

## TEST 2

### QUESTION NO: 1

SIFC is expecting huge ..... in Pakistan?

### INTRODUCTION:

Pakistan has been in an economic turmoil since a long time. So far 2023 has been declared as the worst economic year by the IMF. The stakeholders and concerned authorities were looking for viable long term solution and the government came up with establishment of Special Investment Facilitation Council. SIFC is expecting huge foreign direct investment by facilitating the process of investment. Moreover the inclusion of military chief is seen as surety for the security of investment and continuation of policies for a sustained period of time. SIFC will bring immense Foreign direct investment mainly from GCC countries as depicted from its manifesto.

## BRIEF OVERVIEW OF SIFC:

SIFC headed by the Prime minister aims to provide single window for multidimensional investment.

The council expects to bring investment from GCC countries, EU, China and other countries.

It includes investment in wide range of departments ensuring the economic revival of Pakistan. The

main domains open for investment include investment in:

- .) Agriculture department
- .) Information technology.
- .) Mining opportunities in Reko Diq.
- .) Cultivation
- .) Industrial development.

The investment in agriculture department will revolutionize the ways of farming, crop cultivation and other processes. This will lead to increase in revenue generation from the agrarian based economy of

Pakistan.

## INCREASED CHANCES OF INVESTMENT THROUGH SIFC:

The increased chances of investment are based on the claims and targets set by SIFC. The implementation of these claims will lead to increased investment in Pakistan.

### → EASE OF DOING BUSINESS:

SIFC claims to increase the ease of doing business in Pakistan. This ease will be achieved by the lowering of administrative barriers. SIFC will attract investments by reducing the hurdles in way of investments including the removal of tariffs.

### → MULTI-DOMAIN COOPERATION:

SIFC aims to provide one window for multi-domain cooperation in

in fields of agriculture, mining and industrial development. The mining opportunity to search for lithium was also proposed. The cooperation in multiple domains aims to uplift the progress of Pakistan and revival of depleting economy.

### REDUCTION OF RED TAPE:

SIFC aims to reduce red tapism and other bureaucratic delays in the way of investors. Red tapism involves the prolonged delaying of approval for the new investors. The success of increase in FDI depends on the control of red tapism prevalent in Pakistan.

### TARGETING MIDDLE EAST FOR INVESTMENT:

SIFC presented the multi-domain

30

Cooperation and investment opportunity to the gulf countries. These countries have the potential to invest in projects designed by SIFC. According to Interim Prime Minister of Pakistan, Anwar-ul-Haq, Saudi Arabia and UAE agreed to invest \$25bn each in the next five years. The successful involvement of GCC in SIFC will mark upon the increase in FDI in Pakistan.

### ADDITION OF MILITARY DOMAIN:

The ongoing political instability discourages the investors to invest in Pakistan. The involvement of military implies the continuation of policies and the security of investments. The political instability discourages investors as it leads to rise in uncertainty about the future. The participation of military ensured the certainty and

and security of future investments.

## STEPS TO ENSURE INCREASED FDI:

### STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLAIMED INCENTIVES:

As claimed by SIFC, the implementation and provision of incentives and a business friendly environment is necessary for increased investments from middle east. The uncertainty regarding the future of state and security of investments must be ensured for progress.

### PROVISION OF A SECURE-FUTURE POLICIES:

The uncertain political landscape of Pakistan has been a challenge for the state. Provision of more secure environment and future certainty is important for increased FDI.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF POLITICAL STABILITY :

The political stability of a state leads to increased foreign direct investment. The stability provides a sense of security and profit to the investors.

## PROJECTION OF SOFT IMAGE OF PAKISTAN :

Pakistan needs to project its soft image to the world. The rising incidents of terrorism need to be curtailed for secure and increased foreign direct investment.

## CONCLUSION:

The claims of SIFC indicate that the foreign direct investment will increase in the coming years. However the implementation of proposed incentives and steps for the provision of friendly environment for the investment

will guarantee the revival of  
dwindling economy of Pakistan.  
The civil-military alliance and  
political stability will further  
ease the attainment of goals  
set by SIFC.



## QUESTION NO# 2 :-

How do you see Pak-Afghan --- refugees?

### INTRODUCTION:

Pakistan - Afghanistan relations are now under hot waters as the resurgence of TTP and ISKP attacks. Historically these relations were stable, given their shared culture and religion. After US Withdrawal and restoration of Taliban regime, Pakistan raised voice for the people of Afghanistan. Taliban ensued that they will not allow the use of their land against Pakistan, but the recent attacks suggest otherwise. Sighting the security issues the government of Pakistan announced the transfer of undocumented Afghan refugees back to Pakistan. The announcement further derailed the relations between two states.

## THE STUMBLING PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS:

Pak-Afghan relations faced a major blow after the increased terrorist attacks on Pakistan and their established links on the other side of border. These attacks targeted the Chinese officials sabotaging the implementation of the projects of flagship program of BRI i.e CPEC.

### REASONS FOR STUMBLING RELATIONS:

#### i- THE USE OF AFGHAN LAND AGAINST PAKISTAN:

Repetitive establishment of links of the terrorist attack to the other side of border suggested that the claim of Taliban regime is false. They ensued that their land will not be used against Pakistan. The rise in terrorist attacks in the

border cities indicates otherwise -

### RISE IN TERRORIST ATTACKS:

After US withdrawal almost hundreds of terrorist attacks have been launched on Pakistani soil. The rise of terrorist activities often involved cross border linkages. These links were constant challenge for the state and there was no end in sight. The deadliest blast included the one in a mosque in Peshawar, killing more than hundred people.

### PAKISTAN'S DECISION TO SEND BACK AFGHAN REFUGEES:

In the aftermath of these terrorist attacks, the state of Pakistan announced the deportation of undocumented Afghan refugees. Pakistan inhabited largest number

of Afghan refugees since five decades. The decision to send back refugees came in the wake of security concerns which were nowhere to be denied.

### REACTION TO PAKISTAN'S DECISION:

The Afghan government reacted to the announcement as unjustified. This further deteriorated the Pak-Afghan relations as the Afghan government claimed that it was not ready yet for the accomplishment of the refugees.

### EFFORTS FROM PAKISTAN TO RESTORE RELATIONS:

#### INCLUSION OF AFGHANISTAN IN CPEC:

Pakistan raised voice for the inclusion of Afghanistan in CPEC.

CPEC. The inclusion of Afghanistan in BRI will strengthen the regional integrity.

### VISIT OF JUIF LEADER:

Leader of JUI-F visited Afghanistan and held meetings with officials in order to work out solution for soceing relations. The need to improve relation between the two states was the main point of discussion.

### UNFREEZING OF ASSETS:

Pakistan used different International platforms to raise the support for plight of Afghani's. The unraveeing support of Pakistan on different platforms lead to the unfreezing of assets of Afghanistan, which were previously frozen by the sanctions of Afghan United States to curb the

power of rising Taliban.

## CONDUCTION OF MEETING OF OIC:

Pakistan raised voice for the plight of war-torn Afghani's using available platforms. The conduction of meeting of OIC for raising funds for helping the Afghan nationals survival.

## VOICE FOR AFGHAN WOMEN:

Pakistan continuously raised voice for the rights of Afghan women and other minorities.

The fear for the provision of rights of women will be highly affected during the Taliban rule was successfully highlighted by Pakistan at different levels.

## CRITICAL ANALYSIS:

Afghan refugee undocumented till date made upto 1.7 million people. These undocumented Afghans are meant to leave Pakistan under the refugee convention of United Nations.

In order to settle the ongoing issues between the Afghan and Pakistan government dialogue is the only way out. Peaceful negotiations and the suerety for the non-use of Afghan land against Pakistan will lead to peaceful settlement. The soacing tensions across border pave way for increased use of separatist movements against Pakistan. Other actors including India use the oppurtunity and use vulnerable population for their vested interests.

## CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell cross border peace settlement is important for the stability in the region. Peaceful negotiations among the stake holders for the betterment of people on both sides is necessary. The sending back of refugees sighting security concerns must be negotiated to further calm the situation and anger among the two states.