

QUESTION - 8

Pakistan - Saudi Arabia Defence Agreement: Causes and Implications.

Introduction:

Pakistan - Saudi Arabia defence agreement was a watershed moment in a geopolitics of South Asia and Middle East. Though the agreement came as a surprise for many geopolitical observers, yet it was the culmination of historic and long-standing ties between Islamabad and Riyadh. The shifting geopolitical sands of Middle East, Israel's unchecked aggression and hegemonic behaviour and its unprovoked attack on Qatar precipitated the signing of the agreement. The agreement made Pakistan a major stakeholder in politics of Middle

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East, elevated Pakistan's status
as a middle power, checked the
Indo-Israel nexus and buried
the INEC Project.

Pakistan - Saudi Arabia

Defence Agreement

Pakistan and Kingdom of
Saudi Arabia (KSA) signed a
Mutual Strategic Defence
Agreement (MSDA) on 17th
September, 2025, in Riyadh. The
agreement envisaged a NATO's
style provision, "An attack against
one country will be considered
as an attack against both." This
provision linked security and
defence of KSA with Pakistan.
It is styled on Article Five
of NATO's charter which is
regarding collective defence.
MSDA also envisaged to boost
defence cooperation between Riyadh

and Islamabad

Causes of MSDA

Following are the causes of defence agreement between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

i) Historical defence cooperation

Pakistan and KSA have historical defence ties since 1960s. Pakistan

trained Saudi pilots and sent its pilot to assist Arab countries during 1973 Yom Kippur war.

Pakistan's forces also helped Saudi forces during siege of Mecca in 1979. KSA always wanted to expand this defence

cooperation to new heights.

Pakistan is also custodian of security of Harām Sharīf and has stationed its troops in Mecca.

ii) Israel's rogue behaviour

Israel in its genocidal campaign

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against Palestinians, is violating every norm, rule and law of international law. Israel has invaded six Muslim and Arab countries during Gaza war. It has invaded Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Egypt, Qatar, Iraq and Yemen. This compelled KSA to look for its defence and this factor played a key role in signing of the agreement.

iii) Israel's invasion of Qatar

Israel's attack on Hamas negotiating team in Doha shocked the world. Its invasion of sovereign Arab country - hosting largest Article of US in the region - convinced KSA that relying on USA for checking Israel's aggression is a fool's dream. That's why it started to look for alternative security

Arrangements.

in, Large attitude of US towards Arab's security

US has largest bases - both military and airbase - in Middle East.

US is the guarantor of security of KSA. In 2019, when Yemen's Houthis attacked oil facilities in KSA, US did nothing. Similarly, when Israel attacked Qatar, US didn't defend Qatar and fail to reprimand and punish Israel. This was the major cause of signing of MSDA with Pakistan.

1) Pakistan's Performance during Marka e Haq

Pakistan gave a bloody nose to India following its unprovoked and unwarranted aggression against Pakistan during May 2019 Encounter. Pakistan shot down seven Indian planes and beat an enemy who re

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much bigger (nine times) in defence and economy than Pakistan. This convinced KSA about Pakistan's potential as a net security provider.

Implications of the deal

The implications of the deal are far reaching.

i) Elevated Pakistan's Status

The defence agreement with KSA elevated Pakistan's status as a middle power. It boosted Pakistan's diplomatic clout.

ii) Made Pakistan a Major Stakeholder in Politics of ME

The agreement made Pakistan a major stakeholder in politics of Middle East. Pakistan became a key player in many important events undergoing in Middle East.

iii) Undermined Indo-Israel Nexus

This agreement undermined India-Israel nexus. Israel supported India

during Indo-Pakistan conflict by providing India Herop drone. KSA had good tie with India. As security of KSA is now linked with Pakistan, this agreement had dismantled the Indo-Iraqi nexus.

iv) Acknowledgment of Pakistan's military superiority

This agreement proved the professionalism, competence and superiority of Pakistan's military to the world. It is clear from the fact that Saudi Arabia entrusted their security to Pakistan.

v) Revived the IMEC

India-Middle East Economic Corridor was envisaged by Biden during G-20 Summit in New Delhi against BRI of China. KSA, India, and Israel was the part of it. This agreement bolstered

the IMEC under geopolitical sands of Arabia.

Conclusion:

Pakistan - Saudi defence agreement was a historic moment in their long-standing relationship. The agreement was precipitated by the factor like, Israel's unchecked aggression and hegemonic deluge in the region, its invasion against Qatar, a major US ally and subsequent US inaction to reprimand Israel. The agreement significantly elevated Pakistan's status as a middle power, diplomatic stature and made Pakistan a net-security provider and stabiliser in Middle East. It also undermined Indo-Israel nexus and buried IMEC under geopolitical sands of Arabia.

Divide into region wise
implications
Improve presentation

QUESTION 4

Revival of Militancy in KP and Balochistan: Reasons and Recommendations

Introduction:

Militancy has significantly been increased in the Province of KP and Balochistan during recent times. The major reasons for this resurgence are return of Taliban to Kabul, fragile tie between Kabul and Islamabad, continuous support of Afghan Taliban to ^{militant} ~~diff~~ organisations hostile to Pakistan, availability of Nato weapons - left by US - in black markets. Pakistan needs to enhance capacity building of Law Enforcement Agencies, adopt carrot and stick policy with regard to Afghanistan, approach

Regional Council and US to
pressure Taliban and engage
with those dissident groups who
were willing to lay arms.

Revival of militancy in Pakistan
Terrorism has increased manifold
in Pakistan recently. The country
is facing worst law and
order situation since 2007.

According to Pakistan Institute
of Peace Studies (PIPS), 2024
and 2025 were deadliest
years for security personnel of
Pakistan. The peripheral areas
of KP such as D.I. Khan,
Bannu, South and North Waziristan,
Bajaur, Kurram are the major
areas of target of militant
organisations. Similarly, areas of
Chaman, Quetta, Baloch have also
witnessed tremendous rise of
terrorism by BLA and other

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Baloch separatist organisations.

Causes of Revival of militancy in KP and Balochistan

Following are the causes of revival of militancy in KP and Balochistan.

i) Return of Taliban to Kabul

Return of Afghan Taliban to Kabul has significantly fomented terrorism in KP and Balochistan.

Different militant organisations have found safe haven in Afghanistan. TTP is very Afghan soil to do cross-border terrorism against Pakistan. UN Security Council report confirmed this allegation.

ii) Continued support by TTA to TTP and BLA

According to UN Analytical Support Sanctions and Monitoring Team Report, different militant

Organisations are working under the umbrella of TTP and Afghan Taliban is providing them financial, political, diplomatic and logistic support to them. Pakistan repeatedly asked ITA to act against TTP and BLA, but it refused to act against their ideological brethren.

III) Availability of Nato weapons

US left billions of dollars Nato-graded weapons during its haphazard withdrawal from Kabul. These weapons are now available in black markets of Afghanistan. It is used by TTP and BLA against Pakistan's security forces. BLA used it during Teller Express attack. The availability of Nato-graded weapons has renewed militants' confidence against security forces.

in Taliban freed dangerous prisoners

When Taliban returned to Kabul, they freed dangerous criminals from jail. These militants have infiltrated into Pakistan and waging terrorist activities against state of Pakistan.

Recommendations:

i) Capacity-building of LEAs

Capacity building of LEAs should be strengthened and enhanced.

They should be provided state-of-the-art security and safety gear to fight against terrorists.

ii) Carrot and Stick Policy

Pakistan has consistently engaged Afghan leaders in dialogue and conveyed them the repercussions of Pakistan but Afghan leaders paid no heed to it. Pakistan had to report cross-border attacks against militant hideouts in

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Afghanistan in its self-defence.
Pakistan should engage with
Taliban. This door should never be
shut. At the same time, Pakistan
should do calculated strikes
against militants in its self-defence.

iii) Approach regional countries and US

Pakistan should approach regional
countries such as China, Russia,
Central Asian Republics, Iran, Saudi
Arabia and US to bring
pressure on Taliban to prevent
their soil from being a base
for terrorism and keep the Doha
Accord alive.

iv) Engage with dissident groups

Pakistan should engage with
dissident groups of Afghanistan
who have not taken up arms
against state. Their genuine and
legitimate grievances should be

addressed and they be re-integrated into main-stream society

Conclusion:

Military has significantly increased in Pakistan during recent times. The Province of KP and Balochistan are worst affected from this military and terrorism. Return of Taliban to Afghanistan, lack of Afghan ruler's action against TTP and BPA, availability of Nato - created weapons are some of the major reasons for revival of militancy. Pakistan needs to enhance capability building of its LEAs, ~~engage~~ ^{engage} carrot and stick policy with respect to Afghanistan, regional countries and engage dissident groups in dialogue and reintegrate them in mainstream society.

Content is fine
You need to add facts in such type of question

Question 2

Pakistan - Afghanistan tied relations : Realist and wayforward

Introduction:

Pakistan - Afghanistan relations continued to be tied despite China mediation. There are number of reasons for that. Prominent among them are lack of intent on the part of Taliban to set apart TIP and RLA, resetting of ties between India and Afghanistan, Refugee problem, among others. Pakistan needs to adopt carrot and stick policy with regard to Afghanistan, engage regional countries to pressure Afghan to prevent their soil from use against terrorism, ~~there~~ pursue backchannel diplomacy.

Pak-Afghan tense ties despite China's mediation

Pak-Afghan ties remain tense
despite mediation by China.

China used the Platform of
Trilateral coordination group, comprising
Pakistan, Afghanistan and China to
resolve outstanding issues between
Islamabad and Kabul. Similarly,
Moscow Format (China, Russia, Pakistan
and Afghanistan) was used and has
been used to resolve the
tense relations but nothing
came productive out of them.
There are many reasons for that.

Reasons

i) Lack of intent and political
will

Afghan rulers have no political
will to ^{get} against their ideological
brother i.e. TTP. They are their
brothers from Afghan Jihad.

timed and have family and religious ties. That's why they are not acting against them.

ii) Growing ties between Kabul and New Delhi:

Afghan Taliban are re-evaluating their ties with India. Afghan Foreign Minister, Amir Khan Muttapiq, had recently visited New Delhi. They are envisaging close ties in trade, defence and health sectors. TTA wants to leverage its ties with India against Pakistan.

iii) IS-K factor

Afghan rulers' arch nemesis in the region is IS-K. It is their number one enemy. TTA wants to use TTP against IS-K.

Afghan rulers fear that if they act against TTP on Pakistan's request, TTP fighters will join

18-K and Pas. a formidable challenge to its authority.

iv) Refugee Problems:

Pakistan expelled more than two million Afghan refugees back to Afghanistan. The refugee problem significantly strained relations between both countries.

v) Reported cross-border terrorism

When Pakistan was engaged with Afghanistan in Turkey and Doha for improving ties, terrorist activities continued unabated.

Majority of terrorist attacks are orchestrated by Afghan nationals in Pakistan.

Solutions:

1) Carrot and stick policy

Pakistan should engage with Kabul in dialogue but at the same time, set in its self defence by striking militants

hideouts in Afghanistan, who are carrying out terrorist activities against Pakistan.

2) Engage regional countries

Pakistan should engage regional countries like China, Russia, CAAR countries, US, Iran and KPA to ~~bring~~ ^{bring} pressure on Taliban to act against militants.

3) Track-II diplomacy

Pakistan and Afghanistan should

engage in Track-II diplomacy.

Add arguments to failed talks with facts
When everything seemed dark, back-

channel engagements provide a way out. Back-channel engagement can help in confidence-building, mediate and reduce the tensions to manageable level.

Question 6

Chances of end of Ukrainian war

Introduction;

Ukraine war has been the longest European war since World War II. The chances of ending this war is bleak but no war ~~ending~~ matter how much complicated it is - tells former US President Donald Trump had promised to end this war in 24 hours. But, the war is still underway. US is actively pressing to end this war. Both Russia and Ukraine have to concede something in order to end this war.

Russia - Ukraine war

Russia invaded Ukraine on 24th February 2022. Russia dubbed it as "special military

Date: _____

Day: _____

operation". The war has been Europe's largest since World War II. Russia annexed ^{the} Donetsk Region of Ukraine. The regions of Luhansk (Lugansk) and Donetsk are known as Donbas.

Nato's Eastward Expansion

Russia invaded Ukraine because of Nato's Eastward Expansion. Ukraine wanted to be a Nato member country. Europe and west supported Ukraine's Nato bid.

Russia turned Ukraine's membership bid as a breach of 1989 agreement and commitment by US to Russia. US promised Russia that Nato will not be expanded eastward and Ukraine will not become a Nato member. But Nato expanded eastward and took Poland, Finland and many Russian neighbours.

Date: _____

Day: _____

in its umbrella. Putin protested this caption and declared that Ukraine's Nato membership is a red line for Moscow.

Trump's Election and Status of negotiations to end the war

Trump's predecessor Joe Biden shunned Vladimir Putin and wanted to make Putin a "Pariah State". But Donald Trump brought Putin into the fore. He vowed to end this war during his election campaign.

Alaska Summit

Trump met Putin in Alaska - first time by any US leader since Ukraine invasion - to conclude the war. But nothing substantial came out of this summit as Putin put forward his conditions to end the

Go for both the chances

Instructions to get good marks in current affairs paper

Date: _____

Day: _____

Important Note:

Marks would be given on the following parameters

a- Content 60% References 15% Subject specific language 15% Graphs and charts 10%

Add 12-13 headings in each question and write 8-9 sides to get above 15 in each question

the questions carry 3_4 parts... each part has equal weightage so discuss all equally

Give examples from present events to justify answers

Give attractive introduction and Conclusion as well

always give headings from the question statement. take words from the statement

link each of the argument to the asked part in the question... if you fail to do so, no matter how accurate content is, if your heading is not align with what is asked in the question, it won't be accurate

Good Luck