

Q1

Introduction :-

The success of Shanghai Cooperation and Organization (SCO) moot in Islamabad indeed constitutes a milestone for Pakistan. It signalled that Islamabad is capable of carrying forward the multilateralism envisaged by the organisation. Nonetheless, there remain irritants obstructing the smooth integration of Eurasian landmass, which without Pakistan's assertive and result-oriented diplomacy would continue to ^{make} Pakistan and the larger region suffer. The answer would conduct a due analysis in this regard.

DATE: ___/___/___

SCO is a critical component of Pakistan's integration oriented ambitions. Its success means much to Pakistan

Aizaz Ahmed
Choudhry

Diplomatic Footprints

Major takeaways
for Pakistan:

Russia's enthusiastic presence affords Pakistan a great opening.

It was great a sight, with Pakistan making inroads in Moscow, historically an Indian forte.

Although India and Pakistan keep each other at arm's length, the arrival of FM Jaishankar was welcoming.

India's presence was a good initiative. While it refused to hold sideline meeting, it was a good signal for both nations and for SCO.

It also allowed Pakistan to further deepen relations with Beijing.

Pakistan's ties with Beijing are central to its foreign policy. The arrival of Chinese premier opened new pathways.

Given the core ingredients of SCO charter, Pakistan put its case for cooperation for Terrorism and internal security.

Pakistan underscored its concerns, of terrorism and militancy. It could help Islamabad to evolve a regional option it is seeking for.

The wider reach of the SCO allowed Pakistan to seek new partnerships in East Europe (Belarus

It allowed Pakistan to expand its ties well into the European markets. It was a good move for Pakistan.

Recommendations For Pakistan

Against the backdrop of Chinese nationalist killing by militants, Sino-Pak relations have hit a snag. Urgent attention is required at this front.

Of late, Pakistan's relations with Beijing have frayed, in large part due to terrorist attacks on ~~the~~ Chinese citizens. Protecting them is fundamental to Pakistan's national interests.

DATE: ___/___/___

Over the last six months, Pak-china relations have been anything ~~but~~ normal.

Muhammad Amir
Rana, Security
Analyst.

Pakistan Institute
of Peace Studies

New Delhi needs to be engaged - not least in the aftermath of deepening Delhi-Washington ties.

Islamabad and New Delhi have been at odds since Aug 5, 2019. For Pakistan, India and SCO to progress, their ties are significant. Pakistan ~~needs~~ to play a role here.

Pakistan needs to make a strong case for strong relations with Moscow.

Stronger ties with Moscow would serve Pakistan and is aligned with the stated claim of neutral policy in major power tensions.

Given Pakistan's neighbourhood relations with Tehran, Islamabad needs to double down its diplomacy vis-a-vis Iran.

Iran and Pakistan need to deepen their relations beyond promises. To this end, Pakistan requires active diplomacy. The problem of Baluchistan security also stems from this concern that Pakistan and Iran have unstated tensions.

DATE: ___/___/___

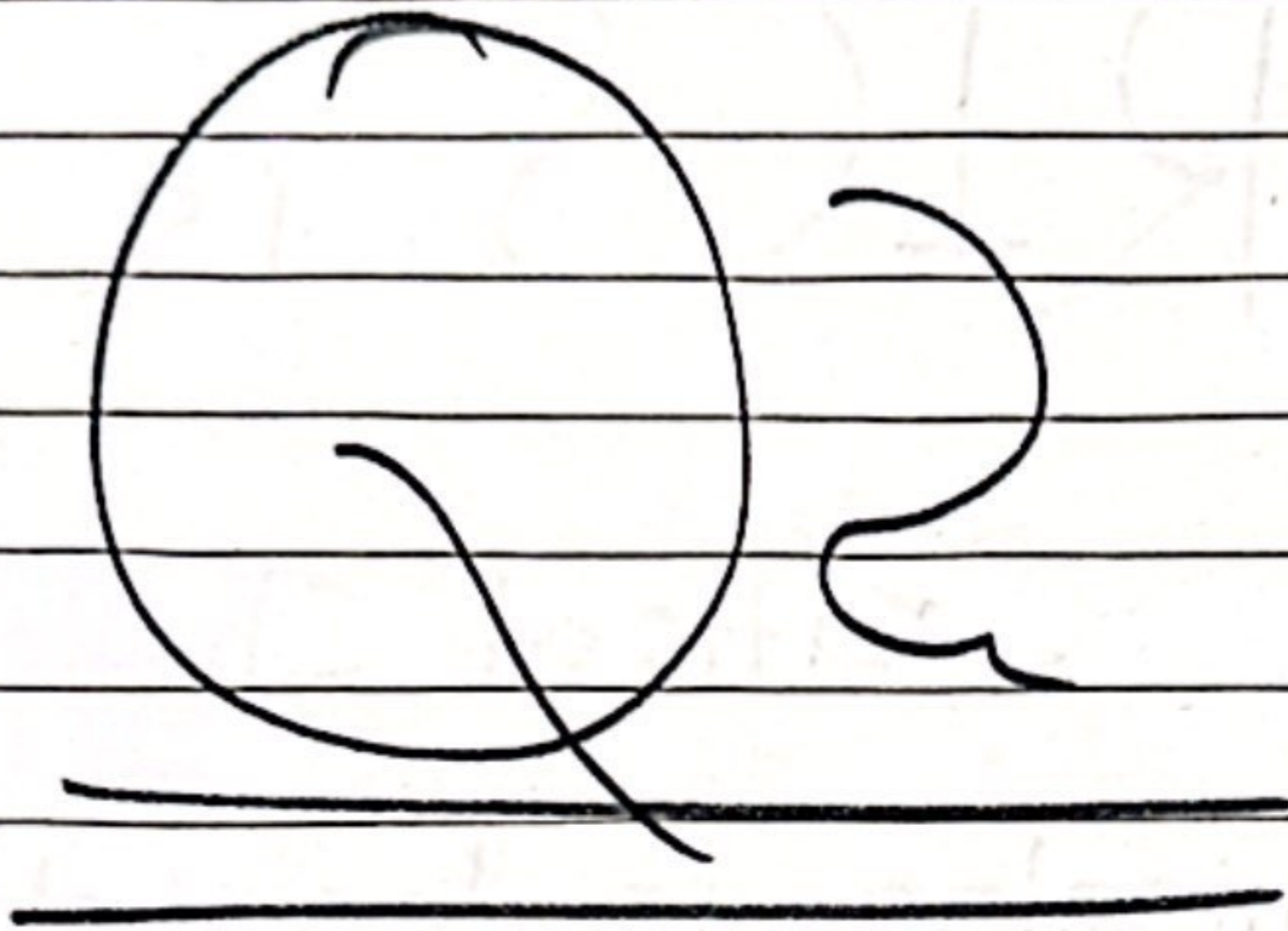
Multilateralism and Foreign policy succeeds when the polity within home is doing great. Putting its house in order is advisable

Putting its house in order is critical for Pakistan. Islamabad needs a healing touch.

Foreign policy is but reflection of home
Maleeha Lodhi

Conclusion

Concluding it, Pakistan found important headways in the enclave in Islamabad. However, there remains serious concerns as highlighted. Islamabad would be well served to evaluate and map out response. It will aid the cause of SCO and that of Pakistan



Introduction

There remains no doubt that the US has leveraged its influence to assert retributive measures on its strategic rivals. The imposition of sanctions on Tehran and Moscow stands its stark manifestation. Although ~~BRICS~~ ^{BRICS} promises to undercut dollar and institute new mechanism opposed to SWIFT, there remains inconsistency marred the progress of the multilateral organisation. The answer would explore avenues for BRICS to dilute US interests and influence besides highlighting the yawning gaps hindering the success of BRICS.

DATE: ___/___/___

BRICS is

a Critical Challenge

Washington is long denying

Mike Nelson
Atlantic
Council

Manifestations of
the US heavy-handedness:

Trump's Maximum Pressure and
Biden's continuation of
it. (Iran)

Iran has been forced
to toe line, particularly
in the service of Tel Aviv.

It has shattered
Iranian economy to
larger damage.

DATE: ___/___/___

Washington has
sanctioned Moscow,
stripping it of access
to SWIFT:

After the break out
of tensions in Ukraine,
the US has left no
stone unturned in crippling
economy of Russia

Time and again, Islamabad
has also fallen in its
crosshairs.

Ever since Pressler
Amendment of 1985,
Pakistan has been a
US victim. Recently, it
instituted new sanctions aimed
at Pakistan's missile programme.

DATE: _ / _ / _

Washington has turned blind eye to New Delhi's commercial ties with Tehran and Moscow

A blind eye to New Delhi sums it up. Because it serves its interests of China containment, things are smooth for India

Only evident is US' duplicity amidst the fraying of global order

Stephen Walt
Harvard University

What Option could BRICS explore

Trading in national currencies.

This has been key option floated by many. It requires all BRICS+ economies to trade in their national currency.

A unified currency also remains an option, but a distant one.

Given the large size of economies, this option could strain the vast influence of the US. Additionally, a new system of transaction, opposed to SWIFT could help.

BRICS could go for oil trading in national currencies, in the aftermath of expansion

Oil trading and unravelling of OPEC+ would serve the cause of Global South. If anything, oil trading in national currency would suit anyone but Washington.

Indeed, BRICS+ could drive a wedge in oil markets.

Michael Kugelman
Wilson Centre.

However, Challenges persists.

India remains inextricably tied to Washington, leaving little space for manoeuvring.

India's deep ties with the US serve a stark reminder of challenges for BRICS+ going forward.

R

ente
mu

Ric

an

it

e

to

iz

So

ey

bo

Th

0-

DATE: ___/___/___

Riyadh's refusal to formally enter the bloc reveals as much.

Riyadh remains sharp and shrewd. It knows it needs US for economy and security to succeed, presenting irritants to BRICS.

Saudi Arabia has its eyes glued on grand bargain vis-à-vis Tel Aviv. This dents the prospects of BRICS pursuing Anti-West agenda.

Steven A Cook
Centre for Foreign
Relations

SWOT Analysis of BRICS+

Weakness

US-India ties
Trump-Sisi attachment
(Egypt)
MBS' inclination to
grand bargain

Has a great opening
to ratchet up pressure
on transitioning
order

Opportunities

Strength

Comprises of emerging
Economies.

Has expanded to
include critical strategic
partners.

A US counter move
could crumble to
ground.

Threats

Conclusion:

To sum it up, the US has long sanctioned its strategic competitors, primarily misusing the instruments of sanctions, International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and SWIFT. To counter it, BRICS promises a change yet to be seen. Although its stated claims are lofty, many critical challenges persist to throw spanners in the works.