International Relations · GS - II

“Indian diaspora has a decisive role to play in the politics and economy of America and European Countries.” Comment with examples.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2020	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Indian diaspora; remittances and investment; skilled professionals; political representation; lobbying; technology and entrepreneurship; soft power; bilateral relations; diaspora diversity and limitations

Model Answer

Introduction

The Indian diaspora contributes to the economies, political systems and cultural life of the United States and European countries. Its influence arises from professional expertise, entrepreneurship, political participation and links with India.

Economic contribution

- **Technology and entrepreneurship:** Indian-origin professionals and entrepreneurs have played prominent roles in technology and business, including leadership positions in major global firms.
- **Employment and innovation:** Diaspora professionals contribute to research, healthcare, finance and higher education.
- **Investment and trade:** Business networks support investment, knowledge exchange and commercial links with India.
- **Skilled migration:** Indian professionals help address skill requirements in sectors such as information technology and medicine.

Political and diplomatic influence

- **Political representation:** Indian-origin politicians have gained positions in national and local legislatures across the United States and Europe.
- **Public policy:** Diaspora organisations engage in debates on immigration, trade, education and India-related issues.
- **Bilateral relations:** Cultural connections, professional networks and community engagement can strengthen diplomatic ties.
- **Soft power:** Indian cuisine, cinema, yoga, festivals and cultural organisations promote familiarity with India.

Limitations

The diaspora is diverse and does not hold a uniform political position. Its influence varies across countries, electoral systems and social contexts. Domestic political priorities may also constrain its ability to shape foreign policy.

Conclusion

The Indian diaspora is an important bridge between India and Western countries, contributing to economic innovation, political participation and cultural exchange. India can deepen these ties through engagement, protection of diaspora welfare and collaboration in education, technology and investment.

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