

Q- China, Pakistan-Russia cooperation will find suitable support mechanism in Shanghai cooperation organization. Elaborate.

1- Introduction:- The trilateral cooperation between People's Republic of China, The Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the Russian Federation can find suitable support mechanism in Shanghai Cooperation organization - SCO. As, the SCO founded in 2001, the largest regional organization in terms of population and geographical coverage. The prime objective of organization is regional security and regional development. Undoubtedly, both are dire needs of china, Pakistan, and Russia.

2- The vital role of Pakistan in SCO:

Pakistan became permanent member of SCO in 2017, and has a vital role in organization, being third populous country. Additionally, it is at geographical crossroad of international markets. Hence, the Belt Road Initiative is the living example. Whereas,

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it can give access to Russia and Central Asian states in warm water ports trade. On the other hand, Pakistan has socio-cultural ties with Afghanistan, which is pivotal point for regional security. In short, both objectives of SCO - the regional security and the regional development - can be successfully propagated by Pakistan.

3- The supporting mechanism for China, Pakistan, and Russia in SCO:

The supporting mechanism for China, Pakistan, and Russia in SCO can be developed by concentrating on following factors:

3.1 By strengthening the economic ties,

The stability of any states depends on the strong pillars of its economy, hence, by strengthening the economic ties under the umbrella of SCO will stabilise the bilateral relations between China, Pakistan, and Russia, and region as well. In fact, SCO covers the 30 percent of world's GDP, and 60 percent of

Eurasian region. Furthermore, the China is emerging as next economic giant, which need fast transportation in international markets. Likewise, the Russia needs fast trade from warm waters through Pakistan. As a result, in this win-win game from three partners, will bring economic revolution in region externally, and will boostup the economy of Pakistan, internally.

Presently, there is trade of 61 Billion Dollars which is estimated to reach 200 billion Dollars at end of recent year, in central Asia due to China and Russia. For this reason, Pakistan can revamp its economy by strengthening the ties with both states by using the platform of SCO. To begin with China, Pakistan is already in partnership in shape of Belt Road Initiative. Next, Pakistan is planning to import gas and oil from ^{to} Russia, which is urgent need to abate the energy crisis. Meanwhile, the Russia is seeking

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for new markets after the Ukraine invasion which results in sanctions.

Finally, In recent Summit of SCO (15-18 September, 2022), the China mentioned aim of 2.3 billion dollars trade in next 5 years. Also, it is said that trade within SCO states grew 12 percent annually. On a brief account, SCO is efficiently propagating its objective of regional development, where the member states would easily find their supportive mechanisms for their economical development.

3.2 By strengthening the collective Security:

In SCO Summit, 2022, all leaders reiterated the continued support for countering the challenges of terrorism, extremism, separatism, drug trafficking, and trans-border organised crime. In such case, the role of Regional Anti-terrorists (RAT) is increasingly important. In fact, the China, Russia, and Pakistan are continuously engage in above mentioned challenges.

Hence, both China and Russia can seek support against terrorism from Pakistan, as Pakistan was the part of war on terror, and successfully eradicate this evil within state.

In same way, both China and Russia, being regional powers can support Pakistan to counter its internal challenges of violent separatism and extremism. Also, the external threats from Afghanistan through intelligence sharing and capacity building.

In support of statement, following developments have been made for the purpose of collective security.

- a- Pakistan-Russia defense agreement 2014
- b- Duzhba / Friendship - 2016 (Pakistan / Russia)
- c- Aman exercises - 2017 (Pak - Russian Navy)
- d- Duzhba - II exercises - 2018 (PAK - Russia)
- e- Joint military drills - 2020 between China and Pakistan in Arabian sea.
- f- China and Russia support Pakistan on international levels such as United Nations and Financial Action Task Force.

4- Key areas need to be focused for collective supportive mechanisms.

4.1 India Factors:

India being a nuclear country in region must include in dialogues by using SCO-platform. The first reason is, primeministers of India and China did not meet in last 2 years. The second reason is, both Pakistan and India are rivals, and again a deadlock exists here. Interestingly, Russia have good terms with India. as for instance, India become one of largest fuel customers after sanctions imposed on Russia due to invasion in Ukraine. In this view, the inclusion of India is suitable for collective supportive mechanism.

4.2 Food and Energy Crisis:

There is food and energy crisis in region especially in Pakistan and other developing member states of SCO. Even in

the recent summit, 2022 of SCO, there was no meaningful action or roadmap on the current global food and energy crisis. As an evidence, one example is of Afghanistan, where after the withdrawal of western forces, humanitarian crisis had been witnessed. Similarly, the insufficient attention to food and energy crisis can lead over bigger challenges in region in future.

4.3 Climate change:

The region of SCO is one of most vulnerable victim of climate change. The recent flood, 2022 of Pakistan is an evidence. China being a manufacturing hub is ^{second} second in the world for emitting CO₂. whereas, the Pakistan's contribution in emission of greenhouses gasses is even lesser than 1 percent. But, there was no discussion on such climate injustice even in annual summit of SCO. Unquestionably, SCO need to give space for the voice of

developing members.

5- Conclusions:-

On a brief account, Shanghai Cooperation Organization is a successful regional organization. Where trilateral relations of China, Pakistan, and Russia can be boosted by strengthening the economic ties within the region. Also, by focusing the collective security and mutual capacity building. However, there are some concerns, which need high concentration and effective functionality of SCO to achieve its prime objectives of regional security and development. Hence, Undoubtedly, the China, Pakistan, and Russia have suitable support mechanism in Shanghai Cooperation Organization.