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Q8(a)

India's reluctance to perceive any 'existential threat' inevitably made the multilateral path to nuclear security a 'default option' until it decided to cross nuclear Rubicon in 1998. Identify and analyze some of the major reasons behind this shift in India's position on the nuclear question

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · PSIR GS 2 · 20 marks · Changing International Political Order

Changing International Political Order: Rise of super powers; strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and Cold War; Nuclear threat; Non-aligned movement; Collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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NPT 1968

India refused as a nuclear apartheid treaty that froze haves and have-nots.

CTBT 1996

India did not sign; the treaty was read as closing tests without disarming the P5.

Pokhran-II 1998

Declared tests and a turn to overt, then doctrinally minimum, nuclear deterrence.

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