

Question-1(1) Introduction

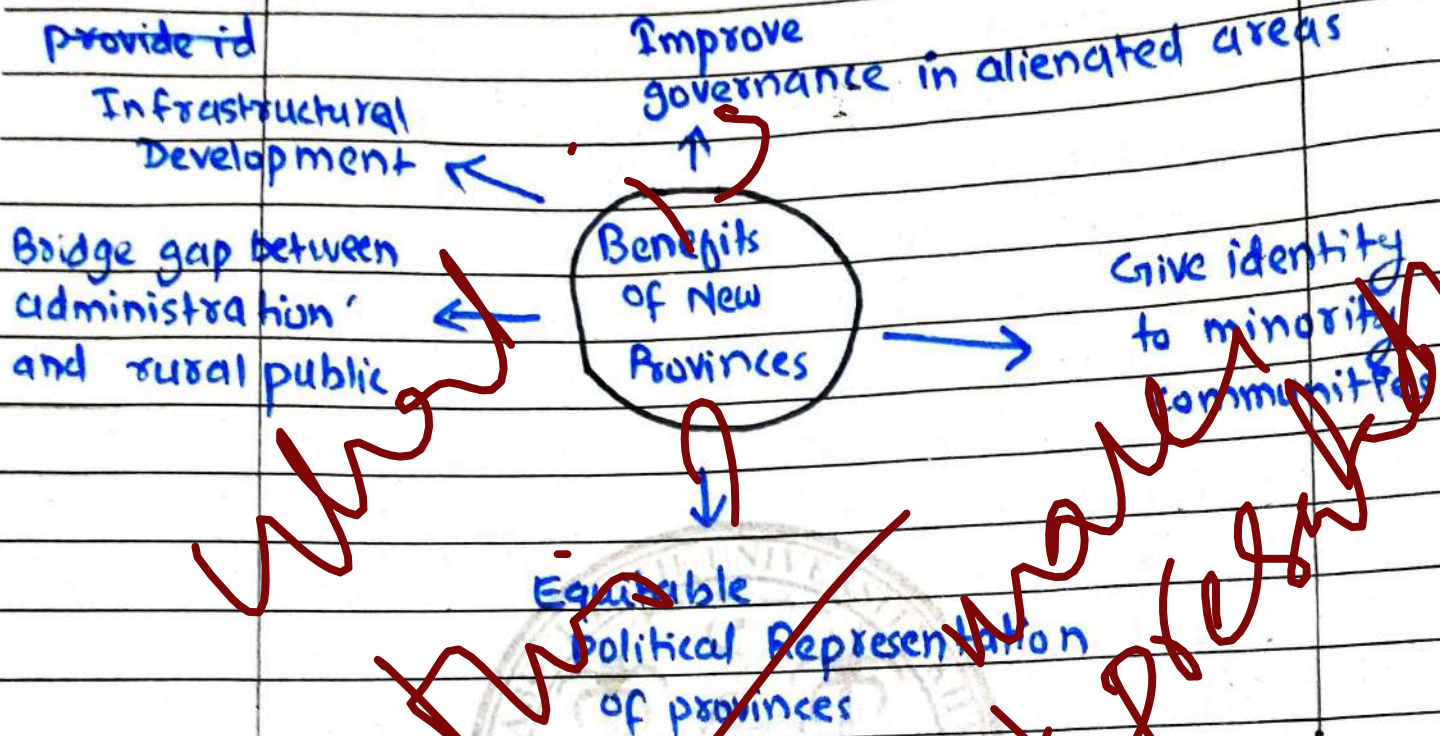
The formation of new provinces is an old discussion that recurred recently. The issue arose in the absence of major protests or public demand, raising doubts about covert interests of political leaders.

It is a complex issue with multi-faceted hurdles related to financial costs, ethnic conflicts, administrative fragmentation, political deadlock, and sidelining of ^{other} major problems of Pakistan that demand urgent reforms. Owing to challenges in formation of new ~~problem~~ provinces, government should empower local governments, strengthen institutions, devolute finances and ensure accountability to acquire improved governance framework in Pakistan.

(2) Proponents of formation of new provinces highlight it as an administrative need to improve governance

The proponents ~~to~~ who raise need of new provinces highlight the

following benefits



(3) Hurdles before the formation of new provinces in Pakistan

(a) Heavy Financial cost of new administrations on fragile economy of Pakistan

New provinces ^{will} require new ministries, administrative units, high courts, civil servants and whole framework of governance. It ~~is~~ ~~will~~ cost billions of rupees. As the country ~~is~~ already stuck in heavy fiscal deficit and debt issues, hence economic cost is one of the major hurdles in formation

of new provinces in Pakistan.

(b) Approval by provincial assemblies: A major political hurdle

For any provincial geographic change, constitution demands approval from 2/3rd majority from provincial assembly concerned. Hence, consent of all provinces with approval from both houses of parliament is another impediment for formation of new provinces in Pakistan.

(c) Consolidation of ethnic disparities in diverse population of Pakistan

Pakistan has diverse communities in all four provinces. Boundaries based on ethnicity present risks of ethnic tensions and social unrest. Hence, new provinces will pose risks for ethnic disintegration in the country.

(d) Administrative disputes in division of assets:

According to one suggestion four provinces should be converted into 12 provinces. However, there are challenges

of assets divisions, civil servants appointments, boundary lines, natural resource distribution, water canals, sources of revenue generation and many other complexities. These challenges pose hindrance before new provinces' formation in Pakistan.

(e) Commerce and Tax issues; Raising business costs

Businessman who conduct businesses across provinces will have to pay more taxes, raising business costs. Therefore, business elites reject this demand of new provinces.

(f) Risks for sidelining of major concerns of Pakistan;

The current major issues of Pakistan are economic stability, counter-terrorism, sabotaging militancy, and diplomatic dominance in international arena. However, if government focus on new provinces then all major issues that demand urgent focus will be ignored. Hence, it will undermine progress of Pakistan.

(4) Recommendations: Paving the way for alternative options

Owing to financial, political, administrative and ethnic cost, following are some alternative options instead of new provinces to achieve the ^{same} objectives.

(a) Empowerment of local government framework

The Article 140(A) of the Constitution of Pakistan mandates local government. Hence, provinces should empower local governments, conduct timely elections and provide them autonomy to improve governance in all provinces of Pakistan.

(b) Strengthen oversight mechanism to deliver efficient public service delivery

The administration must improve accountability mechanisms, bring transparency, and feedback of public to deliver efficient public services. A pertinent case study is of United Kingdom. It has central government with empowered local units that function efficiently. Hence, without

new provinces, the government can achieve same objectives.

(c) Fiscal decentralization and autonomy of local authorities

To function efficiently, local authorities need adequate finances and autonomy. Provincial governments should remove hold from finances and devolve resources.

In this way, they can improve health, education, sanitation and infrastructural development in local areas, especially marginalized communities.

(d) Initiate pilot projects to increase chances of success

Before adopting large-scale projects, the government should start small-scale pilot projects. After ensuring their success, they must be implemented at high-level to increase chances of success. In this way, local governments can improve governance in all regions.

(5) Conclusion

To sum up the above discussion, new provinces are not the ultimate solution. The recurring demand aims to achieve improved administrative framework. However, there are massive hurdles that impede urgent new provinces' formation. They include economic costs, ethnic tensions, political hurdles, administrative complexities and ignorance of other major issues. Hence, the pragmatic solution is empowerment of local governments, strengthening oversight, and fiscal decentralization. Pakistan should adopt international successful models like U.K's Model to improve its overall governance.

Question No. 3

(1) Introduction

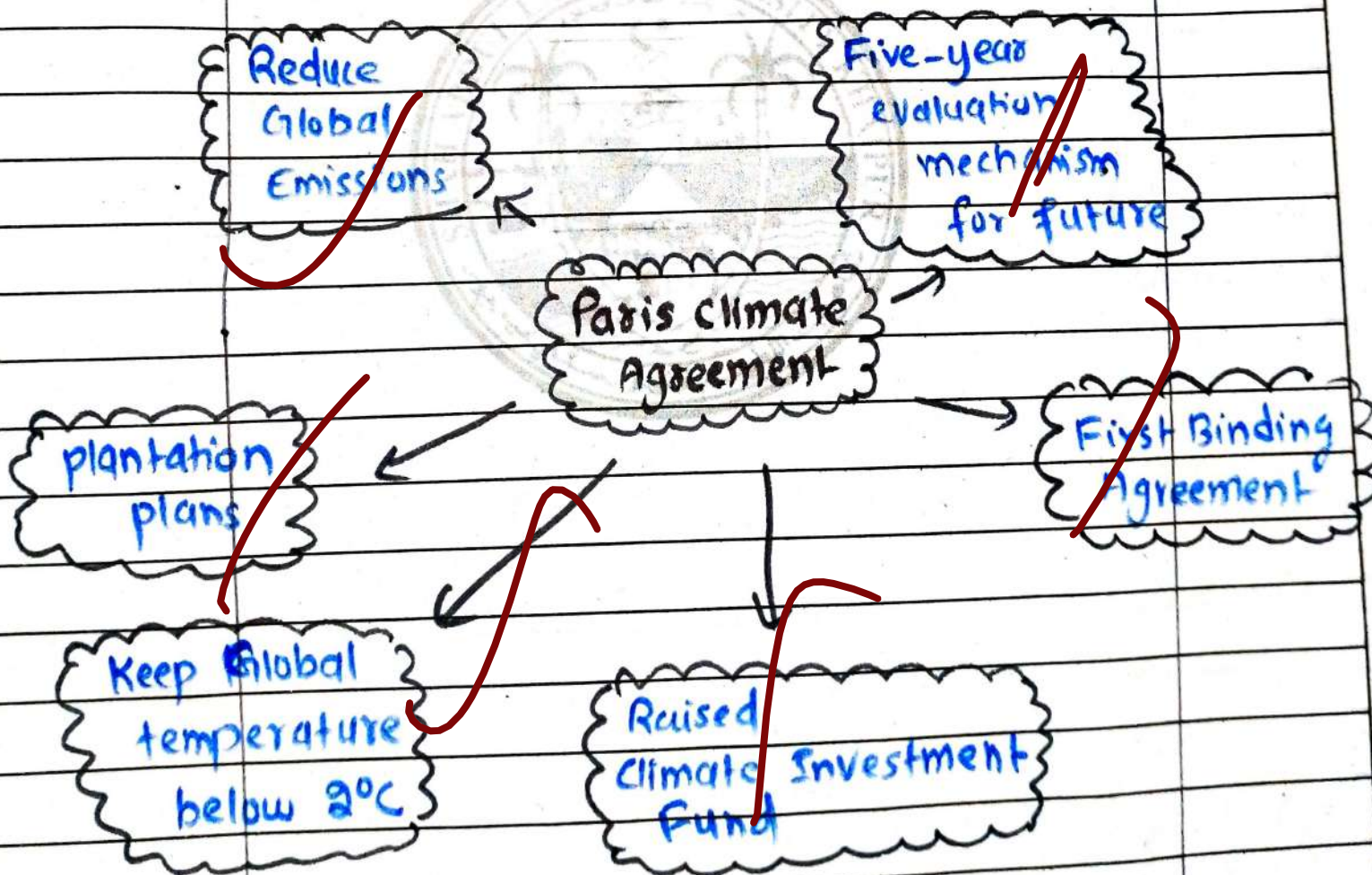
Paris Agreement was an important struggle against climate change. Despite a landmark achievement, Donald Trump ^{has} pulled America out for the second time in 2025. He called climate change "hoax" and reiterated on fossil fuels drilling. The absence of world leader in climate efforts undermines future efforts. It creates a groundswell for other countries to increase emission. Additionally, it risks climate investment, and reduce ~~leg~~ overall global efforts in the challenge of climate change.

(2) Donald Trump pulled America out of Paris Climate Agreement

Donald Trump calls climate change "hoax", rejecting existence of climate change as a human activity. He's campaign calls slogan like "Drill, Baby, Drill". He prioritizes economic sustainability over environmental protection. For that reason, he pulled America out of the Paris Climate Agreement.

(3) Paris Climate Agreement; a historical success in unity and consensus of countries

Paris Climate Agreement or Conference of Parties (COP-24) held in 2015 in Paris, France. In this agreement, almost 195 countries pledged to reduce emissions. Following are the main features of this agreement:



(4) Future efforts against climate change in the absence of world leader

(a) Undermining global effort and unity against climate change

The absence of world leader reduces commitment of other countries as well. Other leaders may also start focusing on fossil fuels consumption and industrialization. Hence, it will shatter global efforts advocated since years.

(b) Reducing climate investment for developing countries;

During COP29 in Azerbaijan, developed countries pledged to disburse \$300 billion annually for vulnerable countries. In this investment, as if America pulled out, it is very difficult to raise the required amount. Hence, absence of world leader country compromises climate efforts of all states.

(c) Creating a groundwork for other leaders to leave Paris agreement.

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America is the second largest emitter of carbon after China. Trump's action of pulling America out instead of one of the largest emitters, sets a reason for other countries to leave the agreement and focus on industrialization. One such example is Argentina. Hence, it undermines future agreements as well.

(d) America's consistent Green House Gas (GHG) emissions and climate risks.

As America continues to emit, it raises serious concerns for climate degradation. Due to continued emission, pollution rises, and threatening environmental sustainability in future.

(e) Creating opportunities for other states to lead the world;

As the America pulled for second time from Paris Agreement, it creates a vacuum for other countries to fill this space. It may be China, that advocates for use of renewable resources for climate sustainability.

(5) China's Advocacy for climate efforts in future

China is ~~at~~ the largest carbon emitter in the world. However, it doesn't reject the climate change and global warming as an existing reality. It has pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060.

(a) Efforts to transition towards sustainable resources of energy.

China is one of the fastest largest produce of electric vehicles, solar panels, and pledges for its transition. Hence, China can fill leadership vacuum in absence of America.

(5) Contribution of other countries ; in efforts against climate change

America emits only 10% of total emissions, whereas, all other countries emit remaining 90%. Hence, without America the world can still make huge 'change'. However,

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it needs global unity and resilience on this issue. Without efficient collaboration and adequate efforts, the global may remain unfulfilled.

(7) Conclusion

To conclude, the above discussion shows that Paris agreement was one of the successful agreement to ensure environmental sustainability. However, Trump's move of America's withdrawal, undermines global efforts. It impacts global commitment, create groundwork for other states to leave, and affects climate fund as well. However, it creates a vacuum for other countries like China. The America's withdrawal, undoubtedly compromise climate efforts, but remaining countries can play major part if they reduce emissions and save the planet Earth.