Modern History · GS - II

Cultural diplomacy and people-to-people engagement have emerged as important instruments of contemporary foreign policy. Examine their role in strengthening India–United Kingdom relations.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 16/11/2026	GS - II	Modern History

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Soft power, cultural diplomacy, educational exchanges, Indian diaspora, tourism, cultural heritage, charity initiatives, youth engagement, mutual trust, public diplomacy, bilateral cooperation.

Model Answer

Introduction

Cultural diplomacy uses cultural exchanges, education and people-to-people engagement to build mutual understanding and strengthen international relations. It complements traditional diplomatic and economic cooperation.

Role in India–UK Relations

India and the UK share historical, linguistic, educational and cultural connections. The Indian diaspora contributes significantly to social and economic links between the two countries. Student exchanges, academic partnerships, tourism, cultural festivals and charitable initiatives strengthen mutual understanding. Royal visits and community engagements also provide opportunities to promote goodwill and highlight shared priorities.

Challenges and Way Forward

Historical perceptions, cultural misunderstandings and unequal access to educational opportunities can limit deeper engagement. Both countries should encourage inclusive cultural programmes, university partnerships, youth exchanges and collaboration between civil society organisations.

Conclusion

Cultural diplomacy can transform historical connections into a future-oriented partnership by building trust, encouraging dialogue and strengthening people-to-people relations.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP