

QUESTION # 04

ANSWER:

1. INTRODUCTION:

Pakistan's security concerns of the last decade have been indulged with many traditional and non-traditional threats. These threats have severely affected the foreign policy of the country with neighbouring countries and super powers of the region. Pakistan faced severe militancy and terrorism in last decade with recurrent upheavals and pauses. Moreover, the security concerns related to climate crisis, ~~ere~~ man migration from Afghanistan and 5th generation war are most neglected issues threatening sovereignty of the country. However, stable political and economic environment ensure the country with active diplomatic engagement to avert security concerns.

2. TRADITIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS OF THE LAST DECADE:

(a) INTERVENTIONARY MEASURES OF INDIA:

India being the historical rival of Pakistan, has been actively engaged to destabilize the country. In 2019, Indian Pilot Abhinandan Varthaman was captured by the Pakistani forces flying on Pakistani territory. Kalbushan Yadhav is another example of interventionary measure of India in Pakistan.

(b) TENSE RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES:

Since last decade, three borders of Pakistan i.e. Iran, Afghanistan and India have been in deep waters. Security threat from Afghanistan after withdrawal of USA in 2021 because of ideological support to TTP is major risk to Pakistan's security. Pakistan has accused Afghan Taliban to provide sanctuary to TTP.

Moreover, recent air strikes of Iran to Pakistan's territory further escalate security concerns in the country.

(c) **EXPANSIONARY MEASURES OF INDIA:**

In 2019, India evoked Article 35-A and Article 370 of Indian constitution, which secured the autonomy and demographic security of Kashmir. Indian supreme court recently upholds this decision of Modi government to excise their expansionary measure on Kashmir's land. These policies of India clearly violate Pakistan's sovereignty and threatens its security.

(d) **SOCIAL UNREST AND INTERNAL INSECURITY:**

Social stability and cohesion among the population is another pre-requisite for internal security of any country. Recent political and social polarization and intolerance have raised insecure internal environment threatening internal cohesion and national integration.

3. NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY

CONCERNS OF LAST DECADE:

(A) CROSS-BORDER TERRORISM:

In the last decade, Pakistan have seen bits and pieces of militancy with alternate phases and upheavals. After the withdrawal of USA from Afghanistan, cross-border ideological and financial support by Afghan Taliban to TTP and other militant groups have raised to an unprecedented level.

(B) RISE OF DIVERGENT GROUPS

Many marginalized groups and communities have engaged in terrorism and militancy. In last decade, Pakistan has faced surge in non-state actors and militant groups trying hard to destabilize the country and threaten national security. BLA and BLF are among those groups that take help from national rivals for their gains and halt national security.

(C) CLIMATE CRISIS:

Pakistan's security has been severely hampered by climate calamities. In 2022, Pakistan faced biggest flood of all times damaging around \$30B of economic losses and affecting around 33m people (World Bank, 2022)

(B) FIFTH-GENERATION WARFARE:

The rise of digital world in last decade have eroded public institutions due to fake news and digital victimization. Many fake reports and engraving public mistrust through internet against the country ~~for~~ by enemies is emerging threat to national security in recent times.

(D) INFLOW OF AFGHAN REFUGEES:

Since the inception of war on Terror and after the withdrawal of USA from Afghanistan, Pakistan has been favourable destination for many Afghan emigrants. Around 3.7 million Afghan refugees resides in the country, making up one of biggest

refugee population hosted by any country around the world.

4. MEASURES TO REVISIT FOREIGN POLICY:

(A) ACTIVE DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT WITH NEIGHBOURS:

Pakistan should avert diplomatic deadlock with its neighbours, so that security threats could be averted through consensual approach and mutual benefits. Recent revival of diplomatic engagement with Iran after air strikes illustrates positive measures to align foreign policy on right direction.

(B) NON-KINETIC MEASURES TO AVOID ESCALATION OF DISPUTES

Pakistan should avoid any forceful or kinetic measures in foreign policy with Afghanistan or India to avoid further escalation of security concerns in the country.

Political, economic and social engagement should be topmost priority for Pakistani foreign policy to avoid security threats.

(c) MULTI-TRACK DIPLOMACY:

Pakistan should opt for multi-pronged strategy in diplomatic engagement. Track-II diplomacy and social cooperation through increase peop-to-people interaction along with ease of economic barriers will facilitate the country to avert tense relations with the neighbouring countries.

(d) SMART POWER:

Recent world have transition into inter-twining domains. Thus, in order to align its foreign policy to avert security concerns, Pakistan should opt mix of hard and soft power to gain its national interests and security.

TRADITIONAL

SECURITY CHALLENGES

- Interventionary measures of India
- Tense relations with neighbouring countries.
- Social Unrest and internal insecurity
- Expansionary measures of India

NON-TRADITIONAL

SECURITY CHALLENGES:

- Cross-Border Terrorism
- Rise of Divergent groups
- Climate Crisis
- 5th Generation Warfare
- Inflow of Afghan refugees

MEASURES TO REVISIT FOREIGN POLICY:

- Active Diplomatic engagement with neighbours
- Non-kinetic measures to avoid escalation.
- Multi-Track diplomacy.
- Use of Smart power

5. CONCLUSION;

In a nutshell, it can be concluded that Pakistan has been indulged in many traditional as well as non-traditional security threats in last decade. Due to which its national integration, sovereignty and interests are at threat. However, re-aligning foreign policy to consider security issues at top objective through diplomatic engagement with neighbours, public engagement, non-kinetic measures and use of smart power will help the country to address key security issues.



QUESTION # 03

ANSWER

I. INTRODUCTION:

Pakistan is facing huge crisis in political as well as economic domain. The debate about which thing to be mend first is ever-lasting. Both dimensions are inter-twined, however political stability is the fundamental pre-requisite for other domain to find their own place. Political stability ensure stable and secure environment of the country, which suits investors to actively mobilize and engage in the country's economy for mutual gains. Hence, Pakistan urgently needs political stability to ensure certainty, public trust and civic participation. Otherwise, every struggle in other domain will go in vain.

2. POLITICAL STABILITY AS THE NEED OF THE HOUR;

i. REGULAR INTERRUPTION OF DEMOCRATIC PROCESS;

Pakistan since its inception has faced regular intervention in democratic process. Until 2008, no any government completed its tenure. Recent oust of elected political party (PTI) in 2022 through NO-Confidence motion is classical example of overthrowing representative government from its mandate. Thus, political stability is urgently required for smooth functioning of the country.

ii. POLITICAL WITCH-HUNT;

Political parties regularly engage in witch-hunting and accusing each other for corruption, ill-practices and character assassination. Due to this political environment have become a power show of verbal accusations. Censoring and banning the opposition by the ruling party have become a new norm of the country.

In PTI's government, Ex. prime minister Nawaz Sharif was censored on media platforms. Similarly, in PDM government, PTI's leader Imran Khan was banned by PEMRA on media. This continuous witch-hunt on legal and social grounds demonstrates that political stability is the need of hour.

iii. POLITICAL POLARIZATION.

The population of Pakistan has been delved into extreme political polarization in recent years. Due to this intolerance to diverse political opinions, several disputes and conflicts erodes social rest. After the ouster of Imran Khan, his followers were actively engaged in public demonstrations and rallies that severely hampered smooth functioning of the country.

iv. RISE OF DIVERGENT GROUPS:

Another reason for urgent political stability is the

rise of divergent groups. Political parties have been involved in accusing each other and ignore the voice of marginalized communities in Balochistan, Gilgit Baltistan. Due to ignorance of their problems, people of marginalized communities participate in militancy and divergent groups for their interests. Balochistan Liberation Army, and Balochistan Liberation front are illustration of this surge in divergent groups. In order to counter militancy and terrorism, political stability is key principle to address.

IV) ERODING PUBLIC TRUST;

The first and foremost principle of democracy is public trust. Pakistan is dwindling in political domain, due to which population has become pessimistic about the future and many qualified people are emigrating from the country. According to recent survey by PIDE, 67% of youth in Pakistan wants to leave Pakistan due to pessimism on country's future.

3. POLITICAL STABILITY AS THE LIGHT AT THE END OF TUNNEL:

(a) EMPOWERED DECISION-MAKING:

Despite the countries many efforts to counter economic crisis, Pakistan is thwarted to deep hollows. This is because the decisions at the national level are not independently done by representative government. Political stability will empower the elected leader to focus national interests and implement policies for national benefit.

(b) REPRESENTED GOVERNMENT HOLD TRUST OF FOREIGN INVESTORS:

The recent uncertainty in politics of Pakistan, many foreign businesses have shut their operation in the country. Shell announced to sell its shares in the country and shut its operation

Political stability will ensure investors about the will of local people through the informed and consensual decisions of political leaders and this ultimately leads to economic security of the country.

(e) STABLE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

LET LEADERS TO FOCUS ON KEY

ISSUES:

Non-traditional threats such as climate issues, cyber threats, population explosion and revival of militancy are key issues to be urgently focused. These issues could only be resolved through political stability.

Stable political environment will let leader allow to have a tunnel vision of alarming issues. Terrorist attacks have increased by 60% in last years mostly caused by TTP and ISKP. Moreover, recurrent floods and climate disasters are need to be addressed first, which can only be done through representative government.

(d) POLITICAL STABILITY AVERT UNCERTAINTY:

The main reason to economic crisis of the country was uncertainty and unpredictability. This can only be averted when qualified leaders are represented by people with real mandate to avert threatening situations. Smooth transition of governments in political domain will ensure public trust and certain outcomes.

4. CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell, it can be concluded that all the strings of other domain led to political arena. Thus, political stability is the urgent need of the country to be addressed first. It will ensure true representation of people, public trust and trust with investors. This will empower politicians to have informed and sensible policies for national interests and integrity. Moreover, it will also ensure the social development, stability which is most neglected issue of all times.

QUESTION # 06

ANSWER:

1. INTRODUCTION:

The transition of geopolitical situation in the region is gauged by the relations of Pakistan with its neighbouring countries. These relations will decide the future stability in the region. Pakistan is at the cross-roads of mix of tense and good relations with the neighbouring countries and super powers of the region. The foreign policy of the country is juggling between two super power in the region to maintain its neutral stance. In addition to this, tense relations of the country with neighbouring countries have jolted the country to reassert its foreign policy and maintain regional stability.

2. RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURS:

(A) SKIRMISH WITH IRAN:

Pakistan has been involved in recurrent skirmish and dispute with Iran. Security concerns and border disputes between both countries have been topic of contention in recent times. Iran initiated air strikes on Pakistan's territory in January 2024, to which the country retaliated with enough force. Moreover, eight Pakistani nationalists were murdered in Iran by an unknown man increasing the distrust and resentment between both countries. The discourse of both countries to revive the diplomatic engagement and return of ambassadors to their designated place re-installed political engagement between both countries. Any conflict between both countries in near future can initiate a full-fledge war and destabilize the region.

B. TENSE RELATIONS WITH AFGHAN TALIBAN:

After the withdrawal of USA, Afghan taliban have been prevaricated to expel militant groups operating in its land. However, continuous political, financial and ideological support of Afghan taliban to TTP and other militant groups have been a threat to Pakistan's security. Pakistan has accused Afghanistan to provide safe heavens to militant groups against Pakistan. In retaliation, Pakistan has announced repatriation of almost 1.7 m undocumented Afghan refugees in 2023. Both countries have been involved with verbal accusation and tense relations, which have destabilised the regional stability. Future discourse of Pakistan to manage this load of cross-border terrorism and relations with Afghanistan will determine the fate of region.

(c) DIPLOMATIC DEADLOCK WITH INDIA:

After Indian government evoked Article 35-A and 370 of Indian Constitution, Pakistan maintained diplomatic deadlock with India, with no political and economic engagement.

However, Pakistan pushed for good relations with India when ex-foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto visited India in 2023 for SCO Summit.

In addition to this, the country also send its national cricket team to India for the world cup. But the response from India to these positive gestures have been a cold comfort for the country. No any positive response have been indicated by Modi government.

Future discourse of Pakistan's relations with India will determine regional power dynamics and stability.

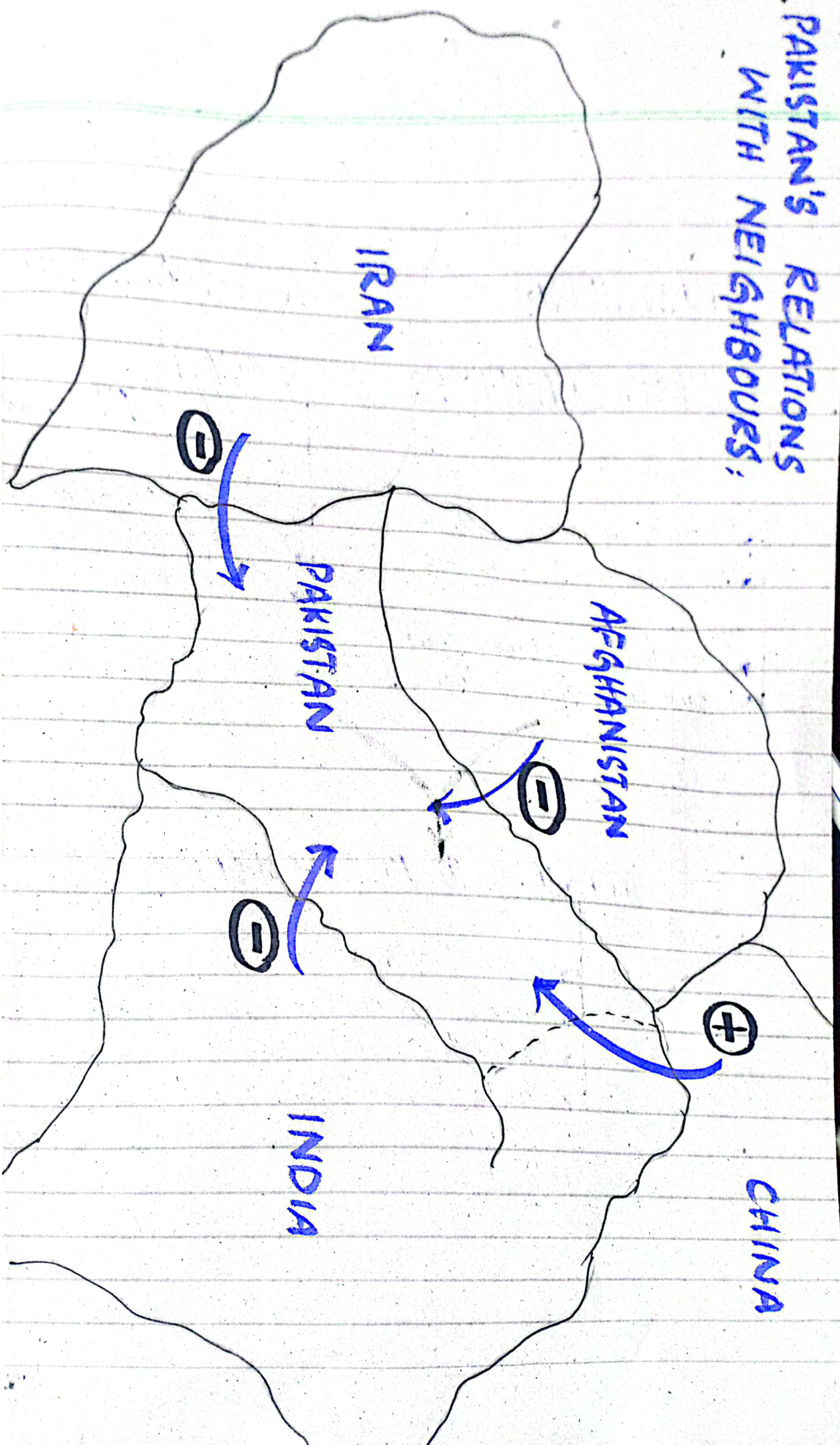
(d) CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH CHINA

China has been the only country with whom Pakistan maintained good cordial relations. Pakistan-China have been engaged in many economic and defense agreements, which strengthened this partnership.

In 2023, CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Corridor) completed its ten-year tenure, which is the major economic cooperation between both countries. However, recent rivalry between USA and China have involved Pakistan in deep crisis to ensure its neutral stance.

Bloc politics in the region in near future will determine the world order. Pakistan's relation with China demonstrates a key point of contention with western allies. Thus, ensuring mutual partnership with China, Pakistan should maintain good relations and work for regional stability.

A PAKISTAN'S RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURS:



3. RELATIONS WITH SUPER POWERS OF THE REGION:

(a) ISOLATION FROM USA:

USA has shifted its focus to contain the rise of China through Indo-Pacific Strategy. It also transit its focus from Pakistan after withdrawal from Afghanistan. Due to this strategy of USA, Pakistan is left-alone to deal with militancy and terrorism. Moreover, increasing partnership of USA with India to counter Chinese influence in the region blows Pakistan's interests and stability in power dynamic of the regions. The relations of Pakistan with USA have been in jolts due to increase cooperation with India. This security dilemma in Pakistan pushes the country to stabilize regional dynamics through other alliances and bandwagons.

(B) JUGGLING BETWEEN REGIONAL BLOC POLITICS:

Pakistan is at cross-roads between power struggle in the region. USA and China have been contending for influence in the region and actively engaged in trade war. In 2023, US called a summit for democracy and China was not invited to the summit. Soon after the announcement, Pakistan decided to skip the summit. Despite its good relations with China Pakistan is struggling to balance with both countries and maintain a neutral stance in foreign policy to avoid bloc politics in the region. The increasing ties of Pakistan with China was considered a powerful alliance to maintain Chinese influence in the region. Contrarily to that US allied with India to balance power dynamics in the region. The regional dynamics hinders Pakistan to ensure neutral relations with super power.

4. CONCLUSION:

There have been very tense relations of the Pakistan with its neighbouring countries and super powers of the region. This bring uncertainty and negative consequences on the national sovereignty of Pakistan. Revival of diplomatic engagement with Iran could prospects good ties in near future, Slemish with Afghanistan could further escalation the conflicts and destabilize regional dynamics. Moreover, diplomatic deadlock with India strengthens the position of India to raise its political and economic influence on the region. Furthermore, relations of Pakistan with USA and China holds key position in future discourse of regional stability with the ensurance of neutral foreign policy and multi-lateral relations.



QUESTION # 08

a) ANSWER;

1. INTRODUCTION;

Pakistan is facing huge environmental challenges in recent times. The geo-strategic location of the country makes it vulnerable to recurrent climate disasters. Moreover, lack of proper climate funding, post-disaster management, and accountability of divergent poses a significant challenge for Pakistan to counter environment threats. However, environment sensitive decision-making, enough mobility of funds to ensure implementation of policies could avert this menace and bring back the country on track.

2. PAKISTAN ENVIRONMENT

CHALLENGES:

i. VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE DISASTERS.

Pakistan is most vulnerable to climate calamities. Despite its low green house gas emissions, Pakistan face most dangerous environment crisis of all times. Recent flood of 2022 is one of most biggest flood ever faced by the country till date, damaging around \$30B of economic losses.

ii. LACK OF CLIMATE FUNDING:

Pakistan is already indulged with severe economic crisis. Recurrent environment challenges to the country create little space for Pakistan to ensure monetary funds for deterrence to climate issues. Loss and damage fund ^{announced} in COP 27 was ignored in recent COP 28 summit with no clear indication of funding allocation, distribution to vulnerable countries.

iii) POOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT:

Pakistan lacks the capacity to mitigate and manage environment disasters. The post-disaster after shocks stills prevail in the country with agricultural loss, water-logging.

iv) POOR TRANSITION TO GREEN ENERGY

In COP-28, it was consensually declared to transit from fossil fuels, however Pakistan stills excessively depend on hydrocarbons for energy production with around 60% of thermal energy production.

3. WAY-FORWARD TO MITIGATE CHALLENGES:

i) DISASTER-RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Pakistan should actively engage in disaster-resilient infrastructure. This could be done through environment sensitive policy making and decisions.

iii. ENSURE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION:

The policies related to environmental challenges will go in vain, if policies are not effectively implemented. Thus, Pakistan should involve stakeholders to ensure effectiveness of policies in their domains.

iii. EMPOWERING LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Pakistan is facing huge corruption and ineffectiveness of policies due to weak local government. Pakistan has already have National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and similar authorities at provincial and district levels. Empowering these authorities from grass root level and devolution of power to district level will provide public trust and accountability.

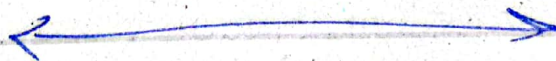
iv. ACCOUNTABILITY OF DIVERGENTS:

The country should enforce its environmental policies through transparent accountability of divergents and corrupt leaders. United Nations have alarmed that environmental crime is threatening due to lack of accountability.

law enforcement in climate domain

4. CONCLUSION;

Pakistan is facing many environmental challenges such as climate disaster, lack of implementation, poor financial support, weak green energy transition and post disaster management. However, effective policies with disaster-resilient infrastructure, increase mobility of climate funding by multi-national banks and effective implementation of policies will ensure accountability and mitigation of environmental challenges in future.



(b) **ANSWER:**

1. **INTRODUCTION:**

Population of Pakistan according to recent consensus is reported to be around 240 million making it 5th largest population in the world. The rate at which Pakistani population is growing is beyond imagination. This population explosion is causing huge threat to resource security, demographic stability and social security in the country. However, future course to mitigate this challenge by countering through effective policies should be main focus of stakeholders.

2. **IMPACTS OF POPULATION EXPLOSION:**

(i) **RESOURCE DEPLETION:**

Pakistan is an Agricultural land, but recent times shows severe decline in agricultural crops and food insecurity. Population

explosion has pushed the country to import food and other necessary resources for its masses.

ii, INCREASE DEPENDENCY RATIO:

Pakistan is facing huge age-related dependency crisis. According to recent stats of world bank, Age-related dependency ratio in Pakistan is 69 percent.

iii, UNCHECKED URBANIZATION:

Population explosion is pushing people to migrate from rural to urban areas for economic and social opportunities. This unchecked urban migration alter demography of the country.

iv, BRAIN DRAIN:

Pakistani people are emigrating from the country for better opportunities abroad. This brain drain due to population explosion is severe dent to intellectual capital of the country.

3. FUTURE COURSE FOR PAKISTAN TO POPULATION EXPLOSION;

i. PUBLIC AWARENESS;

Public should be aware through print and digital media for possible disaster of population explosion. Social media apps i.e. Whatsapp, Facebook and Tiktok are powerful tools to raise awareness campaign across the country.

ii. LEVERAGING RELIGIOUS CLERGY;

Population growth has intertwined relation with religious aspect in the country. Pakistani stakeholders should leverage religious clergy to avoid misconceptions and work on common grounds.

iii. FACILITATING CONTRACEPTION;

Pakistani people should be facilitated with contraceptive techniques and avoiding stereotyping.

availability of oral contraceptive pills, condoms, contraceptive devices should be provided to males.

4. CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell, population explosion in the country poses severe threat to the country.

It hampers economic growth of the country. Population explosion impacts resources, economic opportunities, social integration and demographic changes of the country. However, country should check further population growth through ease of family planning, contraception and public awareness about the danger in future.

This future course of action will mitigate the challenges in near times.

