



**QUICK
FACTS**

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



Building Mental Resilience for UPSC CSE with VisionIAS Student Wellness Cell

The UPSC Civil Services Examination is one of the most prestigious exams in the country, bringing immense professional and personal satisfaction. However, the journey often involves overcoming loneliness, intense competition pressure, anxiety, and other psychological challenges. These issues can impact both your preparation and overall well-being.

At **VisionIAS**, we recognize the multifaceted nature of this journey. To support our students comprehensively, we have established a dedicated Student Wellness Cell. Since April 2024, our highly professional psychologists and experienced professionals have provided confidential and mindful support as per student needs.

From Stress Management to Academic Excellence



Enhancing Academic Performance:

Effective stress management contributes to better academic outcomes.



Professional Mental Health Support:

Seeking professional help is crucial for success in UPSC preparation.



Well-Supported Mind for Excellence:

Mental well-being is essential for achieving success in UPSC exams.



Comprehensive Wellness Cell:

Addressing various issues impacting mental health and academic performance.



Safe and Non-Judgmental Environment:

A space for students to discuss issues and receive personalized support.



Confidential and Structured Support:

Multiple, structured sessions based on the severity of the issues.

Common Issues and Our Approach

Our counseling services have addressed a variety of issues, including:



Anxiety and Hopelessness: Using Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) to promote positive thinking.



Lack of Motivation and Focus: Introducing time management strategies and SMART goal-setting.



Emotional Struggles: Providing a safe space for expression and techniques such as journaling and progressive muscle relaxation.



Social Isolation and Loneliness: Encouraging healthy social interactions and setting personal boundaries.



Family and Personal Issues: Offering advice on coping with family dynamics, personal loss, and significant life stressors.



To support the larger student community, **VisionIAS** is now extending our counseling and wellness support to all students preparing for UPSC CSE, regardless of their coaching institute affiliation. Schedule a session by visiting our office at Apsara Arcade near Karol Bagh Metro Station or emailing student.wellness@visionias.in.

Remember, seeking help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

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Dear Students,



In the competitive landscape of the UPSC Mains examination, the significance of integrating data, facts, and examples into your answers cannot be overstated.



These elements serve as the backbone of a compelling and persuasive response, **elevating your answer from a generic narrative to a well-substantiated argument.**



To support you, we have **distilled essential information from the VisionIAS Mains 365 resources** which are renowned for their comprehensive coverage of current affairs. This document **provides a concentrated source of high-quality data, facts, and examples.**



The layout of this document is designed for **quick reference and easy integration into your answer.**



Leveraging this distilled information will help you **craft comprehensive, informative, and compelling answers** essential for securing higher marks.



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DYNAMICS OF CHANGING WORLD ORDER

India's Economic Diplomacy

- ◆ **Economic diplomacy is a foreign policy tool** that involves the use of economic instruments in conduct of international relations for serving **the country's economic, political and strategic interests**.
- ◆ **2008–2020:** India disbursed US\$8.35Bn as grants and loans.
- ◆ **E.g.,** ITEC, India–UN Development Fund, Agalega Airstrip in Mauritius.

Role Of Technology In Geopolitics

- ◆ **Indian Initiatives: Digital Diplomacy** (Nepal's adoption of UPI standards); **Space Technology** (SAARC Satellite GSAT-9); **Energy diplomacy** (OSOWOG, ISA).

Disaster Diplomacy

- ◆ It refers to 'a country's efforts **to provide aid and support to other countries** affected by natural/ man-made disasters or conflicts; "**Oslo Guidelines**" sets the guiding principles.
- ◆ **Initiatives: Operation Dost (Turkiye Earthquake), Operation Karuna (Myanmar cyclone);** Deployment of Medical Assistance Teams to **Mauritius and Comoros**.

Para-Diplomacy

- ◆ It is defined as a **regional government's involvement in international relations**, through establishment of **formal and informal contacts**.
- ◆ **Initiatives: Sister Cities Concepts--Mumbai and Ho Chi Minh (Vietnam); Chennai and Guanzhou (China)**

India's Strategic Autonomy

- ◆ Defined as the **capability to make decisions independent** from **external pressure**, especially from great powers, in the main policy areas.
- ◆ **E.g.,** 'Two-State Solution'; India abstains on Sri Lanka vote at Human Rights Council; Purchase of Russian oil.

India: The Voice Of Global South

- ◆ Refers to countries often characterized as developing, less developed, or underdeveloped.
- ◆ **Initiatives:** Vaccine Maitri; AU in G20; virtual **Voice of Global South Summit**.
- ◆ **5 pillars of multilateral engagement:** Samman, Samvad, Sahyog, Shant and Samriddhi.

India As A Global Unifier

- ◇ **The theme** for India's G20 Presidency is "**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**."
- ◇ **India a global unifier:** Mission LiFE, ISA, GBA, VOSS.

India's Development Cooperation

- ◇ **India's development cooperation:** Grant-in-aid, line of credit; South-South cooperation; Development Partnership Administration (DPA).
- ◇ **Less than 1% of India's budget**
- ◇ **Initiatives:** IREC Programme, India Aid Mission, NEST division, better quality germplasm provided to Ethiopia.

Soft Power And Cultural Diplomacy

- ◇ **Soft power:** The ability to influence others through appeal and attraction and using noncoercive means.
- ◇ **Cultural diplomacy:** The "exchange of ideas, information, art, language and other aspects of culture among nations and peoples in order to foster mutual understanding."

Indian Diaspora

- ◇ **India** has the **largest diaspora population** with **over 31 million** including **13 million NRIs** and **18 million PIOs**.
- ◇ **India received remittance** >\$111 billion (2022), first country to cross USD 100 bn mark.

Remittances To India

- ◇ **Largest Recipient of the Remittance in the World:** India received an estimated **\$125 billion** in remittances in 2023.
- ◇ **Source Countries:** Remittances from the **US, UK, and Singapore (High-skilled migrants)** collectively account for **36 % of total remittances**.

Crude Oil As An Strategic Tool

- ◇ India is **3rd largest consumer** of oil
- ◇ India is world's **4th largest refiner, 6th largest importer** of petroleum products
- ◇ **7th largest exporter** of petroleum products.

Geopolitical Significance Of Ports

- ◆ **Strategically located Ports:** Agalega Islands (Mauritius); Sittwe port (Myanmar); Duqm Port (Oman)



REGIONAL, AND GLOBAL GROUPING AND AGREEMENTS INVOLVING INDIA AND/OR AFFECTING INDIA'S INTEREST

India And G20

- ◆ **Founded:** In 1999, following Asian Financial Crisis.
- ◆ **Represents:** 85% of global GDP, >75% of global trade; 2/3rd World Population.

AU: A Permanent Member Of The G20

- ◆ **Genesis:** Launched in 2002
- ◆ Collectively the group has a GDP of \$3 trillion with some 1.4 billion people
- ◆ Holds **60% of global renewable energy assets** and **30% of low-carbon technology** minerals.

IMEC

- IMEC includes rail, ship-to-rail, and road routes across two corridors: **East corridor links India to Arabian Gulf; northern connect**; It forms part of the PGII.
- Countries:** US, India, Saudi Arabia, UAE, France, Germany, Italy, and the European Commission.

Global Biofuel Alliance

- Countries part of the launch:** India, Singapore, Bangladesh, Italy, USA, Brazil, Argentina, Mauritius and UAE.
- Present GBA Members include:** 24 countries and 12 international organizations.

Expansion Of Brics

- Five new members:** Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.
- Represents:** 16% of Global Trade; 24% of Global GDP; 41% of Global Population.
- Major initiatives of BRICS:** New Development Bank (**NDB**) in 2014; Contingency Reserve Arrangement (**CRA**); **BRICS R&D** centre for vaccines

India-Indo-Pacific

- 50% of global trade** and **40% of Oil passes** through IP; **India's 90% trade** and **80% critical freight**.
- India Advocates for:** Free, open and inclusive region.
- India's Policy:** Security Provider and First Responder; MDA, IMAC; Separate IPO under MEA, SAGAR.

IPEF

- launched jointly by **the USA and other partner countries** of the **Indo-Pacific region** in 2022.
- Members:** 14 partner countries including India: represent 40% of world GDP and 28% of global goods and services trade.
- Comprise 4 Pillars:** Connected economy (Trade, India did not join); Resilient economy (Supply chains); Clean economy and Fair economy.

SCO

- It is a **permanent intergovernmental, political, economic and military organisation** founded in **2001**.
- 60%** Eurasia territory; **42%** world population; **25%** Global GDP.
- India became a **permanent member of SCO in 2017**.

India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor



QUAD

- ◆ Plurilateral framework comprising **India, Australia, Japan, and the USA.**
- ◆ Support an **open, free, and inclusive Indo-Pacific** that is **prosperous and resilient.**
- ◆ **Initiatives:** Clean Energy Supply Chains Initiative; Q-CHAMP; Open Radio Access Network (Open RAN); Quad Investors' Network (QUIN); Quad Partnership for Cable Connectivity and Resilience.

India-ASEAN

- ◆ **ASEAN is India's 4th largest** trading partner.
- ◆ **ASEAN comprises:** 11% of India's global trade; >20% of India's outbound Investment goes to ASEAN.
- ◆ **India-ASEAN Trade:** US\$122.67Bn (2023-24)

The Commonwealth

- ◆ India is the **largest member state of the Commonwealth.**
- ◆ It is **the fourth largest contributor**
- ◆ India hosted **CHOGM** and **CWG** in **1983** and **2010** respectively.

Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

- ◆ **South Sudan** became the new member(121st) of NAM.
- ◆ **Genesis:** Asia-Africa Conference held in Bandung, Indonesia in 1955.
- ◆ **Founding fathers of the movement:** Heads of State of Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia and Yugoslavia.



INDIA AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD RELATIONS

India's Neighbourhood First Policy (NFP)

- ◆ Came around **2008.**
- ◆ **5 Principles of Neighbourhood engagement: Samman** (Respect); **Samvad** (Dialogue); **Shanti** (Peace); **Samridhi** (Prosperity) and **Sanskriti** (Culture).

China's Rise And Threats To India

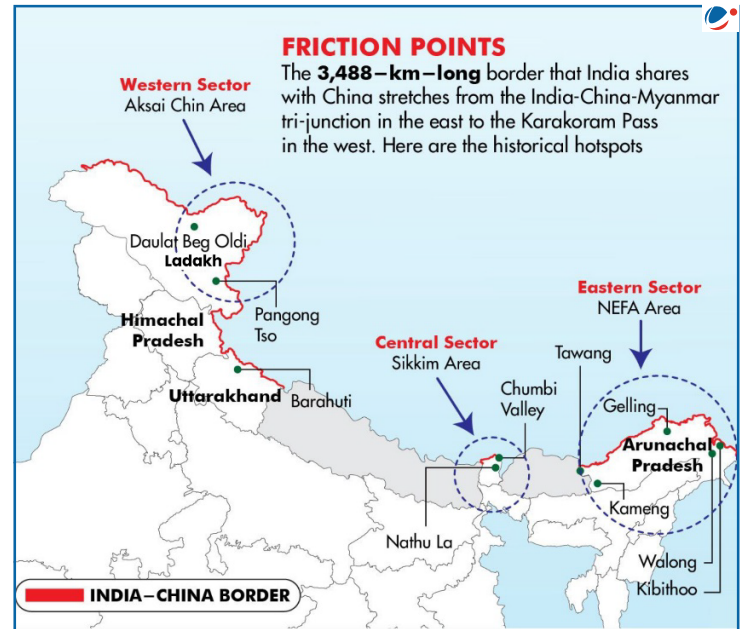
- ◆ **Threat:** Chinese intrusion in Ladakh; CPEC; China's defence budget of \$222 billion Vs. India's \$75 billion; UFWD; widening trade deficit (\$99Bn); Hambantota Port.
- ◆ **Mitigation: Standing up to Chinese military; IPOI; QUAD;** banning TikTok; incorporating AU within G20.
- ◆ **China's contestations at global stage:** Trade Wars with the US; Pacific Islands Influence; South China Sea Disputes; Hong Kong Protests; Taiwan Tensions; Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Criticisms; Africa Debt Concerns.

India-China Border Dispute

- China renamed 30 places in AP in May 2024, which it calls 'South Tibet'.
- India considers the LAC to be 3,488 km long, while the China considers it to be only around 2,000 km.

Indus Water Treaty

- Genesis:** Signed by India and Pakistan (in 1960) and brokered by the World Bank (also a signatory).
- IWT allows India unrestricted use of three eastern rivers Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej.
- Pakistan has control over three western rivers Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab.



Trans-Boundary River Water Management

- River Water Cooperation between India and neighboring countries**
 - Indus Water Treaty (1960): between India and Pakistan.
 - Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission in 1972; Ganga Treaty between India and Bangladesh, 1996.
 - India-Nepal: Koshi Agreement (1954), Gandak Agreement (1959), Tanakpur Barrage Agreement (1991) and Mahakali Treaty 1996
 - India-China Water Data Sharing.

India-Nepal Relations

- India is Nepal's largest trading partner, the top-source country for tourists. Bilateral trade: >US\$ 11 billion (2021-22) {increase of 41% from previous year}.
- Cooperation:** Surya Kiran, Kosi Agreement (1954); Gandak Agreement (1959), Mahakali Treaty (1996); Cross-border Petroleum Pipeline; Roti-Beti ka Naata.

India-Nepal Territorial Dispute

- Indian territories of **Limpiyadhura, Lipulekh, and Kalapani**.
- Kalapani** is the largest territorial dispute between Nepal and India and is a **tri-junction** between India, Nepal and Tibet (China).
- Treaty of Sagauli (1816)** between British East India Company and the then Nepali Gurkha rulers demarcated Uttarakhand's Kumaon with River Kali as a boundary between India and Nepal.

India–Bhutan Relations

- India is Bhutan’s top trade partner, favoring India’s trade balance; Trade, Commerce, and Transit Agreement (2016) establishes a free trade regime.
- Cooperation: RuPay, and BHIM app in Bhutan, India–Bhutan SAT’;** Bhutan’s Gelephu Mindfulness City (connectivity); Tala (Hydropower); MTRAT, DANTAK (security).

India–Afghanistan Relations Under Taliban

- Relations post 2021:** India does not recognise Taliban regime; Technical Mission in Kabul; ICCR scholarship scheme.
- India stresses on importance of **‘Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and Afghan-controlled’ peace process**
- India hosted the **3rd regional security dialogue in 2021.**

India’s North–Eastern Neighbours

- The northeast region international border **5,812 km.**
- Initiatives: Act East policy;** ASEAN, ARF, EAS, BIMSTEC, (Multilateral cooperation), IMT, Kaladan.

India–Sri Lanka Maritime Border

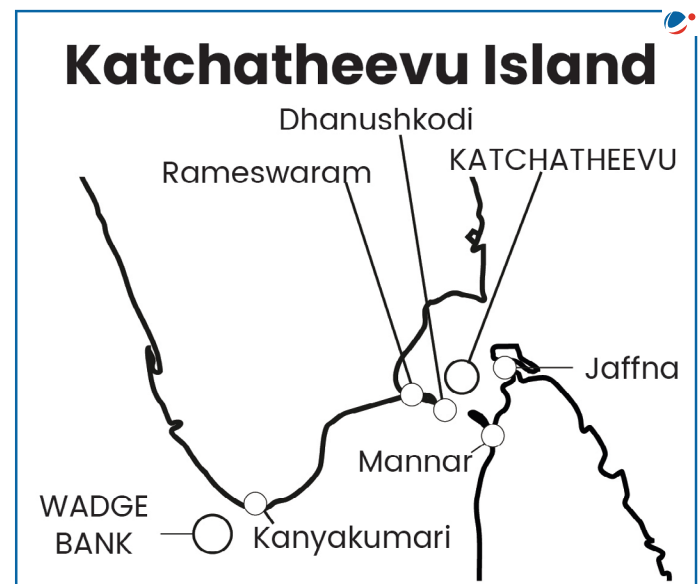
- The problem has three interrelated facets:** Disagreements over Kachchatheevu island; poaching by Indian fishermen in Sri Lankan waters; and Use of trawlers causing environmental damage.
- About Katchatheevu and Wadge Bank**
 - >> Katchatheevu is a **285-acre patch** in the sea within the maritime boundary line of Sri Lanka.
 - >> **Wadge Bank** is **one of the world’s richest fishing grounds**

India– Maldives Relations

- India emerged as Maldives’ largest trade partner (2023). Bilateral trade: US\$ 548 million (2023).**
- Cooperation:** Currency Swap Agreement; Greater Male Connectivity; High-Impact Community Development projects scheme; Helped during coup in 1988, Tsunami, Operation NEER.

Maldives China Military Pact

- Maldives announcement: “there will be **no Indian military presence in the country.**”
- A Chinese firm acquired an islet named Feydhoo Finolhu on a 50-year lease.**
- Investment in large-scale infrastructure projects. E.g. \$200 million China–Maldives Friendship Bridge.**





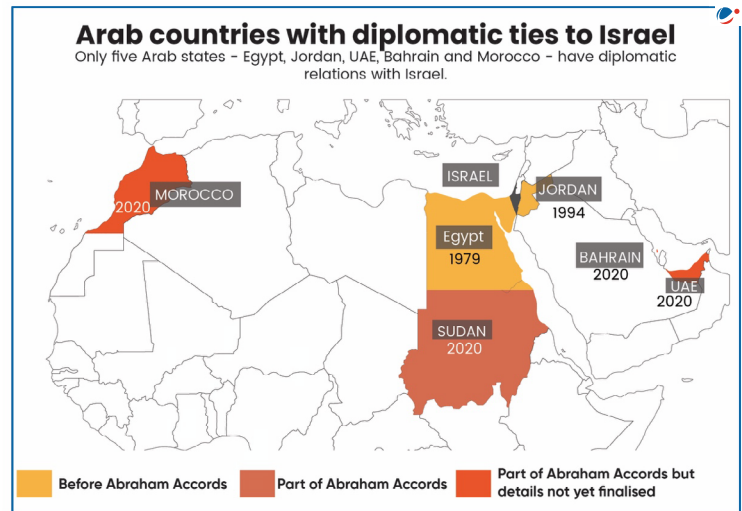
BILATERAL GROUPING AND AGREEMENTS INVOLVING INDIA AND/OR AFFECTING INDIA

Abraham Accords

- ◆ **Collective agreement between US, UAE and Israel** (signed, 2020); later extended to Sudan, Bahrain and Morocco.
- ◆ It marked the **first normalization of ties between Israel and an Arab country** since Jordan in 1994

Israel-Hamas War

- ◆ **“Operation Toofan Al-Aqsa”**
- ◆ The attack by Hamas on Israel coincided with the fiftieth anniversary of Yom Kippur War.
- ◆ **Landmark Peace Agreements between Israel and Arabs**
 - » Camp David Accords (1978)
 - » Oslo Accords (1993)
 - » Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty (1994)
 - » Arab Peace Initiative (2002)
 - » Abraham Accords (2020)



Nagorno-Karabakh Region

- ◆ **Azerbaijan have regained full control over the region.**
- ◆ **Initiative for peace:** Madrid Principles by Minsk group.

India-Israel Relations

- ◆ India is **Israel’s second-largest trading partner in Asia** and the **seventh-largest globally**; Trade in diamonds constitutes close to **50%** of bilateral trade.
- ◆ Full diplomatic relations **established in 1992**; From **assault rifles to AWACS and BARAK**; **Israel’s drip water tech and Multilateral I2U2.**

India-Uae Relationship

- ◆ UAE signed a **BIT; CEPA council; strategic relations 2015.**
- ◆ **Convergence:** UAE is India’s third largest trading partner (2022-23) and second-largest export destination, UAE’s investment in India is around US\$ 20-21 Bn; BRICS, I2U2; 3.5 million Indian diasporas,

India-Saudi Arabia Relations

- Trade **4.53%** of India's total trade; **imports 11.4%** Saudi oil imported; Expedite implementation of **\$50-billion West Coast refinery** project.

India-GCC Relations

- About:** Saudi Arabia, UAE, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain; contribute almost **35% of India's oil imports and 70% of gas imports**; India's **largest block trading partner, with bilateral trade** close to **US\$ 184 Bn.**

India-Central Asia Relations

- 5 land-locked countries: **Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan**; Trade of **goods, ideas and thoughts** over the Silk Road **from 3rd BC to 15th AD.**
- Convergence:** TAPI pipeline, Uranium Supply agreement with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan; Multilateral: SCO, CICA.

India-South Korea Relations

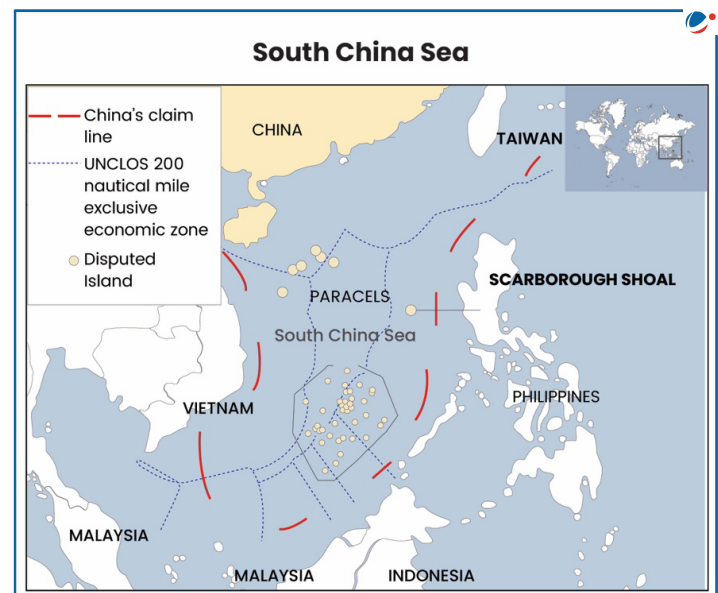
- Bilateral trade in 2023:** US\$24.4Bn
- South Korea's New Southern Policy** seeks to diversify Korea's international economic portfolios can benefit India.

India And Indonesia Relations

- Indonesia is **India's largest trade partner in ASEAN region**; **Total Bilateral Trade stands at around USD 38.85 Billion (2022-23)**
- Enhancing maritime Connectivity:** Under **SAGAR initiative**, India is helping in development of port infrastructure. E.g. **Sabang port** (Indonesia); It will allow **India easier access to the Malacca Strait.**

South China Sea

- 60% of the global trade passes** through this sea. **Nearly 55% of India's trade** with the Indo-Pacific region passes through these waters
- Nine Dash Lines:** It is a U-Shaped line that was adopted from Chinese map of 1940's which represents the Chinese claim over the region. It accounts for around 90% of the total South China sea.




India-US Relations

- ◆ **Bilateral trade:** \$118.42 billion; USA is India's Second largest trading partner after China (2023-24).
- ◆ **Convergence:** UN, ASEAN, G-20, IMF, QUAD, I2U2, Summit for Democracy; India-U.S. Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X), signing of LEMOA, BECA (Defence); iCET; NISAR; ISA, CDRI


India-Canada Relations

- ◆ Recent development: Canada asserted that Indian agents were involved in a murder of pro-Khalistani activist.
- ◆ **Indian Diaspora:** 3% of total Canadian population.
- ◆ **Bilateral trade in goods:** \$9.9Bn; In service: \$6.5Bn in 2022.


India-Latin America Relations

- ◆ **Accounts for ~3% of India's imports and ranks 8th among India's import sources.**
- ◆ **Bilateral trade:** \$49Bn.
- ◆ **Investment:** \$16Bn.
- ◆ **Signed PTA** with MERCOSUR.


India- Brazil Relations

- ◆ 2023 year marks the **75th anniversary of diplomatic relations** between Brazil and India and **20th anniversary of IBSA (India-Brazil-South Africa)** forum.
- ◆ Both sides will work together in **framework of G-4 and L.69.**
- ◆ **India** is **5th largest trading partner** of Brazil (2021).


India-EU Relations

- ◆ **Bilateral trade: \$135 billion (2022-23);** one of India's largest sources of FDI (\$107b).
- ◆ **Cooperation:** EU is 2nd largest destination for Indian exports; Defends multilateralism and rule-based order; EU's Indo-Pacific strategy align with India; Clean Energy and Climate Partnership


India-Russia Relations

- ◆ **Bilateral trade:** \$65 billion (2023-24) {Target was \$30b by 2025}; Target of increasing bilateral trade to \$ 100 Bn (by 2030).
- ◆ **Convergence:** Annual summits; Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (India) Chennai-Vladivostok Eastern Maritime Corridor, INSTC, Enhanced partnership between ISRO & Roscosmos

Russia-China Ties And Impact On India

- ◆ **China and Russia** agreed to deepen the **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Coordination for the New Era**.
- ◆ Signed a **“no-limits” strategic partnership** before Russia-Ukraine war.
- ◆ China is **top supplier of dual-use items** (both civilian and military applications) to Russia.
- ◆ China became **Russia’s biggest trading partner** (bilateral trade **exceeded \$240 billion in 2023**).

Northern Sea Route

- ◆ The Northern Sea Route (NSR), or the Northeast Passage (NEP), **connects the eastern and western parts of the Arctic Ocean**.
- ◆ It Runs from the Barents Sea, near Russia’s border with Norway, to the Bering Strait between Siberia and Alaska.

India-Ukraine Relationship

- ◆ **“Summit on Peace in Ukraine”**, was hosted by Switzerland.
- ◆ Indian delegation attended the summit but **did not associate itself with any communique**.
- ◆ India advocates **peaceful resolution** of the conflict through **dialogue** and **diplomacy**.

India-France Relations

- ◆ **Strategic Partnership in 1998**; France is **among the top 11** foreign investor.
- ◆ **Convergence**: Rafale aircraft purchases and the P-75 Scorpene Project; TRISHNA and Megha-Tropiques satellite; Both converge in Indo-Pacific region

India-UK Relations

- ◆ **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership’** in 2021; Bilateral trade stood at £36.3 billion during FY 2022-23.

India-Italy Relations

- ◆ Italy is **India’s 4th largest** trading partner in the EU.
- ◆ Bilateral trade is valued at **US\$ 14.25 billion in 2022-23**, with the **balance of trade** being **in India’s favour**.
- ◆ **India-Italy Military Cooperation Group (MCG)**, signed **defence cooperation agreement (2023)**

India- Greece Relations

- ◆ **Bilateral trade**: \$2Bn.
- ◆ **India-Greece relationship elevated to Strategic partnership**.



India Nordic Relations

- ◆ Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Iceland; Combined GDP is over \$1.6 trillion, with a per capita income of around \$54,000; India's exports to Nordic region have grown over **39% from 2018-19 to 2022-23**.
- ◆ **Convergence:** Blue economy; India- Nordic Summit; Arctic Summit; Support India for UNSC and NSG.

India- Australia Relations

- ◆ **Bilateral trade:** \$27 billion; India was Australia's 9th largest trading partner, and Australia was India's 13th largest trading partner.
- ◆ **India top tier defence partner;** AUSINDEX

Ind-Aus ECTA

- ◆ **India will benefit from preferential market access** provided by Australia on 100% of its tariff lines.
- ◆ Australia gets preferential access to over **70% of India's tariff lines**.
- ◆ Covers areas like **Rules of Origin, Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures, Dispute Settlement**, etc.

India-Africa Relations

- ◆ Indian investments in Africa reached **\$98 billion in 2023**, with trade totalling **\$100 billion**; India is the **fifth-biggest** investor in Africa; The **10 guiding principles outlined by Indian PM**.
- ◆ **Convergence:** AU's inclusion in the G20; Egypt and Ethiopia joined BRICS; Doubling bilateral trade to US\$ 200 Billion by 2030 and AAGC; ITEC+DIKSHA; ISA.

India-Mauritius Relations

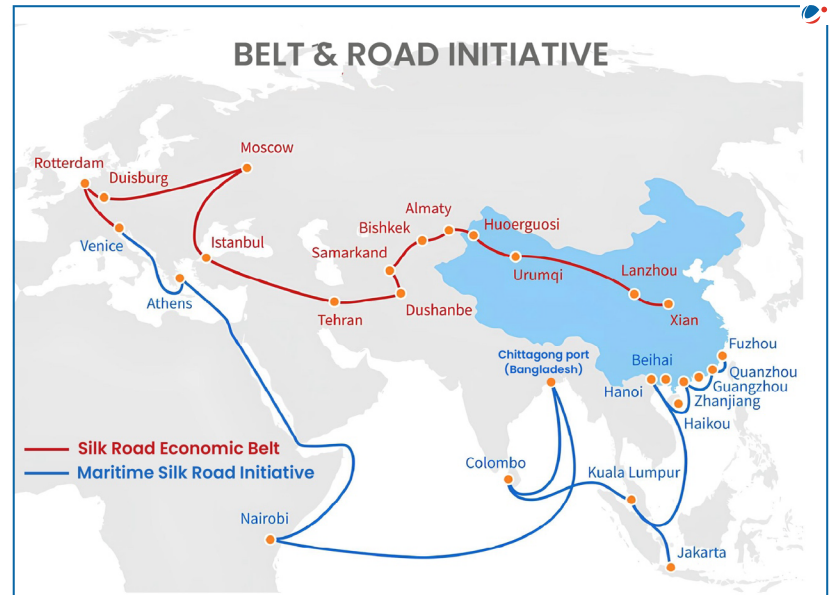
- ◆ **Indian origin people** comprise **nearly 70% of the island's population**; **CECPA signed in 2011**; **Wakashio Accident**.
- ◆ **Convergence:** Signed DTAA; Cumulative FDI worth USD 161 billion; India has been among the largest trading partners of Mauritius; India, supplied helicopters, ships, aircraft; The upgraded airstrip on Agaléga Island; **Mauritius the pivot of India's island policy**.



EFFECT OF POLICIES AND POLITICS OF DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON INDIA'S INTERESTS

BRI Tenth Anniversary

- ◆ BRI is a massive **China-led infrastructure project launched in 2013.**
- ◆ It seeks to **connect Asia with Africa and Europe via land and maritime networks.**
- ◆ **Efforts to counter BRI**
 - » India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)
 - » International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC)
 - » The Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC)
 - » Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII)



China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (Cpec)

- ◆ **3,000-km-long route of infrastructure projects** connecting China's northwest Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and the Gwadar Port
- ◆ It passes through the **Indian territory of Gilgit Baltistan.**



North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

- ◆ Sweden has joined NATO as its 32nd member.
- ◆ **Achievements:** Maintained tense peace during cold war; Publicly denounced Russian actions in Ukraine; NATO contributes to safe and secure Mediterranean Sea.
- ◆ NATO's **Open-door policy** (Article 10)

AUKUS

- ◆ It is a new three-way strategic defence alliance between **Australia, the UK and US.**
- ◆ AUKUS partnership is composed of **two pillars:**
- ◆ **Pillar I – Conventionally Armed, Nuclear-Powered Submarines**
- ◆ **Pillar II – Advanced Capability Development**



IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AGENCIES, AND FORA, THEIR STRUCTURE, MANDATE

Global Institutions In The Changing Times

- ◇ Major global institutions such as the UN System, WTO, IMF, and World Bank (WB).
- ◇ **Relevance:** Unparalleled membership; Guardian of global peace; Source and regulator of international law; Global financial Stability; mapping global development.

India And Multilateral Development Banks

- ◇ MDBs are **international financial institutions** that provide financial and technical assistance to developing countries. E.g., WB Groups, ADB.
- ◇ These banks are owned by **multiple member countries** and **operate globally** to promote economic development, reduce poverty, and support sustainable growth in their member countries.

UNSC

- ◇ India is a **founding member of UN** and has served as a non-permanent member **of UNSC for 8 terms.**
- ◇ **India's Contribution in UNSC:** India chaired the Taliban and Libya sanctions committees; formulation of UDHR; raise apartheid issue at UN; Largest UNPKF; instrumental in establishing G77 Drafting of CCIT.

India And UN Peacekeeping

- ◇ **Principles:** Consent of the parties, Impartiality and Non-use of force except in self-defence and defence of the mandate.
- ◇ **India's contribution to UN Peacekeeping:**
 - » India has contributed services of ~2, 87,000 troops
 - » Trust Fund on sexual exploitation and abuse contribution
 - » 'Group of Friends' launched by India;

UNHRC

- ◇ It's made up **of 47 States**
- ◇ **Equitable geographical distribution of seats**
- ◇ Establish **international commissions of inquiry and fact-finding missions** investigating human rights violations;
- ◇ India was re-elected to **the UNHRC (2022-24) for a 6th term.**

 **International Maritime Organisation**

- ◆ United Nations specialized agency established in 1948.
- ◆ IMO adopted **SOLAS Convention, 1974**.

 **UNCAC**

- ◆ It entered into **force in 2005**.
- ◆ Only **legally binding** universal anti-corruption instrument.
- ◆ Covers different **forms of corruption**, such as bribery, trading in influence, abuse of functions, and various acts of corruption in the **private sector**.

 **International Criminal Court (ICC)**

- ◆ ICC investigate and prosecute individuals accused of serious international crimes.
- ◆ ICC's founding treaty, called the **Rome Statute** grants the ICC jurisdiction over 4 main crimes.
- ◆ **Membership:** 124 countries are States Parties to Rome Statute of ICC (India is not a member).

 **Genocide Convention**

- ◆ **Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, 1948**.
- ◆ It codified the crime of genocide for the first time; It was also the first human rights treaty adopted by the UN General Assembly.
- ◆ **India** has **signed** the treaty.
- ◆ ICJ hears cases related to the interpretation and application of the convention.



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in **TOP 20** Selections in **CSE 2023**

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Srishti Dabas



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Nausheen



Aishwaryam Prajapati

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Selections

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Ishita Kishore



Garima Lohia



Uma Harathi N

1
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