International Relations · GS - II

To what extent can cooperation between India and Egypt within BRICS contribute to strengthening the collective bargaining power of the Global South in global governance?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
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MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

India–Egypt strategic partnership, BRICS expansion, African representation, Global South, multilateral reforms, trade and investment, geopolitical convergence, institutional limitations.

Model Answer

Introduction

India and Egypt, both influential countries in their respective regions, have strengthened their strategic engagement. Egypt's inclusion in BRICS in 2024 provides an additional platform for bilateral cooperation and coordination on Global South priorities.

Potential Contributions

1. **Greater representation:** India and Egypt can collectively amplify the concerns of Asia and Africa in international institutions.
2. **Multilateral reforms:** Their coordination can support reforms in the UN Security Council, IMF and World Bank to improve developing-country representation.

3. **Economic cooperation:** Trade, investment, infrastructure and development financing can strengthen South–South cooperation.
4. **Food and energy security:** Cooperation can address vulnerabilities arising from global supply-chain disruptions and external economic shocks.
5. **Diplomatic coordination:** Joint positions on development finance, climate justice and equitable globalisation can strengthen negotiating capacity.

Limitations

- Differences in national priorities may restrict common positions.
- BRICS operates through consensus rather than supranational authority.
- Internal geopolitical differences can constrain collective action.
- Economic disparities limit the capacity for coordinated initiatives.

Way Forward

India and Egypt should deepen institutional dialogue, promote trade diversification, strengthen development partnerships and coordinate positions in multilateral forums.

Conclusion

India–Egypt cooperation can make the Global South more visible and influential, but its effectiveness will depend on converting diplomatic convergence into sustained economic and institutional action.

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