

Q2) Introduction

In Pakistan, 26th amendment was made in the constitution in October, 2024. This amendment incorporated many changes. It has both good and bad insertions. When the amendment got passed from the parliament it was seriously criticised by people who understood it that how it is going to affect the balance of power between the pillars of the state. In general, if we observe we will be able to see that Executive and legislature got an upperhand over the judiciary in many cases, which are discussed further.

The Inclination of Power Towards Executive and Legislature

i. Power to Evaluate Judges

Legislature which ultimately becomes part of the Executive, as some of the legislators are selected by the Prime Minister in his cabinet. Similarly, some of the members of

legislature are appointed in several committees.

Through the 26th amendment the Executive was empowered to appoint the legislators or cabinet members in Judicial Commission of Pakistan.

Although the Judicial Commission of Pakistan has many members but one third of its members are directly coming from the legislature or executive. And when such kind of Judicial commission is empowered to do evaluation of Judges of the High Court, it will create hurdles in the Judicial organ to work and adjudicate matters with independency.

The evaluation of Judges of the High Court by the legislature and Executive give them an upper hand in case of powers and disturbs the balance of power. Judges can easily be terminated or dismissed by the other organs if they create any type of difficulty for the ruling members of the parliament or executive.

ii. Pick and Choose of Judges

Prior to the 26th constitutional amendment

in the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court was appointed who was most senior among the sitting Judges. This system was running by default that when Chief Justice would retire the next will step in his shoes but after passing of the 26th constitutional amendment, the Legislature and Executive was empowered and was given weightage in selecting the next Chief Justice.

The amendment incorporated that the new Chief Justice will be selected among the three most senior Judges of the Supreme Court. This has so much affect on the independency of Judiciary and balance of powers also got unbalanced in favor of executive and legislature. For instance, if a Chief Justice's tenure is ending in a year, the next three Judges who will be eligible for becoming the Chief Justice will try their level best to please the executive or legislature and may give

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favours to them to get himself appointed on that position.

Hence, there is no doubt that the balance of power got disturbed through the passage of 26th amendment in the constitution of Pakistan.

iii. Establishment of Constitutional Benches

According to the 26th amendment in the constitution, it was mandatory to establish constitutional ~~benches~~ benches within the judicial system of Pakistan. This created doubts in the minds of people as it questioned the effective working of the Supreme Court itself. For example it created doubt that, whether Supreme Court was unable to decide on constitutional cases?

There seems no reason behind creation of these benches as these are created within the Supreme Court with same judges who will be selected through the Judicial Commission of Pakistan.

If the reason was that, cases were being

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delayed or were taking so much time, the solution that could have worked was to increase in the number of Judges but the constitutional benches were created.

A serious unbalance in powers of the organs can be observed as the members of the constitutional bench are appointed by the Judicial Commission, who already comprises upon one third of the members from the legislature and executive. These will be having say in the appointment of the Judges in the bench, their time or tenure in that bench as well. Furthermore it will be most likely that those Judges will be appointed in the bench who will not create any kind of problem for the government of the day or we can say the executive or legislature.

Hence, it also created ~~an~~ imbalance in the balance of power between the pillars of the state.

Conclusion

Prior to the 26th amendment in the constitution, there was balance of power between the institution, but that balance got seriously affected when the two pillars of the state got an upper hand over the third pillar of judiciary. The move was also criticised by many people especially by the lawyers, members in the opposition in the Parliament of Pakistan, etc, as this amendment curbed the powers of the independent judiciary and made it less powerful than other two organs/pillars of the state.

(Q3) Introduction

In 2024, a new wave of terrorism came in Pakistan. The reason behind this is the bad policies of the government which made the terrorism to resurface. The terrorism in Pakistan was seriously controlled after the successful operation "Zarb-e-Azab" but after some years, when the operation ended

Pakistan saw an increase in terror attacks.

Actors Involved in Terrorism

There are some major actors that are behind the terrorism in Pakistan. These actors include the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, known as TTP, the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), its Majeed Brigade and some other state actors like India and Afghanistan as well. Both of the state actors support the non-state actors in order to do terror attacks in Pakistan and then harbour them as well as this is acknowledged by the Government of Pakistan at many forums.

Pakistan's Policy Failures to Combat the Menace

i. Bad Decisions and their Effects

When operation Zarb-e-Azab got successful to curb the menace, afterwards the government in recent years came up

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with a bad policy to engage the TTP through dialogues to minimize them further. Through this policy, many leaders of TTP held by the Pakistan were set free from the prisons and dialogues were started with the non state actor. This made them to regain their lost power. Also they got an edge to move into Afghanistan and engage with the Taliban who got role over the Afghanistan in 2021.

Hence, after few years, the TTP got the momentum and started its attacks again on the Pakistani people, which seriously portrayed the bad policy and policy failure of Pakistan to curb the menace.

ii. Lack of will to involve the Aggrieved Balochs in Dialogue

Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) is a non state actor which usually operates from the Province of Balochistan. If they are observed, one will find the main driving force behind their insurgency.

and that is their grievances which are unresolved from times. As a result, the BLA gets support from the state actors like India in terms of finances and weapons to destabilise the state of Pakistan.

BLA has its wing "Majeed Brigade" which has a task to do suicide bombing in Pakistan and their attacks can largely be seen on Chinese nationals to hamper the progress of the CPEC and tarnish the China - Pakistan relations as well.

In Pakistan, a lack of will to engage the Balochs in dialogue process can be seen as no serious efforts are done in this regard, which portrays the policy failure towards them as they are controlled by the state through medium of force and the medium of force has not proved itself as an effective medium to curb the menace.

iii. Stance Over Afghanistan

Pakistan has a very harsh stance towards the

the Afghanistan. The fact that Taliban has got the power in Afghanistan cannot be denied and it is reality, hence Pakistan should make its policy soft towards the Afghan government. On contrary, the Pakistan showed a hard stance to them, for instance, the Taliban government was not invited in the recent SCO summit held in the Islamabad by the Pakistan.

Resultantly, it depicts the policy failure of Pakistan to engage the Taliban government and curb the menace of terrorism through a different method.

Solution to Curb the Menace

i. Better Relations with Taliban Government

As the world is moving forward and the countries like Russia and China are effectively engaging with the talibans, Pakistan should also learn a lesson from this. The major goal of China and Russia along with investments is to

engage the taliban government is that they want to make friendly relations with them so that they may not harm them in future or their soil could not be used against them in terrorist attacks.

Similarly, Pakistan should soften its tone and try to make and revive the friendly relations with the Afghanistan's government through trade, investment and many other agreements. so that they may not support the TTP against them.

ii. Changing Tool to Deal with the BLA Insurgents

Pakistan's policy against BLA is to fight with them and defeat them in their malafide intentions against the state. But this tool is being used against them since many years and the result is not good. On contrary, the attacks have increased many times.

Pakistan must change its policy or tool towards the BLA or the people of

Balochistan in general to engage them in dialogues, listening their grievances, taking them onboard in decisions as well.

Also the allocation of budget and developmental projects in Balochistan must be increased to overcome the menace of terrorism arising from the land of Balochistan and the people of Balochistan.

Conclusion

The recent attacks of the non-state actors in Pakistan has exposed the policy failures of Pakistani government towards the terrorism. The new wave of terrorism has tarnished the image of Pakistan once again especially in front of China, a key partner in CPEC Project. Hence effective policies must be made to curb and minimize the menace of terrorism in Pakistan.

Q7)

Introduction

Education is the most important factor in a country's progress towards the advancement. If this factor is absent from a nation or a country, that cannot progress and compete with the ongoing challenges of the world.

It is rightly said that, without education, a country will be behind from others and there is very much possibility that it may wipe out altogether from the world.

There are many issues in the education system of Pakistan as well, for instance scarcity of resources in Pakistan and lack of implementation of laws. Similarly, Pakistan needs solutions to improve the education in the country, which is essential factor to progress.

Issues and Problems in Pakistan

i. Scarcity of Resources

Education sector of Pakistan faces

challenges due to scarcity of funds. The availability of resources is mandatory for the education system to keep it running in an effective manner. According to some recent reports Pakistan only spends 2% from the overall GDP in the education.

This can be observed in the annual budget of the Pakistan as well. With this short percentage, the education sector of Pakistan suffers a lot as a lot of finances are required due to infrastructure development, provision of electricity and some other technologies, availability of teachers which are well trained etc. Hence, education system in Pakistan is not that much progressing as it was aspired by the key leaders like Founder of the nation.

ii. Ignorance of Article 25-A

Pakistan is a country which gives a fundamental right of education to its citizens. As per article 25-A of the Pakistan's constitution, the state shall

provide the free education for the children until their age of 16. While, if we see it on practical grounds, there is lack of implementation of this fundamental human right enshrined in the constitution. It can be observed through various reports that over 25 million children are out of school due to expensive or non availability of educational institutions in Pakistan. Hence, portrays a serious problem in the education system of Pakistan.

iii. Corporal Punishments in Schools

Schools in Pakistan are treating the children with corporal punishments to reform their behaviours. On contrary, it has been banned as per the Pakistan's law. According to some recent revelations it was observed that thousands of children leave schools in every year just because of physical punishments which they get from the teachers.

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This is also an issue in the education system of Pakistan.

Traditional Education System Being Followed

Pakistan is a country who is following a traditional approach with respect to education. For instance the education system in Pakistan follows a routine approach that includes memorization of subjects and then giving exams to get the degree. The thing which is lacking is the practical and effective side of education that transforms the persons and the person becomes able to work in the market or world effectively.

Solutions to Improve the Educational System of Pakistan

i. Increasing the Budget for Education

Budget in Pakistan for the educational sector must be improved as it is

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need of the hour to invest in education so that Pakistan may get best products in future. Mere allocation of 2% budget is very low for the vast population of Pakistan which has the youth population generally.

ii. Implementation of Article 25-A in Full letter and Spirit

The fundamental rights in a country must be followed in their letter and spirit. Similar the case must be with article 25-A of the constitution of Pakistan. The state must ensure the availability of ^{free} education to the children aged between 5 to 16 years. So that the children which are out of the schools can be taken back to the classrooms.

iii. Strict Regulation and Monitoring System

As discussed earlier, corporal punishments usually discourage the children and are

a result the children leave their schools.

The state must ensure strict monitoring over the schools and the teachers so that they reform the children's behaviours through other effective medium followed internationally.

iv. Skill Based knowledge Must Be Introduced

State must change its traditional approach with respect to education with a modern approach so that the children can get a skill based education rather than only getting theoretical perspective of the things. The world is constantly evolving and is demanding skill based persons in different sectors especially the Information Technology. Hence serious reforms are needed to change the educational system of Pakistan.

Conclusion

There are many issues in Pakistan with respect to its education system

which can be resolved through effective measures. If the educational sector is not focused by Pakistan it will reap serious consequences in future. Hence, it is need of the hour to solve the education problems of Pakistan.

(Q8) Introduction

Pakistan is a country which has a very "clear foreign policy goals "friendly relations with everyone and enmity with none".

As the world is constantly moving, Pakistan must be very clear in terms of its foreign policy and it must remain neutral as much as possible. But, a drift in the foreign policy of Pakistan can be observed at various instances which make it rudderless to navigate in the world.

Drift in the Pakistan's Foreign Policy and its Necessity to Meet Complex Challenges

i. Foreign Policy Towards Afghanistan

The Taliban took control of Afghanistan in 2021 and made a de facto government in the country which is yet to be recognized by world. Few countries have accepted them and their governments while others are still waiting to see their actions and then decide their legitimacy.

But, the fact is that Taliban are now in control and a superpower country like America could not defeat them in the battle ground. As a result, the world must acknowledge their role but subject to their democratic actions in the country.

Similarly, the foreign policy of Pakistan, the immediate neighbour of Afghanistan seems rudderless. In recent months, the harsh stance of Pakistan can be clearly observed towards Afghanistan. Rather, as the China and Russia are very soon going to acknowledge the Taliban due to the security issues of the region, Pakistan must also align in the

its policy like China and Russia to avoid the terrorism in the country. Secondly, it will promote the trade and investment. Thirdly, Pakistan will be clearly following the principle of "enmity with none" effectively. Hence, a regional and international challenge can be minimized.

ii. Policy Toward India

Pakistan's policy towards India also seems to be in problem. Sometimes Pakistan softens its tone and sometimes it takes a hard stance. Pakistan should try its level best to engage with India in an effective manner to solve the disputes amicably, with the help of dialogue.

Pakistan can start the diplomacy through the medium of cricket, which both of the countries love. Similarly, in recent games played in olympics 2024, Pakistani champion of javelin was supported by India as well. Hence, these mediums collectively can be used as first step towards better

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relations. These better relations will give benefits to the Pakistan in terms of security, economy, tourism etc. Hence an international challenge can be curbed through effective foreign policy.

Pakistan's Policy Towards America

Pakistan was so much important strategically for America until 2021, when it was present on the Afghan soil. Later on, the policy or relations of America towards Pakistan became dormant. Also the factors which played the key role in the dormancy was the engagement of Pakistan with China effectively while totally ignoring the America.

Pakistan must give equal importance to both of the countries i.e., America and China and the role of Pakistan should be neutral, so that same can be expected from the America.

There must be friendly relations with all and enmity with none and this must

be followed by Pakistan in its true sense.

Conclusion

Pakistan's foreign policy needs clarity and coherence and the drift should be minimized through effective foreign policy of the state. The government can rethink about its policies and it should not ignore the longterm benefits or losses that it will get. Hence through this, regional and international challenges can be minimized.