

Population explosion: A potent non-traditional security threat for Pakistan

OUTLINE

1. Introduction

Thesis Statement

Population explosion is a potent non-traditional security threat for Pakistan, as it augments the burden on natural resources, food insecurity, and unemployment rate. Surge in population is due to lack of women education, early marriages and failed policies. By empowering women and implementing policies at grass-root level, the threat of population explosion can be diminished.

Focus on the asked part
Do not add irrelevant details in the essay

Strike the core demand of the topic as early as possible

2. Rising threat of over-population in Pakistan

3. Causes of population explosion which ~~turn~~ make it a non-traditional security threat

- a. Sociocultural norms restrict folk to adapt family planning methods
- b. Low literacy rate among women
- c. Increased tendency of child marriage in Pakistan
- d. Failure to introduce and implement policy making at grass-root level.

4. How population explosion is considered to be a non-traditional security threat

Not the asked part
Skip this portion

- a. Burden on natural resources due to expanding population ✓
- b. Rise in unemployment rate due to increased youth ✓
- c. Food insecurity is increasing at faster rates ✓
- d. Increased crimes among unemployed frustrated youth ✓
- e. Augmentation in green house gas emissions resulting in environmental degradation ✓
- f. Child labour and improvised living standards ✓
- g. Stress on economic assets ✓
- h. Migration to urban areas increases resulting in destruction of already-crippled infrastructure ✓
- i. Poor human resource development amid risking education and health of children ✓

5. How Pakistan can be saved from non-traditional security threat of population explosion,

- a. Women empowerment and awareness about their reproductive rights ✓
- b. Implementation of limited-

child policies ✓

c. Formation of committees where policies regarding population control must be raised & devised ✓

d. Rationalization of growth rate in accordance with resources ✓

Conclusion

Essay

I believe that Human Over-population is the fundamental Problem on Earth today and ~~We~~ Humans have become a disease, the Human Pox (David Foreman). The author describes that the population explosion is the fundamental problem which is giving ^{rise} ~~rising~~ to every issue, humanity is facing today. There are many reasons of population explosion and slowly it becomes a non-traditional security threat for Pakistan. Population is increasing exponentially due to sociocultural norms inhibiting people to adopt family planning, lack of women education, ^{therefore,} and child marriages in Pakistan. Population explosion is considered a non-traditional security threat, as it is a burden on natural resources of country and number of people without job are surging rapidly. Moreover, food security and environment is at increased risk due to over-population. Subsequently, population explosion is a stress

on economic assets of country so, population explosion is a potent non-traditional security threat for Pakistan, as it augments the burden on natural resources, food insecurity, and unemployment rate. Surge in population is due to lack of women education, early child marriages and failure to implement policies. By empowering women and implementing policies at grass-root level, the threat of population explosion can be diminished.

Pakistan is on the verge of over-population and it is threatening for the national security of Pakistan. According to Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Population of Pakistan is 241.89 Million according to census of 2023. This much increased population is risking the natural resources which would deplete in near future, food security is at risk, and the country is facing non-traditional security threat. Pakistan has failed to

control the growth rate amid population explosion. According to World Bank, in 1971, the population of East Pakistan now Bangladesh and West Pakistan were similar at 65 Million and 59 Million. Bangladesh controls it to 175 Million while that of Pakistan surges by 430%, almost 4 times. The exponential increase in population is a danger for human capital development by risking the survival, health, and education of children. ^{that is}

The neighbouring countries of Pakistan have implemented the family planning policies and restrict their (populⁿ) growth rate to 1.1%, 1.26%, and 0.83% of Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka respectively. But, the growth rate of Pakistan is still recorded at 2.55% in 2023. This increased growth rate is a threat for Pakistan.

These are many causes of population explosion which make

it a non-traditional security threat to Pakistan. One of the cause is the prevalence of socio-cultural norms which restrict masses to adapt family planning methods. The socio-cultural norms are interpreted in a way that they prevent people to follow family planning policies. According to a research done by John. C Caldwell "The rising rate of fertility rate" in 1987, it showed that socio-cultural norms prevent people to follow family planning." That's why, Pakistan fails to control the increased population. According to UNFPA, almost 5.5 Million women in Pakistan had an unmet need for contraceptives in 2010. This reiterates that almost 55 lac women wanted to use family planning methods. But, the sociocultural and other cultural barriers are inhibiting the usage of contraceptive and other family planning methods.

Another cause of population explosion which make it a non-traditional security threat for Pakistan is the low literacy rate among women. Due to lack of education, women are not equipped enough to make their own life-decisions like when and how many times to conceive. In Pakistan, women are not aware of their reproductive rights. Literacy rate of women in Pakistan is just 48%. According to Pakistan Development and National survey, uneducated women bears on average 4.2 children while educated women bear 2.6 children. So, lack of education is the one reason for rising population. As, women are not aware enough of their rights which resulted in exponential rise in population.

Another cause which contributed largely in population

explosion is the increased tendency of child marriages in Pakistan.

Child marriage means that to marry before 18 years of age.

Child marriage results in over-population as the girl who is married before 18^{years} means that she will be educated less and her reproductive window will be increased. This will result in more number of children.

According to UNDP, it would take almost 55 years to eradicate child marriages in South Asia if continued at this rate.

Almost 9 million females are at the risk of child marriage in Pakistan. Resultantly, child marriage is one of the risk factor for rising population in Pakistan.

Another reason for population explosion is on the part of political parties. Their failure to introduce and implement policy making and policies

at grass-root level. Since the inception of Pakistan, no political party has implemented family planning policies at the lower tier of society. People are not aware enough about their reproductive rights. If any political party had formulated the family planning policies, the social and religious factors did not let to implement the policies. The various family planning policies have scumbled to death due to sociocultural structure of Pakistani society. Subsequently, it is proved to be one of the factors in population explosion.

Population explosion is considered to be a burden on natural resources. Due to expanding populace, the natural resources are depleting at a rapid rate. A time would come when resources will fall short of compared to

the population. According to UNEP Global Outlook, excessive human consumption of non-renewable natural resources would result in depletion and remarkably low resources for future generations. So, population explosion is a risk to the available resources. If population would be increasing at this rate, natural resources would be depleted in near future. Resultantly, population explosion has become a non-traditional security threat for Pakistan.

There are many consequences of population explosion, one of which is the rise in unemployment rate due to increased youth population. Increased population demands more employment opportunities, while the resources are not enough to provide employment to the increasing population. Unemployment rate in Pakistan has increased to

Avoid writing conditional sentences

to 39%. Almost 17 Million youth is either idle or unemployed.

This is the rising threat for the national security of Pakistan. As the number of dependent people are increasing which is a burden. So, population explosion is a non-traditional security threat by increasing the unemployment rate.

One of the other impacts of population explosion being a non-traditional security threat for Pakistan is the rising food insecurity amid increased number of people. Increased population demands more food, which is impacting the food security in Pakistan. According to Malthusian theory, population rate is increasing at exponential rate.

While, food production increase in linear manner which ultimately results in food insecurity. So, the food production is not enough

to fulfill the demands of rising population in Pakistan. That is why, population explosion has become a non-traditional security threat for Pakistan.

Another non-traditional security threat due to increased population is the increased rate of crimes among unemployed frustrated youth. Almost 17 Million youth is unemployed. When they don't get a job for earning their lives, they start to involve in criminal activities. Almost 60,000 cases ^{of crimes} have been reported in Karachi in first nine months of 2023 (Citizens-Police Liaison Committee). ~~then~~ The unemployed young generation has been increasingly involved in non-ethical criminal activities, which is a threat for Pakistan.

There are many impacts of population explosion being a non-traditional security threat.

One of these is the augmentation in green house gas emissions which ultimately result in environmental degradation. Increased activities like driving, manufacturing et due to increased population. Demand of the society for commodities increases, when the number of people increases. Increased activities resulted in more emission of green house gases which are environmental pollutants.

According to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, increased population is one factor for rising greenhouse gas emissions.

This results in damage to environment which is a threat for future generations.

Child labour is the another consequence of population explosion being a non-traditional security threat to Pakistan.

Lower class people having increased number of children directed

their children into child labour. They involve their children in workforce to earn their living. Almost 3.3 Million children in Pakistan are involved in child labour. Instead of developing the children into human capital, they are wasted in child labour. Their health, education are at severe risk. So, a population explosion is proved to be a potent non-traditional security threat for Pakistan.

Population explosion has many threats and one of them is the migration to urban areas. The increased urban migration resulted in destruction of already-crippled infrastructure. Almost 50% of Pakistan's population would be resided in urban areas in 2025 (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics). Due to increased migration, pollution is increasing, slums in cities

have formed, and ultimately environmental degradation is resulted.

So, Population explosion is proved to be a non-traditional security threat for Pakistan.

Another impact of Population explosion which proved that it is a non-traditional security threat to Pakistan is the poor human resource development. Due to over-population, education and health of children are at risk. The number of resources compared to the population is very less which results in poor development of human resource.

According to World Bank, Human Capital Index, Pakistan is ranked at 118 position out of 130 with HCI of just 0.48%. It means that child born in Pakistan is just 48% as effective, if he is given enough education and healthcare facilities till

18 years of age. The figures showed that Pakistan is at the risk of human capital resource. Increased population is contributing badly to decrease the resources required for the development of human resource.

Pakistan can be saved from the non-traditional security threat of population explosion by empowering women and awaring them enough about their reproductive rights. It is very important for controlling the number of children born to a woman.

Bangladesh has controlled its population by empowering women and controlling fertility rate. Decreased the fertility rate from 6.2% to 2.1% (National Family Planning Programme). It is very important to aware the women about their reproductive rights and plan the fertility rate for the country. Pakistan must adapt the same policy.

and control the population rate.

Another solution by which population explosion can be controlled is the implementation of limited-child policies. It is the imperative need of Pakistan to formulate rigid policies. In this way, population can be controlled.

Case study of China and Singapore: China and Singapore has implemented one-child policy to control the threat of over-population. By implementing one-child or two-child policies, Pakistan can control the growth rate. Subsequently, Pakistan can control its population at replacement level. Government must formulate and implement such policies and then provide enough funds for poor children to develop the human resource which is beneficial for the development of country.

There are many recommendations through which Pakistan can be saved from the non-traditional security threat of population explosion. One of which is the formation of committees where policies regarding population control must be raised. Political parties must formulate such policies in Parliament where family planning policies must be raised and passed. Committees are being formed at which population health policies are raised at national level where funds are being allocated to control the population surge. In this way, the funds allocated must be utilised to take adequate measures for population control. Family planning equipments and awareness programmes must be run to tread the path towards population control.

Another step which can help in the control of population -

explosion is the rationalization of growth rate in accordance with resources. This step can help in restriction of growth rate with respect to available resources.

Programmes like "Tawazun" must be flourished to create a balance between population and available resources. This

can aid in saving of available resources enough for the population. Whereas, in Pakistan growth rate is very high which is a burden on natural resources.

By finding out the growth rate according to available resources, population explosion can be controlled.

On a nutshell, Pakistan is at the verge of dangers due to population explosion. It is a non-traditional security threat to Pakistan by downgrading the development of the country. Awareness of women about their

reproductive rights is very important to control population and to produce healthy human resources. By implementing ^{will} the suggested solutions, Pakistan can embark on the path of progress & by the help of healthy human capital. Pop. The issue must be solved to carve out the unavoidable damage, until it is too late.