

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSPAPER IIQuestion no. 3(A) INTRODUCTION

Throughout history, countries focused on maximizing their power through strengthening their military. The world was involved in a never-ending arms race. Today, the countries are focused instead on strengthening their economies by increasing trade. Although the means have shifted from arms to economy, the end result goal stays the same: to protect national interest. As it is famously said there are no permanent enemies or friends, the only permanent is National Interest. From conventional warfare, the world has shifted towards trade war. The emerging powers are building their influence over the world by strengthening their economies.

(B) CONVENTIONAL WAR

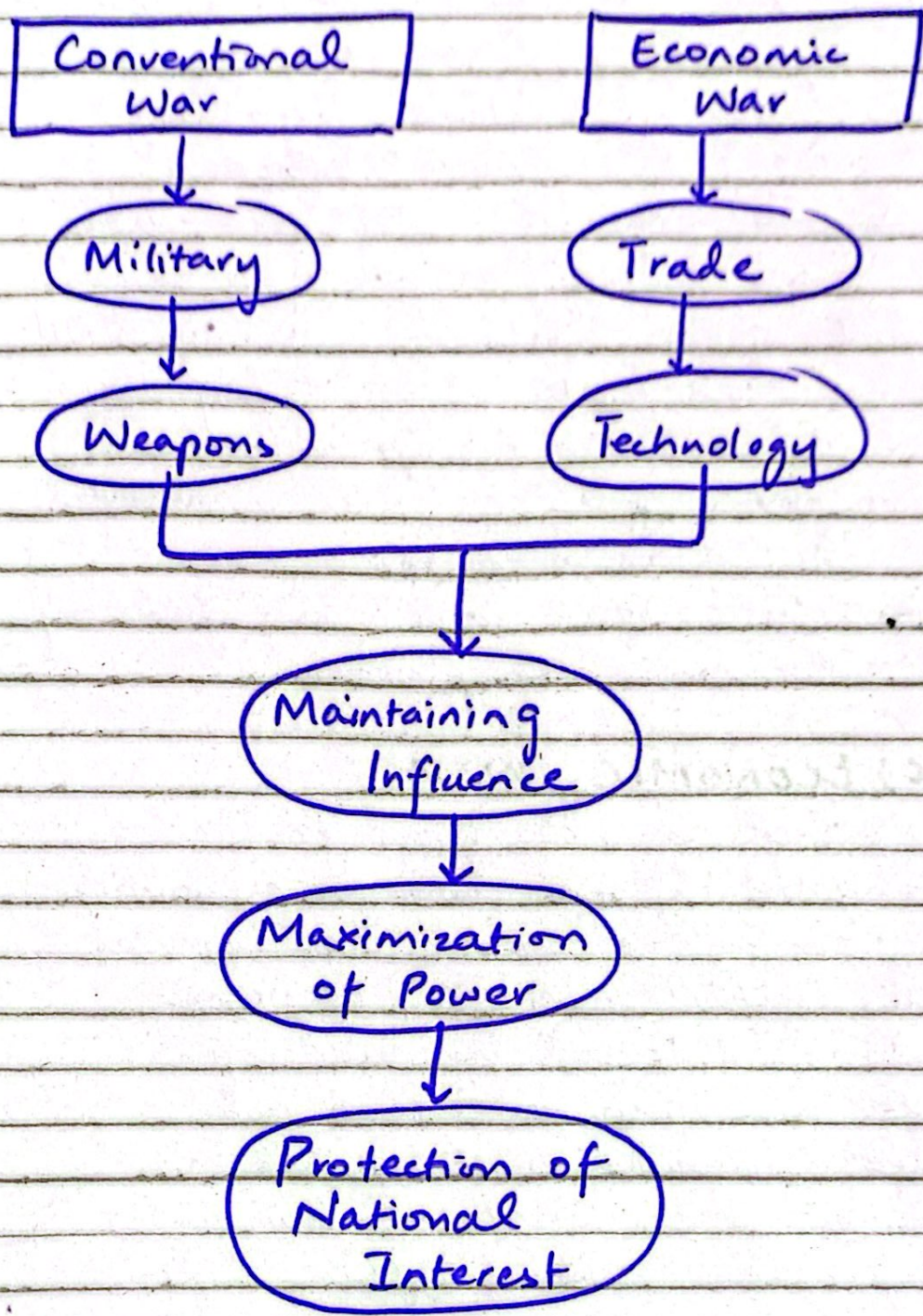
The conventional war is fought through weapons and armies. Countries maintain their influence by strengthening their military through extensive training and latest weapons. Deterrence is maintained through stockpiling lethal weapons. History is full of examples of such wars including WWI, WWII, Korean War, etc. Even today these conventional wars are prevalent in some areas such as war in Middle East and Russia-Ukraine war.

Nonetheless, the scale and frequency has decreased tremendously.

(C) ECONOMIC WAR

The world is now more focused on improving the economic capabilities. From conventional war, the countries have shifted towards economic war as evidenced by the ongoing trade war between USA and China. Both the countries are competing to excel economically to maintain their influence over the world. The economic success of China has threatened the US-led world order and has paved the way for multipolarity.

(D) CONVERGENCE OF CONVENTIONAL AND ECONOMIC WARFARE



(1) Maintaining Influence

Both the conventional and economic war aim at maintaining and increasing the influence of a state of over the region.

In conventional war, weapons and military were used to dominate over other countries.

Whereas, in economic war countries tend to excel in technology and trade in order to build their influence over other states.

(2) Maximization of Power

The conventional war and economic war both aim at maximization

of power to ensure security, stability and sustainability of countries. Conventional war led

to colonization of states in older times. Whereas, today the

powerful countries ensure their influence on weaker states

through economic imperialism.

(3) Protection of National Interest

The ultimate aim of a state always stay the same. The states always protect their national interest.

Previously, the states resorted to conventional war to protect their

national interest. Today, the countries protect their national interest through economic means.

(D) CONCLUSION

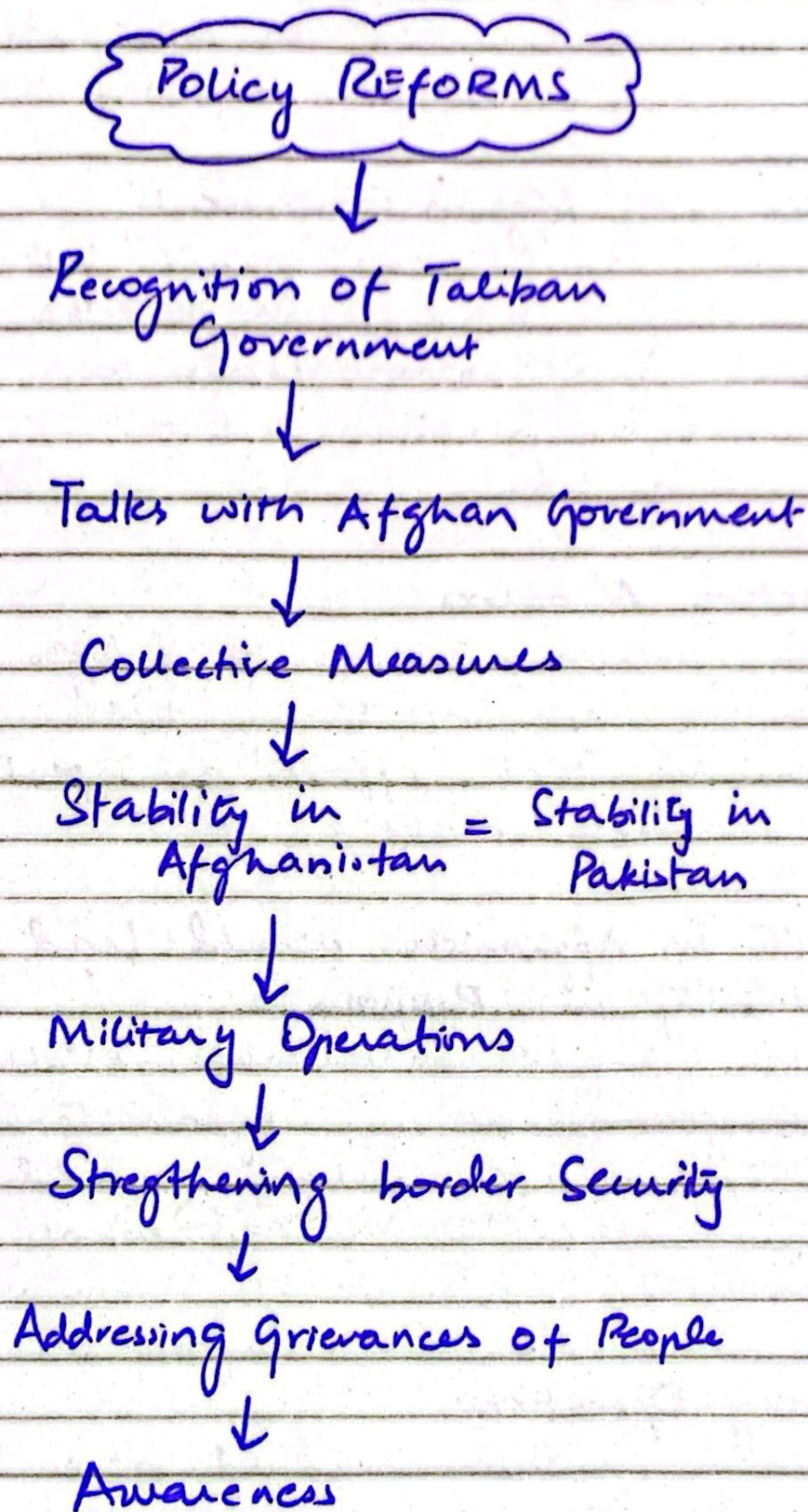
Conventional war has changed to economic war but the end goal is same. Both wars aim at protecting the national interest. The countries now resort to improving their technology and products to maintain influence over region instead of resorting to military capabilities.

Question no. 5

(A) INTRODUCTION

The instability in Afghanistan has resulted into unrest in the region. Especially in Pakistan, with whom it shares the largest border, the situation in Afghanistan has catalyzed revival of terrorism and insurgency. To address these grave problems, significant policy measures need to be implemented.

(B) POLICY REFORMS TO BRING STABILITY ON WESTERN BORDERS



(1) Recognition of Taliban Government

Pakistan should recognize the Taliban government in Afghanistan in order to initiate effective talks.

(2) Talks with Afghan Government

Pakistan should carry out talks with Afghan government to establish strong relations in order to address the problems in both countries.

(3) Collective Measures

Both countries, Pakistan and Afghanistan, should work collectively address terrorism. Joint efforts are imperative for concrete results.

(4) Stability in Afghanistan would lead to stability in Pakistan

Pakistan should help Taliban establish stable government in Afghanistan. Stability in Afghanistan would ensure stability in the whole region.

(5) Military Operations

Military operations should be carried out in cities facing most threat to wipe out the terrorists.

(6) Strengthening border Security

The Pak-Afghan border should be strengthened. Force specified for the border security should be established to ensure that no terrorist enters Pakistan from Afghanistan.

(7) Addressing Grievances of People

It is essential that the state addresses the grievance of people residing on the western borders to ensure that people collaborate with the government to eradicate terrorism. This would also aid in controlling insurgencies.

(8) Awareness

Government should arrange campaigns and seminars to spread awareness among citizens of Pakistan so that the government and public work in collaboration for eradicating terrorism.

(C) CONCLUSION

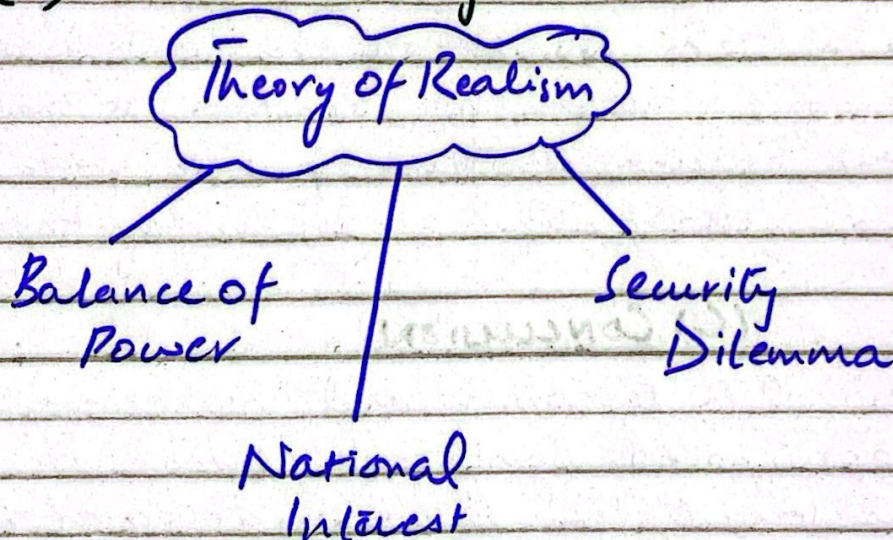
Revival of terrorism and insurgencies have posed significant threat to the security of Pakistan. Policy reforms for their rapid eradication are essential to ensure peace and stability in the country.

Question no. 6

(A) INTRODUCTION

Middle East is an energy rich region of the world that has always remained a point of interest for the economic powers. The war that erupted in Gaza last year is slowly accelerating and spreading through the region. Middle East has now reemerged as the hotspot of global power politics. In the following text, a comprehensive analysis based upon theoretical constructs of IR would be carried out.

(B) REALIST THEORY OF IR



(1) Balance of Power

The power oriented mindset of leaders and their desire to maintain balance has led to eruption of war in Middle East.

As the Israel maximized its power with the help of US, Hamas leader wished to maintain balance of power and attacked Israel. This led to violent retaliation of Israel. Moreover, the realist mindset of Netanyahu led to the continuation of war.

(2) Security Dilemma

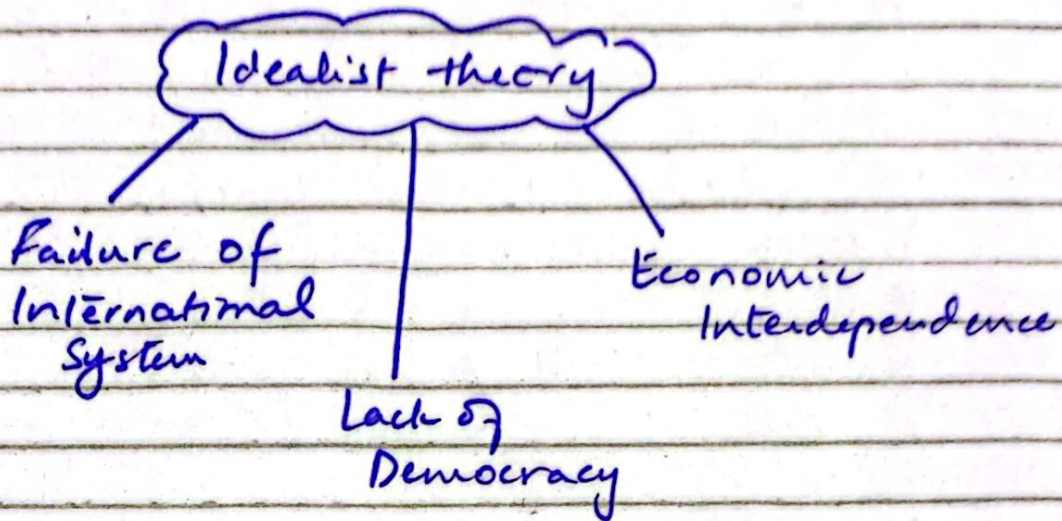
Security dilemma caused due to advanced military of Israel and proxies of Iran were seen as a threat by the respective countries. This led to war in Gaza and its spread to Lebanon and Syria.

(3) National Interest

To secure the national interest of Israel, it is working on eradicating all threats to its security. The biggest to Israel is caused by the proxies of Iran. Israel has first weakened the strongest proxies of Iran, Hamas and Hezbollah, by attacking Gaza and Lebanon. Then it has destroyed

their supply chain by helping rebels topple the Iran-backed government of Bashar-ul-Assad in Syria.

(C) Idealist Viewpoint



(1) Failure of International System

Theory of Idealism proposes that International organizations act as mediators in case of conflicts, ensuring peace in the world.

However, the international system has failed to maintain peace in Middle East. International

Organizations such as UNO and ICT lack enforcement mechanism due to which, they have failed to address genocide being carried out by Israel. Failure of international organizations underscore the need to carry out structural reforms in order to prevent future conflicts.

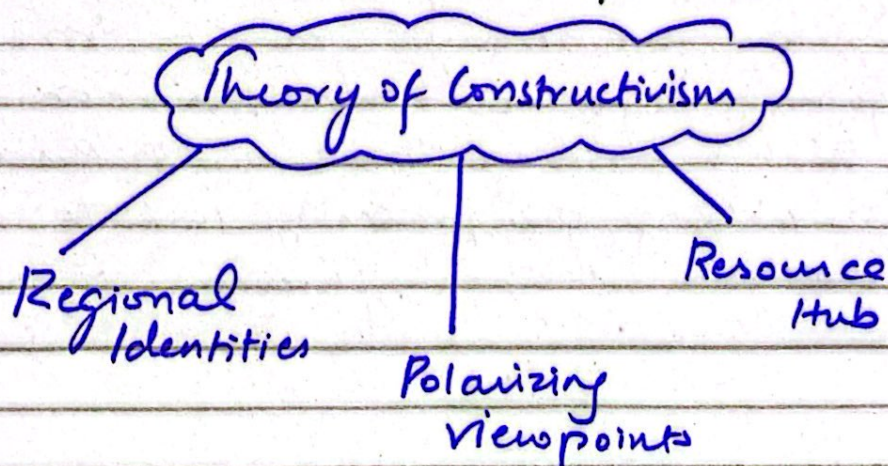
(2) Lack of Democracy

Idealist theory of IR propogates that the system of democracy helps prevent conflicts. The prevalent authoritarian system in middle East has been suggested as one of the reasons of conflict. However, the Arab Spring which included a series of civil wars fought to bring democratic system, resulted into further conflicts.

(3) Economic Interdependence

According to the Idealist theory of IR, economic interdependence fosters collaboration and prevents conflicts. However, the countries in middle East being resource rich region are economically interdependent but it has not prevented conflicts between them.

(D) Constructivist Viewpoint



(1) Regional Identities

The Shia-Sunni divide prevailing in Middle East has led to permanent rivalry. It has also prevented the countries to bring unite against Israel. By exploiting these rivalries, Israel is slowly dominating over the region.

(2) Polarizing Viewpoints

Israel wants to establish an independent state for Jews in Palestine, while Arab world is against this illegal capture. Due to these polarizing viewpoints, war has been going on in this region for several decades.

(3) Resource Hub

Middle East being a resource hub has been a point of interest for the world powers. They have ~~also~~ always fought on gaining influence over the region. US is aiding Israel while Russia is helping the proxies of Iran to maintain their influence.

(E) CONCLUSION

Middle East has become a hotspot of global power politics with world powers pulling the strings of opponent teams. The war is spreading throughout the region of Middle East while the international system is failing to control it.

Question no. 4

(A) INTRODUCTION

The emerging economies of Russia and China have threatened US-led world order. The world is now moving towards revival of multipolarity. The collaboration of Russia and China has further threatened the domination of US. US is trying to maintain its influence over the world by imposing heavy sanctions and tariffs on the two countries. The foreign policies of Russia and China and their impact on the revival of multipolar world will be discussed below.

(B) Foreign Policies of Russia and China

(1) Economic Collaboration

Both the countries have adopted the foreign policy encompassing economic collaboration.

(a) Hydrocarbons from Russia

After Russia-Ukraine war, US imposed heavy sanctions on Russia. Due to which, Russia was unable to export its hydrocarbons. This could have led to massive economic loss for Russia but China ignored the sanctions and increased the fuel trade with Russia. This prevented the economy of Russia from collapsing.

(b) Electronics from China

Russia has increased electronics trade with China. This has strengthened the relations of the two countries. The merger of these two economic giants is causing great threat to USA and will ultimately lead to its decline.

(2) Strategic Collaboration

(a) Arms Deals

Both countries have increased strategic collaboration as well. China is helping Russia with arms to fight war in Ukraine.

(b) Joint Military Operations

The joint military operations training programs is fostering closer relations between the two countries.

(3) BRICS+

(a) BRICS+ Currency

The BRICS+ countries are working on introducing their own currency which will lead to dedollarization of international market.

(b) BRICS+ Banking System

To break the monopoly of swift banks in the international market, BRICS+ aim to introduce their own banking system. This would allow the countries of BRICS+ to carry out trade without interruption from US.

(C) Revival of Multipolarity : Threat to US-led world order

The collaboration of emerging ~~economies~~ economic powers of China and Russia pose a grave concern for USA. As their collaboration has paved the way for multipolarity. This has threatened the influence and domination of US over the world. Moreover through the platform of BRICS+, Russia and China aim at dedollarization of International market by introducing a new currency. This will ultimately break the monopoly of US and prevent US from exploiting countries by imposing sanctions.