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Pakistan Affairs:

Question: 4

Q. Federal structure of Pakistan best suits to Presidential form of Government or the Parliamentary. Argue.

Introduction:

The federal structure of Pakistan, with its division of powers between the central and provincial governments is currently aligned with a parliamentary form of government. The question of whether this federal structure is better suited to a presidential form of government or the existing Parliamentary system is significant in understanding the country's political stability and governance.

II. Arguments for Parliamentary System :

There are following main arguments for Parliamentary System are as:

1. Historical Precedence :

Pakistan has a long history of Parliamentary democracy, with its political institutions and practices deeply embedded in this system.

Shifting to Presidential system might disrupt these established norms.

"The constitution of Pakistan has yet to be framed by the Pakistan Constitution Assembly. I

do not know what the ultimate shape of this constitution is ongoing to be, but I am sure that it will be of a democratic type, embodying the essential principles of Islam." Muhammad Ali Jinnah

2. Provincial Representation :

The Parliamentary System ensures that provinces are adequately represented in the federal government through the National Assembly and Senate.

This representation promotes a sense of inclusion among the provinces, reducing the likelihood of separatist tendencies.

"A true democracy allows everyone, regardless of provinces, language or creed to have voices and share in the governance of their country"

Benazir Bhutto

3. Power Sharing :

In a Parliamentary system, the executive is derived from the legislature, ensuring a close/close relationship between the two. This

system promotes collective decision-making and accountability, as the Prime Minister and the Cabinet are answerable to the Parliament.

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4. Flexibility and Responsibility :

Parliamentary Systems can be more flexible and responsive to changing political circumstances. If a government loses the confidence of the Parliament, it can be replaced without a full-scale election, ensuring continuity and stability.

"Parliamentary democracy is not just about elections. It is about the continuous representation and responsiveness to the will of the people". (Aitzaz Ahsan)

II. Arguments for Presidential System :

i. Centralized Authority :

A presidential system could provide a strong and stable central leadership, which might be beneficial for a country like Pakistan where political instability is frequent issue.

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The President, as head of state and government, can make decisive and swift decisions without the need for Parliamentary approval.

"Strong central leadership is essential for national stability". (Pervez Musharraf)

ii. Clear Separation of Powers:

A presidential system ensure a clear separation of powers between the executive, legislature and judiciary.

This separation can reduce conflicts of interest and power struggles, leading to a more efficient governance structure.

"Checks and balances prevent the abuse of power and protect citizens right".
(Asma Jahangir)

iii- National Unity:

A directly elected president can symbolise national unity and represent the entire country, rather than specific constituencies.

This could help in fostering a stronger sense of national identity and cohesion.

"National unity is essential for progress and prosperity."
(Asma Jahangir)

iv- Stable Governance:

In a presidential system, the fixed term of the president can provide political stability, as the executive is not subject to the fluctuations of parliamentary confidence. This stability can be crucial for long-term policy planning and implementation.

Conclusion:

Both the parliamentary and presidential systems have their merits and challenges in the context of Pakistan's federal structure. The parliamentary system, with its emphasis on political representation and collective decision-making, aligns well with Pakistan's historical and political context. However, a presidential system's potential for strong central leadership and clear separation of powers could also address some of the governance issues faced by the country. Ultimately, the choice between the two systems should consider the unique political, social and historical circumstances of Pakistan.

Question: 5

Q: Pakistan is confronted with a protracted economic and financial crisis, high levels of government debt an energy crisis, and widespread inflation. List its causes and suggest the measures to address this.

Introduction:

Pakistan faces a complex economic landscape characterized by persistent challenges including high government debt, an energy crisis and widespread inflation. These issues have collectively strained the country's fiscal stability and impeded sustainable economic growth. Understanding the root causes behind these crisis involves examining factors such as fiscal management, energy sector inefficiencies, external imbalances, governance deficiencies and structural economic weaknesses.

By implementing targeted policies and fostering a conducive environment for investment and development, Pakistan can navigate towards economic stability and prosperity.

II. Causes of Pakistan's Economic and Financial Crisis :

Pakistan's current economic and financial crisis is based on several interconnected factors that have exacerbated fiscal instability and impeded sustainable development.

1. High Government Debt and Fiscal Deficit :

High government debt and fiscal deficits in Pakistan result from persistent overspending and inadequate revenue, straining fiscal resources and limiting budget flexibility for essential expenditures.

2. Energy Crisis and Power Sector Challenges :

The energy crisis in Pakistan arises from inadequate infrastructure, inefficiencies in power generation, transmission, and distribution, leading to frequent power outages and hindering industrial productivity and economic growth.

"A reliable energy sector is the backbone of industrial development" (Benazir Bhutto)

3. Widespread Inflation :

Widespread inflation in Pakistan reflects increased prices across essential goods and services, driven by supply chain disruption, global commodity price rises and domestic fiscal policies, impacting purchasing power and economic stability.

"Inflation reflects systematic economic challenges that require targeted interventions"

(Aitzaz Ahsan)

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4. Governance Issues and Corruption :

Governance issues and corruption in Pakistan stem from weak institutional framework and insufficient accountability mechanisms, leading to misallocation of resources and diminished public trust in governance.

"Corruption corrodes the fabric of society, undermining the rule of law and economic progress"
(Asma Jahangir)

5. External Sector Imbalances :

External sector imbalances in Pakistan arise from persistent trade deficit, heavy reliance on imports and vulnerabilities in external financing, leading to pressure on foreign exchange reserves and currency depreciation.

III. Measures to Address Pakistan's Economic and Financial Crisis:

1. Fiscal Discipline and Debt Management:

Fiscal discipline and debt management in Pakistan involve prudent budgeting, reducing fiscal deficits and managing government borrowing effectively to stabilize debt level and ensure sustainable economic growth.

"Fiscal discipline is the bedrock of sustainable development governance" (Asma Jahangir)

2. Energy Sector Reforms:

Energy sector reforms in Pakistan require addressing inefficiencies, reducing circular debt, and promoting renewable energy to ensure sustainable and reliable power supply.

"Investing in energy reforms is investing in Pakistan's future prosperity" (Benazir Bhutto)

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3. Inflation Control Measures :

Inflation control measures in Pakistan include monetary policy adjustments and targeted subsidies to mitigate price rises, aiming to stabilize the cost of living and foster economic stability.

4. Governance and Anti-Corruption Initiatives :

Governance and anti-corruption initiatives are crucial to enhance transparency, strengthen institutions and ensure efficient resource allocation, fostering investor confidence and sustainable development.

"Effective governance ensures the public resources are used for public good"
(Benazir Bhutto)

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5 Investing/Investment in Human Capital and Societal Nets :

Investment in human capital and social society nets involves expanding education and healthcare access, alongside welfare progress, to bolster productivity and protect vulnerable segments of society from economic downturns.

"Investing in education and healthcare is investing in our nation's future"

(Benazir Bhutto)

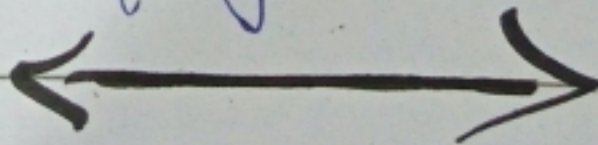
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Conclusion :

Addressing Pakistan's multifaceted economic challenges demands coordinated and decisive action across several fronts. Measures such as enhancing fiscal discipline, implementing structural reforms in the energy sector, controlling inflation through effective monetary policies, and strengthening governance and anti-corruption efforts are crucial. Additionally, investing in human capital and social safety nets can contribute to resilience and ensure equitable growth.

By prioritizing these measures with a commitment to transparency and sustainable development, Pakistan can navigate towards economic stability, mitigate crisis impact and promotes long-term prosperity for its people.



Question: 8

Q: It was rule of Congress 1937-39 that paved the way for separate State for Muslim in subcontinent. Critically evaluate.

Introduction:

The "Rule of Congress" from 1937 and to 1939 refers to the period when the Indian National Congress, led by Jawaharlal Nehru and others, governed several provinces in British India after winning the 1937 elections. This rule was significant in the context of the demand for a separate Muslim state, which eventually led to the creation of Pakistan in 1947.

"Congress rule inadvertently fueled Muslim separatism, paving the way for Pakistan"

Ayesha Jalal

Separate State for Muslims in the Subcontinent:

1. Congress - Muslim League Relations:

During this period, Congress policies and actions, dominated by Hindu leaders often marginalized Muslim interests. The Congress leaders' pursuit of a unified India underpinned by secularism sometimes overlooked Muslim concerns particularly in areas where Muslims were a minority.

"The Lahore Resolution of 1940 marked a definite split between Congress and the Muslim League, setting the stage for partition."

Stanley Wolpert

2. Muslim Alienation:

The Congress - policies, while well intentioned towards national unity inadvertently contributed to a Muslim alienation. The refusal to grant Muslim proportional representation and autonomy in predominantly Muslim areas, as demanded by the Muslim League, exacerbated tensions. This alienation promoted a sense of political and cultural separateness among Muslims.

“Muslim alienation grew as Congress's Hindu leadership failed to address their political concerns.”
Ayesha Jalal

3. Rise of Muslim League:

The period saw the Muslim League, under Quaid-e-Azam increasingly articulate the demand for a separate Muslim state to safeguard Muslim political right and cultural identity.

The failure of Congress to accommodate these demands politically strengthened the League's position among the Muslims, consolidating support for separate state.

"The Lahore Resolution of 1940 marked a culmination of the Muslim League's rise as a separatist force."

(B.P. Ambedkar)

4. Communal Violence and Polarization:

The Congress's rule also witnessed communal violence and heightened polarization between the Hindus and Muslims in some areas. Instances like the Lahore Resolution of 1940, where the Muslim League formally demanded a separate state, were responses to perceived Hindu dominance in Congress-led provinces.

5. Impact on British Policy:

The Congress role highlighted to the British that achieving political unity under a single Indian government was challenging due to deep understanding communal divisions. This realization influenced British policies towards supporting the Partition of India as a pragmatic solution to maintain stability.

"The Congress - Muslim League divide influenced British perceptions of India's political stability". (Stanley Wolpert)

6. Long-term Consequences:

The Congress's inability to effectively address Muslim grievances during its rule from 1937 to 1939 laid the groundwork for the eventual partition of India. The demand for Pakistan gained momentum in the aftermath of this period, culminating in the partition of 1947.

Conclusion :

In conclusion, while the role of Congress from 1937 to 1939 aimed at advancing Indian nationalism and independence from British rule, its policies and actions inadvertently contributed to the alienation of Muslims and the subsequent demand for a separate Muslim state. The failure to accommodate Muslim aspirations politically and culturally during this period significantly influenced the course of Indian history towards partition.



Question: 7

Q: Human population growth is a major contributor to global warming, given that human use fossil fuels to power their increasingly mechanized lifestyles. Critically evaluate.

Introduction:

Human population growth is often cited as a significant factor in the exacerbation of global warming. This assertion rests on the premise that a larger population inherently demands more energy, predominantly sourced from fossil fuels, to support its mechanized and technologically advanced lifestyles. Fossil fuels, being the primary energy source for industrial activities, transportation and residential needs, contribute substantially to the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

1. Human Population Growth :

i. Direct Contribution :

More people means increased demand for energy, food and resources which can lead to higher greenhouse gas emission.

ii. Indirect Effects :

Population growth can lead to deforestation, urbanization and industrialization, which also contributes to global warming.

"We are the last generation that can fight climate change, we have a duty to act"
(Ban Ki Moon)

2. Use of Fossil Fuels:

a. Primary Source of Emission:

Fossil Fuels (coal, oil, natural gas) are the main sources of carbon dioxide (CO_2) and other greenhouse gases.

"We have to stop burning fossil fuels. To address climate change, we need to build a sustainable energy future"

(Elon Musk)

b. Mechanical Lifestyles:

The modern, mechanized lifestyle relies heavily on fossil fuels for transportation, electricity, heating and industrial processes.

3. Mechanized Lifestyles:

i- Increased Consumption:

As societies develop, energy consumption per capita generally increases due to higher standards of living and technological advancements.

"It has become appallingly obvious that our technology has exceeded our humanity"
(Albert Einstein)

ii- Efficiency and Alternatives:

Technological advancements also being more energy-efficient systems and renewable energy sources, which can mitigate some of the impacts.

4. Comprehensive Examination of Factors Influencing Global Warming:

a. Population vs Consumption:

It is essential to consider both population size and per capita consumption. Highly developed countries with a lower population growth rate have higher per capita emissions than less developed countries with higher population growth.

"The mother of the Year should be a sterilized woman with two adopted children".

(Paul Ehrlich)

b. Technological Solutions:

Innovations in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable practices can reduce the reliance on fossil fuels.

c. Policy and Behavior:

Government policies, cooperative practices and individual behaviors, play significant roles in addressing to global warming.

Conclusion :

Human population growth does contribute to global warming, primarily through increased demand for fossil fuels and mechanized lifestyles. However, the impact of population growth is complex and intertwined with consumption patterns, technological development and policy measures.

To Reducing global warming will require addressing both population growth and carbon intensity to our lifestyles through comprehensive strategies that include sustainable development, renewable energy adoption and energy efficiency improvements.

