

Q:-3

US-India Strategic Partnership to Contain China: Implications on Pakistan and recommendation.

India perceives Pakistan and China as an obstacles in its hegemonic ambitions. US considers China as rival in its status of global hegemon. Due to the convergence of strategic objectives US encourages India to be a net security provider in the region to counter and contain China.

This strategic partnership has far fetching implications for Pakistan. The co-operation has benefited India in becoming more aggressive, more privileged, belligerent in nuclear posture politicization against Pakistan, violating territory protocols, and more equipped and financed state. Enhance bilateral Relations with Central Asia, engagement with ASEAN, Robust geo-economic policy, national cohesion, defensive realistic

policy, strengthening relations with the Gulf, increase EU-Pakistan trade, Promising ties with Iran and Afghanistan, work more closely with all-time tested ally are the options available for Pakistan.

Background of Indo-US Strategic Partnership:

Indo-US strategic partnership emerged in post-9/11. The nuclear deal 2005 set the stage for a more robust engagement by co-operation in nuclear and space-program. In 2012, signed Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI). Both countries enhanced strategic partnership by signing Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) and Communication Compatibility and Security Operations Agreement (COMCASA) in 2016. This partnership strengthened in emergence of QUAD 2.0 in 2017.

US - India Partnership to contain China : a regional hegemon

Right after its independence from British colonialism, India started seeking power to project itself as a significant power - the Nehruvian policy aimed at making India a great power that would participate in international politics. In post cold war era India relations remained at bar because of Pakistan factor. After disintegration of USSR, India started following the capitalist model. Thus, China was the major economy of region and US consider China as rival state to its hegemonic order converged these two states to counter a ~~single~~ common enemy, a regional hegemon.

"There has been never a global hegemon. The best a state can achieve is to be a regional hegemon"

(John Mearsheimer)

Implications for Pakistan

Pakistan and India see each other as rivals. China is all-time tested ally of Pakistan while there are many flashpoints triggered by India for Pakistan.

US, a global hegemon, co-operation and declared support with the rival is a threatening situation for Pakistan as Kissinger ^{once} said:

"America has no permanent friends or enemies, only interests."

(Henry Kissinger
an American diplomat)

So, presence of Pakistan ally (US) with the enemy (India) against friend (China) has come with far reaching implications. Following are the below mentioned implications for Islamabad:

a) Increasing Power Asymmetry between India and Pakistan:

Power maximisation by India is a threat to Pakistan. It has created a security delimita. To counter this threat, Pakistan increases its power not to balance the regime but to the danger. So, the first implication of US-India strategic partnership is the increasing power asymmetry between Pakistan and India that will keep the region indulged in realist realpolitik.

b) A Privileged India: hurdle in seeking national interests

The US support to India has made the latter a state carrying out its interest with impunity. Beside using foreign policy realm, India has also been indulging in offensive against religious and

ethnic minorities. Against Islamic extremism, the West has been vocal for decades, but it has remained silent about India use of force to the Muslims of India because of its own economic and strategic interest. India is also more openly attacks on the borders.

c) Human Rights Violation in (IIOJK):

Proclamation of Article ~~370~~-A in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir is the violation of human rights at massive level. But, at the forum of UN, Pakistan received no or zero support from major ally USA.

d) Belligerency in Indian Nuclear Posture

India is becoming more aggressive in nuclear proliferation and nuclear

doctrines. With the support of US, India unquestionably threatens Pakistan and China with its nuclear posturing. As said:

"Why should I bind myself? I should say I am a responsible nuclear power and will use it irresponsibly."

(Defence Minister
Manohar Parrikar
(2016))

e) Indian Politicization of FATF against Pakistan

India politicized FATF to put Pakistan in grey list even after completion of major demands. Indian Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar disclosed while addressing a virtual meeting with the BJP politicians that Pakistan is on the FATF grey list due to the the

US - India efforts. He stated

" We have been successfully
in pressuring Pakistan, and
the fact that Pakistan's
behaviour have changed
is because of pressure
put by India by various
measures"

(S. Jaishankar)

Policy options for
Islamabad to counter
far-reaching implications:

There are few policy
options for Pakistan to
counter far-reaching implications:

a) Follow a robust geo-
economic policy:

As a National
Security Policy of Pakistan
evinces a transformation from

geo-strategic to geo-economic,
Thus not just a geo-
economic shift but a robust
improvement is require

Prioritise blue economy

EU : an opportunity beyond
crisis