

Mock-Exam Current Affairs

Subjective Part - II

Question # 2

Pak-Afghan Relations

Major Pak-Afghan relation is always been complex, due to shared border, cultural ties and regional geopolitical. Even though china had tried to mediate between Afghanistan and Pakistan, but tension always persist driven by many reason like: Security issues, Political issues and socio-economic issue.

Make headings linking it to question statement

Major Factors

- 1) Political instability in Afghanistan
Political instability is the one of factor contributing in regional issues. As taliban takeover the Afghanistan on 2021 and they have strained bilateral relations. Taliban government was not recognized internationally and face internal power issue. As they introduced unpredictable policies in Afghanistan which lead to criticism. Political instability is in the threat Afghanistan is the threat to Pakistan as Taliban support to Anti-pakistan militant

group. On the other hand, Afghanistan accuses Pakistan for their interference in their country's affair.

2) Refugee and Economic burdens

Millions of ~~Refugees in Paki~~ Afghan refugees in Pakistan is also one of factor ~~affecting~~ contributing in tension. Pakistan host over 1.5 million Afghan. ~~Ats~~ Lots of Afghan are unregistered migrants ~~in~~ are living in border region and major cities of Pakistan. Large number of refugees lead to increase in pressure on social infrastructure, healthcare, education, and increase in unemployment. Increase in population lead to increase in competition for local people. It also lead to increase in financial resources as refugee camps and ensuring the welfare of the population increases the financial burden on government of Pakistan.

3) Border and Security Issues

One of the significant source of the tension between Afghanistan and Pakistan is the Durand line. Durand Line is the border of 2670 km and separating two countries. This border line become one of major issue due to cross-border militancy. TTP, Haqani Network and ISIS have exploit this border to carry out deadly attacks in Pakistan. Pakistan have accused the Afghanistan for not taking effective measures, to control ~~militant~~ groups. And Afghanistan accuses Pakistan is targeting Afghan nationals. This border is also used for smuggling of arms, and contraband which

fuels crime and create instability in Afghanistan region.

4) Lack of Institutional Mechanism

Another major hurdle in Afghan-Pak relation is the lack of institutional mechanism for dialogue and cooperation. As many times both countries attempted to signed trade agreements, security pacts and border management agreements, but all of this remained for short term. There is no proper framework to control issues such as border dispute and smuggling of weapons. Weak institutional mechanism can lead to limit accountability. This issue lead to Political instability and security confrontation in both countries.

5) Ideological Differences

Ideological differences can contribute to mistrust and tension between two nations. As Taliban government is strict interpretation of Islamic law, ~~in contrast~~ But in Pakistan government is more pluralistic and social system. These differences can lead to complications on education, women's rights & development system.

Recommendations for improvement.

1) Border and Security management

one of the step to ~~solve~~ resolve tension between both countries if they establish proper framework or mechanism for border management. Pakistan-Afghanistan should create joint border & security surveillance system to prevent the issue of

Smuggling of weapons and other illegal activities. Both countries can introduce modern technology, such as biometric and drone to enhance Security system on border.

2) Economic and trade Cooperation

Both countries should attempt to signed Free trade ~~etc~~ cooperation agreement. Both countries should work on infrastructure project such as road and rail links which connect Afghanistan to international market via Pakistan's port. This will lead to economic growth in both countries. Countries can signed joint energy agreement from which electrical shortage can be overcome. Economic cooperation will not only generate revenue but also help to reduce unemployment in countries.

3) Introducing Diplomatic Mechanism

Both countries should ~~try~~ try establishing bilateral dialogue forum to work on issues such as Security, trade and refugee management. Both countries should do high level meeting to overcome all issues and this can help to prevent misunderstanding between both countries.

4) Conflict Mediation

Third party mediation can resolve issues between both countries. China, India & other cooperation like Shanghai Cooperation can act as Third party mediator to resolve conflict between both countries. Engagement in regional forum can provide platform for confidence building measures and ensuring transparency.

Follow the formal structure of answer

- 5) Strengthening social and cultural ties
- Strengthening social and cultural ties is essential to build long-term trust. Pakistan and Afghanistan should promote Exchange program, scholarship and training for student and youth. Both countries should take community initiatives, such as health care program and skill development training can lead to improve lives of people and increase standard of living.

Question # 3

Formation of New province

The formation of new province in Pakistan is the debate rooted in demand. Many argue smaller administration can improve governance and service delivery, but this process is complex and is very sensitive.

Hurdles in Formation of new province

- 1) Constitutional & legal constraints

The creation of new provinces requires Constitutional amendments under Article 1 & 239, As these article demand that ~~2/3~~ Two Thirds majority in Parliament as well as approval from Provincial assembly. Achieving such political consensus is challenging due to Pakistan's Polarized Political environment, as all political parties working on their own interest.

2) Sectarian Division & Ethnic Division

Another hurdle is ethnic diversity and various sect compositions. The formation of new provinces often raises fears of marginalisation among minority communities. As everyone competing over identity, language and political influence lead to conflict among various ethnic & sects in country.

3) Political opposition & Economic viability

~~Many proposed political parties especially those parties who have strong base is necessary to sustain independent administration structures. Establishing new provincial government lead to increase in financial burden. As federal government have to invest in bureaucracy, law enforcement and infrastructure. Without proper fiscal~~

3) Economic viability

Many proposed provinces lack the economic base. As economic base is required to sustain independent administration structures. Establishing new provincial government lead to increase in financial burden. As federal govt have to invest in bureaucracy, law enforcement and infrastructure. Without proper fiscal viability, new province can become burden on Pakistan economy.

4) Political opposition

Political parties especially those who have strong base in existing bases often reject this proposal, as they fear to lose power. Making of new province can alter electoral dynamics, weak

Missed important constitutional ones

dominant parties. So many political parties are not in favor of separate province. So this is also one of hurdles in formation of new province.

5) Security concerns

The presence of militant groups in KPK and Balochistan can complicate governance reforms. The formation of new provinces in unstable areas risks creating and exploiting that extremist element. Without ensuring security and stability, forming new province can be threat to Pakistan which can worsen the law & order situation in the country.

Recommendations

1) Strengthening local government

Effective local governments reduce administrative pressure on provinces and improve service delivery as well. Strong local government reduce the urgency of new provinces by improving governance with existing structures.

2) Promote Proper Dialogue between Ethnic Groups.

Federal and provincial governments must initiate structured dialogue with political parties, tribal ~~for~~ ~~some~~ communities and ethnic groups. So that all people groups should be represented and protected in the agreement.

3) Ensure equitable resources distribution

Any process of province creation must be coupled with equitable resources sharing.

The NFC Award, & budget should be revised accordingly to prevent perception of exploitation or any favoritism between new and old provinces -

4) Introduced Phased Decentralization

Instead of immediate provincial restructuring, Pakistan should adopt phased devolution of Powers.

Strengthening divisional and district level administration can pave the way for eventual provincial expansion, while improving governance in short term.

Short

Question #1

Pakistan balancing relations with US & China

Pakistan Foreign policy in the 21st Century is shaped by its strategic partnership with China & fluctuating relationship with US. US-China rivalry intensifies Pakistan's challenges to maintain balance its relation with both countries.

1) Balanced Dual Engagement with Both Power.

Pakistan can adopt a balanced foreign policy by engaging both countries in areas where each offer comparative advantages. As China remains a long term partner in economic development, infrastructure expansion & strategic connectivity under CPEC. At the same time military modernization, counter-terrorism support and access to western financial systems.

2) Developing Domestic Economic Strength.

Pakistan's ability to balance major-power relations is closely linked to its economic resilience. Dependence on foreign assistance limits diplomatic autonomy. By boosting industrial productivity, expanding exports and attracting investment from a range of partners, Pakistan can reduce dependence on both US & China.

3) Enhancing Diplomatic Communication Channels

Develop clear & consistent communication with both China and U.S. It is essential to prevent misunderstanding and build trust. Pakistan can strengthen its bilateral working groups, strategic dialogues & track diplomacy forums. Enhanced diplomatic mechanisms ensure smoother coordination, minimize friction and maintain transparency in its foreign policy.

4) Boardering Defense Partnerships

To avoid strategic overdependence on any single country, Pakistan should pursue diversified defense cooperation. Participation in multinational military exercise, engagement with regional defense blocs & deeper ties with states such as Turkey, Saudi Arabia & UAE, to contribute balanced security landscape.

5) Active Partnership on Multilateral Forum

Active partnership in institutions like the UN, SCO, IMF ~~financial board~~ & world bank provides Pakistan with platforms to engage both the U.S and China. Multilateral forum not only expands diplomatic room for maneuver but also decrease the risks of bilateral dependency. This forum helps Pakistan to navigate sensitive global issues with greater diplomatic stability.

6) Strengthening Pakistan's Soft Power.

By projecting cultural diplomacy, exporting skilled labor and improving its international image, Pakistan can build good will in both the

US & China. Strong soft power enhances diplomatic leverage and reduces dependency on hard power dynamics. Cultural exchange, media cooperation & diaspora engagement can serve as effective tools.

Conclusion

Balancing relations with The United States & China is one of Pakistan's most delicate foreign policy challenges. Pakistan can sustain productive relations with both powers. By maintaining ~~neutrality~~ neutrality, improving its economic foundations, widening regional and defense ties and utilizing multilateral forums ~~can~~ help Pakistan to sustain productive relation.

Question #8

Pakistan - Saudi Arabia Historic Defense Pact:

Pakistan - & KSA have long shared strategic, religious & economic ties, but the signing of a historic defense pact marks a new phase in their bilateral relationship. The agreement reflects evolving regional dynamic in the Middle East & South Asia.

Causes;

1) Regional Security Issue

One major cause behind the pact is evolving security situation in the Middle East and South Asia. As Saudi Arabia faces persistent

Tensions with Iran, Yemen and growing uncertainty in Gulf region. On the other hand, Pakistan is affected by changes in Afghanistan & resurgence of military in its western provinces. Both states view enhanced defense cooperation as a means to safeguard their national security amid regional volatility.

2) Saudi Arabia's need to counterbalance Iran

The rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran is old and defining the aspect of Middle Eastern geopolitics. By deepening defense ties with Pakistan as Pakistan is nuclear armed state, so Saudi Arabia seeks to reinforce its regional deterrence posture & the Pact strengthens KSA's strategic depth.

3) Pakistan's Economic & Strategic Requirement.

Pakistan's ongoing economic challenges & frequent reliance on external financial assistance make stronger ties with Saudi Arabia strategically important. Beyond defense cooperation, the Pact strengthens Pakistan's access to Saudi financial support & energy security.

Implication of Defense Pact

1) Enhanced military cooperation

The Pact is expected to increase joint military exercise, training exchange and defense production collaboration. This will strengthen Pakistan's military capabilities through advanced training & access to modern equipment, while helping Saudi Arabia enhance the professionalism & readiness of its armed forces.

2) Boost to Pakistan's Defense

The Pact will likely to bring financial inflows, military aid & defense investment that can strengthen Pakistan's military infrastructure. It may also open avenues for defense export, training contracts, & joint development of security technologies.

3) Potential strain with other regional Actors:

Stronger Pak-Saudi defense pact ties may raise concerns in Iran, which views such alliance as security threat. So now Pakistan have to ~~face~~ manage carefully its relation with Iran so they can avoid any escalation or any regional tension. Additionally, India will see this pact as strengthening the Pakistan's strategic position ~~help to p~~ & this defense help to improve Pakistan's position in region.

Instructions to get good marks in current affairs paper

Important Note:

Marks would be given on the following parameters Divide it into regions
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