

Hydropolitics in the region ; its impacts and way forward for Pakistan

1. Introduction

2. Hydropolitics in the Region

- (i) Abeyance of Indus water treaty ; proposed plan to divert the flow of Chenab river by India
- (ii) Construction of Shakti dam on Kabul river ; being used as strategic tool against Pakistan
- (iii) Construction of Farakha barrage on Ganges river and its drastic impacts on Bangladesh
- (iv) Mekong dam on Tibet river by China has raised serious concerns on lower riparian India and eventually Bangladesh.

3. How Historically arbitrary control of transboundary river eventually led to severe droughts and wars in the Region

(i) Aswan dam on Nile river by Egypt and to counter it Ethiopia's Grand Renaissance Dam

(ii) Israel diversion project on Jordan river that results in border skirmishes and eventually 6 days Arab-Israeli war

4. Drastic Impacts of Hydro-Politics in the region

4.1) Increase in rivalry and mistrust among regional powers

4.2) Ecological damage in lower riparian regions that further exacerbating climate changes impacts.

4.3) Results in food insecurity results and high cost of living and in inflation

5. Pragmatic Measures for Pakistan and can be applied universally in the region

5.1) Mutual transboundary river basin water sharing mechanism for collective benefit and promote peace and stability.

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5.2) Leveraging Regional and global diplomatic channels - SCO, World Bank, ICIMOD, and UNESCAP - to persuade regional peers at common agenda

5.3) Modern technology adaptation in irrigation and household use at domestic level for self reliance.

5.4) Proactive policy making for adaptation and mitigation measures; keeping in view^{of} future aspects

6 Conclusion

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The whole universe is in calm, no one is rushing, pushing, or working, except humans. This phenomenon fits better in this region, where water flows and transboundary river basin becomes political and strategic tool to suppress lower riparian. Hydro politics becomes a new norm in this era and previous collective water sharing and mutual benefit mechanism is ended now. As Meerk Zietoum said in 2006 'Framework for Water hegemony, that "Power is the most fundamental aspect in controlling water in the transboundary river basin."

A 65 years old binding treaty's future is at stake between India and Pakistan, and India-Afghanistan nexus posing threats from western river. On the other side hydro-politics is also being played at Brahmaputra river which is called Tibet river in China. India were also constructing dams and barrages at Ganges river which is posing ecological threats to Bangladesh; Now, Chinese construction of world's largest dam on Mekong river in Tibet raised serious concerns over the future of lower riparian states of India and Bangladesh. One common factor among all these projected plans that states a whether the states are fulfilling their domestic demands or they are leveraging

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river basin as a strategic tool against lower riparian. This phenomena is common in other regions as well, where history has proved that such policies @ done collective ecological and environmental losses. whether this politics is being played on Nile river, Jordan river or on Indus basin, eventually this would become a new threat for the whole region. Mutual transboundary river basin mechanism should be implemented in order to achieve collective gains. When the era of collective water sharing is going to an end and hydro-politics is accelerating new threats in the region; Pakistan should take pragmatic measures at its own ^{to} promote vision of multilateral collective framework and adopt proactive counter mechanism measures domestically to ~~main~~ mitigate the risk of looming threats.

People have Become overly Dependent on Technology

1. Introduction

Thesis Statement:

Technology adoption at any social or national level is not problematic; the real problem lies when people become overly dependent on it; However, rational approaches should be taken to move away from over dependence on technology and pursue a balanced approach.

2. Problems Emerged from Overly Dependence on Technology

2.1 Threat to Creativity and innovation while people are subjugated to technology

2.2 Social inequalities when people are rushing to acquire technology and this ultimately led to psychological impacts.

2.3 Adverse impact on economy of a country and it becomes import driven economy when intellectuals and researchers would be comparatively less

2.4 Threat to national security with

the manipulation of technology output
and human minds

Example : Incident of- pages (uoki toki)
in Lebanon

3 Pragmatic Measures to Minimize the dependence on Technology and using it in a Balanced way

3.1 Spreading social awareness at
both individual and social
level to reduce the excessive
use of technology

3.2 Practical and skill based workshops
to shift the mindset of masses

3.3 Promote research and development
in public to enhance creativity
and innovation.

3.4 Promote entrepreneurship and
innovative ideas at domestic
level for self reliance and
Countering external influence

4. Conclusion