

Question no: 09

The Role of International Aid:

Is it Altruism or Imperialism in Disguise for Weakened Nations?

1. Thesis Statement:

International aid is considered to be an insinuated imperialistic policy for weakened nations as it produces a cycle of aid dependency, debt trap diplomacy, overtaking of public assets, and economic policy dictation by the developed nations. Therefore, the flow of international aid presents itself to be exploitative and imperialistic in nature.

2. Types of international aid mobilisation:

2.1 Donation by multilateral or bilateral institutes

2.2 Aid tied or untied with a project.

2.3 Aid in form of grant ^{or} concessional loan.

3. International aid as an imperialism for weakened nations:

3.1 Producing a cycle of debt dependency; Pakistan entering International Monetary Fund ^{program for} for the 23rd time

3.2 Overtaking of public assets; Overtaking of Sri Lankan port by China on lease

3.3 Debt trap diplomacy; signing of Baghdad and Manila pact

3.4 Dictation of economic policy of weakened nations; Structural Adjustment Program of IMF.

3.5 Controlling the domestic politics of developing countries; Sanctions on Afghan aid by Taliban takeover.

3.6 Economic development of developed countries at cost of resources of developing countries; Chinese Exim bank usage of copper in Sudan.

3.7 Exploitation of aid for political presence in developing countries; Russia

vetoed Syrian aid in UNSC for strengthening its political gain.

3.8 Manipulation of human rights; United Nations Refugee Workers Aid (UNRWAT) aid ceased by pro-Israeli states.

4. International aid showing altruistic side::

4.1 Restructuring of European countries post world war-II through Marshall plan.

4.2 Foreign Direct Investment enhancing the economic indicators of developing countries

4.3 Solving transnational problems of drug production and pandemic

4.4 Enhancing trade of weakened nations

5. Recommendations to counter the colonial aspect of international aid::

5.1 To cease imposition of one-size fits all policies.

5.2 To enhance stop the unnecessary sanctions on flow of aid.

S.3 The absorptive capacity of the recipient states should be enhanced.

S.4 Procyclicality and volatility of aid should be controlled.

6. Conclusion:

The mobilisation of International aid in the present time reflects assertive relationship the ~~relationship~~ of ~~the~~ the developed States with the developing one. With an acceleration in the ~~global~~ and global conflicts, enhanced role of the financial ~~institutions~~ institutions providing assistance, the flow of international aid has gained an important position. With the passage of time, overseas aid has transfigured into a tool of exploitation and manipulation by the ~~the~~ developed countries. The puppeteering effect of the dominant nation is reflected through the overutilisation of developing State's resources by the developed ones. Along with this, ~~gaining~~ ^{political} gaining leverage in the ~~weakening~~ weakening nations and marring human rights for gain of alliances in geopolitics overtly displays the game of subjugating the under-developed states. ~~International~~ International aid is considered

to be an insinuated imperialistic policy for weakened nations, as it produces a cycle of aid dependency, debt trap diplomacy, overtaking of public assets, and economic policy dictation by the developed nations. Therefore, the flow of international aid presents itself to be exploitative and manipulative in nature.

There are multiple ways of mobilising international aid along the global network of assistance. Firstly, the donation is propagated either by multilateral organisations such as United Nations or by bilateral agreements between the countries. Secondly, the donor sometimes tie the dissemination of aid with some objective of increasing trade or ~~an~~ completion of any other projects. Thirdly, the aid is given with terms and regulations attached. Sometimes it requires no ~~re~~ repayment of

interest in form of grant or requires less amount of repayment of interest in form of concessional loan. Hence, the mobilisation of overseas assistance is constitutive various factors and mechanism of control.

The role of international aid in today's time has emerged to be a yoke for the weakened nations.

The covert control of the dominant nations in this regard is displayed through the creation of cycle of debt dependency. The recipient countries are pushed into a vicious pattern of ~~depe~~ accruing dependency on the developed nations. It incapacitates the submissive countries while steering them towards passivity and rise of debt to be repayed. In this regard, the presence of cycle of dependency is shown by the Pakistan entering 23rd International Monetary Fund (IMF). The repeatedly appeal for

Concessional loans represents the increasing debt service of Pakistan and an inclination towards future a future of continued engagement with IMF. Hence, the forceful production of the reliance on the aid produces an imperialistic relationship between the dominant and subjugated states.

In the second place, the overtaking of public assets while providing financial assistance in the first prior times exhibits the colonialism of the weakened nations. Extension of overseas aid at the cost of acquiring assets on failure presents a policy of gaining leverage by the developed states. It further compels the under developed countries to a submissive position while they suffer the loss of the domestic asset.

The recent acquisition of Sri Lankan port by the China for 99 years is parallel to the lines of neo-

colonialism. On failure of repayment of loan, the loss of Sri Lankan port clearly shows the repressive policies of aid dissemination that. Hence, the procurement of international aid by the developing nations places them under the shadow of neo-colonialism.

In the third place, debt trap diplomacy by the developed world is shown throughout the pages of history. This conundrum shown by the dominant states ^{reflects} ~~shows~~ the naunce of imperialism in the extension of financial aid. The extension of repayment by the creditor country allows the lender to gain political leverage in the recipient state. Such a strained relationship allows the use of submissive state for the leverage advantage of the domineering. The sign of Manila and Baghdad pact during Cold war positioned the western-

countries to repress
other states and gain their alliance
in exchange of economic relief. Hence, Such
victimisation at the cost of
obtaining global hegemony is constituent
of colonialism in today's time.

In the fourth place, the dictation
of domestic economic policies by the
international financial institutions
presents a picture of neo
imperialism by the prominent states.
Implementation of one-size fits
all policies renders the recipient
country incapable of formulating
its own suitable economic policies.
Such authoritative actions curtails
the autonomy of the weakened
nations and enhances their seeking
of support from such international
financial institutions. Structural
Adjustment Policies (SAP) of
International Monetary Fund (IMF)
inequips a country from the
full authority of tailoring its

policies and allows the incursion of developed countries in influencing the economic framework. Consequently, the procurement of overseas assistance renders a country to subjugate itself to other developed countries.

In the fifth place, the unauthorised control of the domestic political regimes of the weakened nations display the unauthorised by the progressive states at the cost of providing international assistance. It shows an offensive game play of imposing sanctions if the weakened nation fails to shape domestic political framework according to the desire of domineers. Recently, such sanctions were also imposed by the ~~Tar~~ on the Afghan aid & by the western alliances. Freezing of aid on takeover of Taliban regime revealed the ~~revealed~~ the conniving and ~~of~~ controlling of the assertive states.

on the basis of grain dictating
its own terms in the region

Therefore, the oppression of the
public at \pm with imposition of
sanctions falls under the shadow of
imperialism shown by with the
help of aid.

In the sixth place, the
developed nations bolster their
economic development while utilising
the indigenous resources of
weakened nations under the garb
of assistance. Extension of development
projects in the poor countries by
the developed ones, allow the latter
to utilise the regional resources
for ~~an~~ its own benefit. At the
same time decreasing the export
capacity of the underdeveloped ones.

This phenomenon of dutch disease
is ~~is~~ complicitly shown by the
Chinese Exim bank, which is
extending aid while accelerating
the utilisation of minerals in the

poor & African states. Such perilous acts, incapacitates the poor nations through rapid depletion of local resources. Hence, ~~more~~ lending of aid comes with the exploitation of resources which is classic characteristic of imperialism.

In the seventh place, the foreign aid is employed by the developed countries in order to gain ~~poter~~ political presence in the weakened regions. The exertion of the political prowess in the conflicted region at the expense of controlling foreign aid is parallel with the colonialism. In this regard, Russia vetoed the extension of Syrian aid in UNSC for ~~gown~~ strengthening its political gain in the region. The objective of maintaining the proxy war in Syria while controlling the flow of aid shows the abtho totalitarianism from the side of Russia. Therefore, the leverage

of providing financial assistance at the advantage of exerting increasing hegemony is purely the model of imperialism.

In contrary to the presence of ~~a~~ controlling and manipulating tactics of foreign aid donors, the notion of humanitarian assistance is also shown. International aid also shows the altruistic side through the provision of assistance ^{to} for the war torn countries. Such assistance provides a breathing space to the victimised states in order to restructure their economic framework. Marshall plan, economic assistance provided by west to European countries in post world war-II era ~~etc~~ explicitly displays the noble aspect of the monetary help. With the help of overseas aid, the reinvigoration of the debilitating system display the generous side of donation. Therefore, the overseas help

Sometimes ~~carries~~ carry the nuance of altruism.

Moreover, the investment in form of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by the donor states helps the weakened nation to strengthen their position. The presence of FDI show cases the notion of integration propagated by the developed states. ~~The~~ This beneficial step helps the rising countries to gain a semblance of stability in the international forum. Hence, the mobilisation of aid also represents the philanthropic gesture towards the weakened nations.

Furthermore, several platforms are constructed by the progressive states in order to assist the under developed nations in tackling of several social and health issues.

This gesture is shown in order to curb the issues of drug usage and

equipping the weakened nations to counter pandemic. Increase mobilisation of resources from Global North towards Global South in times of COVID-19 shows the generous gesture of extending & international assistance. Hence, the role of international aid is in form of charitable gesture towards developing nations.

In addition to this, developed nations, through the presence of project tied aid compels a country to ~~to~~ enhance its trade with other regional countries. The advanced states assists in opening up of the conduit of trade of the weakened nation. Helps them to stand at an equal footing with the rest of the world, through maturation of its trade ties. Therefore, international aid by the developed states presents a beneficial aspect as well.

The expansionism of the need of ~~the~~ international aid calls for the countering measures to be implemented in order to neutralise the role of international aid. Firstly, the strict imposition of one size ~~fit~~ fits all policy needs to be more inclined towards tailor made policies. Secondly, the imposition of sanctions on the basis of flow of aid needs to be changed with more of predictable nature. Thirdly, the absorptive capacity of the recipient ~~actor~~ nations should be ~~at~~ strengthened to help them achieve long term goals. Consequently, the integration of such policies will help in countering the yoke of international aid.

In Cox, the mobilisation of international aid in ~~contemporary~~ contemporary times reflects the assertive stature of the domineering states. It allows the ~~pro~~ developed states

to gain control of the domestic policies of weakened nations, exploit the resources, and impose sanctions at one's own advantage. Hence, such tactics needs to be countered to allow for more predictable and generous ~~for~~ flow of aid.