International Relations · GS - II

Analyse how India's growing economic and strategic capabilities are influencing the existing balance of power in the international system.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 25/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Multipolarity, strategic autonomy, balance of power, Global South, economic diplomacy, maritime security, international institutions

Model Answer

India's expanding economy, technological capabilities and diplomatic outreach are increasing its influence in international affairs. Its rise is taking place amid a gradual transition from a predominantly Western-led order towards a more multipolar international system.

Dimensions of India's growing influence

1. **Economic weight:** India's expanding market, manufacturing potential and digital economy strengthen its bargaining position in global trade and investment negotiations.
2. **Strategic capabilities:** Defence modernisation, maritime security cooperation and indigenous technological development enhance India's ability to protect its interests.
3. **Diplomatic outreach:** India's engagement with the Global South, BRICS, G20 and Quad allows it to participate in multiple international platforms.
4. **Development partnerships:** Cooperation in digital public infrastructure, capacity-building, healthcare and disaster assistance strengthens India's diplomatic influence.

Geopolitical implications

India's growing capabilities can encourage established powers to reassess their regional strategies and partnerships. However, international competition is not necessarily inevitable. Economic interdependence, shared security interests and multilateral cooperation can also create incentives for collaboration.

India's strategic approach

India seeks strategic autonomy rather than exclusive alignment with any major power. Strengthening domestic manufacturing, diversifying partnerships, investing in research and reforming global institutions can help sustain its influence.

Conclusion: India's rise should be understood not merely as a contest for geopolitical dominance but as an opportunity to contribute to a more representative, stable and inclusive international order.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP