

Mock Exams (6)

Current Affairs

Part - II

Q2

Ans

Introduction

The new world order is emerging and the dominance of the US as a Super Power is waning. According to Paul Kennedy in his book "The Rise and Fall of the Great Empires", the decline of the US dominance is relative and not absolute and is therefore perfectly natural. However, the real threat to its interests is the failure of adjusting to the newer world order. America is failing in what other emerging nations are succeeding. One prime example is of China which bolstered a dead blow arch rival Iran and KSA. This reflects that China is ready to adopt the role

of mediator. There are also several other factors, such as China's foreign policy objectives, its neutrality, economic leverage ~~interests~~, and historical involvement.

Moreover, there are some factors as well which shows China could be a better mediator than the US which includes its non-aligned position, its recent success in that role, and its neutral stance. In short, China's foreign policy objectives are the driving forces behind all this.

2, Background of the relation between Iran and KSA

Iran and Saudi Arabia have been the arch-rivals of each other since both the nations want to dominate the region. The oil rich countries have also been involved in proxy wars in Syria, Yemen and Lebanon which negatively affect these ~~reg~~ countries and the region as a whole. However, the tensions became intense when Saudi Arabia executed a Shiite cleric Al-Nimr

which led to an attack on the Saudi embassy in Tehran. Short after, both countries cut diplomatic ties with each other. Since then many countries have tried to resolve the issue, but the results were negative. It was China who significantly ~~influence~~ leverage its soft power and finally brokered a deal between them.

3, Critical evaluation of why China is ready to adopt the role of mediator

China is ready for the role of mediator for the following reasons:

a) China wants to expand its influence on the global stage: one of the key objectives of China's foreign policy is to expand its global influence. This objective can be fulfilled when China present itself

a responsible and capable player, contributing to stability. And in order to do so, China must play an active role in resolving regional conflicts.

b) Neutral stance of China:

China's approach to foreign policy often emphasizes non-alignment which makes it ready for the role of mediator.

c) Growing needs of China:

China traditionally adheres to a policy of non-interference in the domestic affairs of other countries. However, its growing energy needs have led to its involvement in the Middle East.

China is dependent on the region for its oil imports. For instance, in 2021, China imported nearly 81 million metric tons of worth of crude oil from the middle East. This situation has forced China to engage diplomatically in regional conflicts.

oil imports

Middle East → China

81-million
metric tons

d) China's economic leverage:
China is an economic giant. This gives china a leverage. By this, china can influence negotiations among rivals. Due to this china can become a successful mediator.

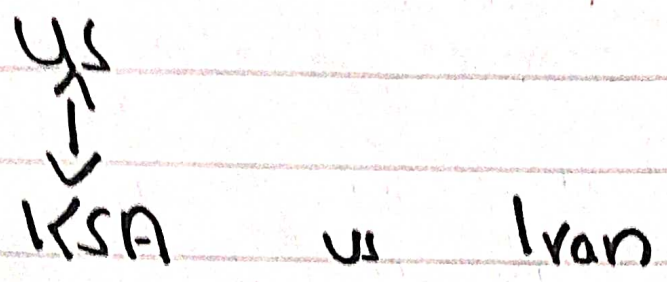
4) Why china could be a better mediator than US?

a) Non-aligned position of China:

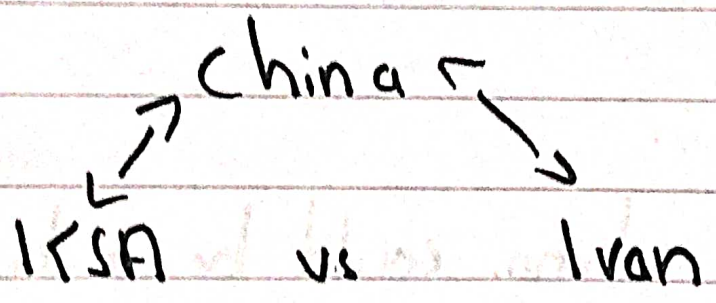
China is known for its non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. And this makes china a better mediator. on the other hand, the US has been

historically aligned with some parties which affects its neutrality.

(i) US as mediator



(ii) China as mediator



b) Recent Success of China :

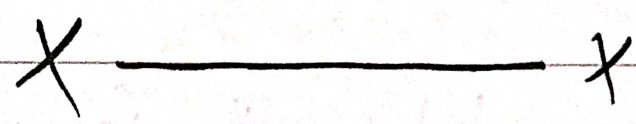
Recent success of china ~~show~~ as a mediator shows china a better mediator. Many countries have tried to resolve this conflict, including Iraq, Oman, and the US, but neither country get succeed. Ultimately, china has done what others ~~can~~ could not done. This reflects china a better mediator than the US.

c) Difference between the foreign policies of China and US :

China's foreign policy is based on non-interference, and inclusive ~~world~~ world economic order, whereas, foreign policy of the US is based on coercion and divide and rule. These difference make china a better mediator than the US.

5 Conclusion

The aforementioned discussion discussed that china is ready to adopt the role of mediator for variety of reasons, such as, expanding influence on the global stage and its growing needs. Furthermore, the discussion also highlights the reasons which make china a better mediator than the US.



Q8

1) Introduction

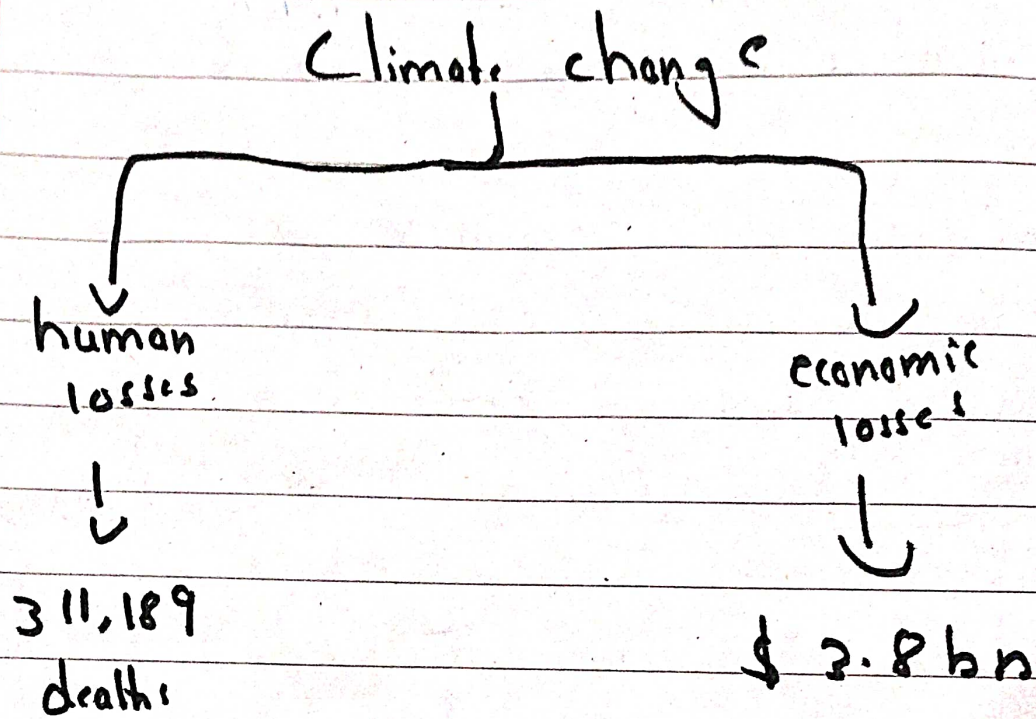
Climate change refers to the shift in average weather conditions, such as temperature, humidity and wind-patterns etc and the change in the severity of these conditions. This shift in weather conditions pose a serious threat to the entire world, specifically, to developing

to developing countries. Pakistan is no exception in this regard. The impacts of climate change on Pakistan is negative despite being the lowest carbon emitter. Considering these negative implications, the government of Pakistan made a foreign policy regarding climate change which it ~~can~~ exhibits at COPs in order to enhance its soft power. The policy includes different initiatives, mitigation measures and collaboration with others.

2) Overview of the negative implications of climate change on Pakistan

Pakistan has the lowest share in CO₂ emissions but is still vulnerable to climate change. The effects of climate change on Pakistan is multifaceted, such as human losses and economic losses. According to Global Climate Risk Index Report 2017, air pollution has caused 311,189 deaths

in Pakistan; \$ 3.8 bn economic losses and 523.1 lives loss per year.



3, Foreign Policy of Pakistan regarding climate change

a, Pak Eco-system Restorative Initiative:

At COP 25, Pakistan launched "Pak Eco-system Restorative initiative."

The objective was expanding greenfields, promoting eco-tourism, and promoting blue economy. Moreover, through

Recharge Pakistan, it aims at integrating water management to also address the concerns of water security.

This programme includes:

- * Afforestation
- * Promoting eco-tourism
- * Integrated water management

b) Global Methane Pledge:

Pakistan along with other countries signed Global Methane Pledge to contribute to collective effort to reduce global methane emission at least 30-percent by 2030.

Global Methane Emission
by Pakistan

30% ↓ by 2050

c, Collaboration with other countries
 Pakistan signed agreements with other countries to collaborate towards common goals. This includes Pakistan-Germany Climate Energy Initiative will provide platform for political dialogue and share knowledge and facilities to combat climate change. Furthermore, Pakistan and UAE also signed a Memorandum of understanding for Green cooperation which will help both country to cope with the threat of climate change.

4, Critical evaluation of the Policy

Climate change is a serious issue in the contemporary era and developing countries like Pakistan are adversely affected by it.

Fortunately, Pakistan has made it a corner stone of its agenda. The initiatives taken by Pakistan such as cooperation with other countries are remarkable. These cooperations will help Pakistan in importing the required technologies to lessen its effect. Furthermore, the mitigation measures taken by Pakistan such as plantation drives are also commendable. However, These policies will only yield positive results when they are implemented in a true letter spirit. Because, Pakistan always lacks in implementation as rightly said by Ishaq Hussain in his book "Concerning the ungovernable." that Pakistan is good in making policies but poor in implementation.

5 Conclusion

In a nutshell, Pakistan has realised the dire effects of climate change. It made a robust

Foreign Policy is regarding it which
needs proper implementation.