

CHAPTER 1: THE END OF BIPOLARITY

INTRODUCTION

The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 marked the beginning of a series of events that led to the collapse of the "second world" and the end of the Cold War. East European countries in the Soviet bloc replaced their communist governments due to mass demonstrations. The Soviet Union itself disintegrated as a result of ordinary people's actions.

SOVIET SYSTEM

The Union of **Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR)** came into being after the socialist revolution in Russia in **1917**.

The **revolution** was inspired by the ideals of **socialism**, as opposed to capitalism, and the need for an **egalitarian society**.

The **Soviet political system** centered around the **communist party**, and no other political party or opposition was allowed. The **economy** was **planned and controlled** by the state.

After the Second World War, the east European countries that the Soviet army had liberated from the **fascist forces** came under the control of the **USSR**.

This group of countries was called the **Second World or the 'socialist bloc'**.

The **Warsaw Pact**, a military alliance, held them together. The USSR was the leader of the bloc.

The Soviet Union became a great power after the Second World War.

The **Soviet economy** was then more developed than the rest of the world except for the US.

It had a complex communications network, vast energy resources including oil, iron and steel, machinery production, and a transport sector that connected its remotest areas with efficiency.

It had a domestic consumer industry that produced everything from pins to cars, though their quality did not match that of the Western capitalist countries.

The Soviet system, however, became very **bureaucratic and authoritarian**, making life very difficult for its citizens.

Lack of democracy and the **absence of freedom of speech** stifled people who often expressed their dissent in jokes and cartoons.

In the **arms race**, the Soviet Union managed to match the US from time to time, but at great cost.

The Soviet Union lagged behind the West in technology, infrastructure (e.g., transport, power), and most importantly, in fulfilling the political or economic aspirations of citizens.

GORBACHEV AND THE DISINTEGRATION

Mikhail Gorbachev, who had become General Secretary of the **Communist Party of the Soviet Union** in **1985**, sought to reform this system.

Gorbachev initiated the **policies of economic and political reform** and democratization within the country. The reforms were opposed by leaders within the Communist Party.

Coup took place in **1991** that was encouraged by Communist Party hardliners.

The people had tasted freedom by then and did not want the old-style rule of the Communist Party.

Boris Yeltsin emerged as a **national hero** in opposing this coup.

The Russian Republic, where **Yeltsin** won a popular election, began to shake off centralized control.

Power began to shift from the Soviet center to the republics, especially in the more Europeanised part of the Soviet Union, which saw themselves as sovereign states.

The Central Asian republics did not ask for independence and wanted to remain with the **Soviet Federation**.

In December 1991, under the leadership of Yeltsin, Russia, Ukraine and Belarus, three major republics of the USSR, declared that the Soviet Union was **disbanded**.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union was **banned**. Capitalism and democracy were adopted as the bases for the post-Soviet republics.

The declaration on the disintegration of the USSR and the formation of the **Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)** came as a surprise to the other republics, especially to the Central Asian ones.

Russia was now accepted as the **successor** state of the Soviet Union.

It inherited the Soviet seat in the **UN Security Council**.

Russia accepted all the **international treaties and commitments** of the Soviet Union.

It took over as the only nuclear state of the post- Soviet space and carried out some **nuclear disarmament** measures with the US.

The old Soviet Union was thus dead and buried.

WHY DID THE SOVIET UNION DISINTEGRATE?

The disintegration of the Soviet Union was **primarily caused by internal weaknesses** in its political and economic institutions.

Economic stagnation, driven by excessive military spending and the development of satellite states, led to consumer shortages and widespread discontent among the people.

The administrative and **political system became stagnant**, with the Communist Party holding unchecked power and privileges.

Gorbachev's reforms aimed to address these issues but triggered unpredictable forces and divisions within society.

Some wanted faster reforms, while others resisted the erosion of their power and privileges.

Additionally, the **rise of nationalism and the desire for sovereignty** within various republics, especially in Russia and the Baltic Republics, further fueled the disintegration.

The combination of these factors led to the **collapse of the Soviet Union, with nationalist dissatisfaction** being strongest in the more "European" and prosperous regions.

TIMELINE OF DISINTEGRATION OF THE SOVIET UNION

1985 March: Mikhail Gorbachev elected as the **General Secretary** of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; appoints Boris Yeltsin as the head of the Communist Party in Moscow; initiates a series of reforms in the Soviet Union

1988: Independence movement begins in **Lithuania**; later spreads to Estonia and Latvia

1989 October: Soviet Union declares that the **Warsaw Pact** members are free to decide their own futures; Berlin Wall falls in November

1990 February: Gorbachev strips the Soviet Communist Party of its 72-year-long monopoly on power by calling on the **Soviet parliament (Duma)** to permit multi-party politics

1990 March: Lithuania becomes the first of the 15 Soviet republics to declare its independence

1990 June: Russian parliament declares its independence from the Soviet Union

1991 June: Yeltsin, no longer in the Communist Party, becomes the **President of Russia**

1991 August: The Communist Party hardliners stage an abortive coup against Gorbachev

1991 September: Three **Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania** become UN members (later join NATO in March 2004)

1991 December: Russia, Belarus and Ukraine decide to annul the 1922 Treaty on the Creation of the USSR and establish the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS); Armenia,

Azerbaijan, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan join the CIS (Georgia joins later in 1993); **Russia takes over the USSR seat in the United Nations**
1991 December 25: Gorbachev resigns as the President of the Soviet Union; the end of the Soviet Union

CONSEQUENCES OF DISINTEGRATION

End of Cold War Confrontations: The ideological dispute between socialism and capitalism came to an end, leading to the cessation of military confrontations between the two blocs.

The arms race and nuclear weapons accumulation were halted, paving the way for a possible new peace.

Power Shift and New Dominant System: With the end of the Cold War, power relations in world politics changed.

The **United States became the sole superpower**, and the capitalist economy became the dominant economic system internationally. **Institutions like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund** gained significant influence, promoting capitalist transitions globally. The concept of liberal democracy emerged as the preferred political system.

Emergence of New Countries and Players: The disintegration of the Soviet bloc resulted in the emergence of many new countries with independent aspirations and choices.

These countries sought to establish their identities and interests on the international stage. Some aimed to join the **European Union and NATO**, while others sought to maintain ties with Russia, the US, China, and other global actors.

SHOCK THERAPY IN POST-COMMUNIST REGIMES

Shock therapy was a **transition model** implemented in post-communist regimes in **Russia, Central Asia, and Eastern Europe**, following the collapse of communism.

Influenced by the **World Bank and IMF**, it aimed for a rapid shift from an authoritarian socialist system to a democratic capitalist one.

Key features included

- a complete switch to a capitalist economy,
- emphasizing private ownership of property through extensive privatization,
- replacing collective farms with private farming, and
- adopting a free trade regime with openness to foreign investment.

It also involved **breaking up existing trade alliances**, linking states directly to the West, and absorbing them into the Western economic system.

The **Western capitalist states led and controlled the region's development** through various agencies and organizations.



CONSEQUENCES OF SHOCK THERAPY

Economic Consequences: The promised utopia of mass consumption did not materialize, and instead, the **economies suffered ruin and the people faced hardships.**

In Russia, the state-controlled industrial complex nearly collapsed as industries were privatized without government-directed industrial policies.

The **ruble's value declined dramatically**, inflation soared, and people lost their savings. The collective farm system disintegrated, leading to food insecurity, and Russia became a food importer.

Social Consequences: Social welfare systems were destroyed, pushing many into poverty, while economic inequality grew, **creating disparities between rich and poor regions.**

Political Consequences: The focus on economic transformation **overshadowed the establishment of democratic institutions**, resulting in strong executive presidents and weak parliaments in many countries.

Several **Central Asian presidents became highly authoritarian**, limiting dissent and opposition.

While some economies started to revive in 2000 due to natural resource exports, overall, the consequences of shock therapy had a profound impact on the region, leaving deep economic, social, and political scars.

TENSIONS AND CONFLICTS

In Russia, two republics, Chechnya and Dagestan, have had violent secessionist movements.

Moscow's method of dealing with the Chechen rebels and indiscriminate military bombings have led to many human rights violations but failed to deter the aspirations for independence.

In Central Asia, **Tajikistan witnessed a civil war** that went on for ten years till 2001.

The region as a whole has many sectarian conflicts.

In Azerbaijan's province of Nagorno-Karabakh, some local Armenians want to secede and join Armenia.

In Georgia, the demand for independence has come from two provinces, resulting in a civil war. There are movements against the existing regimes in Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan and Georgia.

Countries and provinces are fighting over river waters. All this has led to instability, making life difficult for the ordinary citizen.

The **Central Asian Republics** are areas with vast **hydrocarbon resources**, which have brought them economic benefit.

Central Asia has also become a **zone of competition** between outside powers and oil companies. The region is next to Russia, China, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, and close to **West Asia**.

In eastern Europe, Czechoslovakia split peacefully into two, with the Czechs and the Slovaks forming independent countries.

But the most severe conflict took place in the **Balkan republics** of Yugoslavia.

After 1991, it broke apart with several provinces like Croatia, Slovenia and Bosnia and Herzegovina declaring independence.

INDIA AND POST-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES

India has maintained **good relations** with all the post-communist countries.

India's relations with Russia are an important aspect of **India's foreign policy**.

Indo-Russian relations

Indo-Russian relations are embedded in a history of trust and **common interests** and are matched by popular perceptions.

Indian heroes from **Raj Kapoor to Amitabh Bachchan** are household names in Russia and many post-Soviet countries.

Russia and India share a vision of a **multipolar world order**.

More than **80 bilateral agreements** have been signed between India and Russia as part of the Indo-Russian Strategic Agreement of 2001.

India stands to benefit from its relationship with Russia on issues like Kashmir, energy supplies, sharing information on international terrorism, access to Central Asia, and balancing its relations with China.

Russia stands to benefit from this relationship because India is the **second largest arms market** for Russia.

The Indian military gets most of its **hardware from Russia**. Since India is an oil-importing nation, Russia is important to India and has repeatedly come to the assistance of India during its oil crises.

Russia is important for India's **nuclear energy plans** and assisted India's space industry by giving, for example, the cryogenic rocket when India needed it.

Russia and India have collaborated on various scientific projects.

India and USSR During Cold War

During the Cold War era, India and the USSR enjoyed a special relationship which led critics to say that India was part of the Soviet camp. It was a multi-dimensional relationship:

Economic: The Soviet Union assisted India's public sector companies at a time when such assistance was difficult to get. It gave aid and technical assistance for steel plants like Bhilai, Bokaro, Visakhapatnam, and machinery plants like Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., etc. The Soviet Union accepted Indian currency for trade when India was short of foreign exchange.

Political: The Soviet Union supported India's positions on the Kashmir issue in the UN. It also supported India during its major conflicts, especially during the war with Pakistan in 1971. India too supported Soviet foreign policy in some crucial but indirect ways.

Military: India received most of its military hardware from the Soviet Union at a time when few other countries were willing to part with military technologies. The Soviet Union entered into various agreements allowing India to jointly produce military equipment.

Culture: Hindi films and Indian culture were popular in the Soviet Union. A large number of Indian writers and artists visited the USSR.

Important Leaders of The Soviet Union

Vladimir Lenin (1870-1924) Founder of the Bolshevik Communist party; leader of the Russian Revolution of 1917 and the founder-head of the USSR during the most difficult period following the revolution (1917-1924); an outstanding theoretician and practitioner of Marxism and a source of inspiration for communists all over the world.

Joseph Stalin (1879-1953)

Successor to Lenin and led the Soviet Union during its consolidation (1924-53); began rapid industrialisation and forcible collectivisation of agriculture; credited with Soviet victory in the Second World War; held responsible for the Great Terror of the 1930s, authoritarian functioning and elimination of rivals within the party.

Nikita Khrushchev (1894-1971)

Leader of the Soviet Union (1953-64); denounced Stalin's leadership style and introduced some reforms in 1956; suggested "peaceful coexistence" with the West; involved in suppressing popular rebellion in Hungary and in the Cuban missile crisis.

Leonid Brezhnev (1906-82)

Leader of the Soviet Union (1964- 82); proposed Asian Collective Security system; associated with the détente phase in relations with the US; involved in suppressing a popular rebellion in Czechoslovakia and in invading Afghanistan.

Mikhail Gorbachev (Born 1931)

Last leader of the Soviet Union (1985- 91); introduced economic and political reform policies of *perestroika* (restructuring) and *glasnost* (openness); stopped the arms race with the US; withdrew Soviet troops from Afghanistan and eastern Europe; helped in the unification of Germany; ended the Cold War; blamed for the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

Boris Yeltsin (1931-2007)

The first elected President of Russia (1991- 1999); rose to power in the Communist Party and was made the Mayor of Moscow by Gorbachev; later joined the critics of Gorbachev and left the Communist Party; led the protests against the Soviet regime in 1991; played a key role in dissolving the Soviet Union; blamed for hardships suffered by Russians in their transition from communism to capitalism.

QUESTIONS

1. Consider the following statements about the collapse of the 'second world':

The Berlin Wall was demolished by military force in 1989, marking the beginning of the end of the Cold War.

Germany's reunification occurred as a result of mass demonstrations and the collapse of communist governments in Eastern Europe.

The Soviet Union played a significant role in the disintegration of the 'second world' by forcefully dismantling the Soviet bloc and implementing political reforms.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Berlin Wall was not demolished by military force in 1989.

Instead, it was toppled by the people through peaceful protests and demonstrations. The fall of the Berlin Wall symbolized the end of the division between East and West Germany and served as a significant event in the dismantling of the Cold War era.

Statement 2 is correct: Germany's reunification was a direct outcome of the collapse of communist governments in Eastern Europe and the mass demonstrations that took place in various countries. The peaceful protests and movements demanding democratic reforms led to the fall of communist regimes in Eastern European countries and eventually paved the way for the reunification of Germany in 1990.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The disintegration of the 'second world' and the end of the Cold War were not primarily the result of the Soviet Union forcefully dismantling the Soviet bloc or implementing political reforms. In fact, the collapse of the Soviet Union and the disintegration of the 'second world' occurred due to a combination of factors, including internal political and economic challenges, as well as the widespread desire for democracy and freedom among the people in Eastern Europe. The Soviet Union itself faced internal turmoil and was unable to sustain its control over the satellite states in Eastern Europe, leading to their independence and the subsequent dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

2. With reference to the Berlin Wall, consider the following statements:

The Berlin Wall was built in 1967 to separate East Berlin from West Berlin.

The Berlin Wall was a physical representation of the divide between capitalist and communist ideologies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1 only

2 only

Both 1 and 2

Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Berlin Wall was actually built in 1961, not 1967. It was constructed by the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) to separate East Berlin, which was under communist rule, from West Berlin, which was under capitalist rule.

Statement 2 is correct: The Berlin Wall became a powerful symbol of the ideological and physical divide between the capitalist Western Bloc, led by the United States, and the communist Eastern Bloc, led by the Soviet Union. It represented the larger conflict of the Cold War and the contrasting economic and political systems of the two sides.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

3. Consider the following statements about the Soviet system:

The Soviet Union was a socialist state that aimed to create an egalitarian society based on principles of equality.

The Soviet political system allowed multiple political parties and opposition groups to participate in governance.

The Soviet economy was highly developed and surpassed all other countries, including the United States, in terms of infrastructure and technological advancements.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The Soviet Union was established after the socialist revolution in Russia in 1917, with the goal of creating a society that abolished private property and promoted equality. The Soviet system was built on socialist ideals, where the means of production were owned and controlled by the state, and the government aimed to ensure a minimum standard of living for all citizens.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Soviet political system was centered around the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and no other political parties or opposition groups were allowed. The Communist Party had tight control over all institutions, and the political system was characterized by a lack of democracy and freedom of speech.

Statement 3 is incorrect: While the Soviet Union made significant progress in certain areas, such as a complex communications network and vast energy resources, it lagged behind the Western capitalist countries, including the United States, in terms of overall economic development, infrastructure, and technology. The Soviet economy faced challenges and experienced stagnation, with shortages in consumer goods and a decline in productivity and technology.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

4. Consider the following statements about the disintegration of the Soviet Union:

Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of openness and reform, known as glasnost and perestroika.

In 1991, there was a coup attempt by hardline members of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union who were opposed to Gorbachev's reforms.

In December 1991, Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus declared the disbandment of the Soviet Union, with Russia being accepted as the successor state of the Soviet Union.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of openness and reform, known as glasnost and perestroika, aimed to modernize the Soviet Union and improve its relations with the West.

Statement 2 is correct: In 1991, there was a coup attempt by hardline members of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union who were opposed to Gorbachev's reforms. Boris Yeltsin, the President of the Russian Republic, played a crucial role in opposing the coup. He rallied the people against the coup plotters, and his defiance and leadership during this

Statement 3 is correct: In December 1991, the leaders of Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus jointly declared the dissolution of the Soviet Union. They adopted capitalism and democracy as the guiding principles for the newly formed independent states. Additionally, they

established the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) as a loose association of former Soviet republics. Russia was widely accepted as the successor state of the Soviet Union, assuming its seat in international organizations like the United Nations Security Council and inheriting its international treaties and commitments.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

5. What is the correct chronological sequence of events leading to the disintegration of the Soviet Union?

The Russian parliament declares independence from the Soviet Union.

Gorbachev resigns as President of the Soviet Union

Yeltsin becomes President of Russia.

Gorbachev strips the Soviet Communist Party of its monopoly on power.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1 – 3 – 4 – 2

4 – 1 – 2 – 3

3 – 1 – 4 – 2

4 – 1 – 3 – 2

Answer: D

Explanation:

Option (d) is correct: The correct chronological sequence of events leading to the disintegration of the Soviet Union is as follows: 4 – 1 – 3 – 2

In February 1990, Mikhail Gorbachev, the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, called for the Soviet parliament (Duma) to allow multi-party politics, thereby stripping the Communist Party of its long-held monopoly on power.

In June 1990, the Russian parliament declared its independence from the Soviet Union, signaling a significant step towards the disintegration of the union.

In June 1991, Boris Yeltsin, who was no longer a member of the Communist Party, became the President of Russia. Yeltsin's rise to power further weakened the authority of the Soviet Union.

On December 25, 1991, Mikhail Gorbachev resigned as the President of the Soviet Union. This event marked the official end of the Soviet Union as a political entity.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

6. Consider the following statements about Vladimir Lenin:

Lenin was the founder of the Bolshevik Communist party.

Lenin suggested 'peaceful coexistence' with the West.

Lenin was primarily known for his contributions to capitalist theory.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Vladimir Lenin played a crucial role in the formation of the Bolshevik Communist party. He led the party during the Russian Revolution of 1917 and later renamed it the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks).

Statement 2 is incorrect: Lenin's foreign policy approach was characterized by the concept of 'class struggle' and the belief that the capitalist West would ultimately engage in imperialist aggression against the socialist Soviet Union. He advocated for the international spread of communism and supported revolutionary movements abroad, rather than seeking peaceful coexistence with the West. **'Peaceful coexistence' with the West was suggested by Nikita Khrushchev.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Lenin was primarily known for his contributions to Marxist theory and the development of revolutionary socialism. He expanded on the ideas of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, particularly with his work on imperialism as the highest stage of capitalism. Lenin's theories and practices had a significant impact on communist movements worldwide.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

7. Consider the following statements:

The end of the Cold War resulted in the eradication of military blocs and a decrease in nuclear weapons.

The emergence of the United States as the sole superpower led to the dominance of the capitalist economic system internationally.

The European Union and NATO expanded to include new member states from the Baltic and east European regions.

The Central Asian countries aligned themselves exclusively with Russia and severed ties with the United States and China.

How many of the statements given above accurately describe the consequences of the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the socialist systems in eastern Europe?

Only one

Only two

Only three

All four

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: With the collapse of the Soviet Union and the socialist systems in eastern Europe, the Cold War confrontations between the two blocs came to an end. This led to a reduction in military tensions, the dissolution of military alliances like the Warsaw Pact, and a decrease in the arms race and accumulation of nuclear weapons.

Statement 2 is correct: With the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the United States emerged as the sole superpower in the international system. Backed by its power and prestige, the capitalist economic system became the dominant system globally. Institutions like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund gained significant influence, providing loans to countries transitioning to capitalism and advising them on economic matters.

Statement 3 is correct: Following the disintegration of the Soviet Union, many new countries emerged, including several Baltic and east European states. Some of these countries expressed a desire to join the European Union, seeking economic and political

integration with Western Europe. Additionally, some of these states also sought to become part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), aligning themselves with Western security arrangements.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The disintegration of the Soviet Union led to the emergence of independent Central Asian countries. These countries, such as Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan, pursued their own unique interests and foreign policy choices. While maintaining historical ties with Russia, they also sought to establish ties with other major powers, including the United States, China, and other regional actors. They aimed to take advantage of their geographical location and engage with multiple partners for economic and political benefits.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

8. Consider the following statements about the concept of 'shock therapy' in post-communist regimes:

Shock therapy aimed at transitioning former communist countries to a democratic capitalist system.

The model of transition influenced by the World Bank and the IMF in Russia, Central Asia, and East Europe.

Shock therapy involved a comprehensive shift towards a capitalist economic system.

Shock therapy involved maintaining existing trade alliances among the countries of the Soviet bloc to promote regional economic development.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

Only three

All four

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Shock therapy was a term used to describe the economic transition from a socialist system to a capitalist system in post-communist countries. The goal was to establish democratic governance and a market-based economy.

Statement 2 is correct: The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) played a significant role in shaping the transition process in post-communist countries. The approach they advocated, which emphasized rapid liberalization and market reforms, became known as shock therapy.

Statement 3 is correct: Shock therapy involved a comprehensive shift towards a capitalist economic system. This included privatizing state-owned assets, encouraging private ownership of property, and dismantling structures that evolved during the Soviet period. The aim was to establish a market-based economy based on private enterprise.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Shock therapy actually involved a break-up of existing trade alliances among the countries of the Soviet bloc. Instead of relying on regional trade, the focus shifted to integrating these countries into the Western economic system, encouraging trade with the West, and attracting foreign direct investment.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

9. In relation to the consequences of 'shock therapy', consider the following statements:

The large state-controlled industrial complex in Russia nearly collapsed as a significant percentage of industries were privatized and sold to private individuals and companies.

The value of the Russian currency, the Ruble, drastically declined, leading to high inflation.

The collective farm strengthened and resulted in food security in Russia, with farmers producing enough for the country's consumption.

The introduction of government subsidies led to reduced poverty, making the middle classes self-reliant.

How many of the statements given above were observed as a result of the shock therapy implemented in the 1990s in post-Soviet states?

Only one

Only two

Only three

All four

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The shock therapy implemented in the 1990s involved the privatization of state-owned industries, including Russia's industrial complex. About 90% of industries were put up for sale, which led to the collapse of many state-controlled enterprises.

Statement 2 is correct: The shock therapy resulted in a decline in the value of the Ruble, causing high inflation. People lost their savings as the currency lost value, leading to economic hardships.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The shock therapy and transition to a market-based economy had a detrimental effect on the collective farm system. It disintegrated, leading to a decline in food security in Russia. The country had to rely on food imports to meet its needs.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The shock therapy involved the withdrawal of government subsidies, which had a negative impact on the welfare of the population. The reduction in subsidies pushed large sections of the people into poverty rather than reducing it.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

10. Consider the following statements about the disintegration of the Soviet Union:

The internal weaknesses of Soviet political and economic institutions played a significant role in the collapse of the system.

Nationalist sentiments and desires for sovereignty within various republics were the immediate cause of the USSR's disintegration.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

1 only

2 only

Both 1 and 2

Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The Soviet Union faced issues with its political and economic institutions, which failed to meet the aspirations of the people. The system became stagnant and lacked accountability.

Statement 2 is correct: The rise of nationalist sentiments and the desire for sovereignty within various republics, such as Russia, the Baltic Republics (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania), Ukraine, and Georgia, played a crucial role in the disintegration of the Soviet Union. These nationalist movements gained momentum and proved to be the final and most immediate cause of the USSR's collapse. The diversity and internal problems within the

Soviet Union contributed to the struggle for independence and a lack of control by the government and rulers.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

11. Consider the following statements about conflicts and tensions in the former Soviet Republics and Eastern Europe:

Tajikistan witnessed a year civil war that ended in 2015, completely ending all sectarian conflicts in the Central Asian region.

Nagorno-Karabakh, a province of Azerbaijan, has witnessed demands for secession and integration with Armenia.

Czechoslovakia split peacefully into two independent countries, Czech Republic and Slovakia.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Tajikistan did witness a ten-year civil war that lasted until 2001, but sectarian conflicts have not completely ended in the Central Asian region. While the intensity may have reduced, there are still instances of sectarian tensions and conflicts in certain areas.

Statement 2 is correct: Nagorno-Karabakh, a province of Azerbaijan, has indeed witnessed demands for secession and integration with Armenia. The region has been a source of ongoing conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Statement 3 is correct: Czechoslovakia did split peacefully into two independent countries, the Czech Republic and Slovakia. On the other hand, Yugoslavia faced severe conflicts and disintegration, with several provinces declaring independence and ethnic clashes occurring within the region. This eventually led to the intervention of NATO and the bombing of Yugoslavia.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

12. Consider the following statements about the India's relations with post-communist countries and its relationship with Russia:

India's popular culture, particularly Bollywood films and music, has significantly influenced post-Soviet countries.

India and Russia share a common vision of a multipolar world order and have signed numerous bilateral agreements.

India's relationship with Russia only revolved around military cooperation and arms trade.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Indian popular culture, including Bollywood films and music, has had a significant influence in post-Soviet countries. Indian actors like Raj Kapoor and Amitabh

Bachchan are household names in Russia and many post-Soviet countries, and Hindi film songs can be heard all over the region.

Statement 2 is correct: India and Russia share a vision of a multipolar world order, which refers to the coexistence of several powers in the international system. More than 80 bilateral agreements have been signed between India and Russia as part of their strategic agreement.

Statement 3 is incorrect: While military cooperation and arms trade are significant aspects of India's relationship with Russia, they do not represent the sole focus of the relationship. The other areas of cooperation are energy supplies, sharing information on international terrorism, access to Central Asia, and collaboration on scientific projects.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

13. During the Cold War era, what were some aspects of the multidimensional relationship between India and the USSR?

The Soviet Union provided assistance and technical support for the establishment of steel and machinery plants in India, such as Bhilai and Bokaro.

The Soviet Union backed India's stance on the Kashmir issue in the United Nations.

Soviet Union heavily relied on military assistance from India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: During the Cold War era, the Soviet Union provided significant assistance and technical support to India in the establishment of steel plants like Bhilai, Bokaro, Visakhapatnam, and machinery plants like Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. This support was crucial as it helped India develop its public sector companies at a time when such assistance was difficult to obtain.

Statement 2 is correct: The Soviet Union supported India's positions on the Kashmir issue in the United Nations. Additionally, during major conflicts, particularly the 1971 war with Pakistan, the Soviet Union provided significant support to India. This support included political backing and diplomatic assistance, highlighting the close relationship between the two countries.

Statement 3 is incorrect: It is the opposite of the actual relationship between India and the Soviet Union during the Cold War era. It was India that heavily relied on military assistance from the Soviet Union, rather than the other way around. India received most of its military hardware from the Soviet Union, as few other countries were willing to share advanced military technologies. The two countries also had agreements for joint production of military equipment, further strengthening their military ties.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 1/ The End of Bipolarity

CHAPTER 2: CONTEMPORARY CENTRES OF POWER

INTRODUCTION

The end of bipolar **world politics** in the early 1990s highlighted **alternative centres of power** that could challenge America's dominance. The **European Union (EU)** in Europe and the **Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)** in Asia emerged as significant forces, addressing historical conflicts and developing alternative institutions for **regional cooperation and prosperity**. **China's economic rise** also impacted global politics.

EUROPEAN UNION

The EU is a **unique political and economic union of 27 member states** that are located primarily in Europe. It has a history of over **70 years of integration and cooperation**, and it plays a **significant role in the world today**.

EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AFTER WORLD WAR II

Post-War Dilemma: European leaders faced the choice of allowing old rivalries to resurface or rebuilding Europe on new principles of cooperation.

Cold War Assistance: The USA provided significant financial aid through the **Marshall Plan** to revive Europe's economy and established **NATO** for collective security.

Economic Cooperation: The **Organization for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC)** was created to channel aid and promote trade cooperation among Western European states.

Political Cooperation: The **Council of Europe**, founded in 1949, aimed to foster political collaboration.

Formation of European Economic Community: Step-by-step economic integration led to the establishment of the **European Economic Community** in 1957.

Political Dimension: The **European Parliament** was created, giving the process a political dimension.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

The Collapse of the Soviet Bloc: The fall of the Soviet Union accelerated the process of European integration.

Formation of the European Union: The **European Union** was established in 1992, laying the groundwork for a common foreign and security policy, justice and home affairs cooperation, and the adoption of a single currency.

European Union Map



EVOLUTION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Economic Union to Political Union: The EU evolved from an economic union to a more political entity, acting increasingly like a nation state.

Symbolism and Influence: The EU has its own **flag, anthem, founding date**, and currency, and it wields considerable economic, political, and diplomatic influence.

Expanding Membership: The EU has expanded by including countries from the former Soviet bloc, but not without challenges and reservations from some member states.

EU'S ECONOMIC POWER

Global Economic Influence: The EU has a GDP of over **\$17 trillion**, making it a major economic force, rivaled only by the USA.

Euro Currency Impact: The euro can pose a threat to the dominance of the US dollar and grants the EU more assertiveness in trade disputes.

Trade Power: The EU's large share of world trade gives it significant influence in international economic organizations.

EU'S POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC INFLUENCE

United Nations: France holds a permanent seat on the **UN Security Council**, and the EU includes several non-permanent members, allowing it to influence certain global policies.

Diplomacy and Negotiations: The EU's use of diplomacy, investments, and negotiations has proven effective in addressing international issues.

EU'S MILITARY STRENGTH

Armed Forces: The EU possesses the second-largest combined armed forces in the world.

Defense Spending: It ranks second after the USA in terms of total defense spending.

Nuclear Capabilities: France, an EU member state, possesses nuclear arsenals.

CHALLENGES AND SKEPTICISM

Divergent Foreign Policies: EU member states often have their own foreign relations and defense policies that may conflict with each other.

Euro-skepticism: Some parts of Europe harbor skepticism about the EU's integrationist agenda, leading to limitations on foreign relations and defense matters.

Overall, the European Union has evolved into a significant global player, with considerable economic, political, and military influence, although challenges and differences among member states persist.

TIMELINE OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

- 1951: **ECSC** established by six west European countries.
- 1957: **EEC** and **Euratom** established by the same six countries.
- 1973: **Denmark, Ireland and the UK** join the EC.
- 1979: First direct elections to the **European Parliament**.
- 1981: **Greece** joins the EC.
- 1985: **Schengen Agreement** abolishes border controls among the EC members.
- 1986: **Spain and Portugal** join the EC.
- 1990: Unification of **Germany**.
- 1992: **Treaty of Maastricht** establishes the **EU**.
- 1993: The **single market** is created.
- 1995: **Austria, Finland and Sweden** join the EU.
- 2002: **Euro** is introduced in the 12 EU members.
- 2004: Ten new members, mostly from eastern Europe, join the EU.
- 2007: **Bulgaria and Romania** join the EU. Slovenia adopts the Euro.
- 2009: **Lisbon Treaty** comes into force.
- 2012: The EU is awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize**.
- 2013: **Croatia** becomes the 28th member of the EU.
- 2016: Referendum in Britain, majority votes for **Brexit**.

ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH EAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)

ESTABLISHMENT AND OBJECTIVES OF ASEAN

Formation: ASEAN was established in 1967 with five founding members: **Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand**.

Objectives: The primary objectives of ASEAN were to accelerate economic growth, achieve social progress, and promote cultural development. Secondary objectives included fostering regional peace and stability based on the rule of law and principles of the **United Nations Charter**.

EXPANSION AND ASEAN WAY

Membership Expansion: Over the years, **Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Lao PDR, Myanmar (Burma), and Cambodia** joined ASEAN, expanding its membership to ten.

ASEAN Way: ASEAN developed the "**ASEAN Way**," which is characterized by informal, non-confrontationist, and cooperative interactions. Respect for national sovereignty is critical to its functioning.

ASEAN COMMUNITY AND SECURITY COMMUNITY

ASEAN Community: In 2003, ASEAN agreed to establish an ASEAN Community with three pillars: the **ASEAN Security Community**, the **ASEAN Economic Community**, and the **ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community**.

Security Community: The ASEAN Security Community focused on preventing territorial disputes from escalating into armed confrontation. Member states committed to upholding peace, neutrality, cooperation, non-interference, and respect for national differences and sovereign rights.

ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF): Established in 1994, the ARF coordinates security and foreign policy among ASEAN members.

ASEAN'S ECONOMIC FOCUS

Economic Relevance: Despite being a smaller economy compared to the **US, the EU, and Japan**, ASEAN's economy is growing rapidly, making it influential in the region and beyond.

ASEAN Economic Community: The ASEAN Economic Community aimed to create a common market and production base within ASEAN states and promote social and economic development in the region.

Free Trade Area (FTA): ASEAN focused on creating FTAs for investment, labor, and services. The **US** and **China** negotiated FTAs with ASEAN.

ASEAN'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Vision 2020: ASEAN's Vision 2020 outlined an outward-looking role for the organization in the international community, encouraging negotiation over conflicts in the region.

Mediation and Cooperation: ASEAN has mediated the end of conflicts in **Cambodia** and **East Timor** and promotes East Asian cooperation.

Importance to India: India has recognized ASEAN's growing economic strength and has signed trade agreements with ASEAN members.

STRENGTH IN INTERACTION AND DIALOGUE

Consultation and Dialogue: ASEAN's strength lies in its policies of interaction and consultation with member states, dialogue partners, and non-regional organizations.

Political Forum: ASEAN provides a political forum where Asian countries and major powers can discuss political and security concerns.

Overall, ASEAN has evolved into an important regional organization with a focus on economic growth and cooperation, while also playing a significant role in mediating conflicts and fostering dialogue among Asian countries and major powers.

RISE OF THE CHINESE ECONOMY

After the **communist revolution** in 1949 under **Mao's leadership**, China's economy followed the **Soviet model**, cutting ties with the capitalist world. Relying on its **own resources** and some **Soviet aid**, China focused on establishing a **state-owned heavy industries sector** by substituting imports with **domestic goods**.

Challenges

Population Growth and Economic Insufficiency: With a **2-3% annual population growth**, economic growth was insufficient to meet the needs of a growing population.

Crisis and Low Per Capita Income: China faced a crisis in its **state-controlled economy**, with slow industrial production, minimal international trade, and **low per capita income**.

Major Policy Decisions

In the 1970s, China made significant policy decisions:

Establishment of Relations with the US: China ended its political and economic isolation by establishing relations with the **United States** in 1972.

'Four Modernisations': Premier **Zhou Enlai** proposed the 'four modernisations' in **agriculture, industry, science and technology, and military** in 1973.

'Open Door' Policy: In 1978, **Deng Xiaoping** announced the 'open door' policy and economic reforms, aiming for higher productivity through foreign capital and technology investments.

Introduction of Market Economy

China followed its own path in introducing a **market economy**, avoiding 'shock therapy' and gradually opening its economy.

Privatization: Privatization of **agriculture (1982)** and **industry (1998)** was implemented, and foreign investors could set up enterprises in **Special Economic Zones (SEZs)**.

The **state** continued to play a central role in setting up a market economy.

Economic Growth and Integration

Positive Impact: Economic reforms led to a remarkable rise in **agricultural production** and **rural incomes**, exponential growth in **rural industry**, and faster overall economic growth.

Foreign Trade and Investment: New trading laws and SEZs boosted **foreign trade**, making China a major destination for **foreign direct investment (FDI)** and accumulating large foreign exchange reserves.

WTO Accession: China's accession to the **World Trade Organization (WTO)** in 2001 further opened its economy to the outside world, deepening integration into the global economy.

Challenges and Inequalities

Unemployment and Inequality: Despite economic growth, **unemployment** rose, with nearly **100 million people** looking for jobs. Economic inequality between **rural and urban residents**, as well as **coastal and inland provinces**, increased.

Environmental Degradation and Corruption: China faced environmental challenges and a rise in **corruption**.

China's Regional and Global Influence

Economic Power: China's economic strength, integration, and interdependencies allowed it to influence trade partners and shape regional affairs.

Outstanding Issues and Mitigation: Economic considerations tempered outstanding issues with **Japan, the US, ASEAN, and Russia**.

Taiwan Integration: China aims to resolve differences with Taiwan through closer economic integration.

Contributions to ASEAN Stability: China's contributions to the stability of ASEAN economies after the 1997 financial crisis improved its regional standing.

Global Player: China's outward-looking investment and aid policies projected it as a global player supporting developing economies in **Latin America and Africa**.

INDIA-CHINA RELATIONS

Historical Background

Pre-Imperialism: India and China were great powers in Asia with influence and control in their respective regions, but their areas of influence rarely overlapped.

Limited Interaction: Limited political and cultural interaction between India and China due to the lack of overlapping regions of influence.

Post-Independence Relations

Hope for Cooperation: After gaining independence from Britain and expelling foreign powers, there was hope that India and China would come together to shape the future of the developing world and Asia.

Border Conflict: Military conflict over a border dispute in 1962 marred relations between the two countries.

Downgraded Relations: Diplomatic relations were downgraded until 1976 after the 1962 conflict.

Improvement in Relations

Pragmatic Shift in China: China's policy became more pragmatic and less ideological from the mid to late 1970s, leading to efforts to improve relations with India.

Border Issue Talks: Talks to resolve the border issue were initiated in 1981.

Rajiv Gandhi's Visit: Rajiv Gandhi's visit to China in December 1988 further improved India-China relations.

Strategic and Economic Dimension

Rising Powers: Both India and China view themselves as rising powers in global politics and seek to play a major role in the Asian economy and politics.

Efforts to Contain Conflict: Measures taken by both countries to maintain peace and tranquility on the border, signed agreements on cultural exchanges, cooperation in science and technology, and open border posts for trade.

Economic Cooperation

Trade Growth: India-China trade has grown significantly, from \$338 million in 1992 to more than \$84 billion in 2017.

Cooperation in Energy Deals: Both countries have agreed to cooperate in areas that could potentially create conflict, such as bidding for energy deals abroad.

Similar Policies in International Economic Institutions: India and China have adopted similar policies in international economic institutions like the World Trade Organization.

Challenges and Ongoing Cooperation

Nuclear Tests and Security Concerns: India's nuclear tests in 1998 raised security concerns, but interaction between the two countries continued.

Boundary Question Talks: Talks to resolve the boundary question have continued without interruption.

Increasing Familiarity: Greater frequency of visits by leaders and officials, increasing transportation and communication links, and common economic interests have improved familiarity between the two countries.

Recent Challenges

Downslide in Relations: Recent issues include border disputes, concerns over China-Pakistan economic corridor, and China's support to Pakistan in the UN against India's move to counter terrorism.

Despite challenges, the ongoing efforts towards cooperation, economic ties, and increasing familiarity between India and China aim to establish a more positive and sound relationship between the two most populous countries in the world.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

JAPAN

Economy: Japan, lacking natural resources, rapidly progressed after **World War II**, becoming the **third-largest economy** in **2017**. It's known for high-tech brands like **Sony, Panasonic, Canon, Suzuki, Honda, Toyota, Mazda**.

International Standing: Japan is the only Asian **G-7** member, the **eleventh most populous nation** globally. It is the **second-largest contributor** to the **UN budget** (around **10%**). Japan has a **security alliance** with the **US** since **1951** and **renounces war** under **Article 9** of its **Constitution**.

Nuclear Legacy: Japan is the **only nation** to experience **destruction from nuclear bombs** (**Hiroshima** and **Nagasaki**).

Military: Japan's **military expenditure** is **one percent** of **GDP**, making it the **seventh largest** in the world.

SOUTH KOREA

Background

Korean peninsula divided into **South Korea** and **North Korea** after **World War II** along the **38th Parallel**.

Korean War (1950-53) and **Cold War** era increased tensions between the two sides. Both Koreas joined the **UN** in 1991.

Development

South Korea became a **centre of power** in Asia.

Achieved rapid **economic growth** from 1960s to 1980s, known as “**Miracle on the Han River**”.

Joined the **OECD** in 1996.

Has the **eleventh largest economy** and the **tenth largest military expenditure** in the world.

Human Development

Ranked **18th** in **HDI** according to **Human Development Report 2016**

Factors contributing to high human development include:

Successful **land reforms**, **rural development**, **human resources development** and **equitable economic growth**.

Export orientation, **redistribution policies**, **public infrastructure development**, **effective institutions and governance**.

QUESTIONS

1. With reference to the European Union (EU), consider the following statements:

The process of European integration was catalyzed by the Cold War, with the United States providing financial aid through the Marshall Plan and establishing NATO.

The European Economic Community was formed in 1948 to facilitate economic cooperation among western European states.

The collapse of the Soviet bloc led to the rapid establishment of the European Union in 1996, allowing for a common foreign and security policy and the adoption of a single currency.

France, as a member of the EU, holds a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

The EU's combined armed forces are the largest in the world.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

1,2 and 3 only

1 and 4 only

1,3 and 4 only

1,2,3 and 4

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: After World War II, Europe was devastated, and the United States extended significant financial aid through the Marshall Plan to help in the economic recovery of European nations. Additionally, to counter the perceived threat of Soviet expansion, the US also established NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) in 1949, which further contributed to European integration and cooperation.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The European Economic Community (EEC) was established through the Treaty of Rome in 1957, not in 1948. The EEC aimed to create a common market and foster economic integration among its member states.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The collapse of the Soviet bloc in the late 1980s and early 1990s certainly had an impact on European integration. However, the European Union (EU) was officially established with the Maastricht Treaty, signed in 1992 and came into force in 1993. This treaty did pave the way for a common foreign and security policy and led to the eventual adoption of a single currency (the euro) by several EU member states.

Statement 4 is correct: As a founding member of the EU and a significant global player, France holds a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Additionally, several other EU member states have served and continue to serve as non-permanent members on the UNSC, which has allowed the EU to exert influence on certain international policies.

Statement 5 is incorrect: While the EU's combined armed forces are indeed significant and hold the rank of the second-largest military force in the world, the EU's total defense spending is not greater than that of the United States. The US remains the leading global spender on defense by a significant margin.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 2/ Contemporary Centres of Power

2. Consider the following statements about the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN):
- Unlike the European Union (EU), ASEAN has a strong desire for supranational structures and institutions to foster deeper regional integration.
 - ASEAN has focused primarily on economic cooperation and has little involvement in political and security issues in the region.
 - The 'ASEAN Way' of interaction is characterized by informality, non-confrontationism, and cooperation, emphasizing respect for national sovereignty among member states.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Unlike the EU there is little desire in ASEAN for supranational structures and institutions. ASEAN countries have celebrated what has become known as the 'ASEAN Way'.

Statement 2 is incorrect: While ASEAN was initially focused on economic cooperation, it has evolved over the years to address political and security issues in the region. It has established the ASEAN Security Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community alongside its economic pillar.

Statement 3 is correct: The 'ASEAN Way' refers to the informal and cooperative approach to decision-making, consensus-building, and conflict resolution within the organization, while also respecting the national sovereignty of member states.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 2/ Contemporary Centres of Power

3. Which of the following statements regarding the rise of the Chinese economy are correct?
- After the communist revolution under Mao, China initially followed the Soviet model of economy, but later shifted to a state-owned heavy industries sector to build its industrial economy.
 - The 'four modernisations' was proposed by Premier Zhou Enlai and the 'open door' policy was announced by Deng Xiaoping.
 - China's economic growth was primarily driven by 'shock therapy' and rapid privatisation of all industries, following the examples of the USSR and other developing economies.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- 1 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 2 only

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: After the communist revolution in 1949, China initially adopted the Soviet model of a planned economy. However, in the 1970s, China shifted its focus towards developing a state-owned heavy industries sector to lay the foundations of its industrial economy.

Statement 2 is correct: In the 1970s, the Chinese leadership, under Premier Zhou Enlai and later Deng Xiaoping, introduced major policy decisions. Premier Zhou Enlai proposed the 'four modernisations' in 1973, which aimed at modernizing agriculture, industry, science and technology, and the military. Deng Xiaoping announced the 'open door' policy and economic reforms in 1978, which marked a significant shift towards opening up the Chinese economy to foreign investments and market-oriented reforms.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Unlike the 'shock therapy' approach adopted by some other transitioning economies, China did not pursue rapid privatization of all industries. Instead, China implemented gradual economic reforms, opening up its economy step by step and maintaining a significant role for the state in the market economy.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 2/ Contemporary Centres of Power

4. Consider the following statements regarding the timeline of European integration:

The European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) was established in 1951 by six west European countries.

The Treaties of Rome, signed on March 25, 1957, established both the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom).

The Schengen Agreement, signed in June 1985, led to the abolition of border controls among the European Community (EC) members.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) was established in 1951 by six west European countries, including France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. The treaty aimed to create a common market for coal and steel among its member countries to promote economic cooperation and prevent future wars.

Statement 2 is correct: On March 25, 1957, the Treaties of Rome were signed by the six founding member states (France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg) to establish two new organizations: the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom). The EEC aimed to create a customs union and a common market among its member states.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Schengen Agreement, signed in June 1985, did lead to the abolition of border controls among certain European countries, but it was not part of the European Community (EC) at that time. It was a separate agreement signed by several EC member states and aimed at creating a passport-free travel area.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 2/ Contemporary Centres of Power

5. Consider the following statements about Japan:

Japan became a member of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in 1964.

Japan is not a member of the G-7 group.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

1 only

2 only

Both 1 and 2

Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Japan joined the OECD in 1964, reflecting its significant economic growth and international recognition.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Japan is indeed a member of the G-7 group of major advanced economies.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 2/ Contemporary Centres of Power

6. Consider the following statements regarding South Korea:

The Korean peninsula was divided into South Korea (Republic of Korea) and North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) at the end of the Second World War along the 49th Parallel.

South Korea rapidly developed into an economic power between the 1960s and the 1980s, famously referred to as the 'Miracle on the Han River.'

How many of the statements given above are correct?

1 only

2 only

Both 1 and 2

Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: At the end of World War II in 1945, Korea was divided into two separate countries along the 38th Parallel, with South Korea under the influence of the United States and North Korea under Soviet influence.

Statement 2 is correct: South Korea experienced rapid economic growth and development between the 1960s and the 1980s, which is often referred to as the 'Miracle on the Han River.' During this period, the country implemented successful economic policies, leading to significant industrialization and modernization.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 2/ Contemporary Centres of Power

CHAPTER 3-CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIA

INTRODUCTION

The South Asia region, including India and Pakistan, gained global attention after becoming nuclear powers. The region faces various conflicts, including border disputes, water sharing issues, insurgency, ethnic strife, and resource sharing disputes. Despite the turbulence, there is recognition that cooperation among the countries could lead to development and prosperity. The conflicts in the region are often influenced by domestic politics, so understanding the domestic politics of the major countries in the region is crucial.

SOUTH ASIA

South Asia is a region characterized by a mix of rivalry and goodwill, hope and despair, mutual suspicion and trust.

It comprises seven countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

The mighty **Himalayas** in the north and the vast **Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea, and Bay of Bengal** in the south, west, and east respectively, contribute to the region's unique linguistic, social, and cultural distinctiveness.

Afghanistan and Myanmar are sometimes included in discussions about the region, while **China** is not considered part of it.

POLITICAL SYSTEMS IN SOUTH ASIA:

India and Sri Lanka: Sri Lanka and India have effectively operated democratic systems since gaining independence from **British rule**.

India's democracy has its **limitations**, but it has maintained its democratic status since independence.

The same applies to Sri Lanka, where democracy has persisted since gaining independence.

Pakistan: Pakistan has experienced periods of **civilian and military rule** since its independence.

It began the post-Cold War period with democratic governments under leaders like **Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif**.

However, it also faced a **military coup in 1999**, followed by the return of civilian rule in 2008.

Bangladesh: Bangladesh has experienced a mix of **civilian and military rule** in its post-independence history. It transitioned into a democratic system in the post-Cold War period.

Nepal: Nepal was a **constitutional monarchy** with the risk of the king taking over executive powers.

In 2008, the **monarchy was abolished**, and Nepal emerged as a democratic republic.

Bhutan: Bhutan became a **constitutional monarchy in 2008** under the leadership of the king.

It embraced a multi-party system, establishing itself as a democratic nation.

The Maldives: The Maldives was a **Sultanate until 1968** when it transformed into a republic with a presidential form of government.

In 2005, the parliament introduced a multi-party system, and the **Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP)** now dominates political affairs. The MDP won the 2018 Elections.

Despite a mixed record, there is widespread support for democracy in these countries, transcending economic and religious backgrounds.

South Asian experience of democracy challenges the belief that democracy thrives only in prosperous nations and has expanded the global imagination of democratic governance.

In the following sections, we will explore the experience of democracy in each of the four big countries of the region other than India.

TIMELINE OF SOUTH ASIA SINCE 1947

1947: India and Pakistan emerge as independent nations after the end of British rule.
1948: Sri Lanka (then Ceylon) gains independence; Indo-Pak conflict over Kashmir.
1954-55: Pakistan joins the Cold War military blocs, **SEATO and CENTO**.
1960: India and Pakistan sign the **Indus Waters Treaty**.
1962: Border conflict between India and China.
1965: Indo-Pak War; UN India-Pakistan Observation Mission.
1966: India and Pakistan sign the **Tashkent Agreement**; Six-point proposal of Sheikh Mujib-ur Rahman for greater autonomy to **East Pakistan**.
1971 March: Proclamation of Independence by leaders of Bangladesh.
August : Indo-Soviet Treaty of Friendship signed for 20 years.
December : Indo-Pak War, Liberation of Bangladesh
1972 July: India and Pakistan sign the **Shimla Agreement**
1974 May: India conducts **nuclear test**.
1976: Pakistan and Bangladesh establish diplomatic ties.
1985 December: South Asian leaders sign the **SAARC Charter** at the first summit in Dhaka.
1987: Indo-Sri Lanka Accord; **Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF)** operation in **Sri Lanka (1987-90)**.
1988: India sends troops to the **Maldives to foil a coup** attempt by mercenaries India and Pakistan sign the agreement not to attack nuclear installations and facilities of each other.
1988-91: Democracy restoration in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal.
1996 December: India and Bangladesh sign the **Farakka Treaty** for sharing of the Ganga Waters
1998 May: India and Pakistan conducted **nuclear tests**.
December: India and Sri Lanka sign the **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**.
1999 February: Indian **PM Vajpayee** undertakes bus journey to Lahore to sign a Peace Declaration
June-July: Kargil conflict between India and Pakistan.
2001 July: Vajpayee - Musharraf Agra Summit unsuccessful.
2004 January: SAFTA signed at the 12th SAARC Summit in Islamabad.
2007: Afghanistan joined SAARC.
2014 November: The **18th SAARC Summit** in Kathmandu, Nepal.

MILITARY AND DEMOCRACY IN PAKISTAN

PAKISTAN'S POLITICAL JOURNEY: MILITARY TAKEOVERS AND ELECTED GOVERNMENTS

General Ayub Khan's Rule (1962-1969): After Pakistan framed its first constitution, General Ayub Khan assumed power and later got himself elected. However, public dissatisfaction led to his resignation.

General Yahya Khan's Military Takeover (1969-1971): General Yahya Khan took over in a military coup, and during his rule, **Pakistan faced the Bangladesh crisis**, resulting in the emergence of Bangladesh as an independent country in 1971.

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's Elected Government (1971-1977): After the Bangladesh crisis, an elected government led by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto came to power.

General Ziaul-Haq's Military Takeover (1977-1988): General Ziaul-Haq removed the Bhutto government in a military coup. He faced pro-democracy movements from 1982 onwards.

Benazir Bhutto's Elected Democratic Government (1988): In 1988, an elected democratic government was established under the leadership of Benazir Bhutto.

Pakistani Politics and Elective Democracy (1988-1999): The political landscape centered around competition between the **Pakistan People's Party and the Muslim League**. This phase of elective democracy lasted till 1999.

General Pervez Musharraf's Rule (1999-2008): The army intervened once again, and General Pervez Musharraf removed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. In 2001, Musharraf became the President.

Return of Democratically Elected Leaders (Since 2008): Since 2008, democratically elected leaders have been ruling Pakistan.

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO PAKISTAN'S DEMOCRACY CHALLENGES

Social Dominance and Military Overthrow: The social dominance of the military, clergy, and landowning aristocracy has led to the frequent overthrow of elected governments and the establishment of military rule.

Impact of Conflict with India: Pakistan's conflict with India has strengthened pro-military groups, who argue that political parties and democracy are flawed, and the army's stay in power is necessary for the country's security.

Pro-Democracy Sentiment: Despite the challenges, there remains a strong pro-democracy sentiment in Pakistan.

Lack of Genuine International Support: The lack of genuine international support for democratic rule has further encouraged military dominance.

Western countries, including the United States, have at times supported military authoritarian rule due to security concerns related to "**global Islamic terrorism**" and the safety of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal.

DEMOCRACY IN BANGLADESH

The Struggle for Independence and Democracy in Bangladesh:

Formation of East Pakistan (1947-1971): Bangladesh was a part of Pakistan from 1947 to 1971, comprising the partitioned areas of Bengal and Assam from British India.

The Bengali population resented the domination of West Pakistan and the **imposition of the Urdu language**.

Sheikh Mujib-ur Rahman's Leadership (Late 1960s-1971): Sheikh Mujib-ur Rahman led the popular struggle against West Pakistani domination, demanding autonomy for the eastern region.

In the 1970 elections, his party, the Awami League, won all seats in East Pakistan and secured a majority in the proposed constituent assembly for all of Pakistan.

However, the West Pakistani leadership refused to convene the assembly, leading to protests and Sheikh Mujib's arrest.

Bangladesh Liberation War (1971): Under General Yahya Khan's military rule, the Pakistani army tried to suppress the Bengali mass movement.

This led to a **large-scale migration into India**, and the Indian government supported the demand for East Pakistan's independence.

A war between India and Pakistan ensued in December 1971, resulting in the formation of Bangladesh as an independent country.

Post-Independence Governance: Bangladesh drafted its constitution with secularism, democracy, and socialism as its guiding principles.

However, in 1975, Sheikh Mujib amended the constitution to shift from a **parliamentary to a presidential form of government**. He also abolished all parties except his own, the Awami League.

This led to conflicts and tensions, and he was assassinated in 1975.

Military Rule under Ziaur Rahman (Late 1970s-1981): Ziaur Rahman, the new military ruler, formed the Bangladesh National Party and won elections in 1979.

He was later assassinated, and Lt Gen H. M. Ershad took over in another military takeover.
Demand for Democracy (1980s): The people of Bangladesh, especially students, rose in support of the demand for democracy.

Mass public protests forced Ershad to allow limited political activity. He was later elected as President for five years.

Establishment of Representative Democracy (1990-Now): Mass public protests in 1990 compelled Ershad to step down, leading to elections in 1991.

Since then, Bangladesh has been functioning as a representative democracy based on multi-party elections.

MONARCHY AND DEMOCRACY IN NEPAL

Historical Background: Nepal was a **Hindu kingdom** in the past and later transformed into a constitutional monarchy during the modern period.

Struggles for Democracy (1990s): Despite demands for a democratic constitution, the king and the army retained full control over the government, limiting the expansion of democracy.

In the 1990s, the Maoists gained influence, promoting armed insurrection against the monarchy and ruling elite.

Triangular Conflict: The rise of the Maoists led to a violent **conflict between the monarchist forces, democrats, and Maoists.**

In 2002, the king dissolved the parliament and dismissed the government, further restricting democracy in Nepal.

Pro-Democracy Protests (2006): Massive pro-democracy protests in April 2006, led by the Seven Party Alliance (SPA), Maoists, and social activists, forced the king to restore the House of Representatives that had been dissolved in 2002.

Constituent Assembly and Transition to Democracy: Nepal underwent a unique moment in history as it formed a constituent assembly to draft its constitution.

Some sections supported retaining a nominal monarchy for cultural reasons, while the Maoists agreed to suspend armed struggle and aimed for radical social and economic restructuring.

Establishing a Democratic Republic (2008): In 2008, Nepal abolished the monarchy and officially became a democratic republic, marking a significant step towards democracy.

Adoption of a New Constitution (2015): In 2015, Nepal adopted a **new constitution**, further solidifying its transition to democracy.

ETHNIC CONFLICT AND DEMOCRACY IN SRI LANKA

Democracy Since Independence: Sri Lanka has maintained a democratic political system since gaining independence in 1948.

Challenge from Ethnic Conflict: The country faced a serious challenge not from military or monarchy, but from **ethnic conflict** that led to demands for secession by one of the regions.

Dominance of Sinhala Community: Politics in Sri Lanka was initially dominated by forces representing the majority **Sinhala community**, leading to hostility towards a large number of Tamils who migrated from India and settled in Sri Lanka.

Rise of Tamil Nationalism: Neglect of Tamil concerns fueled militant Tamil nationalism, leading to the emergence of the **Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in 1983**. The LTTE demanded a separate country, Tamil Eelam.

Involvement of India: People of **Indian origin in Sri Lanka** and pressure from Tamil people in India prompted India to intervene in the Sri Lankan Tamil question.

In 1987, India signed an accord with Sri Lanka and sent troops to stabilize relations.

IPKF Withdrawal and Conflict Resolution: The Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) withdrew in 1989 without achieving its objective.

However, international actors, especially Scandinavian countries such as Norway and Iceland, attempted to bring warring groups to negotiations.

LTTE Defeat in 2009: The armed conflict came to an end in 2009 with the defeat of the LTTE.

Economic Growth and Human Development: Despite the conflict, Sri Lanka has registered considerable economic growth and high levels of human development.

For instance, Sri Lanka was one of the first developing countries to successfully control the rate of growth of population.

It was also the first country in the region to liberalise the economy, and it has had the highest per capita gross domestic product (GDP) for many years right through the civil war.

Maintaining Democracy: Throughout the civil war, Sri Lanka managed to maintain its democratic political system.

INDIA-PAKISTAN CONFLICTS

Kashmir Conflict: Soon after partition, India and Pakistan engaged in a conflict over the fate of Kashmir.

Both claimed ownership, leading to wars in 1947-48 and 1965, resulting in the division of the province into Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and the Indian province of Jammu and Kashmir divided by the **Line of Control**.

In 1971, India won a decisive war against Pakistan but the Kashmir issue remained unsettled.

Strategic Issues: The conflict between India and Pakistan also extends to strategic issues, including control of the **Siachen glacier** and the acquisition of arms.

Both countries conducted **nuclear tests in 1998**, escalating tensions and leading to an arms race.

Suspicion and Low-Key Violence: The governments of both countries remain suspicious of each other.

India accuses Pakistan of aiding Kashmiri militants with arms, training, and money to carry out terrorist attacks.

The Indian government also believes that Pakistan had aided the **pro- Khalistani militants** with arms and ammunition during the period 1985-1995.

Pakistan blames India for fomenting trouble in the provinces of **Sindh and Balochistan**.

India alleges that **Pakistan's spy agency, ISI**, is involved in anti-India campaigns in India's northeast through secret operations in Bangladesh and Nepal.

River Water Sharing: India and Pakistan had disputes over sharing river waters in the Indus basin.

The Indus Waters Treaty, **signed in 1960** with the help of the World Bank, has survived despite military conflicts.

There are still some minor differences about the **interpretation of the Indus Waters Treaty** and the use of the river waters.

Sir Creek Dispute: India and Pakistan have differences over the demarcation line in **Sir Creek in the Rann of Kutch**. The dispute may impact control of sea resources in the area.

Ongoing Negotiations: Both countries are engaged in negotiations to address these conflicts and find resolutions to the issues.

INDIA'S RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS

INDIA-BANGLADESH RELATIONS

River Waters Dispute: India and Bangladesh have disagreements over sharing Ganga and Brahmaputra river waters.

The Indian government is unhappy with Bangladesh's stance on the issue.

Illegal Immigration: India accuses Bangladesh of denying illegal immigration to India.

Support for Extremist Groups: India raises concerns about Bangladesh's support for anti-Indian Islamic fundamentalist groups.

Military Access: Bangladesh's refusal to allow Indian troops to move through its territory to northeastern India.

Natural Gas Export: Bangladesh's decision not to export natural gas to India or allow Myanmar to do so through Bangladeshi territory.

Perceived Issues:

Bangladesh sees India as a **regional bully** over river water sharing and other matters.

Accusations of India encouraging rebellion in the **Chittagong Hill Tracts** and unfair natural gas extraction. Bangladesh believes India engages in **unfair trade practices**.

Areas of Cooperation: Despite differences, India and Bangladesh cooperate on various issues.

Economic relations have improved in the last 20 years.

Bangladesh is part of India's **"Look East" (Act East since 2014)** policy, aiming to connect with Southeast Asia via Myanmar.

Regular cooperation on **disaster management** and environmental issues.

Enclave exchange in 2015.

Efforts to broaden cooperation further by identifying common threats and being sensitive to each other's needs.

INDIA-NEPAL RELATIONS

Special Relationship: India and Nepal enjoy a special relationship that allows citizens to **travel and work without visas**.

However, trade-related disputes have arisen in the past.

Concerns and Perceptions: India has expressed displeasure over **Nepal's warm ties with China** and inaction against anti-Indian elements.

Nepalese leaders and **citizens believe India interferes in their internal affairs** and controls river waters and hydroelectricity.

Some feel India prevents Nepal from accessing the sea through its territory.

Stable Relations: Indo-Nepal relations **remain fairly stable** and peaceful despite differences.

Both countries cooperate in trade, science, and sharing common natural resources.

They have interlocking water management grids and hope democracy in Nepal will improve ties

INDIA-SRI LANKA RELATIONS

The **difficulties in the relationship** between the governments of India and Sri Lanka are mostly over ethnic conflict in the island nation.

Indian leaders and citizens find it impossible to remain neutral when Tamils are politically unhappy and are being killed.

After the military intervention in 1987, the Indian government now prefers a policy of disengagement vis-à-vis Sri Lanka's internal troubles.

Strengthening Ties: A free trade agreement and post-tsunami reconstruction efforts have improved relations between India and Sri Lanka.

INDIA-BHUTAN RELATIONS:

India enjoys a **very special relationship with Bhutan** too and does not have any major conflict with the Bhutanese government.

The efforts made by the Bhutanese monarch to **weed out the guerrillas and militants from northeastern India** that operate in his country have been helpful to India.

India is involved in **big hydroelectric projects in Bhutan** and remains the Himalayan kingdom's biggest source of development aid.

INDIA-MALDIVES RELATIONS

India's ties with the **Maldives** remain warm and cordial. In **November 1988**, when some Tamil mercenaries from Sri Lanka attacked the Maldives, the Indian air force and navy reacted quickly to the Maldives' request to help stop the invasion. India has also contributed towards the **island's economic development**, tourism and fisheries.

INDIA'S RELATIONS WITH SMALLER NEIGHBOURS

Smaller **neighbours are suspicious of India's intentions** due to its size and power.

India sometimes feels exploited by its neighbours.

Political instability in neighbouring countries is a concern for India.

Not all conflicts are with India; there have been disputes between other neighbouring countries as well.

Nepal and Bhutan, as well as Bangladesh and Myanmar, have had disagreements in the past over the migration of ethnic Nepalese into Bhutan and the Rohingyas into Myanmar, respectively.

Bangladesh and Nepal have had some differences over the future of the Himalayan river waters

Major Conflicts: The primary conflicts in South Asia are between India and its neighbours, mainly due to India's central geographic location and its border with other countries.

SOUTH ASIAN COOPERATION AND PEACE EFFORTS

Importance of Cooperation: Despite conflicts, South Asian states recognize the significance of cooperation and friendly relations among themselves.

SAARC

The **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)** is a major regional initiative by the South Asian states to evolve cooperation through multilateral means.

It began in 1985. Unfortunately, due to persisting political differences, SAARC has not had much success.

SAFTA

SAARC members signed the **South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA)** in **2004**, and **came into effect on January 1, 2006** envisioning a free trade zone for all of South Asia.

The idea behind SAFTA is to foster a new chapter of peace and cooperation in South Asia by promoting free trade across borders.

However, some **neighbouring countries fear that SAFTA could be used by India to dominate their markets** and influence their societies and politics through commercial ventures and investments.

India believes that SAFTA can bring real economic benefits to all countries in the region and enhance cooperation on political matters.

Despite the potential benefits, some in India question the worthiness of SAFTA, as India already has bilateral agreements with Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

Efforts to Manage India-Pakistan Relations

Despite the **history of conflict and violence**, there have been consistent efforts to manage tensions and foster peace between India and Pakistan.

Both countries have agreed to **confidence-building measures** aimed at reducing the risk of war.

Social activists and prominent personalities have collaborated to create an atmosphere of friendship and understanding between the people of India and Pakistan.

Several bus routes have been established to facilitate people-to-people interactions.
Trade between the two parts of Punjab has seen substantial growth in recent years.
Visa procedures have been made more accessible, easing travel between India and Pakistan

External Influences

China and the United States play crucial roles in South Asian politics.
Sino-Indian relations have improved significantly in the last decade, but China's strategic partnership with Pakistan remains a **point of contention**.
Economic development and globalization have brought **China and India closer**, leading to rapid growth in their economic ties since 1991.
American involvement in South Asia has increased substantially after the Cold War.
The US maintains good relations with both India and Pakistan and acts as a mediator in their relations.
Economic reforms and **liberal policies in India and Pakistan** have deepened American engagement in the region.
The large South Asian diasporas in the US, along with the region's significant population and markets, give America a vested interest in the future of regional security and peace.

Future Prospects

Whether South Asia evolves into a conflict-prone zone or a regional bloc with common cultural features and trade interests will depend on the actions of the people and governments of the region.

QUESTIONS

1. Consider the following statements about South Asia and its political systems:
South Asia includes countries such as Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.
Afghanistan and Myanmar are considered part of South Asia in most discussions, but China is not included in the region.
Sri Lanka and India have successfully maintained democratic systems since their independence from British rule, while Pakistan and Bangladesh have experienced both civilian and military rulers with occasional transitions to democracy.
In 2008, the monarchy was abolished in Nepal and it emerged as a democratic republic.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
1 and 2 only
2 and 3 only
1,2 and 4 only
1,2,3 and 4

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: South Asia is a region that includes the countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka), and its natural boundaries are the Himalayas in the north and the Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea, and Bay of Bengal in the south, west, and east.

Statement 2 is correct: Afghanistan and Myanmar are often included in discussions of the South Asia region as a whole. However, China is not considered part of South Asia.

Statement 3 is correct: Sri Lanka and India have successfully operated democratic systems since gaining independence from British rule. On the other hand, Pakistan

and Bangladesh have experienced both civilian and military rulers, with periods of democracy and military rule. For instance, Pakistan underwent a military coup in 1999 but has also seen successive civilian governments since 2008. Bangladesh has remained a democracy in the post-Cold War period.

Statement 4 is correct: In 2008, the monarchy was abolished and Nepal emerged as a democratic republic.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia

2. What is the correct chronological sequence of events:

Proclamation of Independence by leaders of Bangladesh

India and Pakistan sign the Tashkent Agreement

Pakistan joins the Cold War military blocs

South Asian leaders sign the SAARC Charter at the first summit in Dhaka

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

3 – 2 – 1 – 4

2 – 4 – 1 – 3

1 – 2 – 3 – 4

3 – 1 – 2 – 4

Answer: A

Explanation:

Option (a) is correct: The correct chronological sequence of events: 3 – 2 – 1 – 4

Pakistan joins the Cold War military blocs: This event occurred in 1954-55 when Pakistan joined the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) and the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO). These military alliances were formed as part of the Cold War dynamics between the United States and the Soviet Union.

India and Pakistan sign the Tashkent Agreement: This event took place in 1966. The Tashkent Agreement was signed between India and Pakistan to end the Indo-Pak War of 1965. It was mediated by the Soviet Union in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Proclamation of Independence by leaders of Bangladesh: This event occurred in March 1971 when the leaders of Bangladesh, then known as East Pakistan, declared their independence from Pakistan. The proclamation eventually led to the Bangladesh Liberation War and the formation of an independent Bangladesh.

South Asian leaders sign the SAARC Charter at the first summit in Dhaka: This event happened in December 1985 when the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was established. The SAARC Charter was signed by the leaders of South Asian countries during the first SAARC Summit held in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia

3. Consider the following statements about the military and democracy in Pakistan:

General Ayub Khan was elected democratically as the leader of Pakistan after the framing of its first constitution.

General Ziaul-Haq removed the Bhutto government in 1977 and faced a pro-democracy movement from 1982 onwards.

General Pervez Musharraf removed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in 1999.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: General Ayub Khan took over the administration of the country after the framing of Pakistan's first constitution but did not come to power through elections. He assumed power through a military coup in 1958 and later held a controversial referendum to legitimize his rule.

Statement 2 is correct: General Ziaul-Haq staged a military coup in 1977 and removed the Bhutto government from power. From 1982 onwards, Pakistan experienced a pro-democracy movement, which sought to challenge General Ziaul-Haq's authoritarian rule.

Statement 3 is correct: General Pervez Musharraf staged a military coup in 1999 and removed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif from power. Musharraf assumed control as the Chief Executive and later declared himself President in 2001 after holding controversial elections.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia

4. Consider the following statements about the evolution of democracy in Bangladesh:

In the 1970 elections, the Awami League led by Sheikh Mujib won all seats in East Pakistan and secured a majority in the proposed constituent assembly for the entire Pakistan, but the assembly was not convened by the West Pakistani leadership.

After Bangladesh's independence, the country drafted its constitution, declaring faith in secularism, democracy, and socialism, but Sheikh Mujib later amended it to shift from a parliamentary to a presidential form of government, leading to conflicts and tensions.

The military rule under Ziaur Rahman and Lt Gen H. M. Ershad in Bangladesh was characterized by limited political activity and mass public protests that ultimately led to the establishment of a representative democracy based on multi-party elections in 1991.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: In the **1970 elections in the then Pakistan**, the Awami League led by Sheikh Mujib won all the seats in East Pakistan and secured a majority in the proposed constituent assembly for the whole of Pakistan. But the government dominated by the West Pakistani leadership refused to convene the assembly.

Statement 2 is correct: **After gaining independence, Bangladesh drafted its constitution, which declared faith in secularism, democracy, and socialism. Initially, the country adopted a parliamentary form of government.** However, in 1975, Sheikh Mujib-ur

Rahman amended the constitution to shift to a presidential form of government, consolidating power in his hands. This move led to conflicts and tensions, as political opposition felt marginalized and restricted, and the concentration of power raised concerns about authoritarian tendencies.

Statement 3 is correct: After the assassination of Sheikh Mujib in 1975, Bangladesh experienced military rule under different leaders like Ziaur Rahman and Lt Gen H. M. Ershad. During this period, political activity was restricted, and the military governments faced widespread protests from the public, especially students. These mass protests, along with international pressure, ultimately led to the restoration of political activity on a limited scale. Ershad later stepped down in 1990 amid public protests, and elections were held in 1991, ushering in a representative democracy based on multi-party elections.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia

5. Which one of the following statements is correct about the Nepal's transition to democracy?
- The king willingly accepted demands for a democratic constitution in 1990.
 - The Maoists and some political groups were skeptical of India's role in Nepal's future.
 - The monarchy remained intact even after Nepal became a democratic republic in 2008.
 - Nepal's unique history necessitated the inclusion of a nominal monarchy in the constitution.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Option (b) is correct: During Nepal's transition to democracy, some political groups, including the Maoists, were suspicious of the Indian government's involvement and its role in shaping Nepal's future. They were cautious about potential interference from India in Nepal's internal affairs and wanted to safeguard the country's sovereignty and independence. This suspicion reflected the complex geopolitical dynamics between Nepal and its neighboring country, India, during the democratic transition. The other statements (a, c, and d) are not true based on the information provided in the text. The king initially resisted demands for a democratic constitution, the monarchy was abolished when Nepal became a democratic republic in 2008, and the text does not mention Nepal's unique history necessitating the inclusion of a nominal monarchy in the constitution.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia

6. What was the role of the Maoists in Nepal's political landscape during the nineties?
- They engaged in armed insurrection against the ruling elite and the monarchy.
 - They supported the king in his efforts to restrict the expansion of democracy.
 - They formed alliances with the democratic parties to challenge the monarchist forces.
 - They advocated for social and economic restructuring through non-violent means.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Option (a) is correct: During the nineties, the Maoists in Nepal were involved in armed insurrection against the ruling elite and the monarchy. They believed in armed struggle and sought to overthrow the monarch and challenge the existing political system. They aimed to establish a communist system and were successful in spreading their influence in many parts of Nepal during this period. Their armed conflict with the king's armed forces led to a violent triangular conflict between the

monarchist forces, the democrats, and the Maoists. This prolonged conflict significantly impacted Nepal's political landscape during that time.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia

7. Consider the following statements regarding ethnic conflict and democracy in Sri Lanka:

The ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka arose primarily due to the demand for secession by the majority Sinhala community.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) is a militant organization that fought for a separate country for the Tamils of Sri Lanka.

The Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) successfully achieved its objective and stabilized relations between the Sri Lankan government and the Tamils.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka was primarily driven by the demand for secession by a significant section of the Tamil community, not the majority Sinhala community. The Sinhala nationalists' dominance in politics and their neglect of Tamil concerns led to militant Tamil nationalism and the demand for a separate country known as 'Tamil Eelam.'

Statement 2 is correct: The LTTE was a militant organization that emerged in the 1970s and waged an armed struggle against the Sri Lankan government to establish a separate state called 'Tamil Eelam' for the Tamil minority in Sri Lanka. The conflict with the LTTE was a major aspect of the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The IPKF's intervention in Sri Lanka faced challenges and opposition from both the Sri Lankan government and sections of the local population. The IPKF's objective of stabilizing relations and resolving the conflict was not fully achieved, and it eventually withdrew from Sri Lanka in 1989 without attaining its goal.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia

8. Which of the following statements regarding India-Pakistan conflicts in the post-Cold War era are correct?

The primary cause of conflict between India and Pakistan is the territorial dispute over the province of Jammu and Kashmir, which remains unresolved since the 1947-48 war.

Both India and Pakistan possess nuclear weapons and missiles.

The Indus Waters Treaty was facilitated by the United Nations 1970.

The conflict between India and Pakistan extends to sea resources in the region, particularly regarding the demarcation line in Sir Creek.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

Only three

All four

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The conflict over the region of Jammu and Kashmir has been a significant point of contention between India and Pakistan since their independence in 1947. Both countries claim the territory, and this dispute has led to several wars and skirmishes between them.

Statement 2 is correct: India and Pakistan conducted nuclear tests in 1998, which marked their entry into the nuclear club. The possession of nuclear weapons by both countries has created a deterrence effect, reducing the likelihood of a full-scale war between them due to the risk of mutual destruction.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Indus Waters Treaty, signed in 1960 (mediated by World Bank), did establish a framework for the sharing of river waters between India and Pakistan. However, it did not completely resolve the dispute, and there have been some minor differences and occasional disagreements over the interpretation and usage of the treaty.

Statement 4 is correct: India and Pakistan have a dispute over the maritime boundary in the Sir Creek area, located in the Rann of Kutch region. While the issue might seem minor, it holds significance for both countries, as the resolution of the dispute could impact their control over sea resources in the area adjoining Sir Creek.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia

9. Consider the following statements about India's relations with its neighboring countries:

Bangladesh is a part of India's Look East (Act East since 2014) policy that wants to link up with Southeast Asia via Myanmar.

A treaty between India and Nepal allows the citizens of the two countries to travel to and work in the other country without visas and passports.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Bangladesh is a part of India's Look East (Act East since 2014) policy that wants to link up with Southeast Asia via Myanmar.

Statement 2 is correct: A treaty between the two countries allows the citizens of the two countries to travel to and work in the other country without visas and passports.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia

10. Consider the following statements about South Asia and its cooperation and conflicts:

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was established in 1985 to promote cooperation among the South Asian states.

India-Pakistan relations have remained largely characterized by conflict and violence, with minimal efforts towards managing tensions and building peace.

The United States has become less involved in South Asian politics since the end of the Cold War, maintaining good relations with both India and Pakistan and serving as a moderator in their relations.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- Only one

Only two
All three
None

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: SAARC is a major regional initiative by the South Asian states aimed at fostering cooperation through multilateral means. However, it has not been very successful due to persisting political differences among its member countries.

Statement 2 is incorrect: India and Pakistan have undertaken efforts to manage tensions and build peace. They have agreed to undertake confidence-building measures to reduce the risk of war, and there have been interactions between social activists, prominent personalities, and leaders from both countries to foster a better understanding and find solutions to their major problems.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The United States' involvement in South Asia has increased after the Cold War, and the US has had good relations with both India and Pakistan. However, there is no mention of the US serving as a moderator in India-Pakistan relations. Instead, it highlights the US's economic interests in the region due to economic reforms and liberal economic policies in India and Pakistan and the large South Asian diasporas in the US.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 3/ Contemporary South Asia



CHAPTER 4: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

INTRODUCTION

This chapter explores the role of international organizations after the collapse of the Soviet Union. It analyses the calls for restructuring these organizations to deal with new challenges and US power. It focuses on the reform of the UN Security Council and India's involvement in the UN. It also examines other trans-national organizations and their crucial role. It questions the UN's role in a unipolar world.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Mediating Conflicts: International organizations play a vital role in resolving conflicts and differences between **nations peacefully**.

Cooperation for Global Challenges: They facilitate **cooperation among countries** to address global issues like disease eradication and climate change.

THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Promoting Peaceful Solutions: International organisations provide a **platform for countries to discuss contentious issues** and find peaceful resolutions.

Creation and Purpose: They are not super-states but entities created and responded to by member states to assist in **problem-solving**.

Facilitating Cooperation: International organisations help nations recognize the need for collective action and cooperation on challenging issues.

ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Global Health Cooperation: International organisations enable global cooperation for disease eradication through **vaccination and inoculation efforts**.

Combating Global Warming: They encourage major industrial powers to cooperate in **stopping global warming and its adverse effects**.

CHALLENGES IN COOPERATION

Recognizing vs. Implementing Cooperation: Nations may recognize the need to cooperate but face challenges in implementing it effectively.

Cost Sharing and Benefit Division: Agreeing on cost-sharing, just benefit division, and ensuring compliance with agreements can be complex.

ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN COOPERATION

Information and Ideas: They provide valuable information and ideas to facilitate effective cooperation.

Mechanisms and Rules: International organisations establish mechanisms, rules, and bureaucracy to enhance confidence in cooperation.

Ensuring Agreement Compliance: They help ensure members honor the terms and conditions of agreements.

UN'S EVOLVING ROLE

Post-Cold War Perspective: The end of the Cold War led to concerns about unchecked power of Western countries, especially the US.

Promoting Dialogue with the US: The UN's role includes promoting dialogue and discussion with the US and limiting its influence.

International organisations, including the United Nations, are instrumental in promoting peaceful resolutions, facilitating cooperation for global challenges, and addressing issues that require collective action. While they may not be a panacea for all problems, they provide valuable platforms for dialogue and cooperation among nations, fostering hope for humanity's progress and peace.

EVOLUTION OF THE UN

League of Nations to United Nations: After **World War I**, the need for an **international organization** to prevent conflicts and war was recognized.

The **League of Nations** was formed but failed to prevent **World War II**.

Establishment and Purpose: The **United Nations (UN)** was established in **1945** as a successor to the League of Nations.

The UN aimed to prevent **international conflict** and promote **cooperation among states**. Its objective was to stop conflicts from escalating into war and foster global **social and economic development**.

Founding of the United Nations

August 1941: Signing of the **Atlantic Charter** by US President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British PM Winston S. Churchill.

January 1942: 26 Allied nations meet in Washington, D.C., to support the **Atlantic Charter** and sign the '**Declaration by United Nations**'.

December 1943: **Tehran Conference** Declaration of the Three Powers (US, Britain, and Soviet Union).

February 1945: **Yalta Conference** of the 'Big Three' (Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin) decides to organize a United Nations conference on the proposed world organization.

April-May 1945: The 2-month long **United Nations Conference on International Organization** at San Francisco.

June 26, 1945: Signing of the **UN Charter** by 50 nations (Poland signed on October 15; so the UN has 51 original founding members).

October 24, 1945: The UN was **founded** (hence October 24 is celebrated as UN Day).

October 30, 1945: India joins the UN.

Membership and Representation: By **2011**, the UN had **193 member states**, almost including all **independent states**.

In the **UN General Assembly**, each member state has **one vote**.

The **UN Security Council** has **five permanent members**: **USA, Russia, UK, France, and China**, the victors of World War II.

The Secretary-General: The **Secretary-General** is the representative head of the UN.

The current Secretary-General is **António Guterres**, the ninth to hold the position.

He was the **Prime Minister of Portugal** and the **UN High Commissioner for Refugees** before taking office.

UN's Structure and Agencies: The UN comprises various **structures and agencies** to address different issues.

The **General Assembly** and **Security Council** discuss **war, peace, and differences between member states**.

Social and economic matters are handled by agencies like **WHO, UNDP, UNHRC, UNHCR, UNICEF, and UNESCO**.

UN SECRETARIES-GENERAL

Trygve Lie - Norway (1946-1952)

Dag Hammarskjöld - Sweden (1953-1961)

U Thant - Myanmar (Burma) (1961-1971)

Kurt Waldheim - Austria (1972-1981)

Javier Perez de Cuellar - Peru (1982-1991)

Boutros Boutros-Ghali - Egypt (1992-1996)

Kofi A. Annan - Ghana (1997-2006)

Ban Ki-moon - South Korea (2007-2016)

António Manuel de Oliveira Guterres - Portugal (2017-)

The **United Nations**, formed after the failure of the League of Nations, aims to prevent conflicts, promote cooperation, and foster global development. With **193 member states**, the UN addresses various issues through its **General Assembly** and **Security Council**, while different specialized agencies handle social and economic concerns.

REFORM OF THE UN AFTER THE COLD WAR

TYPES OF REFORMS

Structures and Processes Reform: Focus on changing the functioning of the UN's structures and processes.

Jurisdictional Reform: Reviewing the issues falling under the UN's jurisdiction and determining their priority.

AREAS OF REFORM

Security Council Functioning: Major discussions on reforming the Security Council to better reflect contemporary world politics.

Membership Increase: Demand for increasing both permanent and non-permanent membership, particularly from Asia, Africa, and South America.

Budgetary and Administrative Improvements: Western countries seek better budgetary procedures and administration within the UN.

ISSUES WITHIN UN'S JURISDICTION

Peace and Security Missions: Some countries and experts advocate for a more effective role of the UN in peace and security missions.

Development and Humanitarian Work: Others prefer to confine the UN's role to development and humanitarian efforts, covering health, education, environment, population control, human rights, gender, and social justice.

CHANGES SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UN

Post-Cold War Shifts: After the Cold War, the world saw significant changes in geopolitics.

Soviet Union Collapse: The Soviet Union collapsed, leaving the US as the dominant power.

Cooperation between Russia and the US: Russia's relationship with the US became more cooperative.

Emergence of China and India: China and India emerged as fast-growing great powers.

Economic Growth in Asia: Asian economies experienced unprecedented growth.

New Member States: Many new countries joined the UN as they gained independence.

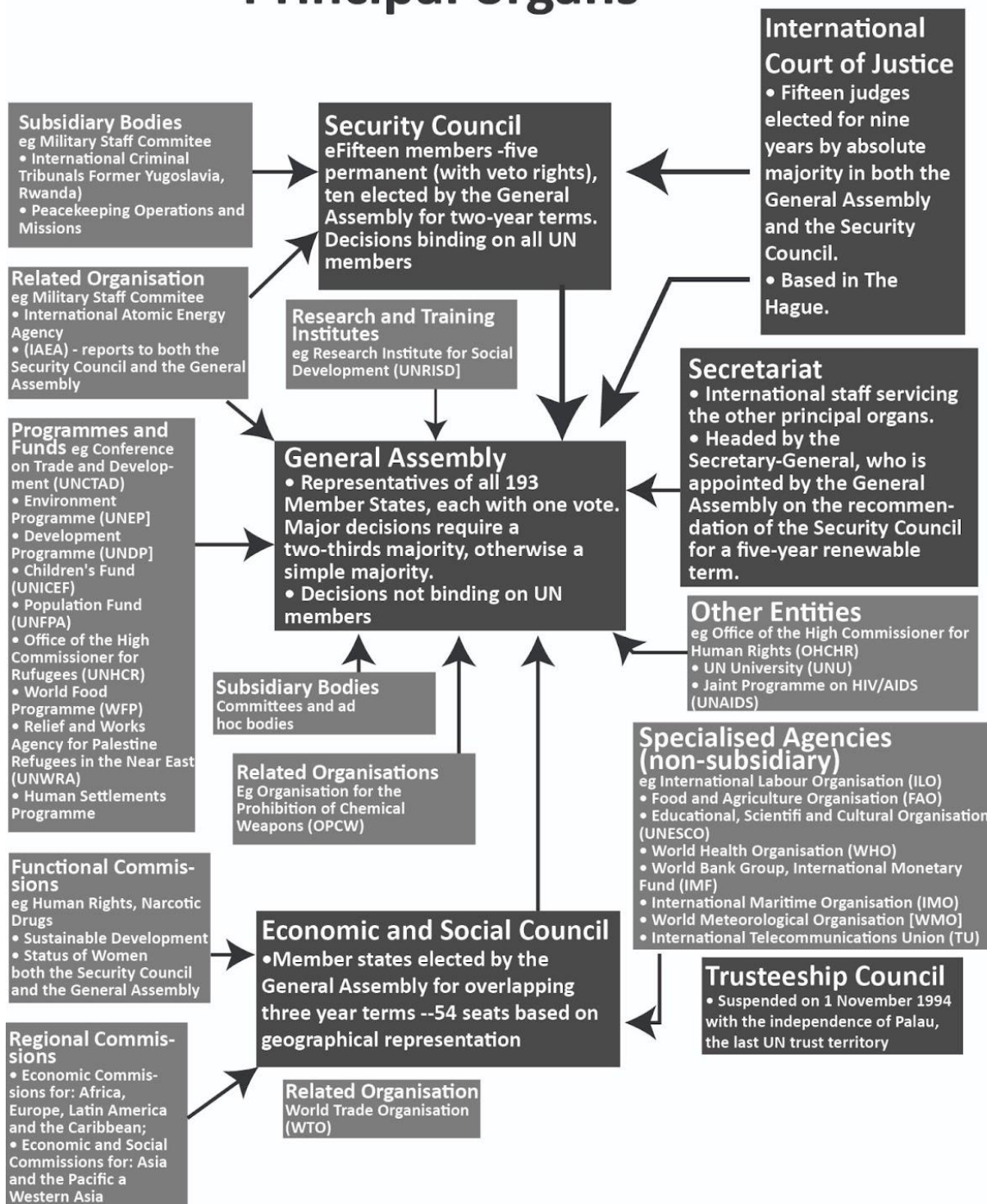
New Challenges: The world faced new challenges, including genocide, civil war, ethnic conflict, terrorism, nuclear proliferation, climate change, environmental degradation, and epidemics.

NEED FOR REFORMS

With changing global realities, there arose questions about the UN's effectiveness and adequacy. Member states have been seeking satisfactory and practical answers to reform the UN for over a decade and a half.

The United Nations System

Principal organs



REFORM OF STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES

MAIN COMPLAINTS AND INITIATIVES FOR REFORM

In 1992, the UN General Assembly identified **three primary complaints** about the UN Security Council:

Lack of Representation: The Council no longer **reflects contemporary political realities** and lacks **equitable representation**.

Dominance of Western Values: Its decisions are perceived to favor Western interests due to the influence of a few powerful nations.

Inequitable Structure: The Council's structure and privileges do not adequately address the diverse needs of the **global community**.

In response to growing demands for restructuring, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan initiated **an inquiry into UN reform** on January 1, 1997.

PROPOSED CRITERIA FOR NEW SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Several criteria have been suggested for selecting new permanent and non-permanent Security Council members:

Major Economic Power: Countries with **significant economic influence** could qualify for membership.

Major Military Power: Nations with **substantial military capabilities** might be considered.

UN Budget Contributor: Countries making **significant financial contributions** to the UN could be eligible.

Large Population: Nations with a **sizable population** may have a chance to play a more prominent role.

Democracy and Human Rights: Respect for **democratic principles** and **human rights** could be a factor for consideration.

Geographic, Economic, and Cultural Diversity: Countries contributing to a more diverse representation of the world could be favored.

CHALLENGES AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR CRITERIA SELECTION

Countries view the proposed criteria differently based on their interests and aspirations.

Lack of clarity on specific thresholds for economic and military power, as well as budget contributions.

Debate over whether large populations positively or negatively impact effective Council membership.

Questions about the **effectiveness** of countries with good human rights records as Council members.

ISSUES WITH REPRESENTATION

Debate over **equitable representation** based on geography versus economic development levels.

Difficulties in dividing the world based on **cultures or civilizations** due to internal cultural diversity within nations.

PROPOSALS TO CHANGE MEMBERSHIP NATURE

Some propose **abolishing the veto power** of the five permanent members, citing concerns about its compatibility with **democratic principles** and **sovereign equality**.

STRUCTURE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Five permanent members hold veto power: United States, Russia, China, France, and the United Kingdom.

Ten non-permanent members serve without veto power, with representation from different regions of the world.

Non-permanent members serve for **two-year terms** and cannot be immediately re-elected.

VETO POWER EXPLAINED

In the Security Council, decisions are made through voting, with each member having **one vote**.

The five permanent members can use their veto power to reject any decision, regardless of the support from other members, effectively **stalling the decision**.

JURISDICTION OF THE UN

Peacebuilding Commission: Create a Peacebuilding Commission to help countries emerging from conflict.

The Commission would provide advice and assistance on peacebuilding, including security, economic and social development, and the rule of law.

Responsibility to Protect: Accept the responsibility of the international community to **protect its citizens from atrocities** when national governments fail to do so.

This would include the use of military force, if necessary.

Human Rights Council: Establish a Human Rights Council to promote and protect human rights around the world.

The Council would replace the **UN Commission on Human Rights**, which was widely criticized for its lack of effectiveness.

Millennium Development Goals: Agree to achieve the **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**, a set of eight goals to reduce **poverty, hunger, disease, and other problems** by 2015.

Terrorism: Condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

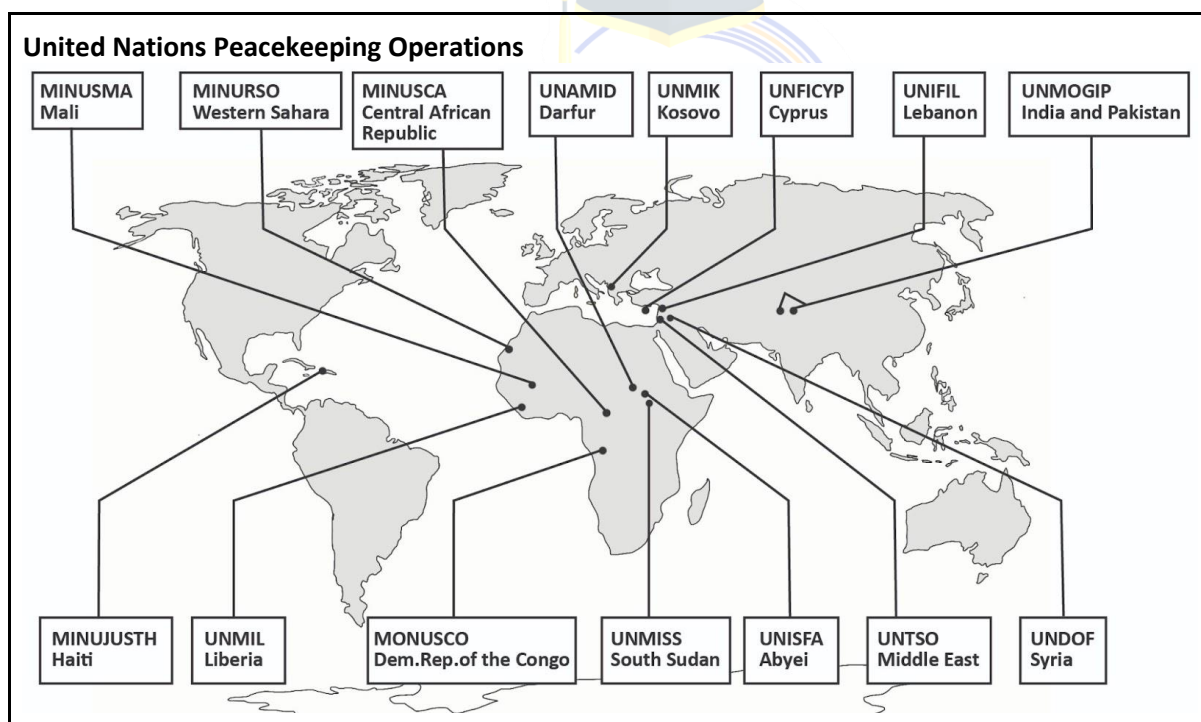
The UN would work to prevent terrorism and to bring terrorists to justice.

Democracy Fund: Create a **Democracy Fund** to promote democracy around the world.

The Fund would provide financial assistance to countries that are working to establish or strengthen democratic institutions.

Trusteeship Council: Agree to wind up the Trusteeship Council, which was established to oversee the administration of trust territories.

The Trusteeship Council is **no longer needed**, as all trust territories have achieved independence.



INDIA AND THE UN REFORMS

INDIA'S SUPPORT FOR UN REFORMS:

India's Perspective: A strengthened and revitalized UN is needed in a changing world to **promote development and cooperation** among states, which is crucial for international peace and security.

Concerns with UN Security Council: The composition of the Security Council has remained static, leading to a **lack of representation and harming its representative character**.

Call for Expansion: India supports increasing the number of both permanent and non-permanent members in the **Security Council to achieve broader representation and greater support** from the world community.

Emphasis on Developing Countries: India argues that an expanded Security Council should include more developing countries to shape decisions that affect them.

Political Support: Restructuring plans should be **broad-based**, considering the expanded activities of the Security Council and the need for political support from the international community.

INDIA'S JUSTIFICATIONS FOR PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP:

Peacekeeping Efforts: India's substantial contributions to UN peacekeeping justify its claim to a permanent seat.

Economic Emergence: India's growing economic importance on the world stage further supports its bid for a permanent seat.

Financial Contributions: India has consistently made financial contributions to the UN.

Symbolic Importance: Permanent membership signifies greater status and influence in world affairs, benefiting a country's foreign policy.

CHALLENGES AND CONCERNS:

Regional Rivalry: Some countries, including Pakistan, are reluctant to see India as a permanent veto-wielding member due to their troubled relations.

Nuclear Weapons Capability: Concerns about India's nuclear weapons capabilities raise objections to its inclusion as a permanent member.

Effectiveness: Doubts exist regarding India's effectiveness as a permanent member, given its difficulties with Pakistan.

Accommodation of Other Emerging Powers: Including India might trigger demands for other emerging powers like Brazil, Germany, Japan, and South Africa to be accommodated as well, which some countries oppose.

Representation of Continents: Some argue that Africa and South America must be represented in any expansion of permanent membership, as they are currently not represented in the present structure.

THE UN IN A UNIPOLAR WORLD

CONCERNS ABOUT UN REFORM

Hope for Coping with Unipolar World: Some countries desire UN reform to better address the challenges of a **unipolar world** where the US holds significant power without rivals.

LIMITATIONS OF THE UN IN CHECKING US DOMINANCE

US Unipolar Power: The **absence of serious rivals** makes the US the sole superpower, allowing it to ignore the UN and other international organizations.

US Influence within the UN: The US's substantial **financial contribution**, **physical location** of the UN within its territory, and **presence of US nationals** in the UN bureaucracy give it considerable influence.

Veto Power: The US's veto authority enables it to obstruct actions that go against its interests or those of its allies, reducing opposition to its policies.

UN'S ROLE AS A DIALOGUE PLATFORM

UN Facilitates Discussions: Despite criticism, the UN brings together over **190 nations** for discussions on **conflicts, social issues, and economic development**.

Modifying US Attitudes and Policies: The UN provides a space where the rest of the world can influence and shape **US attitudes and policies**, even if it cannot fully balance US power.

Hearing Opposing Views: The UN allows arguments against specific US attitudes and policies to be heard, leading to compromises and concessions.

IMPORTANCE AND IMPERFECTIONS OF THE UN

Imperfect but Vital: The **UN** is essential in a world with growing interdependence, and without it, the world would be worse off.

Increasing Relevance: As technology enhances global interdependence, the importance of the UN will likely continue to grow.

Supporting and using the UN: Peoples and governments must find ways to support and utilize the **UN** in alignment with their own interests and those of the international community.

Points to remember

Human Rights Watch

Human Rights Watch is a **HUMAN** international NGO that works on **human rights** issues.

It is the **largest** human rights organisation in the **US**.

It **exposes** human rights abuses and helps in building **international coalitions** to address them.

It has contributed to campaigns to **ban landmines**, **stop the use of child soldiers** and **establish the International Criminal Court**.

IMF

IMF stands for **International Monetary Fund**, an international organisation that oversees the **financial institutions and regulations** that act at the international level.

The IMF has **189 member countries** (as on 12 April 2016) but they do not have an **equal say**.

The **G-7 members** US, Japan, Germany, France, UK, Italy and Canada have **41.29% of the votes**.

China, India, Russia, Brazil and Saudi Arabia are the other major members.

World Bank

World Bank was created in **1944** during the Second World War.

Its activities are focused on the **developing countries**.

It works for **human development, agriculture and rural development, environmental protection, infrastructure and governance**.

It provides **loans and grants** to the member-countries.

It exercises enormous influence on the economic policies of developing countries, but is often criticised for setting their economic agenda, attaching **stringent conditions** to its loans and forcing **free market reforms**.

WTO

WTO stands for **World Trade Organisation**, an international organisation that sets the **rules for global trade**.

It was set up in **1995** as the successor to the **GATT** created after the Second World War.

It has **164 members** (as on 29 July 2016) and takes decisions **unanimously**.

The major economic powers such as the **US, EU and Japan** have used the WTO to advance their own interests.

The developing countries often complain of **non-transparent procedures** and being **pushed around** by big powers.

IAEA

IAEA stands for **International Atomic Energy Agency**, established in **1957**.

It was based on US President **Dwight Eisenhower's** "Atoms for Peace" proposal.

It aims to promote the **peaceful use** of nuclear energy and to prevent its use for **military purposes**.

IAEA teams **inspect** nuclear facilities worldwide to ensure that civilian reactors are not being used for military purposes.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is an NGO that **campaigns** for the protection of **human rights** worldwide.

It promotes respect for all the human rights in the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**.

It believes that human rights are **interdependent and indivisible**.

It prepares and publishes **reports** on human rights, which may **criticize** government authorities for their **misconduct**.

These reports play an important role in **research and advocacy** on human rights.

QUESTIONS

1. Consider the following statements about international organizations and their role in global affairs:
International organizations act as super-states with authority over their member countries.
International organizations primarily focus on achieving military supremacy among member nations.
The UN can serve as a platform for dialogue and discussion with powerful nations, potentially limiting their unilateral actions.
How many of the statements given above are correct?
Only one
Only two
All three
None

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: International organizations, including the UN, are not super-states. They are created by and respond to member states. They do not have authority over their member countries but work based on cooperation and consensus among their member states.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Military supremacy is not the primary focus of international organizations. Instead, their main objectives revolve around promoting peace, cooperation, and resolving conflicts peacefully.

Statement 3 is correct: The UN can serve as a platform for dialogue and discussion with powerful nations like the US and potentially limit their unilateral actions. By providing a forum for international cooperation and negotiation, the UN encourages dialogue among nations and seeks to avoid conflicts.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

2. Consider the following statements regarding the formation of the United Nations (UN):
India joined the UN on October 30, 1945, becoming one of its founding members.
The Tehran Conference, held in December 1943, marked the first meeting of the Three Powers - the United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union - to discuss the formation of the UN and its structure.
The Yalta Conference, that took place in February 1945 resulted in a decision to organize a United Nations conference on the proposed world organization.
How many of the statements given above are correct?
Only one
Only two

All three
None

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: India became a member of the United Nations on October 30, 1945, shortly after its official formation. As one of the original founding members, India played a crucial role in the early days of the UN and has been an active participant in its activities ever since.

Statement 2 is correct: The Tehran Conference took place from November 28 to December 1, 1943, and brought together the leaders of the Three Powers (the United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union). While the main focus of the conference was on military strategy during World War II, discussions regarding the post-war world and the establishment of the United Nations were also initiated.

Statement 3 is correct: The Yalta Conference occurred from February 4 to 11, 1945, and was attended by the leaders of the United States (Roosevelt), Britain (Churchill), and the Soviet Union (Stalin). During the conference, they discussed various post-war issues, including the establishment of a new international organization, which would later become the United Nations.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

3. In the context of International Monetary Fund (IMF), consider the following statements:

The IMF is responsible for overseeing financial institutions and regulations at the international level.

The IMF has an equal voting system where each of its member countries has an equal say.

The G-7 countries collectively holds more than 40% of the voting power in the IMF.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one
Only two
All three
None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organization that plays a crucial role in promoting monetary cooperation, exchange rate stability, and balanced economic growth among its member countries. It oversees and monitors global financial developments and provides economic policy advice to its member countries.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The IMF does not have an equal voting system. The voting power in the IMF is determined by a country's financial contributions (quota) to the organization. Countries with larger quotas have more voting power, which means they have a greater say in decision-making within the IMF. Therefore, larger economies have more influence in the IMF compared to smaller economies.

Statement 3 is correct: The G-7 countries, which include the United States (16.52%), Japan (6.15%), Germany (5.32%), France (4.03%), the United Kingdom (4.03%), Italy (3.02%), and Canada (2.22%), together hold 41.29% of the total voting power in the IMF. These countries are some of the world's major advanced economies, and their combined voting power reflects their significant financial contributions to the IMF.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

4. Which one of the following statements about the evolution and structure of the United Nations is correct?

The UN was founded immediately after the First World War as a successor to the League of Nations.

The UN Security Council consists of five permanent members, including the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany, and China.

The Secretary-General of the UN is the highest-ranking official, and the current Secretary-General is Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The UN General Assembly grants each member state one vote, regardless of its size or power.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Option (a) is incorrect: The UN was founded immediately after the Second World War as a successor to the League of Nations. The League of Nations was established after the First World War, but it could not prevent the occurrence of the Second World War. The UN was established in 1945 after the Second World War.

Option (b) is incorrect: The UN Security Council has five permanent members with veto power: the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, and China. Germany is not a permanent member of the Security Council. These states were selected as permanent members because they were the most powerful after World War II and were among the victorious nations.

Option (c) is incorrect: The Secretary-General of the UN is the highest-ranking official. The mentioned Secretary-General, Javier Perez de Cuellar, served as the fifth Secretary-General from 1982 to 1991. The current Secretary-General is António Guterres, who took office on 1 January 2017.

Option (d) is correct: In the UN General Assembly, each member state has one vote, regardless of its size or power. This ensures that all member states have equal representation in the General Assembly.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

5. Consider the following statements regarding the UN Security Council:

UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld initiated an inquiry in 1997 to explore potential reforms for the UN, including the selection process for new Security Council members.

The veto power of the five permanent members of the Security Council can be exercised to stall a decision, even if all other members vote in favor of it.

In the Security Council, there are five permanent members and ten non-permanent members

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: It was UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, not Dag Hammarskjöld, who initiated an inquiry in 1997 to explore potential reforms for the UN, including the selection process for new Security Council members.

Statement 2 is correct: The five permanent members of the Security Council (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) have the power of veto, which allows

them to block any substantive resolution, even if all other members of the Council vote in favor of it.

Statement 3 is correct: In the Security Council, there are five permanent members and ten non-permanent members

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

6. Consider the following statements about the reform of the United Nations (UN) after the Cold War:
The UN was established immediately after the Second World War, and its structure and functioning remained unchanged since then.

One of the key areas of reform demanded by various countries and experts is to increase the membership of the UN Security Council, particularly from Asia, Africa, and South America.

The collapse of the Soviet Union and the emergence of China and India as great powers are some of the changes that occurred after the Cold War.

Some member states advocate that the UN should focus solely on peace and security missions, while others argue for a broader role encompassing development, humanitarian work, and various social justice issues.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

Only three

All four

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The United Nations was indeed established in 1945 after the Second World War, but its structure and functioning have undergone changes over the years. After the Cold War, there were demands for reform to adapt the organization to the changing global environment and to address new challenges. Various proposals were made to reform the UN's structures and processes, as well as to prioritize its areas of jurisdiction.

Statement 2 is correct: One of the significant discussions for UN reform after the Cold War was about the functioning of the UN Security Council. There were demands for an increase in both permanent and non-permanent membership of the Security Council to better reflect contemporary world politics. Specifically, there were proposals to increase the representation of countries from Asia, Africa, and South America, as these regions felt that their voices and interests were not adequately represented in the Security Council.

Statement 3 is correct: The collapse of the Soviet Union was a significant event that reshaped the global political landscape. Additionally, China and India emerged as major players in the international arena due to their rapid economic growth and increasing influence in world affairs.

Statement 4 is correct: After the Cold War, there were divergent opinions among member states regarding the priorities and scope of the UN's activities. Some countries and experts believed that the UN should primarily concentrate on peace and security missions, while others argued for a broader role that includes addressing development, humanitarian work, and various social justice issues such as health, education, environment, population control, human rights, and gender equality.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

7. The World Bank, established in 1944, primarily focuses on the development of developing countries and undertakes various activities. Consider the following statements regarding the World Bank:
- The World Bank's areas of focus include human development, agriculture and rural development, environmental protection, infrastructure, and governance.
 - The World Bank provides loans and grants exclusively to developed countries to promote economic growth and stability.
 - The World Bank has been criticized for imposing strict conditions on its loans, influencing economic policies, and advocating for free market reforms in developing nations.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - All three
 - None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The World Bank is a specialized agency of the United Nations that aims to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development in developing countries.

Its activities are indeed centered around various sectors, such as education and health (human development), irrigation and rural services (agriculture and rural development), pollution reduction and regulatory enforcement (environmental protection), roads and electricity (infrastructure), and anti-corruption efforts and legal institution development (governance).

Statement 2 is incorrect: The World Bank primarily provides loans and grants to developing countries, not developed countries. Its main objective is to support the economic development and poverty reduction efforts of the less developed nations around the world.

Statement 3 is correct: The World Bank has faced criticism for its lending practices, particularly for attaching stringent conditions to its loans. These conditions often require recipient countries to undertake economic reforms, which may include implementing free market policies and liberalizing their economies. Critics argue that these conditions can sometimes be burdensome and can lead to adverse social and economic effects in developing countries.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

8. Consider the following statements about the United Nations (UN) and its relevant issues:
- The Trusteeship Council was established to oversee the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) operational since 19 June 2006.
 - The creation of a Peacebuilding Commission was among the steps proposed by the UN leaders to address conflicts worldwide.
 - The UN has successfully defined terrorism, leading to universal agreement on its meaning.
 - The Democracy Fund was created to support and promote democratic processes in member states.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- Only one
 - Only two
 - Only three
 - All four

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Trusteeship Council was not established to oversee the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Its main purpose was to supervise the administration of Trust Territories, which had mostly achieved independence by 1994.

Statement 2 is correct: The leaders at the 60th-anniversary meeting proposed the creation of a Peacebuilding Commission as a step towards addressing conflicts globally.

Statement 3 is incorrect: There is no universal agreement on the definition of terrorism. Various countries and organizations have different interpretations and understandings of terrorism.

Statement 4 is correct: The Democracy Fund was established to provide support and promote democratic processes within member states of the United Nations.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

9. Consider the following statements about the World Trade Organisation (WTO):

WTO The World Trade Organisation (WTO) is an international organisation which sets the rules for global trade.

The WTO was established in 1995 to replace the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) that originated after World War II.

The WTO has over 160 members representing 98 per cent of world trade.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: WTO The World Trade Organisation (WTO) is an international organisation which sets the rules for global trade.

Statement 2 is correct: The WTO was indeed established in 1995 as the successor to the GATT, which had been in place since 1948. The GATT served as an international agreement to regulate global trade, and its principles and rules formed the foundation for the establishment of the WTO.

Statement 3 is correct: The WTO has over 160 members representing 98 per cent of world trade. Over 20 countries are seeking to join the WTO. **While the WTO strives for transparency and openness in its operations, there have been criticisms and concerns raised regarding the transparency of its procedures.**

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

10. Which of the following statements regarding India's stance on UN reforms and its aspiration for a permanent seat in the Security Council are correct?

India believes that a strengthened and revitalized UN is essential in today's changing world, with a focus on promoting development and cooperation among states.

India argues that the composition of the UN Security Council should remain static to maintain its effectiveness and efficiency in decision-making.

India's support for UN reforms is solely based on its desire to enhance its status and influence in world affairs, disregarding any role in peacekeeping efforts or financial contributions to the UN.

Some countries oppose India's inclusion as a permanent veto-wielding member in the Security Council due to concerns about its nuclear weapons capabilities.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1 and 4

2 and 3

1 and 2

2 and 4

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: India supports restructuring the UN to make it more effective and relevant in the face of changing global dynamics. India also emphasizes the importance of development and cooperation among nations as crucial factors for international peace and security.

Statement 2 is incorrect: India's major concern is the current composition of the UN Security Council, which it perceives as lacking representation and inclusivity. India advocates for an expanded Security Council with more permanent and non-permanent members, particularly from developing countries, to enhance its legitimacy and support within the international community.

Statement 3 is incorrect: India's support for UN reforms is based on various factors, including the belief that development should be central to the UN's agenda for maintaining international peace and security. Additionally, India has a substantial role in UN peacekeeping efforts and has consistently made financial contributions to the organization.

Statement 4 is correct: Some countries, including neighboring Pakistan, have reservations about India becoming a permanent member with veto power in the Security Council. Concerns about India's nuclear weapons capabilities and its troubled relations with Pakistan are cited as reasons for opposition. Additionally, some countries argue that the inclusion of other emerging powers, such as Brazil, Germany, Japan, or South Africa, must also be considered in any expansion of the permanent membership.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

11. Consider the following statements about the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was established in 1977.

The IAEA's primary objective is to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and prevent its use for military purposes.

IAEA teams conduct regular inspections of nuclear facilities worldwide to ensure that civilian reactors are not being used for military purposes.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The IAEA was established on July 29, 1957, with its headquarters in Vienna, Austria. It is an international organization that operates under the auspices of the United Nations (UN).

Statement 2 is correct: The primary purpose of the IAEA, as outlined in its founding document, is to promote and encourage the peaceful use of nuclear energy for purposes such as electricity generation, medical applications, and industrial uses. Additionally, the IAEA plays a crucial role in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons by verifying that nuclear programs in member states are strictly used for peaceful purposes.

Statement 3 is correct: One of the essential functions of the IAEA is to carry out inspections of nuclear facilities in member states to verify their compliance with non-proliferation agreements and ensure that nuclear materials and technologies are used solely for peaceful purposes. These inspections are a crucial part of the IAEA's efforts to prevent the diversion of nuclear materials for military or weapons purposes.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

12. Which of the following statements best describes the role of the United Nations (UN) in a unipolar world dominated by the United States (US)?

The UN can effectively balance against US dominance due to its collective power and ability to limit US actions through veto power.

With the disappearance of the Soviet Union, the US stands as the only superpower, allowing it to ignore the UN and any other international organization.

The UN's influence in a multipolar world is limited due to its reliance on US funding and the presence of US nationals within the UN bureaucracy.

The UN is an imperfect but essential organization that supports global interdependence and plays a crucial role in addressing international conflicts and economic development.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Option (a) is incorrect: While the UN does have the potential to balance against US dominance theoretically, in a unipolar world where the US is the most powerful country without any serious rivals, the reality is different. With the US being the sole superpower and having significant military, economic power, and the ability to use its veto power in the UN Security Council, it can often act independently without being significantly constrained by the UN.

Option (b) is incorrect: After the Cold War, the US emerged as the dominant global power, and the dissolution of the Soviet Union left it as the sole superpower. While it is not entirely accurate to say that the US can completely ignore the UN or other international organizations, its significant power and influence have, at times, allowed it to act unilaterally or bypass the UN in certain situations.

Option (c) is incorrect: The UN's influence is limited. The US is the single largest financial contributor to the UN, giving it significant financial power and influence over the organization. Moreover, the fact that the UN headquarters is located within US territory further adds to Washington's sources of influence. Additionally, the presence of US nationals within the UN bureaucracy can affect decision-making processes. **However, it does not imply that this leads to unlimited influence.**

Option (d) is correct: Despite its imperfections and limitations, the UN remains a vital organization in addressing global challenges. It plays a crucial role in promoting international cooperation, addressing conflicts, and supporting social and economic

development worldwide. As the world becomes more interconnected and interdependent, the importance of the UN is expected to grow even further.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

13. Consider the following statements about Amnesty International:

Amnesty International is a non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to protecting human rights globally.

Amnesty International promotes the respect and recognition of all human rights outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Amnesty International exclusively focuses on the misconduct of government authorities in its reports on human rights.

Governments always welcome and appreciate the reports published by Amnesty International.

Amnesty International's reports serve as a significant resource for research and advocacy on human rights issues.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

1, 2 and 5 only

2, 3, 4 and 5 only

1, 3 and 4 only

1, 2, 3 and 5 only

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Amnesty International is an NGO that operates independently from any government and works towards promoting and protecting human rights worldwide.

Statement 2 is correct: Amnesty International advocates for the protection of all human rights as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, considering them interdependent and indivisible.

Statement 3 is incorrect: While Amnesty International does address government misconduct and human rights abuses by authorities, its scope extends to human rights violations perpetrated by any entity, including non-state actors such as armed groups, corporations, and individuals.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Governments are not always happy with Amnesty International's reports, especially when the reports shed light on human rights violations and criticize government authorities. Such reports can be a source of tension between Amnesty International and some governments.

Statement 5 is correct: Amnesty International's reports are highly regarded in the field of human rights research and advocacy. They provide valuable information, evidence, and insights into human rights violations, which are used by researchers, policymakers, and activists to advocate for improved human rights protections.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation

14. Which international NGO is the largest human rights organization in the US and is involved in research and advocacy on human rights, drawing global media attention to human rights abuses and contributing to the establishment of the International Criminal Court?

Amnesty International

Human Rights Watch

International Red Cross

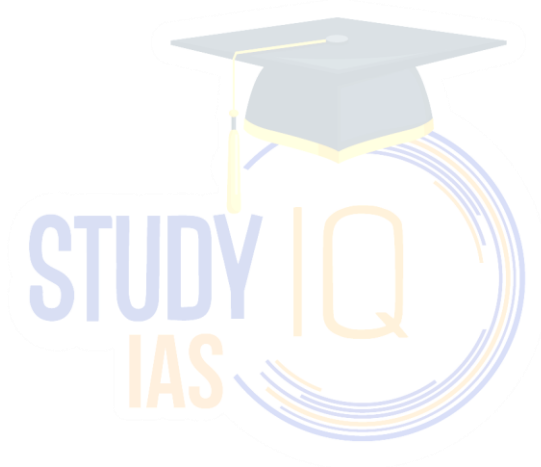
Doctors Without Borders

Answer: B

Explanation:

Option (b) is correct: Human Rights Watch is the largest international human rights organization based in the United States. It is an international NGO that conducts extensive research and advocacy on human rights issues around the world. The organization is dedicated to promoting and protecting human rights and drawing attention to human rights abuses through its reports, campaigns, and media outreach. The NGO has been instrumental in building international coalitions to address various human rights challenges. For instance, it played a significant role in advocating for the ban on landmines, working to end the use of child soldiers, and supporting the establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 4/ International Organisation



CHAPTER 5: SECURITY IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD

INTRODUCTION

This chapter examines the concept of **security** and **national security** in the context of world politics. It questions the assumption that security is a **non-negotiable** and **undebatable** issue that affects the well-being of the country. It argues that security is not a **secretive** or **dangerous** matter that is irrelevant to the ordinary citizen. On the contrary, in a **democracy**, citizens need to be aware and involved in security issues. It presents two different **approaches** to understanding security and discusses India's security **challenges**. It also emphasizes the importance of considering different **situations** or **scenarios** that shape our perception of security.

SECURITY

DEFINING SECURITY: FREEDOM FROM THREATS

At its core, security is about achieving **freedom from threats**. This can apply to individuals, communities, or nations. The world is filled with various threats, but not all of them can be considered as security threats.

IDENTIFYING CORE VALUES: FOCUS OF SECURITY CONCERNS

Security studies often emphasize the importance of "**core values**" that should be protected from threats.

DIFFERING PERCEPTIONS OF CORE VALUES

Governments may not always align their perception of core values with that of ordinary citizens. This disparity can create **tensions in security decisions and policies**.

EVALUATING THE INTENSITY OF THREATS

The **intensity of threats** to core values becomes crucial in determining what counts as a security concern. There are varying degrees of threats, both big and small, but not all can be treated equally in security considerations.

LIMITATIONS OF AN EXTENSIVE VIEW OF SECURITY

Taking an extensive view of security would lead to a **constant state of paranoia and inability to function**. Not every action or incident should be treated as a significant security threat.

SECURITY IN THE CONTEXT OF EXTREMELY DANGEROUS THREATS

Security is most relevant when dealing with **extremely dangerous threats** that could irreparably damage core values if not addressed promptly.

THE FLUIDITY OF THE SECURITY CONCEPT

The idea of security is not fixed; it **evolves with changes in society, geopolitics, and global circumstances**. Different societies at various points in history may have distinct conceptions of security.

DIVERSE PERCEPTIONS OF SECURITY

Due to cultural, historical, and geopolitical factors, societies around the world may have different notions of what constitutes security. Universal consensus on security is challenging given the **vast diversity of the global population**.

TRADITIONAL NOTIONS: EXTERNAL

Military Threats as the Greatest Danger: The traditional conception of security focuses on **national security** and perceives **military threats** as the primary danger to a country.

The source of such threats is often seen as another country that endangers core values like **sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity**.

Deterrence and Defense as Responses to War: Governments have three basic choices in responding to the threat of war: surrender, **deterrence** (preventing war by raising the costs of aggression), and **defense** (denying the attacking country its objectives).

Security policy aims to prevent war (**deterrence**) and limit or end war (**defense**).

Balance of Power: Countries are sensitive to the **balance of power** between them and other nations.

Maintaining a favorable balance of power with other countries, especially neighboring ones or those with past conflicts, is a crucial aspect of security policy.

Building up **military, economic, and technological power** is important to maintain this balance.

Alliance Building: Alliances are coalitions of states that coordinate actions to deter or defend against military attacks.

Alliances are often formalized in treaties and are based on **national interests and perceived threats**.

Countries form alliances to increase their **collective power** relative to potential aggressors.

Changing Alliances Based on National Interests: Alliances are subject to change as **national interests evolve**. Countries may form alliances with groups or states that were once seen as enemies if it aligns with their current interests.

External Threats and the International System: In the traditional view of security, most threats to a country come from **outside its borders**.

The international system lacks a central authority capable of controlling behavior, making it a brutal arena of competition among states.

The Role of Central Authorities in Regulating Violence: Within a country, the government serves as a **central authority** that regulates violence and maintains security.

In world politics, there is **no acknowledged central authority**, leaving each country responsible for its own security.

The United Nations and Limitations of Authority: While some may view the **United Nations** as a potential central authority, its power is **limited** and derived from its member states.

The UN's authority is **contingent** on member compliance, and it cannot override **national sovereignty** without consent.

TRADITIONAL NOTIONS: INTERNAL

Importance of Internal Peace and Order: Security is not solely about external threats; **internal peace and order** are equally vital for a society to be secure.

A secure society must be free from violence and the threat of violence within its borders.

Context and Historical Situations: Historical context plays a role in determining the emphasis on internal security. After World War II, powerful countries like the US and the Soviet Union felt relatively secure internally, leading them to focus more on **external threats**.

Cold War and External Threats: During the Cold War, powerful countries faced external threats from **opposing alliances**, fearing military attacks from each other.

Some European powers also worried about violence in their colonies as colonized people sought **independence**.

Challenges for Newly-Independent Countries: As colonies gained independence, their security concerns resembled those of European powers. Joining the Cold War alliances meant potential involvement in hostilities against other alliance members or the superpowers.

The Cold War in the Third World: The Cold War was responsible for a significant number of post-World War II wars, with many occurring in the **Third World**.

Newly-independent countries worried about conflicts with their neighbors and the possibility of attacks by former colonial rulers.

Internal and External Conflicts in the Third World: Newly-independent countries faced threats not only from outside their borders but also from **internal conflicts**. They feared neighboring countries as much as major superpowers or former colonial powers, leading to **border disputes and territorial conflicts**.

Threats of Separatist Movements: Newly-independent states also faced internal threats from **separatist movements** seeking to establish independent countries. In some cases, external and internal threats merged as neighboring countries supported or instigated internal separatist movements, leading to tensions.

Rise of Internal Wars: Internal wars became prevalent in the post-World War II period, constituting over 95% of all armed conflicts worldwide. The number of civil wars increased significantly during this time, becoming the most substantial rise in two centuries.

Challenges for New States: For newly-independent countries, both external conflicts with neighbors and internal wars posed serious challenges to their security.

TRADITIONAL SECURITY AND COOPERATION

Cooperation in Limiting Violence: Traditional security recognizes the possibility of **cooperation in limiting violence** in war, both in terms of the **reasons for going to war** and the **means used during warfare**.

Countries are encouraged to use force only for **legitimate reasons**, such as self-defense or protection against genocide.

Limits on Means of War: Armed forces are expected to avoid causing harm to **non-combatants**, unarmed and surrendering combatants, and to **exercise restraint in the use of force**.

Force should only be used after all **peaceful alternatives** have been exhausted.

Disarmament: Disarmament involves countries giving up certain types of weapons to reduce the overall **threat of violence**.

Examples include the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) and the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), which ban the production and possession of specific weapons.

Arms Control: Arms control aims to regulate the acquisition and development of weapons to prevent an **escalation of military capabilities**.

Treaties like the Anti-ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty (SALT II), Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) are examples of arms control efforts.

Confidence Building: Confidence-building measures involve sharing information and ideas between countries to reduce **misunderstandings and misperceptions**.

Countries may disclose military intentions and plans up to a certain point to demonstrate that they are not planning a surprise attack.

Traditional Security Focus on Military Force: Traditional security is primarily concerned with the use or threat of military force as both the principal **threat to security** and the principal **means of achieving security**.

Cooperation in International Treaties: Cooperation is evident in the **signing and adherence** to international treaties such as **disarmament agreements and arms control treaties**. The participation of various states, including **major powers**, is vital for the **success of such treaties**.

Confidence and Reducing Tensions: Confidence-building measures play a crucial role in **reducing tensions** between countries and **preventing misunderstandings** that could lead to armed conflicts.

Nuclear Weapons and Arms Control: The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is an example of an **arms control treaty** aimed at **limiting the spread of nuclear weapons** to a select number of countries.

NON-TRADITIONAL NOTIONS

Expanding the Referent of Security: Non-traditional notions of security question the traditional referent of security, which is the **state** and its governing institutions. Non-traditional views advocate for a broader referent, including **individuals, communities, and all of humanity**.

Human Security: Human security prioritizes the **protection of individuals** rather than just the security of states. While state security and human security can align, secure states do not necessarily mean secure individuals, as people can face threats from their own **governments**.

Narrow vs. Broad Concept of Human Security: Proponents of the “narrow” concept of human security focus on **violent threats** to individuals and communities from **internal violence**. Proponents of the “broad” concept argue for a more inclusive threat agenda, encompassing **hunger, disease, natural disasters, economic security, and threats to human dignity**.

Global Security in Response to Global Threats: The idea of global security emerged in the 1990s due to the **global nature** of certain threats, such as **global warming, international terrorism, and health epidemics** like AIDS and bird flu.

These problems cannot be resolved by individual countries alone and require **international cooperation**.

Challenges of Global Problems: Some global issues, like environmental degradation caused by global warming, disproportionately affect certain countries or regions.

For example, rising sea levels due to global warming threaten specific countries like **Bangladesh, the Maldives, and Thailand**.

The Need for International Cooperation: As global problems affect multiple countries, international cooperation is vital in addressing them effectively. Achieving international cooperation can be challenging due to differing **interests and priorities** among countries.

Complexity and Difficulties of Global Security: Addressing global threats requires complex solutions and efforts from multiple nations. Some countries may bear a larger burden in addressing global problems, leading to issues of **fairness and shared responsibility**.

NEW SOURCES OF THREATS

Terrorism: Terrorism involves deliberate and indiscriminate **political violence targeting civilians** to achieve certain **political objectives**. International terrorism extends beyond a single country, involving **citizens or territories of multiple countries**. Terrorist groups often seek to change **political conditions** through **force or threats**.

Human Rights Violations: Human rights can be classified into three types: **political rights, economic and social rights, and rights of colonized people or ethnic minorities**. Debates arise on which set of rights should be considered **universal** and how to address **human rights abuses** effectively.

Global Poverty and Disparities: Global population growth, especially in certain countries, contributes to **disparities between rich and poor nations**. The gap between Northern and Southern countries, as well as within the South itself, has widened due to varying success in **population control and economic growth**.

Refugee and Displacement Crisis: Wars and armed conflicts have generated millions of **refugees seeking safety outside their home countries**. Internal armed conflicts have also led to **internal displacement**, where people are forced to leave their homes within their own countries.

Health Epidemics and Global Interdependence: Health epidemics like HIV-AIDS, bird flu, SARS, and drug-resistant diseases have rapidly spread across countries through **migration, business, and tourism**. Such epidemics demonstrate the growing **interdependence of states** and the need for **international cooperation**.

Security Criteria for Non-Traditional Threats: Expanding the concept of security requires considering minimum common criteria for an issue to qualify as a security problem. A threat must potentially endanger the **existence of the referent**, such as a state or group of people, though the nature of the threat may differ.

Local Context and Varying Notions of Security: Non-traditional conceptions of security, like traditional ones, vary according to **local contexts**. Different regions face distinct threats that shape their understanding of security.

Maintaining Coherence in Security Concepts: While expanding security concepts, it is essential to maintain **coherence** and avoid including any kind of disease or distress as a security issue indiscriminately.

COOPERATIVE SECURITY

Non-Traditional Threats Require Cooperation, Not Military Confrontation: Many non-traditional threats to security, such as **poverty, migration, and epidemics**, cannot be effectively addressed through military force. **Cooperative strategies** involving international cooperation are more effective in dealing with these challenges.

The Role of Military Force in Non-Traditional Threats: While military force may have a role in combating terrorism or enforcing human rights, its effectiveness is **limited**. Military force may not be suitable for alleviating poverty, managing migration, controlling epidemics, or addressing humanitarian crises.

The Need for International Cooperation: Cooperative security may involve **bilateral, regional, continental, or global cooperation**, depending on the nature of the threat and countries' willingness to respond. Various **international and national players**, such as international organizations, NGOs, businesses, and influential personalities, can play a part in cooperative security efforts.

The Use of Force as a Last Resort: Cooperative security does not rule out the use of force entirely but considers it as a **last resort**. The international community may need to sanction the use of force in cases of **government atrocities** or in dealing with **international terrorists and their hosts**.

Collective Action Over Unilateral Decisions: Non-traditional security is more effective when the use of force is **collectively sanctioned and applied by the international community** rather than individual countries taking unilateral actions.

Role of International Organizations: International organizations like the **United Nations**, the **World Health Organization**, the **World Bank**, and the **International Monetary Fund** can play a crucial role in coordinating cooperative security efforts.

Involvement of Non-Governmental Organizations: NGOs, such as **Amnesty International** and the **Red Cross**, contribute to cooperative security efforts through humanitarian aid, advocacy, and raising awareness about critical issues.

Private Sector and Businesses: Businesses and corporations can support cooperative security initiatives through **corporate social responsibility programs**, financial contributions, and expertise in disaster relief and healthcare.

Role of Influential Personalities: Influential personalities, like **Mother Teresa** and **Nelson Mandela**, can use their global standing to advocate for cooperative security measures and bring attention to humanitarian crises.

INDIA'S SECURITY STRATEGY

Strengthening Military Capabilities: India has faced military conflicts with its **neighbors**, including **Pakistan and China**. Strengthening its **military capabilities** has been a key component of India's security strategy.

India conducted **nuclear tests** in 1998, justifying it as a measure to safeguard **national security**. Ongoing focus on **modernizing the armed forces** and enhancing **defense capabilities**.

Advocating for International Norms and Institutions: India under Prime Minister **Jawaharlal Nehru** supported **Asian solidarity, decolonization, disarmament**, and the role of the **United Nations** in conflict resolution. Advocated for a **universal and non-discriminatory non-proliferation regime** for weapons of mass destruction.

Championed an equitable **New International Economic Order (NIEO)**. Active participation in international agreements and treaties like the **Kyoto Protocol** to address global challenges like **climate change**.

Addressing Security Challenges Within the Country: India has faced security challenges from various **militant groups seeking separatism or secession**, particularly in regions like **Nagaland, Mizoram, Punjab, and Kashmir**.

Efforts to preserve **national unity** through democratic political systems that accommodate diverse communities and allow grievances to be voiced. Measures to ensure **national integration and inclusivity**.

Economic Development and Poverty Alleviation: India strives to develop its economy to lift its citizens out of **poverty** and reduce economic inequalities. While progress has been made, the country continues to face economic challenges.

Democratic politics play a crucial role in addressing the needs of the **poor and marginalized**, as it provides spaces for their **voices** to be heard. Pressure on democratically elected governments to balance **economic growth** with **human development**, thus providing greater security.

India's security strategy is a **dynamic and evolving process**, shaped by various **internal and external factors**. The country continues to face both **traditional and non-traditional threats**, which require a **multifaceted and adaptive approach** to ensure national security and well-being.

Points to Remember

HDR

The 1994 UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) titled "**New Dimensions of Human Security**" introduced the concept of **human security**, focusing on the **well-being and protection of individuals and communities** beyond traditional military concerns.

It emphasized **economic, food, health, environmental, personal, and community security** as crucial aspects and called for **international cooperation** to address these challenges globally.

Peacekeeping Force

The term "peacekeeping force" can be seen as **paradoxical** as it combines "peace" and "force." While intended to maintain peace, these forces may need to use force to fulfill their mandate.

This creates a **delicate balance** between non-coercion and intervention in volatile situations.

QUESTIONS

1. Which one of the following statements best represents the concepts of security?
Security implies freedom from all threats, regardless of their intensity or nature.
Core values are universally defined and shared by all individuals and governments.
Threats that jeopardize core values should be considered in discussions of security.
Security is a static concept that remains unchanged throughout history and across societies.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Option (a) is incorrect: Security does not encompass every single threat individuals face in their daily lives. Instead, it focuses on threats to 'core values' that are of interest in discussions

of security. So, security is not about being completely free from all threats, but rather addressing specific threats that endanger core values.

Option (b) is incorrect: The core values are not universally defined and shared by everyone. The concept of security questions whose core values should be considered, whether they are those of the country as a whole or the ordinary citizens. It highlights the potential differences in core values between governments and ordinary citizens.

Option (c) is correct: Security should be understood as protecting 'core values.' It implies that only those threats that pose a significant danger to these core values should be considered as security threats. Security threats should be focused on 'extremely dangerous threats' that could seriously endanger core values. The intensity of the threats is a crucial factor in determining whether they are classified as security threats.

Option (d) is incorrect: The conception of security may not be the same across different societies and can change over time due to various factors. **Security is not a static concept and can be subject to evolution based on societal, political, and global changes.**

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

2. Which one of the following statements reflects the traditional notions of security in the context of international relations?

Traditional security policy primarily focuses on economic and technological power as the basis for maintaining a favorable balance of power between countries.

The greatest danger to a country's security in the traditional conception is primarily from military threats posed by other countries, endangering sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

The United Nations serves as the acknowledged central authority in world politics, controlling and regulating the behavior of all countries to maintain global security.

Alliances in the traditional security view are informal coalitions based on verbal agreements, and their formation is independent of national interests.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Option (a) is incorrect: This statement is not accurate. While economic and technological power are mentioned as important factors in building military power, the primary focus of traditional security policy lies in dealing with military threats from other countries and protecting core values like sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

Option (b) is correct: This statement accurately reflects the main idea of traditional notions of security. The traditional conception of security emphasizes that the greatest danger to a country's security comes from military threats posed by other nations, which can endanger core values like sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

Option (c) is incorrect: It has been clearly stated in the textbook that there is no acknowledged central authority in world politics, and the United Nations, while an important international organization, does not have the authority to control and regulate the behavior of all countries. The UN's authority is limited to the extent that its member states allow and obey it.

Option (d) is incorrect: This statement is not accurate. In the traditional security view, alliances are formalized in written treaties, and their formation is based on national interests. Countries form alliances to increase their effective power relative to other countries or alliances, and their composition can change when national interests change.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

3. Consider the following statements about the traditional notions of security and external threats during and after the Second World War:

Traditional security mainly focused on internal peace and order, but after the Second World War, powerful countries assumed internal security to be less significant.

The period after the Second World War was marked by the Cold War, with the US-led Western alliance facing the Soviet-led Communist alliance, resulting in numerous wars fought in the Third World.

Newly-independent countries of Asia and Africa faced security challenges primarily from external military conflicts with powerful Western European countries.

Internal wars have become the dominant form of armed conflicts in the world, increasing significantly between 1946 and 1991.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

Only three

All four

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Traditional notions of security did consider internal security to be important, but after the Second World War, it seemed that powerful countries like the US and the Soviet Union had internal security more or less assured. Therefore, they started to focus primarily on threats from outside their borders, particularly due to the context of the Cold War.

Statement 2 is correct: The period after the Second World War was indeed marked by the Cold War, where the US-led Western alliance faced the Soviet-led Communist alliance. Approximately one-third of all wars in the post-Second World War period were due to the Cold War, and most of these wars were fought in the Third World.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The security challenges facing the newly-independent countries of Asia and Africa were different from the challenges in Europe. **Newly-independent countries in Asia and Africa faced security challenges in two ways: external military conflicts with neighboring countries (not specifically with powerful Western European countries) and internal military conflicts.**

Statement 4 is correct: Internal wars now make up more than 95 percent of all armed conflicts fought anywhere in the world. Between 1946 and 1991, there was a twelve-fold rise in the number of civil wars—the greatest jump in 200 years. This indicates a significant increase in internal armed conflicts during that period.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

4. Consider the following statements about the traditional security and cooperation:

Traditional security emphasizes that countries should engage in war for self-defense or to prevent genocide.

Armies in traditional security must avoid using force altogether and seek peaceful resolutions.

Disarmament, arms control, and confidence building are forms of cooperation encouraged in traditional security.

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) aimed to abolish all nuclear weapons globally.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

Only three
All four

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: In traditional security, there is a recognition that countries should only resort to war for legitimate reasons, such as self-defense or protecting vulnerable populations from genocide. This principle promotes the idea of using military force responsibly and ethically.

Statement 2 is incorrect: While traditional security emphasizes the need to limit the use of force and avoid harming non-combatants or unarmed/surrendering combatants, it does not suggest that armies should completely avoid using force. Force must in any case be used only after all the alternatives have failed. Traditional security acknowledges the existence of armed conflict but emphasizes the importance of minimizing violence and pursuing peaceful resolutions whenever possible.

Statement 3 is correct: Traditional security recognizes the value of cooperation in reducing violence and enhancing security. Disarmament, arms control, and confidence-building measures are examples of cooperative efforts advocated in traditional security. These measures aim to limit the proliferation of weapons, regulate their acquisition and development, and promote transparency and trust among states.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) of 1968 does not aim to abolish all nuclear weapons globally. It was an arms control treaty in the sense that it regulated the acquisition of nuclear weapons: those countries that had tested and manufactured nuclear weapons before 1967 were allowed to keep their weapons; and those that had not done so were to give up the right to acquire them. **The NPT did not abolish nuclear weapons; rather, it limited the number of countries that could have them.** The NPT seeks to achieve a balance between non-proliferation and disarmament efforts.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

5. Consider the following statements regarding non-traditional notions of security:

Non-traditional security views include only military threats to the state and its territory.

The 'broad' concept of human security includes protection from hunger, disease, and natural disasters, in addition to violence.

Global security emerged in the 1940s in response to local threats like regional conflicts and territorial disputes.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

3 only

2 and 3 only

2 only

1 and 3 only

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Non-traditional notions of security go beyond military threats and encompass a wide range of dangers affecting human existence. They question the traditional referent of security, which focuses on the state, its territory, and governing institutions. Non-traditional security views acknowledge various threats that extend beyond conventional military concerns.

Statement 2 is correct: The 'broad' concept of human security expands the range of threats individuals should be protected from. It includes not only violence and internal conflicts but

also threats like hunger, disease, and natural disasters. Proponents of this concept argue that these non-violent threats are significant and often claim more lives than war, genocide, and terrorism combined.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Global security emerged in the 1990s, not the 1940s, as a response to global challenges that transcend national borders. These challenges include issues like global warming, international terrorism, health epidemics (e.g., AIDS and bird flu), and other problems that require international cooperation and cannot be effectively addressed by individual countries alone. Global security focuses on addressing threats that affect the entire international community.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

6. Which of the following statements are correct about non-traditional conceptions of security and terrorism?

Non-traditional conceptions of security focus on the changing nature of security threats.

International terrorism involves violence that targets civilians deliberately and indiscriminately.

Terrorist groups primarily aim to bring about political change through amicable means.

The majority of terror attacks historically occurred in North America and Australia.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

2, 3 and 4 only

1 and 4 only

1, 3 and 4 only

1 and 2 only

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Non-traditional conceptions of security, such as human security and global security, place emphasis on the evolving and diverse nature of security threats in the modern world. These concepts recognize that security threats are not limited to traditional military conflicts but encompass a wide range of issues, including economic, environmental, health-related, and social challenges.

Statement 2 is correct: International terrorism refers to acts of political violence carried out by terrorist groups that deliberately and indiscriminately target civilians. The goal of these terrorist groups is often to bring about political change or influence decision-making through fear and intimidation, using civilian casualties as a tool to achieve their objectives.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Terrorist groups do not primarily aim to bring about political change through peaceful means. On the contrary, terrorism is characterized by the use of violence, coercion, and intimidation to achieve political, ideological, or religious objectives. Their tactics involve non-state actors resorting to force or threats of force, rather than peaceful or diplomatic methods.

Statement 4 is incorrect: In the past, most terror attacks have occurred in regions such as the Middle East, Europe, Latin America, and South Asia. There is no mention of North America and Australia as the focal points of historical terror attacks.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

7. Consider the following statements:

Human rights are classified into three types: political rights, economic and social rights, and the rights of colonized people or ethnic minorities.

Global poverty is primarily concentrated in Southern countries, while Northern countries have successfully slowed down population growth and raised incomes.

Sub-Saharan Africa experiences a high number of armed conflicts and has the highest per capita income among all regions in the world.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Human rights have come to be classified into three types: political rights (such as freedom of speech and assembly), economic and social rights, and the rights of colonized people or ethnic and indigenous minorities. These three categories encompass different aspects of human rights and reflect the broad scope of human rights concerns.

Statement 2 is correct: There have been discussions over global poverty which highlights the disparities between Northern and Southern countries. It states that global poverty contributes to the gap between Northern and Southern countries, with poverty being primarily concentrated in the South. Additionally, it mentions that some countries have managed to slow down population growth and raise incomes, while others have failed to do so, indicating disparities within the Southern countries.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Sub-Saharan Africa, the poorest region of the world, experiences most of the world's armed conflicts. It has also been stated that high per capita income and low population growth make rich states or groups get richer, whereas low incomes and high population growth reinforce each other to make poor states and groups get poorer. This implies that sub-Saharan Africa does not have the highest per capita income among all regions in the world.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

8. Which of the following statements is correct regarding migration, refugees, and global health challenges?

International law and norms mandate that states must accept both migrants and refugees.

Internally displaced people are professional or skilled workers who intend to return to their country of origin.

The world refugee map aligns closely with the world conflicts map, as wars and armed conflicts generate millions of refugees seeking safe haven.

Health epidemics, such as HIV-AIDS, bird flu, and SARS, have no relation to migration and international travel.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Option (a) is incorrect: International law and norms make a distinction between migrants (voluntary migrants) and refugees (those fleeing from war, natural disasters, or political persecution). While states are generally expected to accept refugees in accordance with international refugee law, they do not have the same obligation to accept migrants. The statement misrepresents the legal distinction between migrants and refugees.

Option (b) is incorrect: Internally displaced people are individuals or groups who have been forced to flee their homes due to conflict, violence, natural disasters, or persecution, but

they remain within the borders of their own country. Unlike refugees who cross international borders, internally displaced people do not leave their country of origin. The statement incorrectly describes internally displaced people as professional or skilled workers with an intention to return home, which is not a defining characteristic of this group.

Option (c) is correct: The world refugee map does align closely with the world conflicts map. Wars and armed conflicts in various regions of the world have led to the displacement of millions of people, creating refugees who seek safety and protection in other countries. The correlation between conflicts and refugee flows is evident, with many refugees fleeing from areas experiencing internal armed conflicts.

Option (d) is incorrect: Health epidemics, including HIV-AIDS, bird flu, and SARS, are known to spread rapidly across countries through various means, including migration, international travel, business, tourism, and military operations. These diseases can cross borders and affect different regions due to the movement of people, making international cooperation crucial in addressing global health challenges.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

9. Consider the following statements about the cooperative security and dealing with non-traditional threats to security:

Cooperative security emphasizes that military force is the most effective tool to combat poverty, manage migration and refugee movements, and control epidemics.

International cooperation may involve various players, including international organizations, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and great personalities.

Cooperative security discourages the use of force altogether, even in extreme cases like dealing with international terrorists or oppressive governments.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Cooperative security recognizes that many non-traditional threats to security, such as poverty, migration, and epidemics, cannot be effectively addressed solely through military force. Instead, these challenges require international cooperation and strategies involving various stakeholders, including international organizations, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and other entities, to find comprehensive solutions.

Statement 2 is correct: Cooperative security emphasizes the importance of involving multiple players in international cooperation. These players can include international organizations like the United Nations (UN), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like Amnesty International and the Red Cross.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Cooperative security recognizes that, in certain extreme cases, the use of force may be necessary as a last resort. For example, dealing with international terrorists or oppressive governments that pose significant threats may require collective international action, including the possibility of using force. However, cooperative security stresses the importance of sanctioning and applying force collectively by the international community rather than allowing individual countries to act unilaterally.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

10. India's security strategy comprises four broad components to address both traditional and non-traditional threats. Which of the following statements about India's security strategy are correct?

The first component involves strengthening India's military capabilities due to historical conflicts with neighboring countries.

India's decision to conduct nuclear tests in 1998 was primarily driven by the need to prevent nuclear proliferation globally.

India's security strategy includes supporting international norms, institutions, and cooperative security initiatives, such as participating in UN peacekeeping missions.

India's democratic political system plays a limited role in dealing with security challenges within the country, focusing more on economic development.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1, 3 and 4 only

2 and 3 only

1, 2 and 4 only

1 and 3 only

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: India has faced historical conflicts with its neighbors, including Pakistan in 1947-48, 1965, 1971, and 1999, and China in 1962. As a result, India has focused on strengthening its military capabilities as a part of its security strategy to be prepared to defend itself in case of any external threats.

Statement 2 is incorrect: India's decision to conduct nuclear tests in 1998 was not primarily driven by preventing global nuclear proliferation. Instead, it was justified by the Indian government as a measure to safeguard national security. The tests were seen as a response to perceived security threats, particularly from neighboring nuclear-armed countries.

Statement 3 is correct: India's security strategy involves supporting international norms and institutions to protect its security interests. This includes advocating for universal and non-discriminatory non-proliferation regimes, participating in UN peacekeeping missions to promote cooperative security, and engaging in international efforts like the Kyoto Protocol to address global issues such as climate change.

Statement 4 is incorrect: India's democratic political system plays a significant role in dealing with security challenges within the country. India has tried to preserve national unity by adopting a democratic political system that allows different communities and groups to freely articulate their grievances and share political power. Additionally, there is pressure on democratically elected governments to combine economic growth with human development, making democracy an important aspect of India's security strategy.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 5/ Security in the Contemporary World

CHAPTER 6: ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION

This chapter explores the **environmental** and **resource** issues in world politics. It compares some of the major **environmental movements** since the 1960s and evaluates the concepts of **common property resources** and **global commons**. It also outlines India's position in recent **environmental debates** and the **geopolitics** of resource **competition**. It ends by highlighting the **indigenous peoples'** concerns and voices from the **margins** of world politics.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS IN GLOBAL POLITICS

North-South Divide: The divide between the **global North (developed countries)** and the **global South (developing countries)** remains a significant challenge in environmental negotiations. The North is more concerned with issues like **ozone depletion** and **global warming**, while the South emphasizes the link between **economic development** and **environmental management**.

Sustainable Development: The concept of sustainable development, aiming to balance **economic growth** with **ecological responsibility**, is a central theme. However, there is ongoing debate about how to achieve this balance effectively.

Agenda 21: The Rio Summit's "Agenda 21" listed development practices for sustainability. Critics argue that it may prioritize **economic growth** over **ecological conservation**, leading to disagreements and difficulties in implementation.

Climate Change: Addressing climate change is a major contentious issue. Disagreements exist on the responsibilities of **developed and developing countries** in reducing **greenhouse gas emissions** and providing **financial support** to vulnerable nations.

Biodiversity Conservation: Preserving biodiversity is crucial, but conflicts arise over the protection of **natural habitats** and how to ensure conservation without hindering **economic growth**.

Resource Management: Competing interests in resource usage, such as land for cultivation, overgrazing, and overharvesting of fisheries, lead to conflicts between **ecological concerns** and **economic interests**.

Water and Sanitation: The lack of access to **safe water and sanitation** in developing countries is a pressing issue, requiring **international cooperation** and **financial assistance**.

Ozone Depletion: The depletion of the **ozone layer** poses dangers to **ecosystems** and **human health**, prompting the need for **global efforts** to mitigate its effects.

Coastal Pollution: Increasing coastal pollution due to **land-based activities** demands **international collaboration** to protect **marine environments**.

Global Governance: Environmental issues often transcend **national boundaries**, necessitating **global governance mechanisms** and **cooperation between nations and international organizations**.

Environmental Responsibility: Assigning responsibility for **environmental degradation** and determining who should take **corrective actions** is a contentious matter in international discussions.

Indigenous Peoples' Rights: The rights of **indigenous communities**, whose lands are often affected by environmental degradation and resource exploitation, must be considered and protected in global environmental policies.

THE PROTECTION OF GLOBAL COMMONS

Definition of Commons: Commons are resources shared by a community, not owned by any individual.

Examples include common rooms, community centers, parks, and rivers.

Global Commons: Global commons are areas outside the jurisdiction of any one state, requiring common governance by the international community.

Examples: Earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, ocean floor, and outer space (res communis humanities).

Challenges and Cooperation: Cooperation over global commons is difficult.

Path-breaking agreements include the 1959 Antarctic Treaty, 1987 Montreal Protocol, and 1991 Antarctic Environmental Protocol.

Achieving consensus on environmental agendas based on vague scientific evidence and time frames is challenging.

Antarctic Ozone Hole: Discovery of the ozone hole in the Antarctic in the mid-1980s highlighted opportunities and dangers in tackling global environmental problems.

Outer Space as a Global Commons: Management of outer space is influenced by North-South inequalities.

Technology and industrial development play a crucial role.

Benefits of exploitative activities in outer space are unequal for present and future generations.

COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSIBILITIES

North-South Divide on Environmental Issue: Developed countries (**North**) want equal responsibility for ecological conservation.

Developing countries (**South**) argue that industrial development by the North caused much of the ecological degradation, so they should bear more responsibility for undoing the damage.

Special Needs of Developing Countries: Developing countries are in the process of industrialization and should not face the same restrictions as developed countries.

The principle of '**common but differentiated responsibilities**' recognizes the special needs of developing countries in international environmental law.

Rio Declaration (1992): States must cooperate in a global partnership to conserve and protect the Earth's ecosystem.

Acknowledges different contributions to global environmental degradation and advocates **common but differentiated responsibilities**.

Developed countries accept their responsibility in pursuing sustainable development considering their societal pressures and resources.

UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol: 1992 UNFCCC calls for climate protection based on equity and common but differentiated responsibilities.

Largest share of historical and current global emissions of greenhouse gases originated in developed countries.

Developing countries like **China, India**, and others exempted from requirements of the **Kyoto Protocol** due to their relatively low per capita emissions.

COMMON PROPERTY RESOURCES

Definition of Common Property: Common property represents resources shared by a group.

Group members have **rights and duties** concerning the use and maintenance of the resource.

Traditional Practices in India: Many village communities in India have defined members' **rights and responsibilities** for common property resources.

Challenges to Common Property: Factors like **privatization, agricultural intensification, population growth, and ecosystem degradation** have led to the shrinking of common property resources worldwide.

The availability of common property resources to the poor has decreased in **quality and quantity**.

Example of Common Property Regime: The management of **sacred groves** on state-owned forest land serves as a common property regime.

Along the forest belt of South India, village communities traditionally manage sacred groves.

India's Stand on Environmental Issues

Kyoto Protocol and Developing Countries: India signed and ratified the 1997 **Kyoto Protocol** in August 2002.

India, China, and other developing countries were exempt from the requirements of the protocol due to their insignificant historical contribution to greenhouse gas emissions.

Responsibility and Emission Reduction: Critics argue that developing countries, including India, will become major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions in the future.

India emphasizes the principle of **common but differentiated responsibilities**, placing major responsibility on developed countries due to their historical emissions.

Concerns with UNFCCC Discussions: India opposes binding commitments on rapidly industrializing countries to reduce emissions, as it contravenes the spirit of UNFCCC.

India's rise in per capita carbon emissions by 2030 is predicted to be less than half the world average in 2000.

India's Efforts and Initiatives: India is participating in global efforts through initiatives like the **National Auto-fuel Policy**, **Energy Conservation Act**, and promotion of **renewable energy** and **clean coal technologies**.

Plans for a **National Mission on Biodiesel** and **ratification of the Paris Climate Agreement** reflect India's commitment.

Implementation Review at Earth Summit (Rio): India concluded that developed countries failed to provide meaningful progress in transferring financial resources and clean technologies to developing nations as per UNFCCC commitments.

India urges developed countries to take immediate measures to support developing countries in meeting their UNFCCC commitments.

SAARC's Common Position on Environmental Issues: India believes that **SAARC countries** should adopt a common position on major global environmental issues to strengthen the region's collective voice.

Sacred Groves in India

Ancient Religious Practice: Protecting nature for religious reasons is an ancient practice in traditional societies.

Sacred groves in India are parcels of uncut forest vegetation dedicated to certain deities or natural/ancestral spirits.

Community-Based Resource Management: Sacred groves serve as a model of community-based resource management.

They informally encourage traditional communities to harvest natural resources sustainably.

Preserving Biodiversity and Culture: Sacred groves hold potential for preserving biodiversity, ecological functions, and cultural diversity.

They embody forest preservation practices and resemble common property resource systems.

Size and Cultural Significance: Sacred groves range in size from clumps of trees to several hundred acres.

Hindus commonly worship natural objects, including trees and groves, and many temples have originated from sacred groves.

Challenges and Encroachment: Expansion and human settlement are encroaching on sacred forests.

New national forest policies are affecting the institutional identity of these traditional forests.

Management Challenges: Managing sacred groves becomes problematic when legal ownership and operational control are held by different entities (state and community).

The state and community have different policy norms and motives for using the sacred grove.

ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENTS: ONE OR MANY?

Environmental movements have emerged as **significant responses** to the challenge of environmental degradation.

While governments play a role at the international level, these movements, led by environmentally conscious volunteers, work extensively at the local level.

They represent **vibrant, diverse, and powerful social movements** globally, shaping new forms of political action and offering long-term visions for a sustainable future.

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF THE DIVERSITY WITHIN CONTEMPORARY ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENTS:

Forest Movements in the Global South: Environmental movements in countries such as Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Malaysia, Indonesia, continental Africa, and India face immense pressures due to ongoing **forest clearing**.

Despite decades of environmental activism, the **destruction of the world's remaining grand forests** has increased in recent years.

Resistance against the Minerals Industry: The minerals industry, a **powerful force** globally, faces resistance from environmental movements due to its **extraction practices, chemical usage, pollution of waterways and land, and displacement of communities**.

Example: The campaign against Western Mining Corporation (WMC) in the Philippines, involving a network of groups advocating for **antinuclear sentiments** and **indigenous rights**.

Struggles against Mega-Dams: Environmental movements **opposing mega-dams** are present in many countries where such projects are being built.

These movements have evolved into **pro-river movements**, advocating for sustainable and equitable river system and valley management.

Example: The anti-dam and pro-river movements in India, with the **Narmada Bachao Andolan** being a prominent one.

Shared Idea of Non-Violence: In various environmental movements in India, the most important shared idea is **non-violence**.

Non-violent means are often used to **resist harmful environmental practices and advocate for sustainable alternatives**.

Forests and Wilderness

Distinguishing Forest Movements: Forest movements in the South have **human populations**, while those in the North are perceived as devoid of human habitat.

The notion of wilderness in the North is seen as a 'wild place' where people do not live, separating **humans from nature**.

Wilderness-Oriented Perspectives in the North: Australia, Scandinavia, North America, and New Zealand have predominant **wilderness-oriented perspectives**.

Large tracts of relatively 'underdeveloped wilderness' exist in these regions, fostering wilderness campaigns.

Environmental Issues in the South: Environmental issues in the South assume **human presence in the forests**.

Wilderness campaigns in the South focus on protecting **specific species and their habitats**.

Examples of Wilderness Campaigns in the South: In the Philippines, green organizations fight to protect **eagles and other birds of prey**.

In India, efforts are made to protect the alarmingly low number of **Bengal tigers**.

Africa campaigns against the **ivory trade** and the **slaughter of elephants**.

Famous wilderness struggles in the forests of **Brazil and Indonesia** for species and habitat conservation.

Biodiversity Issues and Conservation Campaigns: Wilderness issues have been renamed as **biodiversity issues** in the South.

Conservation campaigns are often initiated and funded by **NGOs** like the Worldwide Wildlife Fund (WWF) in partnership with **local communities**.

Resource Geopolitics

Resources and European Power Expansion: Resources played a crucial role in global European power expansion and inter-state rivalry.

Overseas resources and maritime navigation were central to **Western geopolitical thinking**.

Cold War Strategies for Resource Access: During the Cold War, industrialized countries of the North employed various methods to ensure a steady flow of resources.

These methods included military deployment, stockpiling, support for friendly governments, and favorable international agreements.

Post-Cold War Concerns and Oil Dominance: After the Cold War, **security of resource supply** remains important, especially for minerals and oil.

Oil is the most critical resource in global strategy, and **West Asia (Gulf region)** holds significant reserves.

Water as a Crucial Resource: **Freshwater scarcity** in some parts of the world may lead to conflicts over shared water resources.

The possibility of "**water wars**" arises from disagreements between countries that share rivers.

Examples of Water-Related Conflicts: Downstream states may object to pollution, excessive irrigation, or dam construction by upstream states.

Violent conflicts have occurred over water resources between countries sharing rivers (e.g., Israel, Syria, Jordan, Turkey, Syria, and Iraq).

THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THEIR RIGHTS

Definition and Distribution of Indigenous Peoples: The UN definition of indigenous populations and their distinct characteristics. Distribution of indigenous communities worldwide, including examples from various regions such as the **Philippines, Chile, Bangladesh, North America, Panama, and the Soviet North**.

Indigenous Voices in World Politics: Indigenous peoples' call for **equal recognition and participation** in the world community. Their presence in Central and South America, Africa, India (referred to as **Tribals**), Southeast Asia, and Oceania.

Emphasis on their continuous occupation of ancestral lands, often expressed as "**since times immemorial**". Similar worldviews across different indigenous societies regarding land and its significance.

Threats to Indigenous Peoples' Survival: The **loss of land** as the most significant threat to indigenous communities' survival.

The impact of land loss on their economic resource base and overall well-being. The question of whether political autonomy is meaningful without access to the means of physical survival.

Indigenous Peoples in India: The term “indigenous people” primarily applies to **Scheduled Tribes** in India, comprising around eight percent of the population. Their historical dependence on land cultivation and access to land prior to British colonial rule.

The challenges faced by indigenous communities in terms of development, political representation, and displacement due to developmental projects.

Recognition of Indigenous Rights: Historically neglected issues related to indigenous rights in domestic and international politics.

The formation of the **World Council of Indigenous Peoples** in 1975 and its subsequent recognition by the UN.

The intersection of indigenous rights with movements against globalization.

Points to remember

Antarctica

Geographical Extent: Antarctic continental region covers 14 million square kilometers (26% of world's wilderness area).

Represents 90% of all terrestrial ice and 70% of planetary freshwater.

Extends to an additional 36 million square kilometers of ocean.

Ecosystem and Wildlife: Limited terrestrial life with highly productive marine ecosystem.

Marine life includes plants (microscopic algae, fungi, lichen), marine mammals, fish, birds, and krill (essential to the marine food chain).

Environmental Importance: Antarctic plays a vital role in maintaining climatic equilibrium.

Deep ice cores provide critical information about greenhouse gas concentrations and historical atmospheric temperatures.

Ownership Claims: Some countries (UK, Argentina, Chile, Norway, France, Australia, New Zealand) have made legal claims to sovereign rights over Antarctic territory.

Most other states view Antarctica as part of the global commons, not subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of any state.

Environmental Protection: Innovative and potentially far-reaching rules have been adopted to protect the Antarctic environment and ecosystem.

Special regional rules of environmental protection apply to the Antarctic and Arctic polar regions.

Limited Activities: Since 1959, activities in Antarctica have been restricted to scientific research, fishing, and tourism.

Even these limited activities have caused environmental degradation, such as waste and oil spills.

QUESTIONS

1. Consider the following statements regarding environmental concerns in global politics:

The decline in cultivable land, overgrazed grasslands, and over-harvested fisheries fall within the scope of contemporary world politics.

Lack of access to safe water and sanitation in developing countries is a significant issue addressed in global politics.

Natural forests are being cut down and people are being displaced.

Coastal pollution is a global environmental issue primarily caused by pollution in the open sea.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two
Only three
All four

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: While the issues mentioned, such as the decline in cultivable land, overgrazed grasslands, and over-harvested fisheries, are undoubtedly important environmental concerns, they do not directly fall within the scope of contemporary world politics. **However, no single government can address them fully, therefore, they have to become part of 'world politics'.**

Statement 2 is correct: The lack of access to safe water and sanitation in developing countries is a pressing global issue that has been addressed in the realm of global politics. International organizations, governments, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) work together to address this challenge and improve access to clean water and sanitation facilities, as it is crucial for public health, poverty reduction, and sustainable development.

Statement 3 is correct: Natural forests play a vital role in climate stabilization by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis. They also help moderate water supplies by regulating water flow, preventing floods, and recharging groundwater. **They are being cut down and people are being displaced. The loss of biodiversity continues due to the destruction of habitat in areas which are rich in species.**

Statement 4 is correct: Coastal pollution is a significant global environmental issue, but it is primarily caused by pollution originating from land-based activities. **Industrial discharges, agricultural runoff, sewage, and plastic waste are some of the major sources of coastal pollution.** While the open sea might have a relatively lower level of pollution, the pollution from land activities significantly affects coastal waters, posing threats to marine ecosystems and human health.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

2. Consider the following statements regarding environmental concerns in global politics:
- Environmental issues gained political significance from the 1960s onwards, and the Club of Rome's publication 'Limits to Growth' was instrumental in raising awareness.
 - The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the Earth Summit, took place in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.
 - The global North (developed countries) and the global South (developing countries) shared similar environmental agendas during the Rio Summit.
- How many of the statements given above are correct?
- Only one
Only two
All three
None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Awareness of the environmental consequences of economic growth took on a political character from the 1960s onwards. In 1972, the Club of Rome published a book titled 'Limits to Growth,' which dramatized the potential depletion of

Earth's resources amid rapid population growth. This publication played a crucial role in raising awareness about environmental concerns and their political implications.

Statement 2 is correct: The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, commonly referred to as the Earth Summit, was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992. The summit brought together 170 states, numerous NGOs, and multinational corporations to address global environmental issues.

Statement 3 is incorrect: During the Rio Summit, there were significant differences in the environmental agendas pursued by the global North (rich and developed countries) and the global South (poor and developing countries). The Northern states were concerned with issues like ozone depletion and global warming, while the Southern states were more focused on addressing the relationship between economic development and environmental management.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

3. Which of the following statements about Antarctica and its ownership and environmental protection is correct?

Human activities in Antarctica have been limited to scientific research, fishing, and tourism since 1959.

Countries like the UK, France and Australia agree that Antarctica is a part of the global commons and not subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of any state.

Antarctica is primarily inhabited by a diverse range of terrestrial plants, including trees and shrubs.

The Antarctic continental region holds less than 10% of all terrestrial ice and approximately 40% of planetary fresh water.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Option (a) is correct: Since 1959, activities in Antarctica have been limited to scientific research, fishing, and tourism. Despite these limited activities, there have been concerns about environmental degradation due to issues like waste and oil spills.

Option (b) is incorrect: There are two claims about the ownership of Antarctica. **Some countries like the UK, Argentina, Chile, Norway, France, Australia and New Zealand have made legal claims to sovereign rights over Antarctic territory.** Most other states have taken the opposite view that the Antarctic is a part of the global commons and not subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of any state.

Option (c) is incorrect: Antarctica has a limited terrestrial life, comprising only a few plants such as microscopic algae, fungi, and lichen. **It does not support a diverse range of terrestrial plants like trees and shrubs due to its harsh conditions.**

Option (d) is incorrect: The Antarctic continental region extends over 14 million square kilometres and comprises 90% of all terrestrial ice and 70% of planetary fresh water. This emphasizes the significant size and importance of Antarctica in terms of its ice and freshwater resources.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

4. Consider the following statements about the global commons and their management:

The global commons refer to resources that are not owned by any individual but shared by the international community.

The 1987 Montreal Protocol was a significant agreement concerning the governance of Antarctica.

Achieving consensus on common environmental agendas for the global commons is straightforward due to precise scientific evidence and time frames.

Outer space as a global common has been managed without any influence from North-South inequalities.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

Only three

All four

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The global commons are areas or regions of the world that are located outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state. They require common governance by the international community as they are not owned by any individual but are shared resources.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The 1987 Montreal Protocol, although not specifically related to Antarctica, was an important agreement concerning the global commons. It aimed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances.

Statement 3 is incorrect: It has been stated that achieving consensus on common environmental agendas for the global commons is not easy. It highlights the challenges associated with reaching agreement based on vague scientific evidence and time frames. This suggests that the process is complex and not straightforward.

Statement 4 is incorrect: There has been an indication that the management of outer space as a global common is influenced by North-South inequalities. Similar to the management of the earth's atmosphere and the ocean floor, questions of equity and fair distribution of benefits arise in the context of technological and industrial development in outer space.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

5. Consider the following statements is/are true about the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities' in international environmental law:

Developed countries argue for equal responsibility for ecological conservation among all nations.

Developing countries believe that industrial development by developed nations has caused significant ecological degradation.

The principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities' was incorporated into the Rio Declaration at the Earth Summit in 1992.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Developed countries advocate for everyone to be equally responsible for ecological conservation, rather than arguing for taking the entire responsibility themselves. They believe that all nations should share the burden of conserving the environment.

Statement 2 is correct: Developing countries believe much of the ecological degradation in the world is a result of industrial development undertaken by developed countries. They argue that if developed countries have caused more degradation, they should take more responsibility for undoing the damage.

Statement 3 is correct: The principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities' was accepted in the Rio Declaration at the Earth Summit in 1992. This principle acknowledges that states have common responsibilities for environmental conservation but recognizes that developed countries bear greater responsibility due to the pressures their societies place on the global environment and their greater technological and financial resources.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

6. Which of the following statements regarding common property resources is correct?

Common property implies that group members have rights and duties related to the resource's use and maintenance.

Privatization and agricultural intensification have led to an increase in the size and availability of common property resources.

Sacred groves in South India are typically managed by the state government.

Common property resources have expanded globally due to population growth and ecosystem degradation.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Option (a) is correct: Common property resources are characterized by the understanding that members of a group or community have both rights and responsibilities concerning the use, management, and maintenance of a shared resource. It implies a collective approach where individuals have a stake in the resource and are expected to contribute to its sustainable use.

Option (b) is incorrect: Privatization, agricultural intensification, population growth, and ecosystem degradation have caused common property resources to decline in size, quality, and availability, particularly for the poor. Privatization often leads to the exclusion of marginalized groups from accessing common resources, while agricultural intensification can result in the conversion of common lands for commercial purposes, reducing their availability for local communities.

Option (c) is incorrect: Sacred groves in South India have been traditionally managed by village communities, not the state government. The management of these sacred groves aligns with the concept of common property regimes, where local communities have established rules and practices for their preservation and use.

Option (d) is incorrect: Common property resources have not expanded globally. On the contrary, it highlights that factors like population growth and ecosystem degradation

have contributed to the diminishing size, quality, and availability of common property resources for the poor in many parts of the world. These factors have put pressure on the sustainability of common resources rather than leading to their expansion.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

7. Consider the following statements regarding sacred groves in India:

Sacred groves in India are parcels of uncut forest vegetation protected for ecological sustainability and to worship deities or natural spirits.

Sacred groves are solely valued for their rich biodiversity and ecological functions.

Traditional communities are forced to exploit natural resources in sacred groves due to resource scarcity.

Sacred groves' institutional identity is unaffected by new national forest policies.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

Only three

All four

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Sacred groves in India refer to areas of uncut forest vegetation that are protected for two main reasons. First, they are preserved for ecological sustainability, serving as models of community-based resource management where natural resources are harvested in an ecologically sustained fashion. Second, these groves hold religious significance as they are dedicated to certain deities, natural spirits, or ancestral spirits, making them a practice of protecting nature for religious reasons.

Statement 2 is incorrect: While sacred groves are indeed valued for their rich biodiversity and ecological functions, they hold additional significance beyond their natural attributes. These groves embody spiritual and cultural practices, and their preservation is driven not only by ecological concerns but also by religious reverence for nature.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Sacred groves informally force traditional communities to harvest natural resources in an ecologically sustained fashion. This implies that the preservation of these groves is not driven by resource scarcity but by the spiritual and cultural commitment of traditional communities to protect these areas.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The institutional identity of sacred groves is fading with the advent of new national forest policies. The presence of these new policies has affected the traditional management and conservation practices associated with sacred groves. As a result, the groves may face challenges and changes in their preservation and protection.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

8. Consider the following statements regarding India's stand on environmental issues:

India ratified the Kyoto Protocol in August 2002 but was exempt from its requirements due to its historical low contribution to greenhouse gas emissions.

India supports the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

1 only

2 only

Both 1 and 2

Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: India signed and ratified the Kyoto Protocol in August 2002. However, India, along with China and other developing countries, was exempt from the binding emission reduction targets under the Kyoto Protocol. This exemption was granted because their historical contributions to greenhouse gas emissions during the industrialization period were relatively low compared to developed countries.

Statement 2 is correct: India's international negotiating position on environmental issues is based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as enshrined in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This principle acknowledges that developed countries have historically been the major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions and emphasizes that their responsibility to curb emissions should be greater than that of developing countries. India advocates that the developed nations should lead in taking significant actions to address climate change.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

9. Which of the following statements are correct about the concept of wilderness and environmental movements in different regions?

Forest movements in the Global South are characterized by the presence of human habitats within forests, while forests in the Global North are perceived as devoid of human presence.

Wilderness-oriented perspectives have been predominant in European countries due to their large tracts of relatively underdeveloped wilderness.

Wilderness campaigns in the Global South primarily focus on the conservation of individual species rather than the preservation of wilderness habitats.

The concept of wilderness has been replaced by the term 'biodiversity issues' in recent times to garner more support for environmental campaigns.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1, 3 and 4 only

2 and 3 only

1, 2 and 4 only

1 and 4 only

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The forest movements in the South are still peopled, meaning that there are human habitats within those forests. In contrast, forests in the North are more or less perceived as wilderness, where people do not live. This perception influences the prevailing notion of wilderness in the North as a 'wild place' without human habitation.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Wilderness-oriented perspectives have not been predominant in European countries due to their large tracts of developed wilderness. Instead, it such perspectives are predominant in Australia, Scandinavia, North America, and New Zealand, where relatively underdeveloped wilderness areas exist.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Wilderness campaigns in the South, such as those in the Philippines, India, Africa, Brazil, and Indonesia, focus on both the conservation of individual species and the conservation of the wilderness habitats that support them. The preservation of wilderness habitats is not of lesser importance in these campaigns.

Statement 4 is correct: The concept of wilderness has been renamed as 'biodiversity issues' in recent times. This renaming has been done to make the campaigns more appealing and to gather greater support, as the concept of wilderness has been challenging to promote in the South. The using the term 'biodiversity issues' instead of 'wilderness' has been more effective in generating awareness and support for environmental campaigns.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

10. Which of the following statements regarding resource geopolitics is **not** correct?

Resources are not one of the primary motives for global European power expansion.

The industrialized countries of the Global North during the Cold War focused on ensuring a steady flow of resources through military deployment, stockpiling, and support to multinational companies.

Water scarcity and disputes over shared water resources have led to violent conflicts between riparian states.

West Asia, particularly the Gulf region, holds about 30% of global oil production and approximately 64% of the planet's known reserves.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Option (a) is incorrect: Resources have provided some of the key means and motives of global European power expansion. They have also been the focus of interstate rivalry.

Western geopolitical thinking about resources has been dominated by the relationship of trade, war and power, at the core of which were overseas resources and maritime navigation. Since sea power itself rested on access to timber, naval timber supply became a key priority for major European powers from the 17th century onwards.

Option (b) is correct: During the Cold War, industrialized countries of the North adopted various methods to ensure a steady flow of resources. These methods included deploying military forces near exploitation sites and sea-lanes of communication, stockpiling strategic resources, supporting friendly governments in producing countries, and providing support to multinational companies. These measures were aimed at securing access to vital resources.

Option (c) is correct: There have been discussions about the possibility of violent conflicts over shared water resources, which some commentators refer to as 'water wars.'

Option (d) is correct: West Asia, specifically the Gulf region, accounts for about 30% of global oil production and possesses approximately 64% of the world's known oil reserves. The region's significant oil resources make it crucial in satisfying global oil demand, especially for countries like the United States, Europe, Japan, India, and China, which are located at a considerable distance from the region.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources

11. What are the common interests of approximately 30 crore indigenous peoples spread throughout the world, including India?

The indigenous voices in world politics call for separation of indigenous people from the world community.

The loss of land and economic resources is the most significant threat to the survival of indigenous people.

Indigenous populations primarily inhabit Central and South America, Africa, India, and Southeast Asia.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 2 only

Answer: C

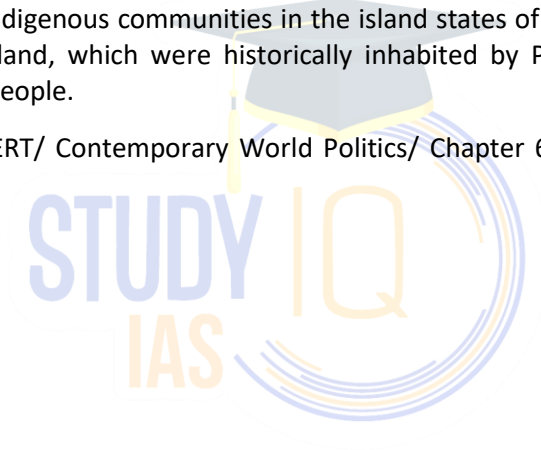
Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The indigenous voices in world politics call for the admission of indigenous people to the world community as equals. They seek recognition of their existence as enduring communities with their own distinct identities, cultures, and rights. They appeal to governments to come to terms with the continuing existence of indigenous nations as enduring communities with an identity of their own.

Statement 2 is correct: The loss of land and economic resources is the most obvious threat to the survival of indigenous people. Many indigenous communities around the world depend on their ancestral lands for their subsistence and way of life. The encroachment on their lands by outside forces and developmental projects has posed significant challenges to their existence.

Statement 3 is correct: Indigenous people occupy areas in Central and South America, Africa, India (where they are known as Tribals), and Southeast Asia. Additionally, the presence of indigenous communities in the island states of Oceania, including Australia and New Zealand, which were historically inhabited by Polynesian, Melanesian, and Micronesian people.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 6/ Environment and Natural Resources



CHAPTER 7 GLOBALISATION

INTRODUCTION

Globalization means the speedup of **movements and exchanges** (of human beings, goods, and services, capital, technologies or cultural practices) **all over the planet**. One of the effects of globalization is that it promotes and increases interactions between different regions and populations around the globe.

GLOBALISATION

Globalisation as a concept fundamentally deals with flows. These flows could be of various kinds:

**Ideas moving from one part of the world to another,
Capital shunted between two or more places,
Commodities being traded across borders, and
People are moving in search of better livelihoods to different parts of the world.**

The crucial element is the **‘worldwide interconnectedness’** that is created and sustained as a consequence of these constant flows.

Globalisation is a **multi-dimensional concept**.

It has political, economic and cultural manifestations, and these must be adequately distinguished.

It is wrong to assume that globalisation has purely economic dimensions, just as it would also be mistaken to assume that it is a purely cultural phenomenon.

The impact of globalisation is vastly uneven, it **affects** some societies more than others and some parts of some societies more than others.

CAUSES OF GLOBALISATION

Globalisation is **not caused by any single factor**, technology remains a critical element.

There is no doubt that the **invention of the telegraph, the telephone, and the microchip** in more recent times has revolutionised communication between different parts of the world.

What is important is for people in different parts of the world to recognise these **interconnections** with the rest of the world.

Events taking place in one part of the world could have an **impact** on another part of the world.

It does not respect national boundaries. when major economic events take place, their **impact** is felt outside their immediate local, national or regional environment **at the global level**.

POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES

Globalisation results in an **erosion of state capacity**, that is, the ability of the government to do what they do.

All over the world, the old **‘welfare state’** is now giving way to a more minimalist state that performs certain core functions such as the maintenance of **law and order** and the security of its citizens.

However, it withdraws from many of its earlier welfare functions directed at economic and social well-being.

At the same time, **globalisation does not always reduce state capacity**. The primacy of the state continues to be the unchallenged basis of the political community.

The state continues to discharge its **essential functions** and consciously withdraws from certain domains from which it wishes to.

States become more powerful than they were earlier as an outcome of the new technology.

ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES

Economic globalization has **significant impacts on the world**, but its consequences are complex and diverse.

It involves increased economic flows among different countries, such as **trade in commodities, movement of capital, and the exchange of ideas.**

The **outcomes of globalization vary depending on the specific context**, and the same policies may lead to different results in different regions.

Those concerned about **social justice worry that economic globalization could benefit only a small section of the population** while impoverishing others who relied on the government for jobs and welfare.

Advocates of economic globalization argue that it can generate greater economic growth and well-being for larger sections of the population, leading to increased interdependence and integration between countries and people worldwide.

CULTURAL CONSEQUENCES

Globalisation **affects** us in our home, in what we eat, drink, wear and indeed in what we think. It shapes what we think are **our preferences.**

The **cultural effect of globalization** leads to the fear that this process poses a threat to cultures in the world.

It does so, because **globalisation leads to the rise of a uniform culture or what is called cultural homogenisation.**

The rise of a uniform culture is not the emergence of a **global culture.**

What we have in the name of a **global culture** is the imposition of **Western culture** on the rest of the world.

This phenomenon is known as the **soft power** of US hegemony.

It would be a mistake to assume that cultural consequences of globalisation are only negative.

Cultures are not static things.

All cultures accept outside influences all the time.

Some external influences are negative because they reduce our choices.

But sometimes external influences simply enlarge our choices, and sometimes they modify our culture without overwhelming the traditional.

The burger is no substitute for a masala dosa and, therefore, does not pose any real challenge.

It is simply added to our food choices.

Cultural homogenisation is an aspect of globalisation, the same process also generates precisely the opposite effect.

It leads to each culture becoming more different and distinctive.

This phenomenon is called **cultural heterogenization.**

This is not to deny that there remain differences in power when cultures interact but instead more fundamentally to suggest that cultural exchange is rarely one way.

INDIA AND GLOBALISATION

During the **colonial period**, as a consequence of Britain's imperial ambitions, India became an **exporter of primary goods and raw materials** and a **consumer of finished goods.**

After independence, because of this experience with the British, we decided to make things ourselves rather than relying on others.

We also decided not to allow others to export to us so that our own producers could learn to make things.

This '**protectionism**' generated its own problems.

In **1991**, responding to a **financial crisis** and to the desire for higher rates of **economic growth**, India embarked on a programme of economic reforms that has sought increasingly to de-regulate various sectors including **trade and foreign investment.**

While it may be too early to say how good this has been for India, the ultimate test is not high growth rates as making sure that the benefits of growth are shared so that everyone is better off.

RESISTANCE TO GLOBALISATION

Globalisation is a very contentious subject and has invited strong criticism all over the globe.

Critics of globalisation make a variety of arguments.

Those on **the left** argue that contemporary globalisation represents a particular phase of global capitalism **that makes the rich richer (and fewer) and the poor poorer.**

In political terms, they also fear the weakening of the state.

Economically, they want a return to self-reliance and protectionism, at least in certain areas of the economy.

Culturally, they are worried that traditional culture will be harmed and people will lose their age-old values and ways.

In 1999, at the **World Trade Organisation (WTO)** Ministerial Meeting there were widespread protests at Seattle alleging **unfair trading practices** by the economically **powerful states**.

It was argued that the interests of the **developing world** were not given sufficient importance in the evolving global economic system.

The **World Social Forum (WSF)** is another global platform, which brings together a wide coalition composed of human rights activists, environmentalists, labour, youth and women activists opposed to neo-liberal globalisation.

The **first WSF meeting** was organised in **Porto Alegre, Brazil** in **2001**.

The **fourth WSF meeting** was held in **Mumbai** in **2004**.

The **latest WSF meeting** was held in **Brazil** in **March 2018**.

INDIA AND RESISTANCE TO GLOBALISATION

Resistance to **globalisation in India** has come from different quarters.

There have been **left wing protests** to economic liberalisation voiced through political parties as well as through forums like the Indian Social Forum.

Trade unions of industrial workforce as well as those representing farmer interests have organised protests against the entry of multinationals.

The patenting of certain plants like Neem by American and European firms has also generated considerable opposition.

Resistance to globalisation has also come from the **political right**.

This has taken the **form of objecting particularly to various cultural influences** — ranging from the availability of foreign T.V. channels provided by cable networks, celebration of Valentine's Day, and westernisation of the dress tastes of girl students in schools and colleges.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

First-generation learners :

First-generation learners refer to the children who are the first in their family to go to school or whose parents have completed formal education till the primary level.

Note: They are the first ones in their generation to go to school thus blindly rely on schools and tuition.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) :

The formation of the IMF was initiated in 1944 at the Bretton Woods Conference.

IMF came into operation on 27th December 1945 and is today an international organization that consists of 189 member countries.

Headquartered in Washington, D.C.,

IMF focuses on

Fostering global monetary cooperation,

Securing financial stability,

Facilitating and promoting international trade, employment, and economic growth around the world.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) :

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations.

At its heart are the WTO agreements, negotiated and signed by the bulk of the world's trading nations and ratified in their parliaments.

The WTO has 164 members (including the European Union) and 23 observer governments (like Iran, Iraq, Bhutan, Libya etc).

QUESTIONS

1. Consider the following statements about globalization:

Globalization always has positive consequences for people and societies.

The concept of globalization primarily deals with economic issues and the flow of capital.

Globalization is a one-dimensional phenomenon that affects all societies equally.

The impact of globalization varies across different societies and contexts, encompassing political, economic, and cultural manifestations.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

Only three

All four

Answer: A

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Globalization can have negative consequences for people and societies. The cases of farmers committing suicide due to failed crops from expensive seeds supplied by a multinational company and retail shopkeepers fearing loss of livelihoods if major international companies open retail chains in the country indicate that globalization can lead to adverse outcomes.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Globalization is a multidimensional concept. While economic issues and the flow of capital are mentioned as aspects of globalization, the concept also includes other flows like ideas, commodities, and people moving across borders. Globalization encompasses political, economic, and cultural manifestations.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The idea that globalization is a one-dimensional phenomenon has been refuted. It emphasizes that globalization is a multidimensional concept with varying impacts on different societies and contexts. The effects of globalization are not uniform and can differ significantly across regions and societies.

Statement 4 is correct: The impact of globalization is not uniform and varies across societies and contexts. It encompasses political, economic, and cultural manifestations. The emphasis has been laid on the need to distinguish between the different dimensions of globalization and the importance of understanding specific contexts to draw accurate conclusions about its impact.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 7/ Globalisation

2. Consider the following statements regarding the causes of globalization:

Globalization is solely driven by technological advancements that enable easier communication and transportation.

Globalization is a phenomenon unique to the contemporary era due to the unprecedented scale and speed of flows of ideas, capital, commodities, and people.

The historical basis of globalization provides context for understanding contemporary flows of ideas, capital, commodities, and people.

Globalization is solely a result of improved communication technologies and does not require recognition or awareness of interconnections among people worldwide.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

1 and 4 only

2 and 3 only

2 and 4 only

1, 2 and 3 only

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: While technological advancements play a crucial role in facilitating globalization by enabling easier communication and transportation, they are not the sole driving factor. Globalization is a complex phenomenon influenced by various factors, including economic, political, cultural, and social forces.

Statement 2 is correct: The uniqueness of contemporary globalization lies in the unprecedented scale and speed at which ideas, capital, commodities, and people flow across different parts of the world. While globalization in terms of these flows has occurred throughout human history, the contemporary era stands out for the magnitude and rapidity of these exchanges.

Statement 3 is correct: Understanding the historical basis of globalization is essential to grasp the context and dynamics of contemporary flows. While globalization has existed throughout human history, recognizing historical patterns and interconnections helps shed light on the current nature and extent of global exchanges.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Improved communication technologies are significant facilitators of globalization, but they are not the sole determinant. Globalization also requires recognition and awareness of interconnections among people worldwide. Understanding and acknowledging these interdependencies are crucial for comprehending the impact of events, ideas, and processes beyond national boundaries and fostering global cooperation.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 7/ Globalisation

3. How does globalization affect traditional conceptions of state sovereignty?

Globalization always leads to an expansion of state capacity, allowing governments to perform various welfare functions for economic and social well-being.

The entry and increased role of multinational companies reduce the ability of governments to make decisions independently.

State sovereignty becomes obsolete in the face of globalization, with the state losing its essential functions and becoming less powerful.

Globalization enhances state capacity by providing governments with advanced technologies to gather information and govern more effectively.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1 and 4 only

2 and 3 only

2 and 4 only

1, 2 and 3 only

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: Globalization results in an erosion of state capacity, not an expansion. The old 'welfare state' model, which focused on extensive government involvement in economic and social welfare functions, gives way to a more minimalist state. Governments now primarily focus on core functions such as maintaining law and order and ensuring citizen security. Economic and social well-being is increasingly determined by market forces rather than extensive government welfare functions.

Statement 2 is correct: The increased presence and influence of multinational companies worldwide lead to a reduction in the capacity of governments to make decisions on their own. Multinational companies, with their global reach and economic power, can exert considerable influence on national policies and decisions, limiting the autonomy of states in certain matters.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The state sovereignty remains a crucial aspect of political communities even in the era of globalization. While globalization may affect state capacity in some ways, it does not render state sovereignty obsolete. States continue to perform essential functions such as maintaining law and order and national security.

Statement 4 is correct: Globalization can enhance state capacity through advanced technologies. Governments have access to better tools and technologies to collect information about their citizens, which enables them to govern more effectively. With this enhanced information, the state becomes more powerful and capable of making informed decisions.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 7/ Globalisation

4. Consider the following statements regarding economic globalisation:

Economic globalisation involves greater economic flows among different countries, including commodities, capital, people, and ideas.

Globalisation has led to the complete withdrawal of the state's role in the economy, resulting in benefits only for a small section of the population.

Advocates of economic globalisation argue that it generates greater economic growth and well-being for larger sections of the population through de-regulation.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Economic globalisation involves various economic flows among countries, such as the exchange of commodities, movement of capital, migration of people, and sharing of ideas. Globalisation has led to increased trade, reduced restrictions on capital movement, and the spread of information and services across national boundaries.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The globalisation has not led to the complete withdrawal of the state's role in the economy.

Statement 3 is correct: Advocates of economic globalisation argue that it generates greater economic growth and well-being for larger sections of the population when there is de-regulation. They believe that increased trade and specialisation among countries can benefit the entire world. However, there are varying opinions on globalisation, and some critics view it as potentially leading to economic ruin for weaker countries and the economically disadvantaged.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 7/ Globalisation

5. Which one of the following statements about cultural consequences of globalization is correct?

Globalization leads to the emergence of a diversified cultures across the globe, which is primarily based on Gandhian values and lifestyles.

Cultural homogenization refers to the process of different cultures becoming more distinct and diverse due to globalization.

The "McDonaldisation" of the world signifies the imposition of American cultural values on other societies through the spread of fast-food chains and consumer products.

Cultural exchange through globalization can only have negative effects on traditional cultures, leading to the loss of rich cultural heritage.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Option (a) is incorrect: Globalization results in cultural homogenization, where a uniform global culture emerges, often dominated by Western values and lifestyles. The spread of American culture, such as fast-food chains and consumer products, is cited as an example of the influence of Western culture through globalization.

Option (b) is incorrect: Cultural homogenization refers to the process of different cultures becoming more similar or uniform as a result of globalization. It implies the loss or erosion of distinct cultural identities due to the dominant influence of globalized cultural forces.

Option (c) is correct: The term "McDonaldisation" refers to the phenomenon of American cultural values being imposed on other societies through the global spread of fast-food chains like McDonald's and the popularity of American consumer products. It exemplifies the influence of American culture and the concept of cultural imperialism through globalization.

Option (d) is incorrect: While there are concerns about the potential negative effects of cultural exchange through globalization, such as the loss of cultural heritage, it has been highlighted that cultural consequences are not solely negative. It mentions that external influences can both reduce and enlarge choices, and sometimes modify cultures without overwhelming traditional aspects. There has been an emphasis on that cultural exchange can lead to a combination of cultures and enrichment of choices rather than complete loss.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 7/ Globalisation

6. Which of the following statements are true about India's experience with globalization and economic reforms?

India's engagement with globalization dates back several centuries in its history, involving flows of capital, commodities, ideas, and people.

During the colonial period, India primarily focused on exporting finished goods and importing raw materials.

After gaining independence, India adopted a protectionist approach which led to total self-reliance.

The economic reforms initiated in 1991 aimed to deregulate various sectors, including trade and foreign investment, to stimulate economic growth.

The success of India's economic reforms is solely measured by achieving high growth rates, regardless of the equitable distribution of benefits.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

1, 3 and 4 only

2, 3, 4 and 5 only

1, 2 and 5 only

1 and 4 only

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Globalization in India has historical roots and can be traced back several centuries. Over the years, India has experienced the movement of capital, commodities, ideas, and people, which are key components of globalization.

Statement 2 is incorrect: During the colonial period, India's role in the global economy was primarily as an exporter of primary goods and raw materials, serving the interests of the colonial powers like Britain. India was often reduced to a supplier of raw materials and a consumer of finished goods produced in the colonial centers.

Statement 3 is incorrect: After gaining independence from British colonial rule, India did adopt a protectionist approach initially to reduce dependency on imports and build domestic industries. However, it did not lead to self-reliance. This protectionism generated its own problems, including neglecting critical sectors such as health, housing, and primary education.

Statement 4 is correct: In 1991, India faced a financial crisis, and to boost economic growth, the country embarked on a program of economic reforms. These reforms aimed to deregulate various sectors of the economy, including trade and foreign investment, to attract investments and stimulate economic growth.

Statement 5 is incorrect: Achieving high growth rates is not the sole measure of success for India's economic reforms. The ultimate test is ensuring that the benefits of growth are shared equitably, benefiting all segments of the society and improving the overall living standards of the population. In other words, emphasis has been laid on the importance of inclusive growth.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 7/ Globalisation

7. Consider the following statements regarding resistance to globalization:

Critics from the political right express concern over the cultural impact of globalization and fear a return to self-reliance and protectionism in the economy.

Anti-globalization movements are unified in their opposition to the concept of globalization itself, viewing it as a form of imperialism.

The World Social Forum (WSF) is a global platform that brings together various groups opposing neo-liberal globalization.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

Only one

Only two

All three

None

Answer: B

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: While critics from the political right do express anxiety over the political, economic, and cultural effects of globalization, the statement incorrectly attributes a specific concern about the return to self-reliance and protectionism to them. Infact, they want a return to self-reliance and protectionism, at least in certain areas of the economy. Culturally, they are worried that traditional culture will be harmed and people will lose their age-old values and ways.

Statement 2 is correct: Anti-globalization movements are diverse, but many of them are not fundamentally opposed to the concept of globalization as a whole. Instead, their opposition is often directed towards specific policies and practices associated with

globalization that they view as exploitative or imperialistic. They may seek to address the negative consequences of globalization rather than reject the idea of global interconnectedness altogether.

Statement 3 is correct: The World Social Forum (WSF) is a global platform that was established in 2001 and brings together a wide coalition of groups, including human rights activists, environmentalists, labor unions, youth movements, and women's rights advocates. These groups come together to voice their opposition to neo-liberal globalization and discuss alternative economic and social models. The WSF meetings provide a space for activists from around the world to share their concerns and collaborate on issues related to globalization.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 7/ Globalisation

8. Consider the following statements regarding India's resistance to globalization:

Trade unions representing industrial workforce and farmer interests have protested against the entry of multinational corporations.

Opposition to globalization in India has mainly come from the political right, focusing on cultural influences like foreign TV channels and Westernization of dress tastes in educational institutions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

1 only

2 only

Both 1 and 2

Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Trade unions representing the industrial workforce and farmer interests have organized protests against the entry of multinational corporations, indicating their resistance to the economic effects of globalization.

Statement 2 is correct: Resistance to globalization has also come from the political right in India. They have objected to various cultural influences, such as the availability of foreign TV channels provided by cable networks, the celebration of Valentine's Day, and the Westernization of dress tastes among girl students in schools and colleges.

Source: Class 12th NCERT/ Contemporary World Politics/ Chapter 7/ Globalisation