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PART - II

Q2

BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE AS A REFLECTION OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD'S INCLINATION TOWARDS ECONOMIC CONNECTIVITY

BRI:

The Belt and Road Initiative is a developmental project initiated by China in 2013. Its aim is to connect under developed and developing countries to bring economic stability, world-class infrastructure, and to enhance trade market. BRI overall aids the developing nations in infrastructure, global investments, regional integration and in boosting the economy.

Infrastructure:

The developing nations face significant infrastructure problems which hinder the economic activity to a greater extent. The developing nations also face the problem of integration into global economy due to this poor infrastructure.

BRI focuses on the construction of roads, railways, ports in these least developed regions where the road and belt program is initiated. With improved infrastructure comes the facilities of easy movement of goods, services and people. It, as a result, reduces costs of transportation and in return boosts the economic activity.

Modern infrastructure attracts tourists as well. Tourism industry flourishes; as one of the concern of tourists is the easy and comfortable commute and state-of-the-art infrastructure provides that. It helps in building a stable economy and creates a softer image of the under-developed country on world map.

Enhancing Trade and Investment:

BRI builds new trade routes and improves the condition of the already existing ones. As this is one of many problems in hindering the trade in developing

nations, BRI works on the better trade routes which improves access to ~~trade~~ global market and increases opportunities of trade. BRI connects Asia, Africa and the European Union through roads and railway tracks. So, this provides an edge to the under-developed countries to have an easier access to developed trade markets. Through CPEC, Pakistan has an easier access to the stable markets of the developed nations, major being China, itself. With increased trade opportunities comes greater opportunities of investments. Developed markets are attracted to such countries and, as a result, they invest a huge capital in developmental projects. BRI projects often comes with huge investments from Chinese banks companies and financial institutions. The influx of capital helps improve economy, increase job opportunities, and develops new industries in participating countries. Develop infrastructure and improved connectivity, makes developing countries attractive to foreign investors, which results in further boosting of the economy.

Regional Integration:

BRI also encourages regional cooperation by promoting joint developmental projects, that includes infrastructural

and economic projects. It leads to stronger ties between the neighbours. For instance, Pak-China ties have been tightened after the introduction of this Road and Belt Initiative. The two countries enjoy collaborative projects and thrive for a better tomorrow.

Economic Corridors:

Six economic corridors work under the mighty BRI project. These corridors aim at stimulating economic activities along these routes. Economic corridors such as the China-Pakistan-Economic-Corridor (CPEC), Bangladesh-~~India~~ China-India-Myanmar (BCIM) and to name a few have helped the under-developed nation in many ways, which include their improved infrastructure, their enhanced economic activities, their regional integration and their increased chances of greater investments in various developmental projects. These corridors transform remote and least developed regions into vibrant economic hubs promoting balanced regional development.

Financial and Technical Assistance

→ Access to Financing:

BRI provides funds to large scale infrastructural projects. Chinese banks such as Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and Silk Road Fund offers loans ~~to~~ and investment capital for these projects.

→ Access to Training Technical Expertise:

China offers technical experts and experience in infrastructural projects. Chinese architects are sent to the participating countries to help assist the local engineers. This transfer of knowledge and capacity building can enhance the long-term sustainability and longevity of the BRI projects.

CONCLUSION

Today's world is inclined towards economic prosperity and economic connectivity. BRI is a reflection of this economic connectivity as it aims in connecting the under-developed economic markets to developed economic markets. Pakistan, too, a member of BRI, has enhanced its economic status by building better infrastructure, enhancing trade and

economic activities and improving the overall regional integration. This shows that the Belt and Road Initiative is a reflection of the developing world's inclination towards economic connectivity.

Q3. SIR SAYED'S ROLE IN CREATING THE SENSE OF MUSLIM NATIONALISM IN UNITED INDIA

SOCIO-POLITICAL CIRCUMSTANCE DURING SIR SAYED AHMAD KHAN'S TIME:

Sir Sayed Ahmad Khan was born in 1817. He lived during an era where there was social and political upheaval in the subcontinent. Mughal Empire was declining and British Raj had taken over most of the subcontinent.

Along side the change of power in the subcontinent, social reforms, religious activism and the rise of nationalistic views were on the rise. Hindu-Muslim rivalries were on taking the spotlight. Social reforms against social evils such as sati (widow burning), child marriages were given voice.

In the midst of all this Sir Sayed awakened the sense of nationalism among the Muslims of United India.

• ADVOCATE FOR EDUCATION.

Sir Sayed Ahmad from very early on realized the importance of education as a tool for the social and political upliftment of Muslims. He noticed that the reason behind the backwardness of Muslims is their lack of modern scientific education. He, then, became an advocate for Muslim education and made it the primary focus.

• ALIGARH MOVEMENT.

Sir Sayed Ahmad founded the Aligarh Movement for the sole purpose of enlightening Muslims about the modern day scientific knowledge. He urged the Muslims of India to gain modern education without compromising Islamic teachings. He emphasized on the fact that studying science would not distance Muslims from Islam but it would be served as a bridge between modern science and Islam.

• MUHAMMADEN ANGLO-ORIENTAL COLLEGE:

To provide modern education to Muslims he established Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College in 1857, which later changed to Aligarh Muslim University. This institution was the center of providing scientific education to Muslims. It taught

science, literature, Arabic, Persian and Islamic studies. This became as a symbol ~~the~~ Muslim empowerment in the subcontinent during the 19th-Century.

PROMOTION OF URDU:

Since language is the primary unit of nationalism and culture; Sir Sayed focused on promoting Urdu language. He believed that Urdu is a sign of cultural identity of the Muslims of subcontinent. He had the idea that, Urdu with its rich cultural and lingual heritage could unify Muslims on one ground. Due to all these reasons he wanted to make Urdu as the lingua franca.

POLITICAL CONSCIOUSNESS:

At the beginning, he relied on the cooperation of British colonial administration for the advancement and betterment of Muslims, but later realized the need of separate political representation of Muslims. His writings and speeches encouraged Muslims to unify on one ground and politically represent themselves.

LEGACY:

Sir Sayed's legacy laid the foundations of later nationalist and patriotic

movements in the subcontinent. The All India Muslim League is the result of his countless efforts in giving identity to Muslims. His educational, cultural and political movements influenced Allama Iqbal and Muhammad Ali Jinnah to raise voice for a separate homeland for Muslims.

CONCLUSION:

Looking at the numerous efforts of Sir Sayed Ahmad Khan in creating a sense of Muslim Nationalism in India; we can be concluded that his efforts did bore fruit in the form of Muslims getting a separate state. Muslim Nationalism and Muslim identity rose to the peak and compelled the British to give Muslims a separate homeland as they are a separate nation.

Q8.

PAKISTAN'S FAILURE AT ACHIEVING EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES.

Since 1947, Pakistan has faced an unequal distribution of the state's resources. Multiple factors lead to this crisis. The government must seek out a way to mark an end to these crisis.

Following are the factors that has caused this unequal distribution of resources:

1. Feudalism and Land Ownership:

Right at the time of partition Pakistan was a country where feudal lords enjoyed to the fullest. Today, after 77 seven decades, the same scenario is at the front. In Pakistan, a significant portion of land is owned by a small group of feudal lords. These land owners exploit poor farmers which result in vast inequalities in wealth and power. This inequality is evident in rural Pakistan.

2. Corruption and Governance Issues:

The root cause of all the ills in Pakistani society is the corruption of

men in power. Corruption is like taking the resources of the masses depriving them of their rights. This mismanagement of public funds leads to economic disparities. Corruption hinders economic development and equitable distribution of wealth. Pakistani society faces this evil and the results are quite evident as the poor are becoming poorer and the rich ones are becoming richer.

3. Economic Disparities:

Pakistan faces significant economic disparities. The wealth is divided unequally among the regions of the country. For example, the disparity between urban and rural areas and in the same manner, the disparity between provinces, for instance, Punjab and Balochistan. The government spends more on urban and well-developed provinces of Pakistan. This results in regional imbalance which can cause uneven development and resource allocation.

4. Political Instability:

As corruption is indigenous to Pakistan; in the same manner, Political instability and Pakistan go hand in hand. Whenever

the word Pakistan heard, corruption and political instability will come to mind.

Frequent government changes in government, military coup and political instability erupts the long-term developmental projects. As every new government comes up with their new policies hence the developmental projects fail frequently.

The short-term governments prefer immediate gains over sustainable projects and equal distribution of resources.

5. Education and Health Disparities:

Access to quality education and healthcare is uneven in the country for decades. The developed regions of the country and the highly influential people get the facilities of good education and quality healthcare. Poor educational infrastructure and healthcare services limit opportunities for social mobility and economic advancement.

Gender Inequality:

Another of the social evil that Pakistan has is the gender inequality. ~~Resources~~ The already limited resources are further distributed unequally among between men and women. Gender disparities in access to resources, education and employment opportunities.

hinder equitable resource distribution. The gender disparity multiplies in rural areas where women face severe inequality in the distribution of resources.

Out of ^{the} many factors leading to the uneven distribution of resources, a few have been mentioned above. A comprehensible plan must be devised to help come over the disparity of resources.

SUGGESTIONS TO ACHIEVE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCE.

Even distribution of resources can be achieved by bringing drastic changes to prevailing way of governance. Following are some of the suggestions that can help achieve equitable distribution of resources.

1. Land Reforms:

First and foremost, the feudal culture must be wiped off the face of Pakistan. Lands under feudal lords must be re-distributed equally. This could involve providing land to landless farmers and ensuring fair compensation for land

aquisition. The poor farmers working on the key lands of feudal lords and exploited at their hands, needs to be empowered. This could only happen if the land is justly distributed among the poor.

2. Strengthening Governance and Reducing

Corruption:

In order to ensure equal distribution of resources; the form of governance must be strengthened and corruption must be reduced. Strengthening institutions and the rule of law could help in curbing the menace of corruption from the country. Along with this, robust anti-corruption frameworks could be established to control such white-collar crimes. Enhanced transparency in public offices could also ensure the reduction in the rate of corruption.

3. Tax Reforms:

Reforming the taxation system to ensure progressive taxation, reduction in tax evasion and expanding the tax base could significantly help the country in achieving equal distribution of resources. As the money will circulate equally among the citizens which would help solve

the issue. Increasing the tax revenues can fund social programs and infra-structural projects that benefit the marginalized communities.

4. Education and Healthcare Investment.

Increased investments in education and healthcare sectors can improve the quality and enhances its reach to every remote region of Pakistan. It enhances human capital and promotes economic equality. The resources, due to investments, would increase and as a result, it could be distributed equally in all the areas.

5. Empowering Women:

Implementation of policies that promote gender equality in education, employment and easy access to resources. Empowering women ^{can have} an enhanced effect on economic development and social equality. Social barrier between the genders stops the equal flow of resources; with removing this barrier equal distribution of wealth and resources is ensured.

6. Sustainable Development Goals:

The government of Pakistan needs to align its SDGs with that of the United Nations to ensure equal

distribution of resources. The UN SDGs focus on poverty reduction, inequality and inclusive economic development.

CONCLUSION:

Pakistan since its birth is facing uneven distribution of resources. The influential ones get almost all the benefits of these resources and the poorer ones are left empty handed. Various factors contribute to this uneven distribution. A planned and strategic way out can help the government to free the country from this crisis.

Q4.

MDGs For Education: A Hard Task For Pakistan To Achieve.

Pakistan has faced challenges in achieving its millenium Development goals. All these challenges are inter-connected leading way to slower progress rate.

Issues and Problems Faced in Achieving MDGs:

There are many issues that hinder the smooth process of achieving the MDGs. Following are the problems faced:

1. Insufficient Funding and Resource Allocation.

The educational sector in Pakistan is severely underfunded. The infrastructure of educational institutions is also in horrible conditions. In addition to this, the staff in these institutions is less which further deteriorates the miserable fate of education sector in Pakistan. The sector is lacking funds. It receives less than 4-6% of the recommended share in GDP.

2. Poor Quality of Education:

The quality of education taught in Pakistan's educational institutions is outdated. Decade old curricule are still taught in classrooms. The teaching faculty is also less educated and lack the basic training. This leaves a drastic impact on the student learning outcome and reduces their interest in getting education. Hence, the dropout rate increases.

3. High Dropout Rates:

Many children especially in rural areas struggle to continue coming to schools. Major problems include, economic pressure, child labour, lack of access to secondary education and lack of interest in the studies. All this combined contributes to the high dropout rate from schools.

4. Gender Disparities:

The ratio of boys to girls in schools is very high, with boys being outnumbering girls. The gender gap in educational institutions is quite significant. Societal factors and norms play a major role in this unequal number of girls in schools. A male child is always preferred over female child while making a choice.

4) sending them to school. ~~Pass~~

5. Political Instability and Governance Issues:

Pakistan has faced and is facing political instability and governance issues. This has affected almost every sector of the country. Education sector is hit badly as every government ignores it. Poor governance has led inconsistent policies regarding education and lack of accountability has further worsened the situation.

Workable Solutions:

1. Enhanced government and private sector investment:

Investment from government and ~~poor~~ private sector is highly encouraged in education sector. New infrastructures to replace the poor one. Both the government and private sector should collaborate in funding educational institution to leverage resources, expertise and innovations in education sector.

2. Technological Integrations:

Use of technology must be used to improve education. E-devices must be installed in class to keep a check on our grandmothers. 1-year-2025

3. Policy Reforms and Implementation:

Update educational policies and keep a check on it. Reforms must be made new according to and implemented as well. New policies must focus on the new terms they see

CONCLUSION:

Pakistan has ~~not~~ faced multiple challenges in achieving MDGs for education. There are many hurdles that make it also an unachievable.
