

Part II

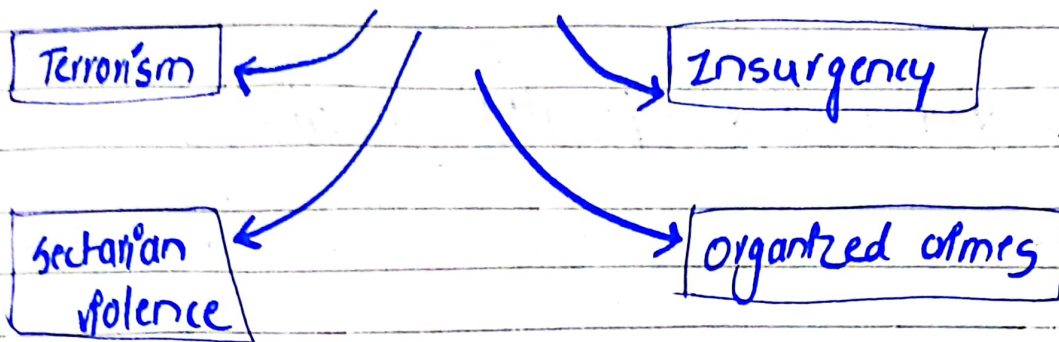
Question 4

Identify Pakistan's security concerns of last decade and suggest measures how to revisit our foreign policy.

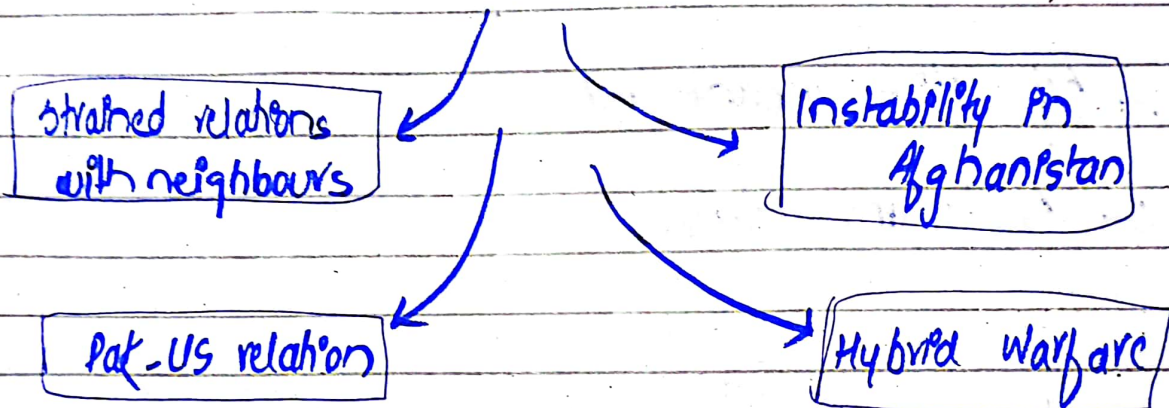
1. Introduction

Over the last decade, Pakistan has faced various security concerns including terrorism, insurgencies, sectarian violence, and border security concerns. From combating terrorism and addressing regional conflicts to managing internal insurgencies, the nation has navigated a complex geopolitical terrain. The strained relations with India and repercussions of Taliban takeover in Afghanistan has further exacerbated the situation. Pakistan, need to revisit its foreign policy and use approaches rooted in diplomacy, counterterrorism cooperation, economic development and regional collaboration. Through a nuanced examination, the discussion aims to shed light on the multifaceted dimensions of Pakistan security landscapes and present viable pathways toward a more secure and stable future.

Internal Threats



External threats



2. Internal threats

a) Terrorism and Militancy:

Pakistan has been facing terrorism since last two decades. The country has lost thousand of lives and billion dollars to counter the terrorist tendencies. Multiple militant groups have contributed to the cause. The Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) resurgence, responsible for numerous attacks and displacing thousands.

Case in point: The major attacks in Peshawar (2014) and Karachi violence (2013-16)

b. Insurgency and Separatist movement

The country has witnessed a prolonged insurgency in multiple provinces especially Balochistan, demanding a greater autonomy and addressing economic grievances. Over 3000 insurgency related deaths occurred in Balochistan since 2010 (source - CRS)

c - ~~Separatist movement~~

c - Sectarian Violence

Sectarian violence in Pakistan has been a historical concern, primarily involving clashes between different religious communities particularly Sunni and Shia Muslims. These sectarian violence has led to loss of thousand of lives. The sectarian violence particularly targeting religious minorities i.e. Shiite Hazara killings underscores the polea.

d - Organized crimes

Various organized crime networks operate in the country. Drug trafficking networks operate in border areas, impacting regional stability. Karachi is the major hub of those crimes which is linked to gang wars and extortions. Karachi ranked 4th most dangerous city in the world in 2023 (source - Numbeo)

3- External threats

a) Strained relations with India :

Pakistan had strained relations with India since the times of its independence - Border tension, unresolved Kashmir dispute and hydro-politics has contributed to the volatile environment - The country has been investing billions on defense and military due to its threat from India - According to ISRR, over 200 ceasefire violations along the LOC in 2023

b. Instability in Afghanistan:

The Taliban takeover and potential resurgence of militant groups pose significant security risks to the country. Since Taliban takeover there have been increased TTP activity and cross-border attacks - The Pakistan stance on sending refugees back to Afghanistan has further strained the relations between two.

c- US - Pakistan relations :

Pakistan was strong ally of US and helped it in fighting against war on terror - However, the bond between Pakistan and China, along with Taliban takeover in Afghanistan has strained their relations. Shifting dynamics and concerns about Pakistan's nuclear program has impacted the security cooperation.

4- Measures to Revist Foreign Policy:

a) Focus on regional cooperation

Pakistan needs to focus on regional cooperation and engage with diplomatic relations with neighbouring countries especially India, Afghanistan and Iran on security and economic issues. There is a dire need to reduce regional tensions, build trust and counter common threats.

b) Prioritize on non-military solutions

Rather than engaging in military, Pakistan should invest in development, address root causes of terrorism, promote human rights. There is a need to increase global legitimacy, counter violent extremism narratives and improve regional stability.

c) Building strong partnerships

There is a need to engage with multilateral institutions, diversify partnerships beyond traditional allies. Measures should be taken to implement cease fire agreements with India, engaging in dialogue and taking confidence building measures. It can help in reducing border tensions and unlock economic potential for country.

d- Addressing non-traditional threats :

Pakistan should divert more focus on non traditional threats such as climate change, energy insecurity, and water conservation. By investing in renewable energy, promoting water conservation, build disaster preparedness and collaborating internationally it can enhance long-term security and sustainability.

Conclusion :

Pakistan has been facing multiple internal and external security threats from last decade. By prioritizing regional cooperation, non-military solutions and diversified partnerships, Pakistan can build a more secure and stable future for its citizens.

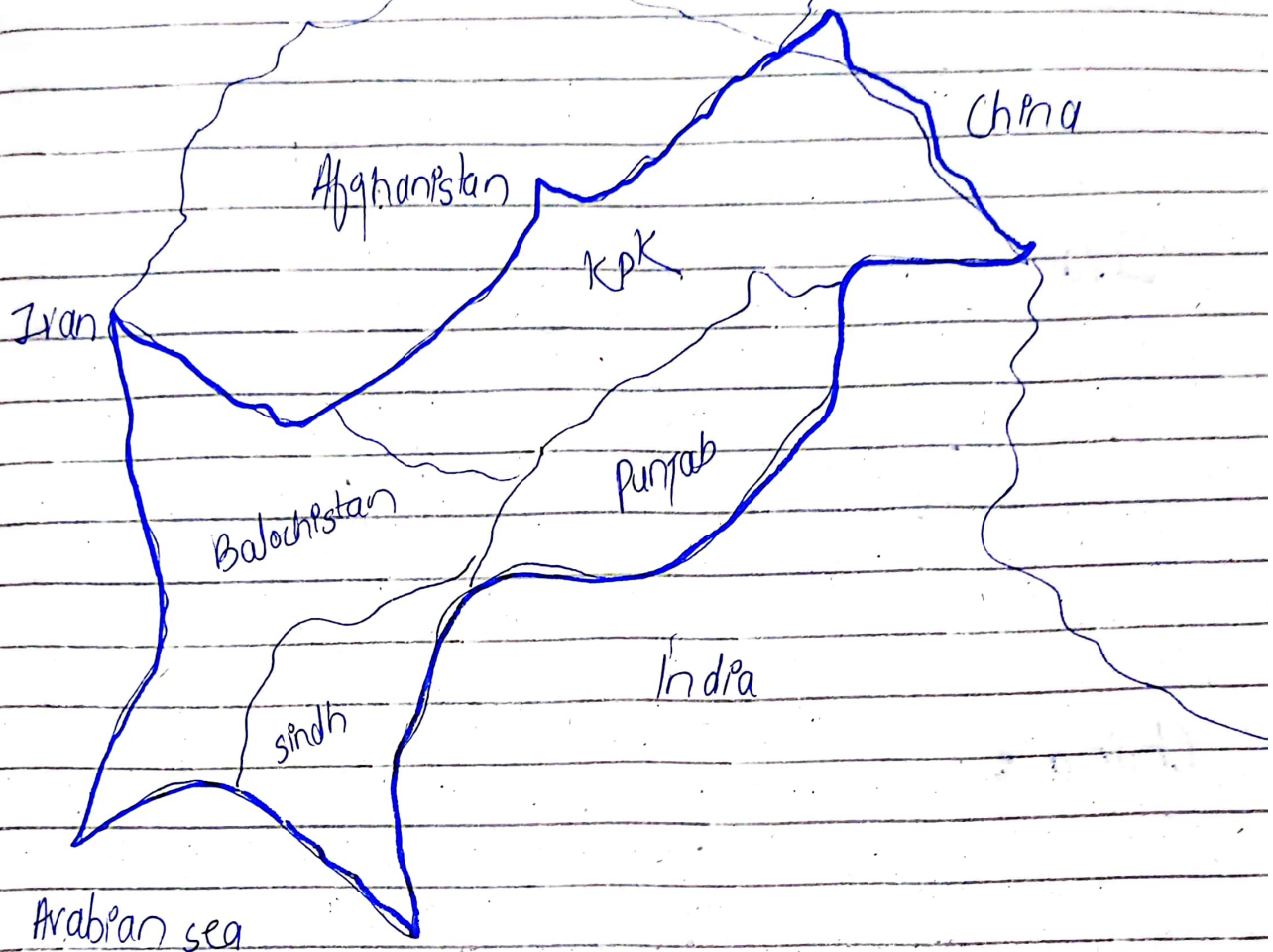
Question 6

Pakistan's relations with its neighbours and superpowers of the region will decide the stability of the region - Elucidate

Introduction:

In the complex geopolitical landscapes of South Asia, Pakistan's diplomatic ties with its neighbors and superpowers hold profound implications for the stability of the region. Positive interactions foster cooperation and contribute to regional peace, while tensions may lead to instability. Balancing relationships with neighbouring countries like India, Afghanistan, China, and Iran as well as engaging constructively with superpowers like the United States and Russia is crucial for regional harmony and development. The intricate web of diplomatic connections requires a shrewd navigation, as positive relationships can pave the way for economic cooperation, shared security concerns, and regional development. Conversely, strained ties may amplify existing tensions, potentially leading to instability and conflict.

Relations with neighbors:



INDIA:

The complex and often tense relationship with India cast a long shadow over South Asia. Unresolved issues like Kashmir, water dispute and cross border terrorism create friction and hinder regional cooperation. Improved dialogue and addressing concerns on both sides are crucial for stability.

Afghanistan:

A peaceful and stable Afghanistan is directly linked to

Pakistan's security. Their history is intertwined and instability in Afghanistan can spill over into Pakistan, fueling extremism and violence. Cooperation on border management, refugees issues and promoting stability in Afghanistan is essential.

Iran:

Relations with Iran have fluctuated recently, impacted by regional rivalries and external influences. Open communication and addressing shared concerns like drug trafficking and regional security could contribute to stability.

China:

Pakistan's close ties with China are often viewed with suspicion by other regional players. Balancing this relationship and ensuring it does not exacerbate existing tensions is crucial for regional stability.

Relations with Superpowers:

a) United States:

Pakistan has been a strong ally of US since last decade by helping it fight war on terror. However, the relationship has ups and downs. Finding common ground on issues like counter

terrorism and regional security while managing differences is key to avoiding instability.

b) Russia :

As Russia becomes more involved in the region, its relationship with Pakistan becomes increasingly important. As Russia becomes greatly involved with conflicts in Europe and US it leads to shift of power dynamics and creating blocs. Open communication and finding areas of cooperation especially on Afghanistan, can contribute to regional stability.

Why these relationships matter :

a) Conflict and instability

Conflict and instability in any of these relationships can create ripple effects throughout the region, impacting trade, security and development. For example tensions between India and Pakistan can divert resources away from crucial development projects and create an environment of fear and uncertainty.

b) Cooperation and Collaboration

Cooperation and collaboration on shared challenges like terrorism, water scarcity, and climate change can foster stability and

prosperity of all countries in the region. For example joint efforts to manage water resources across borders can prevent disputes and ensure equitable access for all.

Pakistan's Strategic Location:

Pakistan's strategic location and its complex relationships with different powers make it a key player in shaping regional dynamics. Its choices regarding its relationships with neighbours and superpowers have a significant impact on the overall stability of South and Central Asia.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Pakistan sits at a pivotal point in South Asia, where its choices regarding its neighbors and regional superpowers significantly impact the entire region's stability. Fostering peaceful relations, addressing historical grievances, and pursuing mutually beneficial cooperation are crucial for Pakistan and its neighbors to move towards a stable and prosperous future.

Question 3

Write a short note on any of the following

c) Water Crisis in Pakistan: Manifestation, Causes and the Way forward

Pakistan is grappling with a severe water crisis, threatening its environment, economy and public health.

Manifestation :

a) Decreasing water availability

Pakistan is classified as water stressed, with per capita water availability below 1000 cubic meters annually. This scarcity is projected to worsen due to population growth and climate change.

b) Unequal access

Urban areas face erratic water supply, while rural communities often lack safe drinking water, relying on contaminated sources. This disparity exacerbates social inequalities.

c) Environmental degradation

Salinization, waterlogging, and pollution of water bodies threaten agricultural productivity and ecosystem health.

Causes:

a) Rapid population growth:

Pakistan is 5th most population country in the world with the population of 240 million. Growing demands outpaces sustainable water management practices.

b) Climate change

Melting glaciers, erratic rainfall patterns, and increased temperatures contribute to water scarcity and unpredictable water flows. The recent floods of 2022 manifest the condition of lack of water reservoir with weak infrastructure contributing to water issues.

c) Inefficient water management and weak governance

Leaky infrastructure, outdated irrigation systems and unsustainable agricultural practices lead to significant water losses. Similarly, institutional weaknesses, lack of transparency and limited enforcement of regulations hinder effective water management.

Way forward:

a) Invest in water infrastructure and strengthen governance

There is a dire need to upgrade irrigation systems, repair leaks and build new water storage facilities to improve water use efficiency. Moreover, improved transparency, accountability and enforcement of water regulations is needed to ensure equitable distribution and sustainable management.

b) Promote water conservation:

Water conservation techniques need to be promoted. Public awareness about the critical issue is need of the hour. Also rainwater harvesting, and adoption of drought-resistant crops should be encouraged along with other water conservation practices.

c) Regional cooperation

Collaboration with neighbours especially India to manage shared water resources i.e. Indus river water along with other transboundary rivers and promotion of regional water security should be encouraged.

b) Population explosion: Impacts and future course

The term 'population explosion' refers to the rapid growth of the human population. While this growth has slowed in recent decades it remains a significant concern due to its widespread impacts and the challenges it presents for the future.

Impacts:

a) Resource depletion:

A larger population puts immense pressure on finite resources due to increased demand and reduced supply. It has led to scarcity of resources such as water, food, energy etc. This can lead to shortages, conflicts and environmental degradation.

b) Environmental Damage:

Due to large population, there is increased consumption of resources which has led to generation of more waste and gases in the atmosphere and pollution thus contributing to climate change, deforestation and biodiversity loss.

c) Socio-economic Challenges:

Population explosion exacerbate social problems like poverty, unemployment and inequality leading

to social unrest and instability. Similarly, it can strain economies making it difficult to provide basic necessities like education, health care, and infrastructure for all.

Future course :

a) Family planning

Empowering women through education and access to family planning services by getting the availability of contraceptives can help individuals decide on their family size voluntarily.

b) Sustainable development

Transitioning to sustainable practices in agriculture, energy and resource management is essential to meet the needs of a growing population without compromising the environment.

c) Raising awareness

Raising awareness about population issues and its repercussions through media and online platforms is vital for encouraging responsible choices and collective action.