



PERFECTION  
IAS

# 50 DAYS PLAN

Mains Answer Writing Program  
for **BPSC 67**



Current Affairs  
International Relations

26. The new grouping of the US, Israel, India and UAE, also termed the QUAD in West Asia, gives a further push to India's West Asia Diplomacy. Discuss

यूएस, इज़राइल, भारत और यूएई के नए समूह, जिसे पश्चिम एशिया में क्वाड भी कहा जाता है, भारत की पश्चिम एशिया कूटनीति को और बढ़ावा देता है। चर्चा करें।

REG. OFFICE: 103, KUMAR TOWER, BORING RD. CROSSING, PATNA

☎ 9031036700 / 9031036701

f /Perfection IAS    ▶ Perfection IAS(Official)    🌐 www.perfectionias.com

## 26. The new grouping of the US, Israel, India and UAE, also termed the QUAD in West Asia, gives a further push to India's West Asia Diplomacy. Discuss

### Introduction

The first-ever meeting between the foreign ministers of India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States marks an important turning point in Delhi's engagement with the Middle East. The new minilateral suggests India is now ready to move from bilateral relations conducted in separate silos towards an integrated regional policy. As in the Indo-Pacific, so in the Middle East, regional coalitions are bound to widen Delhi's reach and deepen its impact.

### QUAD in West Asia

- **On the model of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD or Quad)**, a strategic dialogue between the United States, India, Japan, and Australia, the group (I2U2) is already being termed the 'New Quad' or the 'Middle-Eastern Quad'.
- **Interest:** It is a brand-new group of partners that will concentrate on growing economic and political cooperation in Asia and the Middle East via energy cooperation, trade, coordination on key common interests, and climate change mitigation.

### Factor behind the grouping

- **Abraham Accord:** The formation of the new coalition is contingent upon the establishment of official diplomatic ties between Israel and the UAE, as stipulated by the Abraham Accord.
- In 2020, the UAE, Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco will establish diplomatic links with Israel in accordance with the Abraham agreements supported by the Trump administration.
- **Tackling Turkey's Regional Dominance:** The new Quad is a consequence of converging interests among India, the UAE, and Israel in the face of Turkey's strong aspirations for leadership of the Islamic world.
- **US Pivot to east:** The meeting occurs at a time when the United States is attempting to reduce its influence in the Middle East as part of its pivot to East Asia to counter China's ascent.

### Significance for India's West Asia policy

- **India's West-Asian Policies:** Until recently, India's West Asian policies generally insisted on separating its bilateral connections. This is the first stage in combining these partnerships with the UAE and Israel.
- **Advantages of the Abraham Accords:** The Abraham Accords will allow India to strengthen its engagement with Israel without jeopardising its relations with the UAE and the other Arab governments.
- **West Asian market:** Market Advantage India is a vast consumer market. It is a leading manufacturer of high-tech and highly desired items, which would attract investors from West Asia.
- **Shift toward regional approach:** The four-nation summit indicates that India is now prepared to transition from bilateral ties handled in distinct silos to an integrated regional strategy.
- **Strategic interest:** While Israel is one of India's most trusted defence partners, the UAE is one of India's leading energy suppliers. In light of India's efforts to modernise its defence infrastructure and the global energy situation, this partnership is highly crucial.
- **New approach in middle east policy:** I2U2 represents India's new approach to the Middle East, since the summit includes three nations (Israel, UAE, and the United States) from whom India has previously maintained a safe political distance.
- I2U2 will increase India's geopolitical footprint, particularly in West Asia, and India will strategically and economically establish itself as a major role in the world.

### Challenges

- **Challenges for Israel:** The Abraham Accords are a significant development in the effort to bring about peace and resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.
- The other nations in the area are still hesitant to keep up amicable bilateral ties with Israel, however.
- **The Israel-Palestine** issue is still a significant source of worry for the general public.
- Conflicts within the Arab World:
- **Iran-Saudi:** Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen are all affected by the Shia-Sunni war between Iran and Saudi Arabia.
- **Possible Country Splitting:** The internal strife in the Arab world may cause India's important allies, like Iran, to break off into a different group.
- The evolving scenario may result in the formation of two groupings, one with China, Pakistan, Russia, Iran, and Turkey, and the other with India, Israel, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates.
- **China's Growing Role in the Middle East:** India has to take into consideration China's growing influence in the area.

### Way forward

- **Taking Advantage of the Opportunity:** The I2U2 is a win-win situation for all of the concerned nations. In terms of collaboration with West Asia, India has to take a more active role.
- In order to protect its core interests, including those of its employees, trading partners, investors, and marine security, India must negotiate this region, which is rife with landmines.
- Other West Asian Partners' Comfort: Iran and Egypt need to be expressly informed that they are not the target of this new arrangement.
- Regarding the current Afghan situation, Iran is significant for India. India must address the issues in this area diplomatically and strategically.



- Egypt has cordial connections with each of the four members of this alliance, but it needs assurances that it won't suffer politically or economically.
- Mutual Cooperation Among the Four Nations: Handling the West Asian region's issues is difficult.
- Through collaboration among the four nations, it will be possible to diplomatically and strategically balance the competitor nations in order to preserve cordial ties.

**Conclusion**

• In an effort to involve all parties in the area, India's membership in the West Asian Quad puts New Delhi in line with other major countries including Europe, China, and Russia. To counteract the Afghan Taliban, India should also preserve its close ties with Iran. Additionally, India has to carefully strike a balance in the Middle East to protect its long-term strategic objectives. The I2U2 prepares India's connections with the Middle East for a brand-new, exciting era.

