

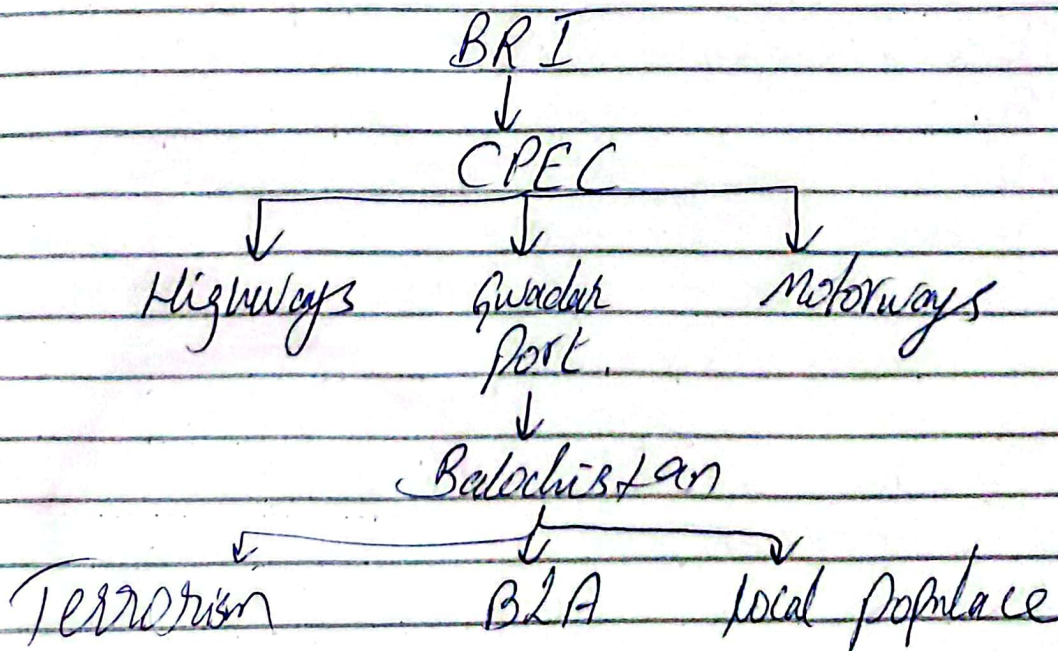
Current Affairs Note 3

Q. 7.

Introduction

CPEC is the one of the projects of china's Belt and Road initiatives (BRI). In china-Pakistan Economic corridor (CPEC) china will build highways, motorways and sea port in Pakistan.

The main aim of CPEC is to build the Gwadar sea port in Pakistan and then connect it to china via roads, highways and motorways. The ultimate aim of BRI is to connect Africa, Asia and Europe through building highways, motorways, railway network and sea ports in several countries.



Current Status

The Gwadar port is not operational as of now. Pakistani and Chinese government are working on Gwadar port.

Recently a motorway named CPEC motorway is inaugurated which connects Dera Ismail Khan with Islamabad.

Islamabad to Mansehra is connected via Hazara motorway and from Mansehra starts the Karakoram Highway (Silk route) that extends till Khunjarab Pass which is the border with China.

Reasons for CPEC to be slow

CPEC is in a very slow progress. The reasons for the slow progress of CPEC are as follow:

- i - Political instability
- ii - Terrorism

iii - BLA

iv - Indigenous people

Political Unstability

In the last decade, Pakistan is faced with critical political instability. Neither of the Prime Ministers in the last decade completed its five-year tenure. The shift in government, changes the whole dynamics of the country. Every government has its own priorities and frame the interior and exterior policies according to its preferences. This political instability causes a great hindrance in the progress of CPEC as every government try to take its own benefit out of it.

Terrorism

Since the advent of Taliban in 1980s, Pakistan is faced with the problem of terrorism.

The terrorist activities in Balochistan creates an environment of unrest that obscure the progress of CPEC.

BLA

The main reason for the slow progress of CPEC is Baloch Liberation Army (BLA). It is a banned Baloch nationalist organisation operating in almost all over the Balochistan. BLA wants a separate autonomous Balochistan and for this cause, it ~~hates~~ ~~retaliates~~ retaliates the government and security agencies. In order to infuriate the government, BLA several times attacked and killed the Chinese personnels. BLA is against CPEC as BLA thinks that Balochistan is their own personal land and all security agencies including Chinese must evacuate it.

Indigenous People:

The indigenous people of Gwadar city are not happy with CPEC because they are not being benefitted from the CPEC project. The unwillingness of Gwadar people are demonstrated by protests over there. The government authorities have divided the Gwadar city into two halves by fencing the city from the middle. The people of Gwadar are not offered employment opportunities. The local populace of Gwadar is not cooperative.

Solutions.

There is nothing impossible in the world. The problems causing a delay in the progress of CPEC also have the solutions.

i - Political Stability
Make the country politically stable so that

thing goes smoothly. If each government completes its tenure, all the projects including CPEC can progress at a fast pace.

Control of Terrorism

CPEC can only progress in an environment of peace.

Pakistan Army have decided to carry out operation "Azm Esharkan" against Terrorists.

Hope it will be proved a turning point in making peace in the country.

Almost all the terrorist organizations have their headquarter in Afghanistan.

Terrorist attacks can be hindered by strongly fencing the border with Afghanistan.

Negotiations with Baloch Nationalists.

The problem of separatist parties in Pakistan is from its independence. Government had very harsh policies against them from the day on. Government must sit with them and negotiate with them on their demands and find a way out.

Increase the employment opportunities for people of Gwadar.

The sole subsistence source of people of Gwadar is fishing. The employment of indigenous people of Gwadar must be increased at the port site.

The fences that divide the Gwadar must be removed and Government must take the confidence of people of Gwadar by providing them incentives.