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QUESTION NO 02

CAUSES OF TENSE PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Pakistan and Afghanistan, two neighbouring states in heart of south Asia have faced numerous challenges in establishing cordial relations. A number of factors are responsible for tense relations of two states. Affiliation of Taliban with TTP and insurgencies carried out by TTP across the Pakistan are major reasons for tense relation between two states. Other reasons include border dispute, Indian factor, weak government in Afghanistan and presence of various factions in Afghan government. Major steps to improve the relations can be increasing trade, use of bilateral dialogue and use of regional organizations like SAARC and SCO to resolve the disputes between two states. Active involvement of all the stakeholders is key in improving the bilateral relations.

(a) CORDIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN TTP
AND AFGHAN TALIBAN - A MAJOR
CAUSE OF TENSE RELATIONS
BETWEEN TWO STATES

The issue of TTP is a bone of contention between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The Afghan Taliban had had and have a cordial affiliation between with Tetrech - c - Taliban Pakistan. This is because the TTP supported the Afghan Taliban in war on 2008. Secondly, Afghan Taliban and TTP have shared ideology and Afghan govt considers TTP as their ideological brothers, and hence ignore the presence of safe havens of TTP in Afghanistan. This is the reason, Afghan Taliban had no checks on ^{US} weaponry availability to TTP. According to Reuters, Afghan Taliban shared the weaponry with TTP including night vision goggles, and American based smart weaponry and drones. The availability of such a huge amount of weaponry and its use against Pakistan by TTP become the major bone of contention between two neighbouring states.

(b) IRREDENTALISTIC CLAIMS OF AFGHANISTAN OVER PAKISTAN

Another reason behind the tense relations between two states are baseless claims of Afghanistan over western areas of Pakistan. Durand line, which was established in late 1800, is criticized by the Afghan government leading to tense relation between two states.

(c) REFUGEE ISSUE AND RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO STATES

Another important issue between two states is refugee crises. Pakistan has hosted million of Afghan refugees, but after US withdrawal from Afghanistan, Pakistan started mass refugee evacuation and deportation, which led to economic burden on Afghanistan. As a result the relations between two states deteriorated.

(d) WEAK AFGHAN GOVERNMENT AND TENSE RELATION BETWEEN TWO STATES

Another cause of tense relations between two states is weak Taliban government. Afghan Taliban are not in a position to

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include various issues officially including the relations with Pakistan leading to tense relations between two states.

(C) PRESENCE OF VARIOUS FACTIONS IN AFGHAN GOVERNMENT - ANOTHER REASON FOR TENSE RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO STATES

Afghan government consists of various factions having different ideologies, hence this makes the decisions difficult to implement. The pro Indian factions in Afghan government are major reasons for tense relations between two states.

(F) INDIAN FACTOR AND PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN RELATIONSHIP

Involvement of India for fulfilling its geostrategic interest is another reason for tense relations between two states. Involvement of India to sabotage peace in Pakistan through Afghan soil has become a major concern for Pakistan and hence a apple of discord disturbing the relations between two states.

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11- BORDER SECURITY ISSUES AND ITS RELATION WITH PAK AFGHAN TENSE RELATIONS

Border security is another reason for tense relations between two states. The violation of border territory and firing from Afghan side is another reason for tense relations between two states.

WAYS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS

a) USING REGIONAL PLATFORMS

One way to improve relations between two states is to enhance the ~~use~~ the various regional platforms to improve bilateral trade. The platforms like SAPARC can be used for improvement of relations.

b) INCREASING ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Another important way to improve the relations is to increase the economic cooperation like trade. Free trade agreements can be done to improve the trade between two states.

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C- INCREASING PEOPLE TO PEOPLE CONTRACT

Another way is to increase the people to people contact. Cultural ties can be vital to improve the relations between two states.

QUESTION NO 03

NEW PROVINCES: HURDLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

In socio political sphere of Pakistan, making of new provinces is a constant debate. Though the debate is not new, yet it has resurged recently. Though the making of new provinces have a number of advantages but there are many hurdles in making in new provinces. Concerns of minorities, economic hurdles, political unrest, lack of trained man power for new provinces and other administrative issues are some of major hurdles to address the issue of new provinces before it

is materialized.

a) ECONOMIC ISSUES IN MAKING NEW PROVINCES

Economic issues are among the major challenges to establishment of new provinces. Pakistan face a huge number of economic issues. Budget deficit and IMF dependency are few major issues in making new provinces. Establishment of new provinces requires sound economic conditions. This is because finances are required to set up administrative machinery in new provinces. Establishment of new Capital, making high courts and other administrative offices and training and hiring of trained men power are among the few vital tasks for new provinces which require sound economic conditions. But lean dependency and economy in shambles of Pakistan becomes a major challenge to establish new provinces in developing state like Pakistan. Hence improve economy is a pre-requisite for making new provinces in Pakistan.

b- CONCEPT OF MINORITIES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PROVINCES IN PAKISTAN

likewise, another important issue is the concern of minorities regarding the new provinces. Pakistan is a multi ethnic state with numerous ethnic factions. These ethnicities have great association with their local ethnicity. So making new provinces without taking the ethnic groups in consideration lead to ethnic unrest. Take the example of 18th amendment, when name of NWFP was changed to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, it created unrest in Hazara community and wide protests ~~and~~ were observed. Same is the case of South and central Punjab where a number of ethnic groups are present associated with their ethnic identity. Likewise, Sindhi and Urdu speakers in Sindh are also divided in question of new province in Sindh. The case of Baluchistan is no more different. Hence the presence of multiethnic groups in Pakistan is a major challenge to new provinces in Pakistan.

(C) POLITICAL UNREST ASSOCIATED WITH QUESTION OF NEW PROVINCES

Another important issue is the political unrest associated with establishment of new provinces in Pakistan. Political parties and pressure groups can manipulate the issue of new provinces by exploiting the sentiments associated with sub-national or ethnic identities. This is highly likely and many nationalist leaders have given the such indications. This can lead to widespread violence and political unrest in Pakistan.

(D) ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH NEW PROVINCES

There are various administrative issues ^{associated with} establishment of new provinces in Pakistan. As the new provinces are required to have a full fledged administrative machinery. The development of offices and full fledged machinery involves a number of technicalities, making it a hurdle in creation of new provinces.

(f) LACK OF TRAINED MANPOWER - A HURDLE IN ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PROVINCES

To perform the tasks associated with administration in new provinces, skilled and trained human resources and work force is required, which is another hurdle in making new provinces.

WAYS TO REMOVE THE HURDLES

a) ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Before going to practical steps for making new provinces, the economic well being must be established to ensure smooth process of making new provinces.

b) SOLVING CONCERNS OF ALL ETHNIC GROUPS

Likewise, resolving the issues of all ethnic groups involved in making of new provinces is essential to ensure the making of new provinces in a smooth way. All stakeholders must be taken in confidence in this regard.

(C) ENSURING PROPER TRAINING OF HUMAN RESOURCE

proper
training of human resource for
smooth functioning of administrative
machinery is essential to make
new provinces.

QUESTION NO 08

CAUSES AND IMPLICATIONS OF KSA DEFENCE PACT

INTRODUCTION

Middle East has
remained one of most engaged
region in global geo-political
chessboard. USA, due to its vast
interests in the region, has remained
security guarantor of many arab
countries including KSA. But the
geo-political landscape of middle
east went through tremendous
changes in last 2 years. Gaza
crises, Israel-Iran war and KSA-
Iran normalization altered the
geo-politics in middle east. Israel's
hegemony and US support to Israel
raised many concerns regarding security

concern of middle eastern states. The Israel attack on Qatar and Failure of USA as a security guarantor of Qatar added fuel to fire. All these factors compelled USA to enter in a defence pact alliance with Pakistan.

(A) US FAILURE AS SECURITY GUARANTOR IN MIDDLE EAST AND PAK-KSA DEFENCE PACT

US was security guarantor of many Arab states including Qatar. But Israel attacked Qatar and US did not go against Israel. This gave a rising concern to security of KSA, thus leading to PAK-KSA defence pact.

(B) ISRAEL AS A HEGEMON IN MIDDLE-EAST - A CAUSE OF PAK-DEFENCE PACT

In last 3 years, Israel has tried to rise as a hegemonic power in middle east. The Hamas-Israel war and Gaza genocide and silence of Israel at Gaza is one such example. Israel attack on Iran is another example of Israel's

hegemonic urge. Likewise, Israel attack on Qatar was another evidence of Israel's hegemony. This was a major cause of Pak-KSA defence pact.

(C) DISTURBED BOP IN MIDDLE EAST AND NEED FOR PAK KSA DEFENCE PACT

Balance of power in middle east was badly disturbed due to Israel's technological advancement, its provision of advanced weaponry to Israel and nuclear capabilities of Israel. This was a security to Arab states, leading to Pak-KSA defence pact.

(d) PAKISTAN'S SUPERIORITY OVER INDIA IN MAY CONFLICT - ANOTHER CAUSE OF PAK-KSA DEFENCE PACT

In May 2015, Pakistan Army and Airforce proved to be at upper hand over Indian Airforce and Army. This led to increasing confidence of KSA over Pakistan and hence became a major cause for this historical pact.

IMPLICATIONS OF PAK-KSA DEFENCE PACT

a) SET-BACK TO INDIA

India was one of major strategic partner and economic partner of KSA. India had remained major oil importer from KSA. But this defence pact has given a set back to India.

b) Balance of Power IN MIDDLE EAST

Defence pact has significantly restored the balance of power in middle East by providing nuclear umbrella to KSA and bringing nuclear parity to middle East.

c) RESTORATION OF PRESTIGE OF PAKISTAN

The defence pact has restored the prestige of Pakistan at global level.

d) ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR PAKISTAN

KSA, being an economic

power has a lot to offer to Pakistan. Pak-KSA defence pact can bring a revolutionary change in Pakistan's economy.

REVIVAL OF MILITANCY IN KP AND BALUCHISTAN

INTRODUCTION

In 2016, after a number of military operations in KP and Baluchistan, it was perceived that evil of terrorism has eradicated completely but this perception proved to be a nine hours wonder. In recent years the terrorism has surged in KP and Baluchistan. TTP in KP and separatists like BIA in Baluchistan have become active again. Suicide Bombs, target killing of Chinese, attacks on security personnel in KP and Baluchistan has increased. Well organized terrorist attacks are conducted like Jaffer express hijacking and attacks on FC headquarters in Peshawar and Banna Comdt. The major causes of terrorism are availability of US weaponry to terrorists, Afghan soil as safe haven, porous western border and Indians

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involvement in terrorist activities

(a) AVAILABILITY OF MODERN WEAPONRY

When US left the Afghanistan, she left behind millions of dollars weaponry. Availability of modern weaponry to terrorists ~~has~~ has given the terrorists on edge over security forces. For example, Availability of modern night goggles and American weaponry increased the night attacks on security forces in southern KP. Same is the case with separatists in Baluchistan. According to Reuters, US advanced weaponry was used in FC headquarters attack in Peshawar. Thus religio-separatist nexus and availability of modern weaponry to terrorists is one of major causes of surge in terrorism in Pakistan.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF SAFE HEAVENS TO TERRORIST IN AFGHANISTAN - AND SURGE IN TERRORISM IN PAKISTAN

likewise the US withdrawal resulted in weak Taliban government and its cordial

association with TTP has provided the safe heavens to Taliban and other separatist organizations. These organisations carry attacks and run to Afghanistan and thus results in failure to stop terrorist attacks.

(C) POROUS WESTERN BORDER AND SURGE IN TERRORISM IN PAKISTAN

The security of western border is another major issue. Pakistan shares more than 2500 km border with Afghanistan. The security of such huge border is a big challenge in case of hostile eastern border. Thus, unstable Afghanistan along with porous western border has contributed to surge in terrorism in Pakistan.

(d) INDIAN FACTOR AND RISE OF TERRORISM

Another important factor is Indian proxies which also contributed to surge in terrorism in Pakistan. According to Reuter, Advanced Indian weaponry along with US weaponry was used in Taffer cables attack.

There are other solid evidences of indian involvement as well. Rabushan Yadav is one such example.

RECOMENDATIONS

1- POLICE EMPOWERMENT

One major step ~~was~~ to take is to empower police on par with of military. For example provision of light machine guns and night vision technology can solve the issues.

According to Al-Jazeera, a significant decrease in terrorist attacks was observed in areas where military equipped itself with night visions.

2- DEDICATED SPENDING ON ELITE ^{Force} AND COUNTER TERRORISM FORCE

Similarly, dedicated spending on elite and counter terrorism force must be made to ensure their efficiency to counter the terrorism.

3- USING IBOs

Similarly, use of intelligence based operations must be enhanced to cope with this menace in an effective way.

4- USING REGIONAL FORUMS TO STOP INDIAN PROXIES

Similarly, the multilateral forums like SAARC and SCO can be used to stop India's intervention and proxies.

5- SECURING WESTERN BORDER BY BILATERAL ENGAGEMENT

Similarly, securing western border on engaging and convincing the Afghan government by all the means to ensure the body security is need of the hour to stop terrorism.