

Question No # 2

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1. INTRODUCTION:

In the year 2008, Military operation Rah-e-Raast was launched in Malakand. In 2009, Rah-e-Nijaat was launched in South Waziristan. In 2014, series Khyber operations were launched and mother of all military operations Zarb-e-Azab was also launched in North Waziristan. Resultantly, militancy was apparently defeated in the ex-FATA, Malakand and other parts of KP as thousands of militant were either being captured or they flee to Afghanistan. The government though they have defeated TTP, but unfortunately the defeat was temporary as there has been a dangerous revival of militancy in war-zones in Pakistan. There are numerous factors or reasons responsible for the revival of militancy and the state needs to adopt a comprehensive approach to eliminate the menace one and for all.

2. Revival of TTP attacks in Pakistan

There is dangerous increase in the number of militant attacks by TTP in different regions of Pakistan such as attacks in Swat especially Matta, that used to be a strong hold of the Taliban. Majority of these attacks are being carried out by the Swat chapter of TTP. Other regions

of Southern Punjab, D.G Khan, D.I Khan, Bahawal, Islamabad, Faisalabad, Lahore and even Karachi are majorly being carried out by TTP. Counter Terrorism department of Pakistan reported around 1730 casualties in 2024. Most of the attacks were claimed by the banned TTP.

3. Reasons for the Revival of TTP attacks in Pakistan

- i. The victory of Afghan-Taliban against US and NATO encouraged TTP to challenge the writ of state of Pakistan again.

Despite bringing all the possible military technologies to Afghanistan, fighting the longest ever and most expensive war in the history of US and NATO. The world's strongest military machine failed to defeat Afghan-Taliban and power was handed over to Afghan-Taliban. This encouraged the Pakistani-based terrorist organizations like TTP and Gulbhadra group to resume attacks against security forces and Chinese targets in Pakistan.

- ii. Pakistani Taliban have the leverage of using the bordering areas

Pakistani Taliban have the leverage of using the bordering areas of Afghanistan

with Pakistan as a launching-pad for terrorist attacks in Pakistan. Majority of the parts of the border of Pakistan with Afghanistan are still porous, specially in hilly-areas. TTP terrorist organizations easily cross the border and infiltrate into Pakistan.

iii **Relation of TTP with Afghan Taliban**

Afghan Taliban have got closer relations with TTP and other Pakistani-based Taliban groups. Therefore, they are reluctant to go for operation against Pakistani Taliban on Afghan soil, and they have not been able to stop TTP and other Pakistani Taliban from using Afghanistan soil as a launching-pad.

iv **The ambiguous policies of the Government have been responsible for the revival of attacks by TTP**

No government is ready to take the responsibility and keep blaming each other for the flawed negotiations with TTP. Pakistan Taliban demanded the reversal of 25th Amendment or FATA Reforms Bill and implemented Frontier Crimes Regulation (FCR) once again. They also demanded the control of the areas to be given to TTP. Such demands were never to be accepted by

the government of Pakistan. Resultantly, a terrorist TTP started terrorizing Pakistan once again.

v Serious loopholes in the policing system and overall security apparatus of Pakistan

Till 2018, there was no formal policing system in the merged districts (ex-FATA).

As per the Frontier Crimes Regulation FCR security personnel were not allowed to enter the villages and houses of the people.

In 2018, when police Act was extended to FATA, the local police still does not enter the villages and houses. Resultantly, they cannot implement the writ of the state.

Furthermore, they are not well trained and equipped enough to fight such trained insurgencies. These policing problems are common across Pakistan, specifically KP and Baluchistan that has resulted in the spread of militancy across the provinces.

vi Policy of Appeasement

Another reason for the resurgence of terrorism is Pakistan's engagement in talks with the TTP from a position of weakness. This served to give the militant groups much-needed time and space to resurge and spread its network in Pakistan. A report by Pakistan's premier counterterrorism agency,

The National Counter Terrorism Authority, has noted that peace talks contributed to the TTP's risky attacks in Pakistan. Around six peace deals with the TTP in the past have failed to achieve peace and contributed to the rise of violent incidents.

3 Policy recommendation to eliminate terror and bring peace to the country

i Intelligence-Based Operations (IBOs).

Intelligence-based operations is one of the viable solutions. but such operations should be targeted, precise, that do not result in collateral damage or the displacement of locals and separations. The security forces and government need to restore the confidence of the common public of the war-zone areas, which could only be done when their areas are being cleaned without displacing or harming them.

ii Police Reforms:

Increase in the number of police, sufficient funds, and the required weapons. This would enable police to fight the insurgent groups in a much better way. Moreover, police should be trained well to combat those highly trained terrorist organizations.

iii Negotiations by government should be at a point of strength

There would always be a group of people within the insurgent groups who would be tamed and convinced to drop weapons and join the mainstream. This would happen only when they are socio-economically benefitted. Therefore, negotiations should always be an option with the insurgent groups, but the government should negotiate at a point of strength.

iv A grand strategy for de-weaponization of the society

starting with merged districts, KP, and Balochistan. First option should be volunteered dropping and handing over the weapon and such people should always be financially benefitted. Secondly, search operation. It is a tedious and time-taking process but Pakistan does not have the option of not adopting the policy.

v Fight to the enemy with civilian support

Fight to the enemy with support of the civilian population residing in hotspots for militant activity. Civilians can help state in fighting against terrorist organizations, As they are aware of the particular areas where

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government tends to launch operations against terrorist, but for that government has to win the trust of public.

vi- Dedicated counterterrorism force

Pakistan needs a dedicated counterterrorism force to meet terrorist in asymmetric warfare. This special counterterrorism force should be highly trained. Moreover, civilian leadership should also take responsibility for generating a political consensus on how the threat is to be tackled.

5

Conclusion

Pakistan is currently facing various challenges and Terrorism is one of the most serious issue which Pakistan is ~~facing~~ struggling with. TTP terrorist organizations, being the most prominent reasons for the terrorism and insurgency in Pakistan, dangerously increasing attacks in different regions of the country. Government of Pakistan need to have very strong and comprehensive plans and policies to eliminate terror and bringing peace to the country. By adopting above stated recommendation Pakistan would be able to combat the situation.

Introduction:

The recent attack in pahalgam, which India swiftly attributed to Pakistan-based groups without concrete evidence, has added another layer to the already tensed bilateral relations. Historically, India has been doing various false flag operations and blaming Pakistan without evidence. India is again repeating the history in the recent context of pahalgam incidence. Moreover, India's decision to unilaterally exit the Indus water treaty marks a significant escalation. This move poses various geopolitical, legal, and environmental implications. Pakistan needs to adopt strong policy to combat the situation.

Indus water Treaty

Indus water treaty, brokered by the World Bank in 1960, is a legally binding agreement. According to this treaty eastern rivers belong to India and western rivers belong to Pakistan, Indus, Jhelum and Chenab. Indus is a shared river. 10% of Indus river water can be consumed by India. The rest is of Pakistan. India can use the water of the western rivers.

but only for hydel generation.
If ~~no~~ any conflict broke out between India and Pakistan regarding water Treaty it may be referred to world bank as it is the facilitator of the Indus water Treaty. But if conflict is legal then it must be referred to ICA International court of arbitration.

Violation of International law By India

Indus water treaty is a legally binding agreement that survived multiple wars. India's unilateral exit violates Article XII of the treaty, which stipulates that it can be terminated only by mutual consent. This sets a dangerous precedent for international water-sharing agreements.

Politization of water resources

By linking the terror incident to water-sharing, India appears to be weaponizing water as a tool of coercion. This contradicts the principles of cooperative federalism and international norms on water diplomacy.

Domestic political Dynamics in India

The decision of exiting Indus water treaty seems to cater domestic political pressure. The ruling party has been using national security narratives for electoral gains. Blaming Pakistan for internal disturbances in Kashmir diverts attention from local grievances and human rights issues.

Diverting attention from Gaza

This incident seems to be escalated to divert world's attention from Gaza. India is an ally to Israel. It could be the plan of Israel to gain help from India in order to divert the attention of world from the catastrophic situation in Gaza.

Regional stability at Risk

Such unilateral moves increase the risk of a water war between two nuclear armed neighbours. It may also provoke retaliatory policies from Pakistan, further destabilizing South Asia.

Impact on Pakistan

Any disruption in water flow will gravely affect agriculture, drinking water supplies, and hydroelectric projects. Pakistan's food and water security could be at stake.

Policy recommendation for Pakistan

Legal Recourse:

Pakistan can pursue arbitration or take the matter to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), as allowed under the treaty framework and international law.

Diplomatic offence:

Pakistan should immediately internationalize the issue by engaging the United Nations, World Bank and friendly countries. It should highlight the violation of international norms and treaties.

Strengthen Internal water Management

Regardless of external pressure, Pakistan must improve its water conservation strategies - building reservoirs, minimizing water losses, and promoting water efficient agriculture.

Engaging Civil Society and media

Pakistan should promote awareness at the national and international levels through media campaign to highlight the gravity of India's actions.

Strengthen Strategic alliances

Pakistan must deepen strategic ties with China, Turkey, and other regional powers to counterbalance India's growing influence.

Conclusion

India's unilateral withdrawal from the treaty under the pretext of a terror attack represents an alarming shift in its strategic posture. Pakistan must respond firmly yet wisely - leveraging diplomacy, legal mechanisms, and internal reforms to safeguard its water rights and regional peace.