

Country can attain sustainable growth

• Political stability

* Elections

* Civil-Military relation

• Visionary leadership

* Saudi

• International Cooperation → aids

competitiveness → Balance

→ CPEC

• Educational revolution →

↳ long term, sustain. d.

• Economic reform landscape

* Surplus, regulation →

* Good governance

* Technological upgrade

* Digitalisation

• Exports → value-added prod.

• regional stability

↳ India

→ Afghanistan

→ Central Asian countries

Topic: Pakistan's Economic Future: Can the Country achieve sustainable growth?

Outline:

a) Introduction

Strong economic posture is the new way of flexing muscles

General Statement on sustainable economic growth

The importance of sustainable economic growth in Pakistan

Thesis Statement: "Pakistan is in dire need of sincere and sustainable approach to economic-policy making. This can become a reality if political stabilisation, real economic output, good governance, educational development, agricultural revolution, regional stability and global strategic balance become the part of Pakistan's economic landscape."

b) Pakistan's path to sustainable economic growth can become reality

Political Stability with strong democratic spirits is required

- i) Dialogues should replace political victimisation
- ii) All the political parties and military should be brought on same page

Focus should shift from short term economic gains to real economic output-

- i) Govt. disinclination to window dressing for political gains
- ii) Strong visionary leadership with effective implementation of policies

War has to be declared against bad governance and corruption

- i) More robust measures of transparency
- ii) A modern mechanism to accountability

Educational revolution is necessary

- i) Replacing outdated curriculum with that of a more relevant one
- ii) Capacity building of teachers in line with new approaches to student's growth

Rapid agricultural advancement to increase productivity

- i) Consistent upgradation in the quality of seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc
- ii) Advanced farming techniques

Regional Stability to boost bi-lateral cooperations

- i) A mix of diplomacy and force with other countries
- ii) Stress more on economic cooperation

Essay

In the modern era of 21st Century economic strength is a novel approach to flexing muscles. Countries like China are gaining power on the basis of their economic might, challenging the order of America. Such this economic strength is the unipolar product of economic sustainability. Economic sustainability, in essence, is ~~the~~ an approach that ensures the viability of economic policies and their effect in long run on the health of economy. Hence, Pakistan is in dire need of sincere and sustainable approach to economic policy-making. This can become a reality through political stabilisation ~~means~~, real economic outputs, good governance, educational development, agricultural revolution, regional stability and global strategic balance become the parts of Pakistan's economic landscape. Pakistan is in dire need of such reforms since its economic history has shown unstable economic health. One of such the reasons include unsustainable, short term economic policies coupled with external ~~shocks~~ shocks which the country failed to withstand. Currently, Pakistan is engulfed in

economic crises. However, there are hopes in sustainability of economy if the given policies were implemented effectively.

To begin with, Pakistan is facing political crises. A deep set of political polarization has occurred with many critics of the present government. Political confrontation, therefore, has become the new norm. The political parties have blamed each other for taking legal actions to fulfill political motive. Hence, political (against each other) parties must sit together and initiate dialogues. The purpose of the dialogues are to address grievances and tone down unnecessary tussle. For example, the current government of 2025 and the opposition has agreed to sit on tables and address the underlying concerns. This, in large, would improve political health of country, paving way to sustainable economic policies. Moreover, the government and military should ensure healthy relations with each other. Military is the defender of country, so it must be on same page with the government to eliminate any threat to security. Internal cooperation is essential to ease down political tensions. As a result, the economic policies taken will have strong support of opposition and the military. For example, STFC has become a stray economic measure, initiated by military establishment and backed by government, to encourage foreign investment in the country.

Similarly, the government should take change the traditional approach of short-term economic policies for political gains. Throughout the history, the government has maintained agency-client relationship with its people. This means that the

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elected representatives promise short-term gains in exchange for the votes of people. Hence, some prominent short-term approaches have included inflated exchange rates, non-developmental projects and unrealistic agreements with independent power producers. Therefore, a sustainable economic growth will require leadership that ~~is~~ serves people rather than treat them as clients and possess vision that ensures long-term economic development of the country. A prominent example of visionary leadership is that of Muhammad Bin Salman of Saudi Arab. Not only does he devises 5 years vision plans but ensure its long term success on economy. Currently, his focus is on encouraging tourism as a new source of country's income despite having one of the world's largest energy reserves. Hence, the leadership in Pakistan must establish long-term economic policies inline with the economic opportunities and limitations that the land of Pakistan offers.

Rationally, it must
However, a strong leadership is in need of good governance in government institutions. Unfortunately, Pakistan is a victim of poor governance especially corruption and weak developmental approaches. Therefore, the strong leadership must establish mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability. One such approach is the process of digitalisation.

Not only would it improve governance but also reduce red-tapism. Moreover, ~~the~~ effective training sessions should be inculcated that ensures a growth mindset and technological literacy.

Regardless, a set of accountability mechanisms should be established. Some institutions like NAB (National Accountability Bureau) do exist. However,

the stringent policies of NAB has deterred the government- in making decisions in fear of NAB cases. Therefore, accountability must emphasise more on output than input. Here. For example, the NAB should inspect the completion day post established to assess the success of a project. Therefore, good governance and practical accountability will ensure effective implementation of economic policies devised by the government.

In addition, the education system should be updated to inculcate more effective educational models. Pakistan focuses on curriculum that is based on cramming with more negligible relevancy to the new circumstances. A more robust and relevant approach to education would include its relevance to industry, with a blend of both soft and hard skills. International collaboration should be made to consistently adjust education with rapid advancements. For example, the field of data analytics keeps on evolving. According to one article, Pakistan lags behind in its advancement because it is not consistent with adopting the changing circumstances. Moreover, teachers should be required to take regular training sessions that provide new ways updated skills and modern approaches to teaching. For example, marks should not be allocated solely on the basis of academic performance but also projects, presentations and extra-curricular activities. Ultimately, this would provide with a better quality workforce, ensuring effective economic implementation and success.

Additionally, the approach of rapid advancement should also be adopted in agriculture. Agriculture constitutes to around 20% of Pakistan's GDP and is one of the most important sources of employment.

Pakistan, once was a major exporter of wheat.

However, the rapid population growth and slow modernisation has resulted in production of enough wheat to fulfil the need of country.

Therefore, there is a dire need of rapid development and advancement in agriculture. This includes more advanced seeds, fertilisers and irrigation techniques.

CPEC has made some contribution to the development of agriculture. However, climate change is melting glaciers, which is a source of water irrigation for agriculture. Hence modern farming techniques should be adopted that utilise water with

greatest efficiency. Such techniques include satellite imaging, drones, and modern machinery. Not only would it ensure water conservation but also a rise in productivity. This would increase export competitiveness in the country.

Strategically, regional stability is crucial to sustainable economic growth. Pakistan is facing a new wave of terrorism since the dawn of

Taliban government in Afghanistan. Foreign nationals especially Chinese are targeted to deter foreign investment. Additionally, India constantly remains a threat to security.

As a result, a huge chunk of budget is allocated to defense which could have been invested on economic developmental sector. Hence,

regional stability would create grounds for economy in the following ways. First, as mentioned before it would increase expenditure on developmental projects that fosters economic growth. Second it enhances regional trade with countries

of having huge markets like India. A rise in economic cooperation would reduce terrorism. Hence, a fall in terrorism will increase Foreign investments. This is a more sustainable approach to economic growth and security rather than just focusing on the use of force. Therefore, economic and diplomatic relations should be strengthened with India and Afghanistan to establish mutual interests and a healthy environment for economy.

Finally, the global world must be considered for sustainable economy due to rising economic interdependency. For Pakistan, the major economic players are China, United States and the Middle East. United States, the largest export market of Pakistan, has declared economic war on China. On the other hand, China has established Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to counter U.S economic warfare. Interestingly CPEC is the flagship project of BRI due to its deep sea port and the geostrategic location of Pakistan. Hence, Pakistan must ensure a balance to ensure its exports to China U.S and maintain the investment of CPEC without disappointing both the parties.

In conclusion, Pakistan can achieve sustainable growth in the future. It has gained some economic traction. However, experts are concerned over its sustainability. However with a mix of different approaches, it can be made possible. The first step is a roadmap to healthy politics through dialogues and internal cooperation. However, it is crucial that the government must possess strong leadership and vision ready to serve its country. A strong leadership is in need of good

governance which can be achieved through training and accountability. A more viable approach is consistent upgradation of education models and the teaching faculty. Similarly, agriculture should have advanced farming techniques to ensure global competitiveness. Finally, there should be regional and global diplomacy in the world of globalisation. Hence, a blend of short and long term approaches will make sustainable economic growth. Not only will it improve the strength of a country but also improve the standard of living of the people.