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Q2 Political discourse - - - - - ?

Ans. 1- Introduction:

Political discourses of major powers are emerging to increase their area of influence and establish their soft power. The major powers China and the US along with its allies are trying to flex ~~its~~ their power which is manifested through their various discourses like their introduction and support to the corridors of their interests BRI and IMEC are the manifestation of their expansion of area of influence. Both these projects are considered as rival to each other due to their supporters.

2- Common Regional benefits: BRI & IMEC:

BRI
And IMEC both projects are based on the benefits of the region on which they ~~are~~ are building and the participating countries.

(i) Connectivity Infrastructure: BRI & IMEC:

Both BRI and IMEC are the manifestations of connectivity to harness geo-political and economic interests of all participating countries.

(ii) Trade Promotion: BRI & IMEC:

The promotion of trade through connectivity is prime objective of these projects. As there are global major powers connected to both these projects in pursuit of increasing their trade.

(iii) Geo-political Interests through BRI & IMEC:

Due to the presence of political rival states, behind these projects, the orientation behind these is to gain geo-political ~~interests~~ support of the participating countries in order to increase their influence in the region for their National interests.

iv) Local Employment Generation

through BRI & IMEC.

Both these projects have increased the job opportunities for the locals that will lead to economic development of not only the country but also the region as well.

3- Challenges in the way of BRI &

IMEC success:

There are numerous challenges in the success of BRI and IMEC ~~can~~ including geo-political power struggle, geo-strategic rivalry and pursuit of hegemonic interests.

ii) Political Rivalry against these

Projects:

Considering the game for acquiring power to increase more influence in global political ~~area~~ arena

is a serious challenge in the success of these projects. The emergence of blocs in side of the projects like China and its supporting countries on the other side India backed by the rivals of China including the US and Europe. IMEC is also seen as manifestations of containment of China policy.

4- Predictions for BRI & IMEC:

BRI

and IMEC both these projects are beneficial for the participating countries and the region but there are fears as well that these projects can fall a prey to the geopolitical tussel of major ~~power~~ global powers. If this power gaining mindset is controlled and ~~and~~ considered these projects as cooperation and collaboration then fruits of these projects can be obtained.

5- Critical Analysis:

Belt and road Initiative and India-Middle East-Economic corridor both the projects are ~~was~~ launched with participation and collaboration perspectives but the hidden agendas remain the same to pursue power and influence among the nations. However these ambitions should not exceed their limit and maintain ~~their~~ regional peace.

6- Conclusion:

These projects are of significance not only for the parent countries but also for the participating countries and leading to regional prosperity. But there are challenges as well in way to success of these projects that can be minimized with cooperation and collaboration approach.

Q3 China is playing by -----

Q1- Introduction:

China is seen as following the footsteps of the US that it took to gain super power status in the world. The US got its influence through alliances and economic integration of regions. In this way the US gain geo-economic and political expansion that lead it to the status of sole super power. While China is also pursuing the same goal and following the same path but there is considerable difference between both of them. Their approach is seen as different and the tools employed are also not same, that can differentiate them both.

2- China following same discourses as the US:

China is following the footsteps to gain the status of hegemon or super power globally.

(i) Building Alliances As the US did:

the US has build alliances to help him in the pursuit of it global powerful status. In every region US has trusted alliance especially in Europe and Japan and Australia in the East. China is also trying to build its alliances in global south through various means. in order to increase the area of its influence

(ii) Constructing Parallel Institutions:

China is building economic and political institutions parallel to the institutions established in Bretton woods Conference, in order to gain the influence and challenging the US dominance in other words

(iii) Empowering Partners like US did:

The US has empowered its allianced states that can be verified in the historic ~~data~~ lucrative deals that the US

offered to its alliance in order to expand its influence to fulfill its national interests. China is also seen doing the same by engaging global south to expanding its influence especially in the region.

3- China : A better mediator than the US:

Although China is following the same discourse as the US did in the past to gain global super power status through increasing area of influence. But China has some distinguishing features that it has preserved through out its history.

(i) China abstained, in Internal Affairs of its Allies, interference:

So far China has not interfered in the internal affairs of its allies which is different in the case of the US. The US has conducted covert and overt operations in its regional allies to impose its own ideas. like in Cuba.

(ii) Mutual benefits Strategy rather than Self-Interest:

Chinese approach is different from the US. China is pursuing mutual benefits or at least not at the expense of other countries interest which is not in the case of US. It is evident from saying of Henry Kissinger.

"America has no permanent

friends or foes, but interests"

(Henry Kissinger)

4- Conclusion:

Although China is also following the footsteps that followed by the US but there are distinguishing factors that place China at better place than the US.

Q7 Pakistan has increasing - - - -

1- Introduction:

Pakistan has adverse ties to its Eastern neighbor historically due to existential threat posed by its neighbor located in the East. The changing dynamics of the region amid Afghan war and war on terror and role of Pakistan has impacted the relations with Afghanistan. Meanwhile Iranian border has seen stable relations so far but recent escalations due to some extra regional and non-state actors involvement made it hot borders. The progress on CPEC activities has been seen as slowed down to impact the relations also with China. Foreign Policy amid these issues needs a more proactive role to change the perception and build ties.

2- Pakistan & relations with neighbors:

Pakistan has maintained amicable relations with

its neighbors even with India to minimize regional tensions. However the existential threat posed by India has lead to change its discourse in order to protect itself. The longest border of Pakistan ^{with} ~~and~~ India is remains volatile.

Relations with Afghanistan remained cordial until 1979 Afghan war and War on terror in 2001 after the incident of 9/11. These incidents changed the dynamics and relations with Afghanistan.

Meanwhile Iran ~~also~~ remain relatively silent neighbor due to its engagement on various other fronts. But it has been active in recent past due to India backing and changing geo-political scenario.

3- Status of CPEC:

CPEC progress is seen relatively slowed down due to economic condition of Pakistan. It has to limit the imports but the situation is more exploited by media in portraying CPEC progress as slowed

down. The project has seen its maximum growth and the investment and growth graph has been relatively stable now as compared to the initial stages.

4- Recommendations for Foreign Policy

Improvement:

Foreign Policy of Pakistan needs ~~an~~ a more pro-active role along with incorporating the balance approach regarding recent developments.

(i) Consolidating Commercial Cooperations:

The shift in the approach of Pakistan from geo-strategic to geo-economic translated in National Security Policy (NSP) is a welcoming step in right direction. However it needs to be reviewing in order to incorporate the development occur in the region to make it more effective.

(ii) Engaging Pakistani diaspora in more meaningful way:

The diaspora in foreign countries especially in neighbors is very critical in significance to promote cordial relations with the country. Pakistan has large diaspora at different countries that can be engaged to project a soft image of Pakistan for better relations regionally.

(iii) Optimal utilization of resources for cooperation:

Pakistan has diverse resources that can build not only Pakistan but can also create more avenues for cooperative joint ventures. The location of Pakistan that attracted CPEC project and the land route that access can be a point of cooperation with neighbors especially with Afghanistan.

(iv) Managing Sino-US rivalry:

The US has significant role in international political and financial institutions and it sees China as competitor. Our relations with China are also very important thread that cannot be compromised. However there is a need to manage a suitable balance in China-US rivalry in order to get the National Interests of Pakistan otherwise it may have fallout on Pakistan due to its relatively weak position.

5. Conclusions:

The relations of Pakistan with its neighbors have been cordial except with India. But due to changing geo-political situations in the region and emergence of new conflicts has impact on the relations with neighbor and the development on CPEC. However this can be managed with pro-active role with balanced relationship with neighbors and global powers.

Q8 Political instability

Ans Introduction:

The political and economic history of Pakistan is full of ups and downs. The change in political scenario lead to the drastic effects on economic condition of Pakistan. This has fallout impacts on the social fabric of the country where social condition becomes worst of the poor segment of the country. There is a need to foster political stability in order to maintain socio-economic stability in Pakistan that merits various policy measures through political policies and legislations based on consensus among major stake holders.

2- How Political Instability leads to

socioeconomic Crisis:

Political instability results in socio-economic crisis due to paradigm shift of Govt as the personality and approach is changed.

(i) Political Instability impact

Economic Growth:

Due to the change in mindset and approach to the policy action also impact the economic growth in adverse manner. It is evident in economic survey of Pakistan before and after state reflects the changes in growth due to political instability that has direct impact on social life crises.

(ii) Inflation resulted due to Political

Instability:

The policy changes caused due to political instability has lead to poor economic growth and translated into inflation. The increased inflation also caused rise in interest rate (KIBOR) making it difficult to borrow money for business activities that also contributed to increase in inflation in many folds.

(iii) Poor Foreign direct Investment rate due to frequent changes in Politics:

Foreign direct investment is linked to the continuity of policy in order to plan economic activities and profits. But the policies are changed or poor implementation is remain significant hurdle in attracting foreign direct investment. Due to foreign direct investment shortage due to policy ~~discont~~ discontinuity lead to socio-economic crisis. This rate in India and Bangladesh is much higher than Pakistan.

(iv) Rise in Public debt:

Political instability poses negative impact on local and foreign investor leading to the flight of capital. When there is poor investment then the only option left is to manage expenses through debt which is further detrimental for a weak economy like Pakistan.

3- Policy Recommendations Measures to Counter Political Instability &

Socio-Economic Crises:

~~Mean~~ It is imperative to maintain political stability for avoiding socio-economic crisis but there are more options to be taken to lessen this impacts.

(i) Strengthening Electoral process:

^{Administrative} poor practices and ~~weak~~ poor implementation of laws lead to rise questions on the electoral process that provide bases to the political instability. Strengthening the electoral process will curb the political instability.

4- (ii) Conclusion:

Political instability lead to socio-economic crisis due to various reasons that need to be removed by making decisions based on consensus of all relevant stake holder so the policies remain intact.