

## Question

Pakistan's water crisis is caused by three major factors: Internal mismanagement, Indian exploitation of Indus Water Treaty and Climate Factors.  
Comment.

## 1. Introduction

Pakistan is facing a longstanding water crisis with three major reasons. Firstly, it is internal mismanagement in the shape of inter-provincial disharmony, ambiguous clauses of Indus River System ~~Authority~~ Act, and inefficient water management facility. Secondly, Indian exploitation of Indus Water Treaty has exacerbated the crisis. The incumbent populist government takes insidious measures, the clauses of the IWT are violable, and the Western support to India further emboldens the country to violate the treaty. Finally, Pakistan bears a major ~~brunt~~ of climate change as a result of its geographical location, economic ~~restraint~~ and lack of international support. Pakistan thus stands at the crossroad of a major of crisis requiring immediate solutions.

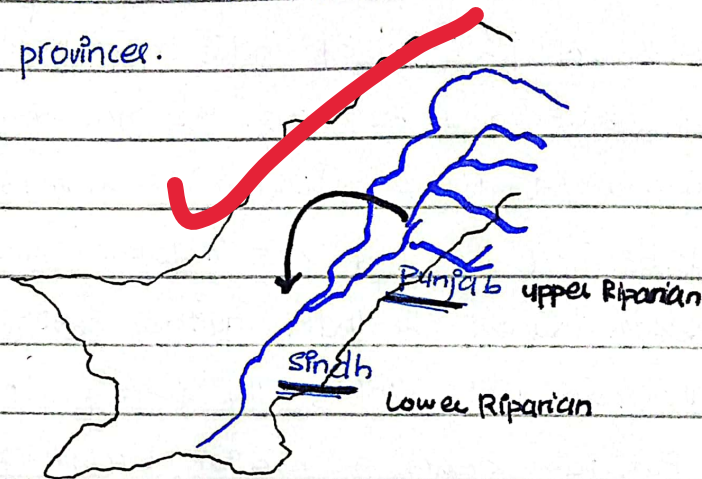


## II. Internal Mismanagement Adds to The Woes of Water Crisis

Internal mismanagement in Pakistan has increased to the <sup>issues</sup> hydrological problems of Pakistan. Interprovincial disharmony, Unsettled clauses of the IRSA Act and inefficient storage facility has resulted into the issue.

### A. Inter-provincial Disharmony Has Created The National Water Crisis

The Indus Water System which crosses mostly from Punjab and Sindh creates conflict between the two provinces.



Sindh often complains of receiving lesser water than agreed under IRSA Act.

### B. Ambiguous Clauses and Varied Interpretation of IRSA Act, 1992

The Indus River System Authority Act 1992 was codified to solve water disputes among provinces. On the contrary, provinces interpret the clauses of the Act to demand water at their will.

### C. Inefficient Water Storage Capacity

Currently, the water storage capacity of Pakistan is 13 MAF which provides only 30 days carryover capacity (IRSA). The carryover capacity of India and others is as follows

Country	Carryover Capacity
Pakistan	30 days
India	170 days
Egypt	700 days
United States	900 days

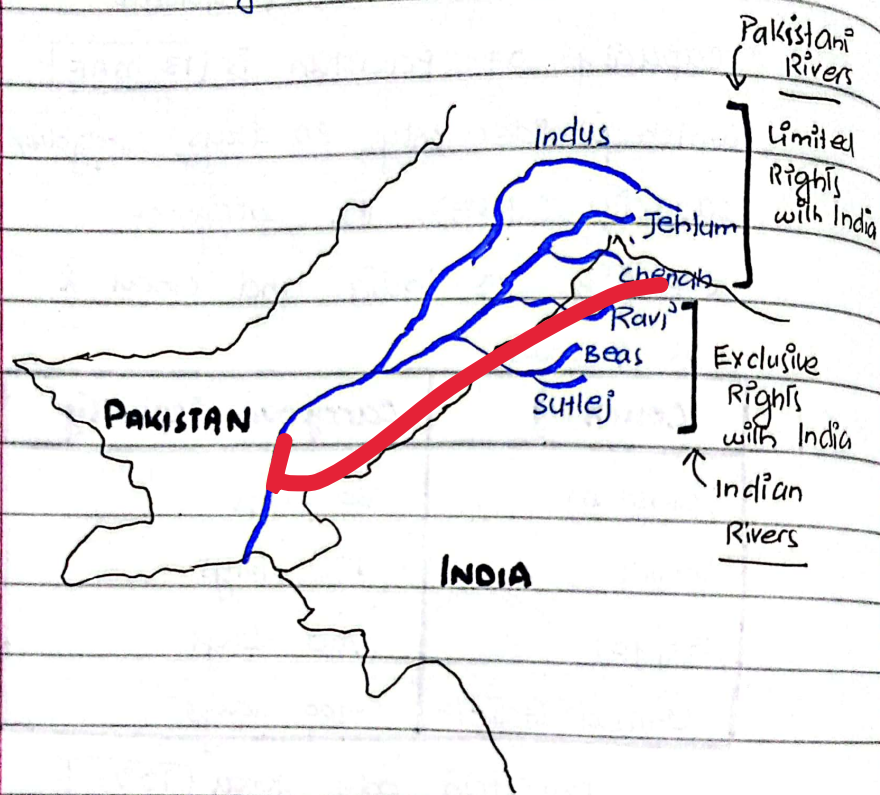
Pakistan only stores 10% of water. The rest drains in Arabian sea.

### III. Indian Exploitation of the Indus Waters Treaty is A Major Cause of Water Crisis

Pakistan, as a lower riparian country



To the six rivers coming to the country, remained at the risk of exploitation from the upper riparian state. Thus, it happened and therefore, in 1960, World Bank brokered a treaty between the two countries. However, India has violated the treaty at multiple instances. Under the treaty, the following was decided.



### A. The Populist Government of India and its Instigative Measures

The incumbent government in India has time and again violated the treaty. It does so by disrupting the flow of western rivers, the right of which belong to Pakistan.

## Use marker for references

Moreover, it also manipulates the waters of the eastern river. (For instance) during the 2022 monsoon, India released excessive water from the eastern rivers causing flash floods in lower Punjab and Sindh.

### B. The violable clauses of the Indus Waters Treaty

The IWT was conclusive, but not comprehensive. When it gave the right to build run-off-river dams to India, it did not exactly specify the magnitude of such projects. Now, India uses the clause to build dams that disrupt inflow.

### C. Western support to India emboldens the violator

Be it Kashmir or Indus Water, Indian violations have followed a silence from the western allies. Such unconditional support provides the country encouragement to continue the violation.



#### IV. Climate Factor: Another Cause To Water Crisis in Pakistan

Pakistan bears a great blow of climate change. Often manifested in floods, intermitted water scarcity, glacial melt, Pakistan is one of the biggest recipient of climate change consequences.

##### A. Pakistan's Geographical Location and Climate Increases The Risk

Pakistan contributes less than 1% of global greenhouse gases, yet it is the 5th most affected of climate change (World Bank). This has two underlying reasons:

1. The geography of Pakistan which is a littoral country with a large coastline makes it susceptible to prolonged rainfall.
2. Pakistan's warm climate makes temperature increases higher than global average.



## B. Economic Restraints Limit Pakistan's Mitigation Capacity

Pakistan cannot stop the glacial melt, but it can <sup>build</sup> storage for the melting water. However, economic restraint limit building such facility. Although multiple dams such as Diamer and Mohmand dams are on the bucket list, limited funding handicaps the state.

## C. Lack of International Support From Developed States

The developed countries such as United States and most of Europe are the biggest emitters of greenhouse gases - the cause of climate change. However, their lack of support as witnessed in COP29 with a meager fund of \$300 billion brings no help.

A study revealed that Pakistan alone requires \$350 billion to recover from losses caused by climate change. Thus, the loss of water in Pakistan is not



supported by countries responsible for climate change.

## V. Wayforward : Containing the Water Crisis

Since the crisis of water in Pakistan is multifaceted, all the dimensions of the problem must be addressed. Internal management must be enhanced to solve the interprovincial and national issues. Renegotiation or diplomacy must be adopted to bring India on a neutral if not aiding side. Finally, national and international initiatives must be taken to help contain the growing impacts of climate change in Pakistan.

Good attempt!!!

## VI. Conclusion

To conclude, the water crisis in Pakistan arises from three sides: internal maladministration, the challenges posed by Pakistan's eastern neighbour and climatic conditions. All three have added to the ailing hydrological state. They must be met with solutions both incrementally and simultaneously so that Pakistan comes out of this crisis.



## Question

Insurgency in Balochistan is getting dangerous over the years and posing major threat to national integration. Provide a comprehensive framework for possible solution to this problem.

### 1. Introduction

Insurgency in Balochistan is a decades-old obstacle in the way of national integration. Various internal and external factors have contributed in escalation of the issue. National integration being the backbone of any state is essential to <sup>and hence</sup> remain intact. The framework to address this problem includes various dimensions.

Firstly, the right model of national integration must be adopted. Then a solution at grassroots levels must begin. Economic disparity in the province is to be reduced. The role of politicians must ~~dominate~~ military strength. Political harmony both in province as well as centre is need.

Increased literacy rate, enhanced political will of parties and interruption in foreign involvement is essential to establish national integration in the country.



## II. An Overview of the Insurgency in Balochistan: A Secessionist Movement

Insurgency in Balochistan is an ethnic revolt against the state of Pakistan. It is a secessionist movement aimed at separating Balochistan from rest of Pakistan. Separatism in the province began in 1948 with the accession of Kalat, the largest princely state of Pakistan. Major events include:

### 1948: Signing the Instrument of Accession

Revolt by Prince Abdul Karim, brother of Mir Ahmad Yar Khan.

### 1958: Revolt by Nawab Nauroz Against One Unit - He was imprisoned.

### 1963-1969: Guerrilla warfare under Sher Muhammad Mami - ended in a ceasefire with Yahya Khan agreeing to end One Unit.

### 1973-77: Armed Insurgency led by Khair Baksh Marri - followed a military operation, decline in insurgency and end of Sardari system.

### 2006-2022: Resurgence of Insurgency Ignited by the killing of Nawab Akbar Bugti and armed conflict of BLA.

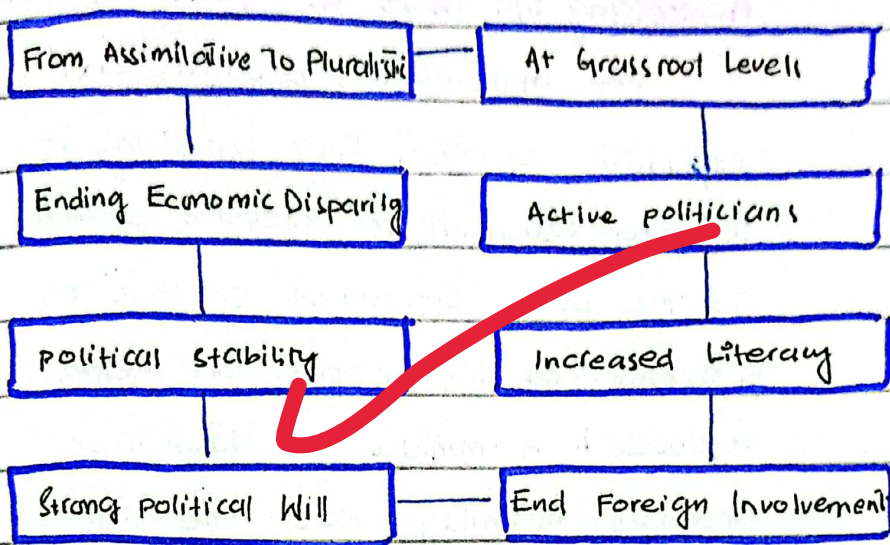
### 2022-present: Escalation in the movement with targeted Chinese killing under BLA's Majeed Brigade.



Firstly, discuss the first part of the answer in more detail

### III. Framework to End Baloch Insurgency And Strengthen National Integration

National integration in Pakistan can be ensured if the problems & light of insurgency in Balochistan are tackled. Following initiatives, if taken can solve the issues under discussion:



#### A. Changing The model of National Integration: From Assimilative to Pluralistic

As assimilative model is one where unity is established through uniformity. For instance, trying to establish a single language. A pluralistic model, on the other hand, advocates for unity through diversity. Such a model is best suited for federalisms like Pakistan. All the stakeholders must



accept the multi-ethnic nature of the country. It must be normalized that one does not solely need to be a Pakistani; that it is acceptable to be a Baloch Pakistani.

### B. Strong Local Government System: Addressing the Issue at Grassroot Level

For multi-ethnic, populous and expansive countries like Pakistan, it is very essential to devolve powers to the Local Government so that the problems of the people are better addressed. A minister of National or Provincial Assembly would have little knowledge about the woes of Chagai residents. The Balochistan Local Government Act 2010 must be brought to life and Article 140A must be enacted which says

“devolve political, administrative and financial responsibility ...”

to elected representatives of local government.



### C. Economic Disparity : Fuel to Secessionist Movements

The insurgents, not only of Balochistan, but everywhere around the world, use economic backwardness of an area to gain public support and sympathy. It is one of the reasons why the projects of CPEC and Chinese national are attacked. Reducing the economic woes by investing in developmental and rehabilitative projects will earn the trust of people on the state instead of the insurgents. Thus, a nation without the support of the people of that area will subdue with time.

### D. Bringing the politicians instead of Military in the Frontline

Shamshad Ahmed, in 'Pakistan and World Affairs' writes,

"Political problems must not have military solution."

He said this in light of the Dhaka debacle. However, this is equally applicable to Balochistan issue as



well. Although the increasing terrorism in the province does require military support, the control button nevertheless, must be with the civilians. It is so, however, people must be brought into confidence in this context.

### E. Political Stability Allows Room To Consider Other Problems

Political stability both at central and provincial levels is key to the solution of insurgency in Balochistan. How can a system with frequent regime change focus on a factual issue at provincial level? The country has faced democratic regressions or military rule, both systems too absorbed to think of the Balochistan issue. However, a mature political setup can change the current chaotic scenario. A stable government can focus on issues of terrorism and insurgency.



## F. A Literate Public Can Help Solve The Insurgency Issue

Other than economic disparity, insurgents use illiteracy to brainwash the people and side them on their part. The literacy rate of Balochistan stands at 15%, far less than the national average of 63%. This means that in every 100 persons, 46 people are illiterate in Balochistan. Stricter policies must be adopted to normalize education especially in interior areas.

## G. Political Parties Must Show Strong Political Will for National Integration

At the moment, most of the political parties are region-based. One party will have a stronghold in one ~~country~~ province and presume that it is responsible to that province only. Such an attitude must change. Every issue must be considered a national issue and



every political party bears the onus of the issue beyond the territory it thinks it is responsible to

### 1. Putting An End To Foreign Interventions in National Matters

Foreign actors such as India and Afghanistan have had a record of fighting proxy wars by aiding the insurgents. India allegedly provides financial assistance to the insurgents. Asit Doyal in his 2015 parliamentary speech indirectly confessed of Indian involvement in proxy wars. Kulbushan Yadav in 2017 said that India sponsored BLA and BRA.

Add more arguments in this part

### IV. Conclusion

To sum up, the insurgency in Balochistan is a longstanding and troubling issue for Pakistan. As problematic as it is for national integration, a framework to curb the separatism can help effectively by taking political, economic, social and international measures.