

Q no 1:

Pakistan successfully conducted
..... to follow?

Ans:

Introduction:

The successful hosting of SCO conference in Islamabad in October despite several security issues is a major achievement by the government. This conference marked the beginning of a new era of regional cooperation for Pakistan and other SCO members. SCO is working towards military, economic, security and cultural cooperation among the member states. The participation of India in the conference is a major step towards peace between both countries. Several environment protection initiatives were also taken. The inclusion of Afghanistan in the regional cooperation was also discussed. Islamabad officials should now

work towards implementation of strategies to achieve these achievements

A Historical Glimpse at SCO:

SCO was initially called Shanghai Five initially formed in 1996 by China and Russia. Initially, China, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan were the members. Later on, Uzbekistan joined in 2001 making it a formally organized organisation called SCO. India and Pakistan joined SCO in 2017. Iran joined in 2023 and Belarus joining in 2024.

Theme of the 23rd SCO summit:

The 23rd SCO summit, hosted in Islamabad, was majorly focused to resolve disputes between member states. Moreover, it was aimed at increasing trade, economic and regional cooperation between the member states.

The theme was:

"One Earth, One Family
and One Future"

So, it was aimed at creating unity among the member states to counter any external threat.

Significant Achievements by Pakistan on 23rd SCO summit:

- Improved Diplomatic Standing:

Despite several security threats in October, 2024, continuous political instability and chaos in the capital, Pakistan conducted the SCO conference. It shows how much the government is into playing its role at international level. This has significantly improved Pakistan's diplomatic standing.

- Provided Platform for Improved Indo-Pak ties:

The participation of Indian government officials at SCO summit is a beginning of normalization of ties between Pakistan and India. It may lead to resolve border disputes between both countries such as Kashmir issue.

• Inclusion of Afghanistan in the Regional Cooperation:

The inclusion of Afghanistan in the regional cooperation was also discussed and it is still under consideration. It is because China seeks to expand its BRI project to Afghanistan. For that purpose, a peaceful stable Afghanistan is necessary. Xi Jin Ping also said at 23rd SCO summit:

"We need to follow the journey of upholding equity and Justice. Power may win for the time being but Justice will prevail in the long run."

- **Introduction of Global Security Initiative:**

Global Security initiative is an effort by China to expand its influence in central asia. It is aimed at countering western influence in the region specifically US and European union.

Measures Islamabad should follow:

- **Strengthen Economic Profile of Country.**

The government should work towards improving the economic profile of the country. It is much important because having a strong economic backbone will help Pakistan to play its role more efficiently.

- **Maintain Cohesion among Members.**

As it is seen that there is dispute among kazakhstan, kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan over policy issues. Islamabad should mediate and work towards settling these disputes.

• Propose a Dispute Settling Body

There is no permanent body to settle disputes among the members of the SCO states. The Islamabad officials should propose a dispute settling body to play its role in the organization.

Critical Analysis:

SCO conferences have been very effective in improving trade and economic relations between central asian states. However, it is still seen as an anti west agenda since its inception by some western states.

Conclusion:

From above discussion, it can be concluded that Pakistan have major achievements in SCO. From economic cooperation and trade ties to peace talks with India, Pakistan has played an effective role. Islamabad should follow several measures to improve its position at international level in SCO.

Qno 3:

COP 29

Ans:

Introduction:

COP 24 was held in Baku, Azerbaijan. ~~Conference~~ ^{Conference} of parties is mainly to limit the temperature rise below 2°C by the end of this century. Several commitments were done in COP 29. Some of which are establishment of loss and damage fund, finalise mechanism for carbon markets and improving energy storage capacities. However, it still failed in addressing fossil fuel consumption and continuous emission of CO_2 .

Historical View of COPs:

The formal conference on party was COP 3 called Kyoto Protocol. \rightarrow COP 21 was basically the adoption of Paris agreement countries to limit the temperature below 2°C .

Debate over Controversial Host of COP 29:

The COP 29 was hosted by Baku which is in Azerbaijan. It is a major oil and gas producer and an authoritarian state with extensive corruption. It is ranked 154 out of 180 in corruption perception index.

COP 29 Theme:

The COP 29 was majorly aimed at promoting a greener world by collective cooperation.

The theme of COP 29 was:

"In Solidarity for a Green World"

Moreover, it is aimed at promoting renewable sources of energy to curtail emission of greenhouse gas.

Major Commitments in COP 29:

- **Establishment of Loss and Damage fund:**

It was committed to establish a loss and damage fund which was initially suggested in COP 27 in Egypt. The fund aims to provide assistance to countries most vulnerable to climate change.

- **New Collective Quantified Goal: (NCQG)**

The developing countries plus China demanded around \$1.3 billion by 2035 from the highest emitters of CO₂ such as United States and European Union every year. The final NCQG goal is to mobilize \$300 billion annually by 2035 for developing countries.

- **Finalize mechanisms for Carbon Markets**

COP 29 also reached a landmark agreement to finalise the mechanisms for carbon markets. The concept of carbon pricing and tax on carbon emission was also introduced.