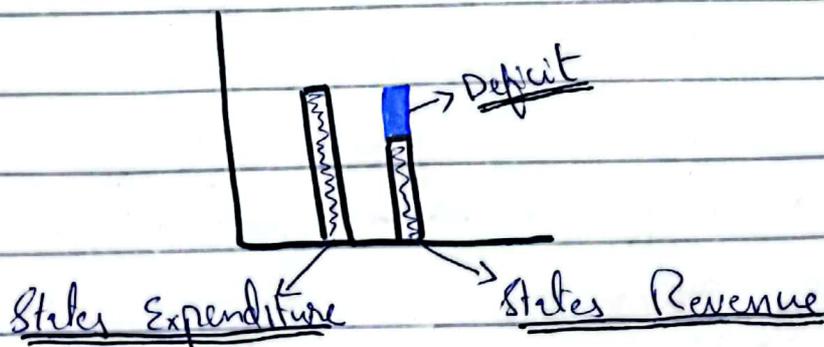


Pak Affairs Test-4

Q No 1

Introduction:

Tax collection is the most significant part of generating revenue for a state. The budget which any state produces at a start of its fiscal year is highly dependent on revenue collection, if it isn't adequate collection then it can create a deficit in budget.



The deficit than covered through external funding, In case of Pakistan it is becoming highly dependant on IMF.

(a) Tax Reforms Needed to implement by Federal Board of Revenue: Pakistan
Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) is the tax collector body

of Pakistan. The constant deficit in tax collection is the failure of this organization and state.

① Maximizing direct taxes instead of indirect:

Pakistan has seen a traditional culture of implementing taxes indirectly on its public. The tax on the regular necessities and products are known as indirect taxes. Which somehow play pivotal role in inflation. Instead of indirect-taxes the (FBR) should show its efficiency in collecting direct-taxes which are collected yearly on the rates of tax slabs from each earning individual.

"Pakistan is only collecting nearly 10% of revenue from direct taxes"

② Collecting taxes from Businesses is a sweet need:

Mostly the reserved class is under target in term of collecting

taxes. As the amount of selected people comes directly into their bank accounts, they get already tax deducted salary. As compared to them many non-registered businesses are running on cash which are zero contributors of tax.

③ Emphasizing focus on generating active tax payers businesses:

making the business running on cash registered can create a jump in the graph of tax collection, as majority of running business such as tea stalls, restaurants, shops and unseen business are non-filers and also remain non-filers as this will hide them from contributing tax.

"Out of 240 million population, Pakistan has only 7 million active tax payers"

④ Creating hurdles for non-filers:

By creating issues and troubles for non-filers can generate more tax revenues. The troubles can be blocking their SIMs, actively raiding on their business locations and charging them hefty fines.

⑤ Tilting towards cashless economy:

Cashless economy can turn into a final solution for non-tax payers. This can make the rates of tax collection above 90% for any state.

"Majority of western countries are shifted to cashless economies"

For a quick comparison our neighbouring country India is slowly shifting itself towards a cashless economy. Some applications of mobile like Gpay, Bheral Pay are playing vital role for it.

⑥ Minimizing corruption that government officials are majorly involved in Pakistan:

... Tax collection is regulated by (FBR): but under this organization many officials are creating vacuum for those non-taxpayers who want to escape this on regular basis. A far less amount than their tax is sufficient for the officials to make a escape path for those. To minimize this concern a check is needed to keep on those officials who are involved in this act.

⑦ Accountability should assumed for generating transparent system for Pakistan:

If all those officials who are responsible for generating revenue for state are kept accountable for regular basis, and a transparent environment is generated for

the state. A surge can be created in tax collection.

⑧ Blocking all the roads of transferring money out of Pakistan:

Money laundering is another issue that Pakistan is facing since long. The business who gets successful in transferring money out of Pakistan are enjoying minimal tax payments as money trading is now a difficult task after the launch of cryptocurrency in this world.

Conclusion:

In a nutshell, these all pragmatic measures can help in reforming the tax collection system of Pakistan and help it to be lesser dependent on external sources and generating equitable economic environment.

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams"

Eleanor Roosevelt.

Q no 2:

Introduction:

World is tilting towards green energy as it is under severe attack of nature. Pakistan has estimatedly lost 33 Billion dollars in the floods of 2022. The inefficiencies of responsible public sector department created many troubles for Pakistan's energy generation. Some quality policies needed to be implemented for tackling the cause.

Role of Public Private Partnerships:

Pakistan has taken some unhealthy decisions in the past. Those decisions made Pakistan dependent on third parties for providing it energy.

① Nullifying the Independent Power Producers:
Some of the corrupt

politicians made deals with private power producers for making energy for Pakistan. These deals were personal for the power of those individuals who are totally corrupt in the system. These deals generated problems for Pakistan as it

"Pakistan has paid 400 million dollars in 2023 to the IPP's"

due to unqualified deals and contracts.

② Cheaper rates of electricity can be generated by PPP's

Public private partnerships are more vital solution for Pakistan as compared to IPP's. Pakistan can provide its dams, sea ports, mountains and deserts to the private entities. The installation of power generating plants in

these areas can minimize the cost for the country.

" In January 2025 the IAEA approved 1200 MW Chushms-5 project for Pakistan.

This nuclear energy project was approved by the public-private partnership and less costlier than the IPP's.

③ Mega Solar-Energy power plants in Sindh and Balochistan:

Sindh provide such huge land of its Thar desert where the 9 months are under good amount of sun and the rest 3 are lesser intensity of sunlight but not near to zero. This area can be utilized by PPP's for generating constant energy for Pakistan, whole year. Secondly the Wadhuk and Chaghi districts of Balochistan have huge mass land for creating a solar energy plant.

④ Installing wind turbines on the coastal areas from Karachi till Gwadar:

This whole sea bed is sufficient as it is 1048 km long coast. If wind turbines are installed on this region the contribution to the energy sector from it will be very sufficient and there can be very good alternatives of solar energy during the winter season.

"Pakistan has potential of generating more than 50,000 MW of energy from wind turbines."

Australia is very good comprehensive example in generating energy from wind.

⑤ Building Dams can help in resolving water and energy crises both:

As, Pakistan is expecting its Diamer Basha Dam to be

completed till 2030. Like others
Tarbela, Mangla it will also be
a sufficient energy producer with
the public private partnership.
Pakistan needs to make further
dams in Sindh, as water flows
into sea in Sindh region, if one
or two more dams are constructed
in Sindh it can also resolve the
water scarcity of Sindh and Balochistan.

Critical Thinking:

As looking into the
history of bad deals by the
officials. Pakistan has to remain wise
in its further third party deals.
The public private partnerships can
result to fruitful if only decided
with understanding. The audit and
accountability of PPP's will be
more easy and transparent as
compared to IPP's which were
only done for personal benefits
by some state holders.

Conclusion:

To achieving the goals of having reliable, affordable, accessible and sustainable energy by the help of PPP's, Pakistan has to initiate independent power plants deals. The majority of IPP deals were ending to be in the ownership of Pakistan but after more than two decades. Pakistan has to ensure the PPP's deals remain in favor of Pakistan. These can generate jobs for the state and can result into cheaper cost of electricity if utilized properly. Having vast participation of solar, hydro-power, wind and nuclear energy Pakistan can attain sustainability of power shortages.

"CASA - Central Asia to South Asia is electricity Project which can also be notable contributor of energy in Pakistan".