

Current Affairs

Q.2 Evaluate the reasons and implications for the revival of militancy in Pakistan. Also give possible recommendations for it to follow.

President Joe Biden Declares

"U.S. troops will be out by the 30th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2011, attack which al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden (killed) from Afghanistan. We are now at a crossroad. We are going to engage in a determining diplomacy to pursue peace and a peace agreement that will end this senseless violence and to support a negotiated solution. To end 20 years of war in Afghanistan — the longest war in American history."

Link with the statement

Introduction

Since Afghan Taliban reclaimed power in Kabul, there has been a gradual increase in insurgency in Pakistan, with a rise of terrorist acts. 2022 witnessed 97% more terrorist acts compared to 2021. This is evident from the volatile lines magazine suiciding bombing in Peshawar. January 2023 was also one of the deadliest months on record for Pakistan. As the scale of terrorist violence increased across Pakistan, TTP, BAA and ISKP caused increased terrorist violence in Pakistan, fueled by their resurgence from Afghanistan.

Genesis of Recent Wave of Terrorism in Pakistan:

The recent wave of terrorism in Pakistan can be traced back to several historical and geopolitical factors:

Historical and geopolitics

Immediately after its independence in 1947, Pakistan faced territorial disputes with Afghanistan. Due to US opposition to the validity of Durand line agreement signed b/w Kabul and British India after 1919, Afghanistan became the only country to oppose Pakistan's membership of United Nations. At this conflictual stage, it is no surprise that Afghanistan-Pakistan relations were dominated more by differences at that time. This also grew more as Afghanistan moved closer to Pakistan's neighbour, India. This led to the dominance of Pakistan's strategic depth approach to Afghanistan. Consequently, Pakistan decided to establish relations with Afghan Islamists however the desire of a friendly regime in Kabul was not realized until the establishment of Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA) in 1996.

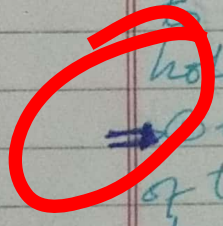
In 2005-2006 Pakistan rewired their relations this was reflected in Islamabad's support for US-Taliban peace deal as Pakistan hosted Taliban delegations in Pakistan since the Taliban's takeover. Besides, the resurgence of Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Islamic State-Khorasan province has also increased its terrorist attacks in Pakistan. As both terrorist groups have a strong presence and presence in Afghanistan where Islamabad has no other option but to work with the Taliban. By examining terrorism in Pakistan since August 2021.

Donot leave too much space

Causes ::

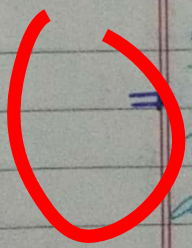
Terrorism's evolving dimension in 2021 after America's exit from Afghanistan which required a change in strategy and tactics, wasn't correctly visualised. Thus, terrorism's resurgence, which likely to escalate significantly in 2023, indicates a multidimensional failure on our part.

It was a failure of policy because we tried to appease the TTP through ill-advised negotiations in 2022, which only allowed the militants to return to their former strongholds and become active again.



→ Failed to correctly assess the impact of two new factors regarding the terrorist threat in Pakistan: one, the unification of all TTP factions under Noor Wali Mehsud, who became qinmeer in 2018, strengthened the organisation and enhanced its strike capability.

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= Two, according to many analysts, the American exit from Afghanistan and the Afghan Taliban's sympathetic approach to TTP boosted the latter. However, the groups concerned in Pakistan believed, erroneously, that the Taliban would stop the TTP from carrying out terrorist acts inside Pakistan was a costly mistake.

Let's discussed some of the major factors contributed the country's instability in the region.

1) Influx of refugees in Pakistan

Pakistan has been host of a significant number of Afghan refugees for several decades, splitting the country in socio-economic situation. Due to withdrawal of U.S and

NATO forces from Afghanistan and the Taliban takeover of power in August 2021, a large number of Afghan refugees crossed the Pakistani borders. Between January 2021 and February 2022, UNHCR documented 117,547 new arrivals from Afghanistan with a significant peak of 55,289 persons in August 2021.

In recent years, Pakistan has shifted policy towards Afghan refugees. Between early 2017 and January 2022, the country reportedly had around 90% of its border with Afghanistan, making formal and informal borders crossing.

As of Jan 2022, 3 million Afghans living in Pakistan, around 1.4 million of them are priority registration (settlement) around 840,000 hold Afghan citizen card while 795,000 are undocumented. Among them conditions of Pakistan are of poor limited protection while undocumented are supposed to report (Title: Pakistan

2) Terrorist attacks in Pakistan are rising causing alarm.

The situation is alarming for Pakistan as the number of terrorist incidents has increased since August 2021. Since TTP has increased its activities along the Islamic State-Khorasan Province are responsible for increasing terrorism in Pakistan.

According to the Global Terrorism Index of 2021, terrorism-related deaths in Pakistan increased from 263 in 2020 to 295 in 2021. The index also reported that deaths from terrorism had fallen by over one-third after 2015 in Pakistan.

This is mainly an outcome of military operations against terrorist organisations and now this has brought success is in danger due to Afghan instability.

3) Instability in Afghanistan fuels the growth of terrorist organisations causing security issues for Pakistan.

Afghanistan's domestic dynamics and state fragility allows the presence and growth of terrorist organisations. It continues to create security problems for Pakistan. Pakistan is supposed to report (Title: Pakistan

after the US intervention in Afghanistan in 2001. The loss of over 80,000 lives and economic damages of more than US\$100 billion from 2001 to 2021, are the most painful experiences.

This was mainly an outcome of Al Qaeda and Afghan Taliban fighters, relocated in KP and Balochistan in Pakistan.

Since Pakistan's tribal areas bordering regions with Afghanistan, known as the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), were not merged with KP, it was very easy for Al Qaeda and Taliban fighters to settle in ex-FATA and the Afghan Taliban also managed to re-organize in Pakistan through the Quetta Shura.

As Wang says, the Talibanization of Pakistan's peripheral areas facilitated the formation of several terrorist groups to the detriment of the country's domestic security.

4) Demands and Options

when Afghan Taliban came in power, it was obvious for Islamabad to negotiate with TTP.

i) Reversal of 15 Amendment

The statement says, "If Pakistan government and its security agencies want peace, they would have to restore its previous status." A major uncom-

demand of the TTP is the reversal of FATA merger. A TTP statement categorically said that the group would not accept any compromise on the pre-merger, independent status of ex-FATA.

ii) Enforcing Shariah regulation in Malakand and its extension

one of their significant demands were related to the implementation of Shariah law in the Malakand Division of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

In 2009, the Pakistani government agreed to peace deal with TTP, which resulted in the enforcement of Shariah regulation in the enforcement of Shariah regulation in the Swat valley, a part of Malakand Division.

However the peace agreement eventually collapsed and military operations ~~also~~ pushed back the TTP's control in the region.

iii) Release of Prisoners as part of negotiations

The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) has at various times, made demands for the release of prisoners as part of their negotiations. These prisoners are often individuals associated with or members of the TTP who have been arrested and detained by the authorities due to their involvement in terrorist

activities: TIP has used hostage-taking as a tactic to put pressure on government and advance their demands. They also have kidnapped security personnel, govt officials and sometimes civilians, and then sought the release of their imprisoned comrades in exchange for the hostages' freedom.

Measures to be taken by Government

- To combat this threat, Pakistan should revise its Afghan Policy and engage the Afghan Taliban in bilateral dialogue on the issue of TIP, Counterterrorism, joint border security management, and refugees.
- The police department should adopt modern techniques of violence and crimes mapping and data analytical to predict, prevent and detect terrorism and crime. Visual data tools in formulating strategies to prevent terrorism and crime.
- International cooperation with the international community specially with regional neighbouring countries and states form of OIC should be involved in sharing intelligence.
- Strengthen law enforcement agencies' capacity and improve intelligence.

gathering and sharing capabilities. These include equipping law enforcement with modern technology and providing specialised training to handle counterterrorism operations.

→ Enhance the border security to prevent the movement of militants and weapons across the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. This includes continued efforts to patrol the border.

Disrupting Terrorist Financing, Implement measures to track and block funding sources for terrorist organizations.

This could involve improved financial tracking and cooperation with international financial intelligence agencies.

Regulate and monitor religious seminars to ensure they promote a balanced education and do not promote a breeding grounds for extremism. Encourage curriculum that includes modern subjects alongside religious teachings.

Community Engagement Foster better relationships between law enforcement and communities affected by terrorism. Community policing and trust building initiatives can encourage locals to cooperate with authorities and provide valuable information.

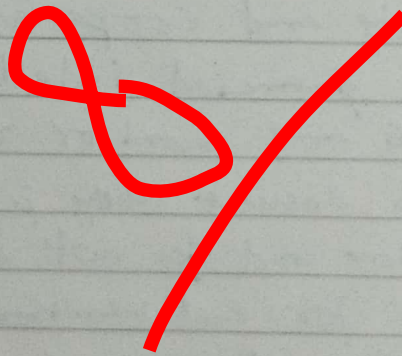
Strengthen law enforcement agencies' capacity and improve intelligence.

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Conclusion

To sum up it's essential to recognize that effectively countering terrorism requires a sustained effort from all segments of society, government institutions, and international partners. The situation is complex, and addressing it will necessitate a combination of security measures, developing initiatives and social reforms to create a more peaceful and stable Pakistan.

Substantially low



Q.6 US-India growing strategic partnership is mainly to contain China but also has neg impacts on Pakistan. recommend policy options for Ifo to follow?

Introduction:

Exploring the origins of India US strategic partnership (overview)

India is recognized by the US as a crucial regional ally amid China's rapid economic and military rise. To counter China's influence, the US aims to support India's military, economic and scientific progress in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). The foundation of the Indo-US strategic partnership was established during Bush's era and strengthened during Clinton and Obama administrations.

Notably, the transfer of nuclear technology in 2005 and the Defense Technology and Trade Initiative in 2012 bolstered the partnership.

Designated as a major defense partner in 2016, India and the US conducted close military operations under the logistic Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA), further solidifying their defense ties during the Trump administration.

In 2018, the US House of Representatives passed a defense expenditure bill of \$521.5 billion, aiming to increase defense cooperation with India. The related amendment to the National Defense Authorization (NDAA) 2018 required the secretary of Defense to consult with US and India. President Trump's Administration granted India's special status as Strategic Trade Administration (STA-1) status that same year.

During the two-year dialogue process in Sep 2018, two significant agreements were reached b/w US and India. The first was Communication Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA), which enables India to intercept and defend against products, enhancing the capabilities of its land, sea and air forces. COMCASA facilitates defense communication and ensures interoperability b/w US and Indian military.

The 2nd agreement was the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-Spatial Cooperation (BEOCA) under (BEOCA), India can access geo-spatial information from the US for both civil and military purposes.

This cooperation allows for real-time data sharing, especially benefiting the Indian Air Force by providing crucial information during peace crisis situations.

Hence India's combined conventional and unconventional military buildup could result in strategic imbalance in the region.

Strategic Implications

The combination of India's conventional and unconventional military buildup may lead to strategic instability in the region. India's naval dominance could make Pakistan particularly vulnerable, should an existing asymmetry b/w the two nations continue to grow. Pakistan has already established a Naval Strategic Force Command, even though it currently lacks patrol or delivery systems. For stable deterrence, both nuclear powers must possess and strike capabilities.

Any significant disparities favoring India in these areas could result in a strategic imbalance, leading to regional instability. As India's introduction of submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLAMF) add to challenges, further eroding the delicate strategic stability with Pakistan.

Pakistan's opposition to negotiations on the

Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty is pretty driven by concerns about India's stockpile of highly enriched uranium earmarked for naval

propulsion purposes.

→ India's investment in helicopter landing decks and aircraft carriers allows it to potentially open a new front and lower the threshold in a future confrontation by assaulting Pakistan's coastal regions. China perceives India's assertive naval strategy as a threat to its crucial sea commerce routes through the Malacca Strait, where India's navy can disrupt shipping lines, impacting 80% of China's oil imports. The CPEC projects, particularly the Gwadar Sea Port, are crucial for China's energy security.

→ India's assertive naval posture is viewed as destabilizing by regional states. The US has a history of supporting India's space launch vehicle development, and missile defense cooperation. The two nations has become a key element of US Indo-Pacific strategy in response to the proliferation of advanced missile capabilities in South Asia. The 2019 Missile Defense Review emphasizes the need for such cooperation to address the evolving global missile threat landscape.

Economic Implications:

The Indo-US strategic partnership has deepened significantly in the current global environment due to shifting economic trends from the Atlantic to Asia, mainly driven by China's rapid growth rate. China's Belt and Road initiative (BRI) connects numerous countries across four continents encompassing a vast population of 4.06 billion, equivalent to 62% of the world's total.

As China's power and influence rise, it seeks to expand its geopolitical influence in the region.

→ To counter China's growing wealth and power and maintain a favourable Asian balance, India is actively hedging China by fostering closer collaboration with the US. In response, India and the US have bolstered their defence and security cooperation, including shared military education and training programmes, increased US defence sales to India, and promotion of initiatives like the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI). They have also initiated co-development and co-production of platforms of maritime security and sensitive technologies, along with cooperation on overflights, navigation, and surveillance systems.

Negative Implications on Pakistan:

→ The increasing involvement of high profile elites and the closest of Pakistan's power couple with India's NSG exercises in the Indo-US Civil nuclear deals have made Pakistan uneasy about India's growing role in the region. India's Pursuit of NPT state status for global commerce and military modernization has further complicated the regional dynamics, creating a strategic imbalance and strengthening the security dilemma b/w India and Pakistan.

The absence of an arms control mechanism has fueled an unending cycle of arms buildup, with India providing regional users like China through provocative behavior and counter-provocational strategies, including threats of surgical strikes against Pakistan.

The US's franchising of India's role in the Indo-Pacific region and India's perception as a net security provider have bolstered its ambitions in Pursuing belligerent measures, particularly against Pakistan. The export control measures granted to India has brought two contours closer, enabling India to enhance its domestic defense industrial in line with "Make in India" initiative.

This development may exacerbate existing asymmetries b/w India and its regional rival Pakistan.

Recommendation:

To address the strategic challenges and ensure stability in the region the following recommendations can be considered:

1) Diplomatic Engagement and Confidence Building Measures:

Encourage open and comprehensive diplomatic dialogue b/w India, China and other regional stakeholders to find peaceful resolutions to territorial disputes and reduce tensions, Promote confidence building measures b/w India and Pakistan to reduce the risk of military escalation and create for a conducive environment for regional cooperation.

2) Multilateral Cooperation and Conflict Prevention Mechanisms.

Engage in multilateral platforms like the SAARC to address shared security concerns and promote transparency and cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. Establish effective conflict prevention and crisis management mechanisms to prevent accidental escalation in the region.

3) Maritime Security Initiatives and Nuclear Risk Reduction

Strengthen nuclear risk reduction measures b/w India and Pakistan to reduce the chances of unintended nuclear escalation. Also encouraging joint maritime security initiatives in Indian ocean to enhance cooperation in countering piracy, trafficking and other transnational threats.

4) Regional Economic Integration and Intelligence Sharing:

By Encouraging regional economic integration and connectivity initiatives that involves all stake holders, Foster economic interdependence and stability - facilitate intelligence sharing and cooperation among countries in the region to counter terrorism and other security threats effectively.

Conclusion:

By adopting these recommendations and engaging in sustained dialogue and cooperation, the region can move towards a more stable and peaceful environment, reducing the risk to conflict and ensuring shared security and prosperity.

Weak presentation

Elaborate the negative part
Look into the outline

0.5 Flood and water scarcity are two extreme situations Pakistan is faced with. Analyze the factors responsible and give recommendations.

Introduction

Pakistan's vulnerability to climate change induces water scarcity, extreme weather events and declining crop yields. During the kharif season, the country is expected to face a substantial water shortage of 27-35% following unprecedented floods. As a result, Pakistan is now among the top 20 nations most impacted by global warming and risks becoming one of the world's most water-stressed countries.

Access to clean water is a fundamental human right, but growing populations, careless water use, and climate shifts have caused water scarcity worldwide, affecting both rich and poor nations.

Assessments And Summary of the impacts of flood in Pakistan

A United Nations report reveals that over 20 million people in flood-affected areas of Pakistan are still without access to safe drinking water, six months after the catastrophic floods occurred.

The UN Children's agency, UNICEF, expressed concern families in these regions have no choice but to use potentially

disease often water for drinking and daily use.

Abdullah Fakil, UNICEF's representative in Pakistan, emphasized the disease situation has led to an ongoing battle against preventable waterborne diseases and resulting malnutrition, especially among millions of children.

The floods, triggered by heavy rains starting in June, claimed the lives of at least 1,738 people, including 644 children and impacted 33 million individuals.

Before the floods, a significant portion of Pakistan's population already lacked access to clean drinking water, and the disaster further damaged water systems, forcing millions to rely solely on contaminated water from ponds and wells.

Despite the country's drinking water supply system covering 92% of the population, only 36% of the water user considered safe for consumption, as per the UNICEF reports.

Factors Responsible for Water Scarcity:

Pakistan's water scarcity is impacted by various factors, some of which are given below.

- Overall, climate related challenges are evident through altered monsoon patterns, melting glaciers, increasing temperatures

and the frequent occurrence of floods and droughts. Pakistan has experienced multiple floods in recent years, as well as prolonged periods of drought. Looking ahead, climate change may further reduce overall water availability in the future.

→ Pakistan's population surpasses 220 million, the demand for water is projected to reach 274 million acre-feet while the water supply may remain at 191 million acre-feet. Looking ahead by 2050, the country's population is estimated to increase by 33%, reaching 338 million with a significant rise in the urban population from 20% in 2020 to 52% in 2050. Given the current water efficiency levels, there is a concern that the ratio of water withdrawal to available water reserves might exceed 100% in the coming decades.

Pakistan's irrigation system demonstrates an overall efficiency of 35% with a significant 80% of the country's water resources dedicated to five main crops: rice, wheat, sugarcane, and cotton. Interestingly, these crops contribute merely 5% to the country's GDP. In contrast to other major agricultural economies globally, the productivity of these crops is notably low in Pakistan, one of the contributing

Headings

Solution to this issue is the deterioration of water infrastructure leading to substantial water wastage.

Recommendations: Following recommendations can be considered.

- 1) Develop and implement a detailed water management plan that addresses all aspects of water usage, allocation and conservation. This plan should be aligned with climate change projections and should focus on efficient water utilization.
- 2) Improve governance and policy implementation to ensure effective water resource management. This includes better coordination &w different government agencies and stakeholders.
- 3) Raise awareness among public, industries and farmers about importance of water conservation. Encourage farmers to diversify their crops and shift from water intensive crops like sugarcane and rice to less water demanding alternatives, promote water saving practices at all levels and provide water-efficient technologies.
- 4) Improve water quality management to mitigate the impact of water pollution on both human health and the environment.
- 5) Collaborate with neighbouring countries

Important Note:

Marks would be given on the following parameters

a- Content 60% References 15% Subject specific language 15% Graphs and charts 10%

This is not a way to attempt paper
Add facts and headings
Attempt each part equally

Date: _____

Qno 2-

- 1-Introduction
- 2- Manifestations of Revival of Militancy
- 3- Reasons of revival 4-5
- 4- Policy Recommendations 4-5
- 5- Analysis (could add the current positive developments)
- 6- Conclusion

on transboundary water issues to ensure sustainable use and equitable distribution of shared water resources. By adopting these recommendations Pakistan can take significant steps towards mitigating its water scarcity challenges and achieving more sustainable water management practices.

Q 4-

- 1- Introduction
- 2- Overview of global financial super cycle
- 3- Reasons for this cycle 4-5
- 4- Implications on Pakistan 4-5
- 5- Recommendations for Islamabad to follow 4-5
- 6- Conclusion

Conclusion: Pakistan's water crisis is a result of rapid population growth, climate change impacts (floods and droughts), poor agricultural water management, inadequate infrastructure, and water pollution.

Q 5- Introduction

- 2- overview of Ukraine War
- 3- Possibility of continuation of west lead order 4-5 points
- 4- Possibilities of decline in west lead order 4-5 points
- 5- Analysis on which possibility is more likely 4-5 points
- 6- Conclusion

Addressing this crisis requires bridging the gap between policies and their implementation through a comprehensive plan. Expert also highlight that the core issue is not a water crisis, but a governance failure in water matters. Leveraging technology for efficient water utilization is essential, selecting appropriate innovations that address specific needs. Precision watering methods like drip irrigation can be adopted by farmers to replace flooding fields. Replacing water intensive crops with low demanding alternatives also holds promise in tackling the challenges posed by water scarcity.

Q 6-Introduction

- 2- overview of the phenomena of floods and water scarcity
- 3- Factor responsible for floods 4-5
- 4- Factors responsible for water scarcity 4-5
- 5- Recommendations 5-6
- 6- Critical Analysis
- 7- Conclusion

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Q7- Introduction

- 2- Manifestations of US- India partnership to contain China 4 points
- 3- How it would adversely impact Pakistan 5-6 points
- 4- Recommendations for Islamabad to follow 6-7 points
- 5- Critical Analysis
- 6- Conclusion

governance failure in water matters. Leveraging technology for efficient water utilization is essential, selecting appropriate innovations that address specific needs. Precision watering methods like drip irrigation can be adopted by farmers to replace flooding fields. Replacing water intensive crops with low demanding alternatives also holds promise in tackling the challenges posed by water scarcity.

Q 8-Introduction

- 2- G-20 conference in Indian held Kashmir - an overview
- 3- Objectives of India 5-7 points
- 4- options for Pakistan to follow
- 5- Conclusion