

TEST - 03

QNO2:

Introduction:

The cross border disputes, terrorism, and regional security are impacting Pakistan's relations with its neighboring countries including Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. These issues has halted Pakistan's economic activities, diplomatic engagement, and trade and investment policies with its neighbors. In order to stabilize Pakistan's relations with its neighbors, Pakistan needs to revisit its security policies, resolve border disputes diplomatically, and enhanced trade ties with Iran, India, and Afghanistan.

Pakistan's Approach to Regional Security Challenges:

Pakistan's approach to regional security challenges, including terrorism and border disputes is based on confrontation, retaliation, and border closures.

(i) Border Closure Between Pakistan and Afghanistan:

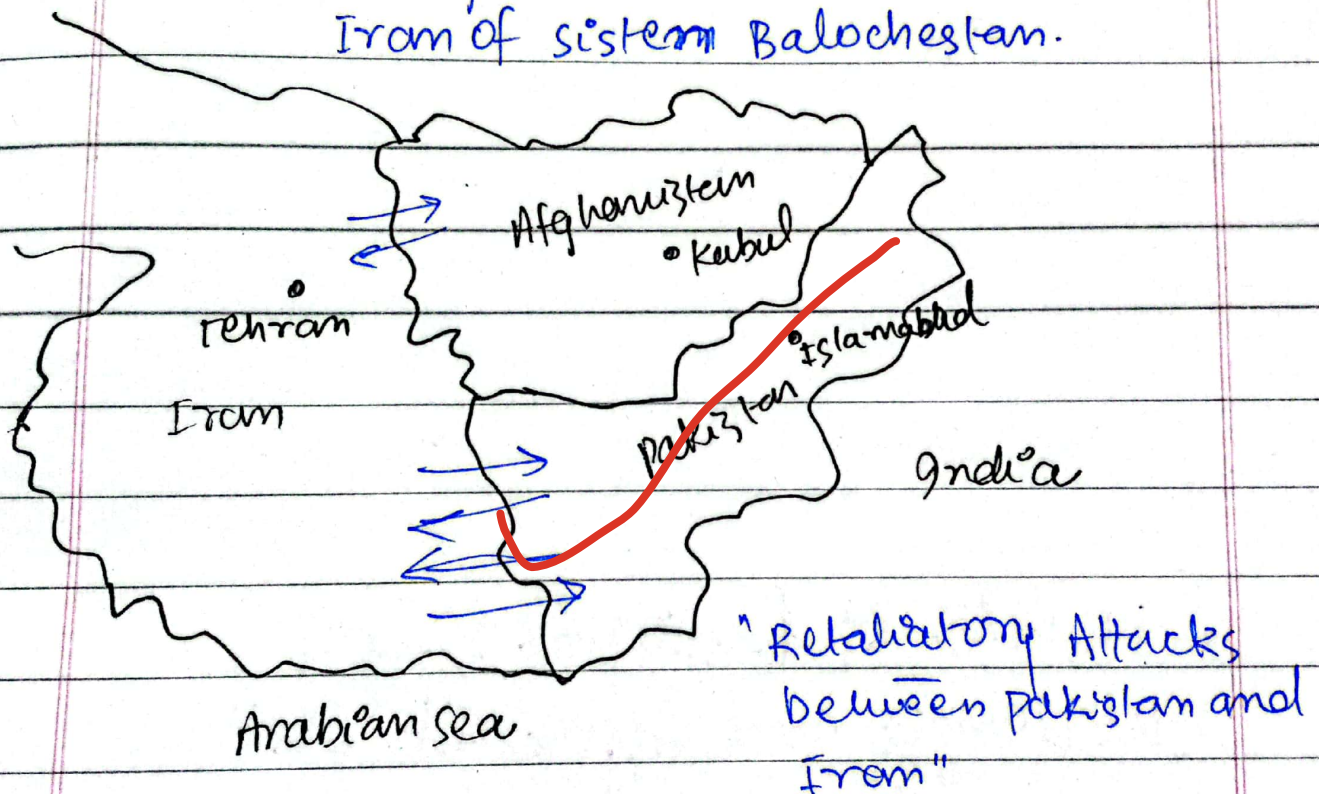
After the terrorist attacks from Afghan soil, the borders between Pakistan and Afghanistan were closed - from Kandahar and Peshawar side, both countries closed border damaging relationship of both countries.



Day: _____ Date: _____

(ii) Retaliation Between Iran and Pakistan:

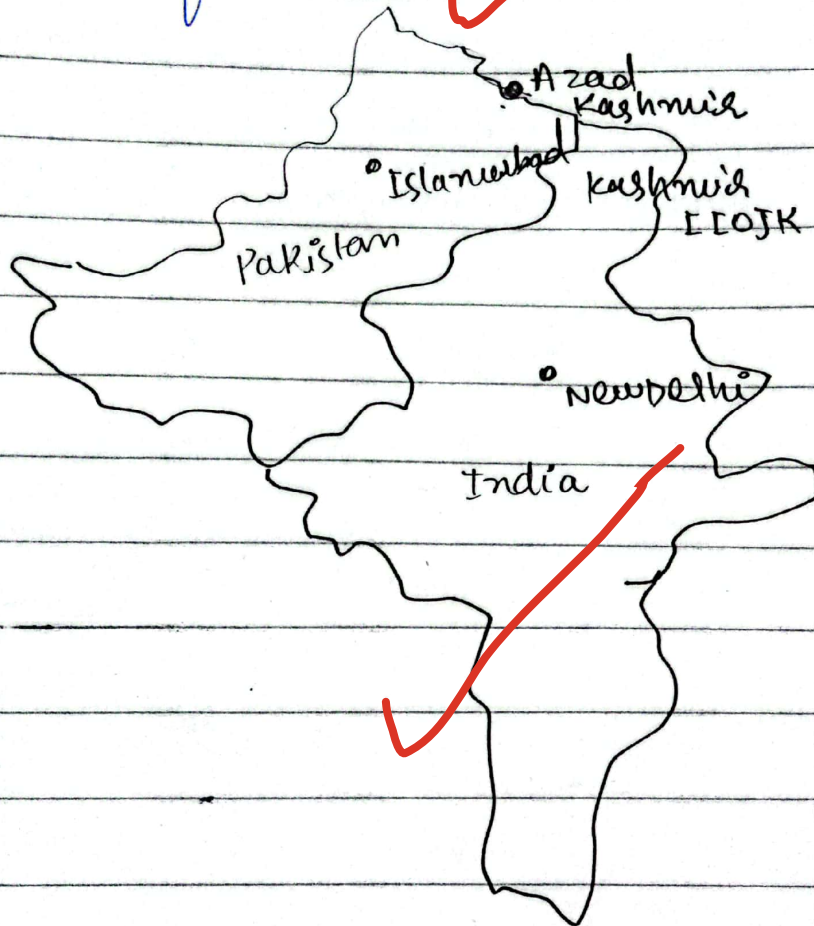
In January 2024, The cross border retaliatory attacks took place. Both countries exchanged drones and military attacks in Balochistan province. Jaish al Adl, the Sunni Muslim armed group accused of attack inside Iran of sistern Balochestan.



(iii) Confrontation Between India and Pakistan:

Due to Kashmir Issue and cross border security concerns, Pakistan

ended diplomatic ties with India. Pakistan and India both are nuclear armed countries and in 2023 both reached at the edge of nuclear confrontation.



Impacts of Regional Security Challenges and Approach on Pakistan's Relations with Neighbors:

Pakistan's regional security approach has halted its relationship with the neighboring countries. The details are given below

Day: _____ Date: _____

(a) Impact on Relations with India

Due to Kashmir issue and security concerns, Pakistan's relation with India is struggling.

(i) No Trade Policy with India:

In 2022, after increased brutalities of Indian government on illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan opted "No Trade Policy" with India. It halted direct import and export relation of Pakistan and India. Despite 100bn\$ trade potential, both countries halted trade and investment.

(ii) Diplomatic Deadlock:

Both countries are not engaged with each other diplomatically. On current SCO summit, both countries did not involve with each bilaterally.

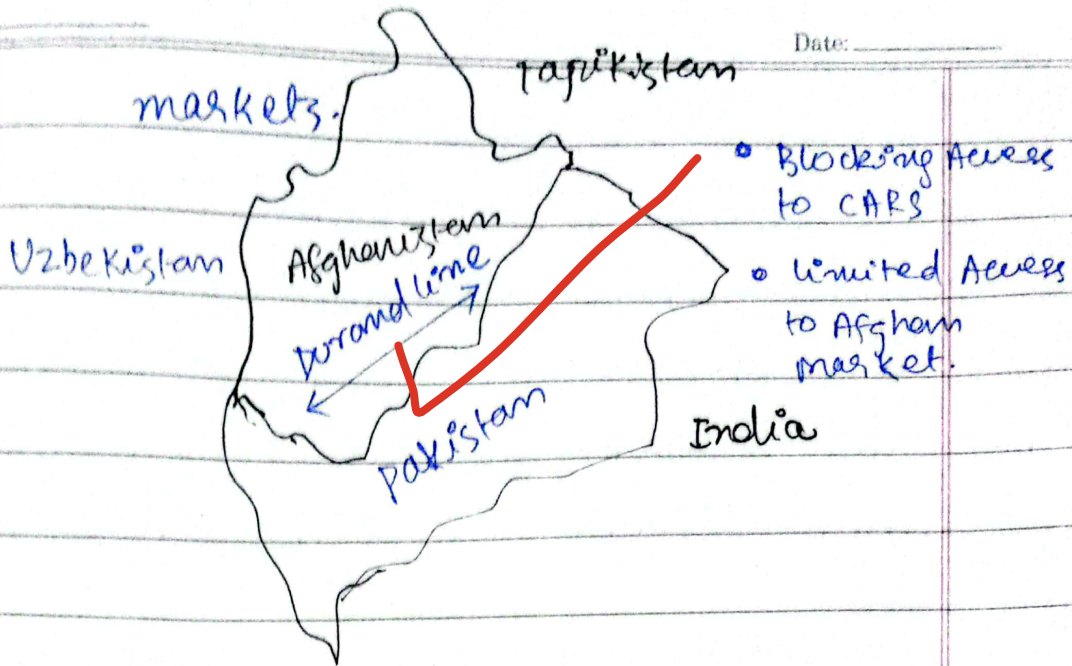
(iii) Cross Border Confrontation and Retaliation:

Over Kashmir's Issue, both countries are engaged in cross-border confrontation and retaliation in Kashmir region. In 2022, due to cross border strikes, the military personnel were killed.

(b) Impact on Relations with Afghanistan:

(i) Durand Line Issue and Border Closure Halting Trade Ties:

Pakistan's approach to security challenges results in the border closure between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Due to border closure, both countries lost food and billions of dollars. It limits Pakistan's access to CARs countries and Afghanistan's



(ii) Cross-Border Terrorist Attacks Halting CPEC (II) Completion:

The cross-border attacks from TTP and Al Qaeda on the CPEC sites halting the completion of CPEC II. It will result in the huge damage to Pakistan's economy. Due to Pakistan's approach, the insurgents attacked engineers of China working on CPEC sites.

(iii) Refugee Crisis:

The approach of Pakistan results in refugee crisis. Due to

terrorist and militant attacks, Pakistan decided to deport 1.7m Afghan refugees living in Pakistan. Pakistan gave 30 days to refugees to pack their belongings and leave Pakistan.

Impact of Pakistan's Approach on Relations with Iran:

(i) Lack of Trust Between Neighbors:

The retaliation from Pakistan's sides in response to Iran strikes results in the fostering lack of trust between neighbors. The cross-border retaliation showed that the relationship and trust between both countries were stained.

(ii) Downgraded Diplomatic Ties by recalling their Ambassadors: The diplomatic ties between

both countries were downgraded for a week post retaliatory response by both countries. Pakistan recalled its ambassador from Tehran and left diplomatic ties hanging.

Way Forward to Amend the Relationship with Neighbors:

Pakistan needs to amend relationship with its neighbors in order to secure a position at diplomatic front and to support its economic stability.

(i) Resolving Cross Border Issues Through Diplomacy:

The cross-border issues must be resolved diplomatically.

Pakistan must raise Kashmir issue on UN platform to seek support for resolving issue.

Moreover, the Durand line

Agreement of 1893 must be

discussed with Afghanistan to avoid direct confrontation.

(ii) Redefining "Red line" in Relationship Over the Issue of Cross-Border terrorist Attacks:

The terrorist attacks must be declared "Red line", in order to build deterrence. Pakistan must opt for no compromise policy over the use of soil of neighbor countries for conducting terrorist activities across border.

(iii) Trade and Investment:

Pakistan must explore cross border trade potential with India, Iran, and Afghanistan.

Pakistan India Trade potential = \$ 100 bn

Pakistan-Afghanistan-Central Asia Trade potential = \$100-150 bn

Pakistan Iran Gas Pipeline = TAPE

(iv) Discussing Potential of CAICAP:

As China is expanding BRI, there is a need to discuss the CAICAP potential so that cross border issues can be resolved.

CAICAP stands for China-Afghanistan-Central Asia-Pakistan road link via BRI. It will provide landlocked countries access to sea routes and will help generate revenue.

(v) People-to-people Contact:

The issues between neighbors can be resolved by breaking ice through people to people contact. It is the need of the hour to introduce cross-border student scholarship, work opportunities, and cultural exchange to embrace the diversity of the region.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, Pakistan is struggling with number of security challenges since its inception but the approach to tackle these issues is halting Pakistan's economic progress due to strained ties with neighboring countries. Pakistan need to amend its ties with neighboring countries by engaging diplomatically and economically with neighbor countries. Pakistan must engage with neighbors on other dynamics instead of involving with them on the basis of security prism and lens.

very good attempt!!