counter the ideological effect of Left Wing Extremism on people, gaps between Security Forces and local people are being bridged through close interactions, TribalYouthExchange programmes,radiojingles, documentaries,pamphlets etc.

Chapter 52: The North-Eastern region of India has been infested with insurgency

Due to its distinct socio-cultural background and particular historical evolution, the North-East region of India holds several fault lines around which many insurgent groups have been thriving for a very long time. The major reasons behind the revolution and survival of armed insurgency in this region are-

o   This region has been one of the most neglected regions in terms of developments and is th emain cause behind the resentment to fthepeople living in this area.The insurgent Groups take advantage of fresentment of people and get support base.

o   Alienation of population from mainstream political process, where the insurgent group continue to boycott the dialogue and electoral process. (Ex – NSCN-Khaplang group)

o   Hilly terrain, dense forest and porous borders give strategic advantages for the insurgent Guerilla groups and at the same time it creates big hurdle for the counter insurgency operations.

o   Racial clashes are very common here due to diverse racial profile of the region. In a fractured society the insurgent groups penetrate easily.

o   Active and covert foreign support to these insurgent groups, through training, logistic and moral support has also been a big hurdle to eradicate these groups.

The twin approach of development and counterinsurgency operations coupled with honest political dialogue process may provide the best answer to the long infested insurgency in theNorth-East.

Chapter 53: The terms 'Hot Pursuit' and 'Surgical Strikes'

With the Indian forces carrying out "surgical strikes" across the Line of Control, India seems to have abandoned the self-proclaimed policy of "strategic restraint" adopted in the face of earlier provocations by terrorists believed to be backed by Pakistan. This may not be the first time India has undertaken quick cross-LoC operations, but it has neverbefore chosen to share in formation so publicly.

Strategic impact can be following.

☐ This surgical strike indicates that India's technical capabilities **(Command,Control,Communications,Computers,Intelligence,SurveillanceandReconnaissance— C4ISR)**have improved a great deal.

☐ The terms "surgical strike" and "pre-emptive strike" used by India were intended to make it clear to the enemy that there will be repercussions and crossing the border does not guarantee immunity

☐ The strikes proved to be an important element for maintaining the morale of the people of India and the armed forces.

☐ The strike reinforced the credibility of the government and displayed its resolve, even as justified restraint and maturity was on display. This act would also counter India's image of being a soft state.

☐ Russia has also backed India, saying Pakistan should take effective steps in order to stop activities of terrorist groups in its territory. India seems to have played its cards well by seeking international and regional isolation of Pakistan before striking infiltrator targets across the LOC.

There are also several negative impacts of these types of acts as it may escalate the conflict especially incase of Pakistan, Security forces can be trapped in enemy territory. It could because of international censure for violating other country's border.

Chapter 54: The question of India's Energy Security

Indian economy is one of the fastest growing major economy in the world. To sustain the high economic growth of around 8% in the coming decades, energy security is of paramount importance to India. Despite India's efforts to develop its domestic energy capacity, it is dependent on imports for 80% of its oil needs, of which roughly 55% is sourced from the Persian Gulf region and more than 80% of gas supplies. This highlights the need for energy policy cooperation with the resource rich West Asian countries. Consequently, India has adopted a 'LookWest' or 'LinkWest' policy in this regard.

Saudi Arabia is India's second largest source of oil. Iraq is also a major source of Indian energy imports. Further, the energy imports from Iran picked up in the recent past after the easing of sanctions by US. India has also enhanced its bilateral engagement with countries like Oman and UAE and also at institutional level with GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council).

Though countries such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran, Iraq and Qatar will continue to be its major suppliers of oil and gas, India is trying to walk the diplomatic tight rope in West Asia by partnering with Israel in its Leviathan natural gas filed in the East Mediterranean Sea.

India's energy relation with West Asian countries are intricately related with the Central Asian countries. Thus India has developed Chabahar port in Iran to access the Central Asian energy market. Besides energy infrastructure projects like TAPI gaspipeline and International North South Corridor will have ripple effects on the India's energy engagements with the West Asian Nations.

India's energy policy engagement with the West Asian region is also related to providing maritime security in the region as most of the shipping vessels pass through Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean. Other major powers like China have increased its footprint in the region. Thus India must also take stock of this geopolitical game in order to secure its own energy security.

Chapter 52: The basic principles of citizens charter movement

Its Voluntary commitments:

Citizen'sCharterisadocumentofvoluntarycommitmentsmadebyagovernment   organization to the citizens/client groups in respect of the services/schemes being provided to the morto be provided to them.

The main objective of Citizen's Charter is to improve the quality of public services. The aim of the exercise is to build bridges between citizens and administration and to streamline administration in tune with the needs of citizens. This is done by letting people know the mandate of the concerned Ministry/ Department/Organisation, how one can get in touch with its officials, what to expect by way of services and how to seek a remedy if something goes wrong.

Chapter 53: Principles of Citizen Charter

☐ **Quality:** Improving the quality of services

- **Choice:** for the users where ever possible

- **Standards:** specifying what to expect within a time frame

- **Value:** for tax payers money

- **Accountability:** of the service provider (individual as well as organisation)

- **Transparency:** inrules,procedures,schemes and grievance redressal

- **Participative:** consult and involve

Importance

- It is helpful in making administration more **transparent** and **accountable**.

- It is citizen-centric in nature and makes the administration more citizen friendly.

- It promotes good governance

- It improves service delivery to the citizens.

- It provides a pathway for grievance redressal.

A Citizen Charter cannot be an end in itself, it is rather a means to an end-a tool to ensure that citizens always remain at the heart of any service delivery model.

Chapter 54: Law and Ethics

Laws are rules of conduct that government creates and requires people to obey. Where as ethics are guidelines for proper behavior that come from sources other than the government, like personal morals, values or code of conduct established by professional organizations etc. Both law and ethics shape our behavior but ethics often shapes our behavior before laws do.

While both law and ethics shape human conduct, each follows a different approach in doing so. Whereas as laws are more objective, ethics are subjective. Legal standards are mostly negative ie., they usually prescribe not to do something. Ethics on the other hand are more positive and tell what is the right thing to do. For example— Law forbids to harm other people, ethics tell us to help other people.

Issues of Global Importance

Chapter 55: India and the Arctic region:

According to the Ministry of External Affairs, India's interests in Arctic Ocean region are commercial, strategic, environmental and scientific. Pursuant to this, in 2013,India gained Observer status in the Arctic Council.

☐ **Potential Natural Resources:** Arctic region holds oil and natural gas resources which can boost India's energy security and diversify its energy imports especially when West Asia is under geo-political turmoil.Arctic is also an abundant source forf ishing.

Chapter 56: Potential for Newer Shipping Routes:

As global climate warms up and polar ice recedes, new paths between Asia, Europe and North America become open which can reduce cost of transportation for India's exports and imports. For example, the Northern Sea Route, a mostly frozen sea way can become n avigable through out the year.

☐ **Increased Vulnerability of Coastal Communities:** Melting of ice on large scale can make India's coastal cities more vulnerable to sea level rise.

☐ **Potential for Joint Research on Environmental Issues:** Joint research with countries like Norway can help India in better research on issues related to aerosol radiation, space weather, glacier cycles which are also mandate of Himadri ResearchStation.

☐ **Geopolitical Importance:** While a treaty for Arctic, a global common, being negotiated, it is as a strategic necessity to mould it in India's favour. Also, India needs to make investments to match Chinese investments in Arctic.

Chapter 57: The anti Colonial struggles in West Africa were led by the new elite of Western-educated Africans

The anti colonial struggles in West Africa as response to European imperial is m assumed both violent and non-violent form of resistance and spanned from late nineteenth century to mid twentieth century. The form of resistance depended upon number of factors – influence of religion, nature of the colony, degree of imperialism, etc.

The role of intellectuals in the freedom struggle in various phases stood out as beacon of hope for later movements (apartheid in South Africa in second half of twentieth century).One of the outstanding figures in West Africa colonial struggle was Samouri Toure. He created large Mandinka Empire inWestAfrica and his struggle is a significant exampleof pragmatic resistance against French. He manufactured firearms, relocated his kingdom and engaged in diplomacy with both French and British.

Another form of resistance continued alongside violent resistance i.e.,the use of propaganda through press and literature by intellectuals. J.T. Jabavu established the press' Native opinion' (Imvozaba NTsundu) through which Black south Africans expressed their opinions. The 'Lagos weakly Record' was founded by John Payne Jackson, an America-Liberian journalist who was influential in Lagos, Nigeriain 19th–20thCentury.

Besides press, the African intelligentsia also used societies, clubs and associations as vehicles for arising consciousness and disseminating information. The GoldCoastAborigines Rights Protection Society (APRS) was one was one such associations formed in 1880s. In 1898 the ARPS successfully sent a petition to London to address issues with land Bill,and later for repealing the Town council ordinance. Another important to rganization founded in twentieth century was the 'National Congress of British west Africa'located in the gold coast which consisted of mostly African intellectual.

Chapter – 5 8: South China Sea's great geopolitical significance:

South China Sea is a marginal sea of Pacific Ocean having the area of 3,500,000square kilometer situated on the south of China. South China Sea has been "apple of discord" between US and China in international affairs for decades. Not only US-China rivalry but also regional countries have been motivated to involve on the territory as it's one of the lucrative territories in both geopolitical and strategic dynamics. Now, it has become a global issue even small countries are involving vis-à-vis position. Philippin ealready has gone to Permanent Court of Arbitration against China and the court verdict is in favour of its claim.

Chapter 59: Geopolitical significance of South China Sea

☐ South China Sea is the sea route for 50% global trade. It is the link between the Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean. Malacca strait is the economical sea passage of Persian Gulf. Thus it becomes an imp Sea Lanes of Communications (SLOC) for US, China, Japan,KoreanPeninsulaandEastAsiancountries.

☐ It'stheterritorywhereavastnumberofgas,petroleumandmineralresourcesare

preserved,henceSCSattainsstrategicplaceasenergystorehouse,importantforbothdevelopedanddevelopingcountries.

☐ SouthChinaSeacovers12%ofglobalfishproducts.China,Philippine,Vietnametcproduce a huge number of fisheries resources.

☐ There are some other valuable materials like Limonite,Monazite,Zircon,Cassiterite,

Arenaceous quartz etc. which are very important raw materials for industries. South China Sea is also rich in salt.

While geopolitics indicates geographical relations with politics, it also has strategic importance. The power politics, military interests have made South China Sea important. The concept of Exclusive Economic Zone could be another conflicting zone between China and its neighbours.

Chapter – 60: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

One Belt One Road (OBOR) is one of the major initiatives of China focus in gon improving connectivity and cooperation connecting Asia to Europe and Africa.

It has two dimensions: Silk Road Economic Belt (SREB),a land route and the 21st-century Maritime SilkRoad(MSR)an ocean route.

China Pakistan Economic Corridor(CPEC)is one of the flagship project of SREB.

It provides rail-road connectivity between Gwadar in Baluchistan,Pakistan to Xinjiang province of China and passes through Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir.

It is one of the largest bilateral initiatives between Chinaa and Pakistan with a budge to f around$46 billion. CPEC is considered as a boon to struggling Pakistani Economy.

India has openly expressed its displeasure over CPEC due to the following reasons:

- CPEC passes through Indian Territory, thus interferes with India's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

- There is a lack of transparency around the way the project is funded. It is considered as a

  Part of Chinese policy of debt-equity swap.

- It may disrupt and destroy Himalayan Ecology.

It is said that India should join the CPEC as it will benefit the region at-large and can lead to an improvement in ties between India and Pakistan as economic inter-dependence between the two will increase.

However,it should also be noted that India's concerns regarding sovereignty and integrity have not been addressed by either China or Pakistan. It will not be good for India to join a project, which challenges India's sovereignty. In addition, there is no clarity about the funding of the project.

Chapter – 61

The decolonization process in the Malay Peninsula:

Malay Peninsula was under the British influence since they first came in the late 18th century looking towards South east Asia for new resources. Since then the British East India Company traded and partly controlled the region. The growth of their China trade further increased the company's desire for bases in the region nearit.

The decolonization of Malaya Peninsula was an extension of the series of decolonization movements going across the Asia and Africa and was influenced from this process which speeded-up after the World War-II.

- **Chapter 63: More About Malaya Peninsula**

- Malay Peninsula was a multi-racial, multi-cultural society with Malay Chinese and Indians forming major ethnic and interest groups which was a suitable condition for colonial powers to consolidate their regime.

- Fall of Singapore and Japanese advances in Malay Peninsula during the WorldWar–II

  forced the British to consider reassessment of its non-interventionist policies in favour of ethnic cooperation and multiracial government in this region. But with the presence of diverse interest of different groups reaching to a consensus was a tough task.

- Cold War ideological rivalry was prevalent in Malayan Peninsula too where with the rise of commintern aligned communist parties like Malayan Communist Party and Chinese Communist Organization, the fear of Malayan Peninsula falling to the Communists emerged.It was a nightmare for the liberal democracies/ colonial powers (i.e. British) which ensured transfer of power to ideologically friendly regimes.

  The decolonization of Malayan Peninsula was largely a result of long reconciliation process between the Malayan nationalist and the European colonial powers. Their mutual compromise gave the British the confidence to speed up the process of decolonization through a smooth decolonization process.

Chapter 64: The tenets of Cross-border terrorist attacks in India and growing interference in the internal affairs of several member-states by Pakistan.

Chapter 65: More About it:

In the 31 years since the organization's founding in 1985, SAARC's efficacy in the region has been limited by tension sand disagreements between India andPakistan.

SAARC has largely been defunct for the last few years because of India-Pakistan friction and could soon become non-functional.

This was highlighted in the aftermath of an attack by militants that crossed the Line of Control into India-administered Kashmir to strike at an Indian Army camp in Uri. Since the attack, the Indian government has strongly condemned Pakistan and looked to isolate Islamabad on the world stage. This was followed by India pulling out of the 19th SAARC Summit in Islamabad in November 2016. Afghanistan, Bhutan and Bangladesh also followed suit.

By pulling out of the SAARC summit in Islamabad, India tried to achieve two ends: sending a tough message in the wake of the Uri attack but also that it is going ahead with its plan for 'SAARC minus Pakistan' instead. Some believe that SAARC minus one can better address South Asian challenges because the civil-military dissonance on Pakistan' s policy towards India is making it difficultfor Pakistan to relate to other states of the South Asian region. Also, Pakistan has been singularly stalling the process of economic integration through its policy of disallowing connectivity through its territory. Two most recent examples have been the talks on trade liberalisation and cross-border trade in energy during the last years where Islamabad pulled back just when the agreements wereready for signature. Pakistan also walked away from agreements on road connectivity which resulted na 'sub-regional cooperation' called BBIN framework between Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal. Further, India is looking at the BIMSTEC (the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation)as an alternative to SAARC as was witnessed with the BIMSTEC summit on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit.

Chapter 66: SAARC

All of the above limit the ability of SAARC to prosper as a regional organization. However, without effectively engaging Pakistan, the multiple challenges faced by SAARC countries on the economic and security fronts cannot be met satisfactorily. Much of the security challenges emanate from Pakistan because it uses terroris masan instrument of its state policy. It stands between South Asia and Central Asia and holds the key to intra as well as inter-regional trade and commerce. Therefore, it is difficult to address the aforesaid challenges without roping in Pakistan into the SAARC framework for regional cooperation.

Chapter 67:   More About it:

The McBride Commission Report was one of the most significant multilateral interventions in the history of international communication. The main aim of the report was to analyse communication problems in modern societies, particularly relating to mass media and news, consider the emergence of new technologies, and to suggest a kind of communication order to diminish these problems to further peace and human development. The report argued that Western cultural and financial dominance over the poorer nations through the media denied those countries growth and development. The committee was setup to suggest a kind of New World Information and Communication Order (NWICO). It discussed issues like media coverage of the developing world,

unbalanced flows of media influence, concentration of media, commercialization of the media and unequal access of information and communication.

The main political force behind NWICO was th eNon-Aligned Movement (NAM) representing the developing countries of the"South"or the"ThirdWorld". India particularly played a very significant role by facilitating various meetings in different generics, cultural and geographical backgrounds. This was supported by India's diverse language culture and the need to preserve and share one's language beyond the realms of culture was what made MacBride really unique back then. B.G. Varghese was the Indian who represented the nation in the committee which drafted the MacBride report.

Chapter 68: India and Japan to build: A strong contemporary relationship

Described as one of the most rapidly advancing relationships in Asia, has emerged as a significant factor contributing to the stability and security of the Indo-Pacific region. Deviating from the traditional policy of focusing on economic engagements, the partnership has significantly diversified to include a wide range of interests—including regional cooperation, maritime security, global climate, and UN reforms.

The strategic consequences of a rising China in the Indo-Pacific is providing greater momentum to the India-Japan partnership. Both Japan and India through strategic convergence seeks to re-calibrate Asia's balance of power. It can be reflected in flowing initiatives:

Chapter 69: Cooperation in Indo-Pacific region:

o   It is a confluence between India's Act East policy and Japan's Freeand Open Indo-Pacific strategy.

o   It will strengthen the rule of flaw and freedom of navigation, which is threatened by China's muscle flexing in the South China sea.

- It will enhance cooperation with Japan and ASEAN countries.

☐

☐ **Chapter 70: Asia Africa Growth Corridor(AAGC):**

- Japan looks to invest in early $ 200 billion in Asia Africa region, that will turn the 21st century from an Asian century to Asian-African century.

- Japan will provide the state of the art technology and India will bring its expertise of working in Africa.
- AAGC seeks to counter China's influence, that it is establishing through Belt and Road Initiative.

☐ Japan,US,India(JAI)andAustraliacombinedlycalledQuad,isseenasaninformalorganisationt hatseekstocounterChina.
☐ Japan is taking the North-East Road Network Connectivity improvement project, this will be a crucial link in India's Act East policy.
☐ India and Japan are negotiating cross-service agreements that will give access to each other's military facilities and could foster much closer military to military relations.

   Apart from this, there are several engagements between India and Japan which are independent to China.

☐ Economic engagement: Japan has made investment in India's infrastructure. For example: Delhi-Mumbai economic corridor, Bullet train, Delhi metro etc.

☐ India along with Japan, Brazil and Germany forms the grouping called G4 countries, that seeks UNSC reforms.
☐ India is the first(non-signatory of the Non-Proliferation Treaty or NPT,)country with whom

Japan has signed a civil nuclear deal.

o This will establish India's credibility as a responsible nuclear power.

o It will boost India' make in India initiative.

o It will augment India's INDC commitment at Paris climate deal.

Japan can prove to be a development multiplier in India. Therefore, India should develop an independent relation with Japan which is not to be seen in the context of China, US or any other country.

Chapter 71: China and its economic relations and positive trade surplus

China has emerged both as an economic and a military powerhouse. It has a trade surplus with most of the countries in Asia including India. China's economic initiatives like One Belt One Road (OBOR) and Maritime Silk Road (MSR), though promoted primarily as economic initiatives have strategic undertone.

Chapter 72: Possible impact of China's rise on India

o China could emerge as a direct military threat to India as has been seen in the recent Doklam stand off and other border disputes.

o In face of rising assertion in the international affairs, China could hamper India's interes tin multilateral forums like UNSC and those initiated by Beijing like Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

o Growing economic cooperation between China and Pakistan could be seen as a policy to contain India. This is evident from China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) which has potential to emerge as a threat to India.

o China's deepening relation with South Asian countries, where China is involved in infrastructure building, poses significant challenge to India's position in the region. At present China has more say in this region where India had stronghold in the past.

China's rising economic influence in Asia will allow Beijing to spread its influence in the entire region, which could be used to India's detriment. In face of these challenges, India's policy response must focus on building indigenous military power and forging regional cooperation at the samet ime.

Chapter 73: Reforms in UNESCO

UNESCO was created in 1945 with the firm belief that, forged by two world wars in less than a generation, political and economic alliances were not enough to build world peace. In this sense, peace must be established on the basis of humanity and our moral and intellectual solidarity with one another.

The announcement of the US to withdraw from this cultural body has once again highlighted the politicization of its activities and limitation of funds-

- At the heart of its problems is a financing crisis since 2011, when UNESCO voted to admit Palestine as a full members tate and Washington responded by halting payment of Its annual$80million in dues.

- Since then, Israel has regularly complained over resolutions on cultural sites in the West Bank and Jerusalem, arguing that they are worded to delegitimize the Jewish state. Israel's foes say it uses U.S.support to deflect tbonafide criticism.

- Without U.S. money, UNESCO, which employs around 2,000 people worldwide, has been forced to cut programmes, freeze hiring and fill gaps with voluntary contributions. Its 2017 budget was about $326 million,almost half its 2012 budget.

☐ **Chapter 74: Japan and Britain**

☐ Other major contributors such as Japan, Britain, and Brazil delay funds, sometimes citing objections to the body's policies.

☐ Japan, for example, has threatened to withhold due sover the inclusion of the 1937 Nanjing Massacre in the body's "Memory of the World" programme.

☐ Russia and Ukraine have been at odds over Crimea,with Kiev accusing Moscow of trying to legitimize its annexation of the territory through UNESCO.

The fact is that UNESCO was all about solidarity and creating a climate for peace between countries, but nations now use their dues/funds to influence programmes. The preservation of shared human heritage needs a concerted effort involving all countries, fort his, nations should sacrifice zero-sum game of politics.

Chapter 75: Functions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council(ECOSOC)?

The UN Charter established ECOSOC in 1945 as one of the six main organs of the United Nations. ECOSOC helps United Nations system toaday an the three dimensions of sustainable development–economic, social and environmental.

It is the central platform for fostering debate and innovative thinking, forging consensus on ways forward, and coordinating efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals. It is also responsible for the follow-up to major UN conferences and summits.

Chapter 76: Functional Commissions of ECOSOC

Statistical Commission: It oversees the work of the United Nations Statistics Division(UNSD),the highest body of the global statistical system.

Commission on Population and Development: It monitors, reviews and assesses the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the national, regional and global levels, identifying reasons for success and failure, and advising the Council thereon.

Commission for Social Development: It advises ECOSOC on social policies of a general character and, in particular, on all matters in the social field not covered by the specialized inter-governmental agencies.

Commission on the Status of Women: It is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs: It assists the ECOSOC in supervising the application of the international drug control treaties.

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice: It acts as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

Commission on Science and Technology for Development: It provides the General Assembly and ECOSOC with high-level advice on relevant science and technology issues.

United Nations Forum on Forests: It is intergovernmental body to strengthen political commitment and action with respect to sustainable forest management.

Chapter 77: India and USA as the twin large democracies

India and USA are the two large representative democracies in the world. In USA, democracy got its full swing with the drafting of the US Constitution in 1789 while the democracy in India is partially a result of British rule followed by the enforcement of the new, modern and living constitution, framed after Independence.

Chapter 78: Rule of Law and Republicanism:

Both,thecountrieshavewrittenconstitutionsensuringruleoflawandguaranteeingfundamentalrightst otheircitizens.Boththe

countriesarerepublicaninnatureandprovideadultfranchisetothecitizens.

- **SeparationofPowers:** InUSA,thereisaclear-cutseparationofpowersbetweenjudiciary, executive and legislature while the same is not observed exactly in India, asthere isfusionbetweenexecutive andlegislature.

- **Federal System:** IndiaisafederalparliamentarydemocraticrepublicinwhichthePresident of India is the head of state and the Prime Minister is the head of governmentwhereas the United States is a federal presidential republic in which the President is thehead of the state and of the government as well. As per Article 1, India is a "Union ofstates" which implies that Indian federation is not the result of an agreement among the states unlike USA whose federation is result of agreement among the states. However, Indian federalism has more feature so funitary form of government than that of the US.

- **Independent Judiciary:** Both the political systems provide for an independent judiciary to interpret the constitution and enforce the law. However, in India single system of courts enforces both the central laws as well as the state laws but in USA, the federal laws are enforced by the federal judiciary and the state laws are enforced by the state judiciary.

- **Party System:** US has bi-party system while India has a multi-party system.

Though the US and Indian political systems are similar in many respects, yet they are the product of their unique history and socio-economic milieu, and varying political culture. However, they should cooperate with each other on many fronts to provide a hope to the humanity which is facing numerous challenges.

Chapter 79: The broader aims and objectives of WTO:

India wants the discussions on these non-trade and WTO-plus issues to take place only after outstanding matters related to the Doha Round negotiations have been resolved. India took this stand because the declaration brought out at the end of Ministerial Conference of WTO at Nairobi did not reaffirm the mandate of the Doha Round aimed at opening up global trade. India, along with other developing countries, had opposed the declaration.

India feels that issues like environment and labour should be kept out of the purview of WTO and instead, should be dealt under concerned global bodies like UNFCCC and ILO. Since rich nations have superior standards on these issues, they can pose a challenge for developing nations by acting as non-tariff barriers, thereby adversely impacting their exports to rich nations. Further, outstanding issues, like the 'Special SafeguardMechanism' for protecting the interests of poor farmer in developing countries and a permanent solution on public stockholding for food security, need to be resolved before discussignew non-trade issues.

For this, India wants the countries pitching for introduction of the 'non-issues' to meet the following twin criteria:

☐ Establish the relevance of issues in context of trade.

☐ Ensure consensus among al l162WTO members for taking up the agenda.

India can only be successful in this endeavour of putting an end to attempts to introduce new issues if it can establish a strong alliance of developing and poor countries and training a sufficient pool of trade law experts to represent them effectively at WTO's Dispute Settlement Body (DSB).

Chapter 80: The long-sustained image of India as a leader of the oppressed and marginalized nations:

As the founding member of the **Non-Alignment Movement(NAM),** India propagated its vision among the newly independent countries of the colonized world to not align with any of the power blocks as these newly independent countries were weak in terms of military, economics and development aspects.

These ideas of **NonAlignment, Peaceful Cooperation and Co-existence, End of Imperialism and Colonialism** have made India one of the leaders of the marginalized nations.

The leadership and idealistic credentials of India was sustained and can be seen:

- ☐ During the cold war era.

- ☐ Upholding the interests of the smaller economies in Doha round of WTO.
- ☐ Supporting the cause of vulnerable nations during the Climate change negotiations.

Chapter 81: Shift in India's approach towards its strategic foreign policy perspective:

- ☐ **Economic Development** is now a major agenda of India's growth as a world power, Which is now reflected in India's foreign policy.

- ☐ This trend was observed in **NAM Summit Havana 2006,** where India focused on anti-terrorism, nuclear disarmament, energy security, investing in Africa and such issues which are vital to India's growth and doesn' tresemble priorities of developing or marginalized countries.
- ☐ India has actively supported the cause of developing and marginalized nation in Climate Change negotiations by thrusting on **"differentiated responsibility"** but recently diluted its stand in Paris negotiations.
- ☐ India has also been **blamed** for interfering in the internal affairs of neighbouring countries, for instance, **Nepal,**which led to friction in relations between the two nations.
- ☐ In regional forum **SAARC**, India has hard pressed its agenda of boycotting Pakistan, which resulted in the non-functioning of **SAARC**, which may result in delaying of development projects of SAARC in our smaller neighbouring nations.
- ☐ India's involvement in **QUAD**, its focus on **Indo Pacific Regional Growth** and **countering China** has became its top priority.

These inferences are pointing towards shift in India's approach from the leader of the oppressed countries to a great power in its own terms. India's approach is shifting from Idealism to Realism and is prioritizing its national interests over the collective interests of the developing countries.

Chapter 82: .The key areas of reform of the WTO:

(WTO) officially commenced in 1995 after replacing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade(GATT).WTO intends to supervise and liberalize international trade. But recent trade wars, initiated by USA with China, India and other countries, evoke the need of reform in WTO if it has to survive in the present context. The key areas of reforms are:

- ☐ **Dispute Settlement System:** There are suggestions regarding bringing transparency, shortening of time frames, permanent panel body, special and differential treatment for developing countries etc. India can benefit from the reforms if proposals specific to developing countries are accepted

- **Reducing Trade Costs:** Though WTO has come out with Trade Facilitation Agreement(TFA) in this regard, but it mainly addresses the trade of goods. India being a major service provider would benefit if reforms are carried out in trade facilitation of services. It is expected that there are considerable economic benefits from the better movement of people across borders.

- **Modalities of Negotiations:** Some progress has been made, as the 'single undertaking 'nature of negotiations is all but discarded. There are proposals to make them more flexible.

India is one of the prominent members of WTO and is largely seen as leader of developing and under developed countries. More than 40% Indian economy is exposed to international trade. If we want to achieve a double-digit growth over a sustained period and create jobs, our external trade has to grow at more than 15% a year, which is not possible in an uncertain trading environment. Therefore, India should call upon all WTO members, including the US, to undertake a systemic reform in the above-stated crucial areas of the WTO's functioning.

Chapter 83: Increasing cross-border terrorist attacks in India

In the 31 years since the organization's founding in 1985, SAARC's efficacy in the region has been limited by tensions and disagreements between India and Pakistan. SAARC has largely been defunct for the last few years because of India-Pakistan friction and could soon become non-functional.

This was highlighted in the aftermath of an attack by militants that crossed the Line of Control into India-administered Kashmir to strike at an Indian Army camp in Uri. Since the attack, the Indian government has strongly condemned Pakistan and looked to isolate Islamabad on the world stage. This was followed by India pulling out of the 19th SAARC Summit in Islamabad in November 2016. Afghanistan, Bhutan and Bangladesh also followed suit.

By pulling out of the SAARC summit in Islamabad, India tried to achieve two ends: sending a tough message in the wake of the Uri attack but also that it is going ahead with its plan for 'SAARC minus Pakistan' instead. Some believe that SAARC minus one can

better address South Asian challenges because the civil-military dissonance on Pakistan's policy towards India is making it difficult for Pakistan to relate to other states of the South Asian region. Also, Pakistan has been singularly stalling the process of economic integration through its policy of disallowing connectivity through its territory. Two most recent examples have been the talks on trade liberalisation and cross-border trade in energy during the last years where Islamabad pulled back just when the agreements were ready for signature. Pakistan also walked away from agreements on road connectivity which resulted in a 'sub- regional cooperation' called BBIN framework between Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal. Further, India is looking at the BIMSTEC (the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) as an alternative to SAARC as was witnessed with the BIMSTEC summit on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit.

All of the above limit the ability of SAARC to prosper as a regional organization. However, without effectively engaging Pakistan, the multiple challenges faced by SAARC countries on the economic and security fronts cannot be met satisfactorily. Much of the security challenges emanate from Pakistan because it uses terrorism as an instrument of its state policy. It stands between South Asia and Central Asia and holds the key to intra as well as inter-regional trade and commerce. Therefore, it is difficult to address the aforesaid challenges without roping in Pakistan into the SAARC framework for regional cooperation.

Chapter 84: The ongoing U.S-Iran Nuclear Pact Controversy

The unilateral US withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action(JCPOA), the historic nuclear deal between the permanent members of the UN Security Council, E.U. (P5+1) and Iran, which limited Iran's nuclear programme and lifted the crippling economic sanctions, will have serious ramifications for nations having strategic interests in the West Asia.

India's relations with Iran extend beyond the geopolitical and geo-economic binary. The cultural relations between India and Iran extend centuries, but the recent US behavior has led India on crossroads. This controversy would affect India in following ways-

Chapter 85: Strategic Autonomy-

Strategic Autonomy has been the guiding principle of Indian foreign policy since independence. India maintains that it abides by only UN sanctions and not unilateral sanctions by any one country. In this case, US is coercing India and other countries to sever ties with Iran. This has direct implicate autonomous policy making.

- **Oil Supply -** Iran has been one of the top three oil suppliers to India. Sanctions on Iran, which would be the next logical step by the Trump administration, will disrupt the crude oil supplies. US has presented India with shale imports, but the Gulf region has regional proximity to India. The withdrawal will also raise the crude oil prices, this fluctuation has a direct impact on the Indian economy (inflation, Balance of Payment, Current Account Deficit).

- **Indian Investments -** India's plans to acquire stakes in Iranian natural gas field, build pipelines as well as develop the Chabahar port – a key Indian connectivity initiative – all stand to be seriously affected.

- **Indian Diaspora -** In case this spirals out into direct confrontation between US allies and Iran, then lives Indians living in the Gulf region would be at stake. Their protection and evacuation would be a huge diplomatic and military manoeuvre.

- **Terrorism -** Instability in the region has already resulted in rise of extremist group and more uncertainty will only provide them with more safe havens. This might have a direct effect on India's national security.

Other partners of the agreement are willing to move forward despite the US withdrawal. India is an important stakeholder in the issue. So, India should work with like minded countries to defuse the situation and if possible, bring US back to the table if not, then prepare a separate mechanism for dealing with Iran including other stakeholders.

India has always maintained that the Iranian nuclear issue should be resolved peacefully through dialogue and diplomacy by respecting Iran's right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy international community's strong interest in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme.

Chapter 86: Indian Diaspora and the South East Asian countries economy and society. Contributions by Indian Diaspora

Though India's cultural interaction with Southeast Asia (SEA) precedes the dawn of Christian era, large scale Indian emigration began in the 19th and 20th centuries as a result of the colonial system. In Brunei, apart from running businesses mini-marts and small restaurants, Indians have filled up human resources vacuum-thus making an important contribution to its economy.

- In Philippines and Indonesia, members of the Indian Community have played a prominent role in the export of textile products – which has powered their economy in the recent past.

- The Indian community's contribution to Malaysia's GDP is about 2% and its share in Malaysia's international trade is about 3%.

- In Malaysia and Myanmar, almost all important spheres of life like the civil services, education, professional services, trade and commerce are largely in the hands of the Indian community.

- Part of Singapore's IT industry today is being fuelled by Indian expertise. There is also a significant Indian contribution to scientific research in cluding in bio-technology and

medicine.

Chapter 87: Role of Indian Diaspora in SEA Society

In most of the Southeast Asian countries, the Indian community has integrated itself very well with the local populace .Quite a few Indian settlers have married the natives. Practically in every country, there is good presence of places of worship of almost all Indian religious communities which also celebrate religious and cultural festivals and events with great fervour and enthusiasm. The older generations, in particular make a special endeavour to keep Indian religious traditions and languages alive by holding religious and language classes in temples, mosques and gurudwaras. Thus, the Indian Diaspora has been making significant contributions to the economy and society of the South east Asian countries serving as an important bridge to Indian culture and heritage.

Chapter 88: Role played by OGWs in assisting terrorist organizations in insurgency affected areas.

Terrorism instills an innate sense of fear in the citizen and dilutes the perceived control of the state over law and order. This state of lawlessness creates conditions which help the terrorist group achieve its political aims. Over ground workers(OGWs) provide a support system to terrorist groups and networks in carrying out their activities in insurgency affected areas.

The role played by OGWs

- **Food and Logistics support:** OGWs assistterrornetworks to meet their basic needs.

- **Propaganda and radical narrative:** This provide the ideological background to the terror outfits.

- **Finding new recruits:** Pool of Disgruntled youth provide a fertile ground for OGWs to propagate radicalization and hire new recruits.

- **Coordination with other stakeholders:** OGWs coordinate with secessionist leaders, and Organised crime Networks to meet their political objectives.

- **Conduit for Illegal Money:** This is done through illegal trade, counterfeit currency, Tax evasion and Hawala transactions. These funds are also used to instigate anti-state protestlike stone-pelting.

- **Assisting the planning and execution of terror plans:** They provide operational planning, intelligence information, safety routes, maps and other inputs that are needed for terror operations.

Measures to neutralize the influence of OGWs

- **Address the root cause of alienation among affected communities:** This is done by addressing genuine concerns and through awareness campaigns that dispel false propaganda.

  - **Rehabilitating or phans and women:** This would fulfill the state's duty to ensure Social welfare. Also, It would counter the influence of OGWs to find new recruits.
  - **Intelligence Infrastructure:** To keep track of radicalization attempts by OGWs and recruitment agents in order to stop this process at its inception.
  - **HumanandElectronicSurveillance:** This is used to tap into existing networks to pre-emptt err or attempts.
  - **Internationalcooperation:** To facilitates follow up on suspects and terror networks.
  - **Fasttrackcourts:** Laws like Public Safety acts for the speedy conviction of terrorists and OGWs through fast track special courts.

However, Misuse of the legal provision in the random booking of youth on mere suspicion should be avoided. The best defence against terrorism is to ensure that the people do not have the incentive to pick up arms against the country by providing them equitable political, social and economic opportunities.

Chapter 89: The potential threats of Cyber attack and the security framework

Cyber Dome project is a technological research and development centre of Kerala Police Department, conceived as a cyber centre of excellence in cyber security, as well as technology augmentation for effective policing.

It envisages as a high tech public-private partnership centre of collaboration for different stakeholders in the domain of cyber security and handling of cyber crimes in a proactive

manner.

India has witnessed a 457% rise in cybercrime incidents under the InformationTechnology (IT)Act, 2000 from the year 2011 to 2016.

Cyber Dome project can be useful in controlling the se internet crimes in India

☐ The project can help in preventing cyber crimes through development of a cyber threatre resilient ecosystem in the country to defend against the growing threat of cyber attacks. To effectively tackle cybercrime, the Government has collaborated with private sector and academia to conform rapidly changing technology world.

- The Cyber dome will act as an online police patrol. Through its Anti-Cyber Terror Cell and a cyber security training unit, its officers will generate intelligence on various cyber threats in near real time and track fugitives online by monitoring their online activities, including social networking sites.

- It will create a digital repository of stolen and lost vehicles and travel documents, track online payments to prevent money laundering and channeling of funds to dubious organizations and issue cyber security advisories.

- Cyber dome would have centres for social media awareness, protection of children on the Internet, Internet monitoring and ICT (Information and Communication Technology) in service delivery.

- Cyber dome in collaboration with the RBI, Banks, payment gateways and other wallet groups can tackle financial fraud.

- Through its ransom ware school, Cyber Dome can understand, analyse and mitigate ransomware infections, create standard operating procedures to deal with ransomware, creating awareness among the public as well as government departments about ransomware and its precautionary steps.

- The Cyberdome is expected to enable sleuths to obtain vital leads in cases of cyber-related offen cesusing advancements in the fiel do finformationtechnology.

- Of late, Cyberdome has used social engineering as the lynchpin of its policing strategy to snoop on radical groups that use the net for extremist activities.

- Cyberdome has made successful propaganda war against online games such as Blue Whale.

- Of late, Cyberdome has launched a covert cyber-surveillance and infiltration programme to crack down on child pornography. Thus, Cyberdome project has great potential to control internet crimes and must be replicated at the national level.

Chapter 90: Terrorism

With the emergence of new terrorist organizations like ISIS, Boko Haram etc. terrorism has become a competitive industry. Like mafia organizations, where one-upmanship is often based on who has the most guns, money or local power, terrorist groups too have a pecking order.

The current competitive market in terrorism means that groups are trying to distinguish each other through the practice of more memorable violence (like the Charlie Hebdo attacks or the Peshawar attacks in December 2014).They need to do so because this is the only way in which they can be heard, become popular enough to attract recruits and distinguish themselves from other similar groups. In order to do so the terrorist groups are trying to out-do each other in the intensity and scope of violence and bloodshed they can cause so that more people can identify with them and join them. For example- while some years back, Al-Qaeda was the most dreaded terrorist group of the world, this position has now been overtaken by ISIS. One of the reasons for this can be because ISIS encourages lone-wolf attacks which are easier for its followers to carry out without actually travelling to join the group to fight in combat.

Various terrorist organizations are also in competition with each other to get control of various natural resources such as oil reserves in Middle East countries, cultivation of Opium, arms dealing etc.

Competition over establishing their ideologies all around the world has also instigated terrorist organization for example multiple groups are fighting with each other in Syria. So in recent time terrorism has become a competitive industry that has spread its influence all over the world.

Chapter 91: Cross-border movement of insurgents

India and Myanmar

India and Myanmar share along1, 643km geographically and border and maritime boundary in the Bay of Bengal, which act as India's gateway to South-EastAsia.

India-Myanmar border is highly porous, poorly guarded and located along a remote, underdeveloped, insurgency-prone region and proximate to opium producing area.

Various challenges across the India-Myanmar border

Chapter 92: Cross-Border Terrorism:

Indo-Myanmar border area have become a safe haven for dozens of insurgent groups. These insurgent groups performs offensive action in India and brings instability to the area by promoting separatist tendencies and take an easy hide in Myanmar.
  - These groups also take advantage of loopholes in free movement regime across border to supply arms and drugs in India.

- **Connectivity:** Several connectivity projects like Kaladan Multi-Modal project and IMT Trilateral Highway project are underway,but the ground level progress is quite unfortunate.

- **Free Movement Regime:** It permits tribals to travel 16 km across the borders without any visa restrictions and allowed them to carry heavy loads. This loophole is well utilized by insurgents for trafficking of arms and drugs and to find safe havens in Myanmar.

- **Boundary Agreement 1967:** Though the agreement has delineated the borders between the two countries but not much has been crystallized on groundlevel.

- **Tribal Linkages:** The Indo-Myanmar border is densely populated with tribals, and these tribal communities have strong social-cultural linkages across borders and they refuse to accept the artificial borderlines.

- **Security Forces:** Assam Rifles had a responsibility of guarding the Indo-Myanmar border, but most of it battalions are engaged in counter-insurgency operations. Therefore, It functions like counter-insurgency force rather than border-guarding force.

- **Infrastructural Facility at Border Check-Points:** The infrastructure facilities at border check-points is not sufficient to meet the required challenge. **Moreh-Zokhawater** point has been declared as **Integrated Check-Point (ICP)** but nothing much have materialized on the ground.

- **Difficult Terrain Across Border:** The geographical terrain around border areas is highly inaccessible, so it becomes quite difficult to develop communication and connectivity.

- **Trafficking:** Proximity to **'golden triangle'** has made Indo-Myanmar border highly vulnerable to drug trafficking and the border has become a gateway for trafficking of women and small children to South AsianNations.

Chapter 93: Rohingya Issue:

Influx of marginalised muslim minority rohingya community has raised a serious **socio-cultural confrontations** in the areas due to increased burden on local resources.

Steps to Counter the Challenges

The vulnerability of the India-Myanmar border is posing as serious challenge to the internal

security of the country. The Government of India should pay immediate attention to effectively manage this border.

☐ It should strengthen the security of the border by either giving the Assam Rifles the single mandate of guarding the border or deploying another border guarding force such as The Border Security Force(BSF).

☐ It should initiate a revision of the FMR and reduce the permitted distance of unrestricted travel.

☐ The construction of the ICP along with other infrastructure should be expedited.

Chapter 94: The Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System(CIBMS)

The system is touted as a robust and integrated system, is capable of addressing the gaps in the present system of border security by seamlessly integrating human resources, weapons, and high-tech surveillance equipment, should be proactively deployed.

☐ Sustained community interaction programmes so that the border tribal communities can be sensitized to participate in the nation building on both sides of the border.

India should endeavour to meaningfully engage with Myanmar and solicit its cooperation in resolving all outstanding issues and better manage their mutual border.