

Q 1 Explain objectives and determinants of Pakistan's foreign policy.

Introduction:

Pakistan came into being as a result of partition of subcontinent. The other part of the subcontinent - India - has always been an adversary towards Pakistan. With the advent Pakistan had to face Indian animosity. It has then initiated multilateral and bilateral alliances in order to contain lingering threats from the eastern borders. After realising that alliances are not the pure solution Pakistan turned toward self reliability. With each turn in global event Pakistan adopts and modify its foreign policy to play its part effectively. Pakistan's foreign policy has always been in transition with few objectives and determinants staying the same and others modifying with the passage of time and global shift.

Foreign Policy: Foreign policy is a policy pursuit of a state in w of its future dealings with other states in order to pursue its national interest.

Objectives:- Objectives are the aims and goals which a state wants to gain. To achieve these objectives national foreign policy is designed. Objectives of the foreign

are the national interests of the states. As defined by Charles Lerche National interests are the long term, general, continuous process purpose which the government, the state and the nation all see themselves as serving. The objectives of any state are subjective and depends on many factors.

i. Immediate Existential Need of Survival:

As Pakistan emergence on the globe was a result of partition. It caused sufferings on both sides. Pakistan and India are termed as arch rivals.

India comparatively a larger state which spends a large amount of its economy on defense and military capability - is a continuous threat of Pakistan's survival. Three full length wars and multiple asymmetric wars are evidence of conflicts of both states.

ii) Mid term Stability:

Along with needs of survival Pakistan needs mean to achieve its mid-term stability through acquiring its goals. In foreign dealings Pakistan is focused on its stability through economic capabilities enhancement, military and educational development.

iii) Long term sustainability:

For a state like Pakistan with continuous military threat, asymmetric

warfare tactics, insurgency, political instability, population outburst it is focused to achieve its long-term sustainability. Self reliance on itself and managing its alliances and promoting its raison d'etat Pakistan is managing to achieve it.

Raison d'etat: All things essential, necessary and compulsory for Pakistan's existence are its

a) Welfare - Economic Vitality:

Any state that is economic vital has a greater fungibility size. Economy is a greater objective. Economic stability, economic capability increase has been Pakistan's permanent general and primary objective SEATO, CENTO, Afghan Jihad, War on Terror, CPEC all these global events Pakistan's objective have been economic vitality.

b) Military Capability.

1955 SEATO, 1960s CENTO, 1980s US Alliance, War on Terror. During all these alliances Pakistan focus was attainment of advanced warfares from the global super power US. The Pakistan need of increasing military capability is its permanent, general and primary objective to face Indian atrocities on east and to manage insurgency within and irredentism from the west borders of the country.

c) Ideology

As Quaid-e-Azam said

Pakistan not only means freedom and independence but muslim ideology that has to be preserved and that has been given to us as precious gift and treasure which we hope other will share with us.

Thus Pakistan always ~~pro~~ kept its ideology as a permanent primary and specific interest and objective of foreign policy.

d) Law and Order:

It is Pakistan is a multiethnic state. Its porous Afghan border, and asymmetric warfare tactics by India has created several law and order situations like insurgency, separatist motives, political unrest and terrorism.

e) Justice

To achieve justice that is a secondary, temporary specific objective of Pakistan it devise specific foreign policy.

Thus as per Thomas W Robinson classification of national interests Pakistan has several primary and secondary objective on the basis of its significance, Permanent and secondary objectives based on permanence and general and specific objectives.

Any foreign policy's success depends on the attainment of these objectives. and means are aligned to them.

Maleeha Iodhi Pakistan strategy must align its ends to goals and its means otherwise no policy is successful.

Determinants of Foreign Policy:

Any factor that effects the process of, objectives of a foreign policy are its determinants. Factors like security, economy, geography, technology, population, ideology, history, psychology, culture and education are the prominent ~~domi~~ determinants of any foreign policy.

Determinants of Pakistan's Foreign Policy:

a) Security:

Since its inception Pakistan is an insecure country. Indian expansionist ideals of Gandhi and Nehruvian greater India has caused this insecurity. Land, Space and Indian Ocean region all have been militarised due to their ideals. So, security is always a determinant of Pakistan's security.

b) Economy:

Economy is the most fungible capability of any country. Stronger economies always have independent foreign policies while weak economic states have to make compulsive choices while designing its foreign policy.

c) Technology:

Pakistan knows that in 21st century advanced technological countries are able to escape dependence of

imperialism. So, Pakistan's focus on gaining technology is its determinant. CPEC is its evidence. It knows that from basic economy it has to reach towards secondary and finally at tertiary level to be self-reliant and independent in its choice making process.

d) Political leadership

Pakistan has shifted from pro-west to pro-east alliances multiple times. Its objectives have also shifted as per the political leadership incumbent at that particular time. So its political leadership makes a significant impact as a factor on its foreign policy.

e) Ideology:

As first Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan wished Pakistan to be a place to demonstrate its ideology to the world. Pakistan strongly focuses on ideological basis. Article 40 of Constitution 1973. Also states.

State shall endeavour to preserve and strengthen the fraternal relations among Muslim countries based on Muslim unity.

f) Geography:

Geography is among the most significant determinant of Pakistan's foreign policy. Its alliances with west in 1980s to contain expanding USSR, in Afghanistan, 2001 Post 9/11 War on Terror non-allied member of NATO, BRI major member through

CPEC all are the sea based on its geographic. Its fertile land, appropriate climate, access to warm water body makes it a significant player in region. Global warming has effected Pakistan so now its alliances and policy direction are towards achievement of technologies. To strive through this issue is its now a foreign policy determinant of Pakistan.

g) Population

Pakistan is the 5th largest population of the globe. To gain benefits for its population through employment and resources Pakistan directs its foreign policy in a certain way. Middle Eastern countries have significant Pakistani labours. So, Pakistan always aims to make cordial relations with them.

Conclusion:

Pakistan has gone through turmoils of challenges. It had objectives in past that it could not achieve. Initially its determinants of foreign policy and its objectives were narrow. Post 1970s it realised that long term sustainability can only be achieved through proper self reliance. It is trying to balance its policy dynamics among greater powers of the world. It realises that a secure region and a secure population leads to survival. That is why it is continuously altering its policies to steer toward the prosperity.