

3.3.

The new regional configurations

With a less hostile government in Afghanistan, and an end to the bitter animosity between Iran and Saudi Arabia, it is a chance for Pakistan to look towards them for cheaper oil and gas for tackling its energy deficiency. The indigenes centric approach has nothing to do with the economy but it is the chance to put the required effects over the betterment of economy.

3.4.

Opportunities in the European World.

Continuous projections of war and then eliminating itself from global pledges had deteriorated the image of the sole super power. Today, most of the world countries including the European Union are of the view of an independent foreign policy. An example of it is the recent development by Australia who tried to reconcile its relations with China. In such circumstances, Pakistan can project its national interest independently with every notable country.

4.

Conclusion.

To conclude, despite have ^{military} cooperation between India and the United States, Pakistan is having ample opportunities for pursuing its national interest at regional and at international level.

3. Way out for Pakistan

Undoubtedly, the increasing strategic cooperation between USA and India has increased problems in the region in general and for Pakistan in particular, but there are few strategies that can assist Pakistan for a better future.

3.1 Energy Pacts with other countries of NRG.

Admittedly, nuclear energy is the cheapest source of energy so far. Pakistan has the opportunity to make pacts with China or Russia to enhance its civil nuclear capacity. In addition, France has shown interest in cooperation of civil nuclear technology with Pakistan. Pakistan can take advantage of the precedent set by the USA with reference to India.

3.2 Maintaining Balance of Power by Establishing ties with Emerging Powers

For years, India has taken benefits from both super powers, the USA and the former USSR under the pretext of "non-alignment". Since Pakistan is not a part of any pole, it is an opportunity for Pakistan to look around for establishing new alliances with regional and international powers.

economy of Pakistan. According to Dr. Mirza Ishaq Baig, electricity produced by hydro-carbons is 28.7 Rs. per unit. While electricity produced in nuclear power plants costs only Rs. 1.16. If Pakistan would be the beneficiary of NEG, it may eject out of its energy crisis.

- 2.3. The Worsening Situation of Balance of Power
- For the past one and half decades, India has done several pacts with the United States that has turned the security apparatus into the favor of India. The Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMSA) gives India access to advanced communication technology used in U.S. defense equipments. It allows real-time information sharing between the two countries. The BASIC Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) is about sharing of sensitive geospatial data to boost the accuracy of Indian defense and cruise missiles. Similarly the Logistic Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMA) and the Communication and Information Security Memorandum (CISMOA) help India in carrying out operations in the Indian Ocean and expanding its maritime reach in the Asia-Pacific.

hostile neighbour. The developing partnership between India and the US not only deteriorated the balance of power in the region but also it forced Pakistan to look for new alliances and options necessary to maintain deterrence.

2.1 The single victim of NPT - Pakistan

Pakistan, India, and Israel were the three countries that did not take part in the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. As a result, they were not liable to take benefits from Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), but in 2008, the same group NSG under the pressure of USA, allowed the United States to make a civil nuclear deal with India in 2008.

Interestingly, Israel is already taking benefits in this regard. The whole burden falls on the shoulder of Pakistan, who remains far behind in the acquisition of technology from the world.

2.2 Pakistan's Energy Crisis has directly linked with growing strategic partnership of India and the USA.

Among the eminent problems of Pakistan, energy crisis is the looming threat to

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE - II

CURRENT AFFAIRS

HAROON KHAN

Q. 2.

1. US-INDIA growing strategic partnerships

The US India Strategic Partnership is growing with every passing day. From Civil Nuclear Cooperation Initiative in 2008 to Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (ICET) in 2023, both countries are rapidly developing their military ties with each other. At first instance it appears to be a revival of containment policy, this time against China, but a glance over the international politics, it is as against Pakistan as it is against China. However, the unholy alliance between the superpower and India provides Pakistan, China and other regional countries to increase their strategic cooperation.

2. How the growing strategic partnership severely hurts the interests of Pakistan

Pakistan neighbours India with a border of 2400 km. It has a long history of confrontation with India, including three wars and innumerable security clashes. For its survival, Pakistan has attained nuclear status but only after India. Simultaneously, Pakistan expands a notable portion of its budget on defence only due to a