

Questions Write an Outline on the given topic. Also write introductory para, three body paragraphs and conclusion. (25 marks)

⇒ Pakistan's Economy at Standstill:  
Causes and Consequences

Outline

1. Introduction

Thesis statement: Pakistan's economic standstill is the result of a combination of political instability, debt dependency, energy crises, and a lack of industrial diversification, which together have led to widespread unemployment, inflation, and a decline in public services, ultimately stalling the country's growth and development.

2. The Causes and Consequences of Pakistan's Economic Stagnation

3. Underlying Reasons for Pakistan's Economic Gridlock

- a. Political instability
- b. Debt dependency
- c. Energy crisis
- d. Population growth
- e. Inadequate Education and skills
- f. Lack of Industrial Diversification

#### 4. The Far-reaching Consequences of Economic Paralysis in Pakistan

- a. Social Unrest
- b. Increased Public Debt
- c. Inflation and rising costs
- d. Unemployment and Poverty
- e. Brain Drain
- f. Decline in foreign investment
- g. Reduced public services

#### 5. Strategic Solutions to Revive Pakistan's Economy

- a. Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation
- b. Education and skills development
- c. Political stability
- d. Promoting exports and Reducing imports

#### 6. Conclusion

# Essay

Imagine a ship caught in a fierce hurricane. The crew is divided, each faction pulling the vessel in different directions while the captain tries to negotiate safe passage with distant shores. The economic climate in Pakistan is somewhat similar to a turbulent sea with waves of various factors crashing against the hull of economy. This situation is much like Pakistan's economy today - a turbulent sea where various challenges hit the nation hard and push it in conflicting directions. Just like the ship needs unity, focus, and clear decisions to survive, Pakistan's economy needs strong strategies and solutions to overcome its troubles.

Pakistan's economy is at a standstill, facing problems that have built up over many years. Political instability makes it hard to have consistent policies, creating uncertainty for businesses and investors. Dependence on foreign loans, energy crises, and limited industrial growth have further weakened economy. At the same time, rapid population growth and poor education systems have left many

people unprepared for meaningful jobs. Together, these issues create a storm that holds Pakistan's economy back. The effects of these problems are serious, including high unemployment, rising prices, a weak currency, and increasing social unrest. To move forward, Pakistan must work on long-term solutions to fix these issues and build a stable, growing economy for future.

## Body Paragraphs

3(a):

One of the leading causes of Pakistan's economic standstill is political instability, much like a divided crew battling a storm without clear direction. The constant changes in government, policy uncertainty, and weak governance have created a chaotic environment, discouraging investment and slowing economic progress. Instead of focusing on long-term solutions, leaders often pursue short-term gains, leaving the economy vulnerable. As Nobel Laureate Daron Acemoglu aptly states, "Poor countries are poor because

those who have power make choices that create poverty." This shows how weak leadership and poor decision making can trap a nation in economic challenges.

### 3(d):

Another significant factor contributing to Pakistan's economic stagnation is its rapid population growth. The country's population has been increasing at an alarming rate, placing immense pressure on its resources and infrastructure. According to the World Bank, Pakistan's population grew from 184 million in 2010 to over 251 million in 2024, a growth rate of about 1.52% annually. This rapid growth has led to higher unemployment rates, strain on healthcare and education systems, and increased poverty. Thus, with more people competing for limited resources and job opportunities, economic progress becomes slower and more difficult.

### 3(e):

Inadequate education and skill development are key factors contributing to

Pakistan's economic stagnation. A large portion of the population remains undereducated or lacks the necessary skills for meaningful employment, which limits the country's economic potential. According to the Pakistan Economic Survey 2023-24, the literacy rate is only around 60%, with many students unable to pursue higher education or vocational training. This skills gap leaves a significant portion of the workforce ill-prepared, leading to lower productivity and slower economic growth.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, Pakistan's economic standstill is the result of a combination of internal challenges that have hindered its growth and development. Political instability, with its constant shifts in leadership and policies, has created an environment of uncertainty that discourages investment and economic planning. Rapid population growth further strains the country's limited resources, while inadequate

education and skill development leave a large portion of the workforce unprepared for the demands of modern industries. Additionally, reliance on foreign debt and a lack of industrial diversification have added to the financial burden. The consequences of these issues, including rising unemployment, inflation, and poverty, have deepened the economic crisis. However, these challenges are not insurmountable. With strong leadership, effective governance, and targeted investments in education, infrastructure, and industry, Pakistan has the potential to break free from this economic deadlock. It requires long-term, sustainable solutions to address these causes and pave the way for a more prosperous future. Only through collective efforts can Pakistan navigate these turbulent waters and chart a course for economic recovery.

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