

General Knowledge - II

CURRENT AFFAIRS

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Q.no.2

Evaluate Pak-Afghan relations & Suggest Policy measures

Outline: Pak-Afghan relations

- Background of Pak-Afghan Taliban relations
- Current relations of Pakistan & Afghanistan
- TTP & IKSP attacks from Afghanistan
- Use of Afghan soil.

Policy measures

- Convey to Kabul to stop its soil being used
- Launch targeted attacks on TTP & IKSP facilities
- Arrest members of TTP & IKSP as proof.
- Gain Afghan Govt. confidence i.e. by sharing intelligence
- and asking for clearing of hideouts of TTP & IKSP.
- Increase trade with strict security measures

Background of Pak-Afghan Relations

Pakistan and Afghanistan are Islamic brother countries but due to geographical location of both countries their relations

have gone through good and bad times.

There have been tensions between them on FATA and ICPC area of Pakistan as Afghanistan claims it to be their part as pashtons are living there and they consider them to be their part. There were times when relations were good when Pakistan helped Afghanistan to pull the Soviet Union out of Pakistan and get that defeated. Post 9/11 relations became tense again due to Pakistan's inclination towards USA. Pakistan also became an ally of US war on terrorism.

Current relations of Pak-Afghan

Current relations are going through good and bad times at the same time as post US withdrawal from Afghanistan, Pakistan provided support to Afghanistan in rebuilding its economy and country. But the relations suffered and came into hot waters due to attacks by TTP & IKSP.

TTP & IKSP Attacks

TTP and IKSP are carrying out attacks on Pakistani security forces and people. Similarly they are also targeting Chinese people who are working in CPIC and all around Pakistan. This creates a tension between

Pakistan & Afghanistan due to Afghan soil being used.

Usage of Afghan Soil

As TTP & IKSP which is considered the B team of TTP conducts attacks from Afghan soil and then ran away back into Afghanistan in their hideouts. This exercise is creating tension between the two nations.

Policy Measures

Kabul: Stop its soil being used

Pakistan should convey to Kabul that either it should stop its being used against Pakistan or we will go to any extent to safeguard our country and the nation.

Launch targeted attacks on TTP & IKSP

Pakistan should launch targeted strikes on TTP & IKSP hideouts on Afghan soil and destroy their hideouts if Afghan Govt. is helpless in front of TTP & IKSP to solve Pakistan's concerns.

Arrest members of TTP & IKSP

Pakistan should arrest members of TTP and IKSP involved in attacks on Pakistan and show them as proof to Afghan Govt and ask them to take actions and build pressure.

On Afghan Taliban to conduct attacks on them and clean their hideouts

Gain Afghan confidence by sharing intelligence

Pakistani intelligence agencies should build trust with Afghan Govt by sharing intelligence regarding their hideouts and activities to take steps to stop them otherwise Pakistan is capable of using its right of self-defence

Cleaning of hideouts

Pakistan should pressurize them by proofs and intelligence and also with international pressure to clean the hideouts of TTP and ICCSP.

Increase trade with Strict security measures

Pakistan should increase Pak-Afghan transit trade and encourage import and export and increase trade volume consistently. Provide access to seaports and other infrastructure to build their economy with the condition that they need to wipe out any trace possible of TTP and ICCSP from Afghanistan and stop all the attacks by them against Pakistan.

Q no. 3

OIC & its revival in Hamas-Iraeel Conflict & KSA Iran reapproachment

Outline

- Background of OIC
- USA influence on members
- Arab countries economic ties with Israel
- Lack of Palestinian support by members
- Iran KSA reapproachment in early stage
- No clear leadership for Muslim Ummah
- Hopeful about the future of OIC
- Conclusion: Currently a failed organization till near future

Background of OIC

OIC stands for Organization of Islamic Cooperation. It was established in 1970s by Muslim leaders of the world to give Islamic countries of the world a representative organization. The main objectives of this organization were to resolve international issues of Muslim Ummah. To become the voice of the Muslims suppressed anywhere ground of the world. To support the Muslim brothers of Palestine and Kashmir.

It was formed by leaders like Zulfikar Ali Bhutto from Pakistan, Colonel Gaddafi from Libya, Shah Faisal from KSA, who had a hand on public pulse. They were all equally popular in their countries. But we lost all of them in one or the other incident. Islamic unity was becoming a hard thorn for the US and which led to his influence on OIC member countries.

US influence on members.

US being among the superpowers of the world ever since post-World War-II it exercised its influence on the world. Especially on Islamic bloc. Because it knows if there is a force which can counter the world supremacy of USA is the Islamic bloc. That's why it uses its influence on them so they never sit together. Time has not even changed now it still holds influence on Arabs and other Islamic countries and its increasing day by day since the fall of the Soviet Union.

US has holded the -Supremacy of the world.

Arab countries economic ties with Israel

Arab countries instead of forming an Islamic bloc and reenergizing OIC and expanding its influence it has become a puppet. Moreover its increasing Israel influence on members is putting its role in dormant stage. Post Hamas-Israel conflict the Arab-Israel cooperation has been a pause, but before that it was increasing day by day. UAE recognized Israel and signed trade deals. KSA was on the brink of recognizing Israel when Hamas-Israel conflict started.

Lack of Palestine Support

Members of OIC haven't shown any sort of open solidarity and all Islamic countries are lacking to give a clear message to Israel or influence it to stop the Palestinian genocide. This has encouraged Israel to continue its ruthless genocide operation against the stranded people of Gaza.

Iran KSA rapprochement in early stage

KSA and Iran rapprochement is in early stage and is not developed at such level of trust that it can give a collective message to Israel on OIC front or revive OIC for Islamic bloc revival purpose.

Hopeful about the future of OIC

We are hopeful about the future of OIC if we get Islamic leaders who can lead the Islamic world only then we will be able to see its revival.

Secondly muslim countries should unite with each other instead of having conflicts. Muslims internal conflicts like KSA and Yemen, Afghanistan and Pakistan, Iran and Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan, Iran and Jordan all these conflicts are contributing towards western agenda to not let Muslims unite and come on a front like OIC.

Conclusion:

Currently OIC can be seen as a failed organization and until near future we cannot see its revival as it has failed to achieve its any of the core purposes.

Q5

Pak-Afghan relations Attacks and Refugees

Outline: Pak Afghan Relations

Going through thick and thin
Repeated attacks by TTP & IKSP
Afghan Refugees Issue
Illegal Afghans Pulled Out
Involvement in Crimes
Burden on new Afghan Economy

To Improve relations

Proper documentation of Illegal Afghan Refugees
Clean sweep operation against TTP & IKSP.

Going through thick and thin

Pak-Afghan relations are going through thick and thin because of several issues being faced by both of the countries from the actions of each other.

This included attacks by TTP & IKSP from Afghan soil and illegal Afghan refugees being deported back by Pakistan.

Repeated attacks by TTP and IKSP

Despite warning Afghan Govt. repeatedly to uphold its jurisdiction and stop the attacks being done on Pakistan by TTP and IKSP, it has not bore any fruit. They are targeting Pakistani security forces and Chinese nationals as well.

They want to establish their rule in Pakistan just like Afghan Taliban did in Afghanistan. As TTP has helped Afghan Taliban during his war time there are soft corners found within Taliban ranks for TTP which are the main culprits of tense Pak-Afghan relations.

Pakistan has its right to self defence which it can exercise but it will only worsen the relations.

Afghan Refugees Issue

When Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan Pakistan welcomed its Afghan brothers with open arms and welcomed them in their country throughout their length and breadth. Which resulted in Afghans being found in every trade and occupation in Pakistan.

Illegal Afghans Pulled out

Illegal Afghans in Pakistan currently stand at around 1-1.5 Million according to estimates from different sources and the total number of Afghan refugees in Pakistan is around 5 Million.

3 Million Afghan refugees took shelter in Pakistan at the time of war.

Now despite many have gone back to Afghanistan, it still stands at around 5 million out of which 1-1.5 million are illegal. Against whom Pakistan started a drive to pull them out of Pakistan and 100s of thousand Afghan refugees who were illegal were deported back to Afghanistan after restoration of Afghan Taliban regime.

Involvement in Crimes

Pakistan started to expel illegal residents because there were evidences found where they were involved in crimes and also terrorist activities. As they were illegal and Govt had no record of such residents so they were very difficult to trace. To safeguard the interests of its own people Pakistan expelled illegal Afghans.

which worsened the relations

Burden on new Afghan Economy

As due to lack of jobs and proper business opportunities in Afghanistan, these illegal Afghans residing in Pakistan would additionally become a burden on newly formed Afghan economy.

Improve Relations

Proper documentation of illegal residents

Pakistan govt should launch a drive along with Afghan govt. to register these illegal residents with the condition that they would be registered if TTP or IKSP attacks are stopped or they are put under arrest or killed.

Clean Sweep Operation against TTP & IKSP

Afghan Govt will conduct a clean sweep operation against TTP & IKSP only then illegal immigrants will be registered. If this is not the case at least they should be dismantled & put under arrest. - Otherwise we cannot see a future which will be peaceful and prosperous for both the nations.

Qno.8

SIFC

Outline:

- Purpose of SIFC
- Privatization of PIA.
- Interests from Middle east & China
- Learn from Past deals e.g PTC
- Hire acquisition & sale experts of International level
- FDI purpose should not be compromised
- Conclusion: If strong measures taken it will be fruitful.

Purpose of SIFC

The purpose of SIFC which stands for Special Investment Facilitation Council is to procure foreign direct investment from middle east and China by selling our white elephants i.e. loss making corporates which give a burden on national exchequer and obtain foreign direct investment so that our dollar reserves are increased without raising any loans.

Privatization of PIA

The first thing on the cards of SIFC is privatization of PIA which is a burden on national exchequer from past decade and is in loss continuously.

Interests from Middle east & China

Middle east and China has shown interests in our national assets like PIA and airports which we are planning to sell.

Learn from Past deals i.e PTCL

In past during martial law Administrator Pervez Musharraf's regime we sold the shares of PTCL and 5 out of 9 board seats of PTCL to UAE Telecommunication company Etisalat.

The more interested thing is that it was privatized at a time when PTCL was a profitable entity. It was also done on the preamble of FDI but Etisalat raised money from local banks to acquire PTCL and also got

a long term tenure payment plan which also negatively effected Pakistan.

The deal was done at \$2.2 Billion dollars but was rejected and then renegotiated by Etisalat and their confiscated bid money was also adjusted due to backing out from the deal and they successfully bargained for a \$50M annual compensation from the Govt for supporting it. Ultimately Pakistan sold one of its profitable company at worst of the conditions.

Hire Experts of International Repute

We should hire sale and acquisition consultancy firms of high repute to give us the best offer from the bidders and design such conditions in the proposal which will benefit us in long run.

FDI purpose should not be compromised

It should be clearly mentioned in the proposal that the buyer will take the money from his country and it should be a foreign direct

Investment in true sense and spirit

Conclusion:

If strong measures are taken and experts are hired and contracts are made flawless, then it would be a beneficial deal for Pakistan.