

Q #03

1. Introduction

Pakistan is beset with a unique set of traditional and non-traditional security that can only be addressed through homegrown, nationally owned measures. Since independence of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, it has persistently obsessed over non-traditional, constant threat across its Eastern border so much so that its rivalry with India has been a single, most predominant determinant of its foreign policy. Doubtless, the foreign policy is reflective of its national insecurities. Additionally, although Eastern border needs watchful eye and commensurate attention, it cannot be done at cost of overlooking domestic and non-traditional security challenges. Since the threat is comprehensive, the solutions need to be equally all-encompassing, organic mix of displaying motto of unity, faith and discipline.

2. Security Definition

"Security, in an objective sense, measures the absence of threats to acquired values, in a subjective sense. The absence of fear that such values will be attacked."

- Arnold Wolfers

(Swiss-American lawyer)

3. TRADITIONAL CONCERNS:

(In order of their time of origin)

a. Indian Rivalry

Pakistan's concern for Indian rivalry is invokes in mind the words of English philosopher who said his mother gave birth to two twins: Me and my fear. Similarly, Pakistan insecurity has been as old as the state itself. Originating from a ideological, border and territorial tensions, the threat is as real as it is existential. For one express issue of Kashmir, the arch-rivals have fought three direct, all-out wars.

The traditional threat is ~~the~~ still a tradition ~~and~~ (a threat in literal sense) and will continue to present a challenge to their future amity for at least one reason: Sino-India. For, as Mehbooba Mufti puts, the road to peace in South Asia passes through a Kashmir

b. Border Dispute

(Durand "LINE"?)

Afghanistan, besides a source or, say, nursery, of terrorism, poses one other menace viz-a-viz its position on validity of Afghanistan-Pakistan line. Although acknowledged internationally as international border, the Taliban rulers have denied as sacred Durand line as a just a line drawn in an

agreement with British Diplomat, Durrand sometimes beyond the Durrand border, they claim vast territories of North-West, Pashtun belt of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province.

Although Pakistan is able to decidedly defend its sacrosanct sovereignty, such claim is blot on Pakistan's image, one liable to provoke domestic dissidents.

I. Terrorism:

The ghost of terrorism came out of genie's lamp when Pakistan scratched the pot and participated in Afghan Jihad. Except that it turned out to be restless, resistant and rebellious.

Terrorism has since then been a serious security challenge to Pakistan, starting effectively from 2007 when various factions joined forces under the umbrella of Tahrir-e-Taliban Pakistan, the 'bad Taliban'. The irony is even the (at least formerly) 'good Taliban' are now ruling in the North-Western neighbours are their ideological and now operational, structural and spiritual, brothers.

According to a recent reports Pakistan recorded the second largest increase in terrorism-related deaths worldwide in 2022, the tally rising by 120% from 292 deaths (the previous year) to 643 deaths. Besides civilian casualties, Pakistan's economic and strategic goals, such as CPEC, are at stake.

d. Nationalist Tendencies

In addition to terrorism, a nationalist elements have been pre-occupying attention of security apparatus of Pakistan. The toxic of provincialism ~~as~~ ~~in~~ Muhammad A. Jinnah had warned against, took its toll in 1971 with partition of Pakistan's Eastern wing. The threat of secessionism has not abated yet as it lingers in Balochistan, with reports of Baloch Liberation Army, ~~works~~ operating in league with the more violent and widespread TTP.

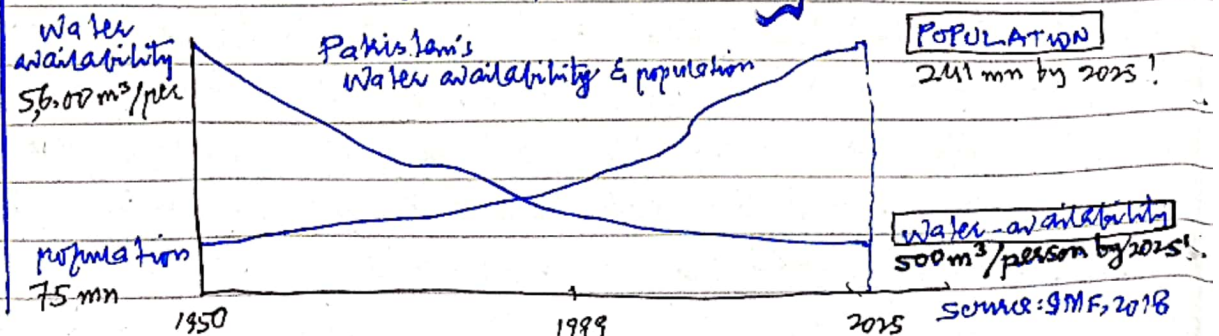
4. Non-Traditional Concerns

(In order of scale of threat)

a. Climate Change:

For the past 20 years, Pakistan has consistently ranked among the top ten most vulnerable countries to the climate change. It is despite the fact that Pakistan is responsible for less than 1% of global Greenhouse Gas emissions. Nonetheless, every year, Pakistan has to put up with twin challenges of i. Water-scarcity and ii. Floods.

i. Water scarcity



ii. Floods

Last year's (2022) flood inundated one-third of the country, claiming as many as 1700 precious lives and economic losses (of infrastructure, supplies and livestock) totaling 31.5bn dollars. Even the previous storm water has not dried yet, and threats of downpours and flood alerts have cracked the fractured sky of especially the poor. In words of Anjal Prakash (climate scientist), every year a new precedent of environmental calamity is set - nothing to call unprecedented.

b. Macroeconomic Stability:

At economic front as well, Pakistan faces challenge of twin deficit partly averted in the wake of IMF's Stand-By Agreement loan facility. Yet the instability remains deep down Pakistan's economic structure, a tumor on which IMF acts as a balm - a temporary relief. It is substantiated by the fact that, a week into SBA with IMF, it is claiming Pakistan will need to secure a new program as well, in future - not so distant as dark in absence of structural reforms.

c. Population

According to 2023 Census, Pakistan's population has bulged to 230 million. mouths to feed and careers to. 60% of that population is under 30 years with decades of ability to actively work. With

growing unemployment, ^{ensuring} resentment and crimes in the society will force one to call Lenin the lies who ~~said~~ is reputed to have called population as the greatest national asset.

5. Path Forward:

1. Shift from Geopolitical to Geoeconomic in letter as well as IN SPIRIT.

First time acknowledging no gravity of non-traditional security concerns, National Security Policy announced in 2021 is a step forward. Yet it awaits materialization of its still hollow claim of pivoting from geopolitical to ~~geoeconomic~~ geoeconomic strategy.

Foes in politics can trade and not let economics and subsequently the poor suffer. Such compartmentalization can be learnt from Sino-India cooperation and confrontation. Pakistan has huge benefits to gain from opening of Wajha-Atari border in terms of transportation costs and freights as well as tin

2. Sterner stance towards MILITANCY whatever the source maybe.

Pakistan cannot create more space to TTP by another ceasefire. Armistice are, and always were, meaningless when you have military capability to nip the bud as well as conviction that TTP

will not stop in its tracks towards violence and lawlessness.

This time around, when Pakistan has made mistake of TTP members return crowded out in 2016, Pakistan should choose kinetic operation as choice of first resort.

- C. Soft Climate Diplomacy through Movies, Cinemas as well as formal fronts of embassies to rally international support around historical responsibility of developed countries for reparations and damages.

6. Conclusion

Thus Pakistan faces a range of security concerns across the almost continuous spectrum of traditional and non-traditional domains. By revisiting some aspects of the foreign policy, Pakistan will demonstrate its ability to rally international support in addressing the above-mentioned threats as well as secure domestic and foreign legitimacy in neutralising threats to its existence as an independent, sovereign and proud nation.

Q#04

1. INTRODUCTION

While overpopulation may indirectly exacerbate environment specific challenges, scientific evidence shows it is not at least one of the most serious root cause of the said degradation. Moreover, given Pakistan's unique demography, it is enviably placed to wield its human resource towards enhancement of its national growth, development and dignity. However, if left uncared for, the same 'resource' can mean death as it may be ignited by resultant discontent and resentment over rising cost of living, dearth of economic opportunities and yawning inequalities in society. It is true Pakistan faces environment's non-traditional security threat, overpopulation is not the cause. Similarly, Pakistan has seen a population bomb, the threat can be tamed to be turned into a cash cow.

2. Overpopulation is # not the DIRECT Culprit for environmental Issues

Overpopulation does not necessarily mean over-consumption of environ-degrading fuels or substances. It depends on specific demographics of the land in question. For example, Pakistan, despite its 240 230 mn population, emits bare 1pc of global GHG emissions. Words of Bill Hare hold water:

^ "The question is not about Population, but rather about consumption pattern."

(Climate scientist)

3. Controlling Population to Control Anything

While controlling population by ~~can~~ raising awareness about child prevention measures and legislating against more than 2 ~~or~~ ^{or} 3 children per couple and, most importantly, maintaining quality of population can solve a wide range of problems, it cannot control everything alone. Nonetheless, following measures can be taken to enhance credibility of the said statement.

a. Controlling Quality of Population

By quality, it means a socially aware, educated society predisposed to agitate ^{for} and support and strengthen democracy as well as enhancing quality of workforce to ensure domestic robust economic growth in terms of domestic services, and innovation, and foreign remittances essential to maintain foreign account (and reserves) at equilibrium and ^{even} surplus.

Following measures can be taken to up the ante of population game:

- i. Quality Education
- ii. Vocational Centers

iii. IT Skills

iv. Facilitate Foreign Workers
in respective embassies

b. Contraception Awareness

While needs of entire population cannot be sought under present economic constraints, it is wise to raise awareness about hitherto taboo of child prevention methods such as contraceptive measures

ADDITIONALLY, in the Islamic polity, Ulemas and Muslim scholars have a role to play in the said efforts to controlling population and dispel confusions of more the children, more the social power.

These measures have potential to address root causes of a range of perennial problems such as unemployment, poverty and street crimes - not to mention more immediate, traditional threats of terrorism, extremism and separatism.

4. Current Scenario of Population in Pakistan

At present, Pakistan's population has become a problem of national concern. With more than 40% of the nation below poverty line and

abysmal literacy rate, while population not showing signs of decreasing or replacing fertility rate, the challenge is huge. When Saudi Arabia warned of deporting huge Pakistani diaspora of unskilled workers, the challenge translates as one of ensuring not just survival - given over-reliance on foreign remittances - but also of preserving nation's strategic autonomy.

5. Conclusion

Concludingly, Pakistan has enormous task ahead of controlling many problems inflicting the society. While it does not include problem of environment, overpopulation is one liability for natural disasters are scaled with the deaths caused. Nonetheless, Pakistan has opportunity of utilizing the population prudently - and, if successful, it will soon join ranks of the developed world.