

## Political Science Class 12 Notes Chapter 13 India's External Relations

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### International Context or Relations

- In post independence period, India faced many challenges to make a strong foreign policy.
- India shaped its foreign relations with an aim to respect the sovereignty of all other nations and to achieve security through the maintenance of peace.
- In post Second World War period, world politics led to the division of countries of the world into two clear camps-one under the United States and other under the Soviet Union.

### The Policy of Non-Alignment

- The Cold War era marked the political, economic and military confrontation at the global level between the two blocs led by the superpowers, the US and the USSR.
- Along with this in other prevailing world politics Indian leadership was in the direction to pursue its national interests with these international context.

### Nehru's Role

- Nehru exercised foreign policy from 1946 to 1964. The three major objectives of Nehru's foreign policy were to preserve the hard-earned sovereignty, protect territorial integrity and promote rapid economic development.
- Despite the fact that many leaders from India, wanted India to follow a pro-US foreign policy; Nehru wished to achieve his objectives of foreign policy through the strategy of non-alignment.

### Distance From Two Camps

- India wanted to keep away from the military alliances led by US and Soviet Union against each other. The US was not happy about India's independent initiatives the policy of non-alignment.
- During 1950s India took an independent stand on various international issues and could get aid and assistance from members of both power blocs.
- India's independent stand and her growing relations with USSR hurt the sentiments of USA. Therefore, there was a considerable unease in Indo-US relations during 1950s.