



## Mains Notes for IAS and PCS

### GS-2 International Relations and World

#### Last year Questions papers

1. "The broader aims and objectives of WTO are to manage and promote international trade in the era of globalization. But the Doha round of negotiations seem doomed due to differences between the developed and the developing countries." Discuss in the Indian perspective.  
(Civil Services Examination 2016)
2. Evaluate the economic and strategic dimensions of India's Look East Policy in the context of the post Cold War international scenario.  
(Civil Services Examination 2016)
3. "Increasing cross border terrorist attacks in India and growing interference in the internal spheres of member states by Pakistan are not conducive for the future of SAARC." Explain with suitable examples.  
(Civil Services Examination 2016)
4. What are the aims and objectives of the McBride Commission of the UNESCO? What is India's position on these?  
(Civil Services Examination 2016)
5. Increasing interest of India in Africa has its pros and cons. Critically examine.  
(Civil Services Examination 2015)
6. Discuss the impediments India is facing in its pursuit of a permanent seat in UN Security Council.  
(Civil Services Examination 2015)
7. Project 'Mausam' is considered a unique foreign policy initiative of the Indian government to improve relationship with its neighbours. Does the project has a strategic dimension? Discuss.  
(Civil Services Examination 2015)
8. Terrorist activities and mutual distrust have clouded India – Pakistan relations. To what extent the use of soft power like sports and cultural exchanges could help generate goodwill between the two countries? Discuss with suitable examples.  
(Civil Services Examination 2015)
9. The aim of Information Technology Agreements (ITAs) is to lower all taxes and tariffs on information technology products by signatories to zero. What impact would such agreements have on India's interests?  
(Civil Services Examination 2014)
10. Some of the International funding agencies have special terms for economic participation stipulating a substantial component of the aid to be used for sourcing equipment from the leading countries. Discuss on merits of such terms and if, there exists a strong case not to accept such conditions in the Indian context.  
(Civil Services Examination 2014)
11. China and Pakistan have entered into an agreement for development of an economic corridor. What threat does this pose for India's security? Critically examine.  
(Civil Services Examination 2014)
12. India has recently signed to become founding member of New Development Bank (NDB) and also the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). How will the role of the two banks be different? Discuss the strategic significance of these two Banks for India.  
(Civil Services Examination 2014)
13. WTO is an important international institution where decisions taken affect countries in a profound manner. What is the mandate of WTO and how binding are their decisions? Critically analyse India's stand on the latest round of talks on Food Security.  
(Civil Services Examination 2014)
14. With respect to the South China sea, maritime territorial disputes and rising tension affirm the need for safeguarding maritime security to ensure freedom of navigation and over flight throughout the region. In this context discuss the bilateral issues between India and China.

Contact: [raheemeducation@gmail.com](mailto:raheemeducation@gmail.com) | [www.raheemeducation.com](http://www.raheemeducation.com) |

Free Download notes: <https://raheemeducation.com/upsc-uppcs-mains-notes/>

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/@InsightAdda>

Telegram link: <https://t.me/insight2020>



- (Civil Services Examination 2014)
15. The World Bank and the IMF, collectively known as the Bretton Woods Institutions, are the two inter – governmental pillars supporting the structure of the world’s economic and financial order. Superficially, the World Bank and the IMF exhibit many common characteristics, yet their role, functions and mandate are distinctly different. Elucidate. (Civil Services Examination 2013)
16. Economic ties between India and Japan while growing in the recent years are still far below their potential. Elucidate the policy constraints which are inhibiting this growth. (Civil Services Examination 2013)
17. Discuss the political developments in Maldives in the last two years. Should they be of any cause of concern to India? (Civil Services Examination 2013)
18. In respect of India – Sri Lanka relations, discuss how domestic factors influence foreign policy. (Civil Services Examination 2013)
19. What is meant by Gujral doctrine? Does it have any relevance today? (Civil Services Examination 2013)
20. The proposed withdrawal of International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) from Afghanistan in 2014 is fraught with major security implications for the countries of the region. Examine in light of the fact that India is faced with plethora of challenges and needs to safeguard its own strategic interests. (Civil Services Examination 2013)
21. The protests in Shahbag Square in Dhaka in Bangladesh reveal a fundamental split in society between the nationalists and Islamic forces. What is its significance for India? (Civil Services Examination 2013)
22. Discuss the likely negative impact of the protectionist measures proposed by the US on India’s software industry. (Civil Services Examination 2012)
23. Do you think that China’s emergence as one of the largest trading partners of India had adversely affected the settlement of the outstanding border problem? (Civil Services Examination 2012)
24. Discuss the contentious issues that have caused the prolonged constitutional logjam in Nepal. (Civil Services Examination 2012)
25. “The situation today is far different to that prevalent fifty years back when the Indus Water Treaty was signed.” Highlight the complexity of the current challenges on both sides of the border in this regard. Do you think that a review of the treaty is in India’s best interests? (Civil Services Examination 2012)
26. Write a short analytical note on Indian Diaspora. How is the ‘New Diaspora’ different from the ‘Old Diaspora’? (Civil Services Examination 2012)
27. Does Putin’s return as President of Russia mark a shift to a confrontationist stance in international diplomacy towards the West? (Civil Services Examination 2012)
28. Critically review the international concern in achieving the targets set for the Millennium Development Goals. (Civil Services Examination 2012)
29. Compare the significance of IBSA and BRICS in the context of India’s multilateral diplomacy. (Civil Services Examination 2012)
30. How have the US sanctions against Iran affected India’s bilateral relations with Iran? (Civil Services Examination 2012)
31. What is meant by the G8 + 5 group? (Civil Services Examination 2012)
32. What are India’s stakes in the South China Sea? (Civil Services Examination 2012)
33. Examine the measures taken by the Indian Government to combat piracy in the Indian Ocean. (Civil Services Examination 2011)
34. Critically examine the security and strategic implications of the so – called ‘string of pearls theory’ for India. (Civil Services Examination 2011)



35. Trace the progress of India's efforts for a joint counter – terrorism strategy with China. What is the likely implications of the recent Xianjiang violence on these efforts?  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
36. List the Central Asian Republics (CARs) and identify those of particular strategic and economic importance to India. Examine the opportunities and bottlenecks in enhancing relations with these countries.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
37. What are the salient features of the political and economic relationship between India and South Africa?  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
38. Is there still role for the concept of balance of power in contemporary international politics? Discuss.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
39. Subsequent to the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) waiver in 2008, what are the agreements on nuclear energy that India has signed with different countries?  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
40. Comment on the functions of the World Customs Organisation (WCO).  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
41. Comment on the success of International Intervention in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
42. Comment on the strategies adopted by Columbia to eliminate its drug cartels.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
43. Write short note on 'Billion Acts of Green'.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
44. In the context of the 'Euro – zone' debt crisis, examine the proposed 'six pack' solution. Do you think that this has a better chance of success than the earlier stability and growth pact?  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
45. "The causes and implications of the Jasmine revolution and its spread are as much economic in nature as they are political". Critically evaluate.  
(Civil Services Examination 2011)
46. How far have Japan's principles of Hikaku San Gensoku impacted bilateral ties with India?  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
47. Critically examine the implications of the disintegration of the Soviet Union on India's security and responses. Would you suggest in India's foreign policy to accommodate these implications.  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
48. Do you agree with the view that Israel is a 'natural ally' of India?  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
49. What are the major capacity – building and reconstruction projects being undertaken by India in Afghanistan?  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
50. Assess the contributions of Indian diaspora in the Caribbean.  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
51. Highlight the role of the Indian peacekeeping contingent as a part of MONUSCO.  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
52. Write short note on 'The Mavi Marmara incident'.  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
53. Significance of the Kampala declaration of the International Criminal Court (ICC).  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
54. Comment on the reasons for the recent economic crises in the so called 'PIIGS' countries of Europe.  
(Civil Services Examination 2010)
55. Discuss the Indo – US Knowledge Initiative in Agriculture (KIA).  
(Civil Services Examination 2009)
56. Critically assess the Free Trade Agreement entered into India with ASEAN.  
(Civil Services Examination 2009)
57. Evaluate the prospects for greater economic co – operation between India and China.  
(Civil Services Examination 2009)
58. Explain India – USA as strategic partners.  
(Civil Services Examination 2009)

Contact: [raheineducation@gmail.com](mailto:raheineducation@gmail.com) | [www.raheineducation.com](http://www.raheineducation.com) |

Free Download notes: <https://raheineducation.com/upsc-uppcs-mains-notes/>

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/@InsightAdda>

Telegram link: <https://t.me/insight2020>



- |                                                                                                  |                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 59. Define India – Russia Defence Ties.                                                          | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 60. Discuss ‘India’s strategic interests in South Asia’.                                         | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 61. Critically assess the recent Foreign Trade Agreement (FTA) entered into by India with ASEAN. | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 62. Explain ‘ethnic conflicts in South Asia’.                                                    | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 63. Write note on China’s ‘peaceful rise’ doctrine.                                              | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 64. Indo – Bhutan trade relations.                                                               | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 65. Categorise the People of India Origin (PIO)                                                  | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 66. Point out the difference between the Jewish Diaspora and the Indian Diaspora.                | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 67. Why was January 9 chosen to observe the NRI (Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas) Day?                   | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 68. Your views on ‘Gilgit – Baltistan Empowerment and Self Governance Order 2009’.               | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 69. Write short note on Wakhan ‘Corridor’.                                                       | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 70. Write short note on NEPAD and its objectives.                                                | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 71. Explain India’s ‘soft’ and ‘hard’ power strategy in foreign policy.                          | (Civil Services Examination 2009) |
| 72. Major hurdles in Indo – Pak ties.                                                            | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 73. Look East Policy and North – East India.                                                     | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 74. Write note on India and China: Strategy to Boost Ties.                                       | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 75. India – Nigeria: Abuja Declaration.                                                          | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 76. Indo – EU economic ties.                                                                     | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 77. India – Bangladesh Border Road cum fencing.                                                  | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 78. India and the New World Order.                                                               | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 79. Define ‘Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas’.                                                            | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 80. Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment (CPOE).                                         | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 81. Define Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme.                                           | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 82. Define ‘Indian Diaspora in Singapore’.                                                       | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 83. Explain Universal Declaration of Human Rights.                                               | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 84. South – South Cooperation.                                                                   | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 85. Write short note on GCC.                                                                     | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 86. Write a note on G – 77.                                                                      | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 87. Write brief note on ICRC.                                                                    | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 88. Write brief note on Mercosur.                                                                | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 89. Write brief note on INTERPOL.                                                                | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 90. Write brief note on ‘India’s Ocean Development Policy’.                                      | (Civil Services Examination 2008) |
| 91. Write notes on Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS).                                 | (Civil Services Examination 2007) |
| 92. India and East Asia Summit (EAS).                                                            | (Civil Services Examination 2007) |
| 93. Panchsheel in India’s Foreign Policy.                                                        | (Civil Services Examination 2007) |
| 94. Define ‘Indian Diaspora and Bollywood’.                                                      | (Civil Services Examination 2007) |
| 95. Define ‘Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana, 2006’.                                                | (Civil Services Examination 2007) |
| 96. Define ‘Know Indian Programme (KIP)’.                                                        | (Civil Services Examination 2007) |
| 97. Write brief note on relevance of NAM.                                                        | (Civil Services Examination 2007) |
| 98. Write brief note on ICT4D.                                                                   | (Civil Services Examination 2007) |
| 99. Write brief note on ECJ.                                                                     | (Civil Services Examination 2007) |

Contact: [raheineducation@gmail.com](mailto:raheineducation@gmail.com) | [www.raheineducation.com](http://www.raheineducation.com) |

Free Download notes: <https://raheineducation.com/upsc-uppcs-mains-notes/>

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/@InsightAdda>

Telegram link: <https://t.me/insight2020>





100. What is the 'strategic partnership' between India and United States of America? What are its implications for both the partners? **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**
101. Write about Indo – US military cooperation. **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**
102. Write about Simla Agreement. **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**
103. What is India's 'Look – East Policy'? **(Civil Services Examination 2006, 2001)**
104. India – Israel cooperation in the field of agriculture. **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**
105. Write short note on Pakistan's role in Sri Lanka. **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**
106. Write brief note on 'Maastricht Treaty'. **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**
107. Write brief note on ICJ. **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**
108. What is CEMA Bloc. **(Civil Services Examination 2006)**
109. Discuss the impact of globalization on higher education in India. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
- 2005)**
110. Write about MFN status to India by Pakistan. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
111. Write about Indians in China. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
112. Explain the political and economic implications of the Indo – Iran gas pipeline. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
113. Explain 'Ministry of Overseas Indian Affaris'. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
114. Explain 'Future of Indian expatriates in the gulf'. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
115. Will the grand axis between India – China – Russia challenge the unipolar supremacy of US? Elaborate. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
116. Present a complete picture of India's efforts for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
117. Write brief note on OAPEC. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
118. Discuss the causes and ratification of hunger in Africa. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
119. Enumerate the objectives of Latin American Reserve Fund. Do you favour such a fund for Asian countries. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
120. What is Mekong – Ganga co – operation? **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
121. Write brief note on IFAD. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
122. Write brief note on UPU. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
123. Write brief note on ODA. **(Civil Services Examination 2005)**
124. Explain UNDP Report on human development in India. **(Civil Services Examination 2004)**
125. Discuss the role played by the United States in promoting/ hindering improved relations between India and Pakistan. **(Civil Services Examination 2004)**
126. Hot Line between Islamabad and New Delhi. **(Civil Services Examination 2004)**
127. Explain India's strategic relationship with Russia. **(Civil Services Examination 2004)**
128. Weak spots in India – Nepal relations. **(Civil Services Examination 2004)**
129. What is known as Reverse Migration? **(Civil Services Examination 2004)**
130. Write brief note on UNHCR. **(Civil Services Examination 2003)**
131. Discuss the importance of the Agra Summit on India – Pakistan relations? **(Civil Services Examination 2003)**
132. What has been the nature of 'Track II diplomacy' between India and Pakistan? **(Civil Services Examination 2003)**
133. In what sense Indo – Nepal cooperation important for both countries' national security? **(Civil Services Examination 2003)**
134. Discuss the major irritants to Indo – Bangladesh relations. **(Civil Services Examination 2003)**
135. How does India benefit from good neighbourly relations with Bangladesh? **(Civil Services Examination 2002)**

Contact: [raheineducation@gmail.com](mailto:raheineducation@gmail.com) | [www.raheineducation.com](http://www.raheineducation.com) |

Free Download notes: <https://raheineducation.com/upsc-uppcs-mains-notes/>

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/@InsightAdda>

Telegram link: <https://t.me/insight2020>



- |                                                                                                                    |                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 136. Explain India's stand on LTTE.                                                                                | (Civil Services Examination 2002) |
| 137. What does 'Gujral doctrine' stand for?                                                                        | (Civil Services Examination 2002) |
| 138. Write brief note on 'AU'.                                                                                     | (Civil Services Examination 2002) |
| 139. Write brief note on UNCHR.                                                                                    | (Civil Services Examination 2002) |
| 140. Explain the problem of infiltration in Eastern parts of India.                                                | (Civil Services Examination 2001) |
| 141. What is the significance of Pyrdiwah and Boraibari in Indo – Bangladesh relations?                            | (Civil Services Examination 2001) |
| 142. India's Kargil victory rested on its successful effort at combining diplomacy with the use of force. Discuss. | (Civil Services Examination 2000) |
| 143. Write short note on Economic and Social Council.                                                              | (Civil Services Examination 2000) |
| 144. Write a note on Universal Postal Union.                                                                       | (Civil Services Examination 2000) |
| 145. Write brief note on OIC.                                                                                      | (Civil Services Examination 2000) |
| 146. What has been the role of NRIs in the economic development of India in the recent past?                       | (Civil Services Examination 1998) |
| 147. On what grounds did India not sign the CTBT?                                                                  | (Civil Services Examination 1997) |