

Question # 02

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1) Introduction

Aligarh movement acted as renaissance for the muslims of subcontinent. It was solely based upon the foundation of education. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan believed that education was the only way to bring muslims back on the fore. The reluctance of many muslims to get British education system was pushing them further back. Hindus replaced muslims in every sphere of life. However, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan came to the fore and decided to educate Muslims in order to improve their conditions. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan also insisted muslims to stay away from politics in order to avoid any kind of confrontation with British. He wanted Muslims to get education first which will eventually make their way to politics. It was basically preparing muslims for the future.

2) Educational Outlook of Aligarh movement

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan after retirement permanently moved to Aligarh and transferred the school as well which he had established. He started the movement from Aligarh by opening schools, colleges, educational societies and Educational conference.

2.1) Schools opening as key part of movement

First of all Sir Syed Ahmad Khan opened schools as the first step where Muslims and other communities could study. In this phase, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was apolitical and supported education for the Muslims as well as Hindus. However, after Hindi-Urdu controversy, Sir Syed's only started propagating the education for Muslims.

2.2) Educational Society

Moreover, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan also established the educational society in Aligarh.

It started translating books from other languages into Urdu in order to enrich the knowledge in Urdu as well. Furthermore, it also started publishing the magazines which promoted the interests of Muslims. ~~Muslims~~ The society played key role in awakening of Muslims in political, economic as well as social spheres.

2.3) Muhammanadan Educational Conference

Scholars believe that the said educational conference was not only about the education of Muslims. It was established to provide Muslim the political platform. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan was of the view that they needed a platform which could promote the interests of Muslims. Mohammedan educational conference became that organization which helped Muslims to secure their interests. Moreover, the leaders of Aligarh movement became the leaders of All India Muslim League.

3) Aligarh was not devoid of political objectives

Aligarh Movement was not only an educational movement but also it promoted the political interests of Muslims.

There were many instances on which Sir Syed Ahmad Khan displayed the traits of a politician. He was the only one of his time who used to criticize anti-Muslim policies of Congress. He always went on to discuss the issues of Muslims with British.

Following are some instances where Sir Syed Ahmad Khan displayed the traits of a politician and displayed the Aligarh movement with some of the political objectives.

3.1) Aligarh movement was a platform where future leadership was prepared

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan always asked Muslims to stay aloof from the politics and specifically from the Indian National Congress.

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was of the view that they should first get education and employ themselves with this weapon. It will strengthen them and prepare them for the leadership of in the future. Moreover, Sir Syed was concerned that INC and British can exploit his nation due to their vulnerability.

3.2) Criticizing the Policies of Indian National Congress

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was cognized of the prejudice of the congress towards Muslims. He used to criticize their policies. For instance, -the demand of congress to grant democratic government, giving proportional representation to all people. This demand seems better. However, Sir Syed thought that because Hindus were in majority, they will win by dint of palm. The proportional representation will not be an acceptable system to the Muhammadans of India.

3.3) Protection of Urdu and arising Muslim Nationalism

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan always protected the Urdu from any attacks of British as well as Hindus. Hindus always wanted to remove Urdu as the national language. However, if Sir Syed Ahmad Khan always went on to protect the Urdu from scathing attacks of Hindus.

Moreover, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan also became the reason of developing the Muslim nationalism among Muslims. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan taught them how to fight for their rights.

3.4) Muslims as a Nation

Moreover, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was the first reformer or thinker who used "nation" for the Muslims. He wanted Muslims to view themselves

as a single nation.

4) Conclusion

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan through education reformed the muslim society. In a nutshell, it can be truly said that Aligarh movement was not only an educational movement but also a political movement which awakened Muslims. Its aim was to employ Muslims with the weapon of Education and then participate in politics. Muhammadan educational conference was the evidence of this statement that Aligarh movement was not devoid of political objectives. Its aim was to reform the muslim society.

2) Causes of current meltdown in Pakistan

There are various causes of current economic meltdown in Pakistan. They are defined below.

2.2) Discontinuity of policy and the Economic meltdown

Last year, when an elected government was sent home through constitutional vote of no confidence, economy was growing at the pace of 6% (Dawn) and exports were record high. However, the abrupt change in leadership and change in policy crippled the economy of Pakistan.

Currently, Pakistan's economy is progressing even less than 1% according to official figures.

2.2) The restrictions on imports to reduce current account deficit

Moreover, government of Pakistan put ban on imports which led to the closure of many industries in Pakistan. Industry was working on the highest pace in last government.

However, the ban on imports in PDM government compelled SMEs to close the industries.

2.3) Informal Economy and less Tax to GDP ratio

Moreover, -the economic meltdown has largely been due to the informal economy. According to official figures, informal economy is more than the formal economy. It is the undocumented portion of economy of the country which does not pay taxes. According to World Trade Organization, a country must have more than 15% tax to GDP ratio in order to progress. However, according to Bureau of Statistics, Pakistan has even less than the 10% tax to GDP ratio. Hence, this is the cause of economic meltdown in Pakistan.

2.4) Mismanagement of Economy

Moreover, the mismanagement of economy in the country is also cause of current economic meltdown. For instance, successive governments failed to utilize the funding which came through CPEC and many other projects. Had these funds used properly, this would

not have been the situation.

2.5) Record Smuggling in the Country

Moreover, Pakistan has also been in current meltdown because of the smuggling economy. This results in the loss of not only tax but also the loss of business community who manufacture their products.

2.6) Rampant Corruption in the Country

Moreover, there is rampant corruption in the country which is also one of the many causes of the current economic meltdown. Pakistan is always on the list of highest corrupt countries. It has largely been due to the absence of accountability and transparency. This is also the cause of economic meltdown in the country.

3) Measures to address the Core Issues of Current Economic Meltdown

Moreover, the country must

certain economic measures in order to address the current economic meltdown.

~~3.1~~ 3.1

3.1) Homegrown Strategy to produce own Products

Pakistan's biggest economic ^{concern} ~~measures~~ has been the lack of homegrown strategy to produce own products. Pakistan's economy must shift from the consumption led model to the production model. At least the country should produce enough to fulfill the demands of own country.

3.2) Increase Tax to GDP Ratio

Pakistan must increase the tax to GDP ratio in order to generate revenue. Pakistani citizens have to face the inflation largely because of the indirect taxes put by government in order to fill the deficits of the country. Hence, Pakistan is in the dire need to increase the tax to GDP ratio.

3.3) Creating Ease of Doing Business

In Pakistan, when anyone wants to open a firm or any other kind of business, there are several restrictions and slow process which have also hindered Pakistan's progress. Pakistan must create ease of doing business in order to cope with current economic meltdown.

3.4) Reduce Corruption and Improve Service Delivery

Pakistan must reduce corruption and improve service delivery in order to come out of the current economic meltdown.

3.5) Attract foreign investment

Pakistan must attract foreign investment and reduce the current account deficit. It should not be reduced through the putting ban on imports. Pakistan must attract foreign investment in order to cope with the current economic meltdown.

3.6) Form long term Policy

Pakistan must form the long term economic policy. The country should have the long term industrial policy for at least 10 to 15 years. It will create certainty among the investors. Moreover, it will ensure the economic policy's continuity even if the government changes.

4) Conclusion

Current economic meltdown has largely been because of self-induced problems. The discontinuity of the economic policies and various other causes have become main reason behind the economic meltdown.

Moreover, the confused policies of so called economists have made the country ungovernable.

However, if sanity prevailed among the policy makers and they took correct measure, current meltdown can be coped.