

Question # 01

10/20

→ Introduction:

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a flagship project of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has faced significant challenges leading to a slowdown in its implementation.

There are many reasons for this slowdown of the project are given below.

→ Reason for the Slowdown:

1. Economic Challenges in Pakistan:

→ Debt Crisis: Pakistan's mounting external debt and declining foreign reserves have reduced its ability to invest its share in CPEC project and ensure payment to China.

2. Energy Sector Crisis: Circular debt in Pakistan's energy sector has reduce further investment in Energy project under CPEC.

→ Political Instability: Changes in government and policy shifts create uncertainty slowing down project and also lack of consensus among provinces on project can slowdown CPEC project.

→ Security Concerns: Attack on Chinese nationals and CPEC projects by groups in Balochistan have raised safety concerns for workers and investor. These security situation can necessary additional cost for protection can slow down the CPEC project.

→ Bureaucratic Inefficiencies: The slow decisions making process and

Lack of coordination between federal and provincial system have also hampered the project

Recommendation for Islamabad and Beijing to Reinvigorate CPEC

→ For Islamabad

1. Economic Reforms: Implement fiscal discipline to address the debt crisis and create more stable economic environment. And also want energy sector reforms to resolve circular debt issue.

2. Improve Governance: Streamline the decision making processes and want to reduce bureaucratic hurdles and ensure transparency and accountability in the use of CPEC funds to rebuild investor confidence.

→ For Beijing

1. Flexible Financing: Restructure debt repayment terms to

reduce Pakistan financial burdens like extending loans. ~~Shift~~ focus from loans to grants for select project.

→ Integrated Security Framework:

Collaborate with Pakistan to develop a comprehensive security ~~frameworks~~ to protect CPEC and workers.

→ Conclusion:

The slowing down of CPEC is rooted in a combination of economic, political and security challenges. Islamabad must address its internal governance and economic issues, while Beijing needs to adopt flexible financing and ~~integrated security~~ frameworks. Both nations ensure transparency and sustainability to ensure CPEC.



Question # 03

10/20

→ Introduction:

Russia and China have significantly deepened their economic, strategic, and geopolitical collaboration in recent years, presenting a potential challenge to the US-led global order.

There are some ~~key~~ aspects of this partnership which are given below

1. Economic Collaboration:

1. Energy Cooperation: Russia is a major energy supplier to China, with natural gas pipelines growing trade. China demand for energy and Russia supply capacity create a strong mutual dependency.

2. Bilateral Trade: With increasing transactions trade between the two countries has expanded

rapidly \$200 billion annually in local currencies to reduce reliance on the US dollar.

→ Infrastructure Projects: Investments in infrastructure projects, particularly in BRI are creating new economic corridors connecting the two nations.

Strategic Partnership

→ Military Ties: "joint military exercise, technology sharing, and arms deals underscore their economy. This collaboration enhances both nations military capabilities."

→ Cybersecurity and Technology

Cooperation in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and technology development reduce reflects a shared interest in reducing reliance on Western tech firms.

→ Geopolitical Alignment

→ Multipolar World Order: Russia and China advocate for a multipolar world where power is distributed among several major states, challenging the unipolar dominance of US.

→ Opposition to US Hegemony: Both nations views US dominance is a threat to their sovereignty and interest. They both coordinate their position in international forums like the UN to counter US-led initiatives.

Challenges and Implication

→ Global Impact: Their collaboration could lead to the creation of alternative global institutions, creating a system potentially fragmenting the current world order.

→ Shared Goals:

While both countries shared a common goal of countering the US.

Conclusion:

The Russia - China partnership is an evolving dynamic that seeks to undermine the dominance of the US led world order by creating alternative centers of powers. While their collaboration is not without limitations, and the long term success depends on their ability to navigate mutual interests and external pressure.