

PART - II

Q.2: The HTS Islamist rebels have toppled down Bashar-ul-Asad regime in Syria. Critically evaluate the reasons and implications of the unprecedented change in Syria.

INTRODUCTION:

The authoritarian crisis in Middle Eastern countries has been growing for a long time. It is hallmark of humanitarian crisis, autocratic system and monarchy i.e. anti-democracy. Syria also comes under these crisis from 1971, Hafiz ul Asad's regime to Bashar ul Asad's - took power in 2000 - with an autocratic mind. During his regime Syria also faced such crisis. In 2011, the rise of Arab Spring, Bashar's regime became a proxy due to interference of Russia, Iran and Hezbollah - allies with Bashar, while USA ally with Syrian Democratic Force.

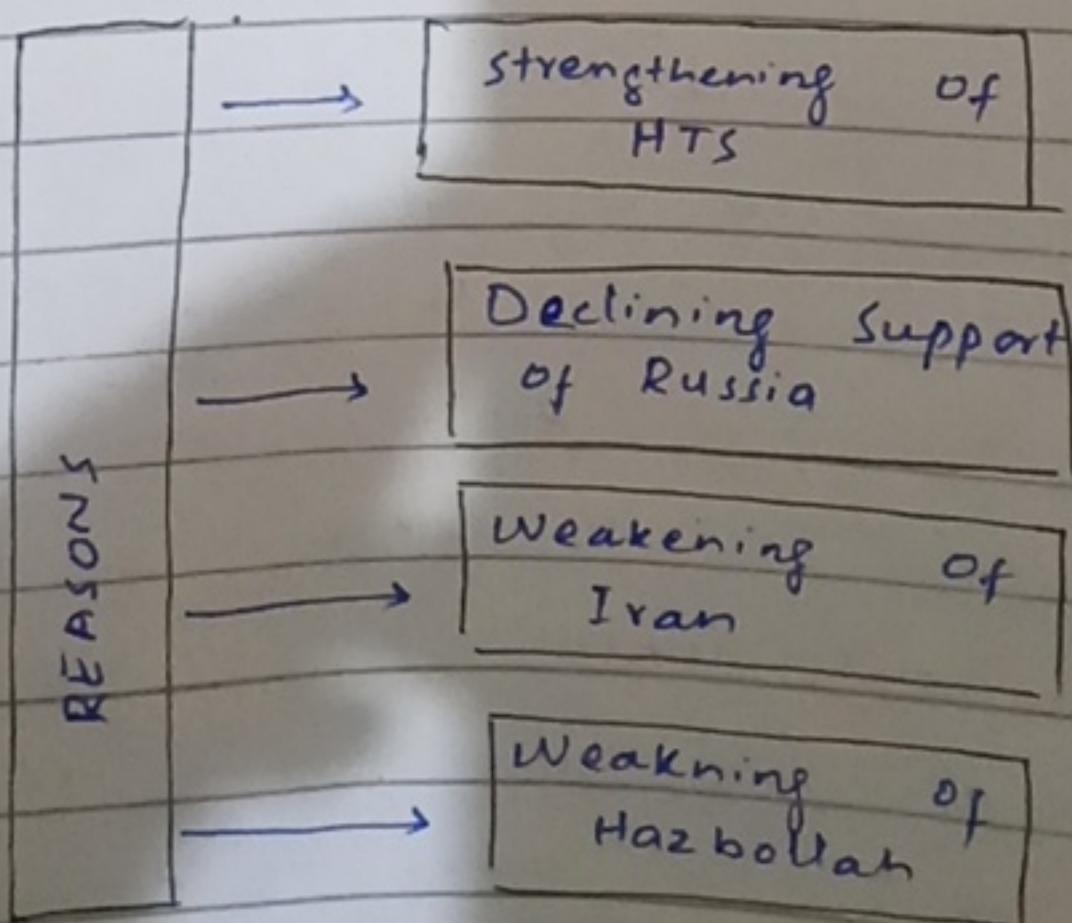
In Dec 2024, HTS toppled the Bashar regime.

Bashar regime fell due to declining support of alliances and strengthening of HTS.

CURRENT SENARIO :

In December 2024, the Hayat Tahrir ul Shams (HTS) Islamist rebels toppled down Bashar's regime in Syria. Bashar's regime fell down due to strengthening of HTS and declining support of alliances who are stuck in their own internal issues.

REASONS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE UNPRECEDENTED CHANGE IN SYRIA :



1. STRENGTHENING OF

HTS :

Hayat Tahir ul Shams
(HTS) worked on Buh

Organizational skills and

force. - Due to strengthening

of HTS, Bashar's regime

could not succeed to

remain in power. HTS

took control over Aleppo,

Hama and Damascus easily.

In Dec 2024, HTS

took control over whole

Syria. Turkey is also

supposed to help HTS because

Turkey has not declared

HTS as terrorist group.

2. DECLINING SUPPORT OF RUSSIA :

Russia was the
key player in Bashar

regime from 2014 to

2018. Russia support Bashar's

regime by fighting against

rebels and ISIS. But currently
Russia is stuck in its
own internal issues. 200,000
troops of Russia are fighting
in Russia - Ukraine War. In
addition to this Russia
is also facing economic
sanction. Resultantly, Russia
becomes unavailable to
Bashar to maintain control.

3. WEAKENING OF IRAN :

Iran was also
a key player in
Bashar's regime from 2011
to 2018. Iran sent
troops, revolutionary guards
and weapons to Bashar's
regime to fight against
rebels. But currently, Iran
is stuck in Iran. Israel
proxies. And resultantly
it also become unavailable
to help Bashar's regime
to maintain power.

4. WEAKENING OF

HAZBOLLAH :

Hazbollah was the major key player in Bashar's regime to maintain power. But now, its own key player died due to ~~the~~ Israeli attacks. Resultantly, it becomes fail to help Bashar's regime.

CONCLUSION :

In a nutshell, Asad's regime toppled down by HTS Islamist rebels. The main reason behind the downfall of Asad's regime is ~~a~~ weakening of its allied countries and strengthening of HTS in the region.

Q.6

Islamabad-Kabul tension lingers on due to TTP using Afghan land as a launching pad for terrorist attacks in Pakistan. Critically evaluate the situation. Give possible recommendations.

INTRODUCTION :

Pakistan and Afghanistan both are Islamic countries

Both countries are facing issues of repeatedly terrorist attacks. Last year, both countries exchanged border attacks, aiming to kill terrorists.

Tehrik Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is using Afghan land as a launching attacks on Pakistan i.e: attacks on Chinese workers

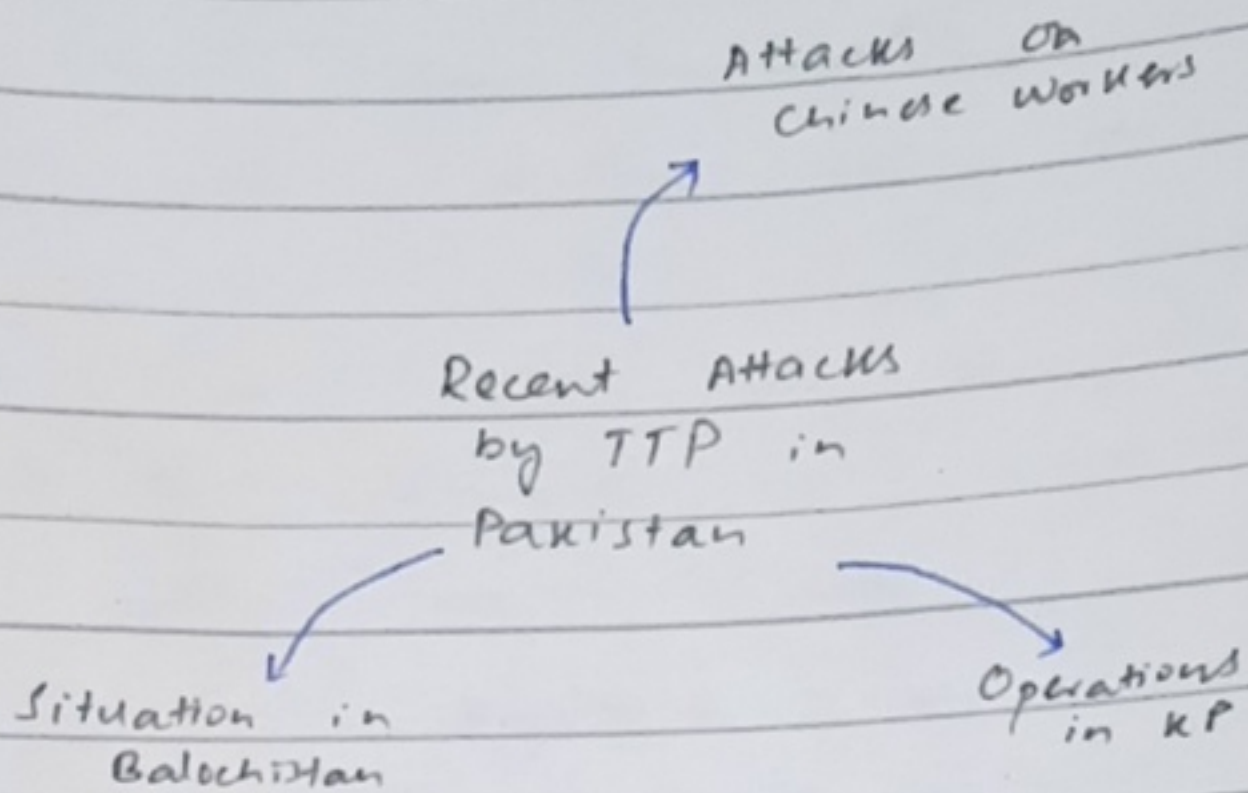
and in Balochistan. Both countries should peacefully settle the issue by negotiating peaceful talks with TTP and raising problem on global level.

CURRENT SITUATION:

Islamabad and Kabul tensions are growing day by day due to resurgence of TTP and terrorism in Pakistan. On Dec 30, 2024, 15,000 Taliban troops were deployed to the Pak-Afghan border in response to the ongoing skirmishes.

AFGHANISTAN: LAUNCHING PAD FOR TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PAKISTAN:

TTP is using Afghan land as a launching pad for terrorist attacks in Pakistan. Recently TTP launched many attacks on Pakistan which includes repeatedly attacks on Chinese workers, in Baluchistan and KP.



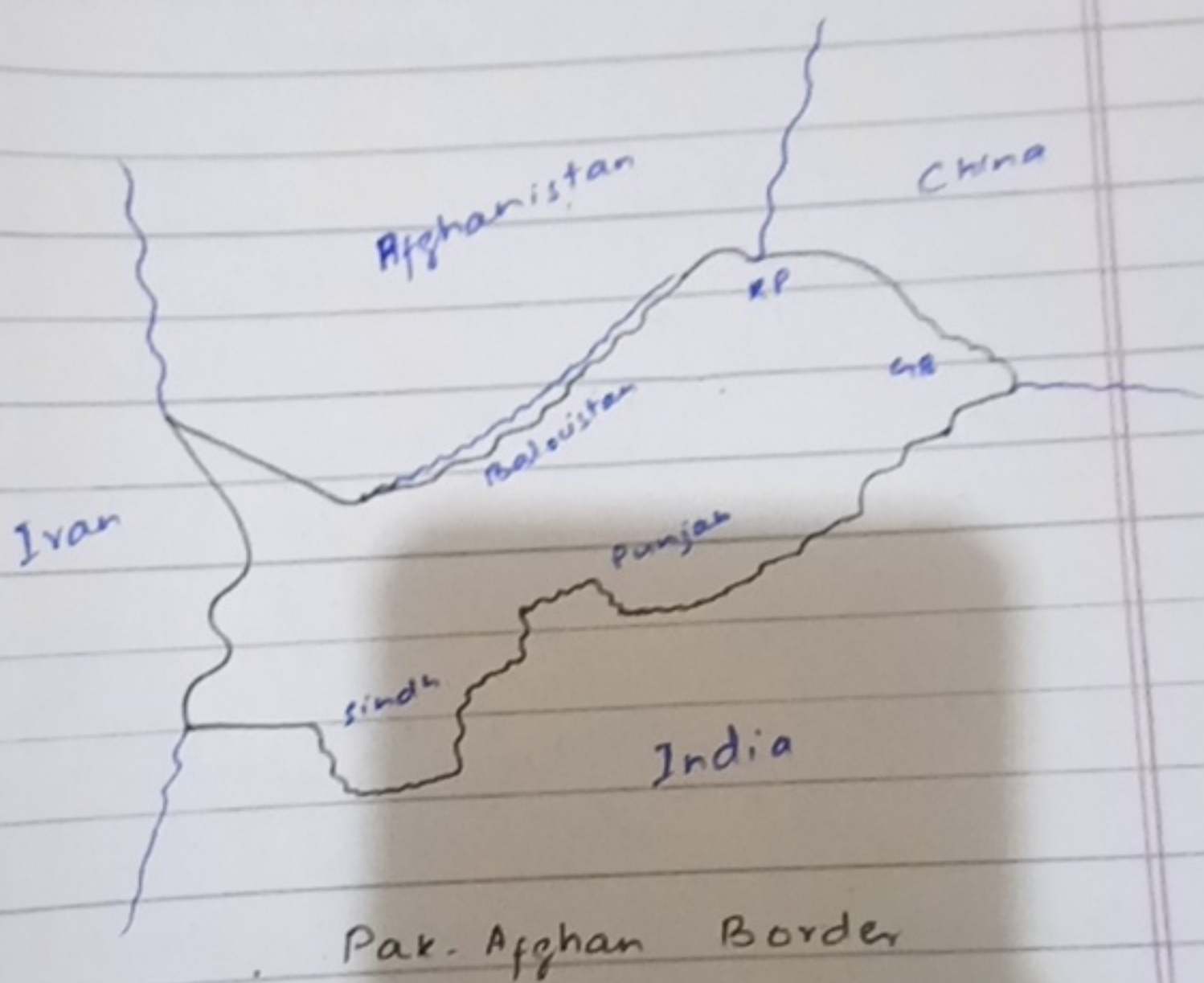
1. ATTACKS ON CHINESE WORKERS :

Last year TTP repeatedly attacked on Chinese workers. These terrorist attacks caused trouble in CPEC progress and Pakistan-China relations. Chinese officials asked for security to Pakistan.

2. SITUATION IN BALUCHISTAN

Balochistan is situated at Pak-Afghan borders. Therefore, the

situation in Balochistan
always become severe due
to exchange of strikes
between two countries and
growing number of TTP
in Balochistan.



3. OPERATIONS IN

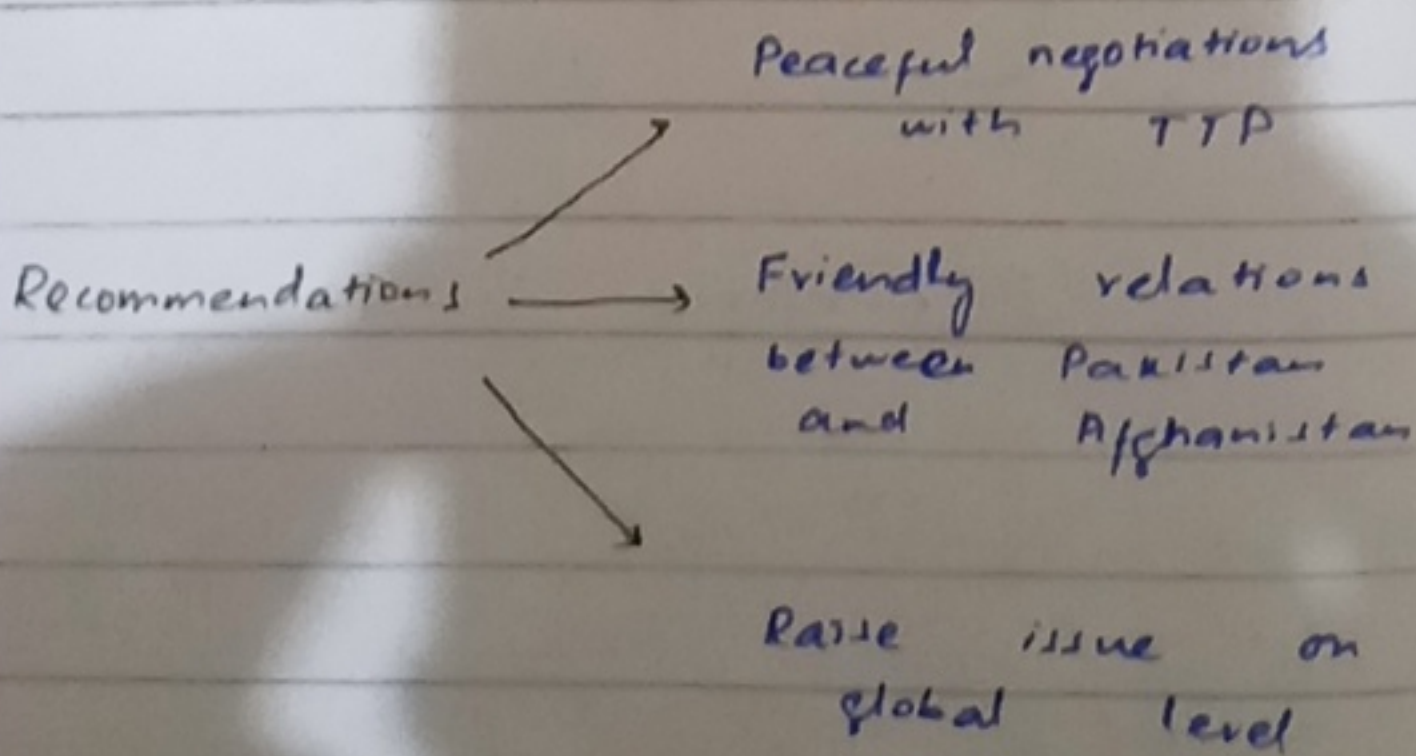
KP :

Due to resurgence
of TTP in KP and
northern areas of Pakistan,
the situation is becoming

severe day by day. So,
operations in KP are
also in protecting to
attack on TTP.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECREASING INFLUENCE OF TTP IN REGION:

There are some
recommendations which can
be used to decrease
the influence of TTP
in region.



1. PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS

WITH TTP :

Islamabad should negotiate peacefully with TTP. Kabul should also help Islamabad in this case to decrease the influence of TTP in the region.

2. FRIENDLY RELATIONS

BETWEEN PAKISTAN

AND AFGHANISTAN :

Islamabad and Kabul should maintain friendly relations with each other. If both countries will cooperate with each other on regional and global level and negotiate on misunderstanding between both countries. This will resultantly decrease the influence of TTP in the region.

3. RAISE ISSUE ON GLOBAL LEVEL :

Both Islamabad and
Kabul should raise the
issue of terrorism and
TTP on global level.
This will help both
countries to fight against
terrorism and decrease
the influence of TTP
in the region.

CONCLUSION :

Islamabad-Kabul tension
lingers on due to TTP
using Afghan land as a
launching pad for
terrorist attacks in Pakistan.

Both countries should keep
peaceful relations with
each other and becomes
together in order to
fight against TTP and
terrorism.

Q. 7

Critically evaluate the opportunities and challenges for neighbors in post Sheikh Haseena Bangladesh. Also analyze the opportunities for Pakistan and Islamabad approach towards Dhaka.

INTRODUCTION:

In 2024, Sheikh Haseena's regime in Bangladesh fell down due to severe protests of students in the country for eliminating quota system. After the protests Sheikh Haseena fled to India and Dr. Younis came into power. This regime change has opportunities and challenges for neighbours. However, there is opportunity for Islamabad to keep friendly relation with Dhaka and negotiate with Dhaka on trade, education and other facilities.

SITUATION IN BANGLADESH
DURING PROTESTS AGAINST
SHEIKH HASEENA:

Last year students started protests in Bangladesh against Sheikh Haseena's regime. The reason of protests was that Sheikh Haseena decided to eliminate the quota system, in civil service of Bangladesh, of students whose predecessors were killed during formation of Bangladesh. All these protests forced Sheikh Haseena to leave the country and she flew to India to save her life. After that Dr. M. Yunus took the power in Dhaka.

OPPORTUNITIES AND
CHALLENGES FOR NEIGHBORS
AFTER REGIME CHANGE
IN DHAKA:

Sheikh Haseena, daughter of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman,

remained in power in Bangladesh,
for consecutive three terms.
She had an autocratic
rule in the country.

However, after her fall
down, the situation in
country become peaceful. The
regime change in Dhaka
has opportunities and
challenges for neighbours.

There will be a great
challenge for India because
of giving place to Sheikh
Hasina. India is also
assumed to be a player
in the situation of Dhaka.
Now Dhaka has opportunity
to keep friendly relations
with other Muslim countries.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ISLAMABAD IN DHAKA :

After fall of Sheikh
Hasina's regime, ~~and~~ Dr. M.
Younis took power. Prime
Minister of Pakistan M. Shahbaz
Sharif congratulated Dr. M. Younis,

to come into power, through
Twitter (Now X). This can
be proved as ~~maintain~~
an opportunity for Dhaka
and Islamabad to
keep friendly relations and
start trade.

1. FRIENDLY RELATION BETWEEN ISLAMABAD AND DHAKA:

Post Haseen's regime
brings opportunities for
Dhaka and Islamabad to
keep friendly relations.

Both countries should forget
past issues and step forward
to be friends.

2. TRADE BETWEEN ISLAMABAD AND DHAKA:

Both countries should
start trade with each
other on different platforms
such as agriculture,
technology and facilities
for students to come across
the countries for education.

CONCLUSION: APPROACH OF ISLAMABAD

TOWARDS DHAKA:

Islamabad should keep
friendly approach towards

Dhaka. Pakistan should

help the Brother country

in this time of

crisis and both

countries should forget

the past hostile relations

and now seek areas

of cooperations with

each other.

Q.8

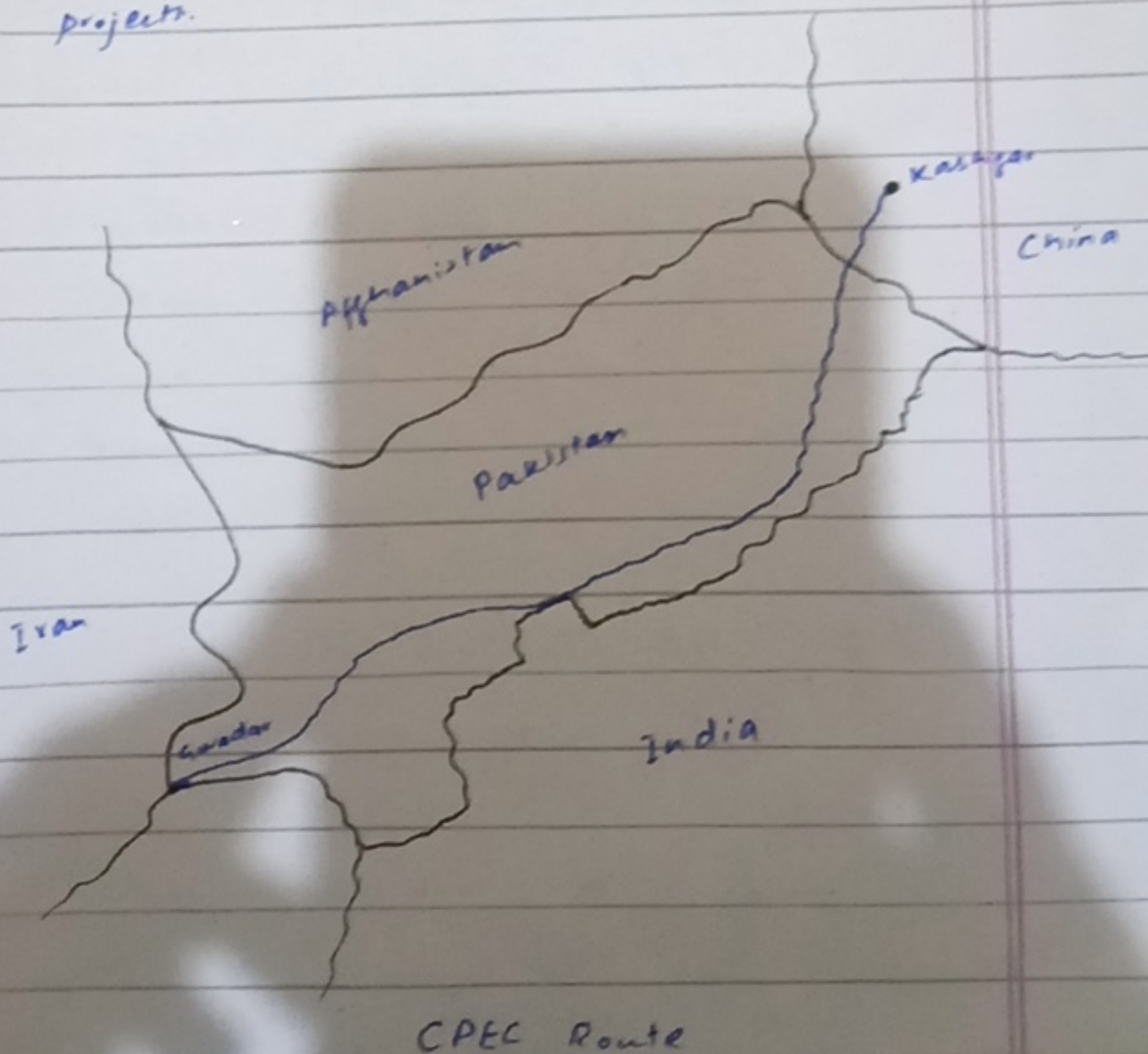
Critically evaluate the reasons for the slowing down of CPEC projects. What options would you recommend to Islamabad and Beijing to re-invigorate.

INTRODUCTION:

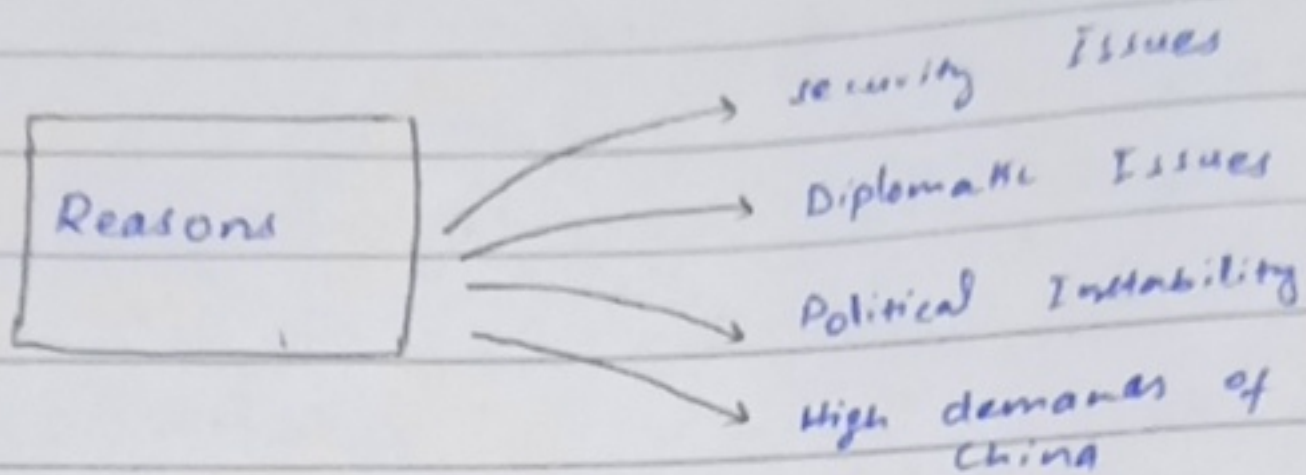
China and Pakistan are heading towards second phase of CPEC. Last years the speed of CPEC projects slows down due to some issues. The major reasons were security issues, of Chinese workers, diplomatic issues of Pakistan with other countries, political instability in Pakistan and increasing demands of China. However Islamabad and Beijing should re-invigorate the project by working on security measures, and see new areas of cooperation. And China should help Pakistan to mitigate economic crisis.

CURRENT SITUATION:

Pakistan and China are heading towards second phase of CPEC. First phase comprised of infrastructure and other energy project. Second phase was formally started from 2020 which comprised of industrialization, agricultural production and other such projects.



REASONS FOR SLOWING DOWN OF CPEC PROJECTS:



1. SECURITY ISSUES:

The major reason behind the slowing down of CPEC projects is repeatedly attacks of TTP on Chinese workers. Chinese officials talked about security issues with Islamabad and asked for security measures.

2. DIPLOMATIC ISSUES:

Diplomatic issues of Pakistan with US was also a concern. As Pakistan and China are in friendly relationship. While US think that China is dominating in the region.

due to help of Pakistan. This
varied problem for Pakistan.

3. POLITICAL INSTABILITY:

Constant governments changing
in Pakistan hinder the
growth of CPEC. which proved
as the major issue in
previous years.

4. HIGH DEMANDS OF CHINA:

Another major reason
behind slow down of CPEC
was the high demands
of China. China demands
to first pay for previous
project investment which is
nearly \$1.98 billion. Pakistan
is unable to pay this
amount due to economic
crisis.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO
ISLAMABAD AND BEIJING
TO RE-INVIGORATE:

1. SECURITY MEASURES:

Islamabad and Beijing should work together about security measures. Beijing should help Pakistan in negotiating with TTP and Afghanistan due to rising terrorism.

2. SEEK NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION:

Both countries should seek new areas of cooperation and work together for the completion of project.

3. CHINA HELP PAKISTAN TO MITIGATE ECONOMIC CRISIS:

China should help Pakistan to mitigate economic crisis instead of demanding high amount.

CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell, CPEC is an important for both Islamabad and Beijing. But due to some reasons it slows down. However, by following important measures project can be re-invigorated.