International Relations · GS - II

Coercive diplomacy combines negotiations with the credible possibility of military action to influence an adversary's behaviour. Analyse its effectiveness and limitations in resolving nuclear disputes, with reference to tensions surrounding Iran.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 15/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Coercive diplomacy, nuclear deterrence, diplomatic negotiations, JCPOA, IAEA safeguards, escalation risks, regional security, strategic stability, multilateral engagement.

Model Answer

Introduction

Coercive diplomacy seeks to achieve political objectives through negotiations backed by economic or military pressure. It is frequently used in disputes involving nuclear proliferation and strategic security.

Potential Effectiveness

Military pressure and economic sanctions may encourage states to reconsider policies and return to negotiations. In Iran's case, nuclear diplomacy, including the 2015 JCPOA, demonstrated the role of negotiated restrictions and international monitoring in addressing proliferation concerns.

Limitations and Risks

Excessive pressure may strengthen hardline positions, undermine diplomatic trust and encourage nuclear escalation. Military strikes can damage infrastructure without eliminating technical capabilities or political

motivations. Regional instability and retaliation may further complicate conflict resolution.

Way Forward

Sustainable solutions require credible security assurances, reciprocal commitments, IAEA verification, phased sanctions relief and sustained multilateral negotiations. India can support dialogue and regional stability through diplomatic engagement.

Conclusion

Military pressure may influence negotiations, but durable nuclear security depends on verification, mutual trust and enforceable diplomatic arrangements.

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