International Relations · GS - II

The effectiveness of international diplomacy depends not merely on initiating negotiations but also on addressing strategic mistrust and ensuring credible implementation of commitments. Examine this statement in the context of nuclear diplomacy and regional security in West Asia.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
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MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Strategic mistrust, nuclear non-proliferation, IAEA verification, economic sanctions, diplomatic reciprocity, third-party mediation, confidence-building, regional security, implementation mechanisms.

Model Answer

Introduction

Nuclear diplomacy in West Asia involves complex interactions between national security concerns, non-proliferation objectives and regional rivalries. Negotiations require both political willingness and credible implementation mechanisms.

Challenges to Effective Diplomacy

- **Strategic mistrust:** Historical tensions and competing security perceptions restrict diplomatic engagement.
- **Sanctions:** Economic restrictions can create pressure but may also complicate negotiations.

- **Verification concerns:** Nuclear agreements require transparent monitoring and confidence in compliance.
- **Regional rivalries:** Conflicting interests among regional powers can obstruct de-escalation.

Strengthening Diplomatic Engagement

Negotiations should involve reciprocal and verifiable commitments, supported by IAEA safeguards wherever applicable. Third-party mediation can facilitate communication, while phased confidence-building measures may reduce mistrust.

Regional dialogue, predictable sanctions-related arrangements and sustained diplomatic channels are essential for preventing escalation.

Conclusion

Sustainable nuclear diplomacy requires more than temporary political agreements. Mutual confidence, independent verification and consistent implementation are essential for regional stability and the credibility of the global non-proliferation framework.

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