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GENERAL STUDIES (Test Code : 293)

Name of Candidate

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Registration No.

1684

Schedule

Module

Place

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Time

Date

11-Oct-2013

Classroom

Distance Learning



Classroom & Distance Learning

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1.(a)	20	
1.(b)	20	
1.(c)	20	
1.(d)	20	
1.(e)	20	
2.(a)	15	
2.(b)	15	
2.(c)	15	
2.(d)	15	
2.(e)	15	
2.(f)	15	
3.(a)	10	
3.(b)	10	
3.(c)	10	
3.(d)	10	
4.(a)	5	
4.(b)	5	
4.(c)	5	
4.(d)	5	

Total Marks Obtained

124

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, ID Number and Test Code).
2. Candidates should attempt answer to the part/sub-part of a question strictly within the pre-defined space. Any attempt outside the pre-defined space shall not be evaluated.
3. The candidate need not write anything in his/her answer that derogates the dignity of an individual or an organization.
4. Candidates should attempt all questions strictly in accordance with the instruction given under each question.
5. The candidate should respect the instructions, given by the invigilator.

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SBT

GENERAL STUDIES (Test Code : 293)

Overall Macro comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1. Handwriting is good
2. Sometimes missing the contextual understanding of question
3. Need to work on conclusion
4. Structure & presentation of answer is balanced.
- 5.

All The Best

1. Answer the following in about 250 words each:

5 x 20 = 100

(a) The border disputes between Bangladesh and India are by no means confined only to demarcation problems. In this context, comment on the recent developments and complications in border issues between the two.

- Many of the Indo-Bangla border issues date back to the hastily drawn Radcliffe line.
- At present, the demarcation issues are largely over. In fact both sides have exchanged maps for most of the border & the joint mechanism over demarcation is progressing well.
- However many other, thornier issues remain:
 1. Enclaves issues: This is the issue of the enclaves possessed by either countries on the other side of the border. An agreement was reached to ~~settle~~ ^{exchange} the adversely held enclaves few years back. But the agreement requires ~~an~~ amendment to the Indian constitution & hence 2/3rd approval by the parliament. The govt. has so far failed to build consensus around it & hasn't even been able to table it in the parliament.

This is a major issue, apart from Teesta, and if settled in time, will go a long way in strengthening Indo-Bangla relations & strengthen hold of secular, India friendly Sheikh Hasina Wajid in Bangladesh. So we should urgently ratify it in the winter session. In the meantime, 24x7 connectivity has been restored in enclaves.

2. Border fencing & Illegal Immigration:
Illegal immigration from Bangladesh has been a major irritant & has even altered the demography of ~~major~~ ^{many} areas in Assam. To counter this, India wants to build fence & floodlights on the border. But Bangladesh opposes it. Also due to narrow political considerations ^{& terrain,} ~~work~~ is going at an extremely slow pace.
3. Cross border smuggling, terrorism & Cruel treatment by BSF: Bangla soil is used to conduct illegal trafficking & smuggling & terror activities in India. Bangladesh has agreed not to let its land ~~be to be~~ used for anti India activities & even

handed over Ufa chief. But it also wants BSF to stop being so cruel. 2-3 years ago there was an incident of Bangla Rifles Men also cruelly treating BSF men. So a joint mechanism has been set up.

4. Other issues: include small island issues, EEZ determination issues. These have largely been settled in talks.

~~to only answer~~

1. (b) Analyze whether India's strategy in the Asia Pacific region, especially with respect to China, concurs with the US. Also examine whether it is a case of geopolitical opportunity or strategic autonomy. 20

The rise of China has rapidly changed power equations. So much so that USA publically announced its Pivot strategy.

As a part of the Asia Pacific pivot, it is:

- courting economic alliances in the region with the TPP.
- strengthening military influence by posting 2500 marines in Australia, re-affirming Japanese security guarantee over Senkaku islands.
- strengthening diplomatic position by backing Asian countries in South China Sea, increasing involvement in ASEAN affairs.

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First describe about Asia Pacific & its importance

Avoid abbreviation without giving full name in first.

Points of Indian Concurrence with USA

- India too stresses settlement of South China sea issue under UNCLOS & wants freedom of navigation.
- India is cultivating closer relations with US allies like Japan, S. Korea, Australia.
- Aggressive nationalism of China is a big threat to India also as Despang incursion proves.
- India has upped its military engagement with Japan, Australia, US
 - joint, multi country naval exercises.
 - nuclear cooperation & defence agreements for technology sharing & coproduction.
- India is rapidly increasing economic ties / signing FTAs or CEPAs with Asean, Japan, Korea. But is showing restraint with China.

Points of Indian differences with USA

- TPP is not in Indian interests as it has stricter labor, environment, IPR provisions so India is ~~not~~ looking more towards RCEP which includes China.
- India decided to go slow in Vietnam

hydrocarbon exploration after China opposed.
- India refuses to aggressively go into
the US camp despite repeated invitations.
Geopolitical opportunity or Strategic autonomy?

- Many analysts see this as a genuine geopolitical opportunity for India as:
 - India holds the power to sufficiently alter the balance of power in the region.
 - US is anxious about China & India too shares this threat perception.
 - So India can go into the US camp on favorable terms.
- However, this is more a case of strategic autonomy because:
 - India's power is growing. The longer we wait, the stronger we become & the more favorable terms we get in future.
 - To grow fully, India needs peaceful relations with all & needs to deepen engagements which suit its most. Taking sides would harm our growth.
 - Despite US fears, US retains very close economic ties with China. Also its not certain that it would risk coming to India's aid if we have a conflict with China.

1. (c) Can BRICS provide a platform to India for rewriting the rules of global, political and economic governance? 20

Due to their sheer combined weight, it is certain that when BRICS really say something, it is impossible for the world to do otherwise. But the real question is, can the Brics really say something? Let's see Brics' stand on:

1. UN Security Council Reforms: Although officially BRICS supports reform, there are wide differences on how these reforms should look like. China, for instance, opposes India's elevation to permanent member status, but others support it. Thus we cannot rely on BRICS to help us here.
2. UN FCC diplomacy: Here too there are differences as Russia is on the other side. The BASIC countries (BRICS - Russia) had a common position until recently (opposing a legally binding protocol with firm commitments by 2015, supporting equity & CBDR, asking for financial & technological help). But recently South Africa has moved away from this position as it now supports a legally binding protocol with firm commitments by 2015, although with

4x3
11

- equity and CBDR.
3. World Trade Organisation: In WTO, though Russia is a late entrant, it is expected to side with other BRICS countries. Here ~~not~~ BRICS countries have a lot in common and exert a powerful force together by the G-33 group. example, recent proposal on food security exemption.
 4. IMF & world Bank: BRICS are united & powerful in demanding greater ^{other} noteshare for themselves & developing countries. But the developed countries have been slow to react. ~~So~~ The BRICS nations have refused to be let down and have created a currency Reserve Agreement (to help countries tide over short BoP crisis - like IMF) and a development bank (to help give long term loans for socio-economic development - like world Bank).
 5. Syria: BRICS have been powerful in calling for a peaceful, Syrian led, political process. Russia & China used their veto in UNSC. powerful diplomacy by Russia prevented a unilateral USA attack on Syria.
 6. Afghanistan: BRICS are interested in a peaceful, post-2014 Afghanistan. But

Question
was
how
can
India
use
BRICS
as
platform
and not
about BRICS

China has not put sufficient pressure on Pakistan as it believes it can get a security guarantee for its investments separately.

7. ~~Iran~~ Iran: BRICS haven't pursued it as strongly, in terms of actions. That is why USA sanctions have succeeded. But they've been able to prevent a military attack so far.

8. Trade Status of US\$: BRICS are ^{supporting} increasingly using local currencies to settle their trade.

Thus the importance of US\$ will go down in future, & BRICS' currencies go up.

1. (d) What role are regional powers likely to play in post-2014 Afghanistan to achieve regional stability? 20

- The US withdrawal in 2014 is likely to create a power vacuum in Afghanistan. The Afghan govt. is too weak and it is likely that the Taliban militants come back. That is why US is negotiating with them in the hope of securing some guarantees & moderating their behavior.
- The regional powers are going to play a very imp. role after 2014.

1. Pakistan: The Pakistani army & ISI hold the key to post-2014 Afghanistan. This is nevarisome because it wants

Whole
everything
but
did not
put in
perspective
See model
answers

to keep Afghanistan firmly in its control (for strategic depth & to direct terrorism against India). So it will encourage the terrorists and prevent other regional powers such as India from getting heard in the post-2014 negotiations.

2. India: India has a key strategic interest in post-2014 peaceful Afghanistan because:

(a) Afghanistan shouldn't become a terrorist haven else they would target India only; (b) India has billions of dollars of investments & aid there; (c) This will weaken Pakistan's grip. India has signed a Strategic Partnership Agreement with Afghan. India would encourage a democratic, peaceful, moderate government in Afghanistan. For this reason, it would try to strengthen such a govt. against the terrorists. Even if talks have to be held with Taliban, they must give up terror and follow peaceful moderate means.

3. China: Given its economic investments, it itself wants a peaceful Afghanistan. But given the strategic interests of its

⇒ will this
bring
regional
stability?

close ally Pakistan in Afghan, it is unlikely to take any strong action to pressurise Pakistan to ~~weaken~~ ^{stop supporting} the terrorists. Instead it may want to extract a security guarantee just for its investments only.

4. Russia & Central Asian Republics: Like India, they too are deeply ~~worried~~ ^{about} the impact of terror spilling over to their own region. Besides, ~~they~~ ^{Afghan} can act as a transit ~~for~~ to take out their oil and gas to vast markets in India. ~~So~~ ^{But} they ~~too~~ ^{are} ~~too~~ ^{too} weak to individually force any outcome in Afghan. But are likely to work together with India, ^{maybe under the RATS of SCO} ~~to support a peaceful Afghanistan.~~

5. West Asia: Iran would be very worried about return of Sunni hardliners (itself being Shia). So it is cooperating with India & has given a go ahead for the Chabahar port. Even Saudi Arabia & others worry about the terror impacts, & thus are working on a deal to moderate the Taliban.

1. (e) In the view of unilateral actions by major powers of the world, is United Nations still relevant today? 20

Certain unilateral actions by the global superpowers like the US sanctions against Iran, Kosovo bombings in 1998, ~~to~~ ^{misuse of} ~~Chapter 7~~ ^{Chapter 7 in Libya} to ~~bomb~~ ^{to} ~~Libya~~, have made it look that the UN has been rendered irrelevant.

But this is far from being true.

RELEVANCE OF UN TODAY

1. Great moral force: UN resolutions, specially the general assembly resolutions, carry a great moral force. They represent the collective will of the nations. For example, recently Palestine became a non nation member of the UN. This gives great legitimacy to the Palestinian cause and enhances its position on the negotiation table with Israel.

2. Great diplomatic force: UN security council resolutions carry great diplomatic force. They accord legitimacy to any action. Many countries, including India, have a stated position, that they would not support external intervention ~~which~~ ^{if} not backed by UN resolution.

- Even recently, the UNSC played a vital

role in stopping military action against Syria even though US & its Arab allies wanted it.

- In Somalia & Mali, ~~US~~ ^{AU} & French interventions gained legitimacy as they were backed by UN resolutions.

- UN sanctions against N. Korea for its nuclear programme have great efficacy.

- Many countries cite UN conventions to give legitimacy to ^{support} their national interests in international disputes. eg.

India, Philippines, Vietnam, US - all want to settle South China Sea issue under the UNCLOS. This gives legitimacy to their claim & weakens China's.

3. Other UN activities: UN is very active in other pressing areas such as:

- Internet governance, specially after the Snowden expose. It is likely that the proposal for UN control over internet will gain more support.

- Rio + 20 Sustainable Development Goals: the summit last year tasked a UN sub group to draft these goals which ~~are~~ are vital for our future.

- Climate Change: UNEP & UNFCCC are ^{active} ~~also~~
- Terrorism, money laundering, global commons
the UN conventions on these issues are
the international laws.
- UN humanitarian agencies like UNESCO, UNICEF, FAO are playing a vital role.
- UN Human Rights Commission: UNHRC resolutions on countries are very imp. They can be used as the pretext ^{to} build pressure ^{on individual countries} for ~~international intervention~~.
eg. recent Sri Lanka resolution.

Good

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2. Answer the following in about 200 words each: 6 x 15 = 90
- (a) Discuss the institutional and legislative measures adopted by Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs for connecting the Indian Diaspora with its homeland.

Many steps have been taken.

1. Pravasi Bhartiya Bima yojana: Gives free life insurance cover and encourages ECR passport holder emigrants to save for their return. For every 5000 saved, the govt. makes a matching contribution.
2. Overseas Citizen welfare fund: This is operated to help the poor emigrants in need. It is used to provide boarding/lodging facilities, medical, return flight to the needy.

3. Telephonic helplines: To assist the emigrants in need, give them info. etc. During the recent Nitagat issue in Saudi Arabia, the ministry ran such hotlines to help the overseas workers.
4. Social Security Agreements: These are signed with other countries so that Indians working there don't have to make heavy social security payments (as they won't be staying there long enough to use them).
5. Overseas Cardholder of India (OCI) Scheme: People of Indian origin can get the OCI status which gives them a lot of privileges like domestic treatment of investments in India, faster citizenship.
6. Emigration Check Required (ECR) stamps: For the weaker, non graduate emigrants, the ECR stamp is put on their passports. This ensures that the Indian embassy there can keep track of them & protect them in need.
7. Cultural events: The ministry organises various cultural events on the

Pravasi Bharatiya Day or the NRI day. The prominent NRIs are recognised and given an ^a award on this occasion.

Write also institutional arrangements

2. (b) Over the past year, the term "Indo-Pacific" has gained currency in strategic discourse in India. Discuss the recent Shangri-La dialogue in light of the above statement. 15

- The term Indo-Pacific, coined by Shingo Abe of Japan, refers to the new thought going around in the global strategic circles. It means to think of the US, Asia-Pacific region, Australia & India as one region in terms of analysing balance of power, regional conflicts, maritime issues and economic ties.
- It is a recognition of India's growing economic, military & diplomatic might. It signals that global powers recognise

India has to play a key role in ensuring the security of the region.

• The key dynamics ~~near~~ of Indo-Pacific which were highlighted in the Shangri-la dialogue in Singapore were:

1. China's rapid rise and its aggressive nationalism. Its claims over the entire South China Sea & over Senkaku Islands in East China Sea are particularly disturbing.

2. That this aggressive rise is making the entire region & the US uncomfortable. This was seen in the Shangri-la Dialogue as:

- US chose to speak against the Chinese cyber attacks on US.
- Japan ^{talked about} ~~referred to~~ a 'strong' Japan ^{referring} ~~highlighted~~ to the growing economic & military strength under Shingo-Abe. This is to counter China's growing aggressiveness.
- Vietnam spoke about how a country in the region (China) is becoming so aggressive that it is violating all

write first
what
Shangri-La
Meet means
↳ to discuss
strategic &
defence
issues

8

- international laws and using force.
- other countries ~~of~~ spoke about ensuring freedom of navigation & maritime security.
 - Thus the dialogue clearly highlighted the emerging dynamics in the region and how India can play an important role.

2. (c) Is there any message from Myanmar that it is transforming itself after years of military rule and is open for business? In this context, examine the corresponding response of the Indian Business World. 15

- For decades Myanmar reeled under the military rule. This led to international sanctions and it had to rely solely on China who used to exploit the situation.

- But, lately, Myanmar has given very warm messages - both politically & economically.

- Politically, it has released many pro-democracy political prisoners & allowed Sung Yan Su Kii to run for

- elections. She won and is now subord
the reforms process with the govt.
- It has reinstated many of the curbed political freedoms.
 - Economically, it has cancelled the Chinese Myitane Dam project. And it has signalled to the world that it is open to business.
 - International sanctions have ended and aid & investments are flowing in.

Elaborate
economical
measures

INDIAN RESPONSE

- After PM Manmohan Singh's visit, Indian businesses have enthusiastically responded.
- ONGC & GAIL are ~~is~~ involved in pipeline construction projects to take gas from Kyaupyu in Myanmar to Yunnan province in China.
 - Indian companies have also shown interest in constructing two hydel projects and 2 solar power projects.
 - ONGC is interested in oil & gas exploration there.
 - Airtel is interested in the mobile telecommunications business.

- To improve connectivity, India wants to develop Kaldan multimodal project, March Sat Road & Chennai Dameri Corridor.
- To import gas from Myanmar, an additional LNG terminal at Vichakha-pattanam is being constructed.

2. (d) Are electronic technologies, especially cyber world, gradually becoming the new tool in setting up the agenda and establishing hegemony in international arena? 15

Internet is dominated by USA, and as the recent events show, it is clearly abusing its dominance.

1. PRISM: The prism programme has been used to tap the personal data of users, spy on diplomats, steal military plans, business secrets and IPR info. India is one of the worst hit target & US is using this to undermine other countries' efforts in a host of fora including WTO & UNFCC.

2. Flame, Stuxnet etc. computer viruses:

Flame was used to steal information from Syrian banks. Stuxnet was used to compromise & sabotage Iranian centrifuges!

3. Social media & Arab Spring: It is alleged that CIA of US carefully manipulated the social media sites like twitter to topple the 'unfriendly' governments in the Arab Spring.

4. Global Top level domain (gTLD): ICANN in US had planned to auction the gTLDs to mostly US companies. This would have furthered US monopoly over Internet. However, due to opposition it had to shelve the plan.

5. US-China cyber attacks: Their attacks on each other found a mention in the presidential level talks as well. China itself has launched numerous cyber attacks on India to compromise our security.

6. Huawei Telecommunications of China:

India prohibited the import of telecom

✓
electronic
technology
includes
other things
than cyber
mention
them also
[military
[space
[telecommuni-
etc.

equipment from this company as it feared that the equipment could come with a bug to pass info. to the Chinese.

- To oppose the growing conflicts & hegemony, India supports a proposal to democratise the internet and keep it under UN watch.

2. (e) Is NAM 2.0 an "old wine in a new bottle" or an altogether new strategy based on the principle of pragmatism in the Indian foreign policy? 15

- NAM 2.0 was coined by India's unofficial strategic think tank to label India's strategy in the new world.
- The world is witnessing the rise of bipolarism again - US & China - and conflicts between them are rising.
- One view is that given Chinese aggression, including that on the border issue with India, we should use this opportunity and side with US. We can get advanced military technology.

more investments and other benefits in return.

- Other side is that we should not risk drawing Chinese ire, we should support them in the hope that they would settle the border issue with us peacefully.

- A 3rd view, the NAM 2.0 view, is that we should not take any sides at the moment.

- we are growing strong and with that our weight will increase in future. Thus in future, we will be able to do any deal on more favorable terms.

- To grow rapidly, we need peaceful region and good relations with all. If we take sides, we will have to forego the benefits from the other side. It will also make the region unstable and bring the war nearer.

- Thus the best strategy is to retain our strategic autonomy and to

pursue our core national interests
everywhere. This is NAM 2.0.

- clearly, this is not just inspired by any ideology but necessitated by pragmatic considerations. It's not an 'old wine in new bottle'. It's the best strategy to protect our interests.

Read more about NAM 2.0

Stand on — China
Strategic relation — Pak
— nuclear technology

2. (f) West Asia is part of India's extended neighbourhood and its natural economic hinterland. Analyze this statement in the context of India's "Look West" policy. 15

West Asia has so much impact on us and our neighborhood that it has become our extended neighborhood and natural economic hinterland. Our look west policy duly recognises its importance.

1. Afghanistan: West Asia doesn't want a militant Afghanistan. So Qatar is trying to bring Taliban to talks. Iran is with India on this issue. India is involved in construction of Chabahar port in Iran to take its goods to Afghanistan.
2. Terrorism: W. Asia itself is wary of

terrorism. It has changed its policy now on it and is cooperating with India.

eg. Saudi Arabia's help on Abu Jundal.

3. Oil & Gas: Saudi Arabia is the largest oil supplier and Qatar is our largest gas supplier. We are so dependent on these two fuels. Whenever tensions erupt in Straits of Hormuz, we are badly affected as oil prices go up.

4. Trading partner: Even apart from oil, west Asia, specially Dubai, is one of our largest trading partners.

5. Indian Diaspora & Remittances: It is host to the largest Indian diaspora and is our biggest source of remittances (nearly 50%). The role of these flows in development of Kerala & reducing CAD is well recorded.

6. Source of Investment: The oil rich sovereign wealth funds of west Asia are very much interested in our infrastructure projects like DMEC and our PSU disinvestment programme (they want the anchor investor status).

Good.

8

Indian firms are investing there too.

7. Piracy: West Asia, too, like India, suffers from Somali piracy. It is cooperating with India.

8. Israel: ^{Defence} ~~we~~ ^{with Israel we} have excellent defence ties (A&WCS) and technology ties with Israel, specially in field of water management.

9. Cultural Relations: W. Asia is the home of Islam. India is home to the largest muslim population. Thus cultural ties are well developed.

3. Answer the following in about 150 words each:

4 x 10 = 40

(a) Do you think that reforms are required in the United Nations Security Council?

- UNSC is the heart of UN. Its resolutions have great diplomatic force as it represents the will of the greatest world powers. Or at least, is supposed to.

- The fundamental reason why UNSC needs reforms is because while on the one hand, the world has changed in the last 70 years, UNSC's core has not.

- ~~As~~ Some of the strongest of today's powers, like India, are not represented in the permanent members.

On the other hand, UK and France retain their seats even though they are no longer that much influential in the world.

Repetition

- UNSC also needs to be more representative of the world. It has 3 European nations whereas none from Africa and South America in its permanent members. Clearly this needs to change. Brazil and South Africa can also be represented.
- UNSC is also criticised for being ineffective in many cases involving gross war crimes and ethnic cleansing. This is because of the one or more of the P-5 may think solely on narrow self interests and ignore the grave humanitarian costs.

Veto
↳ worse procedure

Thus in such cases, the P-5 must give up their veto powers. However, it should also be ensured that UNSC actions don't become selective.

4

3. (b) List out the likely benefits for India and Japan, of the civil-nuclear pact being negotiated between them. 10

- Japan had halted nuclear exports altogether after Fukushima.
- But later it created an exception for few countries like UAE, Turkey.
- India wants Japan to create likewise an exception for her as well so that nuclear commerce can begin.

ADVANTAGES FOR INDIA

- Japanese companies like Mitsubishi are significant shareholders in US nuclear reactor companies (GE & Westinghouse). So unless Japan gives a go ahead for nuclear commerce with India, deals with even US companies can't go forward.
- The core steel container in most nuclear plants around the world is manufactured by Japan. So unless Japan says yes, their export to India would be tough.
- India will benefit from the Japanese reactors and Japanese technology which would come in.
- It would better relations with Japan

ADVANTAGES FOR JAPAN

- Japan is going through recession. This pact will boost its exports and give a boost to Abeconomics.
- It will improve security ties with India and bring both countries together. This is important considering the threat perception from an aggressive China.
- However, the sticking point ~~is~~ seems to be Japanese insistence on India signing NPT.

3. (c) How far is the foreign policy of India being shaped or modified by energy economics? 10

India's foreign policy is increasingly being shaped by energy considerations, though when under severe pressure, India compromises on the not less important energy interests.

1. West Asia on Syria: India had abstained from the 1st UN vote on Syria, ^{citing} ~~but~~ its long term policy of not supporting country specific resolutions. But as in subsequent voting, India sided with Gulf nations and voted against Syria.

2. US and Shale gas: India is said to have

struck a bargain with US on issues such as HFC-23 under Montreal protocol, so as to create an exemption for herself for export of US shale gas to non-FTA countries.

3. Central Asia Policy: India has launched the 'Connect Central Asia' policy to vigorously deepen ties with the Central Asian republics to secure access to their oil & gas.

4. Latam & Africa: These are major suppliers of oil & India has broken the limbo in ties with them in recent years. Now it is targeting a high trade growth & looking to invest in hydrocarbons sector there.

5. Nuclear Commerce: India is pursuing active friendly relations with nuclear countries like Japan, US, Australia to secure nuclear energy security.

INSTANCES OF BUCKLING UNDER PRESSURE

1. Vietnam: When China ^{showed its} decided too deep opposition to India exploring in the disputed block, India decided to withdraw.
2. Iran: ^{Due to US sanctions,} Despite saying otherwise, the fact is India's imports from Iran have gone down drastically. IPI pipeline is also dead.

3. (d) What are the major impediments in finalizing the India EU Free Trade Agreement?

10

Following issues are holding it up:

1. Government Procurement: EU wants non-discrimination in govt. procurement. India is not bound by it since it has not signed the GPA. If such thing happens, EU firms will flood our govt. procurement & many of our socio-economic policies would be lost. On the other hand, EU imposes so ^{high} ~~much~~ technological & other requirements, that our firms anyway cant compete in EU.
2. Poultry & Dairy: EU gives heavy ^{Subsidies:} subsidies to poultry & dairy. So if these sectors are opened, as it wants, their products will flood our markets. Millions of small farmers will lose livelihoods.
3. Data Secure Status: India wants EU to give her the data secure status which will make it easy for EU companies to outsource work & data to Indian IT companies. EU is afraid of it.
4. Mode 4 services: India wants EU to open up & liberalise visa regimes to allow free movement of doctors, IT professionals in EU.

EU is again afraid of it.

5. Banking & legal services: EU wants RBI to give 50% of the new branch licences to EU banks and give domestic treatment. It also wants India to allow foreign legal professionals to practice here.

Once these basic differences are sorted out it is hoped that this FTA can be signed & both can come closer.

4. Answer the following in about 50 words each:

4 x 5 = 20

(a) Marrakesh Treaty of World Intellectual Property Organization

- The treaty comes as a major relief to visually handicapped people.
- ~~Also~~ Asks for member nations to insert provisions in their national laws to enable reproduction & distribution of copy-righted material in visually disabled friendly formats, without the need of obtaining consent from the copyright holder.
- Also allows for the international trade of such material.

4. (b) Mountain Strike Corps

5

- Located at Panagankh, they will act as deterrent to Chinese border aggression.
- They would invade and hold central Tibet in case of a Chinese attack.
- It would comprise of over 65,000 soldiers supported by artillery, armor and heavy helicopters.
- Very essential to restore some sort of balance of power on the border.

4. (c) 3G Countries

5

- Global Growth Generators i.e. 3G countries are the 11 countries where majority of global growth in future would come from.
- India, China, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines, Nigeria, Iraq, Sri Lanka and Egypt are 3G countries.
- Citigroup analysts identified that BRIC concept is outdated and now we should look at 3G.

4. (d) Indophobia

- Refers to hate of Indian and specially hindu / Sikh culture.
- Pakistan's existence is based on it.
- Recent hate crimes against Sikhs in US, racial abuses at Miss USA are a part of it.
- Popular in Africa as well specially in Uganda earlier.
- usually propagates racial and religious hatred.

- Also, Australia
Sri Lanka etc

3

