

Online Batch one

Q.1

1. Introduction:-

Socio-economic future of a country is directly linked with one thing: the power sector. It is the power sector which helps uplift a country both socially and economically. However, in present scenario, power sector paints a very grim picture. It is grappled with multitude of problems. For making progress on socio-economic grounds, reforms are direly need in power sector.

2. Current situation of power sector:-

Currently, power sector is in crippling situation. Shortfall has reached to 8000 MWs; Loadshedding upto 6 hours in Urban areas and 8-12 hours in rural areas. Owing to this electricity consumption has increased to a new high. Domestic consumers are being charged as upto 43 PKR. While ~~meter~~ Commercial users upto 88 PKR.

Day

3 How Reforms in power sector reshape socio-economic future:

Introduction of reforms of in power sector has much potential to change the prevailing situation of the country.

A Reforms in power sector reshaping economics:

(i) Enhancing Industrial production:

~~Introducing~~ Introducing reforms such as subsidizing the industrial sectors will help the industrial setups to increase their production.

(ii) Attracting Foreign direct investment:-

Foreign direct investors leave a country where they are not facilitated by government. Hence, by reforming the power sector, foreign direct investment will increase, which will automatically lead to economic uplift.

(iii) Increasing export-based economy:

Industries are run on energy (power). If they are given subsidies in electricity bills and their consumption, it will encourage them to enhance their production. Therefore, a large chunk of productions can be exported overseas for earning more dollars.

(iv) Balancing debt circle:-

owing to wrong policies with

Independent power producers (IPPs) country has strangled in the debt trap. However, by renegotiating with them can loose the frightening situation of increasing circular debts.

(iv) Reducing balance of payment crisis:

Pakistan is currently facing a huge balance of payment crisis. However, with introduction of reforms in power sector, balance of payment crisis will automatically be controlled.

(B) Reforms in power sector Uplifting the society:

Introducing new policy reforms in power sector will help the society through various ways.

(i) Controlling skyrocketing inflation:

Due to costly productions by industries on behalf of costly electricity, prices of the commodities skyrocketed. However, reforms will help tackle the spike in prices.

(ii) Reducing the electricity bills:-

Currently the common people are being charged upto Rs 43 per unit for electricity bills. Similarly commercial consumption is upto Rs 88. This back-breaking

situation can only be fixed if reforms are introduced in power sector.

(iii) Relieving the people in Street:-

people in street are the victims of inflation and shortage of commodity, which are the results of declining power sector.

Nonetheless, if power sector is reformed, people will get relieve from such menaces.

(iv) Increasing the chances of employment -

With the introduction of new reforms, more industries (Large and small) will be built. These industrial setups will hire more workers for their production. Hence, more employment opportunities will be created.

4. Conclusion:

power is needed for running the various sectors of a country, especially the industries, and factories. These are necessary for the growth and development of a country. However, power sector in Pakistan is declining day by day. Therefore, it is time that government took stern actions to introduce reforms in power sector. As the later reforms will help in reshaping the socio-economic future of the state.

Q.2

1. Introduction:-

Climate change has become a reality now. It is wreaking havoc everywhere throughout the world. Every year countries witness huge 'Losses' and damages owing to floods, wildfires, cyclones, and ~~Tsunami~~ Tsunami. Pakistan also faced huge losses due to floods in 2022. ~~The~~ previous year COP27 held in 'sharm el sheik Egypt', Now in Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. Loss and damage was firstly introduced in Cop27, however, it was operationalized in Cop28. There are several opportunities with regard to this for the developing and underdeveloped countries of the world, especially Pakistan.

2. Concept of Loss and damage fund:

This concept was firstly introduced in Conference of the parties (COP) 27. This is actually a fund which is raised by developed and rich countries to those countries, which have faced huge losses and

damages to their infrastructures. According to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the losses of such countries, due to climate change, are around 100 billion — 400 billion dollars. Therefore, a loss and damage fund was introduced to compensate such countries.

3. Opportunities of its practical materialization in Cop 28

Following are the outcomes of Cop 28 regarding Loss and damage, which depict the future opportunities to be fulfilled.

(i) Operationalization on first day:
On the very first day of Cop 28 i.e. 30 November 2023, Loss and damage fund was officially operationalized.

(ii) Allocation of funds:
Several countries pledged to Loss and damage fund. They announced to donate unequal amount of money for this fund. For instance, U.A.E, 100 m dollars, Japan, 80 m dollars, U.S. 10 m dollars and China 7.5 million dollars.

(iii) Seriousness of world leaders and climate activists
During the 13-day meetups

of Cop 28, around 97,000 delegates and 197 world leaders visited the U.A.E for the sole purpose: to unite against climate change. Hence, there are high chances of that loss and damage fund will be materialized.

4. Benefits for Pakistan:

(A) Leader of Vulnerable SS:-

Pakistan led the issue of loss and damage in Cop 27. This initiative of Pakistan was lauded by developing countries. Hence, Pakistan emerged as a leader for vulnerable SS countries.

(B) Compensation funds for 2022 floods

Cop 28 will benefit Pakistan by release of compensation funds. As Pakistan bore huge losses owing to floods. This will help compensate the losses.

(C) Loss and damage fund on annual basis:-

After materialization of loss and damages fund, Pakistan will get a fixed amount for losses and damages, which will help the Pakistan to tackle the future outcomes with regard to climate change related issues.

⑤ Green Finance funds:-

Green finance fund will be given to such countries which are intending to progress in industrial sectors. So that they may shift towards renewable energy production. It will help Pakistan to achieve its target of 100 per cent renewable energy by 2030.

5. Conclusion:

Climate change is now a new norm throughout the world. Therefore, affirmative policies are need of the time. Although Cops are being held to frame the Paris agreement in letter and spirit, they are not properly enforced. Cop 28 ~~is~~ also aimed at tackling issues causing climate change. It has much potential to maintain the global average temperature below 1.5 °C, however, it's timely action is mandatory.