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Question #02

Pak Afghan relations Continue to remain tensed even after mediation by China. what do you think are major factors and how could it be improved?

Answer:

Pak-Afghan relation Post-2021:

Doha Agreement in 2021 was the sign of Pakistan's diplomatic efforts to maintain stability in the region.

A 20 years old war has been stopped and America left the region. Pakistan's foreign policy towards Afghanistan was always co-operative and in the interest of both. Pakistan's recurring efforts to foster relations with Afghanistan were apparently clear.

Moreover, its approach with the help of regional powers specifically China was also to bring peace and stability around Durand line.

China has played prominent role to normalize the relations. Last year Tri-lateral meeting in China was also a part of China's efforts to normalize the relations the relation.

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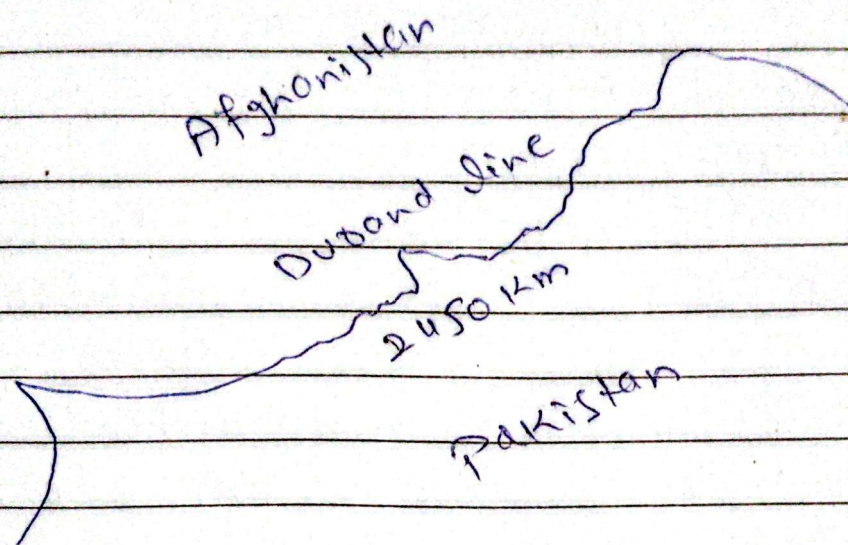
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between two countries. China has opened diplomatic forum multiple times in early 2025 as well and recent Chinese foreign minister's visit in August 2025 was also to bring regional stability. Pakistan and Afghanistan were agreed in recent months to upgradation of Embassy and promoted foreign envoy to foreign minister in the embassies. There were news that Afghanistan, and Pakistan, and China are going to expand CPEC to CPAEC in early 2025. These collaborations ~~was~~ showed positive future but these were only from Pakistan's side. After multiple invitations by Pakistan to Afghan minister, none of their senior member had visited Pakistan to further strengthen the bilateral relations.

What are the major factors that relation still remain tensed?

(i) Afghan Rejects the Durand Line
Durand line ~~was~~ is the international border declared and admitted by all regional and global powers. Afghanistan consistently denied it

and through its proxies, like Fit-na-Khawarij - TTP, resulted in cross border terrorism to weaken the grip of Pakistani Authorities in border areas.



(ii) Afghanistan Taliban Supports TTP and other factions because of its own vulnerability as De-facto government.

Another major reason is proxies and factions that are supported by Afghanistan government. As Afghan government is not elected government, and being a de-facto government it has to make its grip over factions and ~~achieve~~ acceptance through it. If it doesn't do so, there are chances that

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these factions and ~~the~~ civil bodies initiate rebellion against them. De-facto governments are oftenly sunned by Collaboration of domestic Powers.

(iii) Social grievances of Afghanistan because of Pakistan's foreign Policy post 9/11.

In the aftermath of 9/11 attacks, and Pakistan alliance with NATO to Counter terrorism is another reason of mistrust among Afghanistan government toward Pakistan. Due to religion extremism, they consider that Pakistan always Prioritize its national interest regardless of regional Collaboration. Analyst says that this is the another reason that Afghanistan does not want to make long term policies with Pakistan.

How relations could be improved ?

(i) Diplomatic pressure by regional and Islamic states ;

Diplomacy always Proven to be a reliable and better solution

of every mistrust and conflict. Pakistan has always prioritized diplomacy, but ~~re~~ instead of these efforts Afghanistan government isn't ready to cooperate. Taliban government also want regional acceptance and except Russia, none of the state has accepted taliban as a government. Pakistan should leverage this ~~and diplomatically join others~~ state that they should prioritize and with collaboration of others pressurize Afghanistan that before acceptance they should have to vanish the menace of terrorism from their soil.

(ii) IBO's in northern areas to weaken these factions :

History shows that hard power often helps to sit on the table talk. Intelligence based operations are essential to mitigate the menace of terrorism and taliban government and ~~th~~ its allies should rethink that whether they are capable ~~of~~ to fight against well organized military. Diplomatic pressure from one side and Secondly operation

against their allies could bound the Afghanistan to survive peacefully in the region and enhance economic ties that are much needed at the time.

(iii) Local Support from northern areas :

To strengthen the bilateral relations and bring them as normal, Pakistan have to acquire local support from vulnerable regions. Once they are agreed and cooperate to state authorities, militants incursion would always decrease because of rejection from our soil. Almost 17 ethnic groups living in the region of durand line that have cross border family relations. ~~and~~ Analysts suggests that local collaboration and mitigating their grievances could help to stop the incursion. That ultimately weaken the afghanistan stance to annexed these region and they might rethink to cooperate rather than skirmishes.

Question # 03

Formation of new provinces. Critically evaluate the hurdles and give recommendations?

Answer:

Introduction

It has become a recurring norm that after every change in the government, political discourse starts in the media and government.

New provinces are not only the demand of technocrats but also regional and ethnic factions. Examples has been given of India's 28 provinces and the states of America that how ^{good} governance can be achieved by making new provinces. Moreover, distribution of resources to lower level will also be achieved by dividing the large areas into smaller one. While critics have different opinion that making new provinces ~~can~~ not only cannot solve these problems, unless reforms and institutional strength comes in place.

Reason for the demand of new provinces :

(i) Good governance

By dividing long provinces into smaller one can help to govern them better. Administration and municipal activities further strengthened. India at the time of independence have 14 states and now it has 28 states and that resembles that how their governance and administration is better.

(ii) Distribution of Power

New provinces would distribute the power and finances to lower level and these can be utilized in making better infrastructure and other social initiatives can be taken.

Hurdles in the way :

(i) New provinces required provincial and national assembly approval :

Constitutional reforms are required at both provincial and federal level in order to make new provinces.

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This need majority vote in Provincial assembly where new provinces are being made and then that bill would be presented in parliament and senate. This amendment required 2/3rd majority from Parliament which is again a long and tiring process.

(ii) Politicians want to retain their status quo

The current hierarchical system where elected ministers hold ultimate power of decision making, financial resources and privileges is another hurdle in making new provinces. To make new provinces elite mindset need awareness to think beyond their personal desires.

Is forming new provinces is the only solution to discussed problems?

The demands of new provinces lies in governance, administration, and financial grievances. whereas new provinces can not only solve these issues unless serious initiative has been taken. These are historically and well experienced examples of from successful countries.

(i) Empowerment of local bodies

In Pakistan one of the main reason of bad governance is absence of local government. 18th Amendment had given rights to locals, and power transferred to local bodies. Unfortunately these steps ~~are~~ were not implemented practically and ultimate power still held by Deputy Commissioners and Chief ministers. In order make our governance better, powers should be divided to locals.

(ii) Indian Constitutional amendment of 1992

~~Indian timely decisions to transfer~~
In 1992, India had done Constitutional reforms in order to strengthen governance, and distributed decision power to lower bodies. India is also socially and ethnically diverse region as Pakistan, by implementing that model to mitigate our problems could be more beneficial rather than fixing process of ~~long~~ making new provinces. In a already shranked economy, these recommendations are presented by technocrats and analysts.

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Because of poor time management
I am unable to attempt more
question.

Can I Shorten the length of
answers?

and you are requested to give
me suggestions on the basis of
these attempted questions?

Are my argument and paper
presentation valid and reasonable?