

CBSE Test Paper 05
Class 12 - Political Science (B-2 Ch-4 India's External relations)

1. Indian foreign policy is affected by
 - a. international factors
 - b. domestic factors
 - c. domestic and international factors
 - d. cultural factors
2. In which context India started participating in the world affairs as an independent nation state?
3. What was Bandung conference?
4. What is meant by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)?
5. When was the first nuclear explosion undertaken by India?
6. Which two differences between India and China led to an army conflict in 1962?
7. Mention the Directive Principles of State Policy for the promotion of international peace and security.
8. Highlight the major objectives of Prime Minister Nehru's Foreign Policy.
9. Do you agree with the statement that "the foreign policy of independent India has pursued the dream of a peaceful world?" Support your answer with any three suitable arguments.
10. What were the main features of the international situation at the time of India's independence in 1947?
11. The first nuclear explosion was undertaken by India in May 1974. India wanted to generate atomic energy for peaceful purposes. Nehru was against nuclear weapons. So, he pleaded with the superpowers for comprehensive nuclear disarmament. However, the nuclear arsenal kept rising. When Communist China conducted nuclear tests in October 1964, the five nuclear weapon powers, the US, USSR, UK, France and

China (Taiwan then represented China)-also the five permanent Members of UN Council-tried to impose the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) of 1968 on the rest of the World. India always refused to sign it. When India conducted its first nuclear test, it was termed as a peaceful explosion. India argued that it was committed to the policy of using nuclear power only for peaceful purposes.

Study the passage given above carefully and answer the following questions:

- i. Why India go for a nuclear explosion in May 1974?
- ii. How far was this nuclear explosion in conformity with Nehru's policies?
- iii. Why has India not signed so far the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty?

- 12. Describe in brief the history of India's relations with Pakistan.
- 13. Give suitable arguments in favour of "India being a staunch supporter of the decolonisation process and in firm opposition to racism".

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Answer

1. c. domestic and international factors

Explanation: The domestic and international environment influence the foreign policy of a nation. Hence, Indian foreign policy is affected by domestic as well as international factors.

2. India started participating in world affairs as an independent nation-state in the following context:
- i. British government left the legacy of many international disputes.
 - ii. Priority to the poverty alleviation.
 - iii. Pressures created by the partition.
3. Bandung conference was a meeting of Asian and African states, most of which were newly independent, which took place on 18-24 April 1955 in Bandung, Indonesia. It was held to lead an establishment of NAM and to mark the engagement of India with African and Asian nations.
4. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an international organization for the promotion of the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to prevent its use for military purposes.
5. The first nuclear explosion was undertaken by India in May 1974.
6. The differences between India and China that led to an army conflict in 1962 were:
- i. When China annexed Tibet in 1950, serious conflict arose. It removed a historical buffer between two nation and India did not oppose this openly.
 - ii. Another border dispute arose when China claimed Aksai Chin Area and NEFA (much of the state in Arunachal Pradesh) within the Indian territory.
7. Principles enshrined in Article 51 under international principles are some provisions to the State relating to ensure international peace and security. The State shall attempt –
- i. To promote international peace and security;
 - ii. To maintain just and honorable relations between nations;
 - iii. To foster respect for international law and treaty obligation in the dealings of organised people with one another;
 - iv. To encourage settlement of international disputes by arbitration.

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8. The major objectives of Prime Minister Nehru's Foreign Policy are:
 - i. To follow the Non-Aligned Movement, not to join either the military blocs formed by the United States of America and the Soviet Union.
 - ii. To promote rapid economic development and maintain cordial relations with other nations.
 - iii. To perfect the territorial integrity.
 - iv. To preserve the sovereignty of India and also respecting others sovereignty.
 9. Yes, we agree with the statement. Suitable arguments for this are:
 - i. The foreign policy of independent India vigorously pursued the dream of a peaceful world by advocating the policy of non-alignment, by reducing the Cold war confederation and by contributing human resources to the UN peacekeeping operations.
 - ii. India did not join either of the two camps during the Cold War era. India wanted to keep a distance from the military alliances led by the US and by the Soviet Union against each other.
 - iii. During the Cold war, the US-led North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and the Soviet-led Warsaw pact came into existence. India advocated Non-alignment as the ideal foreign policy approach. This was a difficult balancing act and sometimes the balance did not appear perfect.
 10. The main features were as given below:
 - i. India's attainment of independence coincided with the beginning of the Cold War era. It was a period of political, economic and military confrontation at the global level between the two blocs led by the superpowers - the US and the USSR.
 - ii. The UNO was established in 1945.
 - iii. Nuclear weapons had been created by some countries.
 - iv. It was a period of rising in Communist China.
 - v. It was a period of the beginning of decolonisation.
 - vi. It was under the above prevailing international context that India had to pursue its national interests.
 11.
 - i. India wanted to generate atomic energy for peaceful purposes.
 - ii. Nehru had always put his faith in Science and Technology for rapidly building a modern India. A significant component of his industrialisation plans was the nuclear programme initiated in the late 1940s under the guidance of Homi J.

Bhabha. India wanted to generate atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

iii. India always considered the NPT as discriminatory and had refused to sign it.

12. It was a period of conflict and cooperation as mentioned below:

i. There was a dispute over Kashmir immediately after the partition. This led to a proxy war.

ii. The Kashmir conflict did not prevent cooperation between the two countries. They cooperated to restore women abducted during partition to their original families. A dispute over the sharing of river waters was resolved. The India Pakistan Indus Waters Treaty was signed.

iii. A war broke out in 1965 in the Rann of Kutch and Jammu and Kashmir. UN intervened and India and Pakistan signed the Tashkent Agreement which was brokered by the Soviet Union.

iv. In 1971 another war broke out between India and Pakistan over the question of East Pakistan, where India had given moral and material support to the freedom struggle of the people. As a result of the war, Bangladesh came into existence as a free country.

v. Kashmir is still the main issue between two countries but efforts have been made to restore normal relations. There are cultural exchanges, movement of citizens and economic cooperation between two countries. A train and a bus service operate between India and Pakistan. There was a near-war situation in 1999 but in spite of this, efforts are going on to restore normal relations.

13. Yes, it is true that India is a staunch (firm) supporter of the decolonisation process and in firm opposition to racism. It can be defined by the arguments given below:

i. The period of India's independence also witnessed developments like the establishment of the UN, the creation of nuclear weapons, the emergence of Communist China, and the beginning of decolonisation in the world.

ii. It was also the period of emergence of two Superpowers namely the US-led North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact. Most of the countries of the world were joining the two camps. But India did not join either of the two camps during the Cold War era. Because India wanted to keep away from the military alliances led by the US and Soviet Union against each other and it was also opposed to the colonisation.

iii. India made earnest efforts for the early realization of an international conference

in 1949 to support its freedom struggle. India advocated non-alignment as the ideal foreign policy approach. This was a difficult balancing act and sometimes the balance did not appear perfect. In 1956, when Britain attacked Egypt over the Suez Canal issue, India led the world protest against this neo-colonial invasion. But in the same year when the USSR invaded Hungary, India did not join its public condemnation. Despite such a situation, by and large, India did take an independent stand on various international issues and could get aid and assistance from members of both the blocks.

- iv. Yet, given its size, location and power potential, Nehru envisaged a major role for India in world affairs and especially in Asian affairs. His era was marked by the establishment of contacts between India and other newly independent states in Asia and Africa.
- v. Throughout the 1940s and 1950s, Nehru had been an ardent advocate of Asian unity. Under the leadership of Nehru India convened the Asian Relations Conference in March 1947. India was a staunch supporter of the decolonisation process and firmly opposed racism especially apartheid in South Africa.
- vi. The Afro – Asian Conference held in the Indonesian city of Bandung in 1955, commonly known as Bandung Conference, marked the zenith of India's engagement with newly independent Asian and African nations. The Bandung Conference later led to the establishment of the NAM. The First Summit of the NAM was held in Belgrade in September 1961. Nehru was a co-founder of the NAM.
- vii. India made earnest efforts for the early realisation of freedom of Indonesia from the Dutch colonial regime by convening an international conference in 1949 to support its freedom struggle. India was a staunch supporter of the decolonisation process and firmly opposed racism.