

Pakistan Affairs

General Knowledge-III

PART-II

Q.no. 2

Non-traditional Security threats and the role of non-state Actors

Security Threats

- Tense relations with neighbours
- Pakistan & India rivalry since independence
- Non-state actors security threat from Afghanistan
- Non-State Actors security-threat from Iran border
- International western powers threat being Islamic Atomic Power
- KPK & Tribal areas attacked by TTP & IKSP
- BLF & BLA attacks on Chinese and CPEC.
- Foreign intelligence agencies operating in Pakistan

Conclusion: Pakistan a security state

• Tense Relations with neighbours

Pakistan since its independence is surrounded by such neighbours which are a constant threat for Pakistan. Only friendly border Pakistan has

is of china. Rest all of the borders either pose a threat to internal security or are the ones with Pakistan has fought several wars i.e India, Kashmir being the main bone of content for both of the nations.

Pakistan and India Rivalry since independence

Pakistan and India share a long border starting from Kashmir and expanding to Sindh and the Arabian Sea sharing water borders as well. The length of border is around 1900 kms long.

Kashmir is the main source of rivalry between the two nations. Both claim it to be theirs. Pakistan calls Kashmir its blood-line and India calls it "Apostle's Arg".

Both have fought 4 wars since its independence, 1948, 1965, 1971 and 1998.

So, considering the location of Pakistan it's a severe threat for Pakistan.

Non-State Actors Security Threat from Afghanistan

Non-state actors i.e. terrorist groups having their hideouts in Afghanistan are a threat not only for Pakistan but also for the regional security as well.

Non-state Actors Security Threat from Iran

Non-state actors and banned outfits have their hideouts across the border in Iran, when the land of Pakistan is made worse for them to reside here they flee to their hideouts in Iran.

Western Powers threat being the only Islamic atomic power

Pakistan is a thorn in the bed of western powers being the only Islamic state having its own atomic program. They despite using many tactics to pressurize Pakistan, but fear from Pakistan to never attack on its soil directly because they know the capability of Pakistan to respond and respond very fiercely.

Pakistan hurts in the eyes of western powers like Israel which considers it the

main threat being an ideological Islamic state.

KPK & FATA attacked by TTP & IKSP

KPK and tribal areas are attacked by TTP and IKSP as they want to impose Shariah there and declare it as an independent country in their context, which is to justify their attacks. But in reality they are terrorist attacks as Pakistan is an Islamic state not a Zionist or Christian state on which they are attacking. Afghan soil is being used by them for their attacks.

BLF & BLA attacks on Chinese & CPEC

Due to the ongoing development in CPEC foreign agendas are being propagated through BLA and BLF and other Baloch groups operating in Balochistan. They attack Chinese workers and people all across the country. They attack CPEC sites and destroy the ongoing development. Which poses a greater threat in the target province of Pakistan.

Foreign intelligence Agencies

There have been evidences where foreign intelligence agencies like RAW, ICAD, CIA and others involvement is seen in different

parts of Pakistan. Especially RAW's involvement was proved when Kulbhusan Yadav was arrested from Balochistan and he admitted that he was involved in terrorist activities sponsorship in Pakistan.

Conclusion

As we can see that Pakistan faces national, regional and even international security threats, therefore Pakistan's role is vital in international politics as Pakistan is dealing with large number of security threats making it more of a security state. Not only dealing with these threats but also dealing very effectively. Hence, Pakistan's role in regional security cannot be denied and should be appreciated that how well it's countering its enemies along with non-state actors.

Q no.4

Strength of Democracy and Dynastic and Feudal Politics in 2024

Outline:

Democracy

- Introduction
- 2024 General elections
- Main Participants
 - A banned Party
 - 2 Dynastic & Feudal Parties
- Claims of Rigging of Polls in elections
- Democracy weakened
- Trust deficit between public and politicians
- Conclusion question

Democracy

Democracy is defined as,

"Of the people, by the people and for the people"

Democracy is a true and fair electoral process to elect the candidates by public.

2024 General elections

In Pakistan despite many issues and a longer than normal caretaker Govt being imposed which is not such a thing which can be ignored. Well even after all

this 2024 general elections were held in Pakistan on 8th February 2024, resulting in a coalition govt in Federation.

Punjab went to PML-N, Sindh to PPP and KPK to Sunni-Ittehad/PTI (banned). In Balochistan its like always regional players made the govt with the support of federal parties.

Main Participants

There were three main participants which later were successful as well and came in the top 3 of all political parties.

A banned Party

PTI which was banned after 9th May incident in Pakistan post PTI chief's arrest, in which military installations were attacked by the supporters of the banned party.

Despite being banned it grabbed a majority of seats at national and provincial level in KPK by PTI supported independent candidates which later joined a small party Sunni-Ittehad under whose umbrella they formed govts and opposition throughout the country.

2 Dynastic and Feudal Parties

The other two are PPP which is not only a dynastic politics party but has a large number of feudals in it.

The other one is PML-N which is more of a dynastic political party with some feudals as well but not in that large number as PPP.

PMLN made govt in center and Punjab, while PPP made in Sindh and coalition govt in center.

Claims of Rigging of Polls in elections

The banned party claimed that rigging of polls took place in elections, some of the candidates of the PMLN also claimed that they were intentionally kept out of the system. This creates a controversial election again as in Pakistan's history almost all of the election results are disputed and rigging claims been made

Democracy weakened

The current scenarios weaken the democratic system and make it weak and ambiguous and making dynastic and feudal politicians stronger.

Trust deficit between Public & Politicians

This exercise creates a trust deficit between the general public and politicians as they don't see any of the politicians who are connected to ground problems in the assembly. Majority of them are dynastic politicians and feudals who never faced any ground level problems which are faced by the public at large.

Conclusion

The democratization process in Pakistan is weak and it needs reforms in order to strengthen it. Because it demands a person to either be very rich or belong to a political family or be a feudal lord of their area to contest the elections.

Considering the current situation the democratization process will become strong when a common educated man will consider joining politics and it would also become possible for him to go well.

Q no. 6

Water Issues

Outline

- Introduction of water issues of Pakistan
- Domestic water issues regarding provinces
- Regional water issues.
- Water issue with respect to India

Introduction of Water Issues of Pakistan

Pakistan is an agricultural country and 70% of the population living in rural areas are mostly directly and indirectly dependent upon agriculture. So, growing crops requires water which is always in short supply in Pakistan mostly due to hot weather in majority of the country:

Moreover we have not built dams to store water for the long run which also put us at a disadvantage. The water that could have been stored and used in the hot weather is wasted into the sea and at times due to increased rainfall in monsoon season it also leads to

floods.

Moreover India has that part of Kashmir from where all rivers flow so they also exit their water in floods towards Pakistan.

Domestic water issues regarding provinces

Punjab being the backbone of Pakistan in agricultural sector it has the highest produce of agricultural products. Due to suitable climatic conditions and canal system of Punjab it enjoys abundant growth of agricultural produce and have fertile lands in majority of Punjab.

Sindh is also good in respect of agricultural produce but is behind Punjab due to far flung areas having non-agricultural & infertile land due to no source of water reaching. That is one of the example where there is a lot of infertile land due to non-availability of water.

Balochistan is the largest province in area but majority of land is non-ariable due to lack of resources.

KMR is also fertile but has mountains and hilly areas which at times and in some areas makes it difficult to grow.

Seeing all such problems in 1991 a provincial water sharing agreement was made to facilitate the provinces.

But still due to lack of infrastructure and intervention of govt much of the Balochistan is still a desert where nothing can be grown. Pakistan has not developed its own canal system, its still relying upon British canal system developed during pre-partition era.

Regional Water Issues & India

The main regional water issue of Pakistan is with India. In 1961 Sindh-Tas agreement was made and 3 rivers Ravi, Sutlej and Bias were given to India and 3 rivers Sindh, Jehlum and Chenab were given to Pakistan. But the international powers and organizations have failed to implement

The agreement in its true sense, leading to conflicts and even wars between the two countries over Kashmir. As Kashmir is the main point from which all rivers divide and that part is located in India.

India is continuously violating the terms by making dams on Pakistani rivers which leads to shortage of water in Pakistan and when water is abundant leads to floods as India lets all the water after storing it to flow towards Pakistan and damaging the infrastructure of Pakistan. India in this way avoids floods in its country but transfers them to Pakistan.

Q no. 8

National Integration

Outline:

- Federal Supremacy.
- Punjab being the center of Power
- Neglecting of East Pakistan
- Resources held by Punjab & not transferred
- to underprivileged provinces.
- Balochistan and Sindh being the effectees
- Punjab gets resources due to population
- 18th Amendment a move towards integration
- Provincial autonomy to maximum extent
- Financial support of underprivileged provinces
- Making plans for neglected and ensuring implementation

Federal Supremacy

Pakistan being a federal state majority of the time since its independence collected most of the revenue in federalism

Punjab being the power center

After shifting capital to Islamabad by Martial Law Administrator Punjab gained more power despite enjoying it previously as well now it became

the power center of Pakistan, creating negative emotions in other provinces

Neglecting East Pakistan

Before 1971 there were two provinces west Pakistan and east Pakistan.

People were in majority in east Pakistan but were neglected as the power center was in West Pakistan. When they were deprived of their rights & were tried to crush they retaliated & Bangladesh came into being.

Resources held by Punjab

Majority of the resources are held by Punjab and were not transferred before 18th Amendment.

Balochistan and Sindh

Balochistan and Sindh were getting affected due to being poor in infrastructure as well as resources were utilized for the benefit of Punjab e.g. Sui gas was discovered in Balochistan and they themselves were deprived.

Punjab Population

Punjab gets majority share due to more than 50% population in it

18th Amendment

This was the deciding factor to lead provinces to get their due share

Provincial autonomy

18th Amendment led the provinces to achieve provincial autonomy.

Plans

Provincial autonomy should be maximized. Financial support be provided from the federal budget to support the neglected provinces

Making plans for their development and ensuring that they are implemented in their due timeline.