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LMS ID: _____ Date: ____/____/2022

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Batch No. _____ Campuses
Main Campus ISB-2 RWP-I RWP-II LHR Online

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① Question No#02

1) Introduction

"The relationship between the United States and India, bound by our shared interests and values, will be one of the defining partnerships of the 21st century" (Barack Obama).

Indo-US - Indo Pacific partnership is the manifestation of rivalry between the two great powers: China and the US. The US is utilizing India to encircle China in its region. It has multiple impacts on Pakistan; encirclement of Pakistan, changing balance of power in the region, increasing arms race, and many other. However, by implementing certain proactive measure Islamabad can protect its interest.

2) DECODING US-INDIA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Indo-US partnership deals with the cooperation in various industries; However, the most important aspect of US-Indo partnership is encirclement of China. As Henry Kissinger quoted "India is the most important country in the world outside China and Russia." Thus, US Indo Pacific deals with the variety of agreements like military cooperation, economic cooperation, and political cooperation. However, the main aspect of this partnership is encirclement of bear in the region.

3) HOW IT HURTS PAKISTAN'S INTEREST

3.1) Encirclement of China means encircle of Pakistan: CPEC is a flagship project of BRI

Indo-US partnership as discussed is the project of encircling China in Indo-Pacific region. However, encirclement of China means encirclement of Pakistan because Pakistan is the part of Chinese's flag^{ship} project BRI (Belt and Road initiative). Thus, this partnership will also affect Pakistan's strategic interest in the region.

(Maleeha Lodhi)

3.2) Affects Balance of Power in the region:
Hindutva Expansionist policies

US-India Indo Pacific partnership will also affect regional balance of power because India will utilize its relation with the US and to try create instability in the region. For instance, Indian policy of Akhand Bharat. "we look upon India as a whole and our motherland and worship her accordingly" (Vinayak Damodar Savarkar). Thus, it will affect regional balance of power.

3.3) Increase Arms race in South Asia which Pakistan's economy cannot bear

US India Indo Pacific will also escalates arm race in the region. ^{In the} Recent Modi visit to the US, ~~At~~ Washington has signed three billion dollar deal with India in which the US will provide advance drone to India.
(Reuters)

3.4) Escalates border tensions with India:
2016 Fake surgical strikes, 2019 Balakot incident

US India Indo-Pacific partnership will provide India a confidence to carry out surgical strike in Pakistan. As it carried out in 2016, and in 2019. Therefore, it will ~~entirely~~ escalate tensions in the region.

3.5) Escalates border terrorism from Afghanistan by utilizing TTP elements against Islamabad

Indo-Pacific partnership will increase the US presence in the region which will be utilized to harm the CPEC project. The US will utilize TTP factors to harm CPEC and circle China. Therefore, US-Indo Pacific partnership will affect Pakistan's security problem. (Asif Durrani)

3.6) Increase unrest in Baluchistan to harm CPEC.

Indo-US strategic partnership will also affect security in Baluchistan. It is because the US will not be happy for China's presence in Afghanistan.

4) HOW ISLAMABAD CAN PROTECT ITS INTEREST

4.1) Increase engagement with the US that Indo-Pacific will not be utilized against Pakistan.

Pakistan should increase engagement with the US that Indo-Pacific partnership is not used against the interest of Pakistan. (Aziz Ahmed Chaudhary)

4.2) Materialize CPEC project in its true sense

CPEC is the game changer for Pakistan. However, the progress on CPEC has been slowing down since 2018. It is because of political instability in the country. So, Pakistan must & escalate progress on CPEC. If CPEC is materialize then it will not only change Pakistan's destiny but also the whole region.

4.3) Enhance Engagement with other regional players to stabilize India's growing hegemonic desire

Pakistan should enhance engagement with other regional players to stabilize India's growing hegemonic desire. India's relations with neighbours has been declining since 2014. Therefore, Pakistan should utilize this opportunity. (Mushahid Hussain)

4.4) Strengthen strategic partnership with Moscow: offer Russia access to warm water.

Pakistan should strengthen its strategic partnership with Russia. Pakistan can offer Russia access to warm water. As a result, Russia can fulfill Pakistan's energy needs which is growing day by day due to population explosion.

4.5) Take coercive measures against militants hideout to secure CPEC route

Pakistan should take coercive measures against militants hideouts to secure CPEC route.

Recently, Pakistan has been facing surge in terrorist attacks from western border.

Therefore, Pakistan should take coercive actions towards those non-state actors who challenge the writ of the state.

(Pakistan Institute of Peace Studies) 2023 report

4.6) Ensure political stability at home

Political stability plays vital role because with^{out} political stability Pakistan can't achieve economic independence. Therefore, political stability is the most important factor for the country's progress.

5) CONCLUSION

TO sum up, ~~Pakistan~~ US-India Indo Pacific partnership has provided multiple challenges to Pakistan. However, Pakistan can protect its interest by implementing discussed measures.

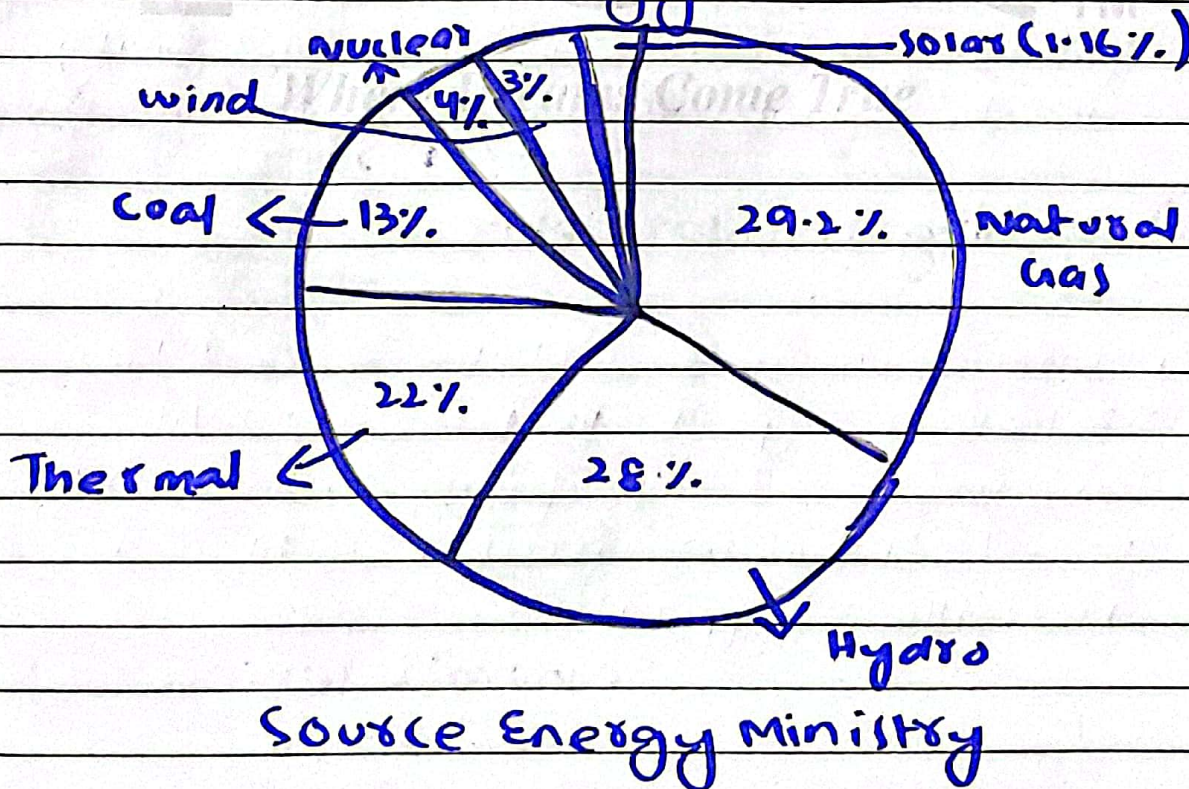
Question NO # 3

1) INTRODUCTION

"Pakistan's energy crisis is one of the biggest hurdles in the path of progress and development" (Kailash Bengali).

Pakistan's energy sector is the worst performing energy sector in the region. It has multiple problems; capacity charges, high dependency on non-renewable sources etc. Consequently, it has increased energy inflation and affected productivity in the country. However, by implementing certain proactive measures Pakistan can address its energy sector woes.

2) Pakistan's Energy Mix: An overview



3) PROBLEMS IN PAKISTAN'S ENERGY SECTOR

3.1) High capacity charges

Pakistan's agreements with IPPC (Independent Power producers companies) includes capacity charges. Consequently, Pakistan have to pay in dollars and it have to pay capacity of generation rather demand. Last year, Pakistan paid more 200 billion rupees in capacity charges. (NEPRA REPORT 2022)

3.2) High dependency on non-renewable and imported energy sources

Pakistan's energy sector is highly dependent on non-renewable resources. Last year, Pakistan's energy bill import bill soared to 18 billion dollar. Therefore, Pakistan produced the most expensive electricity in the region. (Pakistan's Economic Survey FY 22-23)

3.3) Growing circular debt

Pakistan circular debt has soared to 2.3 trillion rupees. ~~The~~ circular debt has increased 50% from 2018 to 2021. In 2018, Pakistan circular debt was 1.2 trillion rupees.

(Economic Survey 2022-23)

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3.4) Expensive energy production across the region

Pakistan is producing expensive energy across in the region. It is because Pakistan energy sector is highly dependent upon imported fuel and paid in dollars.

5) outdated transmission and distribution system.

Pakistan's energy infrastructure has become an outdated due to which losses ^{request-in} to transmission and distribution sector. ^{are}

In this regard, Pakistan's tax-payer has to bear the burden of the losses. According to the Nepra, 10 percent energy is lost in transmission.

(Nepra report 2022)

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1) Growing energy inflation in the country

Recently, Pakistan's people have ~~paid~~ faced energy inflation in which an average citizen of Pakistan has paid more than 10,000 rupees for their electric bill. As a result, energy inflation has grown in the country. (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics)

4.2) Frequent loadshedding and power black-outs

Pakistan power sector has been facing frequent loadshedding since 2022. Moreover, the frequency of national breakdown has also increased because of outdated energy infrastructure. (Ishrat Hussain)

4.3) Decline in exports and shifting of industrial unit

Pakistan growing energy problems has decreased its export. Moreover, many industrialists have shifted their plants outside the country. According to PILDAT report, which takes interview from more than 200 people, conclude that energy is the biggest problem faced by industrialist.

(PILDAT 2023)

4.4) Discourages consumers to pay electricity charges due to high tariffs on electricity bills

High tariffs in electrical bills discourage people to pay the bills. Recently, Pakistan has witnessed strikes and protests across the country due to high bills. So, it will continue the trend if high tariffs are not cut off from the bills.

4.5) Increase political unrest in the country

Energy crises creates unrest in the country. It is because high electricity bills affect ordinary people. Moreover, Pakistan witnessed unrest during 2008 to 2013 when Pakistan is facing energy shortages.

5) WAY-FORWARD

5.1) Renegotiate plans with IPPs (Independent Power producers)

Pakistan should renegotiate plans with IPPs. It will help Pakistan to reduce circular debt. Previous government had started negotiations programs with IPPs. It should continue.

5.2) Privatization of DISCOs

without reforming energy sector, Pakistan cannot achieve energy efficiency. In this regard, the first and foremost step is the privatization of DISCOs. It is not the responsibility of government to generate electricity, its responsibility is to regulate.

5.3) Up-grade transmission and distribution sector through CPEC investments.

Pakistan transmission and distribution sector has become outdated, therefore, it requires investment. It is only possible when Pakistan privatized its transmission and distribution sector.

5.4) Shift towards renewable sources.

Pakistan should progress towards renewable sources. It will help it to reduce dependency on imported fuel. Moreover, Pakistan has the ^{huge} potential of renewable energy sources; solar, wind, nuclear, tide, geothermal, and hydro.

3.5) Provides subsidies to encourage people shift towards renewable.

Pakistan should provide subsidies to encourage people shift towards renewable energy. Pakistan has the huge potential of the solar. Therefore, it can increase solar share in energy mix by providing incentives to people. It should also work on net-metering mechanism.

5) CONCLUSION

To sum up, Pakistan energy sector is in the worst crisis due to multiple problems. It has multiple lethal or serious consequences for the economy. However, if Pakistan successfully implements certain proactive measures then it will increase efficiency in energy sector.

Question NO # 6

1) INTRODUCTION

"The rise of China, India, and other powers is leading us into a genuinely multi-polar world order, which will require new rules and new institutions. In this regard, China's BRI project is the manifestation of the multi-polar world" (Graham Allison)

The above quotation from renowned intellectual manifests the importance of BRI in shaping new world order, in which CPEC is a part.

2) DECADE OF CPEC - AN OVERVIEW

- 1) smart infrastructure development
- 2) Agricultural modernization.
- 3) Investment in Energy Sector
- 4) Digitalization of Pakistan
- 5) Space cooperation
- 6) Military cooperation.
- 7) Increase connectivity
- 8) Enhance employments.
- 9) Transfer of technical experts and technology in special economic zone.

3) SUCCESS OF CPEC

3.1) Increase infrastructural development in Pakistan

CPEC has increased the infrastructural development in Pakistan. Owing to CPEC, millions of kilometers road infrastructures have developed. As a result, connectivity across the country has improved. Moreover, motorways has reduced the distance between the two places.

(Andrew Small) (The China-Pakistan Axis: Asia's new geopolitics)

3.2) Address Pakistan's energy shortage crises

Pakistan was facing energy shortage during 2008 - 2013. However, after 2015, CPEC has addressed the Pakistan's supply issues. Now, Pakistan is producing surplus electricity.

(Energy Ministry report 2017)

3.3) Developed Gwadar port

has

CPEC also modernized Gwadar port.

It has built modern technological system.

Besides, they have developed infrastructure; roads, hospital, technical schools, and airports.

(PJLDAT Survey 2011)

3.4) Creates employment opportunities in Pakistan

CPEC has also created millions of employment opportunities in Pakistan. In this regard, IPR I report has concluded that CPEC has generated more than 1 million employment in Pakistan. Thus, it is a game changer for Pakistan.
(Pakistan Labour Force Survey 2020-21)

3.5) Enhance connectivity in Pakistan

CPEC has also enhanced connectivity in Pakistan by providing road connectivity from Kathgarh to Uwader - Moreover, it has also upgrade local connectivity which has provided benefit to local investor.

3.6) Improve Energy infrastructure: Lahore Matiari DC Power line

CPEC has also improved Pakistan's energy infrastructure sector. For instance, Lahore Matiari DC power line is an example of that success. Pakistan's energy sector needs more investment from China.

(Aasi (Rafiq) (Political Analyst))

3.7) Provides investment in Pakistan's information sector

CPEC has also provide investment in Pakistan's information sector.

Huawei that invested more than 3 billion dollar in Pakistan's energy.

IT sector. Therefore, CPEC is a game changer for Pakistan's IT industry. Thus, Pakistan need more support in form investment and technology in the IT sector. **(The Economist)**

3.8) Enhance investment from China in Special Economic zones

CPEC second phase has increased investment from China in special economic zones. It has announced multiple investment in Pakistan's special economic zone.

(Akbar S. Zaidi)

3.9) Provide Chinese expertise and technology in Hydro-projects

Chinese, through CPEC, is providing expertise and technology in hydro-projects. They are working Dasu Dam and other hydro projects of Pakistan.

(Hassan javaid)

4) FAILURES OF CPEC

4.1) Increase Pakistan's debt crises

With many success stories of CPEC, it has also multiple failures. In this regard, Pakistan's external debt crises has increased exponentially since 2015. For instance, Pakistan's external debt crises in 2015 was 84 billion dollars which is now reached at 140 billion dollars.

(IMF report 2023)

4.2) Escalates tensions in Baluchistan.

CPEC has also escalates tensions in Baluchistan because Baluchistan has become a part of global great game. Thereby, it is the failure of CPEC to which has escalates tensions in Baluchistan.

Where (PPCS study 2023)

4.3) Affect Pakistan-US relations

CPEC has also affected US-Pakistan relations. Alex wales, an former US diplomat to south Asia, has called CPEC a debt trap. Therefore, After signing CPEC, the US and Pakistan relations face down-turn.

(Siegfried o-wolf)

4.4) Increase Pakistan dependency on China

CPEC has also increased Pakistan's dependency on China. Nowadays, Pakistan is highly dependent on China for economic and military support. It is the biggest failure of Pakistan. It should diversify its options. Otherwise, it will harm the interest of the country and will face sanctions from the US.

(Shamila Chaudhary fellow at Johns Hopkins)

4.5) Energy projects or agreements have long-term malicious consequences

Energy projects, which are signed in CPEC, have long term malicious consequences. It is because capacity charges are also included on those agreements.

(Ishrat Hussain)

Where Dreams Come True

6) CONCLUSION.

To sum up, ~~the~~ CPEC has provide^d many success and failures, but if it is materialize in true, it will be a game changer for Pakistan.