

a) US India growing strategic partnership is primarily to contain China but it severely hurt the interests of Pakistan too. Critically evaluate the statement and find ways out for Islamabad to follow.

1) Introduction :

"The enemy of my enemy is my friend". The widely used proverb accentuates the significance of proactive politics. Little did anyone know that it be practiced at a ~~wider~~ broader scale such as that of regional dynamics and international politics. USA, in a bid to contain China, is employing the aforementioned proverb and leveraging the historically terse ties between China and India to ~~maintain~~ maintain its global hegemony.

2) Pakistan's deteriorating ties with US :

In the wake of the hasty, impromptu withdrawal from Afghanistan and the growing relations between Pakistan and China, USA has revisited its foreign policy and taken a tilt towards India. Pakistan, initially did not give much heed to this new development, for it was premised to be aimed at containing China, but much to

the dismay of Pakistan, this latest development involve dire repercussions for Islamabad.

3) How US-India strategy to contain China is hurting Pakistan:

3.1) India appeasement Policy followed by US:

USA's new strategic partner, India, holds much significance for USA's hegemonic supremacy. China, who is considered to be a genuine contender for global superpower, poses a serious threat to US. Since USA ~~can~~ cannot engage in full and direct military confrontation with China, for such an event can induce widescale devastation never witnessed before, it has to resource to India to do its bidding. USA is aware that India holds primary for its interests. That is why USA is ~~the~~ adopting policies to appease India. Since Kashmir is the bone of contention between Pakistan and India, USA's support to to India in this matter would

give the country an edge over Pakistan. Furthermore, India - Pakistan rivalry is no surprise to anyone, and this would only provide an impetus to USA for establishing anti-Pakistan policies. A recent statement reflects the turn in US-Pakistan relations, where the president of US Joe Biden said: "it (Pakistan) maybe the ~~most~~ one of the most dangerous nations in the world". The statement sent shockwaves throughout Pakistan's political landscape, for it unveiled the changing foreign policy of US.

3.2) Sanctions on China can hurt Islamabad:

Sanctions imposed on China can have repercussions for Pakistan. Pakistan's fragile economy relies heavily on China for sustenance. Hence sanctions on China can leave the economy of Pakistan in predicament. There are primarily two ways how this can impact Pakistan. Firstly, if US imposes direct sanctions on China, the latter's economy will take

Day / Date

a toll and it might not remain in a position to generously help Pakistan. Secondly, GF is not only on China but US imposes sanctions on its main trading partners as well, it will beget devastating ramifications for the already teetering economy of the country.

3.3) Trouble will IMF bailout packages:

There remains no ambivalence that US wields a strong influence on IMF. In retrospect, the assistance of USA has been ~~an~~ indispensable for ~~to~~ securing the much needed loan agreements b/w Pakistan and IMF. Without the role of USA, these bailout packages would be hard to obtain. This was also seen in the last year where the country had to struggle for more than a year to secure a staff-level agreement for a mere \$ 1 bn. loan. This is obviously a major challenge and can be ignored only at great peril to the country.

Maxim.....

3.4) GSP+ status hangs in the balance:

Pakistan has been endowed with GSP+ status from European ~~EU~~ Union since 2014. This fruitful incentive lets Pakistan sell its merchandise in European market ~~with~~ while also avoiding much of the taxes. Since USA wields influence over EU, it can persuade the Europeans to withdraw this incentive. This would be a massive blow to the precarious economic conditions of the country.

4) What can Pakistan do to circumvent these challenges:

4.1) Engage in Diplomacy with USA:

In recent times, especially after withdrawal from Afghanistan, Pak-US relations have been on a downward spiral. Pakistan did not dispell American's belief of the former supporting Afghans during the war against terror. Such ~~a~~ widely held notions

have taken a toll of their relations. It is high time for Pakistan to engage in diplomacy with US, not only to dispell the misconceptions, but also to foster cordial relations.

4.2) Ameliorate ties with India:

Another major obstacle challenging Pakistan is the historically hostile relations between Pakistan and India. Pakistan should take the first step and approach India for the normalization of ties. This is a rather daunting task that will need much time, but this single development can pave the way for a stable Pakistan.

4.3) Ensure CPEC faces no challenge:

CPEC, argumentatively the panacea for most of the country's woes, should be the center of attention ~~for~~ of the government. Albeit Pakistan should engage India and US in diplom ~~more~~ in a bid to improve ties, it should apprice China, largest stakeholder

Day / Date

of CPEC, that the continuation of this project will suffer from no disruptions. Maintaining the cordial and friendly ties with China should always take precedence over ties with others.

5) Conclusion:

There remains no ambivalence that this new development has left Pakistan in a stew. However, with meticulously planned strategies and adopting robust measures, this challenge can be surmounted. The solutions embodied in this answer have the capacity to steer the shipwrecked country to safer shores.

Maxim.....