

## PART-II

O-2

Introduction :-

On 24<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2022, Russia attacked Ukraine on the pretext of security concerns and protection of newly recognized Donbas region. This act of Russia was surprising, to say the least as globalization guaranteed non-aggression due to interdependence. The NATO countries due to geographical proximity have increased their support for Ukraine and increased their sanctions against Russia. The future of the situation is uncertain but the end of the world as we knew it is inevitable.

### The Current Situation

- ① Limited war, no peace ~ Trotsky.  
Like Trotsky said, the current and possible long-term situation is that of limited war inside Ukraine with grim chances of peace. Russia is attacking one after the other region in the form of limited war, from Donetsk, Luhansk, Mariupol port, Kyiv, Chernobyl and now the town of Bucha. On the contrary, there is



no peace deal in sight as the countries are unable to form a consensus even when Zelensky has accepted Ukrainian fate of not becoming a part of NATO.

## ② More hardened sanctions on Russia:-

Almost more than half of the world has imposed sanctions on Russia under the leadership of USA. Russia has been removed from SWIFT bank system, its foreign accounts have been frozen, Britain has put embargo on Russia, US announced not trading oil with Russia and Russia has been forced to pay its debt and receive its payments in roubles. However, a more hardened approach of European nations not buying oil/gas from Russia will incur her the loss of US \$ 1 bn per month as it has earned € 34 bn from Europe in oil/gas trade since the start of war.

## ③ Russian Isolation in global arena:-

Russia is bound to be politically and diplomatically isolated on global platform as more and



more countries are boycotting Russia. On a vote conducted by UN General Assembly, to condemn Russian Invasion of Ukraine, 141 countries voted in affirmation, 35 countries abstained from voting and 5 countries supported Russia. Out of those countries who have abstained from voting like India and Pakistan, there is pressure from US to condemn the attack. India has been warned by US against buying discounted Russian oil.

- (4) Chances of Raised Escalation:- Since European countries like Britain and Germany have committed to send more weapons of defensive and offensive nature to Ukraine, there is a chance of increased escalation. Russia has reported to have put her nuclear capabilities on high alert. European Union and World Bank have also aided Ukraine with € 1 bn each.



- ⑤ Chinese role as a lynch-pin.  
China has been neutral so far but its state-media is constantly leaning towards Russian side. The foreign minister of China recently said:

**"NATO should have been ended with cold war"**

Role of China as arbitrator as important to resolve the crisis.

- ⑥ NATO on high alert:-  
The forces of NATO in eastern European countries have doubled. Right now, a no-fly zone has not been established for fear of escalation but it is an option if Russian atrocities continued.

## Possible Implications

- ① NATO Expansion - A cold-war mentality:-  
In the era of Donald Trump and his "America First" policy, NATO was criticised as a burden for US. However, the current events will result in more budget for NATO. As German, Olaf, has already announced doubling the defense budget and also possible expansion of NATO.



## ② An Arm's Race:-

Expansion of NATO or increasing its capabilities will lead to arm's race in the region.

As European Union has also asserted to have an independent defense force from NATO. Such situations will create security dilemmas.

## ③ End of new World Order:-

Henry Kissinger gave the concept of New World Order after the fall of Berlin wall. The concept is of a democratic, globalized world with USA as a sole superpower. Chinese rise and now Russian invasion has challenged this order.

## ④ From "globalization" to "gated globalization".

Globalization and market-based economics have affected Europe due to their dependence on Russia oil and gas. A new concept of friend-shoring instead of off-shoring has been introduced which will limit globalization and countries will only rely on their allies.



⑤ Global Economic Crunch with increased poverty and food shortages:-

World has already being recovered from the COVID-19 economic offset. With increased oil prices of upto US\$ 120/barrel to depreciation of local economic currencies, a new global depression could be in the making. Russia and Ukraine are also called world's food basket as they provide 30% of world's wheat and 80% of sun-flower oil. So, a world food shortage is also inevitable.

⑥ Refugee Crisis

More than 3mn Ukrainian refugees have left the country and 5mn are internally displaced.  $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$  of the country's children have become refugees in a span of one-month.

⑦ Impetus to stronger nations to attack weaker ones.

If other stronger nations followed the example of Russia, it will result in chaos and anarchy.



⑧ Failure of United Nations  
The complex veto system of UN has laid bear its weak structure. Principally, UN is a body to intervene on the behalf of 193 countries to stop Russia.

⑨ Possible Balkanization of Ukraine:  
Ukraine might have to let go of its Donetsk and Luhansk region in the east.

Conclusion:-

Britain's Boris Johnson's visit to war-torn Kyiv signifies their support to the cause of Ukraine. However, the NATO, US or EU seem hesitant to committ more than mere aid and ammunitions.



## Q-3

### Introduction:-

Many political scientists like Henry Kissinger, John Mearsheimer, Niall Ferguson and Farid Zakria are of the view that we are living in a cold-war era. In last cold war from 1946-1989 the two super-powers were USA & USSR. However, now in the multipolar world, two major blocs have been formed, China and Russia at one side and US and Europe at the other. Both the blocs are powerful with geo-strategic, geo-economic and geo-political importance. In such scenario it would be difficult for Islamabad to maintain its neutrality.

### Importance of China-Russia bloc - Geo-strategic Leader

① Stronger footprint in Asia:-

China has strong economic footprint in Asia with its project of Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) which is a US\$ 2 tr. project of investment and infrastructure.

On the other hand, Russia has



Stronger military footprint especially in Middle East. Russia has its military presence in Syria, Nagorno-Karabakh region, Georgia, Kazakhstan etc. In the recent UNGA assembly to condemn Russian invasion of Ukraine, 35 countries who abstained from voting were mostly Asian.

② Russia-China bloc is important for regional stability:-

Russia-China bloc is important for Afghanistan stability after US abrupt withdrawal. Similarly, China has invested US \$ 480 bn in Iran in the Dragon-Lion deal while Iran also has good relations with Russia. Also, both the countries control belligerent N. Korea because of which they are of extreme importance for regional peace.

③ BRI of China and EuroAsian Corridor of Russia:- Ambitious projects of 21<sup>st</sup> century:-

Russia is the second biggest ~~ex~~ exporter of oil and gas with one of the largest gold reserves. It wants to supply its oil/gas to rest of the world via network



of pipelines like Nord Stream I & II. Similarly, China has given the most ambitious plan of 21<sup>st</sup> century on connectivity spanning more than 100 countries which will increase trade from 9% to 12% and will pull 700 mn people out of poverty (World Bank)

④ Increasingly strong foothold of China in S. China Sea:-  
South China Sea is important as  $\frac{1}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> of the world's trade passes through it. China is building artificial islands and converting them into military bases to get hegemony in the region and protect its trade routes.

⑤ Founding members of SCO, BRICS and veto powers of UN:-  
China and Russia are also important because of their strong presence in global and regional organizations where they have decision-making and policy-making capability.



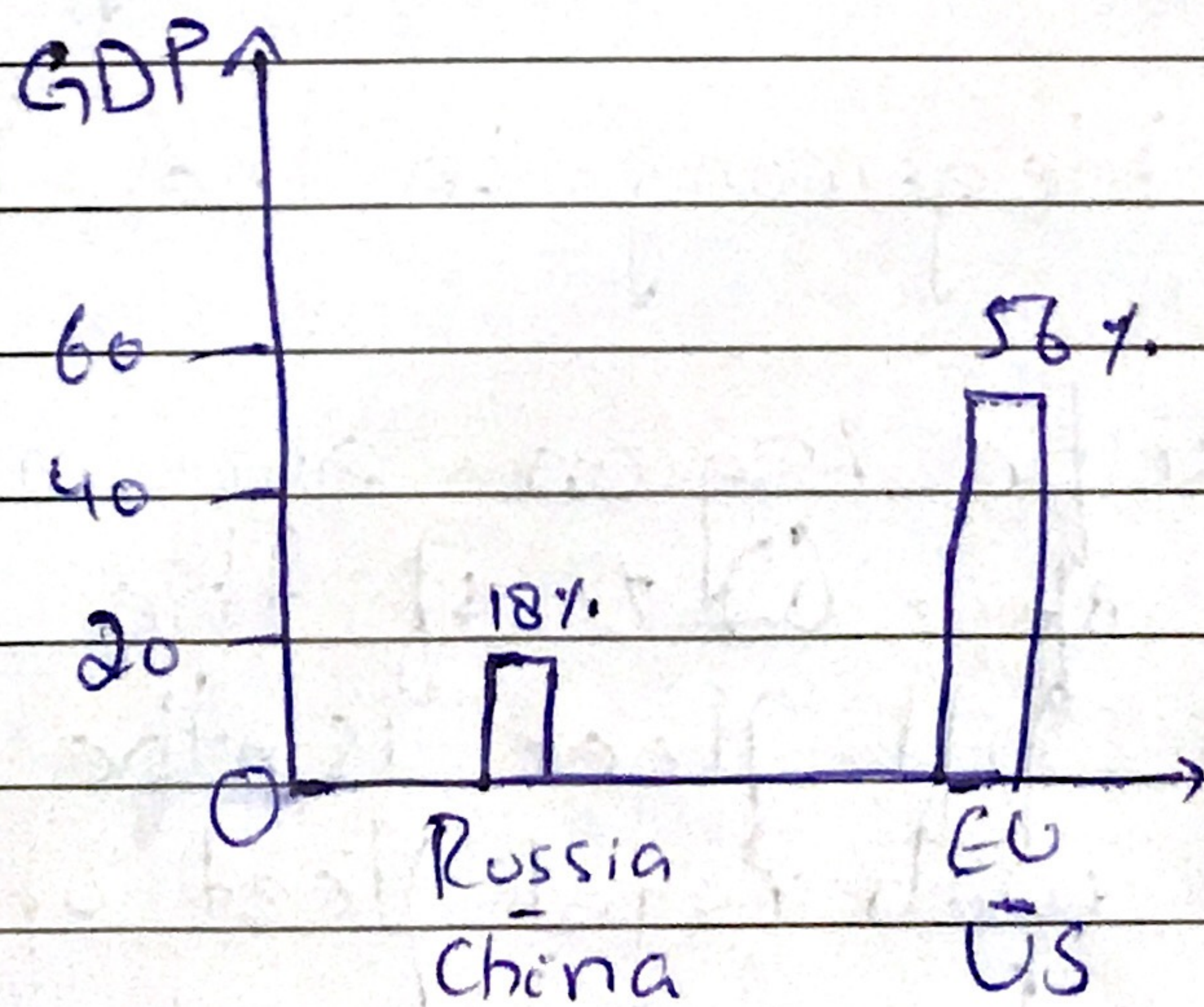
⑥ Dependence of west on Russian resources and Chinese supply chains:-

China accounts for 52% of the world trade. During COVID-19 pandemic, the whole world relied on Chinese made face-masks, ventilators, Protective suits etc. Likewise, Russia is also important as an impor exporter of oil gas.

### Importance of US-Europe bloc - Geo-economic and Geo-political leaders.

① More Combined GDP than China-Russia

The GDP of EU and US combined is more than that of China and Russia.

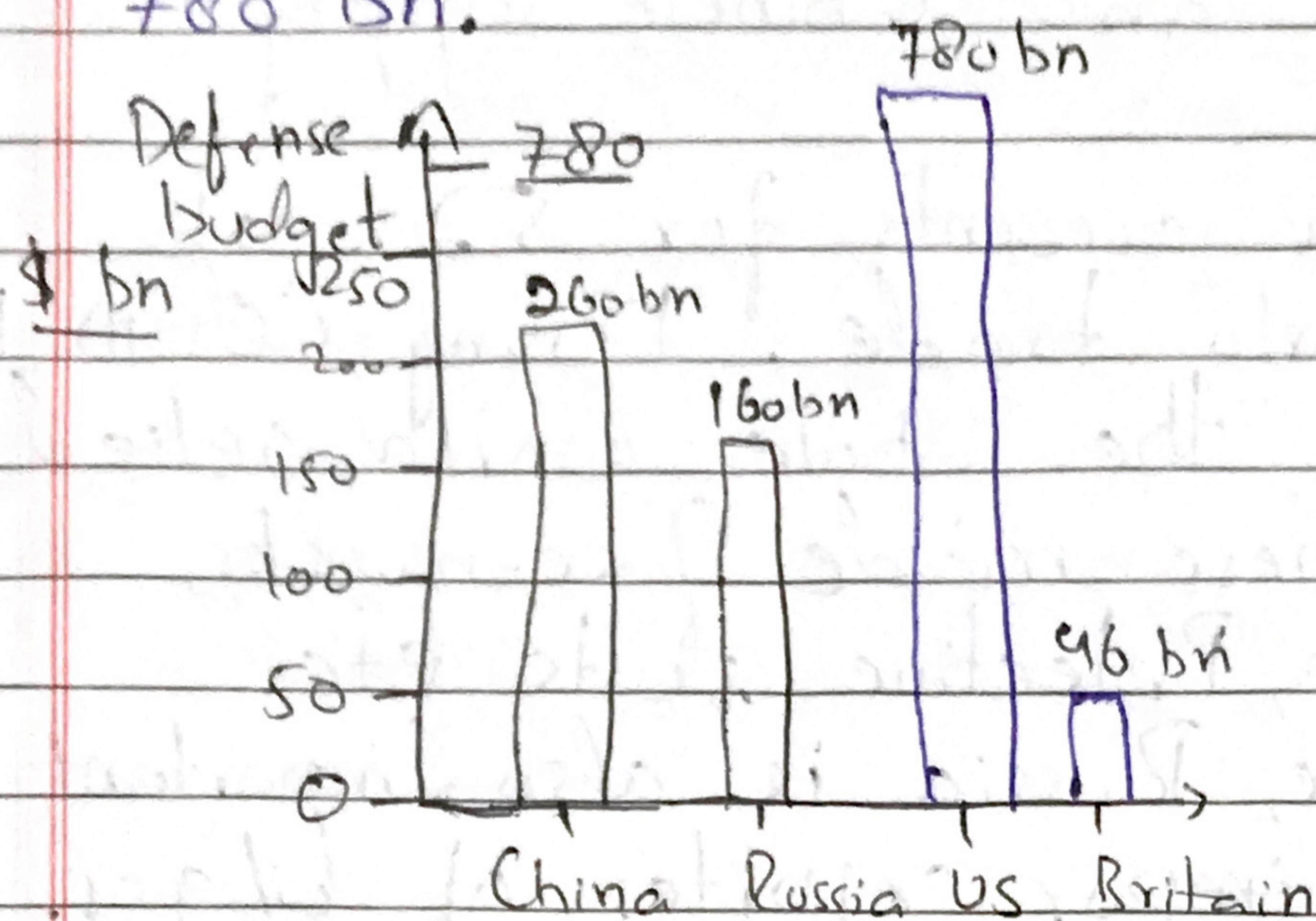


Important for  
 → Int. standing  
 → Fungibility  
 → More opportunities for citizens  
 → Better societies.

② More Combined defense budget than China-Russia combined. US spends more on defense than next 12 countries combined →



Defense budget of US is US \$ 780 bn.



(3) More Combined R&D budget and scientists than Russia-China:-

Russia-China have combined budget of R&D less than EU & US. Russia-China → 2.4mn scientists whereas EU-US have 5.4mn. China and Russia lack in important semiconductors manufacturing.

(4) US-EU, Hegemony in Indo-Pacific Region:-

Indo-Pacific region accounts for trading of 62% of the world's GDP. US 7th fleet is in the region combined with royal fleet of Britain, fleets of France, Denmark, Norway etc. Also, treaties like AUKUS adds to their importance.



5) Dominance in IMF, WB, WTO, UN, NATO etc:-

US-EU lead the most important world's organizations which are life-lines for the developing world. US has the most shares in IMF & WB and uses them as arm-twisting tools.

6) Western Soft-Image:-

The concept of 'soft-image' given by Joseph Nye is important for the modern world. Due to this power Europe-US attract best talent of the world.

7) EU-US have more allies than Russia-China:-

Since Europe-US attract the world due to their soft image, all the countries want to be their ally. US treaties with Japan and Treaty of Amity with East Asia are two examples.

## Policy Options for Islamabad

1) To keep its "strategic autonomy" and work for her own national interests than the national interests of super-powers.



- ② To engage with both the blocs on economic and geo-strategic terms.
- ③ To not let the fight of the great-powers impact Pakistan's partnership with China for CPEC.
- ④ To levy its newly found place as leader of Muslim Ummah to strike economic deal with both the blocs.
- ⑤ To engage both blocs in the possible resolution of Afghan Crisis.
- ⑥ To strike bilateral and multi-lateral economic treaties on GST+ status and tariff reduction status by being neutral and by having independent foreign policy.
- ⑦ By mobilizing the youth potential of Pakistan and facilitating jobs of skillful youngsters in these countries for increased remittances.
- ⑧ Pakistan should engage these nations to invest in Special Economic Zones of Pakistan and also by offering them transit corridor.



Conclusion:-

US-EU and Russia-China both have importance on the global arena. It would be fruitful for Pakistan to stay "strategically autonomous" and deal with both the blocs on the basis of mutual co-operation and mutual-benefit.

**Q-5**

Introduction:-

Two successive OIC foreign minister conferences held in Pakistan. First on the humanitarian crisis unfolding in Pakistan and second on the annual meeting of foreign ministers. While India has been vying for years to isolate Pakistan, the presence of more than 50 countries' representatives in Pakistan was no small achievement.

**The causes and implications of Pakistan's move from isolation to leader of Ummah**

- ① Pakistan's shift in Foreign Policy to that of "strategic autonomy"  
Pakistan does not want to be the "hired gun" of the great powers as, it has deeply impacted the



Country in the most negative way. Pakistan's National Security Policy also mentioned this shift which has made the country attractive to other muslim nations.

② A win for Pakistan's responsible diplomacy:-

Pakistan has shown that its diplomatic efforts are responsible and effective. Continuous efforts of Pakistan for regional stability and Islamophobia against muslims have resulted in UN declaring 15<sup>th</sup> March as day for Islamophobia.

③ CPEC benefits in Pakistan for the Muslim World:-

Pakistan has come out of the isolation due to the project of CPEC which has made Pakistan a transit corridor. Pakistan is giving land locked countries of C. Asia a way to the warm waters of Arabian sea.

Similarly, the Special Economic Zones and the large market in Pakistan are potential for investment and trade for the Muslim World.



④ Pakistan's role as negotiator between Iran and USA:-

Many proxy-wars in Middle East are being fought due to the arch-rivalry of Iran and USA. If these countries strike a peace deal, it will lead to the over-all development of the Muslim World.

⑤ Pakistan as part of SCO, SAARC, atomic-power and largest contributor to UN peace-keeping missions is important for the Muslim world.

⑥ Pakistan have always raised voice for the Afghans, Palestinians, Kashmiris and Rohingya Muslims:-

Pakistan has been a strong voice for the destitute muslims of the world. For this the other muslim world looks at Pakistan with reverence and respect.

## Factors focused on the platform of the Organization

① While Muslim World is affected with terrorism, Pak can be of help to them:-

Pakistan and Pakistan's army have learnt their lessons by contributing to other's wars.



The country has faced the menace of terrorism and also eliminated it successfully! Rest of the world can learn from Pakistan and defeat ISIS, Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, Rojco Haram etc.

② Pakistan wants unity of Muslim World for mutual development. A-40 of Pakistan's constitution seeks unity and friendly relations of Pakistan with the Muslim World.

③ OIC, untapped potential and Pakistan:-  
OIC countries own 75% of the world's oil but account for only 9% of the world's trade whereas EU accounts for 22% of the world's trade. Pakistan can increase its remittance and economic standing if OIC taps its potential.

④ Trade between OIC members and a bloc formation like EU:-

OIC members have geographical continuity from Morocco to Indonesia. There is a potential to



form a bloc like EU. Also, it's a huge market with 2 billion people. The trade between OIC members is less than 5%. Pakistan, by taking into account these facts, can benefit from OIC and OIC from Pakistan's market.

**Q-8**

**Introduction:-**

The abrupt withdrawal of US from Afghanistan has left the country in the state of decadence and degeneracy. Under such conditions the terrorist organizations like TTP & ISKP have taken refuge in Afghanistan. They are once again using Afghanistan as a launch pad to attack Pakistan. Under these conditions Pakistan has the following few policy options.

## **Increasing attacks on Pakistan**

### **① Dasu Bus Tragedy**

A number of officials who were working on Dasu Hydropower plant were killed by a terrorist attack.



- ② Recent attacks in Quetta on Shia-mosque.  
ISKP is known for sectarian terrorism against Shite population.
- ③ Increased belligerence in Balochistan  
Multiple instances were reported where Army officials were killed in Balochistan. Increased belligerence in Balochistan is due to TTP.
- ④ External factors using TTP & ISKP as tools for hybrid-war
- ⑤ Efforts to Undermine C-PEC

## Policy measures for Pakistan to overcome situation

- ① Awareness of regional and international platforms regarding Afghan Crisis:-  
An avertion of humanitarian crisis at Afg is important for Afghan leadership to get strong and uproot the terrorist networks
- ② Efforts to secure recognition for Afghanistan.



- ③ Conferences to get aid for Afghanistan. For example, KSA contributed 1 billion riyals at OIC Conference.
- ④ Train Afghan soldiers to uproot the terrorist organization through platforms like SCO
- ⑤ Push Afghan Taliban for a more inclusive government to receive Western-help.
- ⑥ Push Afghan Taliban for more women-rights.
- ⑦ Strong fencing of Afghanistan-Pakistan border
- ⑧ By investing in infrastructure and energy projects in Afghanistan
- ⑨ By making Afghanistan a part of BRI through Chinese leadership.