

Topic:

The far-reaching effects of political instability in Pakistan

Thesis Statements:

Political instability is lingering in the country, with vicious negative effects such as threat to democracy, rise in terrorism, social unrest, economy and other international issues. However, by taking some positive steps, the issue can be tackled.

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- b) Untamable stagflation
- c) Rise in Terrorism
- d) Social unrest
- e) Lack of security in the country
- f) Negative impact on the efficiency of Government institutions
- g) Negative impact on Pakistan's global standing

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5- Steps to alleviate political instability in Pakistan

- a) Strengthening Democratic Institutions
- b) Robust laws and policies to curb political turmoil
- c) Ensuring free and fair elections
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6- Conclusion

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Political instability is a matter of serious concern in Pakistan. It is worsening day by day. Several countries are facing this problem but Pakistan is witnessing an unprecedented political instability in the region. It has given a severe set back not only to the country's economy but also weakened the democratic institutions. It has badly disturbed the overall frame of Pakistan.

Previous governments did not pay heed to this issue. Adequate steps were not taken to curb political turmoil in the country.

Increasing needs of laws and policies were not considered. As a result, Pakistan is now going through significant consequences of this issue. Hefty slump in economy, untamable stagflation, rise in terrorism and social unrest has weakened the country internally. Not only this, due to lack of security and negative impact on the efficiency of government institutions has negatively affected the Pakistan's global image. It is need of the hour to

address this issue. If the problem is tackled properly, the situation can be reserved. Solution to this problem can result in political, economic, and social developments. On the other hand, if the problem is not given due attention, it will further aggravate the situation. Resultantly, prevalent darkness will become the fate of the country.

As every problem has some reasons, lack of accountability and transparency among political parties and leaders is the major reason of this crisis. The absence of robust mechanisms to hold politicians accountable for their actions undermine public trust and confidence in the political system. The legislation has failed to keep pace with the growing needs of accountability and transparency. Ultimately, this ignorance resulted in the political instability in Pakistan.

In addition to this, frequent military interventions have been identified as one of the key reasons for political instability in Pakistan.

Throughout the country's history, military interventions in governance have disrupted the democratic process, undermined civilian authority, and created a cycle of instability. Recent arrest of PTI's leader on May 9 and protest from the public has created a chaos in the country. As a result, military intervened to punish the arsonists along with other protestans in accordance with their Army Act.

Besides military intervention, weak democratic institutions is also adding insult to injury. The country has faced challenges in establishing and maintaining strong democratic systems, including issues related to the effectiveness of key institutions such as the parliament, judiciary, and electoral bodies. Weak institutional frameworks, corruption and lack of transparency have undermined the credibility in democratic processes. Lack of competent institutions is an impediment in the way of regulating political turmoil in the country.

Furthermore, slow and inefficient justice system is also contributing a lot to this problem. The lengthy delays, backlogs, and lack of access to justice have eroded public trust in the legal system and created a sense of frustration and injustice among the population. In Pakistan, millions of pending cases in various courts lead to significant delays in the resolution of disputes. Besides, lengthy trial proceedings in courts often take an extended period, contributing to the overall slow pace of justice. Cases can stretch out for years causing frustration and discouragement among parties.

Last but not least, more economic dependencies and aid conditions is also adding fuel to fire. Economically Pakistan has become very fragile and its dependencies on foreign aid is also increasing day-by-day. As a result, conditions are often imposed by international donor. As for IMF, Pakistan is still awaiting a bailout package of \$1.1B due to issues related to fiscal

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ent policies adjustments. These conditions can be politically challenging to implement. Similarly, the reliance on aid conditions can create tensions within the political landscape. Different political parties may have different views on the acceptance and implementation of these conditions, leading to political disagreements and instability.

As each crisis has some effects, hefty slump in economy is the biggest ramification of political instability in Pakistan. A report of the economic affairs ministry shows that Pakistan's external financing pipeline is drying up. Multilateral, bilateral and commercial inflows went down by 38 percent or amount to just \$8.1bn in the first 10 months of the current fiscal year against over \$13bn during the same period last year. It has disturbed the overall economic fabric of Pakistani Society. In consequences, Pakistan is experiencing both high inflation and high unemployment simultaneously. Similarly, economic downfall has resulted in untamable stagflation.

Political instability disrupts policy formulation and implementation, leading to inconsistent economic measures, lack of investment confidence, and reduced productivity. These factors contribute to the persistence of stagflation, exacerbating the economic hardships faced by the population. Uncertainty and policy inconsistency can discourage businesses from expanding, investing in new projects, or hiring new employees. This can contribute to higher unemployment rates and reduced economic output.

Moreover, political instability gives rise to surge in terrorism. The lack of stable stable governance and the ongoing power struggles within the political landscape creates an environment favorable to rise in extremist elements and terrorist organizations. Due to political instability, weak law enforcement, it makes pretty much easier for terrorist groups to organize and carry out operations in the country.

Furthermore, social unrest is another significant ramification of

political instability in Pakistan. When the political landscape is uncertain and volatile, it often leads to social unrest. Citizens may express their frustration through protests, demonstrations, and strikes, highlighting their dissatisfaction from the political system. Protest of May 9, 2023 is one of the relevant scenarios to the situation of political instability. Social unrest often leads to clashes between different groups, exacerbating divisions within society.

In addition to this, lack of security throughout the country is the result of this crisis. Political instability creates a fertile ground for various security challenges, including terrorism, extremism, and criminal activities. Weak governance, frequent changes in leadership, and internal conflicts within political parties undermine the effectiveness of security institutions and policies.

Likewise, Political instability in Pakistan has a detrimental impact on the efficiency of government institutions, hampering their ability

to effectively serve the needs of the people. Constant changes in leadership, power struggles, and lack of continuity in policies disrupt the functioning of institutions. Key government agencies and departments may experience frequent reshuffling of personnel, resulting in a lack of experienced professionals in crucial positions.

Last but not least, the country's reputation and relationship with the international community is hampered by massive political instability. It has raised concerns among foreign investors and partners. The perception of political instability undermines confidence in Pakistan's stability, hindering foreign direct investment and economic growth. Additionally, the lack of political stability makes it challenging for Pakistan to maintain consistent and coherent foreign policies.

As every problem can be mitigated by taking some positive steps, strengthening democratic institutions can do much in this

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regard. It will encourage a more stable and inclusive political environment. By focusing on enhancing democratic institutions, first of all, it is essential to reinforce the independence and effectiveness of the judiciary. By promoting transparency and accountability within the government is vital.

Furthermore, implementing robust laws and policies is essential to alleviate political crisis. Implement strict anti-corruption laws and establish independent anti-corruption bodies with sufficient resources and authority to investigate and prosecute corruption cases. In civil service system, recruitment should be merit based. Training and programs must be provided to law enforcers to enhance their capacity and expertise in policy formulation and implementation.

In addition to this, political turmoil can be controlled by ensuring free and fair elections in the country. By implementing electoral reforms to ensure transparent and credible elections, including measures to prevent rigging and

enhance voter confidence. Secret balloting should be ensured in fair election.

Furthermore, involving public say in decision making is essential to curb political crisis in Pakistan. First, ensure that democratic institutions are robust and accountable.

Then allow the meaningful public engagement in decision-making processes. Educational programs should be promoted to enhance public awareness and understanding about democratic principles, governance, and the importance of active participation.

Last but not least, investigative and vibrant role of media is the key to uproot political instability to a large extent.

Media should play its due role in this regard. Media should be free and not controlled. Engaging in investigative journalism, media can uncover corruption and hold political leaders accountable. This can create pressure for

reforms and deter malpractices, contributing to a more stable political environment.

To conclude, it can be said that political turmoil has reached an alarming stage. It is causing problems for Pakistan in several walks of life. Amid all others, economy has received a huge set back. Pakistan's foreign reserves are drying up and leaders are busy in demeaning political parties. Solution to this problem can improve the situation. Its solution can ensure progress in strengthening democratic institutions which will ultimately result in the overall prosperity of the country. The solution needs full determination and strong political will. Political instability can be extirpated with the help of these two.