



National Officers Academy
Mock-7 for CSS-2024
November 2023
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE-II
(CURRENT AFFAIRS)

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS	PART-I (MCQS)	MAXIMUM MARKS = 20
PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	PART-II	MAXIMUM MARKS = 80

NOTE:

- i. **Part-II** is to be attempted on the separate **Answer Book**.
- ii. Attempt **ONLY FOUR** questions from **PART-II**. **ALL** questions carry **EQUAL** marks.
- iii. All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places.
- iv. Write **Q. No.** in the Answer Book in accordance with **Q. No.** in the Q. Paper.
- v. No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed.
- vi. Extra attempt of any question or any part of the question will not be considered.

SUBJECTIVE PART — PART-II

- Q. 2.** Six new members being added into BRICS. How do you see the geo-economics and political implications of the expansion? What are the possible hurdles in the way of the organization?
- Q. 3.** Balance of payment crisis has repeatedly compelled Pakistan to approach the IMF for a bailout package. How do you see the role of the IMF in the fiscal, monetary and foreign policy making of Pakistan?
- Q. 4.** Elaborate the idea of "Loss and Damages Fund" established at Sharmul Sheikh Climate conference Egypt. What role Islamabad played in it and how would it benefit Pakistan?
- Q. 5.** Problems in the power sector has resulted in unimaginably expensive electricity that has far reaching negative implications on the economy, social and political life of the country. Critically evaluate the statement and suggest workable recommendations.
- Q. 6.** How do see the ongoing Hamas-Israel war? What are its possible implications on regional and global power politics?
- Q. 7.** What is "One China Two systems policy"? How US policy towards Taiwan is hurting it? What could be its possible implications? Give recommendations.
- Q. 8.** US- India growing strategic partnership is mainly to contain China but it also has massive negative implications on Pakistan. Recommend policy options for Islamabad to follow.

Best of Luck for CSS-2024

Code _____

Q: No.	Answer Part-II
1	Q: 2
2	Answer 1-
3	Introduction
4	"BRICS is the economic
5	co-operation among
6	countries; Brazil,
7	Russia, India, China,
8	and South Africa"
9	(The Economist)
10	BRICS is an organization
11	of cooperation. Further, six new
12	members are added into BRICS.
13	This has several geo-economic
14	and geo-political implications. How-
15	ever, it also has certain hurdles
16	as well. Thus, BRICS is an eco-
17	nomical cooperation among respective
18	countries.
19	
20	

2- A bird's eye view of the past of BRICS

"BRICS is the 'building better world' of respective countries."

— Jim O'Neil,

The Economist No: 66

In 2001, BRICS was initiated by Brazil, Russia, China, India, and South Africa. The purpose was economic progress.

B	Brazil
R	Russia
I	India
C	China
S	South Africa

Hence, BRICS is economic co-operation among countries.

3-

Expansion of BRICS

" Saudi Arab, Iran, UAE,
Argentina, Egypt, and
Ethiopia are new
addition into BRICS."

BRICS expansion is
led by above six new members.

"BRICS members are
40% of the world
population."

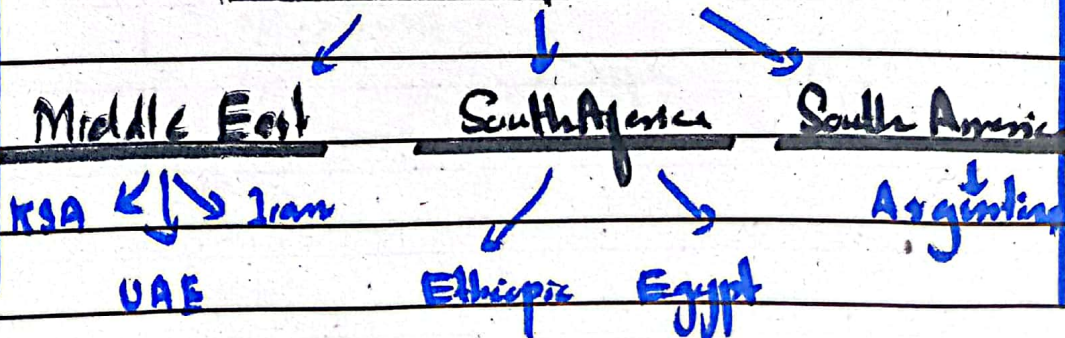
(The Institute of Strategic
Studies of Islamabad)

Not only this, but it has also,

"BRICS members also
make 60% of the
world GDP."

(The ISSI, 2023)

BRICS-Expansion



This shows expansion of BRICS.

4- Geo-economic implications of BRICS
 Following are geo-economic implications:

a) Need of new currency

BRICS emphasized on the new currency. These members are going to trade into a new currency.

"China, Russia, and

Iran are more

concerned to develop

a new currency.

(The Economist, 2023)

This shows need of new currency.

b) OPEC - BRICS: Oil production and export

Further, BRICS is also moving towards oil hegemony.

ony.

"BRICS produce about 50% of oil of the world."

(The Economist, 2022)

Thus, BRICS can take oil hegemony.

c) Alternative of the Western bank

Moreover, BRICS also wants to reduce the Western hegemony. It wants to produce own banking channel.

In 2015, BRICS developed "New Development Bank."

(The Economist, 2022)

Hence, BRICS is going to produce own banking system.

Geo-economic impacts

new currency

alternative to Western Bank

oil hegemony

5- Geo-political implications of BRICS
 Following are geo-political implications:

a) Threat to G-7 and G-20 hegemony
 BRICS is a threat to G-7 and G-20 hegemony. At least, it is a step to curtail Western hegemony.

"China wants to achieve its aim of multi-polar world through BRICS..."

(The Economist, 2013)

Thus, BRICS is a threat to the Western hegemony.

b) Restructuring South pole of the globe
 Further, BRICS also restructure South pole.

"Addition of two members of South America"

and one from South America is a symbol of South development." (The Economist, 2022)

Hence, BRICS leads to South development.

c) Anti-West alliances

Furthermore, BRICS seems to be anti-West alliance-

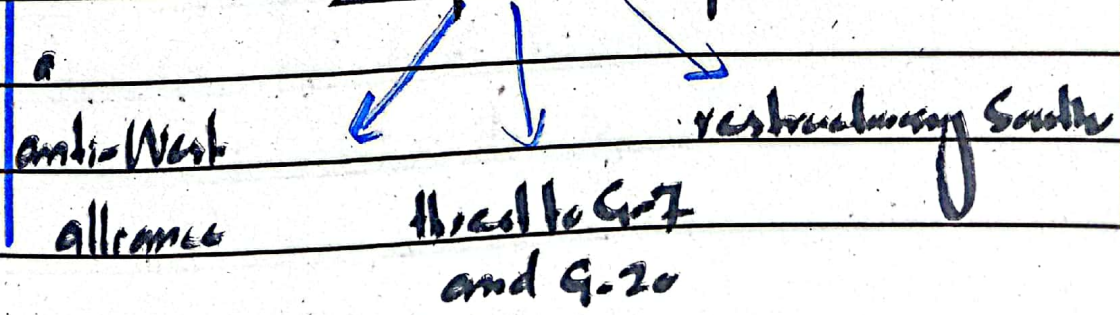
"China in the US-Sino rivalry, sanctions on Russia, and sanctions in Iran show

BRICS as anti-west alliance."

(Analysts' view 2022)

This shows BRICS as the anti-West alliance.

Geo-political implications



6- Hurdles in the way of organizations

Following are hurdles:

a) Indo-US strategic partnership

Indo-US partnership shows strong relations of India with the US.

"Indo-US partnership will make BRICS progress show."

(Analyst's view)

Hence, Indo-US partnership can be a major hurdle.

b) Relations of Saudi Arab and the US

Moreover, relations of Saudi Arab and US is another possible hurdle.

"Saudi Arab has always good relations with"

the US."

(Analysts' view)

Hence, Saudi relations with the US can be a hurdle.

c) Crumbling economy of South pole

Further, economic meltdown of the South pole will also take a long time.

"No doubt, slow economy of the South pole is making BRICS organization slow."

(Analysts' view)

Thus, crumbling economy of South pole is also a major hurdle.

Possible hurdles

Indo-US
partnership

Saudi-US relations

Crumbling economy of
south pole

7-

Conclusion

"BRICS is a well-organized economic co-operation initiative."

(The Economist, 2009)

BRICS is an organization of economic co-operation. In fact, it also has several geo-economic and geo-political implications. Moreover, several hurdles can also make its functioning slow. Despite all, BRICS is a co-operation development of economy.

Q: 3

Answer 1- Introduction

" BOP crisis has become
a severe trouble
for Pakistan... "

(Pakistan Bureau of
Statistics, 2022)

Balance of payment crisis has repeatedly compelled Pakistan to approach the IMF for a bail-out package. In consequence the IMF has its role in framing Pakistan's fiscal, monetary, and foreign policy. Hence, BOP crisis has put Pakistan on the threshold of the IMF.

2- Balance of payment crisis: An Overview

"Pakistan had a
worth of \$ 18 billions
of BOP- crisis"

(State Bank of Pakistan,
2022)

Pakistan, unfortunately, had faced a huge BOP in 2022. As a result, Pakistan approached the IMF. This shows how Pakistan is caught in BOP-crisis.

3- The IMF bailout package and Pakistan's economic condition

No doubt, Pakistan has the economic meltdown.

"Pakistan got very low remittance of \$4 billion only"

(Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2023)

Moreover,

"The deficit of trade reached at \$44 billions."

(Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2022).

This shows that Pakistan's econo-

mic meltdown.

Economic Meltdown

PKR - devaluation

low remittance

trade deficit

However,

"The IMF will help in
stabilizing its
economic condition."

(Pakistani analysts)

Hence, Pakistan's economic condition
shows reliance on the IMF bailout
package.

4- The role of IMF in Pakistan's
policies

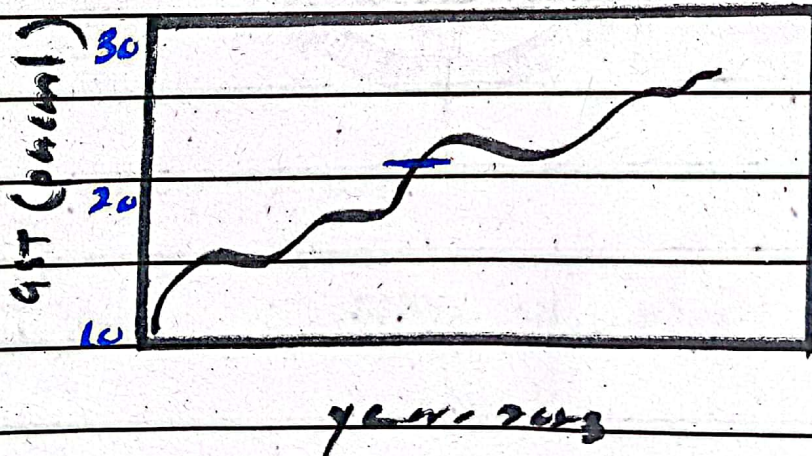
Following is detail
of it:

a) Role of the IMF in the fiscal policy
 The IMF has played a role in framing fiscal policy of Pakistan.

"About 17pc of GST is imposed to collect a huge sum."

(Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2023)

Hence, the GST is increased to collect taxation.



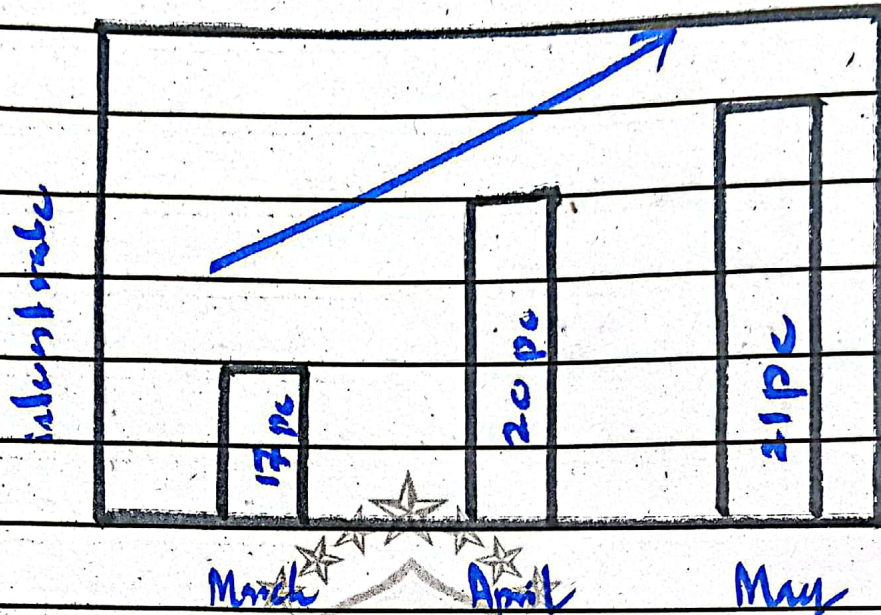
b) Role of the IMF in the monetary policy

Along with fiscal

Code _____

Q: No.	Answer	
1	policy, the IMF has always played role in monetary policy of Paki- stan.	
2		
3		
4	"In March 2023, interest rate increased from 17pc to 20pc." (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2023)	
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9		Further,
10		"This interest rate further raised by 1pc and became 21pc in April, 2023." (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2023)
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12		
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14		
15	Furthermore, "Interest rate reached at 22pc in May, 2023."	
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19		
20		

(- Pakistan Bureau
Statistics, 2023)



Hence, the IMF has role in programming monetary policy as well.

c) Role of IMF in the foreign policy of Pakistan

Moreover, the IMF has always promoted its role in leading the foreign policy of Pakistan.

‘Pakistan should collect different sources

of loan from several countries."

(The IMF, 2023)

The IMF has always made Pakistan in relation development with countries.

"Trade restrictions should also be released."

(The IMF, 2023)

This shows how the IMF makes foreign policy of Pakistan.

The IMF - Rule

fiscal policy

taxation

monetary policy

interest rate

foreign policy

trade

5-

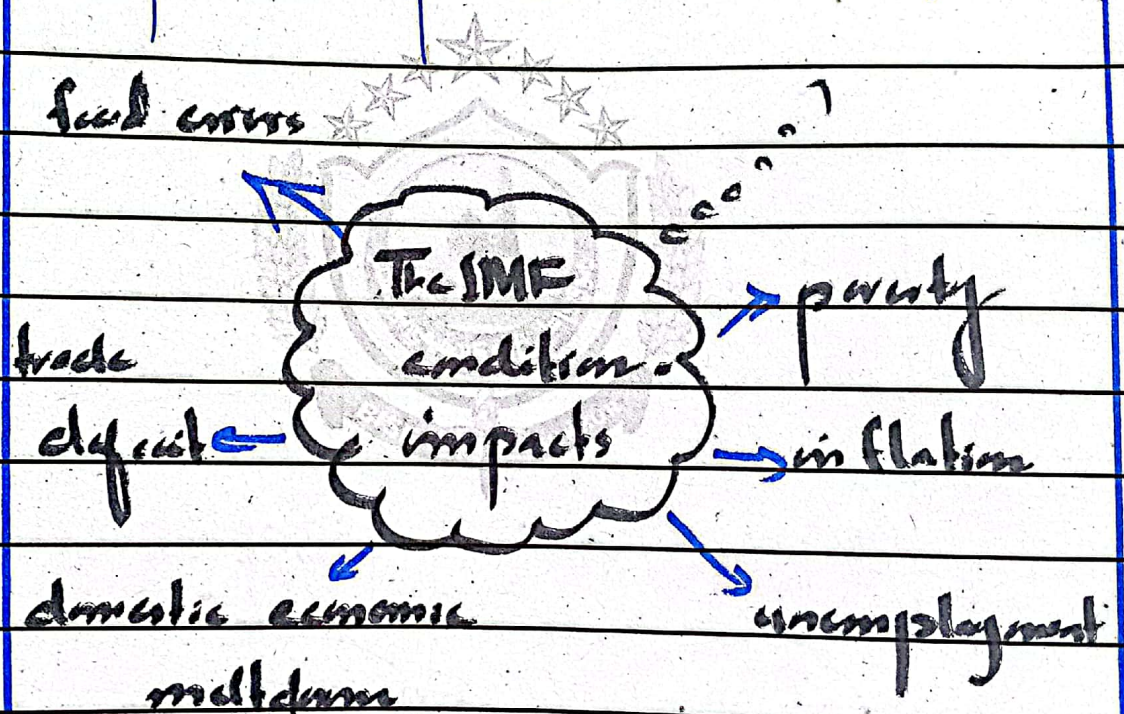
Critical Analysis

"The IMF bailout package is not a

permanent solution"

(Pakistani Analyst's view)

The IMF bailout package is not a permanent solution. As it results inflation, poverty, unemployment etc. Thus, Pakistan needs to follow own resources generation to frame independent policies.



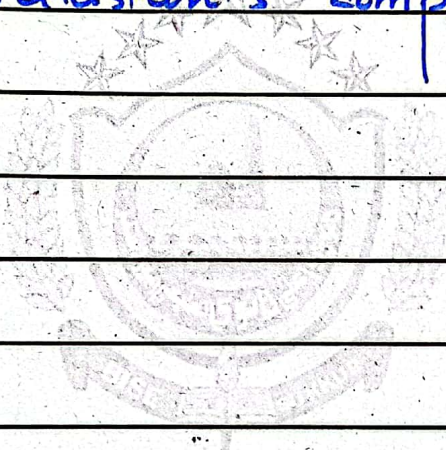
6- Conclusion

"Pakistan has a tremendous potential to stabilize its

economic condition."

(The World Bank, 2023)

Balance of payment crisis repeatedly compelled Pakistan to approach the IMF for a bailout package. As a result, Pakistan's fiscal, monetary, and foreign policies are under the IMF conditions. This shows Pakistan's compel due to BOP crisis.



Q:4

Answer 1- Introduction

"Fund for the 'loss and damage' for developing countries" was

"initiated at COP-27."

(The Economics), 2022)

"Loss and damage fund" idea established at Sharm el Sheikh, Climate Conference, Egypt. Pakistan, no doubt, was a chief player of establishing "fund for the loss and damage" that is Pakistan's success. This as a result has many benefits for Pakistan in climate resilience and economic structure.

2- COP-27: An overview

"Fund for the Loss and

Damage" was accepted
in the COP-27

conference."

(COP-27-2022)

In 2022, Pakistan also participated in the climate conference at Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt. This conference established a new idea of "Fund for the loss and damage." Thus, COP-27 was a foundation of fund.

3- Pakistan's role in the climate conference: COP-27

Pakistan played following role:

a) Climate threat especially to developing countries acceptance

Pakistan explained the impacts of global climate in developing countries.

"Pakistan is the less contributor, but the 4th most affected country."

(The IPCC, 2023)

Thus, Pakistan expressed impacts globally.

by Idea of fund for the loss and damage

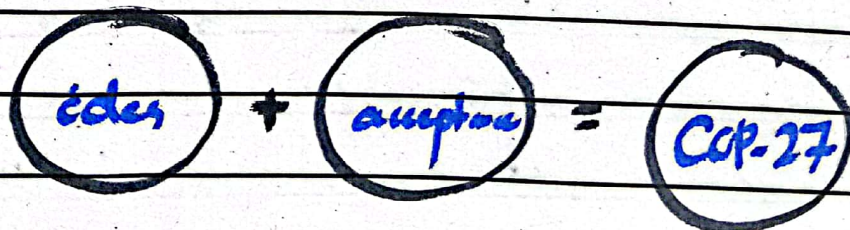
Moreover, idea of the loss and damage was given by Pakistan.

"All developed countries should allocate fund for developing countries."

(Pakistan's role in COP-27, 2022)

Hence, Pakistan paved a way for the "Fund for the loss and damage."

Climate Conference: COP-27



4- Benefits of 'Fund for the Loss and Damage' for Pakistan
 Pakistan has following benefits:

a) Climate resilience

Pakistan will be able to climate resilience.

"Pakistan will save natural environmental stewardship."

(Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2023)

Hence, Pakistan will effectively address climate hazards.

b) Restructuring economic conditions

Climate stability will pave a way for economic boom. Pakistan will save its GDP at a large rate.

"Pakistan can save
\$ 32.3 billion Rs by
climate resilient."

(The World Bank, 2009)

This shows a hope of economic
structure.

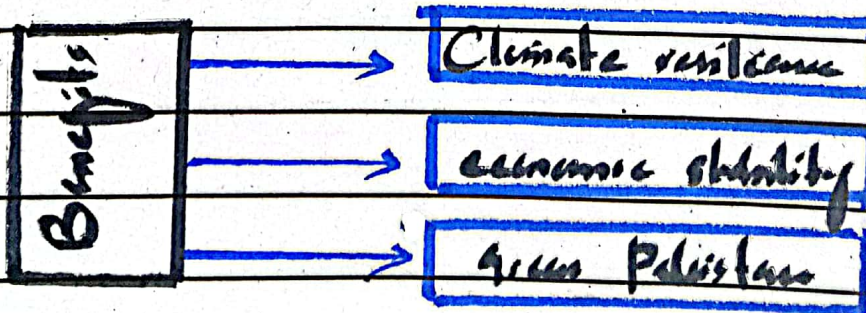
c) Green Pakistan

Moreover, "green Pakistan" will get enhancement. Pakistan will get enough potential to plant more trees.

"'Billion tree tsunami'
like projects will get
resurgence."

(Farid Bari, Pakistan's success in COP-23)

This shows a step towards "Green Pakistan."



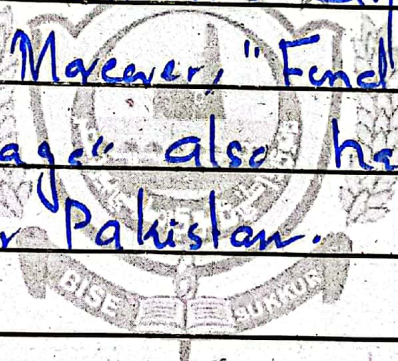
5-

Conclusion

"COP-27 shows
Pakistan's diplomatic
success."

(Pakistan Bureau of
Statistics, 2022)

"Loss and damage" fund
established in COP-27. Pakistan
had a vital role in it. This
shows Pakistan's diplomatic success
globally. Moreover, "Fund for the Loss
and Damage" also has several be-
nefits for Pakistan.



Q: 8

Answer

Introduction

"Indo-US strategic partnership is compulsion of Pakistan towards nuclear race"

(The ISSI, 2023)

US-India growing strategic partnership is mainly to contain China. No doubt, it also has several negative implications for Pakistan. These implications demand proactive policies to reduce its implications.

2- Reality of US-Indo strategic partnership

"China is observing the US containment, circumvent, and suppression"

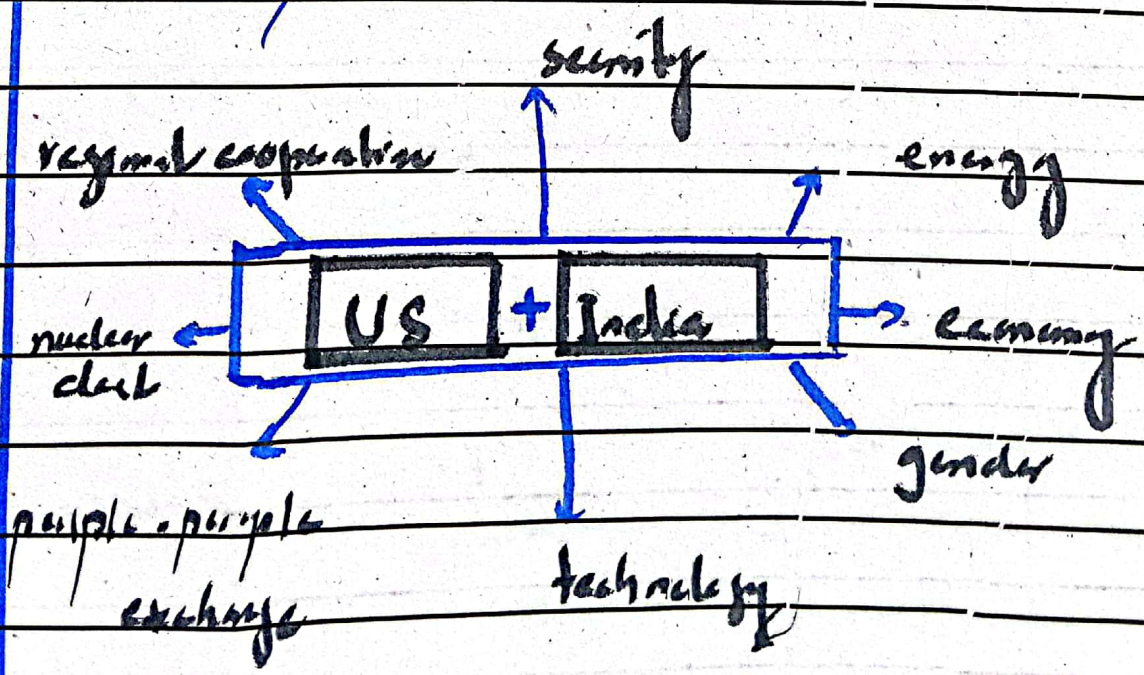
(China Bureau of Statistics, 2023)

US-Indo Strategic partnership is mainly to contain China. This is also observed by China as the US' growing influence.

Indo-US Strategic partnership



Moreover,



This shows growing US-Indo partnership against China.

3- Massive negative implications on Pakistan

Following are implications:

1) Trade containment

The US-Indo partnership will impact trade of Pakistan.

About 95% of Pakistan's trade is via the Arabian Sea.

(Pakistan Bureau of Statistics)

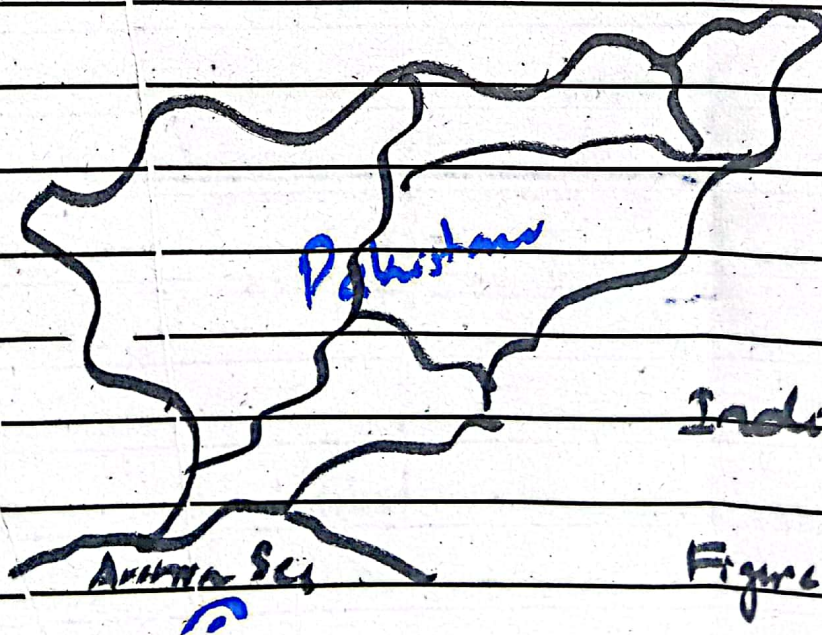


Figure: 1

Code _____

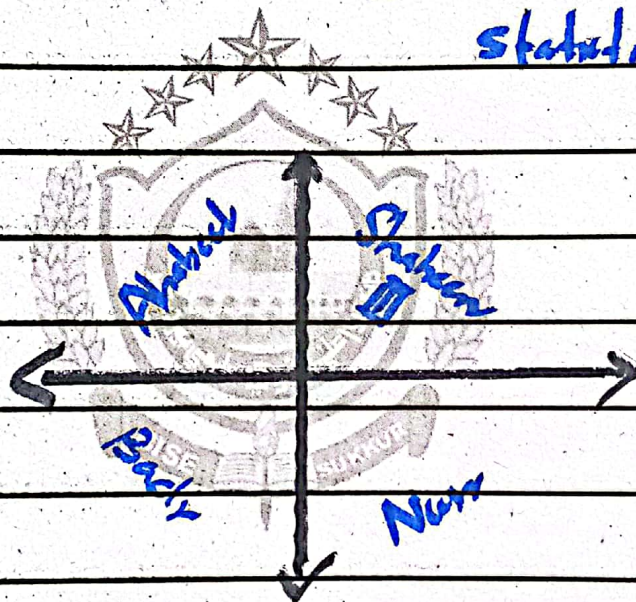
Q: No.	Answer
1	Thus, Indo-US partnership can impact trade of Pakistan.
2	
3	
4	<p>b) Insecurity in Indian Ocean region</p> <p>Further, Pakistan will be vulnerable to insecurity in Indian Ocean.</p> <p>"About one-third of global trade passes through Indian Ocean."</p> <p>(Al-Jazeera, 2012)</p> <p>This will make Pakistan insecure in Indian ocean.</p>
5	
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15	<p>c) Nuclear imbalance between India and Pakistan</p> <p>Moreover, nuclear imbalance will get deep-roots. Ind-</p>
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	

its growing partnership has become
compel of Pakistan towards nuclear
development.

• Pakistan launched
Sheheen-III and Ahsanul
miracles to balance

nuclear...

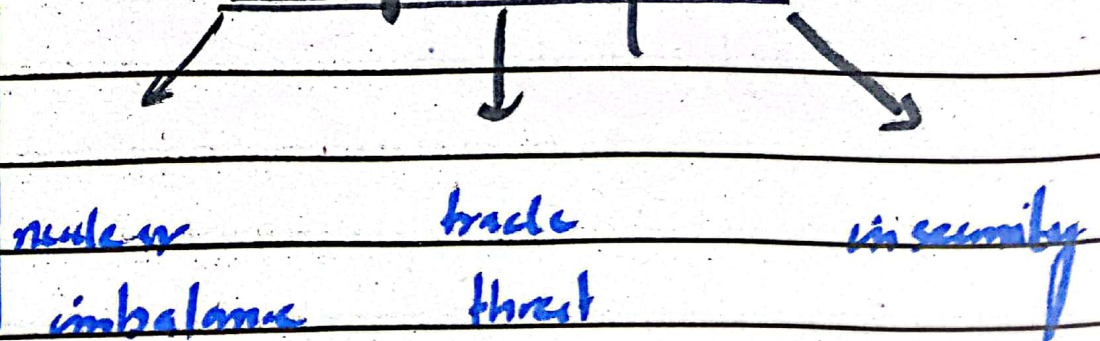
(Pakistan's Business
Statistics, 2015)



• Nuclear development

Hence, it poses nuclear threat to
Pakistan as well.

Negative impacts



4- Proactive policies to contain negative implications of Indo-US partnership

Following are strategies:

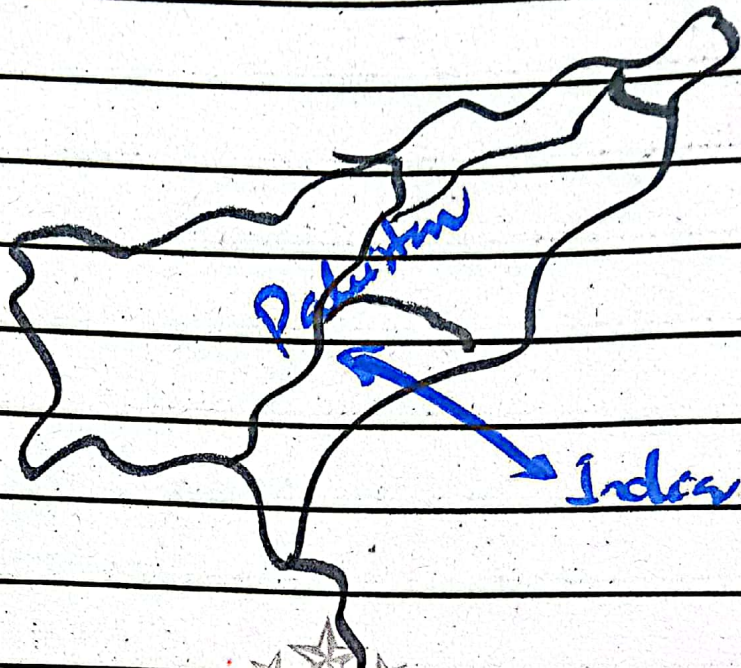
a) Pursue policy to establish trade relations with India

Pakistan should seek out a way to improve relations with India. It will help in bilateral trade.

"Pakistan can utilize the SCO platform to improve trade cooperation with India."

(The Economist, 2019)

This shows Pakistan should improve trade relations with India.

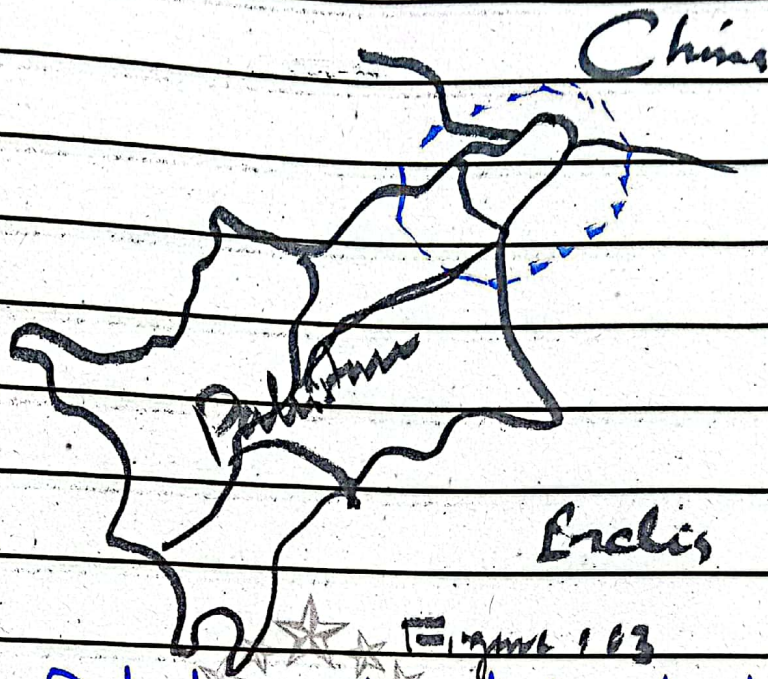


b) Co-operation with China

Moreover, Pakistan also need to get focus of China in co-operation against Indo-US impacts.

"China's co-operation in containing implications of US-India partnership will keep Pakistan safe."

(Analysts view)



Thus, Pakistan should lead to co-operation with China.

c) Nuclear balance

Further, Pakistan also enhance its nuclear programme. India's growing nuclear power is becoming dominant.

"Pakistan need to promote its nuclear programme"

(Pakistan Bureau of Statistics)

Therefore, Pakistan should also enhance its nuclear programme.

Practical Solutions



trade relations

with India



co-operation with

China



nuclear enhancement

5- Conclusion

"Pakistan with China

leadership can

reduce threats of

the US-India partnership."

(Faisal Bin, analyst)

US-India growing strategic partnership is mainly to contain China. No doubt, it also

has several negative impacts on Pakistan. However, above recommended solutions can reduce these implications for the future security.

