

[Current Affairs]

Question: 02

Militancy revival in Pakistan

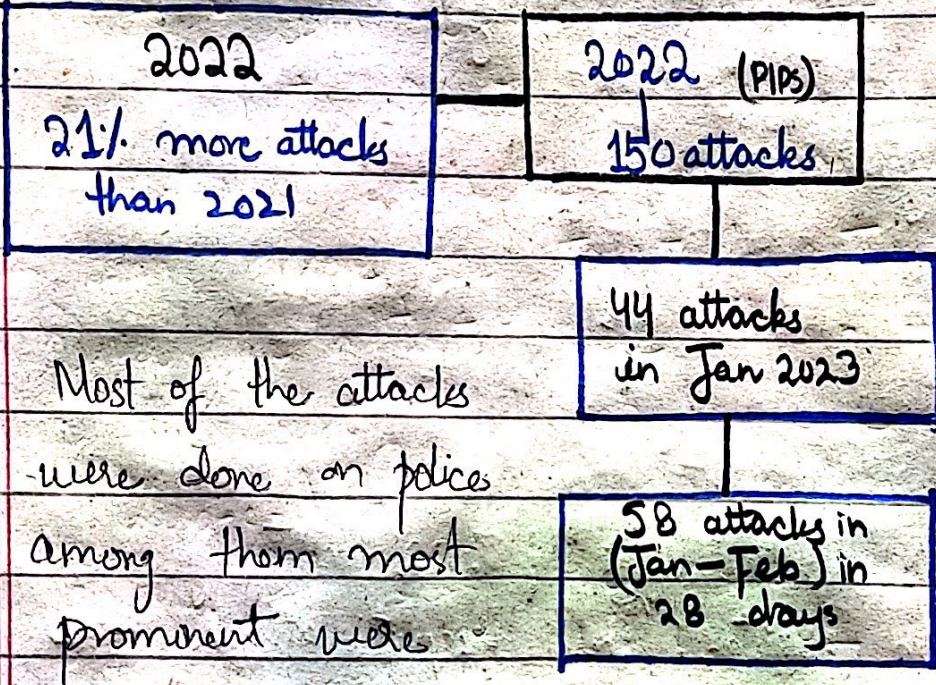
"The revived militancy in Pakistan forgot while biting the hands of state that those who bite the hands that feed them has to lick the boots that kick them"

With the start of 2022 militancy revived in Pakistan. The frequent attacks have been recorded that started from 2022

and are on going in 2023 as well.

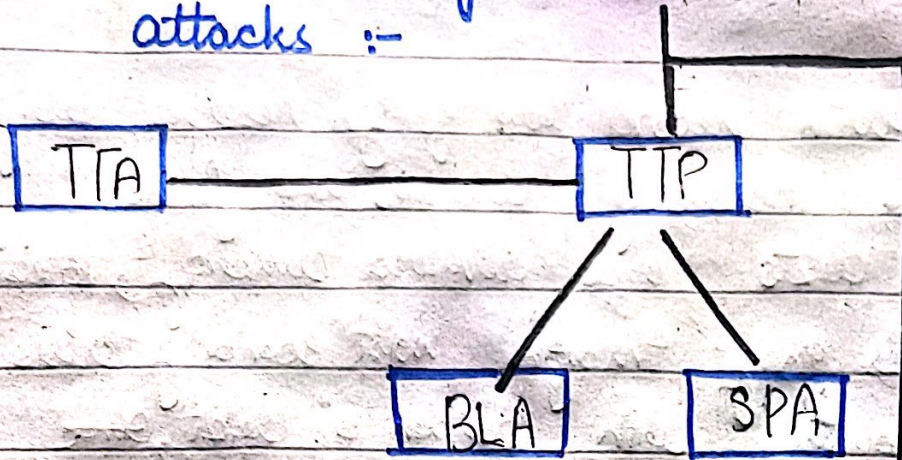
The militancy has revived with different contours this time. Its target isn't common man now. Rather targeting officials specially, police officers has been their latest tactic. Not just target but way of launching attack and threat has also changed.

Releasing videos about comments on socio-political situations including disasters in country like 2022's flood and effective use of technology clearly indicates that oppressor is same but not the cause of oppression.



- (a) Islamabad - I-10 attack on police man
- (b) Peshawar - police line mosque blast
- (c) Karachi - Attack on police station.

— Who is actually behind these attacks :-



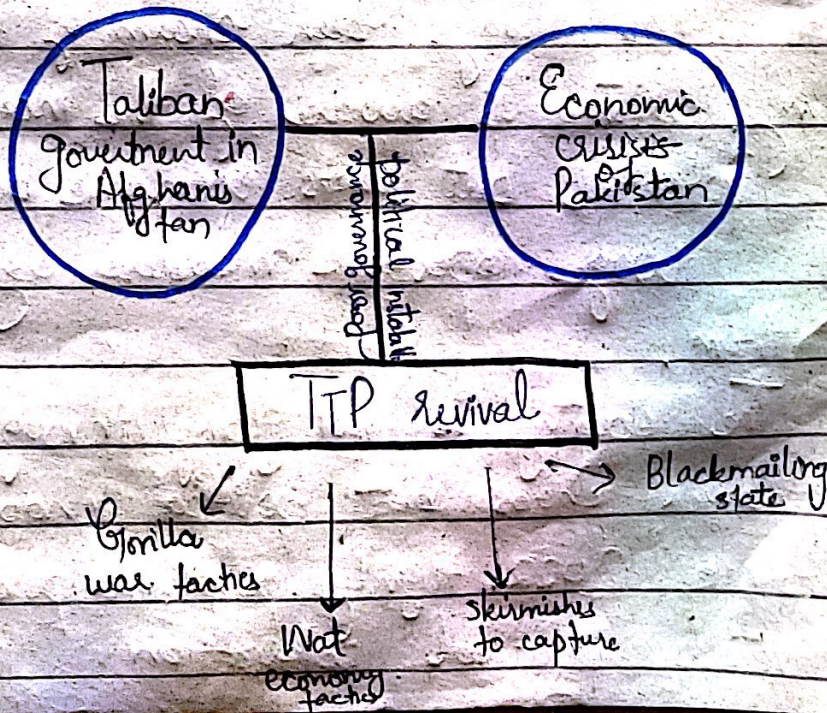
Not just one organization but multiple militant organizations have

ISKIP

Nationalists

accrued against Pakistan -
amid abject economic and political situation of Pakistan.

o Critical evaluation of reasons



Cause #01

Pakistan's vulnerability

With record low foreign reserves along with increasing circular and fiscal

(a)
Economic
reason of
vulnerability

debts and devalued currency, Pakistan is going through worst economy crisis. Country with burden of debt, and empty pockets and worn out due to catastrophic flood has never

been more easy target for extremists. Earlier the militants were thrown out

of the country with operations like Zarb-e-Azab and cost of millions of dollars. But sadly the country has

got so poor that it had to cancel the 23rd March parade

that has always been charm of Pakistan's

army. Pakistan is aware of the increasing potential but lacks economic back

to wage operative measures against them.

(b)
Political
reason of
vulnerability

The country is not going through economical chaos but political chaos too

since 2022, highly polarized public activated political polarization

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to a very menacing extent. No doubt these chaos has also allowed militancy to reemerge in Pakistan.

Cause # 02

Afghan factor

Most of the Pakistani politicians celebrated when Taliban took over the government in Afghanistan but little did every Pakistani knew that Pakistan will have to pay price for it.

Afghan government, although claimed that they will not allow TTP to use

Afghanistan as launching pad but it seem to be just a paper promise

as "UN report" revealed that thousand of TTP leaders are accumulating money

from working in Afghanistan. Also, the porous border of with Afghanistan led

to presence of 64% pukhtons and

26% Balochs in TTP. The attack on

Pakistan's diplomats in Afghanistan

indicates the same.

Cause #3

Poor governance and failed negotiation

Poor governance is a major hit to blame for militancy revival in Pakistan. The negotiation with TTP could result in peace. Middle way had to be searched to meet their demands. The concern for attacks in

PSL revealed that "TTP promises to attacks on public places, they'll attack officials only as they broke promises about TTP demands" — clearly tells that failed negotiations are behind it.

Also, after revival the failed negotiations with TTA to shift their

strategic calculus on providing support to their ideological brothers TTP also need to be counted.

Mismanagement
+
Mis-calculated
+
Misplaced
Negotiations

Terrorism
is once
more
on
ascent

Recommendations

- Long term Counter-terrorism plan with extreme focus on eradicating base camps of TTP
- Terminate the porosity of Afghan border and complete Durand line fencing as soon as possible
- Effective negotiations with TTP as Pakistan army currently cannot afford to wage operations and Taliban seems to be well funded and well equipped
Focus must be on negotiations
- USAID policy protection needs to be reviewed as TTP rise also imposes threat to US interests too
- Pakistan must look for ways to control Afghan Taliban which will help in root dismantling of TTP
- Reforms must be introduced to police they must be given protection through latest equipments of defense and offense along with better trainings

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(Question : 03)

One China, No Taiwan?

Presence of such words on 'play cards' of protesters in Taiwan shows how fed up China has got of China's claim over Taiwan.

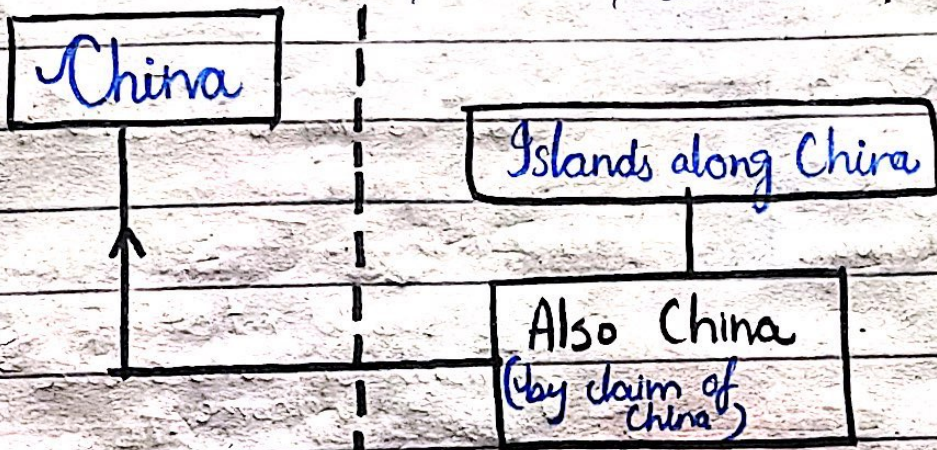
Another ~~anti~~ - ^{USA}uninvited partner has joined this ^{largest} semiconductor exporter small island, with tag of being 17th largest economy clearly indicates that battlefield between Super power and emerging superpower has been destined.

"One China Two System Policy"

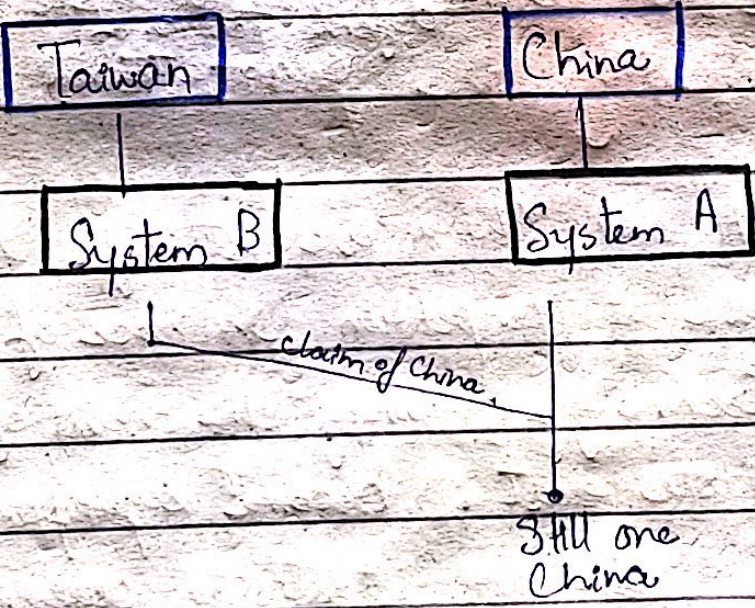
Beijing, is the famous hedgehog fixated on the idea of reunification.

"One China two system" is the policy of people's republic of China (PRC). China claims Taiwan to be historically its territory and part of it. But has given exception to its legislative

make up. Taiwan has its own name, flag, government, nationality (i.e. different system) but still is claimed to be part of China along with 9 dash lines.



Therefore;



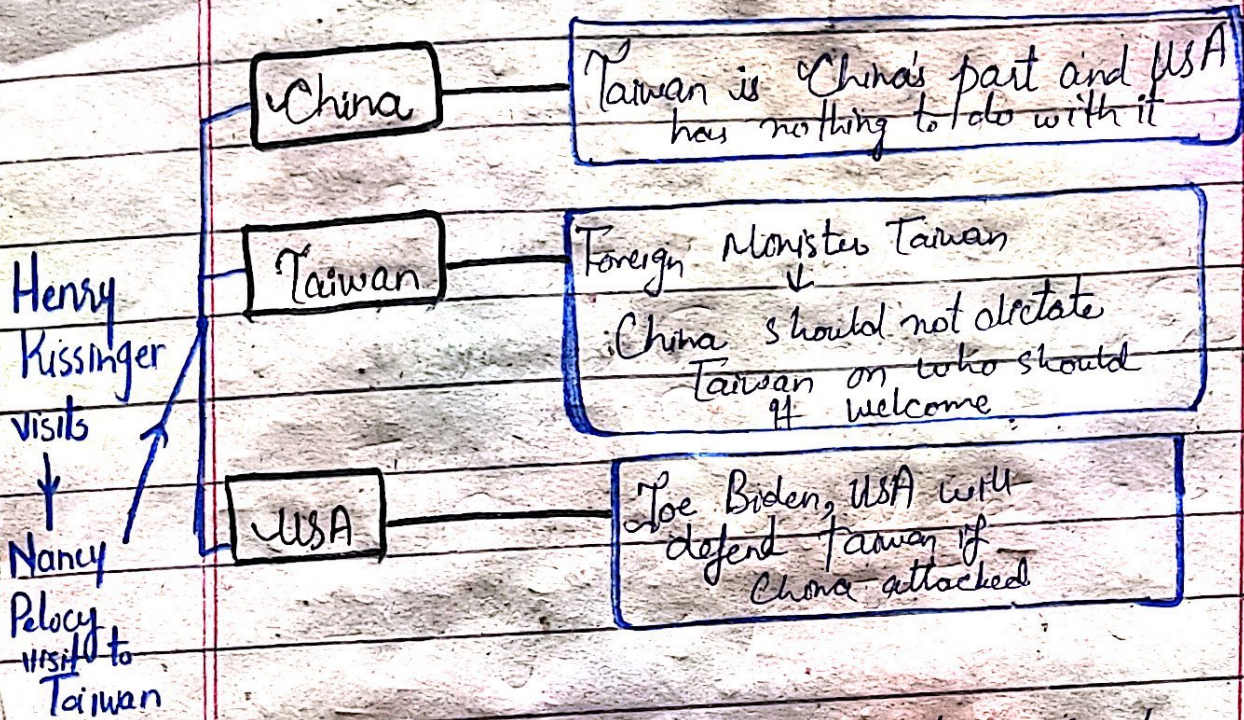
US-Taiwan bond



China-Taiwan and US-Taiwan decoupling coupling

It has what made PRC feared over so-called integrity

If Beijing is metaphorous to hedgehog trying to unify, Washington must not be ~~was~~ taken less than a diplomatic fox



USA and China are strategic rivals. They are at competition in race of technology, winning the heart of Middle east, become ^{of} superpower, global hegemony, strong currency. Both are arch rivals and US's increasing bond with Taiwan is challenging China's strength as USA cannot afford to lose any island under its claim and when it comes to arch rival it is clear "Never". Many think tanks has predicted war between

USA and China in 2025.

Recommendations

✓ US must realize that bringing chaos to different regions of world to maintain its hegemony will ~~can~~ never make them a superpower with high moral.
Interference in China's internal matters with Taiwan has ~~was~~ no work for USA to do in it.

✓ ~~No~~ interference of superpower regional organisations to solve the matter should be ensured.

✓ China should realize that forced reunification will bring no good to it rather ticking bomb will be set up for future chaos.

✓ Exchange visits of USA and China for negotiations to maintain peace in region.

✓ No option or opportunity for conflict should be left because if these two major powers went into a war no one would stay alive to tell who won or what happened.

12.

— (Question : 06) —

“ Expensive Electricity and persistent load shedding are major hurdles in economic growth of Pakistan ”

Pakistan is facing problem of expensive electricity and loadshedding concurrently however expensive electricity is burdening the state with crucial debts and cutting the pockets too.

Most expensive electricity in Asia and third most expensive in the world is produced by Pakistan. Electricity price is 30Rs/unit which is predicted to elevate to Rs 50/unit as per IMF conditions in Pakistan. The country going through worse economic crisis since birth but has no structural long term plans for energy production resulting in expensive electricity and frequent load shedding.

"Expensive Electricity"

Energy Sector

For instance,
Coal, oil, gas
Resources

Depends on non-renewable
energy resources

only 32%
gas locally
produced
58,800 Consumed
barrel oil
only 83000 local.

fuels not locally
produced

Therefore Imported

31% inflation
~~1PKR~~ = 275PKR

Devalued Pakistan
Rupees

Circular
debts
unpaid

Hence, payment in
dollar for imported
fuel

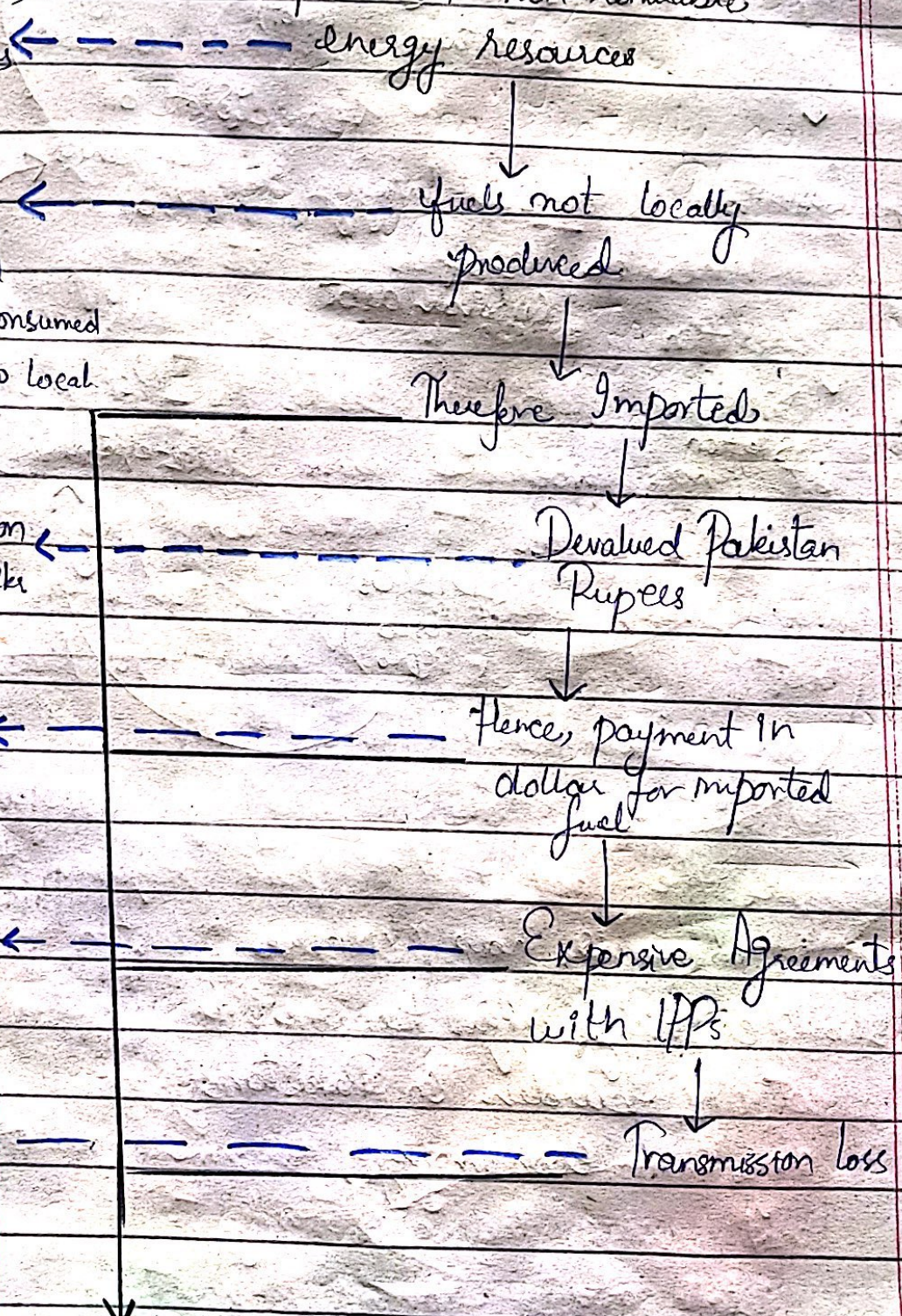
60-70%
generated
by IPPs
2.64tn PKR
debt

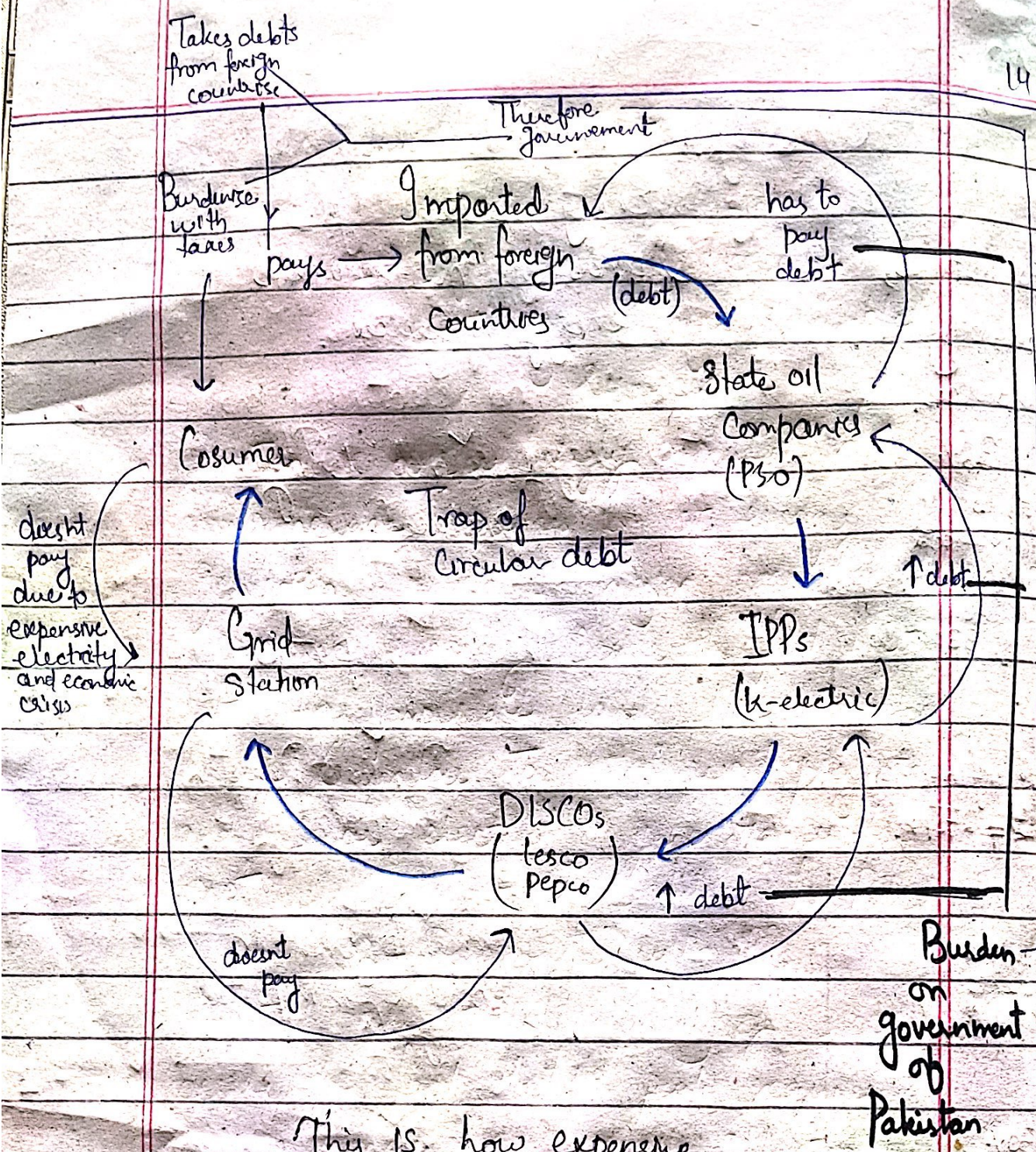
Expensive Agreements
with IPPs

17%
transmission
loss

Transmission loss

Economic
burden



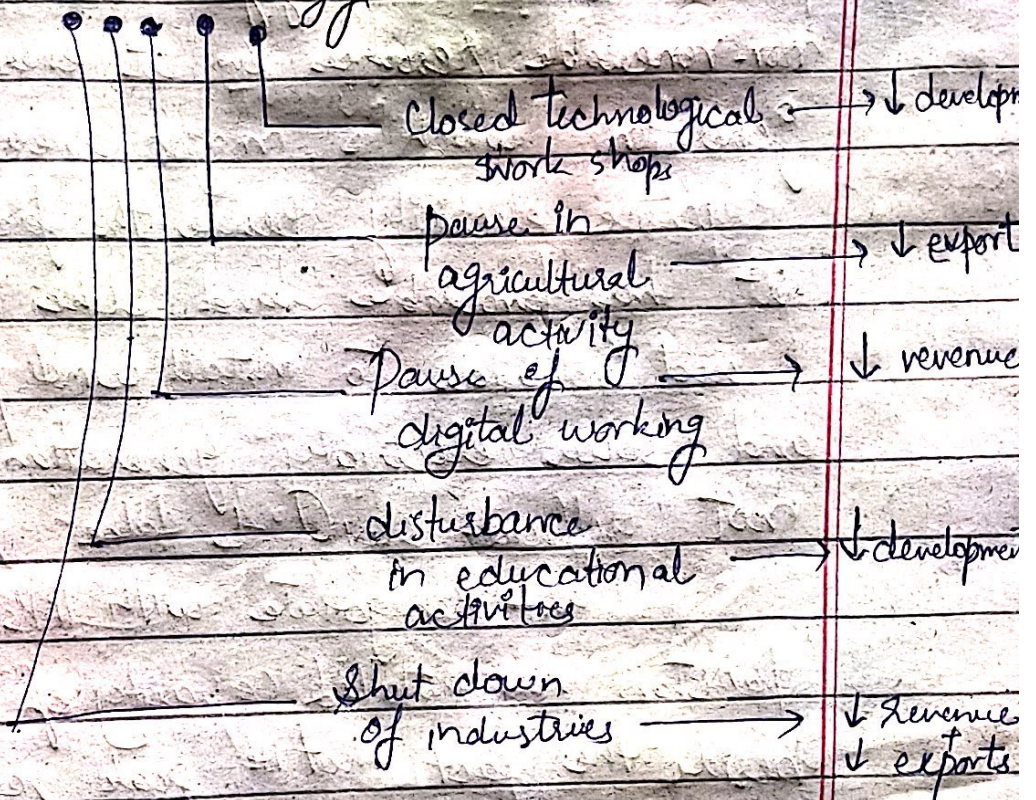


This is how expensive electricity has become a burden on Pakistan's economy.

Similarly, load shedding

"Technology depends upon electricity"

Therefore if no electricity, no technology-based work



Which will result nothing but economical decline.

Collectively, expensive electricity and load shedding results in disturbance of national life with higher production of cost of industrial goods, increased circular debts, doubled commercial cost. Therefore, no way to come out of debt trap

and economical crisis.

Recommendations

01 = Shift towards production of electricity through renewable resources

Pakistan is overwhelmingly dependant on non-renewable resources for its energy generation which is major reason behind expensive electricity. Beside the fact that it has favourable land like Karschi and Gaudar to install wind projects and solar electricity generation is also not difficult step to take for Pakistan.

02 = Renegotiate with IPPs

Pakistan has installed capacity of 38000 MW beside the fact that its peak requirement i.e. in summer is 28000 MW Pakistan should go for negotiations ^{with} for them for cheap electricity. 30% IPPs are ready for negotiations and govt. government must not miss the opportunity to retalk about capacity payment.

03- Build Dams.

Pakistan should concentrate on building more and more dams that will provide cheap hydroal energy along with lowering other issues like flood and economic crisis that will benefit no one other than Pakistan.

04- Control the Transmission Loss

Pakistan has highest transmission loss (i.e. 17%) in South Asia due to old and non-function transmission lines. Their revamping must be ensured, that will cover circular debt and trade deficit too and while benefiting the commercial consumer.

Question: 08

Afghan Taliban changed from non-state to state actors.

Taliban after a long struggle, got hold of Afghanistan. Throne of Afghanistan is to no one other TIA leader who is the graveyard of empires now have the permanent ruler over it. It came not only with permanent victory but serious challenges too. But still, Taliban are full of hopes and enthusiasm welcoming world cooperation.

Challenges for Taliban government

1) Un-recognized gov't government

Not surprisingly, most of the world still hasn't recognized Taliban regime in Afghanistan as the extremist and terror-strained government has done a lot to be considered low at morals. Few of Muslim countries including Pakistan has recognized them as done earlier in 1990s. But non-recognition and no acceptance of West has still not given Taliban their international identity.

2) Gender Gap

On arrival of Taliban government on Afghan throne, almost 13 countries were ready to accept their government if they accept the condition of women rights including women education as priority but their Shariah based system gave no room for it.

Gender gap report 2022 revealed Afghanistan to be at last (146/146) in women gender gap. UN commented that Taliban government has undermined decade long struggles of women rights.

3) Lack of International Cooperation

No western country is ready to trade with Afghanistan as no one trust Taliban regime to be honest. Also major importers being aligned USA and not ready to cooperate with Afghan government for development as it still remain unidentified ignored Asian country.

4) Economic Crisis

The country has no structural planning for long term economic stability. The war and conflicts from country is going through same situation of as of next door neighbour Pakistan. However many countries and UN has donated money to government to ensure country's

5) Food insecurity

Due to lack of agricultural development and imports country is insecure in term of human capital, lack shortage of food is prevailing in country which has involved country in smuggling flour and other food commodities. Porous border with IPR has witnessed food smuggling cases which clearly indicate that country is going through challenge of food insecurity as well.

6) Pointing fingers of Terrorism blames

Pakistan is shifting blames on Afghan government for increased TTP militancy in Pakistan along with allegations of providing safe heavens to Baloch Nationalist and is compelling to shift strategic calculus on supporting TTP. Afghan government being helpless to stop TTP, as TTP has earlier supported Afghan Taliban militancy, predicts the seed of enmity being sown between ~~and~~ with immediate neighbour. Although they understand the importance of good relations with Pakistan but are finding themselves unable to handle the scenario.

7) Undiplomatism

Due to deprivation of International recognition Afghan government is finding it difficult to diplomatically connect with strategically important countries. Also western countries due to trust issues with Taliban have been

Seen resumed to diplomatically connect with Afghanistan,

Recommendations

- 1) Work should be done on agricultural developments
- 2) Production of exportable products should be focused
- 3) Afghan government should play effective and impressive diplomacy
- 4) Increase trades with neighbours
- 5) Control TIP to enjoy beneficial relations with Pakistan
- 6) Work on women rights and reducing gender gap
- 7) Seek international cooperation for development of women education in Afghanistan
- 8) Develop good relations with major regional powers including China
- 9) Give up terrorism activity and giving safe heavens to terrorist to win world trust
- 10) Reframe foreign policy with extreme focus on tool of national prestige