International Relations · GS - II

Examine the role of economic sanctions and international monitoring mechanisms in preventing nuclear proliferation. Discuss their limitations in the context of tensions involving Iran.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 10/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Economic sanctions, Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, IAEA safeguards, diplomatic negotiations, maritime trade, humanitarian consequences, regional security.

Model Answer

Introduction

Economic sanctions and international monitoring are important instruments used by the international community to discourage nuclear proliferation and promote compliance with non-proliferation commitments.

Role of Sanctions and Monitoring

Sanctions can restrict access to financial networks, advanced technologies and strategic materials. Maritime monitoring and export controls help detect attempts to procure restricted goods. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) verifies nuclear activities through safeguards, inspections and monitoring. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) provides the broader international framework.

Limitations in the Iranian Context

Sanctions may impose economic costs on ordinary citizens and disrupt international trade. Their effectiveness depends on cooperation among countries and enforcement mechanisms. Excessive pressure can weaken diplomatic engagement, while disagreements over verification and compliance may deepen mistrust. Military escalation also creates risks for regional stability and global energy supplies.

Conclusion

A sustainable non-proliferation strategy requires credible verification, proportionate enforcement and continuous diplomacy. Negotiated agreements remain essential for addressing nuclear concerns while reducing regional tensions.