

Q4

Introduction

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Iran are the two biggest countries of the middle east. Both hold variety of natural resources and both have sound military capabilities. The rapprochement between the both will lead to peace in the conflicting region and the positive impacts of those will also reach Pakistan.

KSA - Iran Relations

1) The relation between the two countries have been its ups and downs in the past and currently after the rapprochement made by China, things have been resolved. The major differences existed because of the war in Yemen, Sectarian differences and the killing of Sheikh al Nimr in 2016.

Possible Implications on the Conflicts of Middle East

1) Peace in the region

The rapprochement between the two countries promotes peace in the region as most of the conflicts are fueled by Iran by using its proxies that are spread throughout the middle east. All the rising conflicts would dismantle once and

For all

2) End to Proxy Wars

Middle East has become an arena of conflicts and that too fuelled by militants from different areas of middle east. Hamas, Hezbollah, Houthi all of them use weapons provided to them by Iran. According to a report published by CRSS 70% weapons that have been caught by Hamas and Hezbollah were made in Iran. This shows that who is responsible for all mini conflict across the region. The rapprochement between Iran and USA can make Iran to stop these activities in the region and this would solve all existing conflicts in the region.

3) Less Terrorist Activities

The rapprochement between Iran and Saudi Arabia will also reduce the number of terrorist activities in the region. The recent attack on the grave of Qasim Solemani was an attack by the terrorists and initial reports show that it was due to sectarian differences. This shows that terrorist activities in the region are increasing and the rapprochement between Iran and Saudi Arabia can help solve sectarian differences and therefore terrorism can be reduced.

4) Can Increase Trade and Connectivity

The rapprochement between Iran and Saudi Arabia would increase trade and connectivity between both countries and this would have a positive impact on the conflicts in the middle east as most of the conflicts occur due to socio-economic difference and trade can reduce the inequality in the region.

Rapprochement's Impacts on Pakistan

1) Economic Opportunities

Pakistan maintain close ties with both Saudi Arabia and Iran. An improvement in KSA-Iran relations would create economic opportunities for Pakistan through increased trade and investment from both countries. Moreover, Pakistan could resume TAPI Pipeline project which Pakistan had to stop due to sanctions placed on Iran.

2) Increased Diplomatic relations

The rapprochement between KSA-Iran can increase diplomatic relations between both countries and it can also lead to develop a sense of brotherhood between the three countries due to same religion. Similarly, these diplomatic relations would make Iran and KSA to also raise voice on Kashmir, which is in interest of

Pakistan

3) Impact on Energy Security

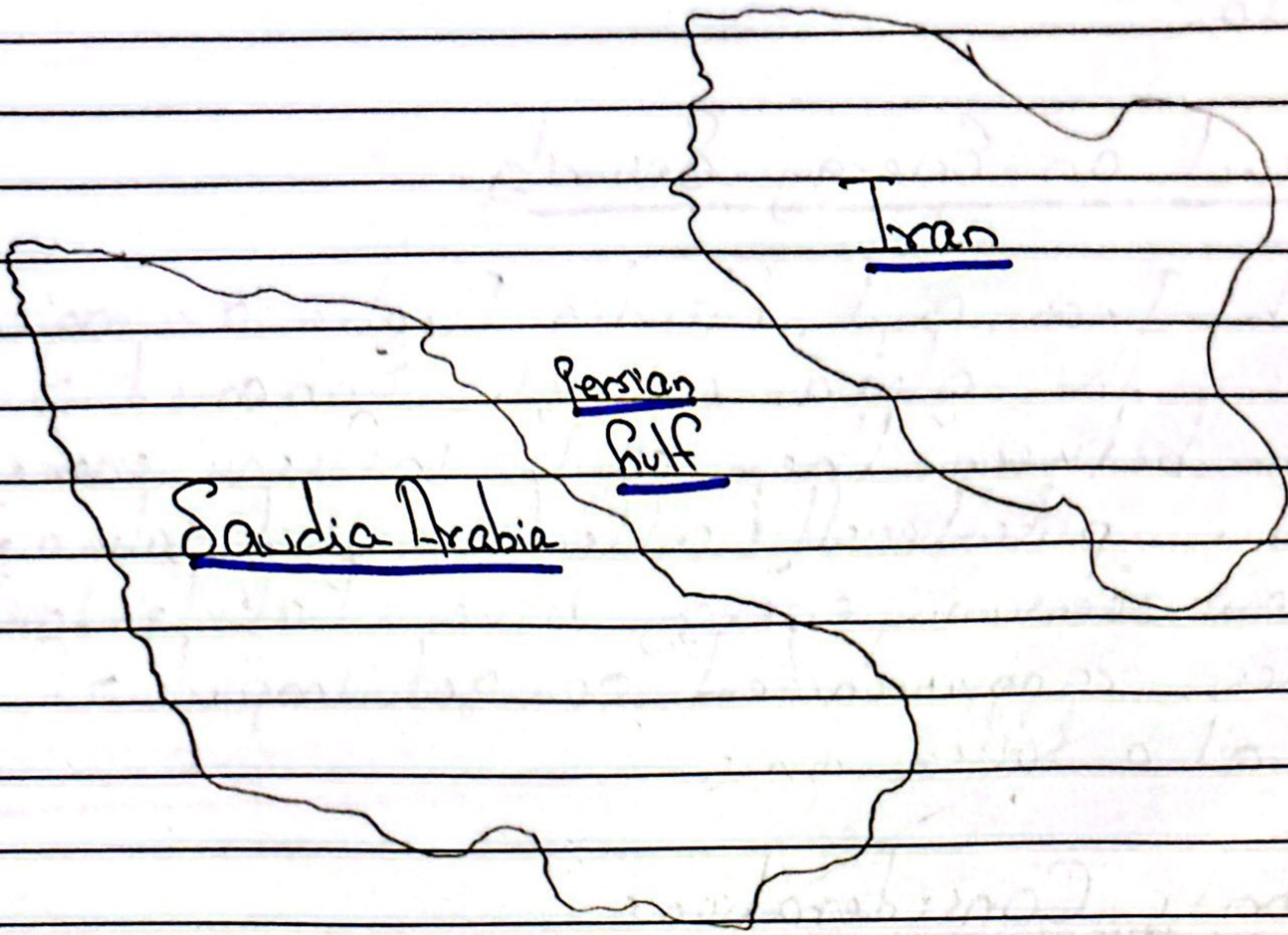
Both Iran and Saudi Arabia are major players in the global market. Enhanced cooperation between them could influence energy dynamics, potentially affecting and solving Pakistan's economic energy issue. Pakistan through their rapprochement can get imports of fuels at a lower price.

4) Security Considerations

The rapprochement between (Pakistan) Iran and KSA can help in solving the terrorist activities that occur in ^{our} region. KSA, Iran and Pakistan can join hands against the cross border terrorism in the region and through joining forces they can dismantle terrorism in the region for once and for all.

5) Balancing relations

Pakistan has historically navigated a delicate balance between Saudi Arabia and Iran. Rapprochement might require Pakistan to carefully manage its diplomatic relations to maintain neutrality and avoid being drawn to conflict.



Conclusion

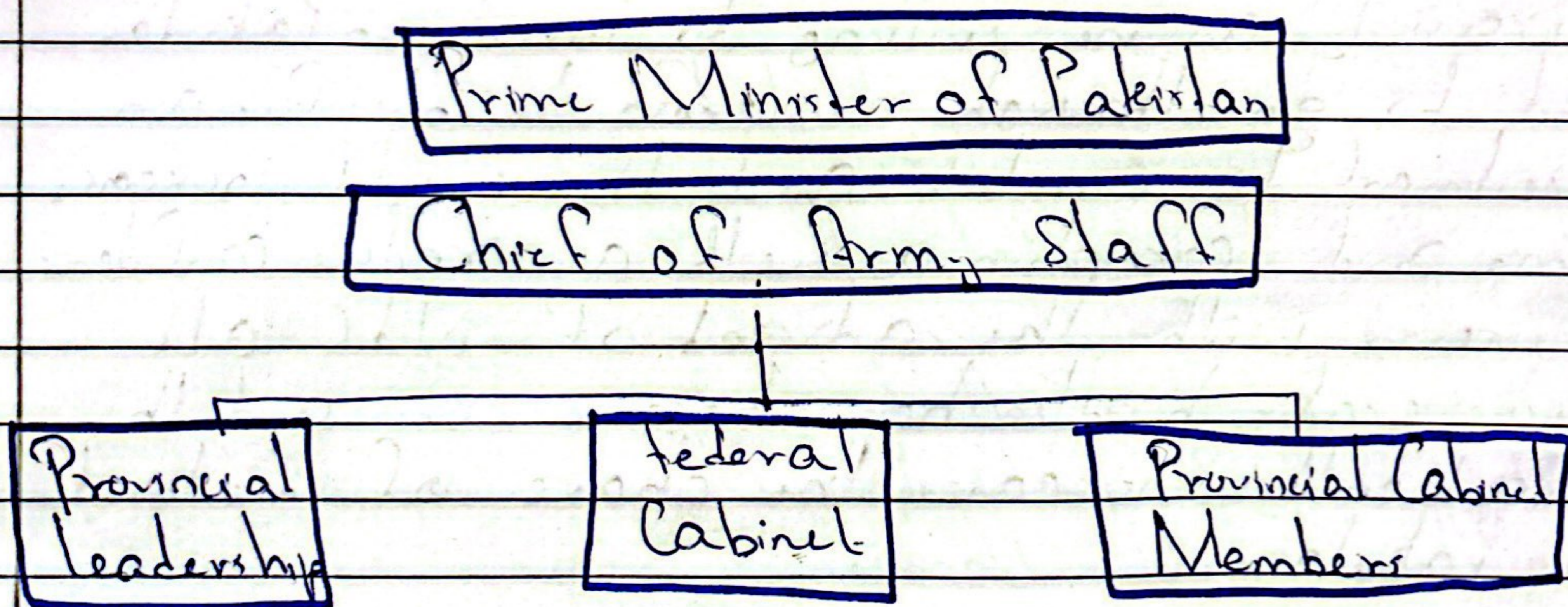
Saudi Arabia and Iran have a history of relations that too have its lows and ups but whenever there was some sort of rapprochement between the both it always generated positive fruits for the region. Their rapprochement can positively impact Pakistan as Pakistan maintains good relation with both of the countries.

Q5

Introduction

Special Investment Facilitation Council was established in 2023. It brings all important economy role players under one roof to make investment in Pakistan a safe and easy option. Few countries have pledged their support and are willing to invest in Pakistan through SITFC and this would attract more countries and increase investment in Pakistan.

The Chances of Investment through SITFC



1) Increased FDI

Through SITFC Pakistan can easily attract various stakeholders and investors to invest in Pakistan, as SITFC is providing a single platform for investors to invest in our country without worrying about other members as all are

under one roof.

2) Increased Investor Confidence

Special Investment Facilitation Council also increases the confidence of investors. As the government of Pakistan is offering various initiatives for the investors who want to invest and also offering investment with a better ROI. Similarly, having all stakeholders under one roof gives confidence to investors as everything would be done swiftly without any wastage of time.

3) Less Bureaucratic Hurdles

Previously anyone willing to invest in Pakistan had to go through numerous hurdle for an investment to conclude and this would increase time and corruption as well as reduce confidence. However with the advent of STFC all Bureaucratic hurdles have become zero and this drastically increases the chances of investment in Pakistan.

4) State Owned Enterprises Under STFC

Many SOE's of Pakistan are suffering from huge losses since many years and are a burden on Pakistan's exchequer. These include Pakistan International Airlines, Pakistan Steel Mills etc. All of these SOE's are under STFC and STFC is looking to privatize them.

Through SITC chances of investment in these SOEs can take place as all of these are established business and require investment to be handed over.

5) Investment Promotion

The success of Special Investment Facilitation Cell depends on their effectiveness in promoting investment opportunities in the country. SITC with the help of all stakeholders should achieve market Pakistan's economic potential, business-friendly policies and sectors with growth opportunities.

6) Security and Stability

Ensuring security and stability is fundamental for attracting foreign investment. Pakistan faces security challenges through the acts of terrorism and this is a grave situation for Pakistan if it wants to attract investment. However, through SITC it can help in increasing investments as the current Army Chief is also a member of the SITC and has promised to provide security and stability to all investors.

7) Market Access

Highlighting Pakistan's strategic location and its potential as a gateway to regional markets can be an important factor for investors. SITFC can facilitate discussions and partnerships that open up market access opportunities.

8) Investor Services

Providing comprehensive services to investors, such as information on regulations, market intelligence, and support in navigating local processes, contributes to a positive investor experience. And all of this is being provided by the SITFC which further increases the chances of investment.

Conclusion

SITFC is a very applaudable initiative taken by the government of Pakistan specially in the current economic turmoil. If this platform succeeds it can attract investments from all over the world and would help lift Pakistan from economic crisis.

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Introduction

After the end of cold war the world had shifted from Bipolar to Unipolar state where the most powerful state was the United States of America. However, the hegemony of United States is in danger due to many reasons and all of them would greatly affect the global leadership of United States.

Potential Causes of Crisis in the United States

1) Political Polarization

Political divisions and polarization is leading to a gridlock in the United States, making it challenging to address key issues and make necessary policy decisions. The political differences is mainly between the Democrats and the Republicans and also because of Donald Trump.

3) Unnecessary War Aid

United States till now has provided 200 Billion dollars of military and economic aid to Ukraine and also provides 2.5 Billion Dollars annually to Israel. Both of these are negatively affecting the spending of U.S. money on its people and this has

been a major cause of a crisis in the United States.

3) Economic Challenges

Global Economic challenges is also a reason for the crisis in the United States. There is a world-wide recession due to the Russia-Ukraine war as it has raised the cost of everything. Economic downturn, high unemployment rates and financial instability is challenging the government's ability to manage the economy.

4) Environmental Challenges

Natural disasters, extreme weather events, or environmental crisis has become a cause of crisis in the United States. The recent floods in Florida causes many losses to the United States and every year these natural disasters would become intense due to climate change.

5) International Relations

Geopolitical tensions, trade dispute or strained international relations is influencing the country's standing in the global community and has led to a crisis in the United States. The strain relations with Russia and other few countries has damaged the trade of the United States and this is deteriorating the

economy of the United States.

Potential Impact on U.S. Global Leadership

1) Global Perception

A crisis within the United States can influence how the nation is perceived globally. The ability to effectively address and manage crisis contributes to maintaining credibility and leadership on the world stage.

2) Foreign Policy Focus

During times of crisis, there may be a shift in focus towards domestic issues, potentially diverting attention and resources away from global leadership initiatives.

3) International Cooperation

Crisis can impact the capacity of international cooperation. The United States' ability to engage in global initiatives may be influenced by its domestic challenges.

4) Economic Consequences

Economic challenges within the U.S. can have global economic repercussions. As one of the world's largest economies, a downturn can affect international trade and financial markets.

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5) Soft Power and Influence

A crisis within the United States can affect the perception of U.S. values and ideals and countries can take it in a negative way, impacting its soft power and influence in shaping global norms and policies.

Conclusion

It is important to emphasize that the impact on U.S. global leadership will depend on the nature of the crisis, the effectiveness of the response and subsequent developments. Crisis can also be turning points that lead to renewed resilience and adaptation, influencing how the U.S. navigates global challenges in the future.

Introduction

Pakistan among all of its neighbour shares the longest border with Afghanistan and Pak-Afghan relations are very old and there has been many ups and downs in them. However, the repeated attacks by TTP and ISKP using Afghan soil is a grave situation for Pakistan as many people are dying in Pakistan due to this.

Pak-Afghan Relations in the wake of repeated attacks

1) Security Concerns

Pakistan has long expressed concern about the cross-border attacks by militant groups including the Tehrik-i-Taliban and ISKP using Afghan territory. The presence of these groups along the border has strained security relations. Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Katar recently stated that out of 14 terrorists attacks carried last year 9 of them terrorists were originally from Afghanistan.

2) Deteriorating Relations

The attacks on Pakistan have further strained the relation between the two countries and constantly a blame game is

each other has been started in which Afghanistan claims that the terrorists were not trained on their soil.

3) Border attacks

These attacks by the TTP and ISKP has deteriorated the situation at Pak-Afghan border. Many times forces of both countries had major fire off against each other for which border had to be closed for several days.

4) Less Trade Activities

The terrorists use border to enter into Pakistan and Pakistan also conducts trade with Pakistan through these borders. Afghanistan is dependent on Pakistan for sea trade as it is a landlocked country. Moreover since increase in these attacks the trade between the both countries has been reduced and this has further destroyed Pak-Afghan relations.

5) Increased tensions of War

The use of Afghan soil for carrying attacks on Pakistan has made Pakistan to think to go inside Afghanistan and destroy the training camps of the militants. If this happens there is a high chance of war between the two countries which would completely destroy the

Dialogue.

The decision of Pakistan to Return Refugees

Back to Pakistan

The Care taker government last year decided to deport Afghans illegally residing in Pakistan and according to Afghan Refugee Commission report there were 1.7 million Afghans illegally residing in Pakistan. They all had to be deported and their deportation has stabled the economy of Pakistan to some extent ~~and~~ as they were involved in all illegal activities throughout Pakistan. Their deportation according to a report has stopped 1.5 million dollars of currency smuggling everyday, which was damaging the currency and economy of Pakistan.

Conclusion

Pakistan and Afghanistan have very old relations with each other and there were times when the relations between the both were good specially during the Soviet invasion. Afterwards slowly relations started to deteriorate as Afghan soil was used again and again to damage and kill people in Pakistan. However these relations can be improved if both parties sit and solve this peacefully and diplomatically.