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Part-II

Q:08

Pakistan stands at a crucial junctures facing economic, environmental and demographic challenges that can reshape its future. Explain.

1. Introduction

Currently, Pakistan is facing multi-faceted challenges that are going to have huge impact on the future of country. The major challenges that Pakistan face are environmental, demographic and economic and these challenges have huge impact on overall health of a country.

2. Economic challenges of Pakistan

2.1 Inflation and twin deficit

Pakistan faces enormous challenges on economic front. Inflation and twin deficit are among them. Pakistan in the year 2023 has seen all time high inflation rate of 29.7 that has made the lives of people difficult. Inflation leads to currency devaluation. Twin deficit is another

economic problem of Pakistan that is current account deficit and fiscal deficit, that has made country's progress to such a low that the world bank's Pakistan's correspondent said that, economy of Pakistan is not in right direction.

2.2 Poor Human development Index

Human development index is the scale to measure the socio-economic health of any country. Pakistan is the least performer in this region on human development like health, education, poverty, unemployment etc. According to UN report, 22 million children are out-of-school. This shows the gravity of crisis. Moreover, the Human development index report by UNDP ranks Pakistan on 169 place. This shows that economic crisis has become existential crisis for Pakistan.

3. Environmental crisis of Pakistan

3.1 Climate change and its consequences

Pakistan is facing adverse

form of climate crisis and it is one of the most climate stressed countries, in fact ranked in top ten.

This "environmental crisis" is going to have huge impact on the future of Pakistan. Swift and efficient policy making is required in this regard. If this issue remains unaddressed, this is going to have lasting impact on future of country.

3.2 Floods of 2022; Monsoon rains; heatstroke; Smog

Pakistan is currently facing many environment challenges including melting of ice caps and glaciers, water pollution, air pollution, extreme weather events etc. 2022 floods posed \$30bn of economic losses and claimed 1700 lives. Additionally, monsoon rains in 2023 caused urban flooding. In winters, Pakistan is facing phenomena of smog. Lahore, the second largest city of Pakistan, constantly tops the charts of as a most polluted city of world with worst

AQI, Air quality index.

4. Demographic challenges of Pakistan

4.1 Population explosion of Pakistan

Pakistan is currently fifth largest country with respect to population growth and its population is over 270 million, according of censens census of 2023. This huge population adds strain to already deteriorated economy of Pakistan and strained resources of country. Most of the population is illiterate and unemployed which poses demographic challenge to Pakistan.

4.2 Youth Bulge of Pakistan

Young population is asset of any country and Pakistan has 63 percent of youth population, according to census of 2023. Unfortunately, youth of Pakistan has become liability for Pakistan as they are illiterate and unemployed. This stuck them to poor socio-economic conditions and as a result law and order is compromised, and this will increase crime index.

5. Conclusion

Pakistan is facing economic, environmental and demographic challenges at once. Structural reforms are required to address these challenges. Moreover, long term policy making should be done along with concerted effort by people and government.

Q# 05

If we do not take charge of population size, than nature will do it for us. Explain this phenomenon in context of Pakistan. Also suggest measures to address it.

1. Introduction

Population explosion is important phenomenon that Pakistan is facing. This phenomenon has huge impact on Pakistan as it has huge impact on socio-economic health of any country, along with the climate change (population growth has huge impact on climate of any country). Government should devise strong and rational policy in this regard.

2. Malthus theory in context of Pakistan

Current condition and statistics of population growth of Pakistan suggests that Pakistan is the practical application of Malthus theory of population growth, the theory says that if the population grows exponentially with exponential growth of resources, nature creates the balance, by naturally reducing

population. This is true in case of Pakistan which has seen many calamities like floods, earthquakes etc.

3. Natural calamities faced by Pakistan

3.1 Floods of 2022, 2011

Pakistan has experienced wrath of floods in 2022 which has huge impact on country. According to UN report, Pakistan has faced \$30bn economic losses and these floods claimed 1700 lives. Moreover, the floods of 2011 has also posed havoc to the country.

3.2 Earthquakes, deaths due to pollution and accidental deaths

Pakistan has also experienced on and off earthquakes which claimed many lives and caused infrastructural damages. Moreover, pollution due to overpopulation and exhaustion of resources is also claiming many lives. 28000 people died in Pakistan due to road accidents reports by Dawn. This shows that these are the natural checks on population by nature.

4. Measures to address population explosion

4.1 Population planning i.e. family planning

Government should make a policy to address unchecked population growth and should establish population planning. Many countries have successfully controlled population by rational policy making. Bangladesh's example is significant in this regard. Bangladesh have make sure the free availability of contraceptives, Pakistan should follow suit.

4.2 Promotion of education especially girls

Government should education its people, so that they will be aware of gravity of this crisis. Girls education is important in this regard. If a girl is educated, she knows about her rights and makes rational choices for her. Education should be free and accessible for everyone as article 25A of constitution guarantees free compulsory education for children.

4.3 End forced and early marriages

To control population it is inevitable to end forced and early marriages. Pakistan is a country where this practice is common, where especially girls are married off at a younger age and they are not free to make the reproductive choices for themselves that has negative impact on reproductive health of women.

5. Conclusion

Population explosion is one of the biggest challenges that a country is facing and it has produced havoc for the country. Government, as well as people should understand the gravity of situation and devise efficient policy to solve this problem.

Qs 06

The constitution of Pakistan came into force on August 14, 1973. Explain the lesson learned regarding national integration, national identity and development of democratic values on completion of 50 years of constitution.

1. Introduction

It has been 50 years since the constitution of Pakistan came into force but Pakistan is facing challenges regarding national integration, national identity and especially development of democratic values. There is always a scope of change towards betterment same applies to Pakistan which is currently in quagmire of challenges.

2. Problem of national integration in Pakistan

^{grievance}
2.1 Neglect of small provinces and Gilgit Baltistan

Small provinces of Pakistan has always grievances towards

centre as they believe that there hegemony of large province Punjab due to its large electoral seats and more representation in Army and Bureaucracy. This grievance is true to certain extent. To promote national integration and equity Punjab should be converted into smaller provinces (2 to 3)

2.2 The issue of Balochistan

The other challenge for national integration of Pakistan is the issue of Balochistan, i.e. the political, social and economic neglect of people of Balochistan. They lack true political representation due to political engineering and despite having enormous resources, people of Balochistan are living in dark ages.

3. Problem of National Identity in Pakistan

3.1 Ethnic diversity and language problem of Pakistan

Pakistan is facing the issue of national identity because Pakistan is ethnically diverse country and each ethnicity respect their culture, values, and languages. Ethnic diversity is beauty for any country but unfortunately, due to illiteracy, ignorance and propaganda campaigns people are moving away from national identity and started hating other ethnicities.

3.2 Islamic Vs secular debate

There is a debate of Islamic Vs secular Pakistan that also pose challenge for national integration/ national identity in Pakistan. Some people refer to Quaid-e-Azam speech, "You are free to go to your mosques, temples, churches, the state has nothing to do with your religion." Pakistan People union Islamic Pakistan's favour point out that quaid believed Pakistan to be pure Islamic country abiding by Islamic values.

4. Challenge of development of democratic values

Pakistan since its birth has never seen true democratic development and the irony is that not even the Prime Minister in Pakistan was able to complete its democratic term. Moreover Pakistan has faced 4 martial laws in 75 years of span. Mostly, Pakistan was under dictatorship in 75 years. Currently, there is a hybrid model of government in Pakistan. For progressive country, true implementation of democracy is essential.

5. Conclusion

Pakistan after imposing 1973's constitution that set the course of Pakistan's trajectory, has faced problems of national integration, national identity and lack of democracy. It is need of the hour to stay focus on nation building.

Q:07

In the absence of consensus-based approach between Afghanistan and Pakistan, the region's future may be characterized by instability and heightened levels of violence. Critically evaluate.

1. Introduction

Pakistan and Afghanistan are two important parties in this region. This region (Afghanistan and Pakistan) has experienced militancy and the wrath of war on terr (WOT).

Without the consensus-based approach between these countries the ^{region} countries future may be characterized by instability and heightened levels of violence.

2. Importance of consensus-based approach between Pakistan and Afghanistan for stability of this region

2.1 Ethnic similarities between Afghanistan and KPK

Afghanistan and the KPK

region of Pakistan, the people from these areas share strong ethnic ties and most of them belong to some clans. Therefore, friendly and peaceful relations are required to secure the interest of people.

2.2 Pakistan's border issue with Afghanistan "Durand line"

Since British raj, Afghanistan has border issue with subcontinent and present day this issue stands between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Many attacks on Pakistan by armed forces have been seen by those elements who do not recognize the border.

2.3 Issue of militancy faced by both countries, largely Pakistan

After Afghan war, Pakistan has faced issue of militancy that has put havoc to the security situation of the country. There is a recent surge in militant

attacks by TTP and ISKP - that use they use Afghan soil to attack against Pakistan. Moreover, current Afghan Taliban's government is also oppressing people especially women.

2.4 Global war on terror and its impacts on both countries

Both Pakistan and Afghanistan has paid huge price in GWOT. As it has crippled Afghan society and for Pakistan it had posed huge economic losses as well as human life losses. 70,000 Pakistanis lost their lives in this war with the northern areas of country has have seen rise in militancy. Pakistan and Afghanistan should collaborate to mitigate the after effects of GWOT helps in rebuilding.

2.5 Immature US withdrawal and its impact on both countries

The immature US withdrawal has adverse implications on both Afghanistan and Pakistan. Afghan Taliban's government has not control over their full territory and militant organizations like TIP and ISKP has made hideouts there. They attacked many times on Pakistan and also harmed people of Afghanistan.

2.6 Problem of Afghan refugees

The crisis Afghan refugees around 4 million with 2.2 documented, report by UN is also important point of coordination between both countries. As Pakistan has set to expel the undocumented refugees, it is a huge challenge for both countries especially for Afghan government to rehabilitate these people. There should be efficient

mechanism to address this issue.

2.7 Pakistan and Afghanistan should explore trade opportunities

There is a huge potential of trade between these two countries. Both countries should devise an efficient plan for revival of bilateral trade that will help in reviving this region's peace and stability.

2.8 Trade with Central Asian states

Central Asian states (CARs) have to be a hub of energy. If the security situation in Afghanistan becomes peaceful that will help in economic revival of both countries as projects like TAPI and CASA will be materialized.

3. Conclusion

Pakistan and Afghanistan should immediately mend their

ties by developing confidence building measures as they have share so much in common and they strong people to people ties. stability and friendly relations in between both countries will help in developing peace and prosperity in this region.