

NAME = MOOMAL ALI
BATCH = ISB - OB - 81
SUBJECT = CURRENT AFFAIRS (MOCK 4)
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ANSWER # 2

INTRODUCTION:

The recent escalation of the issues between the two neighbouring countries Pakistan and Afghanistan were mediated by China. This resulted in the continuation of the bilateral talks between the two countries. However, there are several factors testing the relationship of the two countries. The first issue is of the Durand line between the two countries. In addition to it, the increase in terrorist attacks in Pakistan, the construction of dams on Kabul River and the support of Afghanistan to India also test the relationship of the two countries. Moreover, the refugee issue and the smuggling of drugs and weapons through Afghanistan also have the impact on the relation between the two countries. The relationship between Pakistan and Afghanistan can be improved through the bilateral talks and acceptance of the Durand line from Afghanistan. In addition to it, the world organization can be accessed for the mediation regarding the issue of Kabul river. Afghanistan must balance its relationship with India and Pakistan and also

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control the terrorist attacks of TTP occurring from the Afghanistan land. If the issues between the two countries are solved. The neighbouring countries can have good friendly ties between them.

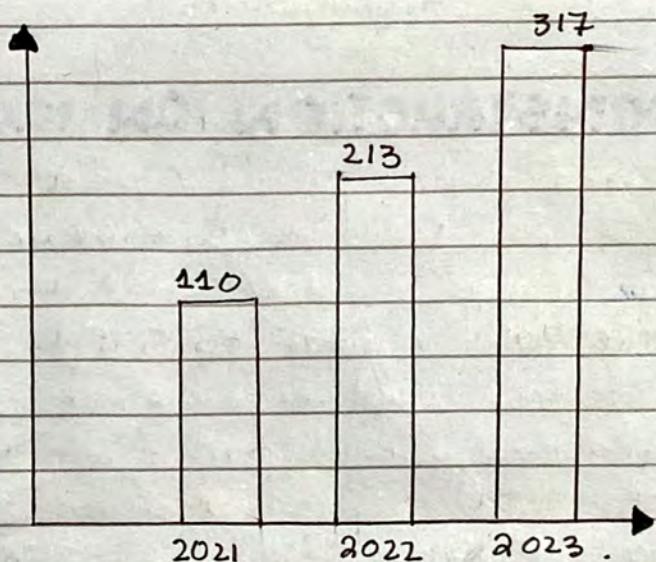
2. THE CURRENT UPS AND DOWNS OF PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN RELATIONS AND MEDIATION BY CHINA:

Pakistan and Afghanistan has been facing ups and downs in their relationship since the inception of Pakistan. However, in recent times due to the increase in the terrorist attacks in Pakistan due to TTP, the relation between the two countries were on stake. The Pakistan attacked several bases of TTP on the Afghanistan land which also provoked Afghanistan to act against Pakistan. This issue was taking the shape of the war between the two countries. However, China and Qatar helped in the mediation of bilateral talks between the countries and halted the war causing the ceasefire. Although there is a ceasefire between the two countries, there are several factors increasing the tensions between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

2.1 INCREASE IN TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PAKISTAN:

One of the major issue between the two countries is the increase in terrorist attacks

in Pakistan. Since the arrival of the TTP in Afghanistan there is increase in terrorist attacks in Pakistan. The TTP has been supported by the Afghanistan Taliban due to which terrorists attacks increased in Pakistan causing the loss of ~~two~~ hundreds of lives in Pakistan.



Number of terrorist attacks in Pakistan from 2021 - 2023.

2.2 DURAND LINE ISSUE:

Another factor of the increase in tension between the two countries is the durand line issue. The Taliban government since its arrival denied the acceptance of the Durand line which caused the increase in tension between the two countries. Although the issue was already solved during the creation of Pakistan, still Afghanistan denies to accept the Durand line impacting the relationship.

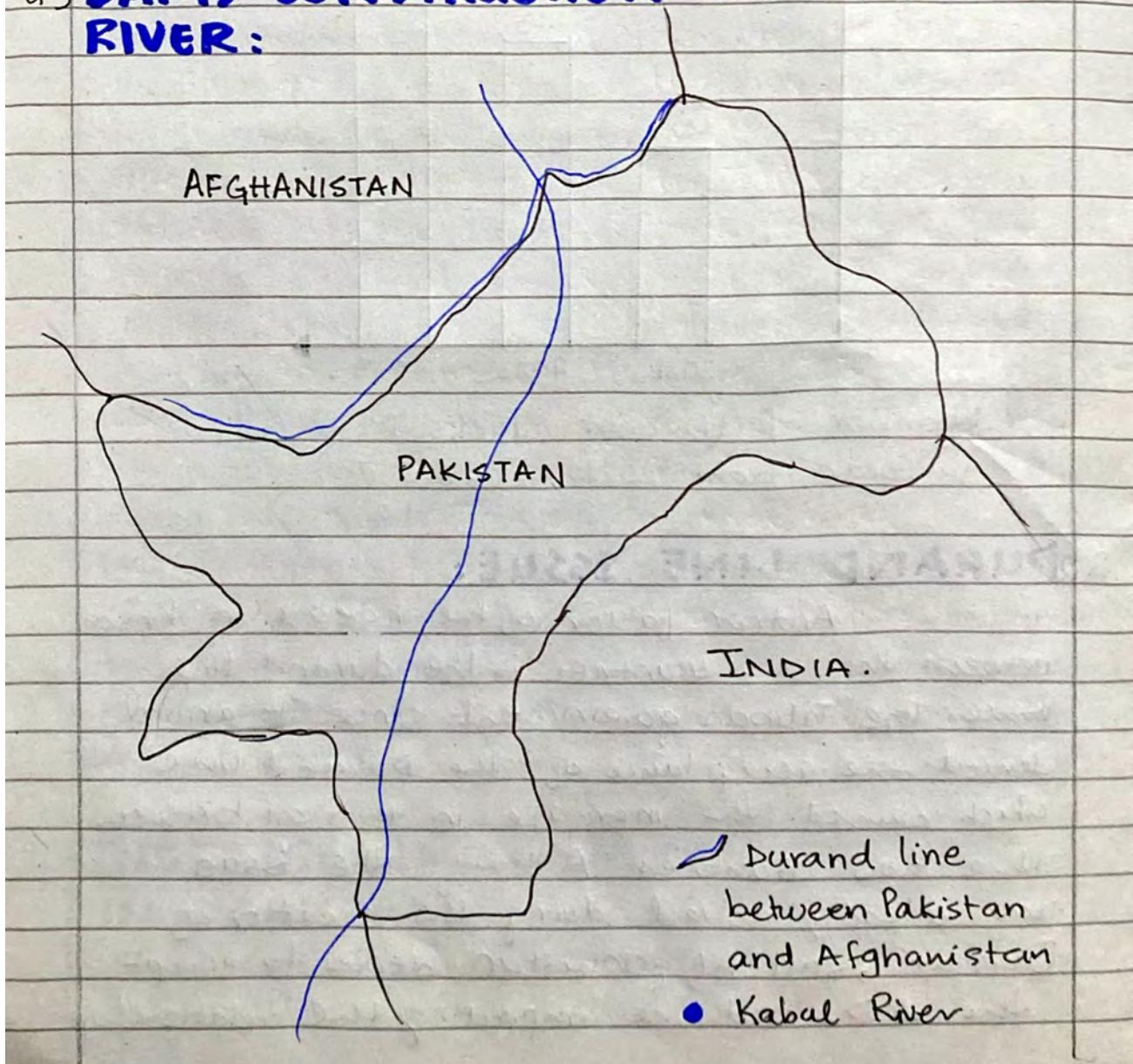
between the two countries.

The Durand Line is a wound in the heart of Afghanistan that can never heal.

— Hamid Karzai

Former President of
Afghanistan.

2.3 DAMS CONSTRUCTION ON KABUL RIVER:



- ↗ Durand line
between Pakistan
and Afghanistan
- Kabul River

Another major issue between the two countries is that Afghanistan has been constructing dams on Kabul river illegally with the help of India. This issue will exacerbate the water issues in Pakistan. Although Pakistan has several times asked for the halt of construction of dams, Afghanistan's continuous construction has increased tensions between the two countries.

2.4 ISSUE OF REFUGEES:

Pakistan has been facing refugee crisis from the Afghanistan Refugees in Pakistan for years. In recent years, Pakistan has been rendering efforts for the returning of the refugee back to their countries although this is an illegal act. Afghanistan is not happy with it as the economic conditions of the country is not ready to take in the Afghan refugees from Pakistan.

48% of Afghan Population
live in poverty
— United Nations.

2.5 INCREASED SUPPORT TO INDIA:

Afghanistan has strengthened its relationship ties with India in the recent years. This is an issue for Pakistan as Afghanistan is the neighbouring country of Pakistan and this will impact the sovereignty of the country. In addition to it, India has also been

Supporting the dams construction on the Kabul river, impacting the water issue of Pakistan. Therefore the relationships between Pakistan and Afghanistan are under tension due to this issue.

2.6 DRUGS AND WEAPONS SMUGGLING THROUGH PAKISTAN:

Another major issue between the two countries is that Afghanistan is responsible for the drug smuggling and illegal weapon smuggling through the borders in Pakistan. Pakistan has been actively discussing the issue but still no steps have been taken by the Afghan government in this regard.

3 WAYS TO IMPROVE THE RELATIONS BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN.

Bilateral talks related to Durand line issue

Control and arrest TTP hidden in Afghanistan

International mediation for Kabul river issue

Permanent settlement of refugees

Bilateral ties with India and Pakistan

Control of smuggling on porous borders

3.1 BILATERAL TALKS RELATED TO DURAND LINE ISSUE:

There is a dire need for the bilateral talks to solve the issue of Durand Line between the two countries. Afghanistan must accept the Durand Line as the point was already given to Pakistan during independence.

3.2 CONTROL AND ARREST TTP HIDDEN IN AFGHANISTAN:

Another way to strengthen relationship is the control and arrest of TTP hidden in Afghanistan. This will help control the terrorist attacks in Pakistan.

3.3 INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION FOR KABUL RIVER ISSUE:

Both countries must involve the international mediators to solve the issue of Kabul River so that Pakistan's water can be saved.

3.4 PERMANENT SETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES:

Afghanistan needs to accept the refugee settlement and help Pakistan to return the refugees to Afghanistan.

3.5 BILATERAL TIES WITH INDIA AND PAKISTAN:

Afghanistan must balance the relationship between India and Pakistan, so that both countries can create positive relations with Afghanistan.

3.6 CONTROL OF SMUGGLING ON POROUS BORDERS:

Both countries must work together to control the smuggling on the porous borders of this will also help in the decrease in the terrorism activities in Pakistan.

4. CONCLUSION:

There are ups and downs in the relationship between Pakistan and ~~Am~~ Afghanistan since the inception of Pakistan. The Durand line issue, dams on Kabul River, terrorism in Pakistan and increased ties of Afghanistan and Pakistan play major role in increasing the tensions between the two countries. The tensions can be decreased through solving the issue of Durand line, and mediation of international bodies for the durand line issue as well as Kabul Water issue. In addition to it, both countries must work against the smuggling of the drugs and weapons through borders in addition to it, the TTP must be controlled and disarmed in Afghanistan in order to control the terrorist activities in ~~the~~ Pakistan. If both the countries pave the way to solve the issues, the relationship between the two countries can be strengthened.

ANSWER # 7

1 INTRODUCTION:

Pakistan has been strengthening its strategic and friendly ties with China since years.

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However in recent times Pakistan has also increased its engagement with the US. This new relationship needs to be balance in order to make the bilateral relationship between the two countries. However, there are several issues in the balance of relationship of Pakistan with US and China. Both the countries desire to become the hegemon of the region which will cause the competition of their relationship with Pakistan. In addition to it, the trade rivalry between the two countries and the US strategy of countering China through Pakistan will also affect the relationship of Pakistan with the two countries. There are several ways Pakistan can balance the relationship between the two countries. Pakistan must focus on strengthening its economic ties between the two countries, gain trust of the two countries and explain its relation to both countries on international grounds. In addition to it, the country must focus on the relationship with China as the CPEC projects continue in the country. In addition to it, Pakistan must not support US & in any of its activities to support China and only focus on the economic partnership with US. In this way, Pakistan can balance its relationship with the US and China.

2 ISSUES IN THE BALANCE OF RELATIONS OF PAKISTAN WITH US AND CHINA.

There are several issues that hinder

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the balance between the relationship of Pakistan with US and China.

Hegemonic desires of US and China.

Trade rivalry between US and China

US relationship with Pakistan source to counter China.

US relation threat to China's sovereignty.

2.1 **HEGEMONIC DESIRES OF US AND CHINA.**

One major issue in balancing the relationship between China and US is that both the countries desire to become the hegemon of the region. Due to the hegemonic desires of both the countries, ~~the~~ Pakistan finds difficulty in balancing the relationship between the two countries.

2.2 **TRADE RIVALRY BETWEEN THE US AND CHINA.**

Another issue is that the US and China are the trade rivals. The countries are in continuous competition in the ~~per~~ perspective of trade. This will start a tug of war for Pakistan.

between the two countries.

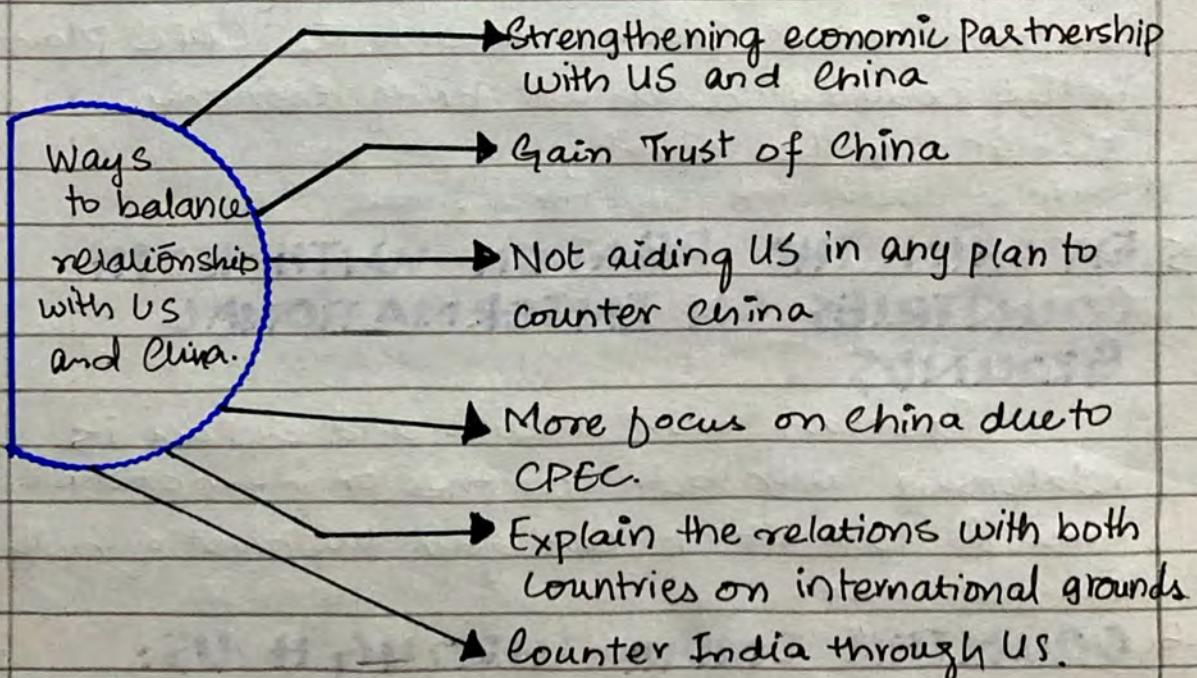
2.3 US RELATIONSHIP WITH PAKISTAN SOURCE TO COUNTER CHINA.

Another issue is that US goal behind this relationship is to counter China. This is an issue for China as China desires to be the hegemon of the region.

2.4 US RELATIONSHIP THREAT TO CHINA'S SOVEREIGNTY.

As US wishes to counter China, the strengthened relationship of neighbouring country of China towards US will impact the sovereignty of China which will impact the relationship of US and Pakistan relations also.

3.2 WAYS PAKISTAN COULD BALANCE ITS RELATION WITH US AND CHINA.



3.1 **STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP WITH US AND CHINA:**

Pakistan must work on strengthening its relationship economically with both the countries. As Pakistan will focus on economic partnership this will help in the balance of relationship with both countries.

3.2 **GAIN TRUST OF CHINA:**

Pakistan must work on the trust gain of China as China can be threatened with the relationship of US and Pakistan.

3.3 **NOT AIDING IN US IN ANY PLAN TO COUNTER CHINA:**

Pakistan must not aid US in any plan of the state to counter China. China is a friendly country of Pakistan. Pakistan must work to save the relationship with China.

3.4 **MORE FOCUS ON CHINA DUE TO CPEC**

Pakistan should focus more on China as Pakistan needs China due to the CPEC plan in the country which will bring economic stability in the country.

3.5 **EXPLAIN THE RELATION WITH BOTH COUNTRIES ON INTERNATIONAL GROUNDS**

Pakistan must discuss and explain its relationship with both countries on international grounds so that it can gain the trust of both the countries.

3.6 **COUNTER INDIA THROUGH US:**

Pakistan can use the relationship

of US to counter India in the region. This will also make China satisfied as ~~the~~ India is also the rival and competitor country of India China in the region.

4 CONCLUSION:

The relationship strengthening with US has opened major economic as well as strategic doors for Pakistan. However, Pakistan needs to balance its previous relations with China also. In order to balance the relationship with China and US, Pakistan must strengthen the bonds with both countries on economic grounds. In addition to it, Pakistan must try to gain the trust of both countries. Moreover, Pakistan must work not aid US in any of its plan to counter China. If Pakistan remain successful in balancing the relationship with US and China, the country can open major economic and development goals in the near future.

ANSWER # 5

1 INTRODUCTION:

Paris Agreement has been playing a major role in the control of climate change since its inception. However, in the recent days, the Trump's pull out from the Paris Agreement will have major implications on the climate mitigation strategies ~~through~~ Paris Agreement.

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This will require increased effort in the climate change counter as the absence of the world leader will have major impact on the efforts.

The pullout of Trump will cause the lesser impact on countries of the agreement, the countries will start taking the agreement less seriously which will increase the effort for signing of the future agreements. In addition to it, as US is the major polluter in the world, the effort without the US efforts to combat climate change will go in vain. Moreover, there will be increased chances that more countries also pullout from the agreement which will require increase in efforts to hold the agreement. As US is the economic power of the world, its absence will also cause the increase in efforts to collect aids to counter the climate change in the world. Besides this, there will be increased effort required to save the Paris Agreement from the geopolitical rivalries of the country. Furthermore, this will also cause the loss of trust of countries in the climate change issue which will cause the increase in the efforts to educate the countries regarding the climate change. The countries must work to pull back the US in the Paris Agreement in order to combat the climate change issue in the world. or else the future of the Paris Agreement will require a lot of efforts to strengthen it.

2. FUTURE EFFORTS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IN ABSENCE OF THE WORLD LEADER - US:

In recent day, Donald Trump has pulled back from the Paris Agreement, this will increase the efforts of the agreement to combat the climate change issue as:

Lesser impact on countries: Increased effort for signing of agreement

US as the major polluter: effort for climate change in vain.

Chances of pullout of more countries: increased effort to hold the agreement

Increase effort for economic assistance for developing countries.

Increased effort to save Paris Agreement from the geopolitical issues

Loss of trust of countries on climate change issue increased effort for educating countries about climate change.

3. LESSER IMPACT ON COUNTRIES: INCREASED EFFORT FOR SIGNING OF AGREEMENT:

In the absence of US the Paris Agreement will have less impact which will cause increase in the effort for signing different agreements.

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regarding climate change

2.2 US AS THE MAJOR POLLUTOR : EFFORT OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN VAIN.

As US is one of the major polluters in the world. Its absence in the agreement will cause major impact. The pollution will not be controlled and all the climate change efforts will go in vain.

2.3 CHANCES OF PULLOUT OF MORE COUNTRIES : INCREASE EFFORT TO HOLD THE AGREEMENT.

The countries when will see the pullout of US from the agreement will also pull out from it. This will increase the effort of the agreement to hold the countries for the agreements.

2.4 INCREASE EFFORT TO SAVE PARIS AGREEMENT FROM GEO POLITICAL ISSUES:

As ~~US~~ Due to US pullout, the countries will increase the geopolitics issues ~~be~~ in the agreement. This will increase the effort of the signatory countries to save paris agreement from the geopolitical issues.

2.5 INCREASE EFFORT FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:

As US is one of the major economic power, the pullout of US will lead to less contribution for economic aid for developing countries to transition from nonrenewable energy to the renewable energy resources.

2.6 LOSS OF TRUST OF COUNTRIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUE: INCREASED EFFORT FOR EDUCATION ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE:

As the US will pull out the countries will lose its trust in the climate change issue which will increase the effort to of the Paris Agreement to educate the participant countries regarding climate change.

3. CONCLUSION:

Paris Agreement has rendered remarkable services in the path of the climate change issue. However, the recent pullout of Trump from the agreement will cause the increase in effort of the countries for the mitigation of climate change issue.

The US pullout will impact the Paris Agreement efforts as the other countries will also start to pull out and lose trust in the climate change issue. Hence, this will increase the effort to hold the Paris Agreement.

ANSWER # 8

1 INTRODUCTION:

Pakistan Saudi Arabia defense pact is one of the major agreements in the history. There are several reasons of the deal. The major reason of the deal was the Israel's attack on Qatar and the increase in the movement

of Israel ~~on~~ towards the Muslim world. In addition to it the increase in the nuclear armaments of Iran ~~is~~ also compelled Saudi Arabia to sign the agreement. The agreement has several implication on both the countries as well as the geopolitical world. For instance for Saudi Arabia, it provides the military assistance as well as umbrella against the Israel and the US. In addition to it, it also impacts is also ~~is~~ signed to counter the Iran as the regional hegemon of the region. Moreover, the agreement causes helps the Saudi Arabia to negotiate with US ~~to~~ on the strong grounds. For Pakistan also, it holds several implications, it gives economic benefits as well as ~~as~~ access to military equipments to Pakistan. In addition to it the agreement help in the deterrence to India and also benefit the diaspora of the country living in Saudi Arabia. The agreement also holds several geopolitical implications, as it may cause the ~~the~~ entanglement of the regional conflicts for the two countries and may also cause the aggressive reaction from the US and Israel. Pakistan and Saudi Arabia must take the most benefit from the agreement, while also taking care of the negative implications of the ~~the~~ agreement.

2 CAUSES OF THE PAKISTAN SAUDI ARABIA

DEFENSE AGREEMENT:

Israel's attack on
Qatar

Lesser impact of
US military umbrella

Iran's increasing
contribution towards nuclear
arms

Israel's unstoppable move-
ment towards Muslim world.

2.1 ISRAEL'S ATTACK ON QATAR:

One of the major reason of the defense agreement was the Israel's attack on Qatar. The defense agreement will help the Saudi Arabia to gain the military as well as the nuclear umbrella which will cause deterrence against Saudi Arabia in Israel and US.

2.2 LESSER IMPACT OF US MILITARY UMBRELLA :

Another major reason was that US failed to provide the promised military assistance to the Middle East which caused the attack on Qatar. This compelled Saudi Arabia to look for other defense agreements.

2.3 IRAN'S INCREASING CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS NUCLEAR ARMS:

Iran is increasing its efforts to gain nuclear arms and become the

nuclear state. This compelled ~~us~~ Saudi Arabia to look for Security Agreement to counter Iran's influence in the region.

2.4 ISRAEL'S UNSTOPPABLE MOVEMENT TOWARDS MUSLIM WORLD:

The Muslim world is in continuous threat due to Israel. Israel has been attacking several Muslim countries such as Qatar which has caused the Saudi Arabia to sign the defense agreement with Pakistan for its security.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF PAKISTAN SAUDI ARABIA DEFENSE AGREEMENT FOR SAUDI ARABIA:

Deterrence towards Israel and US.

Decrease in hegemony of Iran in region

Confidence in negotiations with US.

Military and Nuclear Umbrella from Pakistan.

3.1 MILITARY AND NUCLEAR UMBRELLA FROM PAKISTAN:

The major implication of the Pakistan Saudi Arabia Defense Agreement is that it provides the military umbrella to the Saudi Arabia. Although the limitations of the nuclear umbrella for Saudi Arabia is not clear, still the umbrella from a nuclear country will help increase the security of Saudi Arabia in the world.

3.2 DETERRENCE TOWARDS ISRAEL AND US:

Another major implication is that the agreement will make deterrence in Israel and US for Saudi Arabia which help help Saudi Arabia strengthen its security.

3.3 DECREASE IN HEGEMONY OF IRAN IN REGION

The Defense Agreement will help counter the increased hegemony of Iran in the region. The defense agreement will show the vast allies of US in the World which will impact its influence in the region positively.

3.4 CONFIDENCE IN NEGOTIATION WITH THE US:

The Defense Agreement will help Saudi

Arabia to gain confidence. This will help Saudi Arabia to negotiate economic deals with US on strong grounds with confidence.

4 **IMPLICATIONS OF PAKISTAN SAUDI DEFENSE AGREEMENT FOR PAKISTAN:**

Economic benefits for Pakistan.

Deterrence to India against Pakistan.

Military equipments access from Saudi Arabia

Benefit for diaspora and remittances.

4.1 **ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR PAKISTAN:**

The major implication of the defense agreement for Pakistan is its economic benefits for the country. Saudi Arabia has promised Pakistan to invest in country. This will increase the economy of the country in the near future.

4.2 **DETERRENCE TO INDIA AGAINST PAKISTAN:**

Another major implication is that-

the agreement will create fear in India against Pakistan. As Saudi Arabia is a major oil producing country India cannot hold rivalry against such country.

4.3 MILITARY EQUIPMENTS ACCESS FROM SAUDI ARABIA:

Another implication for Pakistan is that it will give access to ~~Saudi~~ Pakistan to the military equipments of Saudi Arabia. Pakistan although has recent military equipments but Saudi Arabia Defense Agreement will help the country to gain access to the advanced military equipments.

4.4 BENEFIT FOR DIASPORA AND REMITTANCES.

The diaspora of Pakistan in Saudi Arabia will also gain respect in Saudi Arabia. In addition to it, there will be more chances of jobs in Saudi Arabia which will help increase the remittance of Pakistan from Saudi Arabia.

5 GEOPOLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF PAKISTAN SAUDI ARABIA DEFENSE AGREEMENT.

There are also geopolitical implications of Pakistan Saudi Arabia Defense Agreement.

5.1 ENTANGLEMENT OF REGIONAL CONFLICTS.

The agreement may cause the entanglement

of regional conflicts for both the countries. The Saudi Arabia has rivalry with Iran while the Pakistan has rivalry with India. The agreement may cause the entanglement of conflicts and cause an increase in rivalry between the countries' rivals.

5.2 AGGRESSIVE REACTION FROM US AND ISRAEL:

For US and Israel I may think that the defense agreement is to counter them, which may cause them to give aggressive reaction to both the countries. This will have major implication for both Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

5.3 INCREASE IN IRAN'S MOVEMENT TOWARDS NUCLEAR ACCESSIBILITY:

The agreement may cause the deterrence in Iran due to which it may increase its movement towards the nuclear accessibility which inturn will have major implication for Saudi Arabia.

6 CONCLUSION:

Pakistan Saudi Arabia defense agreement holds benefits for both the countries. It provides military assistance to Saudi Arabia and economic benefit to Pakistan.

If both the countries use this opportunity effectively, the agreement will have

major positive implications for both the countries.

Pakistan - Saudi Arabia defense agreement is a two way sword. On one end it provides military assistance to Saudi Arabia and on the other side it provides economic benefit to Pakistan

— The Nation.