



UPSC & STATE PCS CURRENT AFFAIRS · UJIYARI.COM

EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

BRICS at the Security Table: On Plurilateralism in a Fragmenting Order

 **THE HINDU**22 June 2026 · **IR** · **GS2**

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator


 [linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)**ALSO FROM THE CREATOR****BharatNotes**Free UPSC notes, MCQs, PYQ analysis. **100% Free.**bharatnotes.com → **ADVERTISE****Advertise with Ujiyari**

Reach thousands of UPSC aspirants daily.

 epicbharat@gmail.com



BRICS at the Security Table: On Plurilateralism in a Fragmenting Order

 **The Hindu** 22 June 2026 **GS2**

Source: ujyari.com — researched, fact-checked & UPSC-mapped



INTERVIEW ANGLE

"Can BRICS forge a coherent security agenda when its largest members, India and China, are strategic rivals?"

Source: [Original editorial](#)  [The Hindu](#)

 **Every fact web-verified against primary sources** (<https://ujyari.com/how-we-verify/>)

WHY THIS MATTERS NOW

India hosts the BRICS National Security Advisers meeting in New Delhi on June 22-23, 2026, under the theme of non-traditional security. With the grouping now enlarged to eleven members and India chairing the security track, the meeting is a moment to ask what a plurilateral body of strategic rivals and Global-South states can actually achieve in a fragmenting world order.

THE CRUX IN 60 WORDS

BRICS is a coordinating platform for the Global South, not a unified alliance. Its enlargement to eleven members adds weight but dilutes consensus, and the India-China divergence limits any single strategic agenda. The realistic payoff is issue-based coalitions on terrorism, cyber and supply chains, plus a collective push for reformed multilateralism and fairer global governance.

THE ISSUE, DECODED

Ujjiyari Current Affairs - ujjiyari.com - Free Daily Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

ELEMENT	WHAT IT IS	WHY IT MATTERS
BRICS expansion	Grouping enlarged beyond the original five	Adds Global-South weight, dilutes consensus
NSA meeting	Security-advisers track hosted by India	Shifts BRICS into a security interlocutor (https://ujjiyari.com/vocab/interlocutor/) role
Non-traditional security	Terrorism, cyber, supply chains, finance	Common ground where members can actually agree
Plurilateralism	Flexible, overlapping, issue-based coalitions	The emerging mode in a post-bloc order

THE ANALYSIS: WHY COORDINATION, NOT COHERENCE

- ❶ **Convening power is the real asset.** BRICS lets the Global South frame positions outside Western-led institutions, on finance, technology and security.
- ❷ **Expansion is a double-edged sword.** Eleven members add legitimacy and market heft but make consensus slower and shallower.
- ❸ **The India-China divergence is structural.** Boundary tensions, connectivity disputes and differing views on terrorism prevent a shared strategic doctrine.
- ❹ **Issue-based coalitions are the workaround.** Subsets of members can cooperate on counter-terror financing or de-dollarised trade where the full group cannot agree.

DATA AND INSTITUTIONS VAULT

Original members: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa. **Institutions:** New Development Bank (Shanghai), Contingent (<https://ujjiyari.com/vocab/contingent/>) Reserve Arrangement. **2026 chair track:** India hosting the NSA meeting on non-traditional security. **Reform demand:** Expanded, representative UN Security Council. **Concept:** Plurilateralism, issue-based minilateral coalitions.

THE DEBATE

Argument for: BRICS gives the Global South a coordinating platform to shape global finance, technology and security norms outside Western dominance.

Argument against: The group is too heterogeneous (<https://ujivari.com/vocab/heterogeneous/>) and China-weighted to act coherently, reducing it to a talking shop with no enforcement capacity.

Balanced verdict: BRICS will not unify into an alliance, but as a flexible coordinating forum it delivers real value through issue-based cooperation and a collective reform agenda.

HOW TO THINK ABOUT THIS (TRANSFERABLE SKILL)

When assessing any multilateral (<https://ujivari.com/vocab/multilateral/>) grouping, separate its convening value from its decision capacity. A forum can be influential as a coordination space even when it cannot take binding collective action. Judge it by whether members can act together on narrow shared interests, not by whether it produces a grand strategic consensus.

DIAGRAM-IN-WORDS

Shared Global-South interests -> issue-based coalitions -> coordination on non-traditional security -> louder demand for reformed multilateralism

THE WAY FORWARD

- ① Anchor BRICS cooperation in non-traditional security where interests genuinely converge.
- ② Build issue-based minilateral coalitions rather than seeking a single grand bargain.
- ③ Use the platform to press for an expanded, representative UN Security Council.
- ④ Strengthen practical instruments like the New Development Bank and trade settlement mechanisms.
- ⑤ Keep India's engagement multi-aligned, treating BRICS as one platform among several.

THE TAKEAWAY BOX

*Plurilateralism and minilateralism as the operating mode of a fragmenting global order. **Lift line:** "BRICS will not become a unified security alliance, and it need not try." **Prelims hooks:** New Development Bank, Contingent Reserve Arrangement, BRICS expansion, NSA meeting. **Ethics/Interview angle:** Balancing strategic autonomy (<https://ujivari.com/terms/strategic-autonomy/>) with engagement in a China-influenced grouping. **PYQ linkage:** UPSC has asked on the relevance of BRICS and on reform of global multilateral institutions. **Connects to:** Multi-alignment (<https://ujivari.com/terms/multi-alignment/>), reformed multilateralism, Global South, UN Security Council reform.*

Sources: *The Hindu* (<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/>), *PIB* (<https://pib.gov.in/>)

Ujjari Current Affairs · ujjari.com · Free Daily Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

Source: BRICS at the Security Table: On Plurilateralism in a Fragmenting Order — Ujjari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Editorial Analysis

● **KEY ARGUMENTS AT A GLANCE**

BRICS is most valuable as a Global-South coordinating platform on non-traditional security, but expansion and the India-China divergence make a single coherent strategic agenda unlikely.

✓ **SUPPORTING**

- Hosting the NSA meeting lets India shape the agenda toward terrorism, cyber and supply-chain security rather than anti-West posturing.
- Expansion to eleven members adds Global-South weight but dilutes consensus and slows decision-making.
- Issue-based coalitions within BRICS can deliver where a grand bargain cannot.

⚠ **COUNTER**

Critics argue BRICS is too heterogeneous and China-dominated to act as a genuine security forum, making it a talking shop rather than an actor.

→ **WAY FORWARD**

Pursue issue-based minilateral coalitions inside BRICS, anchor cooperation in non-traditional security, and use the platform to press for reformed multilateralism.


MAINS ANSWER FRAMEWORK

 Ujivari Current Affairs - ujivari.com - Free Daily Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

QUESTION

'In a fragmenting global order, plurilateral groupings like BRICS are better suited to issue-based coordination than to forging a unified strategic agenda. Critically examine. (250 words)'

INTRODUCTION

India's hosting of the BRICS National Security Advisers meeting in New Delhi frames the grouping as a security interlocutor, not just an economic club. The question is whether an enlarged, internally divided BRICS can act coherently on security at all.

BODY

BRICS today spans eleven members across three continents, with widely divergent regimes, economies and threat perceptions. Its strength is convening power.

It lets the Global South coordinate positions on terrorism, cybersecurity, supply-chain resilience and financial autonomy outside Western-led institutions. India's chairing of the NSA meeting allows it to steer the agenda toward non-traditional security, where members share real interests, and away from reflexive anti-Western framing that Beijing and Moscow sometimes prefer.

Yet a unified strategic agenda is improbable. The India-China divergence on the boundary, on connectivity projects and on Pakistan-based terrorism runs through the group, while expansion has added voices without adding consensus.

The realistic path is issue-based coalitions: subsets of members cooperating where interests align, on counter-terrorism financing, on de-dollarised trade settlement, or on cross-border cyber norms. BRICS thus mirrors the wider shift from rigid blocs to flexible, overlapping plurilateralism.

For India, it is one platform among many, useful for amplifying Global-South demands for a reformed UN Security Council and fairer global governance.

CONCLUSION

BRICS will not become a unified security alliance, and it need not try. Its value is as a Global-South coordinating platform for issue-based cooperation and a louder demand for reformed multilateralism.


RELATED DAILY ARTICLES

22 Jun [India's BRICS Chairship 2026 and the NSA Meeting in New...](#)

22 Jun [Jaishankar in Mongolia and South Korea: Act East...](#)

21 Jun [12th International Day of Yoga 2026: "Yoga for Healthy...](#)

21 Jun **India Elected FATF Vice-President: the AML/CFT...**

Ujjari Current Affairs · ujjari.com · Free Daily Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

Ujiyari Current Affairs · ujiyari.com · **Free Daily** Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)[Read Full Article on Ujiyari →](#)<https://ujiyari.com/editorials/2026/06/the-hindu-brics-security-plurilateralism-2026/>

ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

BharatNotes

Free UPSC study platform — subject-wise notes across all 4 GS papers, Prelims MCQs, Mains answer frameworks, PYQ analysis & progress tracking. **100% Free • No Login Required.**

[Start Preparing → bharatnotes.com](https://bharatnotes.com)

📌 OPPORTUNITY

Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach **thousands of serious UPSC & State PCS aspirants** daily through our PDFs, website, and social channels.

Ideal for: Coaching institutes • EdTech platforms • Book publishers • Exam prep apps

[✉ epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)

Write to us for rates & media kit

Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs · ujiyari.com · bharatnotes.com