Q. WILL CHINA, PAKISTAN AND RUSSIA CO OPERATION FIND SUITABLE SUPPORT MECHANISM IN SCO? ELOBERATE

'Unofficial bloc' of Pakistan, Russia and China In 2018, Pakistan, Russia and China have formed an unofficial

bloc on the sidelines of

the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Qingdao, vowing to work together in the

coming years. President Mamnoon Hussain, who represented Pakistan at the SCO Council of

Heads of State meeting, met with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi

Jinping on the sidelines of Qingdao summit.

An official said the unanimity of views among Pakistan, Russia and China

could be called an 'unofficial bloc' for peace in the region. This alliance will work together in the coming years."

shared concern of terrorism are a few other important

Pakistan's foreign policy interests -

sustaining strategic partnership with China and a resetting cordial bilateral relation with Russia.

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Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of Qingdao summit. Pakistan, China and Russian support mechanism over the past few years, Pak-Russian ties have improved manifold as evidenced by the lift of arms embargo; the purchase of Mi-35 Hind Gunship Helicopters by Pakistan. This was done under the auspices of a defense cooperation agreement signed by Pakistan and Russia. Besides defense, in the energy sector, Moscow and Islamabad signed an agreement on a gas pipeline between Lahore and Karachi. All these overtures and indentures were seen as breakthroughs in the once-acrimonious relations. States try to expand their sinews of national power to hold their own. They do that by hobnobbing with states which have the capacity to pander to their strategic interests. Convergence of interests is the basic element in establishing inter-states ties and same is the case in the ever-strengthening bond between China and Pakistan. Both countries have become all the more indispensable to each other. Russia is sincerely delighted by China's achievement, who is our strategic partner bilaterally and internationally. We truly appreciate our relations with the People's Republic of China and consider them as the best in history. All this perches Pakistan in a favorable position to foster closer relations with Russia as the later see the former as the

linchpin to further strengthen its association with China. The likelihood of this entente turning into a deeper strategic partnership is bright because of the SCO platform Pakistan, China and Russian support mechanism over the past few years, Pak-Russian ties have improved manifold as evidenced by the lift of arms embargo; the purchase of Mi-35 Hind Gunship Helicopters by Pakistan. This was done under the auspices of a defense cooperation agreement signed by Pakistan and Russia. Besides defense, in the energy sector, Moscow and Islamabad signed an agreement on a gas pipeline between Lahore and Karachi. All these overtures and indentures were seen as breakthroughs in the once-acrimonious relations. States try to expand their sinews of national power to hold their own. They do that by hobnobbing with states which have the capacity to pander to their strategic interests. Convergence of interests is the basic element in establishing inter-states ties and same is the case in the ever-strengthening bond between China and Pakistan. Both countries have become all the more indispensable to each other. Russia is sincerely delighted by China's achievement, who is our strategic partner bilaterally and internationally. We truly appreciate our relations with the People's Republic of China and consider them as the best in history. All this perches Pakistan in

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into a deeper strategic partnership is bright because of the SCO platform

SCO will serve for Pakistan as negotiating platform to resolve regional conflicts with India

Twin independent states union of India and Dominion of Pakistan have celebrated 73 years of independence but both enjoy chilling childish behavior for addressing their issues in which they have fought three wars so far. Under the umbrella of SCO, they can learn from other members states such as China and Russia who share more than 3000 kilo meters long border and have succeeded to curtail down their border skirmishes through peace and cooperation. Pakistan and India blame each other for spreading cross-border terrorism. Members of SCO are excited and hope that both countries will pay due attention to primary motive of SCO which is to deepen military trust on borders and reduction of military on

borders.

SCO can play a vital role for resolving Pakistan and India's Kashmir issue so called an unfinished agenda Kashmir has become hotspot for contention between India and Pakistan. There is dire need of such platform which can bring both countries onto a negotiating table, so that both countries can come to an agreement and resolve Kashmir issue throughout bilateral talks.

SCO can boost trade in the region

Member countries of SCO are world leading economies. Every country is striving for better economy specially through trade. SCO can be used as a major component to boost trade among member states as well as other countries by peace and cooperation. China, Pakistan, and Russia share a common interest in promoting regional stability and economic development. The SCO provides a platform for these countries to work together on issues related to security, trade, and investment

The SCO has a strong focus on counter-terrorism cooperation.

China, Pakistan, and Russia are all facing significant security challenges related to terrorism, extremism, and separatism. The SCO can facilitate greater cooperation between these countries in intelligence sharing, law enforcement, and capacity building.

The SCO promotes cultural exchanges

The SCO promotes cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts between its member states. This can help build greater understanding and trust between China, Pakistan, and Russia, and enhance their cooperation in various fields.

Border escalations between China and India SCO can work as a mediate between India and China to resolve their escalations over border.

China seeking cooperation over South China Sea Dispute China is having conflicts over South China Sea with ASEAN countries backed by USA. SCO can play an immense role for backing China and have win-win situation over sea territories and islands.

China Encroachment Policy

China is emerging as world's largest economic power. The west is trying to counter China's economic influence by different strategies. Alliance is created alongside the China to reduce its growth. Hence, SCO is very essential key player for China to maintain and stand up with same position and keep same pace of economic growth.

China-US trade war

Since Trump administration, US is trying to curtail China's economic power by introducing heaving tariffs on Chinese import in the country. So far, US has imposed 25 percent tariffs on more than 375 billion dollars worth Chinese imports, while China has retaliated by imposing tariffs on 110 billion dollars US goods. During this trade war era, companies are looking for other alternatives than the US and China. SCO can play a major role for China to maintain its economy by replacing US as trade partner with member states of SCO.

Russia looking for new trade partners

US is reducing China's rise by China encroachment policy. Therefore, US is trying to attract neighbor states of China by providing some affectionate deals, India is one of them. Hence, it feels betrayal to Russia because Russia was one of major exporter to India. SCO can help Russia to increase trade with its member states and find new trading partners in South Asia.

SCO a lifeline to Russia and Pakistan relations

Soviet Union invasion in Afghanistan during 1979-89 has played major role in drawing shape of Russia and Pakistan relations.

Both have remained in silent confrontation. While both have learnt from their past mistakes. Both countries are excited to warm welcome their relations. Under the shadow of SCO, both parties can engage themselves in major energy projects.

Currently, both countries are working on North-South LNG project from Lahore-Karachi worth of 2.5 billion dollars and other project CASA-1000 in which Russia is investing 500 million dollars in Pakistan for electricity supply from Uzbekistan to Pakistan.

Pakistan as a gateway to Middle East for SCO countries while Pakistan has remained a security state but its geographic location also has played immense role for shaping its foreign policy. Specially its Gwadar deep sea port which lies in the mouth of gulf states. Eurasian countries are forthcoming and world's emerging economies. Pakistan can gain benefit by providing them gateway to Middle East countries. It will increase economy for both Pakistan and SCO member states using Gwadar Port.

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor a flagship project
The most discussed and debated topic and multi-billion, and multi-purpose project having initial worth of 46 billion dollars is being initiated by collaboration of Pakistan and China. It is part of China's Belt and Road Initiative. CPEC is a very crucial project which can become a driving force for major Middle East, South Asian and Eurasian countries to reply their foreign policies on. CPEC itself can be considered as a economy generator. It can also strengthen the ties between member states of SCO. CPEC has capability to eliminate external aggression. Whole world is silently and closely monitoring its progress. Hence, it can be rightly said that SCO member states such as Pakistan, China and Russia can find suitable support mechanism through this flagship project named as China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

In conclusion,

the cooperation between China, Pakistan, and Russia can find suitable support in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. The organization provides a platform for these countries to work together on various issues of mutual interest, including security, trade, and cultural exchanges. The SCO can play a vital role in promoting regional stability and economic development in the Eurasian region, and enhance the strategic interests of its member states.