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Pakistan has officially assumed role in UN Security Council as a non-Permanent member for session 2025-26. Critically Analyze the possible Opportunities and Challenges for Pakistan in furthering Security and Diplomatic goals.

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1) Preamble:-

Pakistan has been historically elected as a ~~non-member~~ non-permanent member in United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and assumed responsibilities from 01st January 2025. Pakistan's ambassador to UN, Munir Akram, remarked,

“The historic eighth term marked the growing trust on Pakistan in international political arena, making it a major diplomatic victory”

The country has elected for eighth term as a non-permanent member. In the growing geopolitical alliances and burgeoning multilateralism, it will be a challenging task for

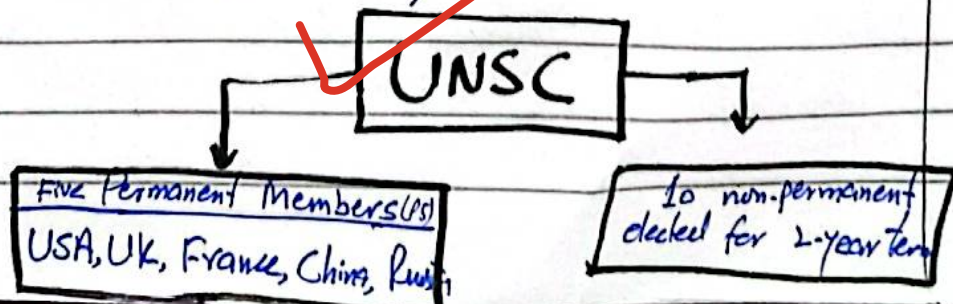
Pakistan to further its security and diplomatic goals. However, the country is committed to preserve its external sovereignty by promoting peaceful diplomacy and win-win collaboration.

2) Quick Recap of Pakistan's Membership in UNSC :-

Pakistan was elected as a non-permanent member of UNSC in June, 2024 for eighth term. The country has replaced Japan from two of one seat in Indo-Pacific region. The session began on 01 January, 2025 which will last till 31st December, 2026.

1) Overview of UNSC :-

UNSC is a body of UN comprising 15 members. Five of them are permanent, having veto power. Ten members elected for two years term.



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Opportunities for Pakistan in UN Security Council:

(A) Security Arena:

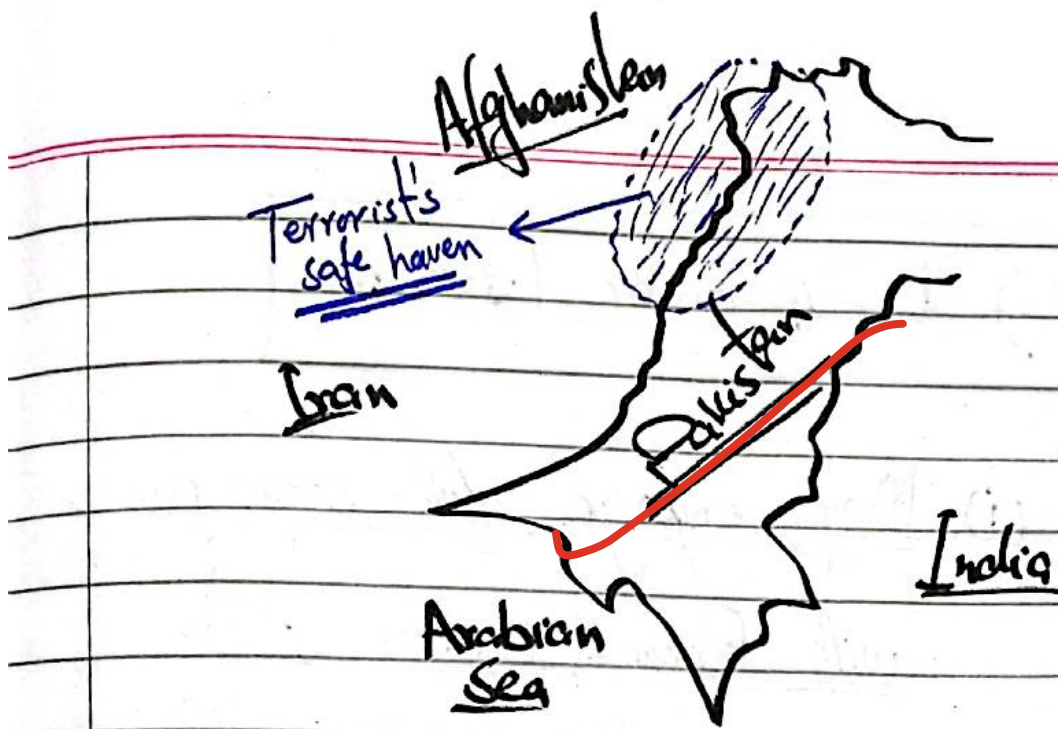
Pakistan will have multiple opportunities in Security Arena.

(i) Seek Global Cooperation in Counter-terrorism Efforts:

Terrorism is a global scourge; Pakistan may seek global efforts under UN Peace Keeping Missions or Economic assistance in term of countering terrorism.

(ii) Pakistan may share experience of counter-terrorism:

Pakistan has been fighting terrorism since 1990s. The country has vast experience of counter terrorism, which may share to global community.



iii) May engage Global community to fight against militancy:

Pakistan will take 1-month presidency of UNSC in July and take chair on growing militancy of Al-Qaeda, ISIS, and TTP. From this platform, the country may engage global community against militancy.

iv) Highlight Indian Aggression in Indian Ocean and its sponsorship to Separatists in Balochistan:

Pakistan is privileged with opportunity to highlight Indian Aggression in Indian ocean and its enriching military might. The country may highlight India-sponsored militancy in Balochistan and BLA.

(3) Diplomatic Arena:-

(i) May engage full cooperation
with Permanent Members (PS):-

Country may engage with PS in order ^{They} to ensure full cooperation.

“Pakistan will not become a part of any camp and keep supporting smooth transition to multilateralism”

- Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar

(ii) Foster friendly Relations with all Non-Permanent members:

From the platform of UNSC, the country may establish a friendly relations with all non-permanent members, as foster diplomatic solution to any issue.

iii) Initiate Resolutions against growing atrocities worldwide:

Being a non-permanent member and a responsible state, the country may initiate resolutions to counter the growing human rights violations and atrocities such as Caza, Kashmir, Myanmar, Ukraine, and Sudan.

iv) Discuss new regime of tariff and uncompetitive trade.

Through the platform, Pakistan may highlight the issue of uncompetitive trade and tariff regime, as indicated by growing US President-elect Donald Trump.

v) Normalization with India and Afghanistan.

Pakistan may normalize with India and Afghan incumbent government through this platform. Prime Minister of Pakistan has shown his desire to promote peaceful coexistence in the region.

4) Challenges for Pakistan in UNSC:-

(A). Security Challenges

(i) Countering the narrative of Harbinger of Terrorism:

Pakistan is known for harbinger of terrorism and incubator of military. The countering of this narrative will be a challenge for the country.

(ii) Divided opinion of global powers on terrorism:

Global powers have divided opinion on terrorism - Pakistan may face difficulty in engaging international player in counterterrorism. The accusations of Trump on Pakistan being traitor is significant in this regard.

(iii) Pakistan's missile program and international concerns:

The missile program of Pakistan is on a hit-list of the western world. The recent sanctions of Biden Administration and their security concerns may dilute ~~the~~ Pakistan's efforts.

(B) Diplomatic Challenges

(i) Difficulty in garnering support on resolutions:

Due to divided opinion of PS and other countries, Pakistan may face difficulty on garnering support on Kashmir, Gaza, and Ukraine issue.

ii) Countering influence of powerful countries:

Pakistan may face countering influence of powerful countries as USA is a major export market, China is the biggest lender, and UK and France are biggest host of Pakistani diaspora.

iii) Limited ^{resources} sources of Pakistan to ensure proactive diplomacy,

is an expensive task, and Pakistan being economically weak country may face difficulty in ensuring proactive diplomacy. ^{Diplomacy} Pakistan's High Commission, while giving interview, said,

"Diplomacy is not a child play for weaker countries; it demands equal efforts and financial resources as well"

5) Critical Analysis:

The election of Pakistan being non-permanent member in UNSC is a well coming news in order to further its diplomatic, political, economic, and ~~dipto~~ security goals. The country may present its image of responsible state and proponent of peaceful co-existence. It must ensure proactive diplomacy in order to further its goals.

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Conclusion:

Pakistan is grappled with multifaceted challenges all around. The membership of UNSC will provide multiple opportunities to Pakistan to utilize its diplomatic and political influence to overcome all these challenges. It is need to how to practice pragmatism in order to garner friends together and goes on a diplomatic table to ensure win-win collaboration.

good attempt!!!

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