International Relations · GS - II

Examine the role of the Quad in strengthening critical supply chains and promoting a free, open and secure Indo-Pacific.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 01/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Quad cooperation; semiconductor security; critical minerals; economic coercion; maritime security; strategic autonomy

Model Answer

Introduction

The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, comprising India, the United States, Japan and Australia, is a strategic partnership focused on cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. Its agenda increasingly includes economic resilience alongside maritime security.

Role in Supply-Chain Resilience

1. Critical Technologies

Semiconductors underpin electronics, communications and defence systems. Cooperation in trusted technology, including artificial intelligence, can strengthen innovation while addressing security risks.

2. Critical Minerals and Energy

Diversifying mineral and energy supplies reduces vulnerability to export restrictions, geopolitical tensions and disruptions in concentrated supply networks.

3. Maritime Security

A secure maritime environment supports international trade, freedom of navigation and the movement of essential goods across Indo-Pacific sea routes.

4. Economic Cooperation

Business partnerships and coordination among member countries can encourage investment, information-sharing and alternative sourcing arrangements.

Challenges

Differences in national priorities, uneven industrial capacities and dependence on external suppliers may limit cooperation. The Quad must also avoid unnecessary economic fragmentation.

Way Forward

Members should develop transparent supply-chain mapping, invest in diversified production, support research partnerships and strengthen cooperation with regional partners.

Conclusion

The Quad can contribute to a more resilient Indo-Pacific through practical economic and security cooperation while respecting international law and the strategic autonomy of its members.

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