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Question 2:

Answer:

Outline:

1. Introduction
2. Historical Overview of Pak-Iran Relation
3. Recent Escalation in Pak-Iran relations
4. Reasons for Recent Escalation
  - i- Presence of Non-state Actors on the Borders
  - ii- Iran showing military strength
  - iii- Iran - Underestimating Pakistan's Military
  - iv- Border conflicts
5. Beneficiaries of the Tensions
  - i- Non-state Actors (BLA, BLeF, Jaish Al-Hadid)
  - ii- Terrorists of the western border
  - iii- India
  - iv- USA and its western allies

## 6. Recommendations to Improve Relations

- i. Mutual cooperation
- ii. Addressing each other's concerns
- iii. Strengthening Economic Ties
- iv. Positive Role of Media
- v. Avoiding involvement in any direct conflict.

## 7. Conclusion

### Introduction:

On the night of 17<sup>th</sup> January, a news headline propelled in the media that Iran has attacked inside the territory of Pakistan. Later Iran confirming the attack, stated that Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps have attacked the base of a terrorist organization known as Jaish-e-Adl. Pakistan initially responded on diplomatic grounds; calling back its ambassador from Iran and asked Iranian ambassador to leave Islamabad. The next day, Pakistan attacked the



bases of terrorist outfits in Sistan-Balochistan province. However, Iranian foreign ministry issued a statement and called for immediate de-escalation as it could benefit the enemies of both countries.

### Historical Overview of Pak-Iran Relations:

Iran is situated on the South-West of Pakistan. They both share a border of about 550 km.

Pakistan's relations with Iran are brotherly and for most of the times remained normal. In 1947, Iran was the first country to recognise Pakistan after its independence. In 1979, after Iranian revolution, the relations became cold as the influence of USA and Saudi Arab increased due to Soviet-Afghan war. However, ~~for~~ excluding some minor border conflicts, Pakistan's relation with Iran remained warm.

## Recent Tensions in Pak-Iran Relations:

On 17<sup>th</sup> January, Iran attacked inside the territory of Pakistan in Koh-e-Sbz village, killing four people including two children. Iran claimed that it has attacked the camp of Jaish-Al-Adal which is a military outfit based in Iran with the goal of independence for Iran's eastern province. After two days Pakistan attacked inside in the Iran territory and killed 9 terrorists of BLA and BLF. However, the relations resumed after that tension. On Jan 29, Iran's Foreign Minister also visited Pakistan, calling for friendly and brotherly relations between two neighbouring countries.

## Reasons for Escalation:

Pakistan always tries to keep the territorial integrity of its neighbours but Iran's violation compelled Pakistan for an



immediate response. The main reason of this short-span conflict was mainly the presence of terrorist organizations in the border area. Pakistan claims of Baloch separatist organizations like BLA and BLF while Iran alleged Pakistan of hiding Jaish-ul-Adl. Similarly, Iran also wanted to power a military show as it also carried attacks in Iraq and Syria. ~~Iran~~ Moreover, Iran underestimated the military strength of Pakistan and carried an attack. However, the immediate response of the Pakistan Air-force left Iran in surprise. In addition to that, both countries have always been involved in minor border skirmishes but that time, it turned to be a relatively major conflict.

## Beneficiaries of Pak-Iran Tensions:

The tense relations between Pakistan - Iran is not in the favour of anyone. However, the enemies of both countries can take benefits from current escalation. The biggest beneficiaries can be the Non-state Actors i.e. terrorist outfits like Jaish-Al-Adal, BLA, BLF etc. Secondly, India is always involved in sabotaging the bilateral relations of Pakistan with Iran. India also supports the separatist organizations. Moreover, the terrorist on western borders i.e. T.T.P, Tehreek-e-Jihad etc can also take benefits and attack from western sides. The USA and its western allies also want Iran and Pakistan to involve in a large scale conflict as it would divert attention of Iran from various points like Yemen, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon etc.



## Recommendations to Improve Relations:

Pakistan and Iran, both are peaceful neighbours. They both should engage in mutual cooperation to avoid any further damage. Similarly, addressing each others concerns, strengthening economic ties and avoiding involvement in any type of direct or indirect conflict. Moreover, the positive role of media on both sides and people to people interaction can improve bilateral relations.

## Conclusion:

The recent escalation in Pak-Iran relations led the both countries to attack each others territories. Luckily, the sane leadership on both sides avoid any further conflict. Both the countries should improve bilateral relations through various positive steps to avoid any conflict in the future.

## Question 6:

Answer:

### Outline:

1. Introduction
2. Climate Change: Recent Scenario
3. Overview of Conference of Parties (COP)
4. Understanding Loss and Damage fund
5. Opportunities for practical materialization of COP-28
  - i- Fostering International cooperation
  - ii- Practical implementation of Fossil fuel Deal
  - iii- Financing developing countries
  - iv- Enhancing Climate Justice.
  - v- Increasing Green Investment
  - vi- Playing leading role by US and China
6. Opportunities for Pakistan
  - i- strengthening Environmental Diplomacy
  - ii- Pledging for climate financing
  - iii- Taking benefit from Carbon-trading.
  - iv- Enhancing its Internal Policy
  - v- Improving climate-related governance
7. Conclusion



## Introduction:

Climate change related calamities have taken the world into storm. From New-Zealand to Canada, every country is suffering from its destructions. The earthquakes in Morocco, Egypt, Afghanistan, the floods in China, Libya, Myanmar, the heatwaves in whole Europe and wild fires in Latin America is are the highlights of 2023. According to ADB, 2023 was the hottest year ever recorded in human history.

To make policies relating climate change, delegations from over 190 countries gathered at Dubai at COP28. One of the main and highlighted issue was "Losses and Damages" fund floated during COP27 pledged by G-77 countries. COP28 can be a golden opportunity for the world to address all the concerns related to climate change to protect future life on earth.

## Overview of COP:

Conference of parties shortly known as COP are the annual conference by UNFCCC to address the floating issues of climate change. It was started in 1995 in which the most important one was COP21 in 2016 which set a limit of  $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  increase to average temperature.

COP28 took place from Nov 30 to Dec 12 at Dubai. The highlighted issues which were addressed during COP28 are;

- ① ~~Limiting~~ Shifting away from fossil fuel
- ② Loss and Damage Fund
- ③ Green investment fund by UAE
- ④ Global stock-take

## Understanding Loss and Damage Fund:

Loss and damage fund is a part of climate financing.

The idea of loss and damage fund was floated during COP27 at Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt when



G-77 countries, chaired by Pakistan asked for climate funding by industrial countries as most of the destruction in developing world are due to their over-use of fossil fuel. Initially, this idea was approved for consultation. In COP28, a formal fund was created to help the developing countries which are being struck by climate-related phenomena. The custody of this fund is given to world bank for few years. However, there are certain issues which yet to be addressed.

## Opportunities for Practical Materialization of COP28:

COP28 has set a golden opportunity for the global players to settle climate related issues. UN chief Antonio Guterres in his tweet raised concerns that global leaders are not taking climate change as serious as it need

to be. Countries especially industrialized nations should foster mutual cooperation and frame practical policies to lessen the damage to climate change. Similarly, the deal signed on the last day of climate summit should also be practically implemented as it can be a turning point. That deal ask for shifting away from fossil fuel. Additionally, developed countries should finance the developing and least developed countries. They should also ensuring climate justice through loss and damage fund. A committee which frame the working of loss and damage fund should be established as soon as possible. UAE announced 100 bn \$ ~~for~~ for green investment. Other countries also add funds to it. Similarly, the leading global powers, the USA and China should play leading role in this matter.



## Opportunities for Pakistan:

A delegation led by caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq also attended the Summit. Pakistan present its case before the world as it has suffered a loss of \$30 bn in 2022 floods which stemmed the GDP growth by 2pc. Pakistan should further improve its environmental diplomacy especially with developed and industrialized nations. Similarly, Pakistan has received only \$1.1 bn in climate financing since the issue has started. Pakistan should ask for more funding from developed nations. Additionally, Pakistan should take benefit from the carbon-trading as it provides opportunity for the developing countries to trade their carbon share for money. Pakistan is not in even list of top ten carbon trading

countries. Pakistan should also enhance its climate policy according to new circumstances. Pakistan should also climate-related governance to avoid damage from it. The P NDMA and PDMA, should be revamped and inter-institutions cooperations should also be enhanced.

### Conclusion:

COP28 ~~was~~ can be a golden opportunity for the world to take climate change into serious concerns. The establishment of losses and Damages fund, the deal of shifting away from fossil fuel and funds for green investment can be game changer. Pakistan should also take benefit from it and draw a strong and long-term policy to address climate related concerns.