

Current Affairs

Q. B. Critically evaluate foreign policy of Pakistan on climate change.

Ans:-

Climate Change and Foreign Policy of Pakistan:-

Pakistan's approach on climate change involves many concerns including domestic, international, economic and diplomatic ones. Pakistan's foreign policy holds great significance for global climate related challenges.

Key aspects:-

o Participation in International forums:

Pakistan has been participating in international climate change negotiations, such as under the framework of United Nations

Framework Convention on Climate Change. (UNFCCC).

Pakistan recently adopted NAP (National Adaptation Plan).

Which is a 7-year plan for the first time in history of Pakistan to deal with adverse impacts of climate change.

INAP Process:-

NAP is a framework for implementing large scale environmental Adaptations, building climate resilience promoting inclusivity and facilitating collaborations and effective tool for climate finance mobilisation.

"Pakistan is now on the World's radar as a flashing hotspot for climate disasters."

(Ministry of climate change, Pakistan)

Global Commitments:-

Pakistan is a signatory to international agreements, Paris Agreements committing to its efforts to limit global warming and greenhouse gas emissions. The

Climate goals are reflected in INDCs (Intended nationally determined contributions).

o Adaptations and Resilience:-

Pakistan has a strong emphasis on both adaptations and building resilience to the impacts of climate changes which are acute due to the factors like water scarcity, glacial melt and extreme weather events. National Climate Change Policy address these concerns.

o Mitigation efforts:-

The Pakistan's historical carbon emissions are low. The country recognizes the need for cleaner energy sources. The Government has show interest in renewable energy projects.

o Climate Finance:-

Pakistan seeks international support for climate finance to fund its climate related projects. The green climate

Fund is one of the avenues for accessing such funds.

o Sustainable Development Goals:- (SDG's)

Pakistan aligns its climate policies with global sustainable development goals, recognizing that addressing climate change is intertwined with broader development objectives.

Strengths and Weaknesses

□ Strengths:

1) International Cooperation	→ Pakistan's active participation in event addressing global climate. The country has engaged with platforms like LINDCCC to collaborate with other nations
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2) Adaptation efforts

The Pakistan has launched projects like "Green Pakistan Program" to address climate induced challenges such as water scarcity disaster resilience and productivity

3) Renewable Energy

Pakistan has recognized the significance of renewable energy sources to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions CPEC includes Projects to enhance the country's renewable energy capacity such as wind and solar power.

Weaknesses/Area for Improvement

□ Policy Implementation

While Pakistan has policies and strategies to address climate change, the effectiveness of their implementation remains a challenge.

Ensuring that policy directives translate into concrete actions and measurable results is crucial.

□ Climate Finance

Access to climate finance is vital for developing countries like Pakistan to undertake climate mitigation and adaptation projects. Pakistan needs to

strengthen its efforts to attract international funds to support its environment related initiatives.

Carbon Intensity

Pakistan's heavy reliance on fossil fuels for energy generation contributes significantly to its carbon footprint.

Transitioning to cleaner sources requires attention.

Public awareness

and Coordination

Pakistan's needs to raise public awareness about the urgency of climate issue and there needs to be improved coordination among

different government departments and agencies responsible for climate change.

~~Limit~~

Conclusion:-

Pakistan's high significance on climate front asks for better coordination, policies and awareness because unified approach can only enhance the overall effectiveness of climate policy.

Q3

The greatest danger to the international peace are two leading nations US and China. Critically evaluate the statement and find out ways for diplomatic settlement of Bilateral and regional conflicts

Ans:-

Introduction:-

US and China are two of the most powerful nations with competing geopolitical interests, having significant economic prowess and expanding military capabilities. However, the assertion that they pose greatest danger to international peace requires careful consideration. It is important to critically assess the validity of statement.

Critical Evaluations:-

China and Negative impact on Global Peace

South china
Sea Dispute

China's claim and construction of military facilities has raised tensions with neighboring countries like Vietnam, Philippines and Malaysia.

Taiwan
Relations

China's territorial claims on Taiwan has raised the dispute, increasing regional conflict.

Uighur
Detention
Camp

Human right abuse
against Uighur
Muslims in Xinjiang
has drawn international
condemnation.

US and its role in disrupting
Global Peace

Iraq War

US-led invasion of Iraq,
based on erroneous
intelligence about weapons
of mass destruction resulted
in destabilisation of the
region, loss of lives and
ongoing conflict.

Vietnam
War

The US involvement in
Vietnam war lead to
political upheaval impacting
regional stability and
perception of American
foreign policy.

Support for

Authoritarian
Regimes

US has supported
authoritarian regimes for
strategic interests
overlooking human
rights.

List of Authoritarian Regimes supported by US

- Reza Shah Pahlavi's regime
- General Suharto's
- Saddam Hussein

Arm Sale and Withdrawal from International Agreements.

US arm's Industry sales to conflict zones have fueled conflicts. The US withdrawal from Paris agreement and At Iran Nuclear Deal has created uncertainty and weakened global cooperation on critical issues.

China's role towards Global Peace

Economic

cooperation :-

China's rapid economic growth has contributed to global prosperity through trade. The BRI initiative aims to enhance the connectivity across Asia, Africa and Europe.

Multilateral Diplomacy

fostering stability. China's active engagements in international organizations like UN allows it to contribute to discussions on conflict resolution, peacekeeping and development initiatives.

Peacekeeping

China has been participating in UN peacekeeping missions in South Sudan. It sent its troops to stabilize the situation and create conditions for conflict resolution.

US role towards Global Peace (Flip-side)

- 1) Humanitarian Assistance: US has been great contributor to humanitarian aid providing assistance in response to natural disasters, conflicts etc.
- 2) Counterterrorism: The US has collaborated with international partners to combat terrorism and extremism.
- 3) Nuclear Disarmament: US and Russia have engaged in nuclear arms control agreements such as NewSTART which reduces the nuclear conflict.
- 4) International Aid: Through program US has played crucial role in controlling global health challenges.
- 5) Global Alliances: The US is part of Global Alliances such as NATO which promotes collective defense and regional stability.

1 Diplomatic Settlement of Conflicts

Engagement and Dialogue:-
Open and consistent communication between the US and China is crucial to prevent misunderstandings and further challenges. They need to engage in ongoing dialogue to address concerns related to trade imbalances and intellectual property rights, aiming to find common ground and prevent escalating trade conflicts.

Conflict Resolution Mechanisms:-

Utilizing international Platforms like the United Nations for conflicts resolution can provide neutral grounds for negotiation.

Both countries could leverage UN Security Council to address regional tensions, such as North Korea.

Track II Diplomacy

Non-government organisations, think tanks and academics can play vital roles in fostering unofficial discussions and generating creative solutions.

Multilateral Agreements:-

Both nations should reaffirm their commitment to existing multilateral agreements. They could collaborate within arms control treaties to reduce nuclear arm proliferation.

Trade and Economic Ties-

The US and China could work towards trade agreements that address concerns while preserving the benefits of economic interdependence.

Regional Cooperation:

Encouraging regional cooperation through forums like

Shanghai Cooperation Organization can address regional tensions.

Conclusion:

Multifaceted approach to diplomatic settlement outlined above showcases how engagement, cooperation and strategic utilization of existing mechanisms can help alleviate tensions between US and China, contributing to global peace and stability.