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Batch 49.

Current Affairs Day.  
Paper.

Q: China and Pakistan are celebrating the decade of CPEC. Critically evaluate Success and failures of the project.

Ans: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) holds a central position within the strategic partnership between the two nations. Since its inception in 2013, through an agreement signed between president of China and Prime minister of Pakistan, it represents as a testament to the enduring friendship between the two countries. It connects Pakistan's Gwadar port to China's Xinjiang Uyghur and encompasses a diverse range of projects consist of railways, highways and pipelines. CPEC is the flagship project of BRI that provides a shortest route to Arabian Sea avoiding

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a long and narrow Strait of Malacca.

Although CPEC is considered a debt trap and a mere infrastructure project by most of the western countries. Specially USA, but the project is also a platform of improving the trade and creating a strong economic relationship between the two countries.

The Li Deng, Vice Prime Minister's visit:

The recent visit of China's vice prime minister in July, 2023 marked the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pakistan-China project, CPEC, which is a landmark project that has strengthened the economic ties and cooperation between the two nations.

Over the past ten years CPEC has played a pivotal role in transforming Pakistan's economic landscape. The successful completion of multiple projects under CPEC and the China's investment of nearly \$30 billion stand

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as testament to the effatnes of flaship  
project of CPEC. It is obvious from  
the words of Xi Jinping, president  
of China,

"CPEC is a testament to the  
enduring friendship between China  
and Pakistan, and it represent a  
shining example of regional  
cooperation and connectivity"

### Success of the Project:

As the project is a mutual benefiting  
project for economic growth and  
prosperity. CPEC for Pakistan drives  
both the phases remained and  
is a helpful hand in energy  
shortages and economic development

### CPEC Phase I

#### Investment in Energy Sectors.

A wide range of investments in  
energy sectors that include the  
projects of coal, civil nuclear  
hydroelectric, wind projects and solar

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### Benefits

projects which will help Pakistan in coping with electricity, load shedding, cheaper electricity generation, Decrease in trade deficit, along with all it will provide Pakistan with a clean energy production.

### Investment in Transport system:

The investment in transport system can be divided into High way, motor ways, railways and Gawadar sea-port. Examples are ① southern alignment from Gawadar to Basima

② Eastern alignment that commences from Burhan - Faisalabad - Multan - Sukkar - Hyderabad and to Karachi

### Accommodate in one paragraph

Railways. Includes Maw line. It's a single free double track system and a project of 3 million dollar.

Gawadar Seaport is the largest seaport in Asia Pacific of 120 berths and a structure of 3 kms

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traverse ahead into the sea.

### Benefits of Transport Sector:

It will transform Pakistan into a transit corridor. It will not only provide trade routes to China and Pakistan but approximately 64 countries would be connected through the transit. These countries include China, the landlocked Central Asian Republics, Russia, Afghanistan and Iran. If these projects are fully completed it can drive Pakistan as an economic prospering country and an extremely important strategic position in the world.

### Phase II of CPEC Project:

Phase II of CPEC is the renewal of LPEC in which most of the projects are completed and put to operation. They are operational now. The phase II is an investment in the Special Zone through the country. Different zones in KPK, Punjab, Balochistan

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like Rashakai zone KP, Allama Iqbal  
economic zone Peshawar.

### Industrialization Benefits.

As Pakistan's industry is on decline  
and more industrial zones means  
more production. It will enhance  
the industrial productivity by triple.

Stress on success

Concluding the success from above discussion  
on energy and industrial projects, CPEC  
has made significant progress focusing  
on building infrastructure ~~and~~ along  
with energy projects. It has helped  
Pakistan with ongoing energy shortages.  
The power outages from FY 2019  
to 2020 was dealt by the CPEC  
projects that added 8000 mega  
watts to the grid, that substantially  
reduced power outages and loadshedding  
in 2020 and 2021 to a greater  
extent.

The special economic zones of CPEC  
is also a doorway to the investment

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for investing in Pakistan, creating new job opportunities and skills development doors.

The CPEC projects have also added to the agriculture projects, ~~introduced~~ introducing new technologies leading to more production in coping the needs of increasing population. CPEC has proven and is been a great project for Pakistan's declining status. The ~~projects~~ projects are also helping Pakistan deal with poverty, unemployment and inequality. The

Moreover, the infrastructure has also helped Pakistan's healthcare and education, by building school hospitals and training systems.

The roads, highway, and motorways have made it easy for transportation of goods and general public to commute easily.

### Failures and challenges

Despite these mega projects and a bright future of CPEC, the potential

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CPEC stands far behind the success stories. Pakistan could multiply the benefits from CPEC as China has offered innovative programs but Pakistan could not benefit from them fully.

The challenges are:

① The institutional framework is complicated. - It makes business unprofitable and discourages investment.

② Lack of parity in another form is the game of Pakistan's bureaucracy.

③ The lip-service as one national game. Having all the solutions but no practical work.

④ Security - Perhaps the biggest threat and challenge to CPEC.

⑤ Political instability is yet another issue in bringing about a clear change in Pakistan's development.

Conclusion: Looking at the success stories and investments of CPEC projects, it is clear that CPEC is holding a bright future for Pakistan, beyond any doubt.



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of the internal matters of the country are solved with diagnostic approach. Moreover, China has consistently supported Pakistan's sovereignty and defended her in the United Nations Council whenever needed.

CPEC is a portal of bringing people of interests in contact to China, to create job opportunities, Educational opportunities to the corner of Sindh province in there. So it is right to celebrate <sup>the 10 years of success</sup> **Rather than challenges add failure**

of CPEC, and it poses greater opportunities for more success.

**Divide between success and failure equally**

Q: The Expansion of BRICS would have far-reaching geo-economics and geo-political implications. Critically -----

Ans The announcement of Expansion on August, 2023 by BRICS has made the paper and raised many complex geopolitical, geo-economic and procedural concerns among the