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## Part-II

Q.2. US India growing Strategic Partnership is primarily - - - .

### Introduction

Today's world is driven by geopolitical divides, conflict and instability. Countries are faced with the challenge of placing themselves in the emerging multipolar world order in such a way as would serve their national interests. Over the past few years, the United States has been focusing more on the Asian region under its 'Pivot to Asia' policy introduced by Barack Obama, former US President. Under the Pivot to Asia Policy, the United States (US) seeks to form alliances with nations which would help it contain the rise of China along with increasing its economic and military presence in the Asian region. India is an important partner for the US when it comes to containing China. India has become an important strategic ally of the US. This Partnership between the US and India is a grave foreign Policy Challenge for Pakistan.

## Policies of the US in terms of containing China

Ever since the US adopted its 'Pivot to Asia' Policy, almost all of the US' foreign Policy relations are seen in the light of containing China. The US is forming alliances with nations close to China like Japan, Australia, India and Vietnam most recently.

## Increasing Strategic Importance of the Indian Ocean

The Indian Ocean region has increased in its Strategic importance over the years. The US-China rivalry is played out most significantly in the Indian Ocean theatre. As in the words of US Naval Officer, Alfred Mahan, "Whoever controls Indian Ocean will dominate Asia. The ~~future~~ destiny of the world ~~too~~ will be decided on its waters", (1890). The US is increasing its economic presence in the region through initiatives like the Build Back Better World (B3W). It is increasing its military presence through Partnerships like the Quadrilateral Partnership and Australia-United Kingdom and United States (AUKUS) Partnership. India is an important Strategic ally for the US in the

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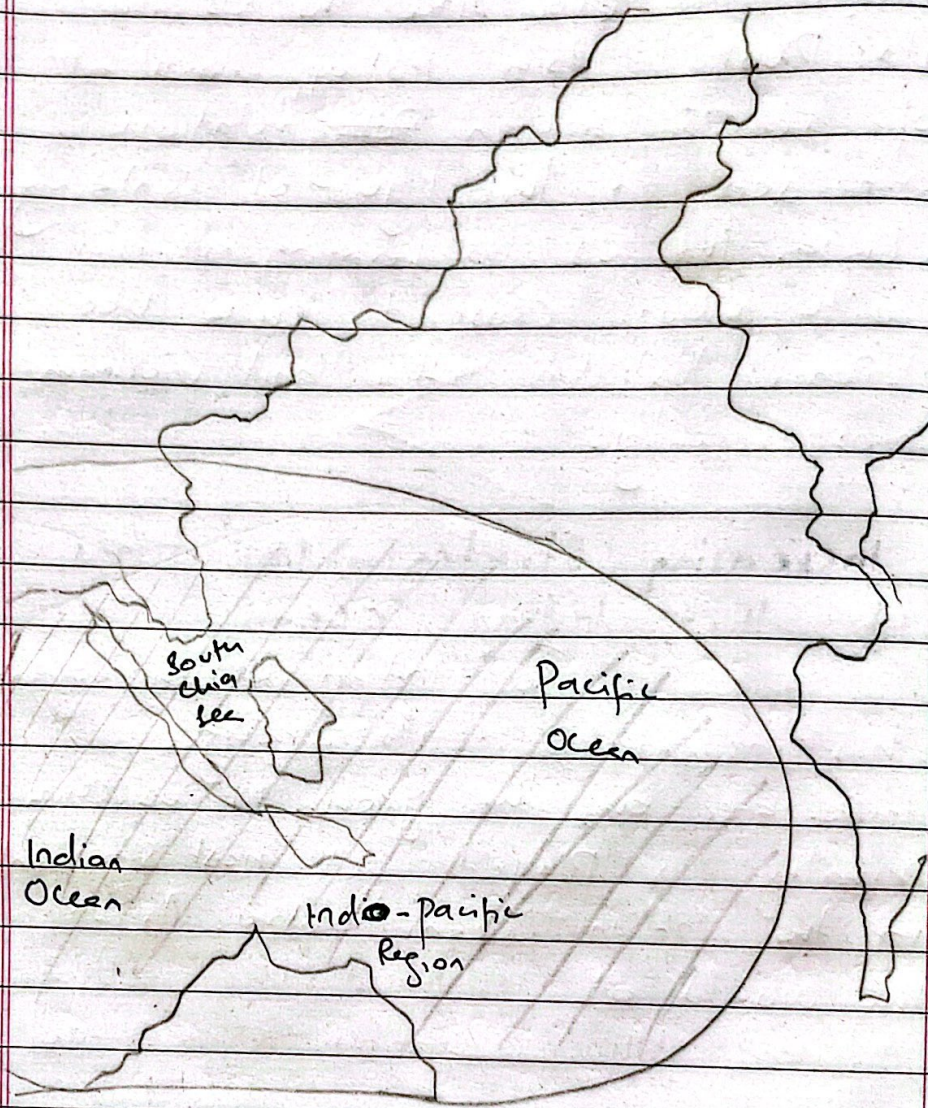
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Indo-Pacific region.



Map of the Indo-Pacific Region

## The US-India Strategic Partnership

India is emerging as an important player in global politics. In the 21st Century, the importance of India for the US has increased rapidly. In order to contain the rise of China, US and India have formed a strategic alliance. The US

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wants to contain the rise of China as a global power and India wants to contain its rise in the Asian region which India wants to dominate.

## US-India alliance under QUAD

The United States has formed an alliance with India under the QUAD Partnership. The QUAD is dubbed the the US and its other members (Japan, Australia and India) as a platform for technological cooperation among the member states to ensure the security of the Indo Pacific region but it is seen by China and the rest of the world as a Strategic Partnership to contain China.

## Implications of the US-India alliance on Pakistan

Pakistan, owing to its geostrategic location, has many benefits and challenges. The growing US-India Partnership has implications not only for China but also Pakistan.

Pakistan feels threatened by US-India alliance owing to its strained relations with both

India is a historical rival

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of Pakistan. The Strategic Culture of Pakistan perceives strategic moves by India as threats to its own security. Moreover, Pakistan's relations with the US are also strained primarily because of Pakistan's growing Partnership with China. Therefore, Pakistan perceives the US-India alliance as a security threat.

### **Pakistan's Balance of Power approach**

Pakistan has a balance of power approach towards India. As the US-India alliance grows, Pakistan would be pushed more towards regional rivals of the US like China and Russia. But Pakistan needs the goodwill of the US in order to stay relevant in the global order. This poses a grave foreign policy challenge for Pakistan.

### **Power Maximization and Arms Race between India and Pakistan**

As the strategic importance and military might of India grows, Pakistan will have to enter into an arms race with India and pursue power maximization. The United States transfers military information and technology to India under their strategic alliances which again threatens Pakistan's security perception.

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## Pakistan would lose ground on the Kashmir issue internationally

Despite the fact that there are many nations emerging in power relative to the US, the US still remains the most important player when it comes to international relations and specifically international forums. As the US-India Partnership grows, Pakistan fears losing ground on the Kashmir issue. In order to raise the Kashmir issue internationally, Pakistan feels like the India-US Partnership would have to give way.

## options Pakistan Can Pursue

There are different options Pakistan can pursue in order to neutralize these external threats but for any of them to work, Pakistan first needs to put its own house in order. Pakistan needs to work on its internal economic, political and social faultlines in order to improve its foreign policy.

## Mending the relationship with the US

With the evacuation of US troops from Afghanistan, Pakistan has become somewhat irrelevant for the US. Pakistan should strengthen its



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Position Strategically and economically for gaining relevance for the US.

## Shifting from geopolitics to geoeconomics

The world today is run by economic realities equally as it is run by strategic and military realities. Pakistan should shift more towards geoeconomics and away from geopolitics. Geopolitics puts Pakistan in an extremely vulnerable position which geoeconomics strengthens it.

## Working on relations with regional neighbours

Pakistan should improve its relations with regional neighbors. Apart from China, Pakistan has strained relations with all its neighbors i.e. Iran, Afghanistan and India. Pakistan needs to improve its regional profile in order to better neutralize the negative effects of US-India Partnership.

## Strengthening Pakistan-China relations

China has proved a reliable partner for Pakistan over the course of history. Pakistan should strengthen its economic Partnership

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with China. An alliance with China provides Pakistan with a sense of security amid the growing US-India Strategic Partnership.

### Conclusion

The foreign Policy of the US is ~~focused~~ focusing more and more on the containment of China. In order to achieve this goal, US is forming alliances with states which are wary of China's growing importance. The US-India relationship is one such example. Along with China, Pakistan also has serious implications on its national security of the growing US-India Strategic Partnership which it needs to neutralize. Pakistan needs to devise a clear, holistic and strong foreign Policy while also improving its internal situation to neutralize this threat.

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Q.4. Taiwan Crisis in general and  
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### Introduction

As per the views of Francis Fukuyama (Political Scientist), the hegemonic

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Status of United States peaked between the fall of the Berlin wall (1989) and the global financial crisis of 2007-2009. The world has been reverting to a more normal state of multipolarity ever since with China, Russia, India, Europe and other centers gaining power relative to the United States. The most significant threat to the hegemony of US is posed by China's growing economic, technological and strategic importance. Both China and US are working for gaining global power. This US-China rivalry is played out most aggressively in the Indo-Pacific region in general and in South and East China Seas in particular. The issue of Taiwan is an important flashpoint in US-China rivalry. Semiconductors are the lifeblood of modern technology. China and the US are in a race to gain superiority over the other in terms of semiconductors.

### The Taiwan Crisis: historical overview

Taiwan is an island territory in the South China Sea. Taiwan is a democratic territory but it is deeply influenced by China. China has ~~historical~~ historical claims over the land of Taiwan and considers it a part.

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of Chinese mainland. China threatens the overtaking and unification of Taiwan even by force. Taiwan does not consider itself as a part of mainland China and this has become a flash point for China-US rivalry.

### The one china policy of china

China has a policy called the 'one china policy' towards Taiwan whereby any diplomatic relations with Taiwan would have to be formed and maintained through ~~china~~ China. Most of the world and the United Nations stick to the One China Policy as Taiwan is not ~~not~~ recognized as an independent state by any.

### The US stance on One China Policy

The US has diplomatic relations with China under the one China approach but it does not recognize China's claims over Taiwan's territory. In case of a forceful annexation or reunification of Taiwan by China, the United States vows to retaliate on the part of Taiwan.

### Significance of Taiwan for China and US

Taiwan is of immense importance to both China and India the US.

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Taiwan is the world's largest producer and exporter of semiconductors. Both China and the US depend heavily on Taiwanese semiconductors for meeting their economic goals in the technological arena.

### Semiconductors: the lifeblood of modern technology

Semiconductors are extremely important. From military equipments to mobile phones, cars and computers, the semiconductor chips are a key ingredient. Semiconductors are believed to grow in importance over the coming years, leaving hydro-carbons behind.

Both US and China are setting up indigenous semiconductor production sites in order to limit their dependency on <sup>imports</sup> exports from Taiwan.

### Current state of provocations by US regarding Taiwan

The US has fueled its tensions with China by provoking it multiple times over the past year or two. China has increased its military presence around the island as a result of provocations by US.

## The visit of U.S House speaker Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan

The House Speaker of US, Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan in August 2022 which violated the United States' one China Policy. This visit was perceived by China as the United States trying to form diplomatic relations with Taiwan. As a result of this provocation, China launched multiple military drills around Taiwan for two days. This visit soured the already strained relations of China and US with each other.

## The US-Japan-South Korea alliance

The US President Joe Biden announced an alliance of US, Japan and South Korea in 2 September, 2023. This alliance again proved China to launch military drills and even missiles over Taiwan. China accused US of adopting a cold war mentality towards China while the US President stated that the alliance was not meant for containing China. The South China Sea and the Island of Taiwan are two major flashpoints for US-China rivalry.

## Diffusing tensions between China and the US

Tensions between China and

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the US are growing. In order to diffuse them, both the global powers need to act more responsibly because with great power comes great responsibility. There are different steps which could be taken in order to improve US-China rivalry, especially in the context of Taiwan.

**Both world countries should adopt confidence building measures**

China and the US view each other with distrust. Any step by one is considered a threat by another. China and US need to bridge this gap of trust by adopting confidence building measures towards each other.

**Replacing Confrontation with Cooperation**

Tensions between China and the US could be diffused by replacing confrontation with cooperation. Any conflict triggered by the Taiwan crisis between the two powers would have serious global repercussions.

**Sticking to one China Policy on Taiwan**

The one China policy has so far worked for US, China and

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Taiwan The government of Taiwan is also in favor of maintaining status quo. The US should not provoke China to use force in Taiwan and China too should refrain from unifying Taiwan with mainland China over historical claims.

### Insulating common goods from being used as weapons in the global power rivalry

Common goods like the semiconductors in this case should be insulated from being used as pawns in the global power rivalry. US and China should adopt a responsible behavior when it comes to threatening the production and supply of common goods.

### Conclusion

The US-China rivalry is growing in significance and in intensity with the passage of time. The China Sea and particularly the island of Taiwan have become a flashpoint for this rivalry. Taiwan's semiconductor industry is being used as a pawn by both US and China. China and US should work their way around the Taiwan and semiconductor crisis by adopting confidence building measures.



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Confrontation ought to give way to cooperation and ~~the~~ common goods are to be insulated from being weaponized by either China or the US. These measures would help ~~also~~ resolve the semiconductor and Taiwan crisis between China and the US.

**Q.6. China and Pakistan are celebrating ———.**

### **Introduction**

The China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was launched by the Chinese President Xi Jinping in ~~2012~~ 2013. The CPEC is widely believed to be the flagship project of the wider Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Ever since its launching, the west has had apprehensions over the ambitions of China whereas inside Pakistan, it is believed to be a 'gamechanger' for Pakistan. The CPEC has now entered its second phase which is more broader in its objectives and targets than the Phase I. A decade ~~is~~ has passed since the launch of ~~CPEC~~ CPEC but Pakistan is yet

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to reap full benefits of the project.

## Completion of the Phase I of CPEC

The CPEC Project was initially announced to facilitate the investment of 62 billion dollars by the Chinese in Pakistan. Pakistan has so far received 25.4 billion dollars in direct Chinese investments in addition to the huge loans and currency swap agreements. The first Phase of CPEC focused primarily on roads and infrastructure, establishing building the Gwadar Port and power generation. CPEC has now entered into its second Phase which is much broader in scope.

## Achievements of CPEC So far

The first decade of CPEC was dedicated to infrastructure but building and employment generation through those projects.

## Building roads and Infrastructure

Under the CPEC, a number of highways and motorways have been ~~built~~ built connecting the Gwadar and Karachi Sea ports to China. Along with roads, infrastructure in exclusive economic and special economic zones has also been constructed which

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would facilitate trade and transport

## Gawadar City and Gawadar Port

One of the major focus areas of the first phase of CPEC was the building of the Gawadar Sea Port and the erecting of the Gawadar City. Billions of dollars have been invested in Gawadar under the CPEC.

## Employment generation

The infrastructure projects of CPEC generated thousands of jobs especially for the daily wagers. Local people, through the CPEC project, found an opportunity to earn their living. Moreover, for maintenance of the development projects, local professions would be employed for example the Toll Plaza's on the motorways.

## Key failures of the CPEC Project

Pakistan is yet to utilize CPEC as a potential game changer. Before Pakistan could emerge on the world stage as an important transit spot between ~~Asia~~ South Asia and the middle east, some key challenges need to be overcome.

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## Insufficient local job creation

Despite the fact that the CPEC project was supposed to create jobs which would lead locals out of poverty, there has not been sufficient job creation under it. The Chinese producers are believed to prefer its own workforce over Pakistani locals when it comes to technical jobs. A major chunk of employment under the CPEC in Pakistan is only in labour work by daily wages. This has been a major failure of the CPEC project.

## Local residents of Gwadar are Sidelined

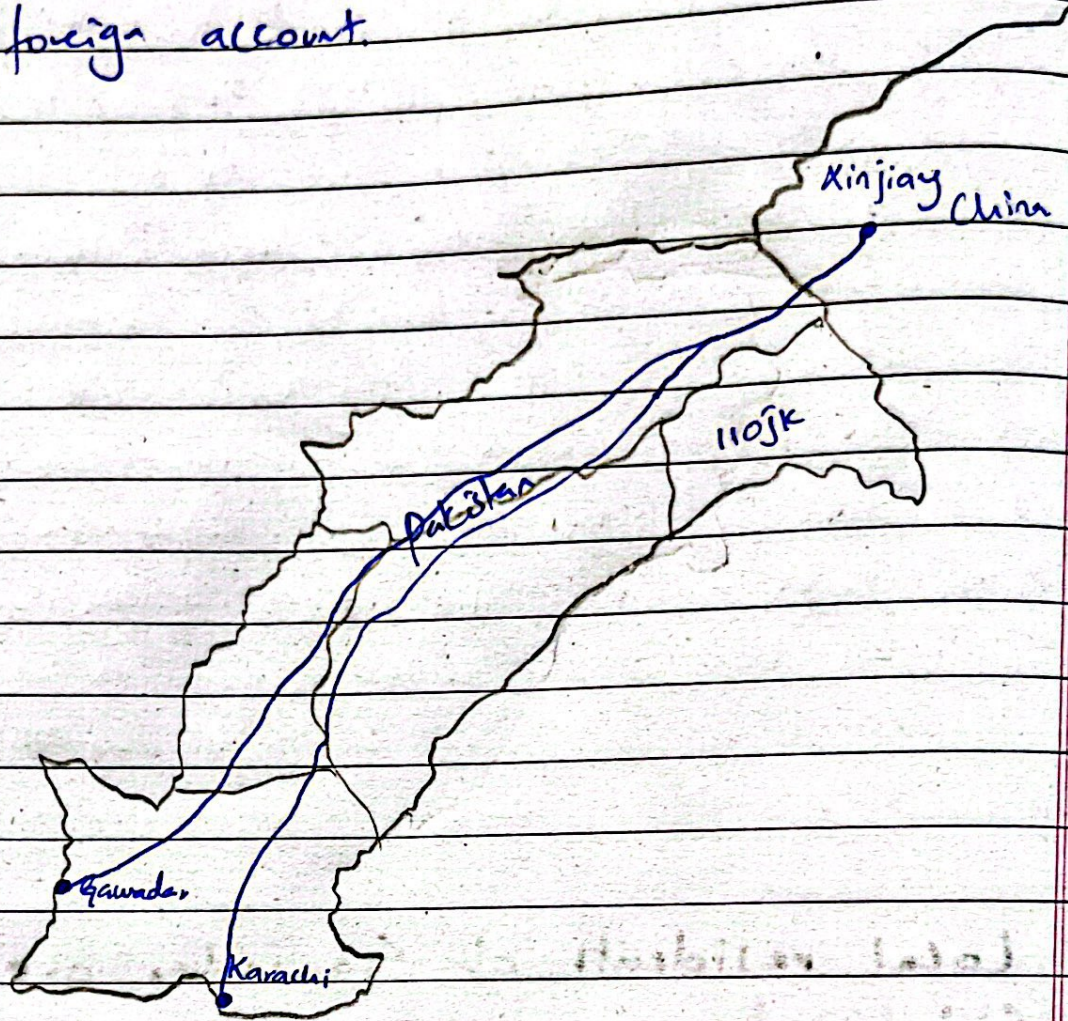
The Chinese built Gwadar city and Gwadar Sea Port are completely fenced, severing ties with the local residents. Local residents are hardly consulted on matters important to them. Locals are denied access to important fishing spots in the Gwadar sea which has resulted in resentment for CPEC among the locals.

## Chinese Direct Investment

Pakistan has not received any substantial amount in foreign direct investment in  $\text{P}$  by the Chinese under the auspices of CPEC. Pakistan needs Chinese investment in

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Pakistan which would strengthen its foreign account.



Arabian  
Sea

The CPEC Route

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