



# ST. LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL

A JESUIT CHRISTIAN MINORITY INSTITUTION

CLASS - XII

STUDY MATERIAL



TOPIC: FOREIGN POLICY

DATE:

## Definition:-

A country's foreign policy, also called foreign relations or foreign affairs policy, consists of self-interest strategies chosen by the state to safeguard its national interests and to achieve goals within its international relations milieu. The approaches are strategically employed to interact with other countries. The study of such strategies is called foreign policy analysis. In recent decades, due to the deepening level of globalization and transnational activities, states also must interact with non-state actors. These interactions are evaluated and monitored in seeking the benefits of bilateral and multilateral international cooperation. Since the national interests are paramount, governments design their foreign policies through high-level decision-making processes. Goals may be accomplished by peaceful cooperation with other nations, or through exploitation. Usually, creating foreign policy is the job of the head of government and the foreign minister (or equivalent). Modern states employ hundreds, thousands, or more professional diplomats in their diplomatic service. Much of their work involves implementing and researching the effectiveness of directives toward stated foreign policy goals. They see to the task of harmonizing compatible foreign policy goals between partner states and NGO's while also reporting to their agencies on both success in, and obstacles to, their efforts. In some countries, the legislature also has considerable effects on foreign as well as other areas of public policy, most often in liberal democracies. States with stronger unitary executive branches of government and which lack parliamentary sovereignty have weaker legislative involvement with foreign policy, except in cases of autocracy where one ruler handles major decisions on all national policy, where the autocrat is the legislature. Elections and other shifts in government makeup can change the course of foreign policies, even on areas with long periods of consistency, when new leadership comes in with new goals and different views on the national interests.

## Objectives Of India ' s Foreign Policy:-

National interest has been the governing principle of India's foreign policy even at the time of Nehru who was inspired by the ideal of world peace, toleration and mutual respect among nations. In operational terms, the idea of national interest takes the form of concrete objectives of foreign policy. According to Appadorai and M. S. Rajan, there are three fundamental objectives of India's Foreign policy:

**1. The preservation of India's territorial integrity and independence of foreign policy:** The territorial integrity and protection of national boundaries from foreign aggression is the core interest of a nation. India had gained a hard earned independence from foreign rule after long time. Thus, it was natural for her to give due emphasis on the independence of foreign policy. India's effort to strengthen Afro-Asian solidarity endorsement of principles of non-interference, in the internal affairs of other nations and finally the adoption of the policy of non-alignment should be seen in this light.

**2. Promoting international peace and security:** India as a 'newly independent and developing country rightly realized that international peace and development are correlated. Her emphasis on disarmament and the policy of keeping away from the military alliances is intended to promote global peace.

**3. Economic development of India:** Fast development of the country was the fundamental requirement of India at the time of independence. It was also required to strengthen the democracy and freedom in the country In order to gain financial resources and technology from both blocks and to concentrate her energy on the development, India opted away from the power block politics, which was the defining feature of cold war international politics. The foreign policy practice of India also reveals its two other objectives; 1. Elimination of colonialism and racial discrimination. 2. Protection of the interests of people of Indian origin abroad. An official statement of Ministry of External Affairs (2010) notes that India's foreign policy seeks to safeguard her enlightened self-interest. Its primary objective is to promote and maintain a peaceful and stable external environment in which the domestic tasks of inclusive economic development and poverty alleviation can progress rapidly. Thus, India seeks a peaceful periphery and works for good neighborly relations in her extended neighborhood. India's foreign policy also recognizes that the issues such as climate change, energy and food security are crucial for India's transformation. Since these issues are global in nature, they require global solutions.

## **Aims and Objectives of Foreign Policy**

## **National Interests**

“The General and continuing ends for that a nation acts is called **National Interests**”.

National interest is one of the most important objectives of foreign policy. The Primary Interest of every state is self-presentation, Security and wellbeing of its citizens. National Interests is the permanent Interests of each state and every state want to protect it by using the following methods.

1. Coercive Measures and Forcible Means
2. Alliances are generally concluded by two or more Nations for the protection and promotion of common Interest i.e. NATO.
3. Diplomatic Negotiations
4. Economic aid i.e. US Aid under Marshal Plan (1948) to Europe and Third world
5. Propaganda i.e. US Propaganda in Iraq War
6. Collective Security i.e. against Iraq in Gulf War 1991

## **Economic Development**

Economic development is the process that not only effect economic relations but also social, political and cultural relations of the Society”. “Economic development means increase in national income or increase in Per-Capita Income”. Economic development is an attack on the chief evils of the world today i.e. disease, illiteracy, unemployment and inequality”. Economic development is one of the most important objectives of Foreign Policy. As the status of a state in International Sphere is determined by the economic condition of a state thus a state pursue the policy to contribute to economic prosperity.

### **Protection of Territorial Integrity or National Security**

The Protection of the territorial integrity of the country and the protection of the interest of its citizens both within and outside the country is the objective of foreign policy. Generally, for this purpose the state prefer to follow policy of status quo. Moreover, it includes Economic security, Political Security, Military Security and Psychological Security.

### **Maintenance of links with other Members**

Another objective of foreign policy is maintenance of links i.e. relations with other members of international community, and adoption of policy of conflict or co-operation towards them with a view to promote its own interests i.e. economic, political, security, social etc. for gaining these interests for instance Pakistan have adopted the policy of co-operation towards China and Policy of conflict towards India because India is also the enemy of China.

### **Enhancement of the Influence of the State**

Another aim of foreign policy is the enhancement of the influence of the state either by expanding its area of influence or reducing the other states to the position of dependency i.e. USA and USSR followed this policy during Cold War era. Enhancing of power is the most unique principle of F.P aims because; power in this modern period is the corner stone of the state's foreign policy

## **Introduction**

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was established on 8 December 1985 by seven countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka as its original members. After the inclusion of Afghanistan at the 13th summit held at Dhaka in 2006, there are now eight members

### **Principles**

The principles of SAARC are as follows:

- a) Cooperation within the framework of the Association shall be based on respect for the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, political independence, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states and mutual benefit.
- b) Such cooperation shall not be a substitute for bilateral and multilateral cooperation but shall complement them.
- c) Such cooperation shall not be inconsistent with bilateral and multilateral obligations.

### **Objectives**

SAARC was established with the following objectives:

- a) To promote the welfare of the peoples of South Asia and to improve their quality of life;
- b) To accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region and to provide all individuals the opportunity to live in dignity and to realize their full potentials;

- c) To promote and strengthen collective self-reliance among the countries of South Asia;
- d) To contribute to mutual trust, understanding and appreciation of one another's problems;
- e) To promote active collaboration and mutual assistance in the economic, social, cultural, technical and scientific fields;
- f) To strengthen cooperation with other developing countries;

#### Observer Countries

Currently, there are 9 observers in SAARC. They are: i) Australia, ii) China, iii) the European Union, iv) Iran, v) Japan, vi) Republic of Korea, vii) Mauritius, viii) Myanmar, and ix) the USA.

#### **A. Important questions :-**

1. What do you mean by Foreign Policy?
2. What are the causes of the origin of the Cold War?
3. Analyse the objectives of Foreign Policy.
4. List the determinants of the foreign policy
5. Discuss the ingredients of the foreign policy.
6. Analyse the instruments for the successful formulation and application of foreign policy.
7. Discuss Jawaharlal Nehru's role in the development of India's foreign policy.
8. Why is it said that India's foreign Policy during Indira Gandhi's tenure was marked by many success?
9. Discuss Rajiv Gandhi , Manmohan Singh and Narendra Modi's contribution to India's Foreign Policy.
10. Discuss the basic features of India's foreign Policy.
11. Discuss India's relation with the following countries :-
  - a. United States
  - b. China
  - c. Pakistan
12. What do you know about the origin and formation of SAARC?
13. Discuss the aims and objectives of SAARC.
14. List the principles of SAARC.
15. Discuss the role of India in SAARC.

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