

"PART 2"

Q3 Population growth causes depletion of natural resources. And what can Pakistan do to counter it?

Ans Pakistan is one of the most populous countries in the world. According to the previous census in 2017, Pakistan has 220 million people. And Pakistan has 2.1% growth rate annually of population which is a grave existential threat for Pakistan. Moreover, abundance in population leads to resource depletion with tremendous rate.

Depletion of Natural resources:

Population explosion is a threat for the economy and for the natural resources. Nowadays we are witnessing the pressure, in extreme hot weather, we have scarcity of water and we experience droughts as well. Furthermore, deforestation, soil erosion and floods are exacerbating the problems. Another serious threat is of wheat. Pakistan being an agrarian country, still we are not producing enough wheat for our people and the reason is that Pakistan's fertile lands are converted to housing societies and other farming practices are being done on it. Apart from water and wheat, we see alarming decrease in our forest cover. Global Forest Watch reported that Pakistan has lost 63 ha of tree cover. The trees are used for

furniture, paper and many more products. But the real threat is that we are removing our carbon sinks, trees work like a suction machine, it sucks in the carbon inside it. Unfortunately, we are fulfilling our short term goals and leaving the long term consequences that will haunt us in future more.

Remedies for population growth and natural resource protection:

Pakistan needs several strategies to control its population growth and its natural environment. Some possible remedies are:

1. Family planning:

The most important step is family planning. This will reduce the population and subsequently, our demand for consumption of natural resources would also decrease.

2. Water conservation planning:

Water is life; water is necessary for survival. So we need to use less fresh water and preserve it for the future generation. Some concrete steps to conserve water are:

Rain water harvesting, building small water barrages, protecting lakes and deep ~~water~~ irrigation systems.

3. Reforestation:

Planting new trees and protecting the existing forest cover can protect our natural resources and help in fighting climate change.

4. Renewable energy:

Pakistan is spending almost \$5 bn in import of ~~carbon~~ hydrocarbons. Pakistan

Should stop relying on it and invest ~~that~~ money on Renewable energy sources to protect the environment from greenhouse gas emissions.

5 Sustainable agriculture:

Helping the farmers in sustainable agriculture and provide them productive seeds to produce more for the population of Pakistan. In this manner, we can protect our natural resources and feed our population.

Thus, Pakistan with huge population is not a good sign. It leads to population explosion. To overcome it, Pakistan needs reforms in agricultural sector, family planning and promoting Renewable energy.

Q7 Long prevailing energy and water crisis.

Ans. No doubt, Pakistan's political elites are not addressing these issues, they are just doing politics for power and nothing else. Pakistan has had long history of energy and water crisis. Further, these two issues lead to social and economic unrest in the country. Mostly, these crises are attributed to lack of political will and strategic planning.

=> Energy crisis:

Energy crisis is not a new phenomenon, we are witnessing it for many decades.

Frequent powercuts are the new norm.

The primary reason of Energy crisis is inadequate supply of electricity. Pakistan is booming in terms of population but our electricity generation capacity is not upgraded, which results in power outages.

This problem is due to lack of investment in energy sector by our governments.

The secondary cause of Energy crisis is overreliance on fossil fuels. This particular thing has worsen the situation more and the country is suffering due to bad policies.

⇒ Water crisis:

The water crisis is also a result of bad policies and lack of political will. Pakistan has reservoirs of fresh water but still Pakistan is bearing the brunt due to bad governance. Pakistan has failed to build more dams, unable to provide protection to agriculture sector and unable to control population growth, which are all dependent on water. Furthermore, the government has failed in conservation projects and effective irrigation systems. Due to the failure, severe water shortage in many parts of the country is inevitable.

So, the energy and water crisis in Pakistan is due to the lack of political will and planning. Moreover, the government's failure to invest in agriculture sector, water conservation, building dams and no investing in electricity generation hurts Pakistan. Actions are required to be taken and government must invest in the aforementioned projects for the better future of Pakistan.

96 US-led war against terrorism and repercussions on Pakistan.

Ans. 6. The US-led ~~war~~ WOT, which started in early 2000's was to eliminate the threat of global terrorism. However, this very conflict had a far-reaching short and long term repercussions, specifically for Pakistan.

=> Short-term repercussions:

Short term repercussions were quick and we saw it within days. The inflow of Afghan migrants were way too much, in fact they were in millions (UNHCR). Furthermore, with migrants came huge responsibility about their settling. We put them in camps, but we saw a rise in street crimes and ~~political~~ extremist ideology proliferation. Moreover, Pakistan faced terrorist attacks, especially in Peshawar. Pakistani Taliban proliferated in other cities of Pakistan which was a threat to national security. In short term repercussions, we saw economic impacts. Our foreign reserves were only \$1.6 bn in 2001. Furthermore, our tourism industry suffered because of terrorism in Pakistan. And to counter terrorism, Pakistan had to spend on military more rather than education or health care.

=> Long-term repercussions:

The long-term consequences were also grave for Pakistan. The then President of US said to Pakistani counterpart "with us or against us." Pakistan had no choice but to become a non-nato ally of US. But this very step increased Pakistani society and division in

Sectionarian conflicts arose all around in Pakistan. Pakistanis were not in favor of joining this war and this caused anti-American sentiments. Moreover, we saw till 2018, the refugee problem in Pakistan which exhausted Pakistan resources. Some cross-border problems for Pakistan arose as well.

The relation with Afghanistan deteriorated and border clashes also arose with India. However, this war helped Pakistan as well. We saw our inclination towards China grew and we distanced ourselves from US.

This paved way for different defence and economic agreements the one we are witnessing "China Pakistan Economic Corridor."

Thus, US-led wars on terror had short and long term repercussions on Pakistan in terms of socially and economically. The conflict increased refugees problem, Pakistan suffered a lot nationally and internationally. Pakistan tourism industry was hit hard and religious issues arose. But it also led to a shift in regional power dynamics.

Q5.

History of the evolution of the democratic system of Pakistan.

Ans

The evolution of the democratic system of Pakistan has had a history of political instability, weak planning and wars with India. The country's democracy began in 1947 and it was declared a secular democracy by Quaid-e-Azam; but his vision was not fulfilled.

The first constitution was adopted in 1956, it established a Parliamentary system of government with Prime Minister as head of the ~~state~~ ~~and~~ ~~bicameral~~ executive branch and bicameral legislature. But at that time, political instability and weak institutions didn't pave way for Parliamentary form of government. Furthermore, the ~~our~~ country's first coup occurred in 1958 which lasted for a decade. The second problem was that when Pakistan held first democratic elections, which resulted in the favor of Awami League in East Pakistan. So Pakistan engulfed in political crisis again and as a result, we lost our eastern flank eventually becoming Bangladesh. However, in West Pakistan PPP formed government but in 1972, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was overthrown by a military coup. The military dictator ruled for a decade and then non-party general elections were held and formed a new constitution which established Presidential system of government. Despite ^{the} return to democracy after Zia ul-Haq's death the democratic institutions remained weak, and political instability continues. The country saw several dismissals of elected governments including in 1993 and 1999. In 2008, the people of Pakistan witnessed a peaceful transition of power and it was a milestone in country's democratic history. Parliamentary democracy has struggled to take root in Pakistan, but due to weak institution

and political instability and military coups refrained Pakistan from ~~achieving~~ it. So in 2008 the PPP government came into power and in 2010, the Eighteenth Amendment was passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan. It removed the power of the ~~to~~ President of Pakistan to dissolve the Parliament unilaterally, turning Pakistan from a semi-presidential to a parliamentary form of government.

In conclusion, Pakistan's race towards parliamentary democracy has been tiresome, characterized by political instability, weak democratic institutions and military coup. However, with a lot of effort, Pakistan became the parliamentary democracy in 2010, which is a huge success for Pakistan.