

## Pak. Affair Mock.

Q3) 1) Introduction : New Age of War

The relationship between Pakistan and India can be characterised by long history of hostilities, disputes, and wars. These hostilities were not circumscribed to the domain of military adeptness but span political, economic, diplomatic, and social spheres. With the rapid advancement of science and technology that has permeated to all corners of the world, there emerges a new front of war where the two countries can slug it out by using cyber attacks.

2) What is Cyber Warfare:

There remains no ambivalence that solely relying on military means in a war is a thing of the past. The 21<sup>st</sup> century has exposed the world to a whirlpool of technological advancement and innovation. Along with the numerous benefits that people reap from these advancements, there are also some challenges that have



surfaced. Cyber warfare is one of these challenges. Cyber warfare refers to the use of technology, digital tactics, procedures to conduct offensive and defensive operations in the virtual domain. The emergence of such intricate means of attacking have rendered the over-reliance on military prowess ineffective. This thought is also reinforced by Richard H. Ullman who asserts that considering National security in military terms is misleading;

1) Firstly, ~~to~~ it ignores the threats emerging from non-military sources.

2) Secondly, it surmises that threats emanating from outside the state are more perilous than hazards that emanate from within.

3) Digital Frontier; a new Domain for National Security concerns:

3.1) Espionage and Information Risks:

Gone are the days when countries had to send trained spies for espionage missions. With the beginning of cyber age, such endeavours can



be pursued digitally. countries invest in training and harnessing hackers that can conduct such operations from sitting behind a screen. Not only are such manoeuvres safe as there a low probability of identifying the perpetrators, but are also more effective as it drastically broadens the spectrum of possible targets.

Example:

Pegasus is a spyware created by mosad, Israel's intelligence agency, which has been purportedly conducting espionage missions by hacking the personal mobile devices of many notable personalities including the president of France.

3.2) Critical Infrastructure Vulnerability:

Cyber attacks can target critical infrastructures such as power grids, water supplies, transportation and communication networks. Disruptions in such important structures can cause upheaval, gradually deteriorating the country from within and making



it susceptible to ~~ext~~ attacks from external sources.

### 3.3) Economic Impact:

Cyber attacks on financial institutions, businesses, and government entities can ensue in economic losses. Moreover, cyber ~~attack~~ attack can be conducted to retrieve sensitive financial information, trade secrets that can have a profound ~~bearing~~ impact on the country's economic landscape if fallen in the wrong hands.

### 3.4) Military Systems Compromise:

Cyber warfare also poses risk to military systems. Not only can these attacks be employed to procure sensitive military information that can be used by the enemy to compromise the defense capabilities, but can also be used to cause disruptions in key defense entities, potentially sabotaging entire programs.



Example:

Project Nitro-Zeus, collaborated between Mosad and CIA, ~~attacked~~ launched a cyber attack at Iran's key nuclear facility, dismantling the entire program from within and precluding Iran from ~~to~~ getting hands on the elusive and deadly nuclear weapons.

3.5) Cyber Terrorism:

Cyber warfare can be employed by terrorist organisations to target key infrastructure and government entities to spread chaos and upheaval that can help them to achieve their devious means.

4) Conclusion:

In a Nutshell, the advancements of science and technology have opened another front of war. This development has exposed the country to many vulnerabilities that can have dire ramifications, spanning security, economic



, and political dimensions. However, by placing stern policies and taking robust steps, the country can build and bolster its defenses against possible cyber assaults.

(Q4) i) Introduction : Pakistan's exuberant Population Growth

There remains no ambiguity that Pakistan has witnessed a rapid growth in population. The country was not prepared nor equipped to handle this issue. The world Bank indicates that the population of Pakistan has grown from 80 million in 1980's to a mammoth like 230 million in 2021. This surge implies that Pakistan is likely to suffer dire consequences spanning social and economic spheres.

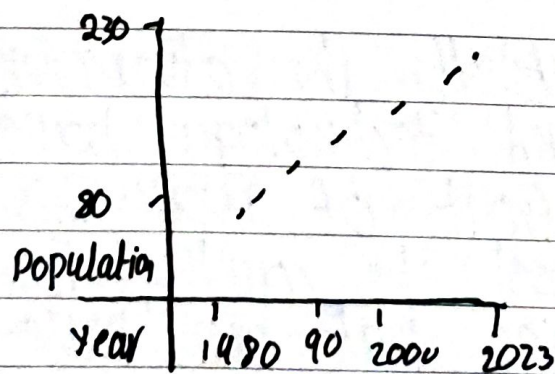


Fig 1: Indicates the exuberant Population growth.



## 2) Impacts of Pakistan's unaddressed Population growth on the socio-economic climate:

### 2.1) Pressure on Resources:

It is a well established fact supported by evidence from various parts of the world that unaddressed population growth can exhaust a country's resources. Pakistan, being a country that already relies heavily on imported hydrocarbons, cannot afford to deplete out its existing reserves, such a scenario would only add to the country's plight. Reinforcing the thought, The Suez-Northern Gas Pipeline Limited (SNGPL), expresses concerns over the country's dwindling gas reserves, indicating that 66.6% of the total reserves have already been consumed.

### 2.2) Pervasive unemployment:

The rapid increase in population can increase unemployment in the country. This, in turn, can have massive



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repercussions as growing unemployment rates would increase the pressure on state to provide for these people. International Labour Organization indicates that unemployment rates have climbed to new highs with roughly about 5.6 million people having no luck in finding jobs despite their best endeavours.

### 2.3) Poverty and Inequality

With unemployment rates climbing, the increase in poverty should come as no surprise. This is especially true if the economy of the country fails to keep pace with the population growth. Corroborating this thought, the World Bank indicates that around 21.9% of the country's ~~25%~~ population lives below the poverty line (World Bank, 2018)

### 2.4) Brain Drain :

Since the emancipated employment sector has failed to provide for many individuals, they are left

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with no choice but to pursue their employment prospects abroad. This is especially true for skilled and professional individuals who find ~~the~~ the scarcity ~~of~~ in employment prospects as an injustice to their capabilities. DW News indicates that 200,000 Pakistanis left the country in the first 3 months of 2023, with trends showing no sign of abating.

### 2.5) Urbanisation Challenges :

Unplanned population growth ensues in rapid urbanisation. This can lead to the emergence of informal settlements, inadequate settlements infrastructure, and challenges in providing basic services to urban population.

### 2.6) Environmental Impacts :

unchecked, unrestrained population growth can have profound bearing on the environmental conditions. The surge in population of leads to expansion of cities and more often than no



natural habitats surrounding these cities & are dismantled.

### 2.7) Healthcare strain:

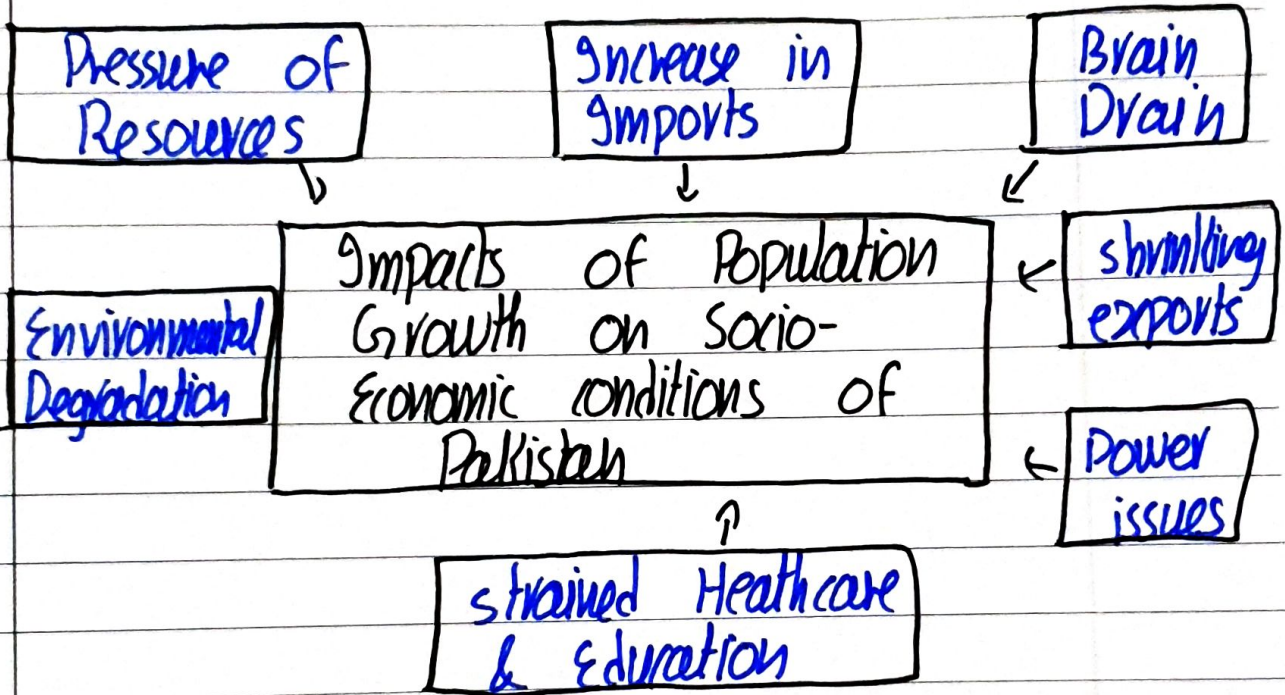
A rapidly increasing population can exhaust the medical services especially if healthcare is not expanded to meet the needs of the growing population. This implies that a major portion of the population will not receive proper healthcare treatments.

### 2.8) Current Account Deficit:

Current Account refers to the difference of income a country has to send abroad and the income a country receives. Growing population means that that country will have to augment its imports in order to meet the demands of the growing population. Moreover, it can also shrink the exports of a country since the products and services will be exhausted by the locals, leaving only a



modicum to be exported.



### 3) Conclusion :

There remains no doubt that an unequipped, unprepared Pakistan was left bare in the face of this ~~that~~ unanticipated challenge. The country has already suffered a lot ~~for~~ from this challenge, with trends showing no signs of abating. However, the shipwrecked country can still be steered to safer shores if meticulously designed reforms and robust measures are introduced.