① Despite the divergence over the Ukraine crisis, the time-tested strategic partnership between India - France has ~~constitued~~ continued to gain momentum over shared values and aspirations of strategic autonomy. Explain (250 words)

① Recently India and Russia celebrated the <u>25 years of partnership</u> (Strategic) that opportunity ~~to~~ for both to <u>introspect</u> on their partnership.

② Signed ~~the~~ in 1998, the <u>time-tested strategic partnership</u> has continued to gain momentum over shared values, and aspirations ~~op~~ of peace, stability and most importantly this desire for strategic autonomy.

③ France is the <u>11 th largest foreign investor</u> in India.

④ France has emerged as a key partnership for India, becoming the <u>2nd</u>

largest defence supplies in 2017-2021. also with crucial defence deals and military to military engagement.

$\rightarrow$ Example French scorpene conventional submarines, being buildet in India under technology transfer agreement, 2005.

⑤ These relation further fortified with robust network of military dialogues and regularly held join exercies Varuna (navy), Granada (Air force) and Shakti (Army).

⑥ France was among the first country with which India signed Civil Noucleator deal. France supports India's bid for permanent membership in Unnited Nations Security Counsecil and as well as entry of Nuclear Supplier group.

⑦ These two countries formed a trilateral grouping with United Arab Emirates to ensure maritime domain awareness and security.

⑧ While there are divergence over the Ukrain crisis, both contries are working together to coordinate on playing a constructive role in the crisis.

⑨ These countries PMs have maintained open communication channel with Russian president and also Ukraine's president.

⑩ Both countries share concerns over the rise of china and its behaviour regionally and globally.

⑪ They are committed to working together to ensure that there is no impal balance in the Indo-pacific. and New forging ahead with cooperation in issues such digitisation, cyber, green energy, a blue economy, ocean science and space.