

Wednesday

MOCK EXAM: 4

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Batch No #: 59

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PAKISTAN AFFAIRS

PART - II

Q No 2: Discuss the major economic challenges facing Pakistan and propose strategies for sustainable economic growth and development.

Introduction:

Pakistan, a developing country in South Asia faces significant economic challenges that hinder its growth and development.

By addressing these challenges effectively requires a comprehensive strategy to promote sustainable economic growth.

This essay explores the major economic challenges confronting Pakistan and propose strategies to foster long-term economic development.

I. Economic Challenges Facing Pakistan:

1. High Inflation Rates:

Pakistan has faced persistent high inflation, reaching 28% in 2023. This has eroded purchasing power and increased the cost of living. Lower and middle-income households are particularly affected, leading to reduced consumer spending and economic instability.

2. Fiscal Deficit :

Pakistan's fiscal deficit stood at around 7% of GDP in 2023, due to high government spending and low revenue. The large deficit leads to excessive borrowing, increasing national debt and affecting economic stability.

High fiscal deficits often signal that a government is spending beyond its means, risking long-term economic health" (Martin Feldstein)

3. Unemployment :

Pakistan's unemployment rate was about 7.7% in 2023, with youth unemployment higher at 13%. High unemployment limits economic productivity and growth, leading to social issues and underutilized human resources.

"Unemployment is the enemy of the State" (John F. Kennedy)

4. Energy Crisis :

Pakistan faces frequent power outages and high energy costs, with which significantly impact industrial productivity. In 2024, power shortages led to significant economic losses and increased operational costs for businesses. This ongoing crisis hampers economic growth and development.

"Energy is the golden thread that connects economic growth, increased social equity and an improved quality of life"
(Ban Ki-Moon)

5. Trade Imbalances

Pakistan experiences a significant trade deficit, with imports exceeding exports. This imbalance pressures foreign exchange reserves and affects the stability of the national currency.

"Trade imbalances reflect deeper economic vulnerabilities"

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6. Corruption and Governance Issues:

Corruption and poor governance undermine economic development and investor confidence in Pakistan. These issues lead to inefficient resources allocation and hinder progress.

Pakistan ranked 140th out of 180 countries on the 2023 Transparency International Corruption Perception Index.

7. Inadequate Infrastructure:

Pakistan's infrastructure deficits, including outdated transportation and communication networks, hampers economic growth. Poor infrastructure increases operational costs and reduces overall competitiveness.

"Investing in infrastructure is investing in the future"
(Warren Buffett)

II. Strategies for Sustainable Economic Growth and Development :

1. Monetary and Fiscal Reforms :

Effective monetary and fiscal reforms are essential for controlling inflation and reducing budget deficits. These reforms enhance economic stability and support sustainable growth by improving financial management and revenue generation.

"Fiscal and monetary discipline are the cornerstone of economic stability"

2. Job Creation and Skill Development :

Creating jobs and enhancing skill development are crucial for boosting economic productivity and reducing unemployment. Investment in education and training aligns the workforce with market needs and drives economic growth.

"The best way to predict the future is to create it through skill development and job creation" (Peter Drucker)

3. Energy Sector Reforms :

Reforming the energy sector is vital for addressing power shortages and reducing costs. Investing in renewable energy and modernizing infrastructure can enhance efficiency and support long-term economic growth.

4. Trade Policy Enhancement :

Improving trade policies involves boosting exports, competitiveness and diversifying markets. By effective trade policies can reduce trade imbalances and strengthen economic resilience.

Trade Policy is the bridge between national interests and global opportunities"

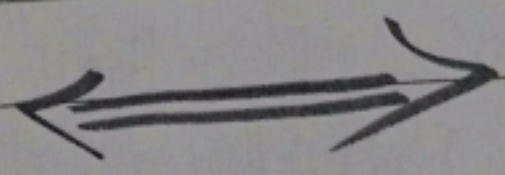
(Michael Forman)

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Conclusion :

Pakistan faces multiple economic challenges that require targeted and comprehensive strategies to overcome. By implementing monetary and fiscal reforms, addressing energy and infrastructure issues, enhancing trade policies and anti-corruption measures, fostering / fostering

Pakistan can pave the way for sustainable economic growth and development. Strategies focus on job creation, skill development and economic diversification will further contribute to the country's long-term economic stability and prosperity.



Q No 6: Discuss the evolution and growth of Muslim Nationalism in subcontinent. Clearly elucidate the role of leadership in it.

Introduction :

The evolution of Muslim nationalism in the Indian subcontinent was a complex process influenced by various historical, social and political factors. This explains the development of Nationalism (Muslim nationalism) and the pivotal role played by key leaders in shaping its trajectory.

I. Early Beginning of Muslim Nationalism :

(A) Pre-British Period :

The decline of the Mughal Empire and the rise of British colonial rule led to a growing sense of insecurity among Muslims regarding their cultural and political status.

The early response to these challenges included efforts to preserve Islamic heritage and resist British policies, setting the stage for organized political movements. By the early 18th century, the Mughal Empire once a dominant force in the subcontinent.

(B) British Colonial Era :

The emergence of organizations like the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League began to reflect muslim concerns and political representation and rights.

The Aligarh Movement initiated by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, this movement aimed to modernize Muslim society and promote educational reforms, laying the groundwork for political awareness.

"The Aligarh Movement was a renaissance for muslim education and modernity" (Khurshid. Kamal. Aziz)

II. Key Phases in the Evolution of Muslim Nationalism :

1. Formation of All India Muslim League (1906) :

The All India Muslim League (AIML) was established to represent muslim interests within the framework of a united India. Leaders like Nawab Salimullah Khan and Agha Khan played crucial roles in its formation.

"The All India Muslim League was founded on 30. October. 1906."

2. The Demand for Separate Electorates (1909-1916)

The demand for separate electorates for Muslims was articulated through the Lucknow Pact (1916) between the Congress and Muslim League.

Leaders such as Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Aga Khan advocated for these demands, which were partially addressed by British reforms but failed to fully satisfy Muslim aspirants.

The demand for separate electorates was a reflection of the growing sense of distinct political identities among Indian communities. (Muhammad Ali Jinnah)

3. The Rise of Two-Nation Theory:

The notions that Muslims and Hindus were distinct nations will separate identities gained prominence, particularly under the leadership of Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

Role of Jinnah: Jinnah, initially a proponent of Hindu-Muslim unity, shifting towards advocating for a separate nation for Muslims due to the growing communal tension and political marginalization.

4. The Lahore Resolution: (1940)

The Lahore Resolution proposed by the Muslim League and the led by Jinnah, called for independence states for Muslims in the north-western and eastern regions of India.

Jinnah's leadership was instrumental in crystallizing the demand for Pakistan, emphasizing the distinct political and cultural identity of Muslims.

"The Lahore Resolution was not just a political document; it was a vision for the future of a new nation" (Ayesha Jalal)

III. Growth of Muslim Nationalism and its Realization:

i. World War II and Post-war Development:

The post-war period saw increased political mobilization among Muslims, with the British government eventually recognizing the demand for a separate state.

Jinnah's persistent advocacy and political acumen were pivotal in negotiating with British authorities and leading the moment towards independence.

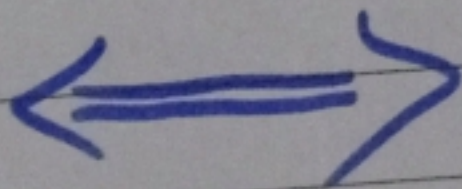
ii- Partition and the Creation of Pakistan: (1947)

The demand for a separate Muslim State culminated in the creation of Pakistan on 14. August. 1947.

The leadership of Jinnah, along with other key figures like Liaquat Ali Khan and Allama Iqbal, played a significant role in the successful realization of Muslim nationalism.

Conclusion:

The evolution of Muslim nationalism in the subcontinent was marked by a series of strategic development and political milestones. The leadership of figures like Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, and others was crucial in guiding and shaping the movement. Their efforts culminated in the creation of Pakistan, demonstrating the profound impact of leadership on the growth of Muslim nationalism and its ultimate realization.



Q No 8: The demographic indicators of Pakistan indicate that the notions of fiscal responsibility and social expectations are growing. Explain.

Introduction:

Pakistan's demographic indicators offer crucial insight into the evolving nature of the fiscal responsibility and social expectations in the country. As the population grows and changes, these indicators reflect shifts in economic pressure and social demands. This explores how demographic trends are influencing fiscal policies and social expectations in Pakistan.

I. Demographic Indicators and Fiscal Responsibility:

(A) Population Growth:

Pakistan population has grown rapidly, reaching approximately 240 million by 2023. This growth puts increasing pressure on public resources and infrastructure.

"Population growth is not just a number; it is a force shaping our future"

(Kofi Annan)

1) Population Growth Impact on Fiscal Responsibility:

The rising population necessitates more extensive government spending on education, healthcare and infrastructure. This requires effective fiscal management to ensure that resources are allocated efficiently and that deficits are controlled.

(B) Youth Demographic:

A large youth population demands significant investment in education and job creation. The government must manage fiscal policies to support this sector while ensuring sustainable economic growth.

"Nearly 60% of Pakistan's population is under the age of 30, creating a large youth demographic."

(C) Process of Urbanization:

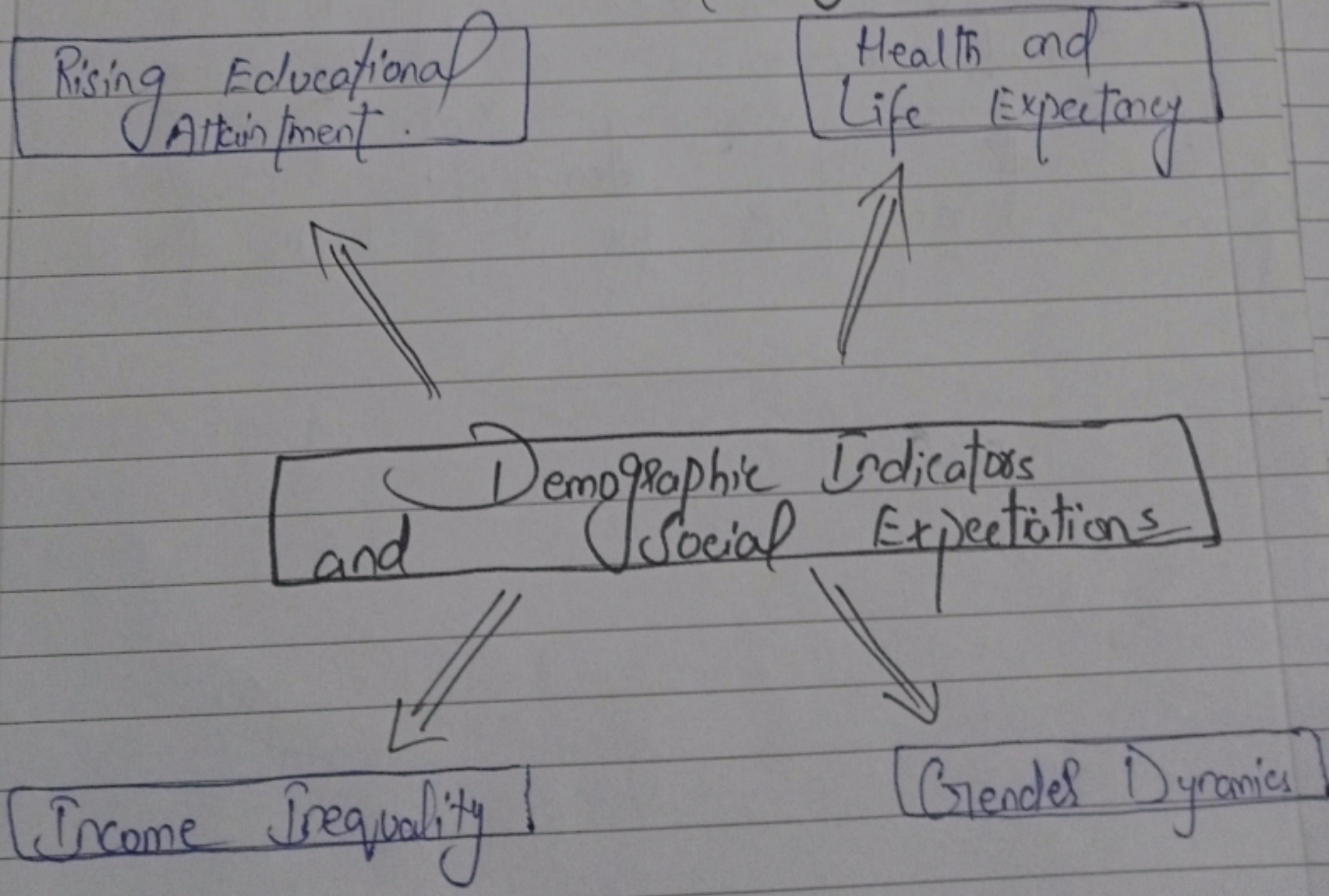
Rapid urbanization requires substantial investment in urban infrastructure and services. Fiscal responsibility involves planning and budgeting to accommodate the needs of growing urban centers while balancing rural development.

"Urbanization is increasing, with about 37% of the population living in urban areas as of 2023."

B. Changing Family Structure:

Smaller family sizes may lead to changes in social welfare needs and pension systems. The governments needs to adjust its fiscal policies to address the evolving requirements of social security and family support.

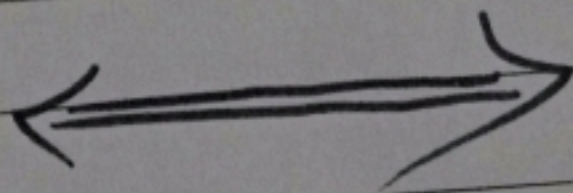
Changing family structures reflecting the evolving dynamics of society and shifting landscape of human relationships. (Jane Austen)



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Conclusion :

Pakistan's demographic indicators reflect significant shifts that are influencing notions of fiscal responsibility and social expectations. Rapid population growth, a youth demographic, urbanization process and changing family structures place pressure on fiscal policies to ensure sustainable development. At the same time, rising educational attainment, improved healthcare, income inequality and gender dynamics shape societal expectations for better support. By addressing these evolving needs and requires a balanced approach to fiscal management and responsive social policies ensuring that Pakistan can meet its aspirations for a better future.



Q No 7: In a Parliamentary democracy, if it is the job of parliament to decide the law, or the government? In light of this statement discuss the functioning of Parliamentary democracy in Pakistan.

Introduction:

In a Parliamentary democracy, the role of law-making primarily rests with the parliament while the government is responsible for executing and implementing these laws. This statement examines the functioning of Parliamentary democracy in Pakistan, focusing on the interplay between the parliament's legislative role and the government's executive responsibilities.

I. Role of Parliament in Law Making:

1. Parliamentary Structure:

The parliament is tasked with making laws, debating national issues and representing the electorate's interests.

Pakistan's Parliament consists of two houses: The National Assembly and the Senate. The National Assembly is the primary legislative body, while the Senate represents the provinces.

2. Legislative Process:

i- Introduction of Bills:

Laws can be proposed by members of Parliament (MPs) or the government or the Senate. Bills are introduced, debated and amended within both houses.

ii- Approval and Passage:

A bill must be approved by both the National Assembly and the Senate before it can become law. The process ensures that legislation reflects a broad consensus.

A bill becomes law only after it has been thoroughly scrutinized and approved by both houses, reflecting the collective will of the "people".

(James Madison)

II- Government Role in Law Implementation:

1. Executive Branch:

Prime Minister and Cabinet:

The government, led by the prime minister and the Cabinet is responsible for implementing laws enacted by Parliament.

The Prime Minister is appointed by the National Assembly and must maintain its confidence.

2. Implementation Mechanism:

The executive branch relies on the Civil Service and various government departments to enforce laws and policies. Effective administration is essential for the successful implementation of legislative measures.

III. Functioning of Parliamentary Democracy in Pakistan:

(A) Legislative Challenges of Political Dynamics:

Pakistan's experiences in Parliamentary democracy often show political instability and frequent changes in government. This affects the consistency and effectiveness of the legislative process.

(B) Governance and Accountability:

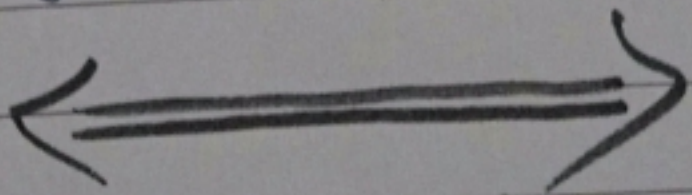
To ensure that the government remains accountable to Parliament and by extension to the public is essential for a functional democracy. Parliamentary oversight in holding the executive branch accountable plays a critical role.

"Accountability is the Cornerstone of Good Governance" (Kofi Annan)

Conclusion :

In Pakistan's Parliamentary democracy, the responsibility for law-making lies with Parliament, while the government is tasked with implementing these laws. The interplay between these two branches of government is crucial for functioning of democracy.

Despite challenges such as political instability, and bureaucratic inefficiencies, the framework of Parliamentary democracy provides mechanisms for accountability, oversight and governance. By strengthening these mechanisms and addressing implementation issues can enhance the effectiveness of Pakistan's democratic institutions and ensure that laws are effectively translated into meaningful progress.



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