

Part - II
Section - A

Q(2)

US' check and balance system

1- Introduction

US' check and balance system is one of the best in the world where executive, legislation and judiciary keep each other in check on the principles of Montesquieu.

It is effective in a sense that it prevents from tyranny of any organ containing a lot of power and ensures stability. There are many lessons for Pakistan in this system.

2- Analyzing the checks and balances in the US constitution

US constitution has described the powers of the three organs of government.

based on the theory of Montesquieu. Based on this theory all the organs function on the basis of non-interfering principles.

2.1- Congress' powers to check the ^{president}

Following are Congress' powers.

2.1.1- Power of the purse.

Congress has the constitutional authority to control government spending and revenue. It ensures that no government spending is done without legislative approval.

In 2.1.2 this system, the philosopher king / president has to convince the philosophers' council or legislative body for approval of funds.

2.1.2- Impeachment of the ^{president}

Congress can impeach the president if it does not its abilities. It is similar to Lockean social contract where the ruler

can be removed if found unable to perform

2.1.3 - Senate power of treaties and appointments

Senate has the power to sign treaties and appointing judges. However, this power is also exercised by the executive or the president. Therefore, both keep each other in check.

2.1.4 - War-declaring authority

This authority is primarily exercised by the president. However, unless the congress approves it, cannot be declared. Here, the system reflects Rousseau's General will for approval.

2.2 - Powers of the executive

The Executive has the following powers under the US constitution.

2.2.1 - Veto power

The president can veto the Congress' financial and policies

and treaties proposed. Philosopher King president has the authority to counter general will for the larger national interests.

2.2.2 - Executive orders

The president can declare wars and call for treaties but it needs approval of the senate. Therefore both legislation and the executive rely on each other for the smooth functioning of the political system.

2.2.3 - Appointments of the cabinet and judges

The president of USA can appoint cabinet members on the arbitrary basis. However, for the appointment of judges, it needs approval of the congress.

2.2.4 - Calls special session

The president can call special sessions on different ^{national} issues and the house has to respond

to it.

2.3- Judicial power

2.3.1- Judicial review

The judiciary has the special power of judicial review on the constitutional matters. The famous Marbury vs Madison case is the best example of judicial review which wrote off the history of USA.

2.3.2- Strike down the unconstitutional legislation and executive orders

Any legislation or executive orders that hinders the rights of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness can be struck down by the judiciary.

3- Effectiveness of checks and balances in the US constitution

→ This system of checks and balances is effective in the following ways.

3.1- Prevention of absolute power.

It prevents all organs from gaining absolute power which prevents tyranny. As Lord Acton said,

"Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

3.2- Protection of civil liberties

These checks and balances protect civil liberties. This ensures Lockean right to life, liberty and property. In US, it is pursuit of happiness.

3.3- Continuity and stability

This automatic checks keep every organ function properly. Therefore, the political system continues stably despite the issues. The American constitution has successfully endured the civil war and war of independence.

3.4- Accountability through investigative bodies

The American constitution encourages investigation from sovereign bodies in case if one of the organs tries to override. The famous Watergate scandal is the best example.

3.5- Weaknesses of the separation of power based system

This system's checks and balances often lead to gridlock among legislation and the executive. Judicial activism for personal benefits can also be another weakness of it. Further, this system can create serious political polarization in the country.

4- Lessons for Pakistan through the separation of power model

Following can be lessons for Pakistan for pursuing this

model.

4.1- True autonomy of each branch

Separation of power model can offer Pakistan a balanced approach towards governance.

It can lessen executive overreach by empowering legislation to balance their powers.

4.2- Ending institutional encroachments

Civil and military bureaucracies often frequently influence political process. The US system can be a good way to prevent them from overreaching.

4.3- Judicial independence

Pakistan's judiciary often oscillates between activism and compromises. A balanced political system can ensure an independent judiciary safe from executive influence and military's coercive powers.

5) Conclusion

The US' separation of power model ensures a balanced and stable political system. It has many lessons for Pakistan which can protect its political system from military coups and judicial compromises.

Section - B

Q (5)

Pakistan's foreign policy towards Afghanistan.

1- Introduction

Pakistan's foreign policy towards Afghanistan has been severe in the past one year. It is mainly due to terrorist outfits safe havens there and their attacks against Pakistan. The government has ensured that it has

the right to protect its
sovereignty and people's lives,
and liberty and properties.

2) Analyzing Pakistan's foreign policy towards Afghanistan

2.1) End of border-trade with Afghanistan to hit them economically

Pakistan has closed
its borders with Afghanistan
leading to no-trade with
them. It has economically hit
them hard as Afghanistan's
economy and trade mainly
rely on Pakistan. Economic
dependence theory suggests that
first make people rely on
your economy and then
hit them through the same instrument.

2.2) Sending back - illegal migrants pressurizing the Taliban government socially

Taliban government is unpopular in its country. Therefore, sending back Afghan illegal migrants back to their country will pressure Afghan Taliban. Sun Tzu states that one should hit its enemy through every mean it can.

2.3) Strike against militant safe havens in Afghanistan

Pakistan has hit TTP commanders across Afghanistan including Kabul. This indicates the clear message that Pakistan can do anything to protect its sovereignty. Instilling fear as Machiavelli suggests, bring the other parties to believe on one's power.

2.4) Ceasefire and peace dialogues

Pakistan struck Afghanistan hard to show its strength, however, it also showed its

peaceful intentions to cease fire and dialogue. Because as Machiavelli suggests that peace with neighbours should always be the primary goals of the state. Therefore, Pakistan accepted the peace proposals by Qatar and Turkey.

2.5) Psychological response to Indo-Afghan nexus

India's long-term strategy to encircle Pakistan from two-fronts has been a dream which they showed by inviting Taliban's foreign minister. Pakistan's hitting Afghanistan was a message to both countries. It was a Bismarckian realist approach towards enemies.

2.6) Ensuring peaceful life for its citizens

Pakistan's response was a clear message that it

can fulfill its responsibility to ensure Lockean rights to life, liberty and property.

3) Effectiveness of Pakistan's Afghanistan policies

3.1) Establish a deterrence against Taliban

Pakistan set a strong deterrence against Taliban. This response was enough to instill fear in Taliban's hearts.

It was also conveyed message to India not to play with fire.

3.2) Perfect use of kinetic and non-kinetic actions against terrorism

Depositing illegal Afghan migrants, economic measures and military ~~was~~ strike against ~~Afghanistan~~ Taliban set the tone of Taliban to treat Pakistan as a real neighbor ~~not an occupier~~.

3.4) Limits or risks of Pakistan's Afghanistan policy

4.1) Risks of re-escalation

Pak-Afghan ceasefire is temporary. With failure of dialogue, it can reescalate and pose serious threat to regional peace.

4.2) Economic and humanitarian loss

Afghanistani citizens are the only ones that will bear the brunt of this war. Because, Pakistan can target Afghanistan socially, politically and economically to maintain pressure.

4.3) Political cost for the region

Pak-Taliban war can cost the region badly. It can push the region back to instability.

5) Conclusion

Pakistan's Afghan foreign policy is a blend of kinetic and non-kinetic action for the protection of its sovereignty and citizens.

Q (1)

Economic situation of Pakistan

1) Introduction

Pakistan's economic situation is worsening from crisis to chaos. ~~But~~ Hyper inflation, fiscal deficit and foreign debt are all grounding it to zero. These challenges are not merely rooted in technical economic models but governance and political incentives which can be brought back by using major political thinkers' insights.

2) Current economic situation of Pakistan

2.1) High inflation

Pakistan's economy is going through high inflation where people's purchasing power is on the death bed. It is mainly due to currency depreciation, high energy prices and structural inefficiencies.

2.2) Fiscal deficit and low tax base

The government spends unnecessarily while having low revenue due to low tax-base. Therefore, it goes out for loans and debts from financial institutions.

2.3) Rising foreign debts and rollover risks

To fulfill daily needs, the government has no other

option but to take debts.
Reliance on external financing
has ruined the economy.

2.4) Trade imbalance and low competitiveness

Pakistan's economy is import-based where because industries are unable to produce quality goods. Therefore, foreign reserves are always less than needed for sovereign economy.

3) Policy measures for stability and growth

3.1) Macroeconomic stabilization; controlling inflation and improving coordination

Pakistan needs to implement policies to ensure control inflation and improves economic stability. Bentham's utilitarian principle and Lockean property rights can be a good start where

people be given the
economic platforms to grow
and own businesses and
properties.

3.2) Revenue mobilization by bringing elite into tax net

In Pakistan, tax is
imposed only to the middle
class. Elite are barred from
taxation. However, if they
are brought to tax net,
according to Lockeian general
will, fiscal deficit can be
resolved.

3.3) Export expansion and industrial upgradation

The government should
focus on value-added products
which can be exported to
other countries. Adam Smith's
export model can add up
in Pakistan's foreign reserves.
Aristotle also suggests that

the state must encourage productive excellence for collective growth.

3.4) Energy sector reforms

Energy cost in Pakistan is too high that industrial set-up here seems irrational. Therefore, the government needs to manage the energy prices ~~for~~ to encourage productivity.

Bentham's util. felicific calculus can provide a good cost-benefit analysis.

3.5) Strengthening social safety nets and human development

The government needs to focus on human development as the human development theory suggest, that HD ensures sustainable development. With social safety nets, the government can protect its weak citizens

or Rousseau's social contract describe).

4) Conclusion

Pakistan's economic crisis has many reasons. But with political philosophers and economists' ideas, it can be revived back to betterment.

The End.
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