

Global Order and India's Role

AMB. H K SINGH

LONGEST SERVING AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN. AMBASSADOR TO TIMOR
LESTE', INDONESIA, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR AND COSTA RICA.
AWARDED "ORDER OF THE RISING SUN" BY GOVT. OF JAPAN



REALISM IN WORLD ORDER

- Rivalry among great powers and their quest for domination remains a dominant feature of contemporary world order
- Statecraft based on coercive power using tools like alliances, spheres of influence, non inclusive institutions, power blocks etc.
- Post 1991 belief that nation states and inter-governmental institutions would cede ground as globalisation and economic interdependence progresses was upended by return of geopolitical rivalry



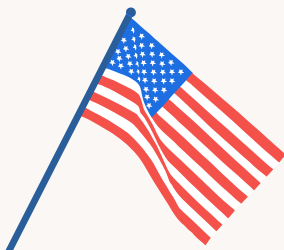
LEGITIMACY OF MULTILATERALISM

- Multilateralism is not a natural condition of global politics
- It has to be sustained by commitment of major powers to Global institutions
- Legitimacy depends on universal applicability of UN Charter and international law



GLOBAL GOOD

- Preserving national interest while also contributing to global good
- India's civilisation commitment to Universalism, Inividualism, and Humanism as foundational values of UDHR



TRUMP FACTOR

- Transactional instruments such as tariffs as tools of coercion
- Policy of Belligerent Isolationism to reduce global entanglements of US while preserving self interest
- India needs technological tools to aid its rise and secure the wider region

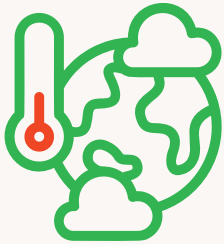


GLOBALISATION

- Globalisation works as long as most of its benefits are horizontal not vertical
- Considerations of national sovereignty and economic security have returned as globalism retreats

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CLIMATE CHANGE

- Climate change should never be element of suppression of growth of developing countries
- Solution is technology transfer and Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR)



INDIA'S INTERNATIONAL POSTURE

- Dealing with major powers based on their policies towards India, and how these impact our core interests
- India retains strategic independence to preserve sovereign interests and enjoys autonomy in space, nuclear and missile development



INDIA AS A RULE SHAPER

- Transition from rule taking towards rule shaping and proactive role
- India as front-runner in G4 for Permanent seat in UNSC
- India's civilisation values will shape Viksit Bharat as a enabler for South Asian neighbours



MANAGING CHALLENGES IN EURASIA

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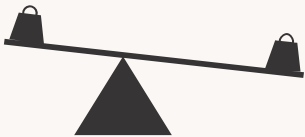
IMPORTANCE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

- Eurasia is not just a geological and geopolitical term but also a socio-political entity
- 5 major civilisations and all major religions have their birth in the Asian segment of Eurasia
- Web of ancient Eurasian trade and connectivity routes



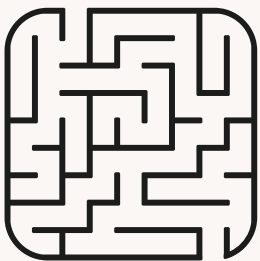
PRIMACY OF USA IN EURASIA

- Sole superpower status of USA challenged by struggle for political primacy on Eurasian chessboard e.g. Russia-China alliance
- Brzezinski believed Eurasia was crucial because controlling it meant dominating the world's political and economic power due to its vast resources, strategic location, and influence on global geopolitics.



CONTEMPORARY POWER BALANCE

- Shifting of power balance to Indo Pacific rather than replacement of Euro-Atlantic
- Western group lead by USA incurs \$1.3 tn as defence expenditure as compared to \$385 bn by China Russia block indicating continued salience of the Western group



PRINCIPLE CHALLENGES IN EURASIA

- Managing China and its growing influence through BRI, GDI, GSI & GCI
- Wars and Conflicts e.g. Ukraine war and the war in Gaza, Lebanon and Syria
- Energy and Food Security as a result of continual conflict
- Challenges of Terrorism and inadequacies of counter terrorism bodies e.g. SCO RATS
- Cyber Threats and interference of social media



INDIA'S PIVOT

- India's global position enables to enhance involvement in Eurasia in economic, political and security initiatives
- Needs to enhance engagement in Central Asia

ACT EAST POLICY - CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

AMB. BIREN NANDA

*SERVED AS HIGH COMMISSIONER TO AUSTRALIA AND AMBASSADOR
TO INDONESIA, TIMOR LESTE AND THE ASEAN*



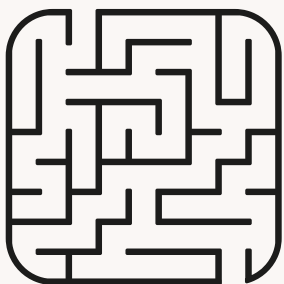
CHARACTERISTICS OF GEOPOLITICS IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

- Post WW II, 3 key factors : cold war, weakness of post colonial economies and disruption of artificial colonial umbrella weakened South East Asia
- Post-Cold war global structure and globalisation replaced old balance of power approach in region and helped in enhanced interconnectivity of ASEAN



GREAT POWER CONTESTATION IN INDO PACIFIC

- Geopolitical reality since Global Financial Crisis since 2007-2008
- Chinese use of culture and history to justify pushing sphere of influence e.g. 9 dash line
- Western initiatives such as PGI have not been able to replace BRI which is China's solution to Malacca Dilemma



CHALLENGES FACING SOUTH EAST ASIA

- Divided postures towards China as countries like Laos and Cambodia are pro-China
- Power contestation between Security ally in USA and Economic ally in China
- Flash points such as DPRK and Taiwan issue which threaten regional security



INDIA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA

- Areas include closer security and political cooperation, counter-terrorism, human resource development and maritime connectivity through forums such as Mekong Ganga cooperation
- India ASEAN FTA has enhanced cooperation but is lopsided to benefit ASEAN
- Evolution of Look East (developed post liberalisation) to Act East to broaden outlook to cultural, security and connectivity areas and include more countries such as Australia, Japan etc.

**“INDIA AND CHINA CAN BE THE TWO WINGS OF THE JUMBO JET
FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA.”**

SINGAPOREAN MINISTER