

Questionno 2:

Ans:

Introduction:

On 2024, Iran conducted strikes on Pakistan territory claiming to have hit anti-

Iran terrorist's Pakistan insisted two children were killed in the ill-advised action. After, downgrading diplomatic ties, Pakistan on 18 Jan 2024, struck Iranian territory. Iran claimed 'foreign nationals' were killed but it would be easy to dial up tensions but it would not be in the interest of any country.

Over the years, both countries have lost ~~several~~ security men as well as civilians in the border clashes. For Pakistan, two borders India and Pakt. Afghanistan remains tense. So, diplomatic and security officials need to engage regularly to thwart the stratagems of violent state actors.

Reasons:

1) Presence of militant groups:

Tehran claimed that it has hit the "strongholds" of Jaish-e-Mahdi terrorist groups in our strikes. Iran had

came out similar attacks inside Iraq and Syria, hitting what it said were "spy Head quarters" and "terrorists". Pakistan recalled its ambassador from Iran and suspended high level bilateral ties. These were several terrorist attacks last year, with major incident occurring on December 2023, in which Iranian law enforcers were killed in an ambush attack on 'police station'. Iran officials claimed that assailants were entered from Pakistan.

2) Religious Differences

Iran distrust Sunni dominated Pakistani government close ties with Saudi-Arabia. Iran has resented Pakistan's support for Taliban, which persecuted Afghanistan Shia minority when it took power. For its part, Pakistan has harbored suspicions about Iran's cordial ties with its archenemy India. Islamabad has also recently resented Tehran's efforts to politicize the country's Shiite minority ~~and~~ Islamabad cannot tolerate external meddling in politics.

Beneficiaries

1) Pakistan of all political stripes
Immediately united Around The
Armed forces:-

The nearly two years that have passed since April 2022's post modern coup against former prime minister ^{Khan} divided the country into those who opposed and supported this ^{arguably} US approved ouster. The de facto imposition of de-facto martial law since May also has worsened this rift, yet Pakistanis of all ^{political} stripes have united around the armed forces after the Iranian's attack which can help relieve the pressure upon the Establishment ahead of planned elections this month.

2) America's benefit from escalating tensions between Eurasia diverse countries.

Despite Pakistan's closeness to the US and Iran's to India, which are one another's top rivals, each play integral roles in BRI via CPEC and (China Central Asia-West-Asia Economic Corridor) (CCAWEAC) - They

also fellow members of SCO after Iran became a permanent one last year in group's first expansion since India and Pakistan joined in 2017. America is interested in advancing worsening of tensions in Eurasian region due to its divide and rule designs in the New cold war. It could pledge full support to Pakistan to further entrench its hegemony over Pakistan.

3) West Now has a reason to keep arms and aid flowing to Pakistan.

Pakistan used to place second place to India in US's South Asian strategy but that changed as result of ^{doubled} US-India ties and Pakistan's role in containing Iran. Under these new conditions, there will be no longer be any reluctance among American policymakers to withhold arms or aid to Pakistan since it is deemed more important to the US than India.

1) Joint efforts needed to preserve relations:

Border security, particularly elimination of safe places for terrorist groups, is an area both states must work instead of pursuing the unilateral actions. The mechanism that exists for border security management should be actively used to target militants threatening either's state security through joint operations. Under no circumstances should either state's sovereignty be violated through unilateral actions.

Conclusion

The escalating tensions between Iran and Pakistan, marked by reciprocal airstrikes, is a complex regional geopolitical situation with far-reaching consequences. To restore the normalcy, diplomatic avenues must be prioritized. Both nations should engage in dialogue to address the underlying grievances.