

# Current Affairs

Q No#3:

Introduction:-

China - Pakistan Economic Corridor is considered to be a milestone in the friendship of China and Pakistan. CPEC is the flagship project of China's BRI. China needed a short transit for its trade with the world, while Pakistan needs the foreign investment and revamping of power and transport sector. Therefore, CPEC was started in 2013. It has seen ups and downs in different government periods.

## Achievements of CPEC

1) Savior of Power sector of Pakistan.

CPEC is considered to be a savior of power sector of Pakistan. It has planted

various power plants of renewable energy sources amid rising global warming. A total of almost 6000 MW energy projects are completed with the help of China. Various wind power, solar and hydal power plants in different parts of the country.

## 2. R. Creation of jobs and reduction of unemployment.

CPEC project has created almost 1,92,000 jobs in different fields. Due to various industries in the country through CPEC project, various employment ~~proj~~ opportunities are created.

## 3. Gawader as Transit corridor:

The upgradation of Gawader port plays a role as a transit corridor. It can provide access to the <sup>landlocked</sup> central Asian republics, Russia and the middle East.

#### 4. Networks of Motorways and highways:

CPEC has spread the network of motorways and highways in the country with help of modern technological and human investment from China. A total of 510km of Motorway has been constructed.

#### 5. Technological Innovation in the country agriculture:

Agricultural system of Pakistan has been renewed technologically. CPEC has able to introduce digitization of agriculture, genomics and biofortified seeds for enhanced productivity. The innovations has not been optimally utilized yet.

#### 6. Socioeconomic Development:

Various socio-economic development projects has been launched through

CPEC projects. It include Chinese overseas holding company and Chinese Grid Cooperation company

## Failures of CPEC

1) Main Line-1 (ML-1) has not completed yet:

Main Line-1 (ML-1) project of CPEC has not been completed. It is the most costliest project of CPEC worth \$6.8bn.

It was expected to be completed in 2023. If it is completed, it has the potential to decrease the cost and distance between Karachi and Multan.

2) China has benefitted more than Pakistan:

It is believed that China has benefitted more than Pakistan.

China has got the shorter transit route for its trade with Central Asian Republics and Middle East. While, Pakistani people who are local resident of Gwadar are facing differential behaviour at the hands of Chinese personnels.

### 3) Balochistan Insurgency:

Balochistan Insurgency is on the peak after CPEC.

The mobile trawlers of China were set on fire and the Chinese were attacked.

### 4) Economic Zones has not been completed yet:

The economic zones pledged by China are not completed yet. Total 9 special economic zones were to be constructed out of them, ~~only~~ five are under construction and five are not started yet.

5) Suki Kinari hydal power project has not completed.

Suki Kinari hydal power project of 884 MW was expected to be completed in 2022. But, it is yet 70% complete. So, it is the failure of CPEC.

6) Transport infrastructure projects are not completed.

Various transport infrastructure projects - are also not completed yet. - Only six are completed fully, while 8 five are under construction and thirteen are yet to be started.

### Conclusion:

CPEC is considered to bring <sup>both</sup> advantages as well as disadvantages along. Since 2010, Pakistan has \$90bn trade deficit with China. It is increasing despite

the projects are not completed. It has also bring some benefits to Pakistan like functioning Gawader port and renewable energy power plants. Pakistan has to adapt strict policies to reap the benefits out of CPEC.

Q NO# 8:

Introduction:

United States of America had revamped its economy, military, and naval forces to achieve the global hegemony after World War-II. US achieved the global hegemony especially at the end of 20<sup>th</sup> century and the start of 21<sup>st</sup> century. After that, United states' economy has seen various crisis. Its causes are many like budget deficit, high military spending

and war on Terror spending. However, it is difficult for any emerging superpower to defeat US, as it possesses the greatest military & bases in the world countries, advanced technology and academia.

## Causes of US crisis

### 1) High Budget deficit:

United States of America faces the highest debt crisis of almost \$21.4 trillion and its GDP size is \$26 trillion.

Its biggest reason is budget deficit. The expenditure of state is more than the collection largest part is given to the repayments of loans i.e. almost 38%.

### 2) Large health spending:

Another reason for US crisis is that it spends a



big amount on the health department. Almost \$1.3 trillion is spent on the health.

### 3) Massive Military budget:

In every budget, almost \$844 billion is allocated to military. In this technologically innovative world, it is not wise to spend this much on military.

### 4. War on terror spending:

United States of America has spent trillions of dollars on the WOT in Afghanistan. Almost \$6.5 trillion ~~is~~ are spent on Afghanistan war and result is Afghan Taliban government took over the Afghanistan and US has to pull out.

### 5. Global Economic Meltdown 2007:

The global financial meltdown of 2007 has harmed

US alot. The bubble growth of real estate was busted and banks were targeted.

#### 6) Corona and its implications:

The natural disaster like corona has left 27 million people in US unemployed. Transport and tourism sector had faced \$300bn loss. Industrial sector had faced almost \$400bn loss.

### US Global Leadership

It is difficult to undermine the global leadership of US. Even though, the surging China superpower and resurgence of Russia. The hegemony of US cannot be challenged, as it has the most advanced and largest military in the world.

1) Largest and advanced defence sector:

It is difficult to surpass US in defence sector. It has the largest military budget in the world. US has the biggest navy and airforce. The most advanced aircrafts i.e. F17, F22, F35, B52. US possess the inter-continental and intra-continental missile system.

2) Most innovative technology:

United States has the most advanced and innovative technology. Even China is dependent upon US. US has the stealth technology and laser-guided technology.

3) Control over global seas:

United States has the control over the global seas especially south and east China sea. In these conditions

it is difficult to defeat US  
4) Largest military bases across the world.

Almost 700 plus military bases of US has been situated in different countries of the world. Acc<sup>ording</sup> to David Vine "US has around 750 military bases around the World, while China has just one in Djibouti."

5) Control over global internet system:

US has the control over global internet system. All the emails ~~are~~ goes via US. While, Russia and China have no access outside of their country networks.

### Conclusion:

In a nutshell, it is difficult to surpass the hegemony of US. Despite being in crisis, the global position of US cannot be affected due to its advancement in military, technology etc.