

Reading : Comprehension Passage

10. Read the following passage carefully.

- Peace and order are necessary, not just in our own country but also at the international level, if we are to secure national progress and development. The different countries in the world are coming closer today due to faster means of transport and communication. Economically, they are becoming increasingly interdependent. If peace is disturbed in one part of the world, it has adverse effects in other parts of the world as well. Nuclear weapons have already threatened the world with nuclear war. If the conflicts between different nations are not settled in time, they might culminate in a nuclear war destroying the whole world. It is, therefore, in our own interest that the world is free of conflicts. If at all there are any, they must be settled *promptly*¹ and peace should be restored. That is why we have declared the establishment of international peace and understanding as an objective of our foreign policy.
- We need the help and co-operation of other countries for our scientific, industrial and economic development, especially in those fields where we have yet to achieve *self-sufficiency*. We obtain the latest machinery, technology and financial aid from the developed countries.
- On our part, we, too, offer help to the underdeveloped countries. We are keen on maintaining friendly relations with other countries. Such friendly relations *foster*² international understanding.
- We have always *exerted*³ ourselves to see that the disputes arising between different nations are settled through peaceful negotiations. We play an active role in the United Nations, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Commonwealth of Nations and other such international organisations.

VALUE POINTS

The passage is about :

The necessity of peace and order in the world, to avert any nuclear war that would mean the destruction of wealth.

Para 1

- peace and order most essential especially to avert any nuclear war; all conflicts to be resolved peacefully.

Para 2

- help and cooperation of other countries essential to gain self-sufficiency.

Para 3

- India keen on maintaining friendly relations with others.

Para 4

- disputes and conflicts sought to be resolved through peaceful negotiations.

GLOSSARY

1. promptly : quickly
2. foster : promote
3. exerted : made a big effort

(a) Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks spaces :

- Faster means of transport and communication have brought the different countries closer.
- In order to make national progress and development peace and order are necessary.
- The world is threatened with nuclear war as a result of the huge stockpile of conflict between different nations.
- To achieve self-sufficiency we need help and co-operation of other countries.
- On our part we should offer help to the underdeveloped countries.

(b) Answer the following questions :

- The synonym of 'adverse' in paragraph 1 is negative.
 (a) bad (b) negative
 (c) harmful (d) unproductive

(ii) The antonym of 'self-sufficiency' in paragraph 2 is dependence

(a) dependence

(b) efficacy

(c) negligence

(d) liberty