

IIPA 2022

CURRENT EVENTS of Global and National Importance

Short Answers

CSM-01 Compiled by Dr Manan Dwivedi



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Chapter - 1

The Challenges before the Election Commission of India

1.1 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. The issue pertains to the efficacy and credibility of EVMs in conducting free and fair elections.

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.

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- 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 registration 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 result in failure. 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

Safeguarding the Indian art heritage is the need of the moment:

2.1 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, Dhokra handi craft, etc., which need protection and preservation.

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- ☐ 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 Shreshth Bharat programme, Tribal haats, GI tag to the local products, e-haats, 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.

Chapter – 3

India and the Arctic region:

3.1 India's Interests in 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 for fishing.

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- **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 navigable 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 Research Station.
- **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 – 4

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

4.1 The West African Millue:

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 in West Africa and his struggle is a significant example of 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, Nigeria in 19th–20th Century.

Besides press, the African intelligentsia also used societies, clubs and associations as vehicles for arising consciousness and disseminating information. The Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society (APRS) 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 organization 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

South China Sea's great geopolitical significance:

5.1 The attendant details

South China Sea is a marginal sea of Pacific Ocean having the area of 3,500,000 square 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. Philippines already has gone to Permanent Court of Arbitration against China and the court verdict is in favour of its claim.

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 important Sea Lanes of Communications (SLOC) for US, China, Japan, Korean Peninsula and East Asian countries.

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- It's the territory where a vast number of gas, petroleum and mineral resources are

preserved, hence SCS attains strategic place as energy storehouse, important for both developed and developing countries.

- South China Sea covers 12% of global fish products. China, Philippines, Vietnam etc produce a huge number of fisheries resources.

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- 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.

6. Affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy is the sine qua non to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

6.1 The Attendant Details: Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy (SDG-7) is one of the 17 sustainable development goals (SDG), adopted by International community in 2015.

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

India has a crucial role to play in shaping the SDGs and has done a commendable job in providing clean and efficient energy to the people.

- 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. On 30th November, 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) by 2020.

According to Lawson, there is reduction in gender gap in India by half over the period 2008-17 which was the result of access to modern energy sources to the women and girls thereby leading to the positive impact on girl's education and employment. But there are few cases raising question on accessibility of sustainable and affordable energy, like wide regional gaps in electrification of households. However on the basis of the pace of developmental work, we can say that India will be able to achieve the goal of SDG-7 within the decided timeframe.

Chapter – 7

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is viewed as a cardinal subset of China's larger 'One Belt One Road' initiative.

7.1 The Attendant Details:

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 Chinaaa 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.

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- 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 – 8

The basic principles of citizens charter movement

8.1 Its Voluntary commitments:

Citizen's Charter is a document of voluntary commitments made by a government organization to the citizens/client groups in respect of the services/schemes being provided to them to 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.

Principles of Citizen Charter

- **Quality:** improving the quality of services

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- ☐ **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**.
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- ☐ 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 – 9

Law and Ethics

9.1 The consonance between 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.

Chapter – 10

The decolonization process in the Malay Peninsula:

10.1 More about 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.

- 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.

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- 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 communist 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 – 11

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

11.1) 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 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.

11. The aims and objectives of the McBride Commission of the UNESCO and India's Standpoint:

11.1 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 the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) representing the developing countries of the "South" or the "Third World". India particularly played a very significant role by facilitating various meetings in different genres, 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 – 12

India and Japan to build: A strong contemporary relationship

12.1 The India-Japan partnership,

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:

□ Cooperation in Indo-Pacific region:

- It is a confluence between India's Act East policy and Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific strategy.
- It will strengthen the rule of law and freedom of navigation, which is threatened by China's muscle flexing in the South China sea.

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- It will enhance cooperation with Japan and ASEAN countries.
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□ **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.
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- 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.
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- Japan,US,India(JAI)andAustraliacombinedlycalledQuad,isseenasaninformalorganisationthatseekstocounterChina.
- 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.
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- 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.
- This will establish India's credibility as a responsible nuclear power.

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- It will boost India's make in India initiative.
 - 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.

13.China and its economic relations and positive trade surplus

13.1 More About it

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.

Possible impact of China's rise on India are–

- China could emerge as a direct military threat to India as has been seen in the recent Doklam stand off and other border disputes.
- In face of rising assertion in the international affairs, China could hamper India's interest in multilateral forums like UNSC and those initiated by Beijing like Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.
- 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.
- 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 same time.

14. Too little cash, too much politics, leaves UNESCO fighting for life.

14.1 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 state and Washington responded by halting payment of its annual \$80 million 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 bona fide 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.

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- 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 dues over 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, for this, nations should sacrifice zero-sum game of politics.

15. Functions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council(ECOSOC)?

15.1 More About ECOSOC

The UN Charter established ECOSOC in 1945 as one of the six main organs of the United Nations. ECOSOC helps United Nations system today in 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.

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.

16. India and USA as the twin large democracies

16.1 US India Affairs

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.

The basic tenets on which the two political systems are based are:

☐ **Rule of Law and Republicanism:**

Both the countries have written constitutions ensuring rule of law and guaranteeing fundamental rights to their citizens. Both the countries are republican in nature and provide adult franchise to the citizens.

☐ **Separation of Powers:** In USA, there is a clear-cut separation of powers between judiciary, executive and legislature while the same is not observed exactly in India, as there is fusion between executive and legislature.

☐ **Federal System:** India is a federal parliamentary democratic republic in which the President of India is the head of state and the Prime Minister is the head of government whereas the United States is a federal presidential republic in which the President is the head of the state and of the government as well. As per Article 1, India is a “Union of states” 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 features so unitary 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.

17.The broader aims and objectives of WTO:

17.1 India has been trying to prevent attempts by rich nations to introduce 'new issues' like labour and environment.

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 Safeguard Mechanism' 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 discussing new 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 all 162 WTO 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).

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

18.1 More About NAM

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.

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't resemble 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 become 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**.

19.The key areas of reform of the WTO:

19.1 World Trade Organization: A Narrative

(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

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- **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.

19. Increasing cross-border terrorist attacks in India

19.1 The South Asian context

19.1 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.

20.The question of India's Energy Security

20.1 More About 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 field 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 gas pipeline 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.

21.The ongoing U.S-Iran Nuclear Pact Controversy

21.1 The Attendant Details

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-

- **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.

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- **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.

22. Indian Diaspora and the South East Asian countries economy and society.

22.1 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.

Economic Contribution by Indians in SEA

- 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 including in bio-technology and

medicine.

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.

23. Role played by OGWs in assisting terrorist organizations in insurgency affected areas.

23.1 Terrorism Revisited

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 assist terror networks 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.

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- **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 orphans 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.
- **Human and Electronic Surveillance:** This is used to tap into existing networks to pre-empt error attempts.
- **International cooperation:** To facilitate follow up on suspects and terror networks.
- **Fast track courts:** 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.

24. The potential threats of Cyber attack and the security framework

24.1 More About the Cyber Tangle

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 Information Technology (IT) Act, 2008 from the year 2011 to 2016.

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

- The project can help in preventing cyber crimes through development of a cyber threat 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.

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- ❑ 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) inservice delivery.
 - ❑ Cyberdome 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 offences using advancements in the field of information technology.
 - ❑ 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.

24.) Left Wing Extremism (LWE)

24.1 The Nitty Gritty

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' to fight 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.

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- 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, Tribal Youth Exchange programmes, radio jingles, documentaries, pamphlets etc.

25. The North-Eastern region of India has been infested with insurgency

25.1 Attendant Details

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-

- This region has been one of the most neglected regions in terms of developments and is the main cause behind the resentment to the people living in this area. The insurgent Groups take advantage of the resentment of people and get support base.
- Alienation of population from mainstream political process, where the insurgent group continues to boycott the dialogue and electoral process. (Ex – NSCN-Khaplang group)
- Hilly terrain, dense forest and porous borders give strategic advantages for the insurgent Guerilla groups and at the same time it creates a big hurdle for the counter insurgency operations.
- Racial clashes are very common here due to diverse racial profile of the region. In a fractured society the insurgent groups penetrate easily.
- 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 the North-East.

26.The terms ‘Hot Pursuit’ and ‘Surgical Strikes’

26.1The larger strategy

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 never before chosen to share information 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 in case of Pakistan, Security forces can be trapped in enemy territory. It could be because of international censure for violating other country’s border.

27.Terrorism

27.1In recent years,

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.

28.The unlawful activities (Prevention) Act, (UAPA), 1967 and the NIA Act.

28.1 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.

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- 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 organised crimes like human trafficking, cyber terrorism etc. An empowered NIA is a good step in this direction

However, human rights organisations 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.

30.Mob

30.1 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 mob violence—whether it be in Jharkhand 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 the displacement of responsibility by the state, which blames people for taking law into their own hands, and by citizens, who justify their actions on state inaction.

Causes for Increasing Mob Violence

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

- Climate of impunity - Mob violence and vigilantism happens because criminals expect to get away with it. State deterrence is not perceived to be credible, especially when policemen are rendered as mere by-standers at the scene of violence.

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- 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 rights i.e. **“Right to Life”** (Art 21).

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.

40. Cross-border movement of insurgents

40.1 India and Myanmar

India and Myanmar share along 1,643 km geographically and border and maritime boundary in the Bay of Bengal, which act as India's gateway to South-East Asia.

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

- **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.

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- ❑ **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 ground level.
 - ❑ **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 its 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 has 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 Asian Nations.
 - ❑ **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 a 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.
- **The Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System(CIBMS)** which 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.

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

41.1 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:

- Ensure co –ordination among the intelligence and security agencies to check in filtration of Terror activity.
- Empowering and engaging with civil society and local communities can help in countering radicalization and to stop the spread of violent extremism.
- 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.
- Several initiatives that promote alliance of civilizations and intercultural dialogue must be promoted to counter terrorism. For instance, the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas celebrated on 31st October promotes unity in India.
- Enhancing security presence along the international boundaries and seal the porous borders.
- Undertaking policies to tackle economic and social inequalities will help in deterring disgruntled youth from being lured towards terrorism.
- 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
- Incorporating ‘SAMADHAN’ insecurity operations in LWE affected areas and at same time focusing on development projects in Red corridor districts.

Sources of funding

- NGO,charities and donations are an important sourcing off unds for terrorism. These Funds are mostly claimed through religious appeal, coercion and fears of victimization.
- 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.
- Drug financing are also a major source s of terrorism financing in India.
- 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.

10.) Use of internet and social media by non-state actors for subversive activities is a major security concern. How have these been misused in the recent past? Suggest effective guidelines to curb the above threat.(2016)

Answer:he 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 the world has become a reality. Cyber warfare is gaining importance due to increasing density of internet. The **Stuxnet** virus affected half of the world targeting Iran nuclear facilities.

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 of misuse of internet by non-state actors.

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 by non-state actors.

In these circumstances effective strategies should be adopted to curb the threat posed by internet and social media. Following are some of the guidelines that can be very useful.

- ☐ India recently appointed first Chief Information Security Officer (CISO). It will help India in developing the vision and policy to fight cybercrime and manage cybersecurity more effectively.
- ☐ Creation of National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA) would improve India's resilience and defense system.
- ☐ Monitoring of content on internet by intelligence agencies such as Intelligence Bureau, RAW can prevent any attempt to radicalize youths.
- ☐ National Cyber Security Policy 2013 aims at protection of information infrastructure in cyber space, reduce vulnerabilities. A National and sectoral 24×7 mechanism has been envisaged to deal with cyber threats through National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC)
- ☐ Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has been designated to act as a nodal agency for coordination of crisis management efforts.

42. India and the illicit opium growing

42.1 The General Fundamentals

- Geographically, India is placed between the two largest opium growing areas in the world. To the west is the Golden Crescent (Afghanistan) and to the east is the Golden Triangle (Myanmar). This makes India vulnerable to drug trafficking through

There exist linkages between drug trafficking and other illicit activities such as gun running, money laundering and human trafficking, which are as follows:

- An increasing interoperability has been witnessed between drug cartels and other criminal groups. In Afghanistan around 85% of the opium growing area falls under Taliban. Taliban uses the funds from drug trade in many different ways like weapon smuggling, human trafficking, and proliferation of terrorism etc.
- Drug trafficking groups also get attracted to human trafficking activities as there is some overlap between the routes used and there are advantages to be gained by sharing established logistical infrastructure, which include transportation and storage facilities.
- Similarly, gun running and money laundering require logistics supports which are shared by these organizations. At times these activities seem to sustain each other such as smuggling drugs by hiding it in human body parts. The revenue generated from drug trade is laundered to create assets such as casinos, bars, hotels etc. which again become breeding grounds for other crimes. Nexus between drug lords and armed groups gives rise to thriving weapons business.

Following counter-measures can be opted against these crimes:

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methodsofborderguarding.Workingon boththefrontcan probably
addresstheexistingproblemsofinternalsecurity.

Conclusion

The issues of importance Globally and internationally range from the rule of law issues, internal security threats in the nation all the way to the dynamics of the larger international and the Indian political system. The surmised content attempts to postulate these variant but vibrant idioms in order to highlight the nature, scope and extent of the Global system canopying it with the Domesticity involved.