

Risks Associated with the Pakistan Saudi Defence Pact :

(1)

Introduction :

Pak-Saudi defense Pact aims to develop defense cooperation between decade old friend countries, strengthening joint deterrence against any aggression. Pak as new security actor of gulf state might benefit economically, but the strategic alliance brings challenges and risks with itself. The Pact restrain the ties between India and Saudi. In response to this Pact India and Israel may boost their covert activities in Balochistan and Afghan Frontiers. India may use Nuclear proliferation to isolate Pakistan diplomatically and restraining relationship of Pak-US. The Pact ^{might} demand active role of Pakistan in any Saudi's geopolitical disputes, This might be a challenge for in house military and Foreign Policy of a State.

(2).

Overview of Saudi Pakistan Defence Pact :

Mutual defense pact signed by Saudi Arabia and Pakistan on

September 27th, marked a major shift in global alignment. It can

be seen as a geopolitical marriage where the relationship can be

seen highly compatible and complementary. Saudi as major economic

power, is set to become Pakistan's largest external financier

in 2025-26 fiscal year with over \$6 billion in loans and deposits.

Meanwhile Pakistan possesses nuclear weapons and can thus theoretically

extend its nuclear umbrella to the kingdom.

(3).

Possible Risks Associated with Pak. Saudi Defense Pact :

The Pak. Saudi Defense Pact indeed strengthens relationship between decades

old alliance whose ties stretch back nearly eight decades. Even strongest alliances comes with risks.

The alliance or agreement between these two countries covers major geopolitical regions each having complicated mixed relationship with each other. Thus the strategic partnership causes concerns within those states which comes with number of risks such as;

(4).

Riyadh and Dehli Relationship in Question :

India had a steadily warming relationship with Saudi Arab, The Strategic partnership of Saudi with Pakistan has instigated concerns in India as the agreement clearly states that attack on any of state is the act of attack on the other, which simply put India's in a fragile state with

respect to Pakistan. This can cause a potential setback for project such as India - Middle East - Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) which was launched during 2023 G20 summit in New Delhi. The Pact will complicate Saudi's partnership with India casting doubts over the political trust required to advance IMEC as credible alternative to china's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

(5).

For Pakistan the Pact may raise the cost at home :

Pak - Saudi Pact could prompt intensified covert activity by Indian and Israeli Intelligence agencies along Pakistan's vulnerable peripheries, notably Balochistan and Afghan Frontiers. New Delhi and Tel Aviv may exploit separatist grievances, insurgent networks and porous borders over direct confrontation. Balochistan home to

CPEC, Separatist movements can destabilize this region which weakens Pakistan's economic life line with China. India has long used Afghan soil for influence operations by supporting anti-Pakistan militant groups such as TTP. Through their proxies India and Israel can use covert means to pressure Pakistan, this undermines stability, threatens economic projects and complicate Pakistan's strategic calculus.

(6)

Increased Concern of US over Pakistan's Nuclear Program

In 2021-25, Joe Biden's Administration imposed sanctions on 7 occasions targeting Pakistani individuals and firms over alleged ballistic missiles development. Biden Administration publicly raised concerns over the range of missiles,

weather they carry nuclear weapon
as far as US. The concerns
of Washington over Pakistan's
nuclear program is a long standing
fact. After this Pact, it
could spark more scrutiny on
Pakistan's nuclear missile assets or
sanctions on arms or technology.
The disturbance in Pak-US
relationship could hurt Pakistan's
financial stability, since Pakistan
is dependent on IMF and
other western institutions for
its economic stability.

(7) Pakistan's Entanglement in regional rivalries :

By entering a formal defense
Pact, Pakistan risks being
drawn more directly into
Saudi Arabia's geopolitical disputes,
where Pakistan has to
fight the war of gulf states

Analyst argues what might have been financial or military support or soft alignments could now trigger Pakistan into more active roles in Saudi-Israeli (conflict) tension. Pakistan could lose freedom of maneuver in foreign policy if it is perceived as automatically on Saudi side in contentious regional issues.

(8).

Pakistan Balancing Geopolitical Sweet Spot :

The alliance with Saudi means bringing Saudi's closer to China, which will antagonize Washington, with its concern regarding Pakistan's nuclear doctrine. On the other hand India as a response may strengthen its alliance with Israel. India, using nuclear issue may

raise concern to US and Israel for nuclear proliferation, and deepens its determination to isolate Pakistan diplomatically. In all such situation Pakistan may find itself squeezed on multiple fronts balancing political sweet spot.

(8).

Conclusion :

Pak-Saudi Defense Pact comes with so many hopes and collaboration in different defense domains but as it is said, that biggest alliance also comes with risk. Pakistan and Saudi both have to face some risk corresponding to defense Pact, ^{Saudi} Balancing India-Pakistan and for Pakistan, maintaining delicate relation alive with US would be challenging. Pact comes with number of responsibilities and challenges which will come out gradually.