International Relations · GS - II

“Dependence on external military and intelligence support can create strategic vulnerabilities during prolonged conflicts.” Discuss with reference to the Russia–Ukraine conflict and explain the lessons for India.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 15/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Intelligence sharing, strategic dependence, military assistance, national security, strategic autonomy, indigenous defence production, intelligence capabilities, diversified partnerships, Russia–Ukraine conflict.

Model Answer

Introduction

Modern conflicts depend not only on military equipment but also on intelligence, surveillance, communications and logistical support. Changes in external assistance can therefore affect a country's operational capabilities.

Strategic Implications

1. **Operational challenges:** Reduced intelligence support may weaken situational awareness and complicate battlefield planning.
2. **Dependence risks:** Reliance on external partners can expose countries to changing political priorities.
3. **Alliance concerns:** Changes in assistance may create uncertainty among allies and influence diplomatic negotiations.

4. **Prolonged conflict:** Interruptions in weapons, technology or intelligence support can increase pressure on national resources.

Lessons for India

India should strengthen indigenous defence manufacturing, intelligence and surveillance capabilities, secure communications and domestic technological research. Diversifying defence partnerships can also reduce dependence on a single supplier while preserving strategic autonomy.

Conclusion

International partnerships remain important, but resilient domestic capabilities are essential to protect national interests when external support becomes uncertain.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP