

(Current Affairs)

Q Modi's visit to USA and further expansion of Indo-US strategic partnership is a real challenge for Pakistan. Discuss the strategic, political and economic implications of this unholy alliance particularly with respect to Pak-China relations.

INTRODUCTION:

On 20 July 2

On 20 June 2023, Indian Prime Minister visited United States of America (USA) after holding its office in last four years. PM Narendra Modi usually do not holds an interview talks and conferences with media, but, this visit made him to appear on media and answer media questions. As part of this, the visit was had an important and paramount implications as well as significance on the global great game and on region, South Asia. This unholy alliance of Indo-US puts a heavy and severe repercussions on China and Pakistan. As, USA see has often seen India as their satellite in South Asia to counter the China's increasing influence, but unfortunately, it puts stress on Pak-Indo relations as well, because of the historic skirmishes between them. Hence, an alliance, US-India, to counter China has collateral implications on Pakistan.

EXPANSION OF INDO-US STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP: ~ CURRENT SCENARIO

India and USA have a long

history of relations, from the Clinton's administration to Trump's administration and Biden's administration also followed the same foot prints of previous administrator regarding India. In the recent visit of PM Narendra Modi to USA further depicts the further expansion in bilateral relations. In this visit, USA gave India a heart warming welcome and signed many bilateral agreements to strengthen their relationship.

01 - Bilateral Agreements Between both States:

There are plethora of agreements signed and introduced between India and USA. Following are a few listed, according to US defence documentation:

a) Space Partnership ~ Technology Transfer and Trainings

Indo-US space agencies are collaborating with each other and working on transferring technology to India, as per the Basic Exchange Cooperation Agreement (BECA). The NASA is fully trained and ready to impart space technology to India and trained their engineers in ISRO.

b) Technological Advancement in India :

USA is ready to cooperate with India in technological domain. They are collaborating with each other to enhance the technological industry of India. For instance, Apple company opened its branch in New Delhi, India on 20, April 2023. Hence, a step towards the advancement of India in artificial intelligence (AI) domain and quantum computing domain.

c) Trade Cooperation Agreement :

India and USA have a history of trade cooperation agreements. In 2016, President Obama signed a trade agreement with India for repair services of aircrafts of India. Also, President Trump granted India a status of Strategic Trade Authorization tier - 1 (STA-1).

Currently, Biden proposed for free import-export agreements of optical fibre, metals and others.

d) Defence Cooperation : ~ Biggest Strategic Cooperation of India and US ~

In a recent visit, USA and India signed many defence related agreements and renew the previous defence cooperation agreements, such as, Logistic Exchange Memorandum of Agreement and new military exercises.

and naval exercises. Also, USA tries to strengthen the cooperation with India on blue economy and ~~as well~~ on naval fronts.

e) United Nations Reforms: ~ in recent visit of Modi~

In the recent expansion of agreements and bilateral talks, US and India scrutinized the situation of global issues and also talked about the strengthening of multilateral systems. For this, US proposed a reforms in UNSC (United Nations Security Council) membership, to enter India as a permanent member.

OVERVIEW OF INDO-US STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP ~ GLIMPSES OF RELATIONS ~

Logistic Exchange Memorandum
of Agreement - 2016

⇒ conduct of close military exercise and repair service to India.

Communication Cooperation and
Security Agreement (ComCASA)
- 2016

⇒ To give India access of real time military data and imagery

Basic Exchange and
Cooperation Agreement (BECA)
- 2020

⇒ To give full access and transfer to geospatial information to India.

INDO-US STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP: A CHALLENGE TO PAKISTAN

The recent visit of Modi to USA increases stress in the relations between USA and Pakistan as well as India and Pakistan. Also, the increasing strategic partnership and transfer of heavy military equipments and aircraft technology to India become a major challenge to Pakistan. It escalates the security dilemma among both states, India and Pakistan. The increasing military capabilities of India becomes an insecurity and a challenge to Pakistan. Hence, this unholy alliance increases balance of power concept between India and Pakistan.

IMPLICATIONS OF INDO-US UNHOLY ALLIANCE ON PAKISTAN:

1- STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

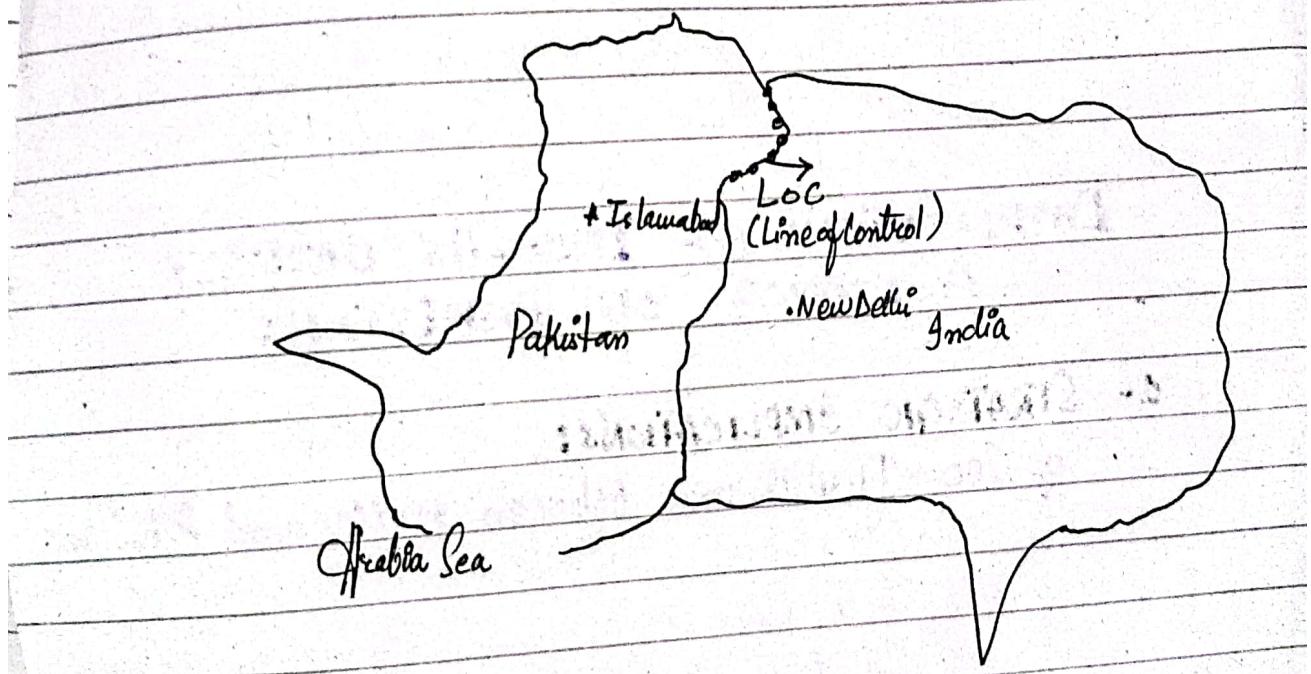
a) Security Dilemma between India and Pakistan:

The increasing US-India unholy alliance becomes a major challenge of security dilemma. As India and Pakistan have a history of clashes over land disputes and unequal distribution of resources during partition of Indian subcontinent.

b) Nuclear Arms Race: ~ Instability in Region

In 2005, the US administration transferred nuclear capabilities to India, which became a challenge. At present, the increasing defense and strategic partnership of Indo-US would lead will lead towards the strengthening of nuclear capabilities between India and Pakistan. As, in the nuclear doctrine of Pakistan, the nuclear capabilities of Pakistan is for creating deterrence against India's.

c) Worsening of Kashmir Dispute:



India and Pakistan have a worse clash on Kashmir dispute and India usually and periodically manoeuvre on Line of control between India and Pakistan. The increasing military

Cooperation between India and USA will worse the Kashmir dispute because of India's more militarisation on Line of control.

2 - POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS:

a) Instability in Region:

The strong military build ups of India will increase the instability in the region. The other states feel unsafe in this situation and the specter of hysteria among the policy makers for stability will increase. Hence, the unholy alliance leads to regional instability.

b) Deterioration of US-Pak Relations:

In the recent visit, Modi said, India and America are working together to combat the terrorism in the region and by mentioning, Pakistan, he said, India and America are against the terrorism that caused by Pakistan in South Asia. This puts a strain over the US-Pak relations and further increase the hatred against India in Pakistanis.

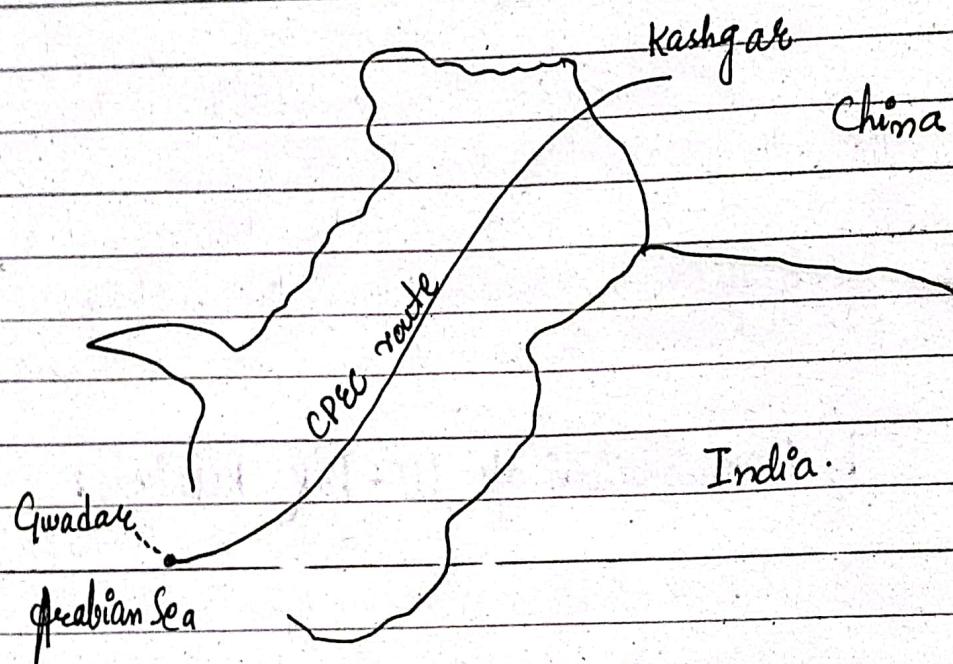
c) Polarization in Region:

The increasing unholy alliance leading towards the polarization in the region and in Pakistan as well. India backed the non-state actors and militant groups in Pakistan, which

leads to the rise of terrorism and resulted in political instability and polarization in the country.

3- Economic Implications:

a) Threat to China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC):



India's increasing influence among the militant groups become a threat to Pakistan's CPEC project. The capture of Kulbhushan Yadav from Balochistan on spying allegations depicted a clear image of India's manipulation and activities in Pakistan to disturb the security of CPEC workers.

b) Economic Instability due to Terrorism Rise:

India is backing the militant groups and provides them financial

assistance which encourage them to attack the police choke points as well as the populated areas. These activities damage the infrastructure and lead to further deterioration of already fragile economy.

c) Hindrance in Completing SCO Mandate:

Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is an organization to enhance the economic cooperation in the South Asia with the help of collateral agreements. Unfortunately, Indo-US unholy alliance creates a hindrance in completing its mandate at full.

IMPLICATIONS OF INDO-US UNHOLY ALLIANCE ON CHINA:

01) STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

a) Weaponisation of Space:

Recently, India launched Chandrayaan-3 on moon. It reflects the enhanced capacities of Indian ISRO. Also, the BECA agreement becomes a strategic implication. Hence, the weaponisation of space puts a strain on Indo-China relations.

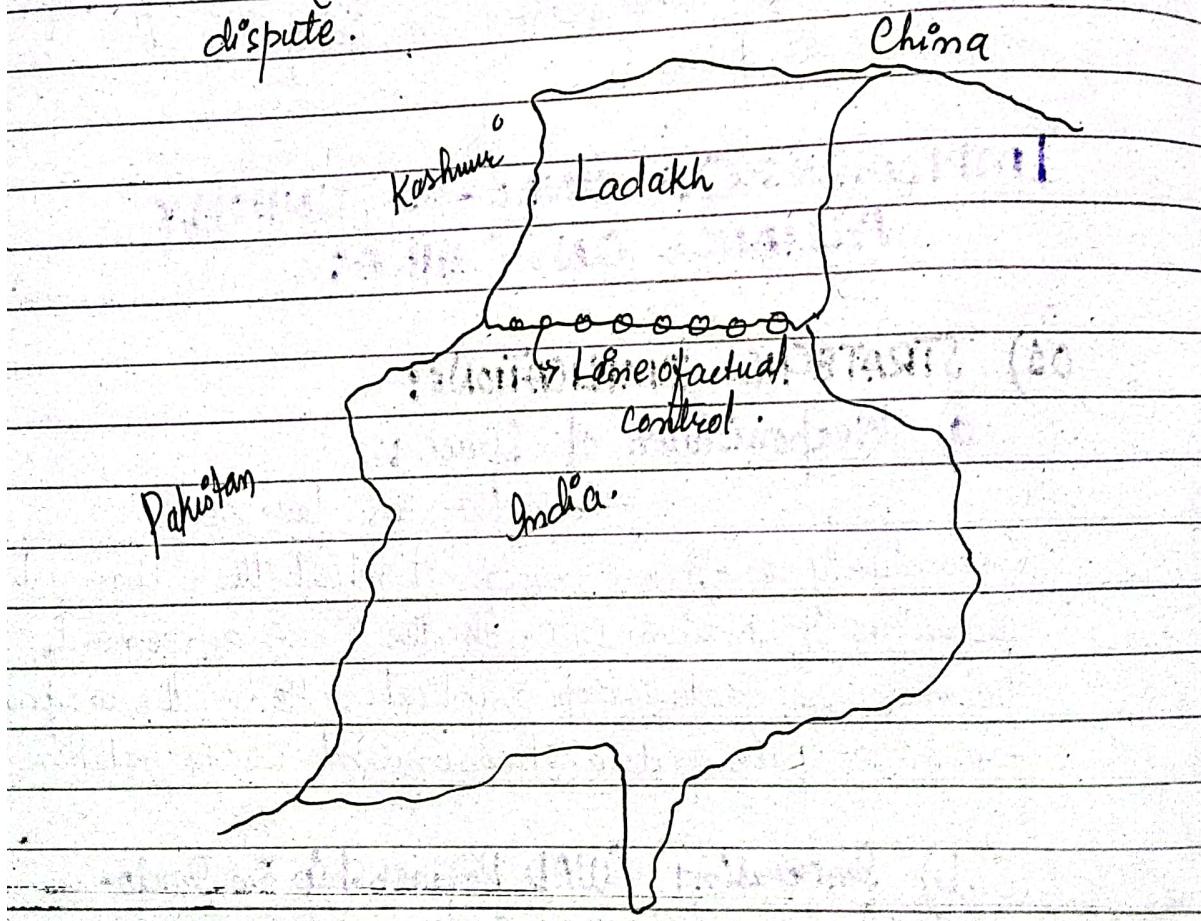
b) Increasing QUAD Partnership in Indo-Pacific Region :

India is a part of QUAD.

a partnership to counter China in Indo-Pacific. The QUAD alliance are trying hard to counter China's increasing influence in Indo-Pacific and also to hinder the China Oil trade from Strait of Malacca.

c) Line of Actual Control Crisis & Ladakh Issue

India's increasing alliance with USA is clearly given an image to counter China in South Asian region. So, it also affects the Ladakh crises between India and China, a land dispute.



POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS:

a) **Containment of China Policy & Cold War 2.0**

Solely based on countering China in South Asia and Middle East. India is a satellite of USA in India to counter China's influence and relations with other states.

The Indo-US partnership is

b) **Taiwan Crisis: ~ India Supports Democratic Norms**

The unlikely alliance of Indo-US becomes a hurdle on Taiwan Crisis. As, Taiwan is a part of China with separate government within one land. Hence, India supports democratic norms and against the authoritarian and communism. Hence, India and USA are against the China's instance on Taiwan.

c) **Indian Hegemony in Region:**

India is a third economic power in the world with \$ 527.78 bn foreign reserves. It is working on the expansionist policy and try to increase its hegemony in the international global arena as well as in the South Asian region. Hence, the policy of India becomes a hindrance for China.

Q3) Economic Implications:

a) Tussle between USA and China over global economic hegemony:

China is threatening the USA hegemony over economic institutions of the world. US faced extreme economic debt with almost \$3 trillion of China alone. Hence, the tussle of US and China over economy deteriorated with this unholy alliance.

b) Build and Road Initiatives (BRI) vs Build Back Better World (B3W):

China is working on the world's largest project, BRI. It increases the economic strength of China in near future. To counter this, America launched B3W with its G7 countries, to decrease the China's influence in the economic arena.

c) India as a competitor to China:

India is rubbing its shoulder in the Indo-Pacific region and also tries to enhance its economic capabilities. It is giving a tough competition to China by making its alliance with America, world's Super-Power, to further increase its capabilities in economic domains.

CONCLUSIONS:

To sum up, the recent visit of PM

Narendra Modi's visit to USA was a historic event in the four years of his term in office. The USA and India expand their economic, political and defence partnership in this visit. However, it becomes a challenge for Pakistan and China and have numerical implications over Line of Control and Line of Actual Control. Also, on the economy and BRI project. These can be countered by using pragmatic steps by both China and Pakistan to save their instance on Land dispute and also to be save from isolation from these two states' unholy alliance.

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