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Question-1:

CPEC-Phase II

11/20

Introduction;

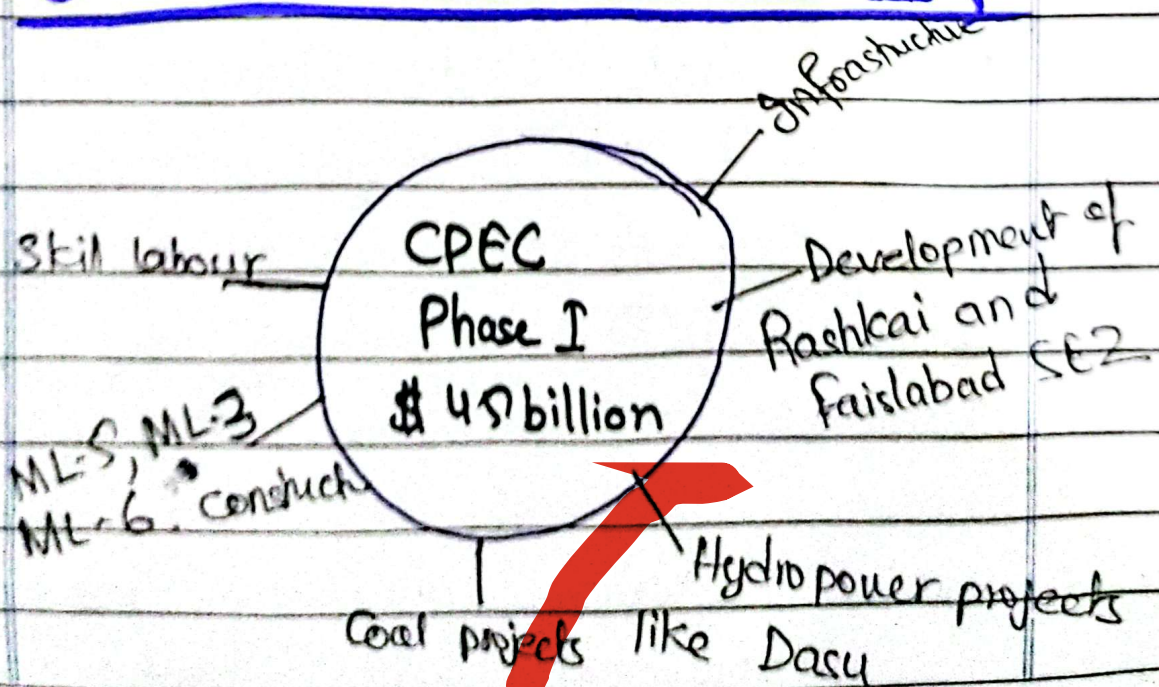
China Pakistan

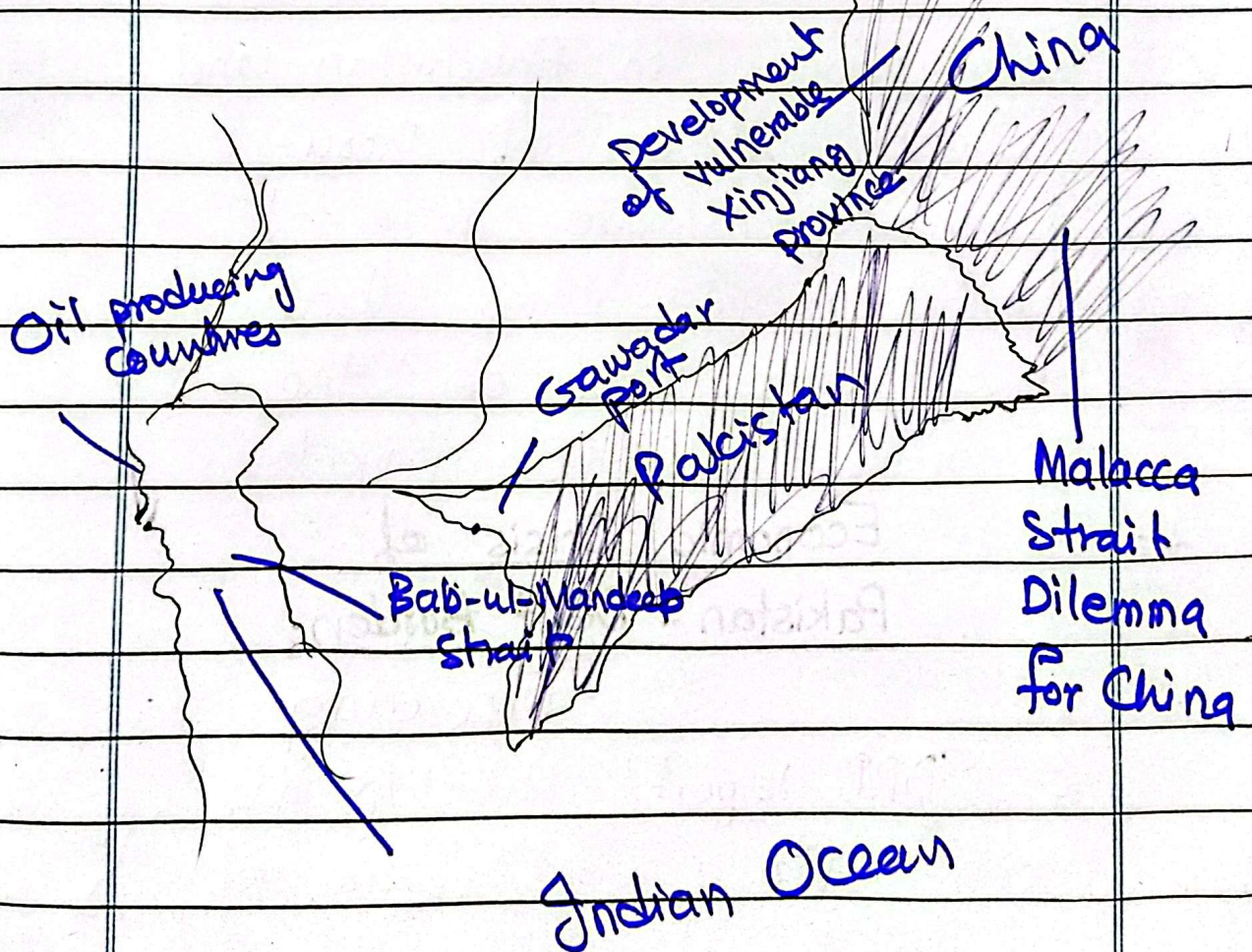
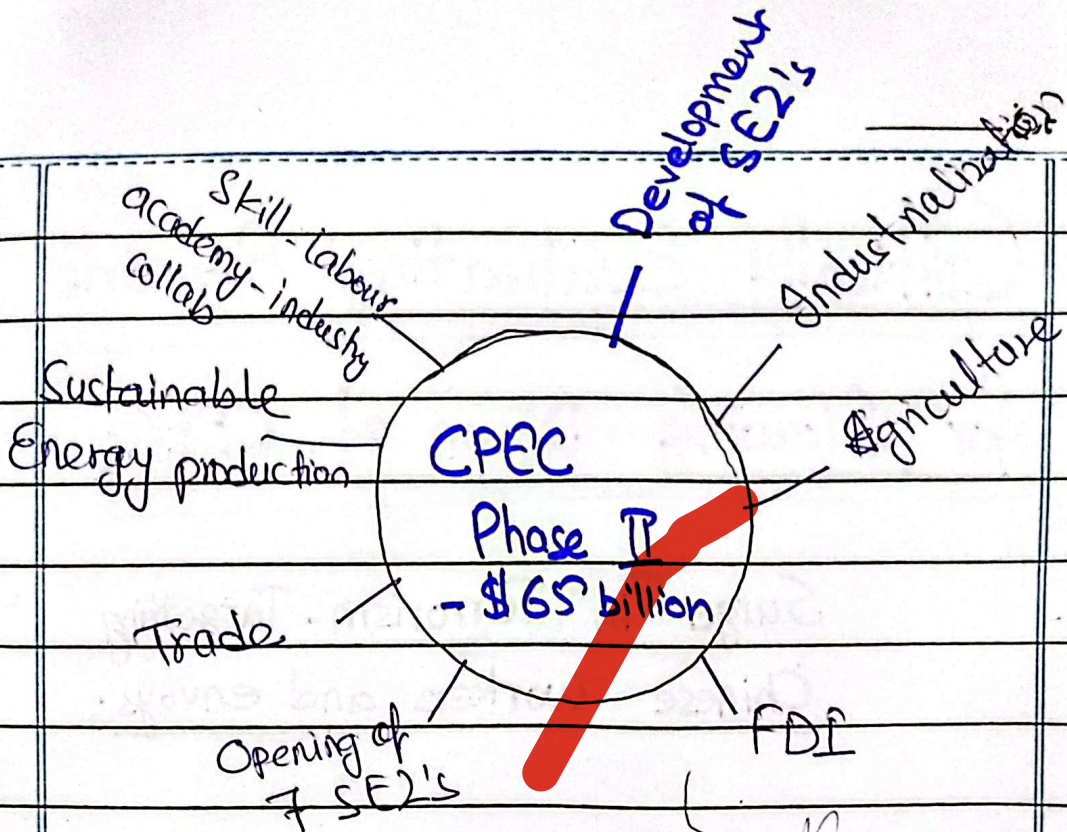
Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a game-changer for Pakistan. It has potential to provide remedy to all economic ills, currently being faced by Pakistan. However, after completion of its first phase, that includes infrastructure development and energy, primarily, the phase II has been facing challenges. The challenge of Terrorism and security issue is one of the major challenge behind the slow-down of CPEC. Furthermore,

The allegation of debt trap over China, economic and political instability in Pakistan are major hindrances. However, Beijing and Islamabad, should collaborate bilaterally to find a solution and to reinvoigate phase II as it is important project for both.

A Little Glimpse of

CPEC Phase I and II;





Critically Evaluating Reasons for Slowing Down of CPEC;

1- Surge in Terrorism-Targetting Chinese workers and envoys;

The recent terrorist attacks over Chinese ~~Envoy~~ Convoy in Balochistan and Chinese workers at Dasu-Power project are some of the emerging issues that have compromised the development of CPEC projects.

2- Economic Crisis of Pakistan - Debt Burden;

According to SDPI report, Pakistan has been facing the issue of repayment of debts to the Chinese government. This

Issue is another hindrance
in the CPEC phase II.

3- Allegation of Debt-Trap
over China by US
and allies;

IMF, in its report over Pakistan, has alleged that 'China's Debt' to Pakistan is more like a 'Debt trap'. This allegation has further antagonize China and it slow-down its work on CPEC due to absence of payment.

4- Political Instability of
Pakistan - a major
reason behind CPEC
slowdowns

Pakistan remained subject to tug of political war between its political party. Due to its political instability, Pakistan has failed to achieve

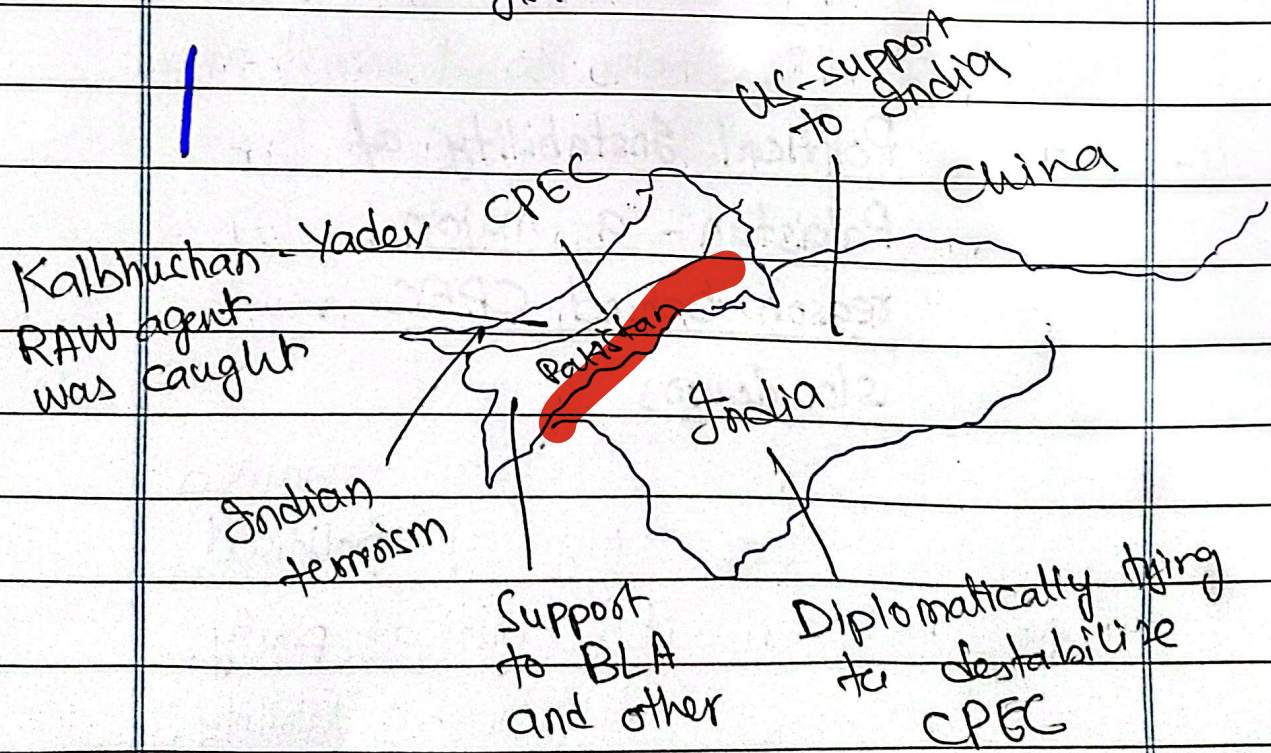
this opportunity in a true sense

5- Regional Competition-

CPEC Eyesore for India-

try to create hindrances;

According to Maleeha Lodhi, a Pakistani diplomat, CPEC remained as eyesore for India and it is trying to destabilize this project through terrorism and other ways.



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Recommendations To Islamabad and Beijing To Reinvigorate the Project;

- 1- Islamabad should end
its Political and
Economic Instability;

According to IPRI report, Pakistan should manage and reduce its economic and political instability to achieve the real fruit of CPEC and to make it a real game-changer.

- 2- Active Engagement and
Contact between Beijing
and Islamabad;

Recent events

of terrorist attack on Chinese workers has undermine the relationship between Pakistan and China. According to Li Quang, Chinese researcher, both states should deepen their engagement over this issue.

3- Both Countries should Collaborate in fighting against Terrorism;

China has successfully dealt with its terrorism issue in Xinjiang. Both states should start and collaborate through G2G1 collaboration to deal with issue of terrorism.

4- Beijing should Ensure Easy Debt repayment structure for fragile Economy of Pakistan;

Beijing

Should provide ~~an~~ easy conditions to Pakistan for its debt repayment as it is already in a fragile economic conditions. Most of the agreements and conditions are secret.

5. Ensuring participation of local people of Balouchistan;

According to SDPI report, Pakistan should ensure the participation of local people of Balouchistan to bring peace and stability in the region. This is crucial for smooth running of CPEC phase - II.

Conclusion;

To make it short, CPEC is a game changer

—:~

not only for Pakistan but it is also necessary for regional development that has potential to connect whole region of South Asia to other regions of the world. CPEC phase II is important as it can ensure the real progress. Both Beijing and Pakistan should deal collectively with all the hindrances and complete this project to achieve its desired results.

~: Question-2: ~

Pak-Afghan
Relations

10/20

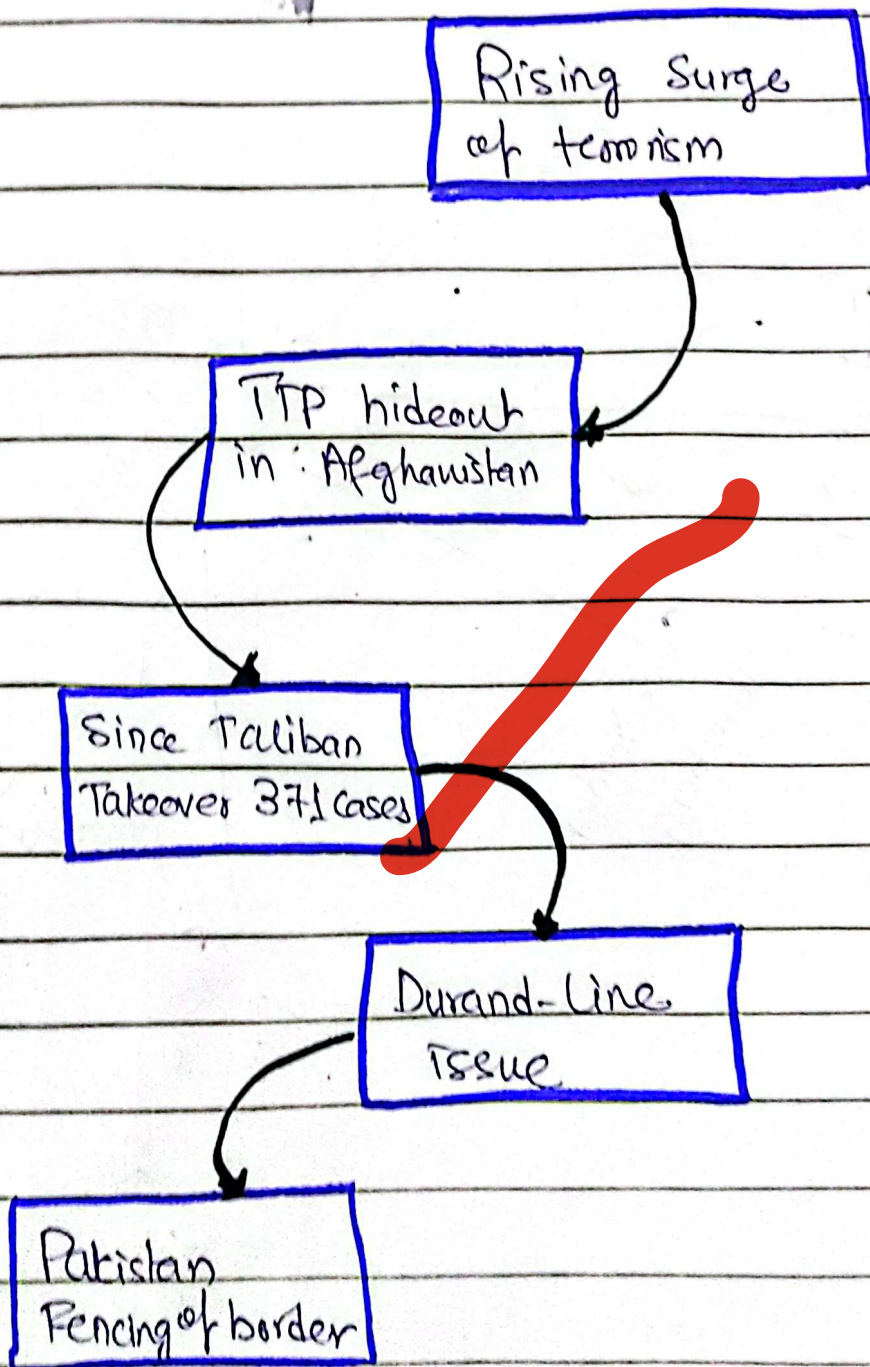
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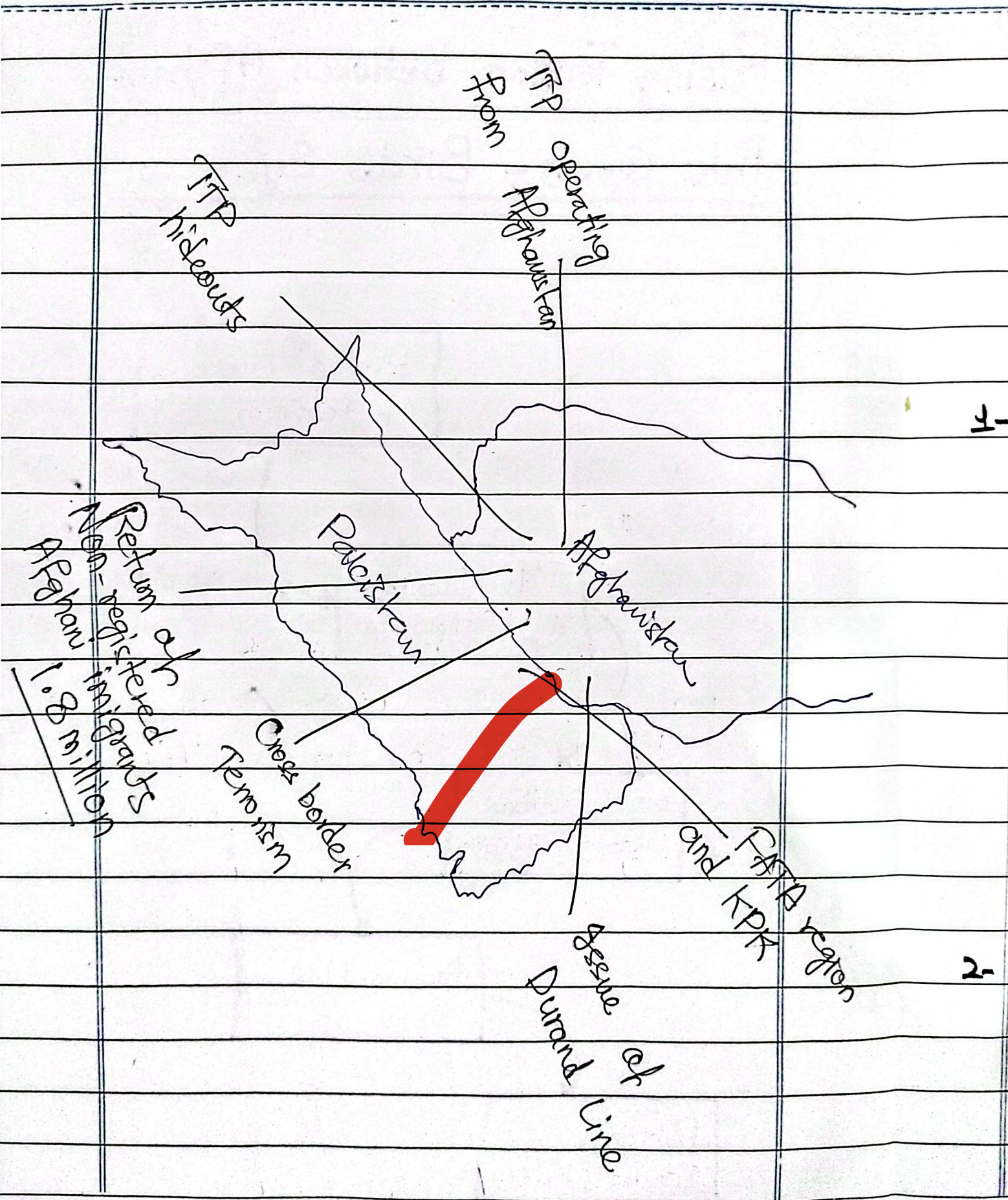
Afghanistan and Pakistan not only share long borders but also share a long history of tumultuous relations with each other.

- Maleeha Lodhi

Pakistan ~~has~~ shared its longest border with Afghanistan, however the relationship between both neighbours sometime remains as smooth while sometime ~~remains~~ both face tension in their relationship. The recent surge in cross-border terrorism, the issue of Afghan refugees, rise in attacks on Pak army and durand-line issue ~~are~~ is straining the relations. However, by moving towards peaceful instruments both can settle dispute.

Rising Tension between Afghan-Pak Govts - Bird's Eyeview;





Critically Evaluating

Pak-Afghan situation Due

To TTP;

1-

Rise in Cross-border
Terrorism and attacks
on Pak Army;

Since 2022,
there is a rise in cross-
border terrorism, according
to IPRR report. The infiltration
of terrorists and attacks
of Taliban over Pakistan army
also surged.

2-

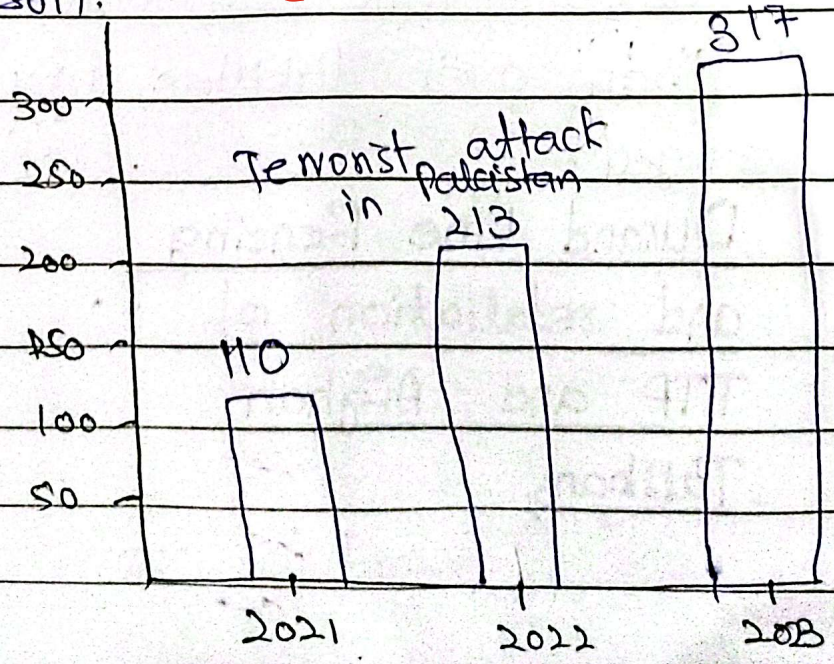
Durand Line Fencing
and retaliation of
TTP and Afghan
Taliban;

According to

Jem Johnson, an eminent researcher, Taliban government and TTP are strongly militating against the fencing of Durand-Line border.

3- Surge in Terrorist attacks in Pakistan since 2022;

According to IPRT reports, 371 attacks happened only in 2023. While in 2022 there are 210 terrorist attacks initiated by TTP operating through Afghan soil.



4-

Afghan government's
lack of action over
TTP issue further
strained relations;

Maleeha Lodhi,
an eminent diplomat, writes
in her article that despite
all the evidences provided
by Pakistan, the lack of
action by Afghan government
has further strained their relations.

5-

Return of 18 million
Afghan Refugees to
Afghanistan;

In the light of
its security situation, Pakistan
government has decided to
return the Afghan refugee
that are illegally living
inside Pakistan. These illegal
Afghan refugees are challenge
to the security of Pakistan.

Possible Recommendations;

- 1- Pakistan should use Diplomatic influence of major powers like China to deal with Afghanistan;

China is a new emerging investor in Afghanistan, according to New York Times. Pakistan can use its diplomatic influence over Afghanistan to carry out peace talks and solution of ^{the} issue.

- 2- Holding of Bilateral talks to settle this issue;

Pakistan should initiate G2G bilateral talks as many are underway. The diplomatic pressure and

emphasizing on the issue of Pakistan's security should be discussed at governmental level

3- Pursuing Religious Diplomacy towards Afghanistan;

Pakistan can use religious diplomacy to end the issue of TTP and Taliban's hostility towards Pakistan, according to Malika Lodhi.

4- Aid for Humanitarian-Development - Peace Nexus;

Humanitarian aid is not enough to bring peace and stability between two countries. Pakistan should use its aid for Afghanistan to bring peace and to show

its soft image.

Conclusion;

In a nutshell, the peace and stability in Afghanistan is necessary to ensure peace and stability in Pakistan. The government of both countries should collaborate bilaterally to end the issue. In this time of crisis, Afghan government need the support of Pakistan to achieve prosperity.