

Part II

Q. # 2

Introduction:

National interest refers to the goals and aims a country wants to achieve and prefer to achieve to maintain their sovereignty in world. Pakistan, like any other nation, has its own national interests and is trying to achieve these goals. Recently world's dynamics have been changing continuously and tension is felt by the whole world. The impacts of this tension are seen directly on the priorities and goals of all countries including Pakistan.

Constituents of Pakistan's National Interests.

Pakistan, since creation, has set goals which are clear and is trying to achieve these goals for the maintenance of its sovereignty. Following are some key national interests of Pakistan.

• Security.

Since creation, Pakistan faced security threats and issues due to the rivalry with neighbours and issues like Kashmir. Pakistan faced major challenges like wars and strikes even in present day. Achieving security and survival has been the major interest and goal of Pakistan, to preserve its integrity and independence.

Threats of security are not just external but internal as well. Terrorism has been a biggest challenge for Pakistan to cope. Although Pakistan has been doing work on it through installing various operations but still it is a challenge and Pakistan's first & prior interest to prove its integrity and sovereignty.

• Economic Development.

In changing world order, where economic strength is the real strength, Pakistan's

priority is achieving economic stability. For this purpose Pakistan believes in regional cooperation and is trying its best to participate in trade, industrialization and energy projects. China is playing a major role in achieving economic strength through CPEC which has been running in Pakistan since 2013. Pakistan willingly took part in that and is trying for the continuation of these projects.

• Political stability:

Political stability is important for a nation's survival and above two goals can only be achieved if this one is achieved. Unfortunately Pakistan is facing this problem since birth and its main goal now is to achieve political stability. Strengthening democratic institutions and rule of law is the source to achieve stable political culture. Pakistan strive for it and

is making possibilities to achieve this goal.

- **Foreign Policy.**

Pakistan has been trying its best to be unbiased in world politics. Managing neutral relations with West and East is a biggest challenge for now. In the growing competition between world powers, Pakistan is managing to keep good relations with both US and China and also with Russia to keep a peaceful region.

- **Human Development:**

It is the biggest task for Pakistan to provide and facilitate its people. Basic needs like education, health and jobs for its people has been an interest of Pakistan. Eradicating poverty is the most needed thing right now that will lead to human development and empowerment of people specially youth and women.

Changing Regional Apparatus:

The world has been changing since last decade and it is affecting the goals and interests of Pakistan.

• US - China:

US and China are continuously in conflicts mostly through trade and tariffs and in Asian Pacific as well. This is changing world dynamics and strengthening a side will lead to bigger change.

• Middle East Crisis,

It is a challenge for world and Pakistan since it has become almost impossible to maintain good relations with Iran, Saudi Arabia and Turkey at the same time which is a challenge for Pakistan's neutral foreign policy goals.

• Afghanistan Crisis,

Afghanistan ^{has} always been an important neighbour of Pakistan since its peace guarantees peace in Pakistan. Since the Taliban government in Afghanistan

Pakistan is facing challenge of terrorism and insecurity in region.

• Strategic Importance of Pakistan in CPEC.

Pakistan is increasing its ties and interest in BRI and CPEC and China is giving importance to Pakistan enhancing and escalating the process.

• India and Pakistan.

India's latest strikes worsened the conditions of ties between two countries and region as well. It is a challenge for all regional neighbours since both India and Pakistan are trading allies.

How Pakistan can align with these.

It is a challenge for Pakistan to align with these changing regional conditions. But Pakistan can do it if it takes strategic measures.

• Maintaining Security Diplomacy.

Pakistan must enhance its security both internal

and external. Terrorism counterment, and rivalry with India, both must be tackled by proving nuclear deterrence and autonomy.

• Balancing Relations:

Pakistan must maintain balanced relations with all the great powers i.e. China, Russia, US etc. This will lead to a harmless future steps to secure its national interests.

• Regional Cooperation:

Pakistan should take part in regional organizations like SCO and ECO and with SAARC if possible. It will give a chance to share its interest and take help from regional powers to achieve the goals.

• Strengthen Internal Conditions:

Problems regarding internal politics and democracy are hindering the achievement of national interest of Pakistan. So it is important to achieve internal stability.

Conclusion

National interests of a country are important to give strength and face of independence and sovereignty to it. Pakistan has its own interests which are hindered by changing regional conditions. If Pakistan align its strategies with regional's changing dimensions, it will help Pakistan to achieve its goals.

Q. No. 4

Pakistan is among those countries which are facing not just military threats but non-military threats as well. These threats are not caused by other countries but are generated in Pakistan. Except from Terrorism, Politics and regional diplomacy, Pakistan is facing various conditions like growing population, depleting resources, food scarcity, climate change affecting

The lives of people and state's achievement of its interests.

Major Problems in Pakistan:

Pakistan

is facing the following problems.

1. Population Explosion:

Population explosion

is a growing problem in Pakistan. The rate of increase in population in Pakistan is 2% more than South Asia. The population is booming, 241 million plus in 2023 with growth rate of 2.55%. The population has increased seven-folds since independence.

o Causes:

Following are some causes of increasing population.

- 1- Early Marriages; are playing greater role in population increase. This leads to high fertility rates and more increase in number of people.
- 2- Cultural Norms; are the major cause of explosion in population. Larger the family, the more it is appreciated by society.

cultural norms.

3. Lack of Knowledge, is the cause of increasing population. Women are unaware of their health issues and harms caused by continuous child-birth.

Impacts:

1. Depleting Resources:

The increase in population is causing depletion of resources. More fuel is used to cater the needs of growing number of people. More oil and energy is used thus causing it ^{to be} difficult. The depletion of these resources in a developing country like Pakistan.

2. Climate Change:

Increasing population is leading to disastrous change in climate. More vehicles use and industrialization is causing harmful change in environment.

3. Inflation:

Lesser resources lead to less profit

and less production which leads to increased prices and cause inflation. It becomes difficult for a large number of people & they live hand to mouth.

4. Rapid Urbanization:

With increase in number of people, rural areas are facing difficulty to provide and cope with the needs of people. Moreover for employment and better living conditions, people are moving to urban areas for better resources.

Food Insecurity:

Pakistan is facing food insecurity problem, specially in areas where land is less fertile.

Causes:

1- Increasing Population:

Growing number of people is leading to more intake of food resources thus causing scarcity of food in all over the country.

2. Climate Change:

Changing climate condition is leading to food scarcity with the destruction of land and infrastructure. Less production of goods is occurring due to climate change.

3. Agricultural Problems:

Land is destroyed and problems in harvesting and watering is causing food scarcity.

4. Economic Challenges:

Reducing economy is causing lack of food and resources.

Impacts:

1. Malnutrition; specially in children in rural areas is common due to food insecurity. 40% of children in Pakistan are malnourished or stunted according to global Nutrition Report 2021.
2. Health Issues, because of less food minerals intake is common. More diseases are common due to lack of food.
3. Social Unrest; because of less food in country

Climate Atrocities.

Recently, climate change has become a major problem in the whole world especially Pakistan.

Recent decade marked climate atrocities causing harmful environmental conditions

Causes.

1. Rapid Industrialization, and then use of various chemicals in production is leading to changing climate.
2. Use of Harmful Chemicals and gases like chlorofluorocarbons and CO₂ leads to release in air and harm Ozone layer thus ~~not~~ causing global warming.
3. Overpopulation; is also the reason for change in climate. Large number of people use harmful resources and need fulfillment through deforestation is causing climate atrocities.
4. Deforestation. People are cutting trees for their use and thus changing condition.

Impacts.

1. Rise in Temperature

Temperature of the

atmosphere is increasing continuously causing harm to glaciers and various water bodies.

2. Floods:

Increase in temperature leads to melting of glaciers and flooding occur. Pakistan is most affected country right now.

3- Smog:

This is the major issue and Pakistan, Lahore, became the top count city of the world where smog is most harmful.

Way Forward:

Government and state should take steps to overcome the challenges of environment. For food security they must boost agriculture productivity, food storage and better distribution and economic reforms. Similarly for meeting the problem of overpopulation state & individual both need to understand their responsibility. For climate change govt must educate the industrialists for

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dumping and cleaning procedures, reforestation programs must be established and better programs should be started to cover the problem.

Conclusion,

Pakistan is facing issues like food shortage due to overpopulation and climate change is affecting directly the individual as well as state. The govt should take initiatives to cope up with the problems of environment and people's needs.

Q. # 6.**Introduction:**

Pakistan is facing a lot of challenges right now but still trying to boost up the economy for national security and interest. It seems impossible to grow the economy since Pakistan is not ready yet for this boost. Following are some hindrances in Pakistan's take off regarding economy.

• Political Instability:

Since Pakistan work strictly on party system in democracy so the opposition is usually causing hurdles for govt to grow. It happens everywhere and in Pakistan it is leading to change in government more rapidly than other countries. This creates uncertainty among people and it leads to instable economic condition. Change in system causes a lot of harm to a country's ~~sys~~ reforms.

• Lack of Industries and Export System.

Because of lack of proper system there are hardly any public sectors including govt industries. Private owners mostly follow capitalism and work to gain profit. They might increase the prices of basic needs of life then having less profit in their pockets. Moreover due to neighbourhood contacts and changing regional conditions are the cause of lack of investment and purchase capability.

• Corruption and Illegal Deeds

The ill dominated in society is corruption. Whether it is low scale post or higher authorities many people are accused of corruption. Industries don't do paperwork to show the less purchase and **tax evasion**. They either don't pay the tax or sometimes they do not show the assets and profit to the ~~int~~ income tax officers.

• Internal and Regional Security Threats.

Region specially middle east like Iran, KSA, Iraq are changing due to wars and constant conflicts so it is becoming difficult to ~~do~~ stable economy through trade. India is always at clash with Pakistan and thus sanctions and trade issues are faced by Pakistan.

It has become impossible to do trade with such countries since they are facing a lot of damage already.

• Weak Economy and IMF Dependency.

Weak economy is catered by taking IMF loans. This dependency stops from making Pakistan its own budget and is leading to more debt burden year by year. Interest based loans by IMF are impossible to take measures to boost economy.

Way Forward.

It is important for govt to take initiatives so that the economy can grow and problems are solved related to economic poverty. Govt should help in industrialization, It should afford young people jobs and moreover they should maintain neutral relations with the powerful blocks of the world.

Conclusion.

Pakistan is hindered by various problems & challenges to boost up its economy. It is not individual but collective responsibility as well to cope up with the barriers causing harm to economic boost up.