

Pakistan's Thesis:

CSS 2026 Mock

Qno: 4

① Introduction:

Water which used to be an existential resource, has turned out to be instrumentalized as a weapon of war. From global North to Global South, water has lost its shared critical essence as a natural human resource. Rather, it has become weaponized by both global and regional powers to assert their hegemony in geopolitics. The politicization of water has turned into a dangerous militarized narrative wherein India (as a regional hegemon) unilaterally kept IWT in abeyance. Pakistan considered it an act of war, considering its overdependence of water resource as an agricultural economy. China, too, has in favor of Pakistan, warned India to honor

international water treaties. Thus, this upstream and downstream ^{water} politics has greatly disturbed the balance of power in the south Asian region.

② Water Politics in South Asia

(a) India Held IWT in Abeyance Unilaterally

The Indus Water Treaty, which was brokered by World Bank in 1960, has survived a number of wars between India and Pakistan. However, recently India kept it in abeyance to assert its hegemonic designs.

(b) Pakistan saw it 'as an Act of War'

In response to India's unilateral decision to suspend IWT, following Pahalgarh attacks, Pakistan assertly called it 'as an act of war'. On 23rd April, 2025 India after the failed attempt to

taunt Pakistan's image as a terrorist country involved in Pahalgarh attacks, called for the unilateral suspension of Pakistan's shared water rights.

(c) China's Decision to Build Dams over Indian Rivers as an Upper Riparian

Following this, China stepped in to support the water rights of Pakistan as a lower riparian state. China as Pakistan's most trusted ally in the region, has vowed to build dams on Indian rivers to disrupt its water flow to support Pakistan's stance.

③ Politicization of Water and Its Broader Implications on South Asian Region

① At Regional Level:

(i) Militarization of Water

Following India's suits globally,

the upper riparian states are marginalizing lower riparian states and stripping them of their due water rights. This hints at a loss of regionalism across the world with increasing unilateral tendencies.

(B) Strained Regional Ties

After the Pakistan-India sour relations, the ties between China and India, too, would be strained. India would further side with the US against China to destabilize it geopolitically and geoeconomically. Thus, the power balance would be further disturbed in the whole region of South Asia.

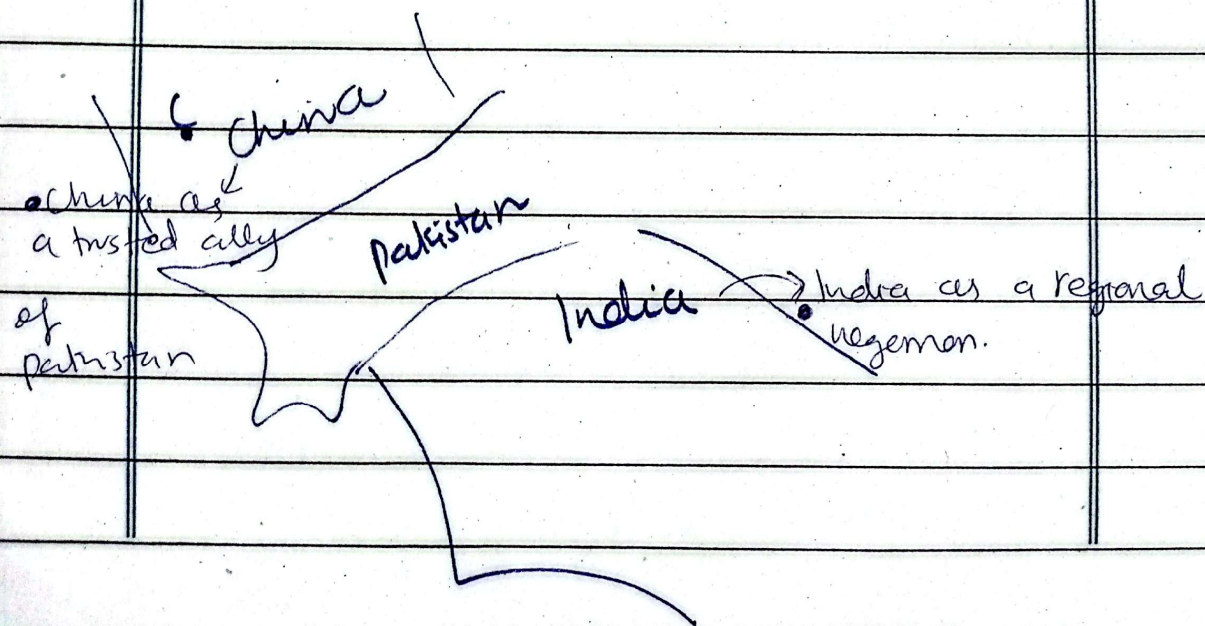
(C) Water Rights of Lower Riparian states at Risk

The water rights of lower riparian

states would be at further risk.
Seeing India, the upper riparian
states would be emboldened enough
to stop their waters to assert
their hegemonic designs.

(D) Skewed Balance of Power

This water politics between India
& Pakistan, and now China would
further destabilize the South Asian
region as a whole. Moreover, the
balance of power would be skewed
and bigger states with geographical
leverage would bully lower riparian
states following India as a ^{new} precedent.



(E) Risk of Regional-level Floods

If the three neighbors would keep on disturbing the flow of rivers and their natural source of geographical locations it could induce a region-wide calamity in the form of extreme weather events (floods, droughts, monsoons, hurricanes).

"Water should be seen as a shared natural resource, not a tool to extract compliance from smaller states". — **Chunam Abhay**

(B) At International level:

(i) The Dying Liberal World Order

The shared norms of humanity in the form of pluralism, multilateralism, and collective responsibility are being replaced with 'each for himself' approach. The universal

norms of honoring multilateral agreements are being challenged to favor certain nations at the cost of others.

(ii) Strains on Multilateralism

The collective norms of multilateralism are being shed by nations backed by western patronage. India as a strategic ally of the US against China, has been curbing its outright unilateral decisions. India has repeatedly shunned multilateralism in favor of unilateralism.

(iii) Decapacitating International Arbitration Courts

Pakistan submitted the case against India in the Hague. The Permanent Court of Arbitration has ruled against India. Still, India has returned its decision as such due to the poor or lax

implementation of international rules.

So, it hints at a dragging ruled
rules-based international world
order.

Conclusion

thus, it could be concluded in the end that

Pakistan and India need to
open dialogue before China steps in
and the escalation ladder gets
higher. India needs to look
inward and judge its hegemonic
and colonial tactics to extract
compliance from lower riparian states
like Pakistan - Post-Pakalgaon,

India has been saving its face by
playing the victim card. However, its
suspension of IWT is an act of war
and China, joining in the water conflict,
would further the militarization and
politicization of water across the
South Asian region.

Qno:5

① Introduction:

After the Phallegam four-day conflict between Pakistan and India on 22 April, 2025, both Pakistan and India dispatched a delegation of diplomats of high-profile ranks. The battles of narratives had started between the two arch-rivals. India was the first to send its delegation of diplomats around the world to save its image. Both countries are racing to win the hearts and minds of international powers to assert their diplomatic dominance beyond the domestic spheres. However, Pakistan has already won the war on both diplomatic and conventional warfronts. India, through its own ^{behavior} condescending and security failures, has served the last diplomatic ground of its enemy (Pakistan).

(2) Post-Pahalgam Indian Diplomatic Drive:

(i) Soft Power Diplomacy

After the four-day post-Pahalgam war, India is actively pursuing a soft power diplomacy. After failing to assert its hard power, India has resorted to soft power image-building initiatives to win the war of narratives.

"India is manufacturing lies, selling them, and still playing the victim card" — Malavika Lodhi

(ii) Using Personality cult around Shashi Tharoor

The Indian embassy has been pitching Shashi Tharoor as the most credible diplomat. His exceptional English language skills are being utilized

to justify India's cinematic attacks on Pakistani territories after the Pahalgam incident this year.

(iii) Mask of Multilateralism

India, after taking foolish unilateral steps post-Pahalgam attack, is trying to wear the mask of multilateralism. India is taking part in multilateral forums to pitch its version of truth to the world.

(iv) To settle Domestic Unrest

For the first time in Indian history, the citizens are asking questions from the Indian military, and for all the right reasons. India has already lost the war domestically. However, it is hell bent on saving its international image. The domestic

invest in India has compelled the Indian officials to turn to the outside world for validation.

(v) Exposed Indian security lapses

The phalgam attack has rightly exposed the security and defense lapses in the Indian military.

India blamed Pakistan for its own security failures. Thus,

India has failed to diplomatically isolate Pakistan. Rather, it has backfired on India.

(vi) Amit Shah's Verdict

India's ^{ex} home-minister Amit Shah

has pointed out the failings of

Modi government. He has rightly

criticized India's blame on Pakistan

for phalgam attack. Within few

minutes after the attack, India

quickly scapegoated Pakistan to avoid

internal security.

(3) Post-Pahalgam Diplomatic Drive by Pakistan

(a) Pakistan's Measured and Calculated Response

Both diplomatically and militarily, Pakistan gave a measured and calculated response to India. India's reactive and hate-filled propaganda was countered both domestically and internationally. Pakistan even asked India to set up an inquiry committee to investigate the attack and Pakistan would help India out of goodwill in the process.

(b) Diplomatic Delegation led by Bilawal Bhutto

The foreign minister of Pakistan, Bilawal Bhutto, led a diplomatic

drive internationally against India. He led the delegation to the United Nations to defend Pakistan's stance against India.

"Modi is the true version of Netanyahu." — Bilawal Bhutto.

(C) Pakistan's Coherent National Narrative

Post-Pahalgam, Pakistan has restored its lost coherent national narrative. All the political parties without any ideological divide stood against India. They supported the Pakistan military and aid force to India's surprise. The whole nation was united in a single polity to defend the country.

(D) US sided with Pakistan

US, with India's as its key ally against China, sided with Pakistan. To India's surprise, US and no other global power brought its ideas of Pakistan as a terrorism sponsor. Rather India faced diplomatic isolation for its childish foreign policies.

(E) India was Diplomatically cornered

The diplomatic drive by Pakistan exposed the domestic politics of India under Modi's BJP. India used Pahalgam attack as an excuse to silence dissent in

Bihar and West Bengal (key politically resistant regions against BJP).

(A) Internationalization of Kashmir

Post-Pahalgam, Kashmir was again internationalized worldwide. The US against took interest in mediating the Kashmir issue between Pakistan and India. India has long been calling it a bilateral issue since Simla deputation. However, Pahalgam attack compelled Trump to offer mediation between the two.

(C) Re-Hyphenation of Pakistan-India

After Pahalgam, and by the virtue of Pakistan's diplomatic drive in the UN, the US has started re-hyphenating Pakistan and India as the two South Asian regions. India wants to see itself at par with China as a global power player.

Conclusion

Thus, it could be concluded that the Indian's diplomatic drive further exposed its ~~political~~ and security failings. Moreover, it has further consolidated the international image of Pakistan. India tried to defame Pakistan as a terror sponsor. However, the international community did not buy India's narratives. Rather, they sided with Pakistan diplomatically, cornering India.

Qno:

① Introduction

China has been able to assert its global dominance as a sole global power. Following the US indiscriminate terrorism by

Trump on both allies and enemies alike, the power vacuum has given a golden chance to China to replace the bipolar international order. US trade tariffs could offer, however, challenges to China too, to navigate the complex geopolitical and geoeconomic landscapes. Thus, China is posed with a novel way to replace the Western and while global order. As Dr. Malecha Indhi says, the future of the world belongs to the Global South.

② Opportunities for China Post-US Tariffs

(a) Strengthen Trade Ties Across Europe

After the Trump imposed heavy trade tariffs on Europe and China

and the broader South Asia, China can get hold of this chance to fill the vacuum left by the US. China can consolidate its trade ties with Europe and the broader South Asian region to assert its economic diplomacy.

(b) Soft Power Diplomacy

Since US under Trump is asserting its military and economic power, China can, in contrast, assert its soft image. Through arts, culture, music, and literature, China can assert its soft power diplomacy and win the heart and minds of international powers.

(c) Enhance its Political Clout

China can, being an already

sole economic power, can assert its political hegemony, too.

The US under Trump is hell bent on supporting the MAGA narrative.

In this scenario, China can enhance its geopolitical clout to replace the US as the sole political global power.

(D) Technological Dominance

China is the biggest exporter and producer of micro-chips. Thus, with US trade tariffs on both its allies and enemies alike, it can surpass US in technological dominance. The creation of 'Deepseek' by China in replacement of ChatGPT AI has spoken volumes of the technological resilience of China far ahead of the US.

(8) Challenges to China

(a) New Front War by Russia

Russia, too, is pitching itself in place of US as the sole global power. It wants to assert its lost geopolitical significance. Thus, China would have to open a new war front initiated by Russia for global dominance.

(b) China's Soft Authoritarianism

China is a soft authoritarian power. Thus, it can assert its global dominance by doubling down on its non-democratic tactics to silence dissenters home and abroad.

Its treatment of Uighur Muslims in Xinjiang region and its Tibet region have been shrouded with controversies time and again.

(C) Lost Anti-Terrorism Drive

The US has been a critical voice against anti-terrorism groups. Its ties with Pakistan around anti-terrorism might lost its vitality. China, being an economic hegemon, might be less interested in dismantling global terrorist networks unlike the US.

(D) Democratic Backsliding Expedited

The global trend of democratic backsliding might get expedited, seeing the rise of China, authoritarian regimes around the world could be emboldened to justify their unjust and extra-constitutional practices.

(E) A New Unipolar world

The balance of power globally would be skewed if China takes the US' place. China can replace US as another global superpower. The world might again see unipolarity as the new normal. Instead of dispersing power among multiple actors, this new arrangement would concentrate ~~but~~ once again in a single power.

"The more the things change, the more they remain the same" - Abhay Nasir.

(F) Balance of Power Disturbed

The ongoing rapprochement efforts by China in case of Iran and Saudi Arabia,

9. ~~Ramgarh~~ and Feroke, and
then between India and
Pakistan post-PoK
could reunite the balance of
power and distort it wholly.

Conclusion

Q no: 7

① Introduction

Pakistan's economic landscape has been touted as a success story often times. However, just the current account surplus of 2.1% could not ensure a nation-wide reform plan. The economy needs to be reamped beyond IMF conditionalities to reform from within structurally. The end goal is to not treat the symptoms, but the disease itself. The elite-centric, agriculture-reliant, and anti-poor economic policies must be replaced with inclusive and home-grown policies to benefit the lowest strata of society.

② Structural Response in Pakistan's Economy

(a) Economic Diversification beyond Cotton

Pakistan has been the biggest exporter of cotton. However, the economy has not been diversified beyond it. Pakistan must bring diversity in its exports to help the country grow economically.

"Cotton as low cash-crop must be replaced with value-added crops" - IMF.

(b) Trade Multilateralism

US is the biggest export destination of Pakistan. However, Pakistan must diversify its trade partners to reach Europe and East Asia, too.

Pakistan must form multilateral economic ties with countries beside the US to grow exponentially.

(c) Home-grown Economic Policies

Pakistan should not buy economic policies from other countries. Rather, it should build and encourage home-grown economic policies which are relatively content-specific, and more close to the people themselves.

(d) Broaden the Tax Net, not deepen it

Tax net should be broadened, not deepened further to hit the compliant salaried class. The agriculturalist, industrialists, real estate, and retail are outside the tax net. Thus, they should be

brought under the tax net to
reduce the inflationary pressures on
the poor class.

(E) Focus on Microeconomic Indicators

Instead of focusing macro-economic
indicators, such as interest
rate, currency devaluation
and import and export policies,
microeconomic indicators should
be improved. Inflation,
unemployment, and purchasing
power parity, etc, should be
improved to improve the
ordinary Pakistani households.

"44.1% of the Pakistanis
live below the poverty
line" — WB.

(F) Political Economy

The whole nexus between business and politics should be discouraged. The corporate sector has commercialized politics as a means to serve vested interests. However, economy should be detached from politics to ensure a level playing field for all.

(G) Ease of Doing Business

The monopoly of government in markets should be reduced. Rather, the private sector should be encouraged to do business easily. The climate of business should be improved to attract the private sector domestically and internationally, too.

(H) (Public-private
partnership can be leveraged
to bring economic
structural reforms?" — Khuram Abbasi.

(H) Ensure competitiveness in Markets

The government should act as a
regulator to ensure an
even level playing field for
all. It should ensure^{it} through
the Competition Commission of
Pakistan.

(I)