

Subjective Part

Q1.

The relations between India and Pakistan are at the lowest point. Given the hostile past of the both countries, do you see any ray of hope about improving their relations. Also, can climate change and Cricket diplomacy bring them together?

Introduction:

The relations between India and Pakistan have gone through ups and downs since their independence. Since the independence they both have fought three major wars. There was a little progress seen in the improvement of their relation between 1990s and 2000s. However since the emergence of BJP as ruling party the relation has worsened. In current scenario their relation is at lowest point due to certain series of events like Pulwama attack in 2019, revocation of article 370 in 2019, presence of RAW agents in Baluchistan and the Pahalgam attack 2025. All of these events have deteriorated the relations between the immediate neighbour countries. Both countries

have remained hostile in past. But both countries have same climate related problems when they can work cooperatively. And both countries can be brought together through cricket diplomacy.

Current state of Relations

(i) Political and diplomatic deadlock:

Since the Uri attack in 2016 the relation between India and Pakistan shifted from betterment to worsening. Their diplomatic relation started freezing after that. Pulwama attack further worsened the relations. Revocation of article 370 in Kashmir was seen ^{by Pakistan} as violation of UN resolution and Simla agreement 1972.

(ii) Military tensions,

The Line of Control (LoC) is seen as highly militarized area. Skirmishes over LoC occur usually between the countries of both countries. In recent attack in Pulwama which later

led India's accusation and ^{then} attack on Pakistan. LOG's skirmishes turned into a war like situation between two countries.

(iii) Trade and Economic relations:

Since Pulwama attack in 2019 India suspended its bilateral trade ties with Pakistan. Bilateral trade ties were about to resume in 2021 but political opposition led to reversal of decision.

Ray of hope between two countries:

(i) Cooperation over climate related issue:

(a) Indus water treaty framework:

Indus water treaty signed in 1960 has functioned as a mechanism that ^{survived} both countries from multiple war. It can work as framework where both countries can cooperate because both countries have similar water related. In floods of 2022 and recent floods of 2025 India

was also affected along with Pakistan. So instead of suspension of treaty by Indian side cooperation over flood forecasting and data sharing can bring both countries together.

(b) Environmental dialogues and Disaster management collaboration.

Both countries can explore and cooperate over climate adaptation techniques and initiatives. Both countries can work on humanitarian cooperation on mutual basis in the times of crisis. These cooperation can build cooperation between two nuclear-armed neighbours.

(ii) Cooperation between two countries through Cricket diplomacy.

(a) Historical pretext:

General Zia's "Cricket for peace" in 1987 helped both countries in reduction of military

sension. In 2004 India cricket tour to Pakistan was seen as a step toward betterment of their relation. ICC Cup 2011 where Pakistani PM visited India over match between both countries showed diplomatic relation between two countries were leading toward betterment.

(6) Current Scenario:

Although the Asia Cup 2025 showed adverse behaviour from Indian cricket team. Because they refused to take Asia Cup and shake hands with Pakistani teams. It was because of recent Pulgam attack and their defeat ~~in~~ by Pakistan after may²⁰²⁵ attack. However historical context show that relation between both countries can be improved through cricket diplomacy.

Conclusion

Conclusively it can be said that whenever any attack occur in India it blames Pakistan for

it. These type of accusation have deteriorated the relation between both countries. India's presence in Baluchistan has worsened the ties between both neighbours. However there are certain areas of cooperation which can bring both countries together. Both countries can cooperate over climate related issues. Because they both ~~are~~ share same problems. They both can be brought together through cricket diplomacy. And history has proven it too.

Q2:

"The United States has tendency to treat Pakistan like a disposable ally — useful in crisis, neglected afterwards." Analyze this statement from historical perspective and also suggest a roadmap for dealing better with the USA in future.

Introduction

Pakistan's relation with USA began immediately after its independence. However history has showed that United States is not always a reliable ally. Pakistan joined SEATO in 1950s in order to cooperate with US against Soviet Union. But when Pakistan needed US in 1971 war with India they did showed any real support. US helped Pakistan in establishment of Taliban in Afghanistan in order to disintegrate USSR in 1980s. But when Soviet threat disappeared, US did not showed any ^{strategic} support when Taliban started threatening Pakistan. After nuclear tests of Pakistan US imposed sanctions upon it. And

In war on terror US again showed transactional behaviour.

By looking at lessons from history Pakistan can build up a roadmap to deal better with USA. It can be in the form of diversification of cooperation network.

Historical analysis on US's treatment with Pakistan.

(a) Alignment during cold war era in 1950s:

US relations with Pakistan in that era was transactional. Because of Pakistan's geostrategic position US gave it importance to use it against Soviet Union. Pakistan joined SEATO in 1950s in order to cooperate with US against Soviet Union.

(b) US's neutral behaviour during Pakistan's war with India in 1971:

Although Pakistan supported US in cold war and joined SEATO. But US did not any

significant support in 1971 war against India. which showed US is not always reliable.

(c) Pakistan's support for US in Soviet-Afghan War.

US helped Pakistan in making of Taliban in order to disintegrate USSR. However when cold war ended with disintegration of USSR in 1991, US's intensity in the region declined. Later when Taliban started threatening Pakistan's security the US showed "useful in crisis" and "neglected afterwards" behaviour.

(d) Post nuclear test behaviour of US for Pakistan:

Pakistan conducted its nuclear test in 1998. US imposed sanctions upon it. However when twin towers were attacked in 9/11 attack US started to ~~begin~~ seek cooperation of Pakistan in War on terror. Partnership at that time looked transactional because of US's changing behaviour.

When they were in crisis.

Roadmap for dealing better with USA in future

(a) Stabilization of relation in the region.

Pakistan should institutionalize cooperation with its regional neighbours. Which it doing so by strengthening of ties with China, Iran and Russia.

Pakistan must also clarify their areas of interest and conflict. Which they did when they were asked to act against Iran in Israel-Iran war.

Which they rejected by saying Iran is their immediate neighbour and regional partner.

(b) Reducing dependency over US.

Pakistan should diversify its network for economic interdependence. Their act of economic ties with China and

Russia are example to that. It should also play constructive role in Afghanistan stabilization in order to increase its regional allies. It should avoid over dependency on security assurance by US. It should improve ties with BRICS countries in order to reduce dependency on western allies.

Conclusion

Historically it has been witnessed that Pakistan has been treated like a disposable ally by US. From the cold war era till 9/11 US has used Pakistan for its interests in the region. US's transactional behaviour showed that it is not a reliable ally.

However situation now is changing Pakistan has started diversifying its network of cooperation. It has strengthened ties with regional neighbours in order to reduce dependency over western allies. With this roadmap Pakistan can deal with USA in better way.