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Noor FATIMA PAKISTAN AFFAIRS

Question No. 2

I- INTRODUCTION

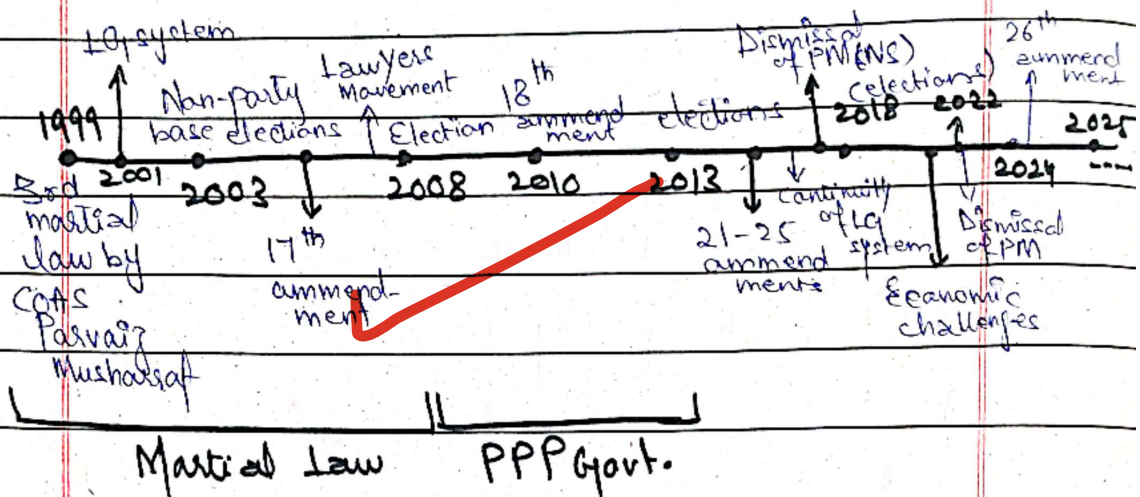
The political discourse of Pakistan has passed through several phases after 1999. The year 1999 marked third military coup in Pakistan. Till 2008, this phase is known for constitutional and democratic suppression of political culture. Post-2008 civil government upheld democracy through constitutional amendments. However, 2008-18 era is also infamous for corruption in terms of governance. Despite democratic continuity, the culture of dismissed prime ministers continued in 2017 and 2022 with the rise of populism. Various constitutional amendments while upholding democracy, undermined judicial independence. Therefore, evaluation of Pakistan's political system from militia in 1999 to hybrid regime in 2025

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continues to alter and shape its discourse.

II- REEF Timeline of Political System and Constitutional Development of Pakistan since 1999

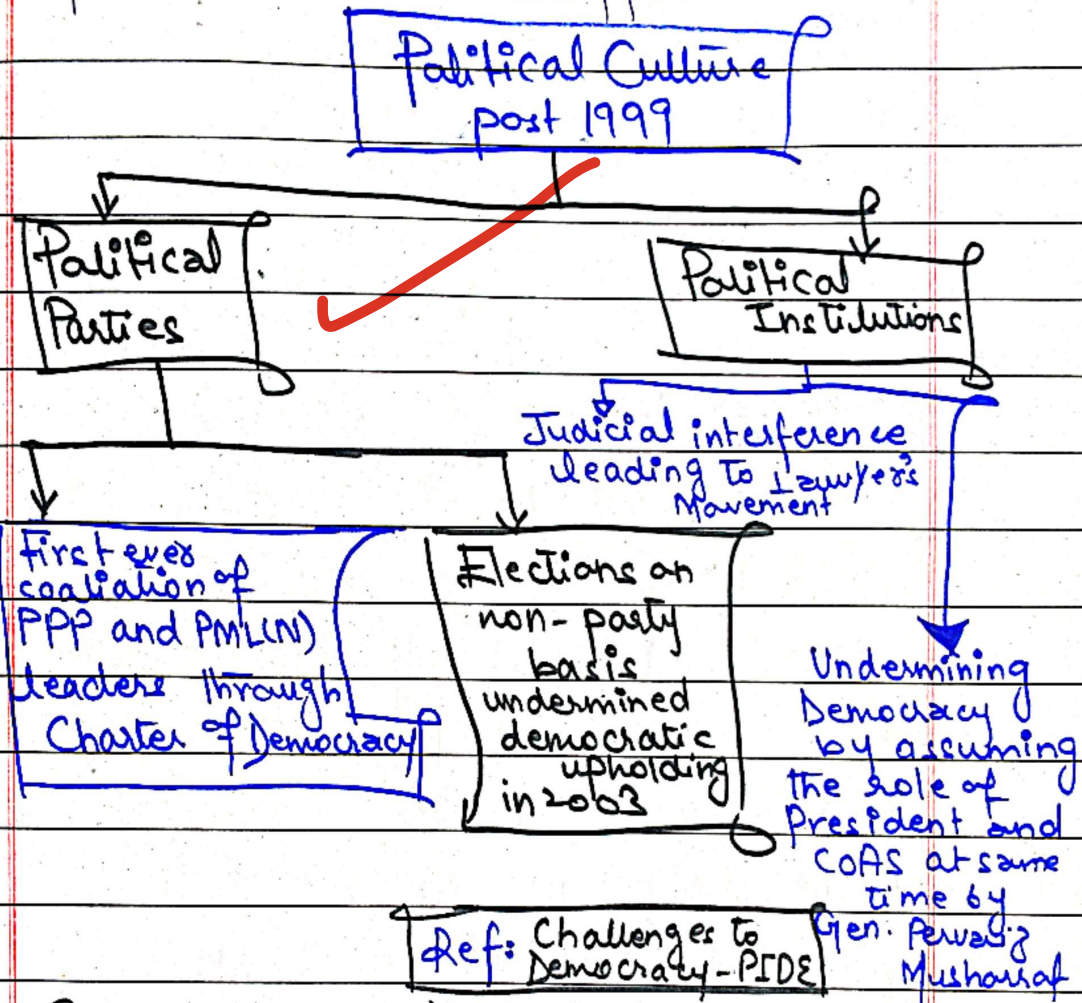


III- Phase I (1999-2008): Era of Military Supremacy over Civilian Democracy

a- Political System and culture post 1999

Fall of PM Nawaz Sharif's government by Chief of Army Staff Pervez Musharraf in 1999 marked the beginning of the suppression of political

parties and political institutes. From elections on non-party basis to judicial interference, this phase of history is infamous undemocratic approach.



b- Constitutional Developments post 1999

The major constitutional developments in this era were similar to the previous military coups. From manipulation of doctrine of necessity

IV Phase II (2008-2018): An era of Democratic continuity with Governance challenges

a- Political System and Political Culture Post 2008

The elections of 2008 marked the revival of civilian democracy in Pakistan. The differentiating factor of this revival was the rise of coalition government system in Pakistan politics, particularly between two largest parties of Pakistan; PPP and PML(N). Alongside, the rise of third party was evident.

b- Constitutional Developments post 2008

The major constitutional development in regards of democratic upholding is 18th ammendment known as mini-constitution of Pakistan. Besides 18th ammendment, judicial activism is the identity of this era.

add more arguments in these parts.....

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18th

amendment:
A trajectory of
Democracy

→ Abolishment of Article
58(2)(b) → ~~Revival of
parliamentary Democracy~~

→ Devolution of 17 ministries
to provinces → ~~Abolishment
of concurrent list.~~

→ NFC award
CCT establishment (Dawn Editorial)

C- Governance- constraints post 2008

Despite democratic continuity,
this phase is infamous for governance
failures. Corruption was the main
constraint along nepotism and red-tapism
in this era.

Corruption
caught
Governance

→ ~~Panama leaks, 2017~~

→ ~~Dismissal of Prime
Minister in 2017 by
court.~~

→ A question mark on
transparency.

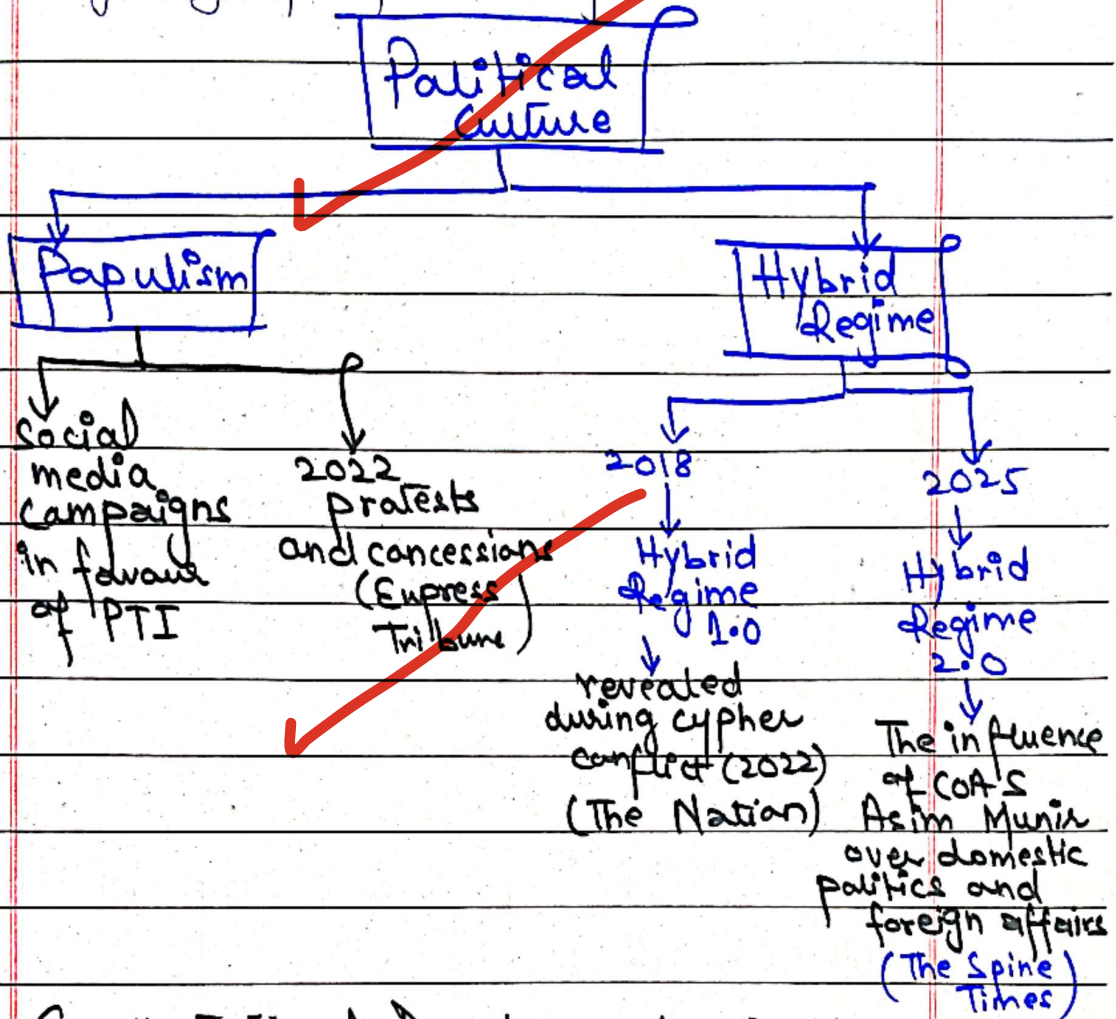
(Ref: JISS study
2022)

V Phase 3(2018-2025): An era of populist politics, hybrid regime and judicial undermining

a- Political Culture post 2018

Despite the continuity of
transfer of powers, populist politics

was prevailing in Pakistan. Alongside, civil-military cooperation led to the beginning of hybrid regime in Pakistan.



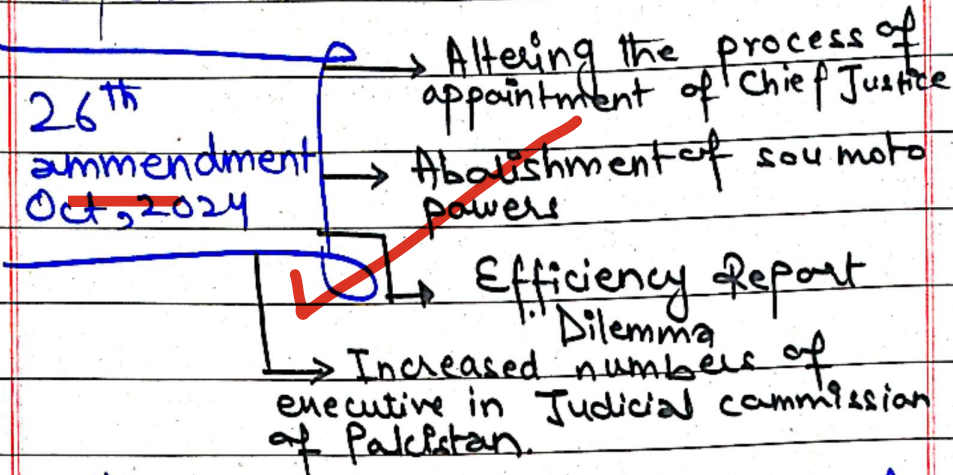
b- Constitutional Developments Post-2018

The major constitutional developments in this era occurred regarding merger of FATA with KPK (25th and 26th amendment) for governance improvements. Alongside, the 26th amendment according to Gazette

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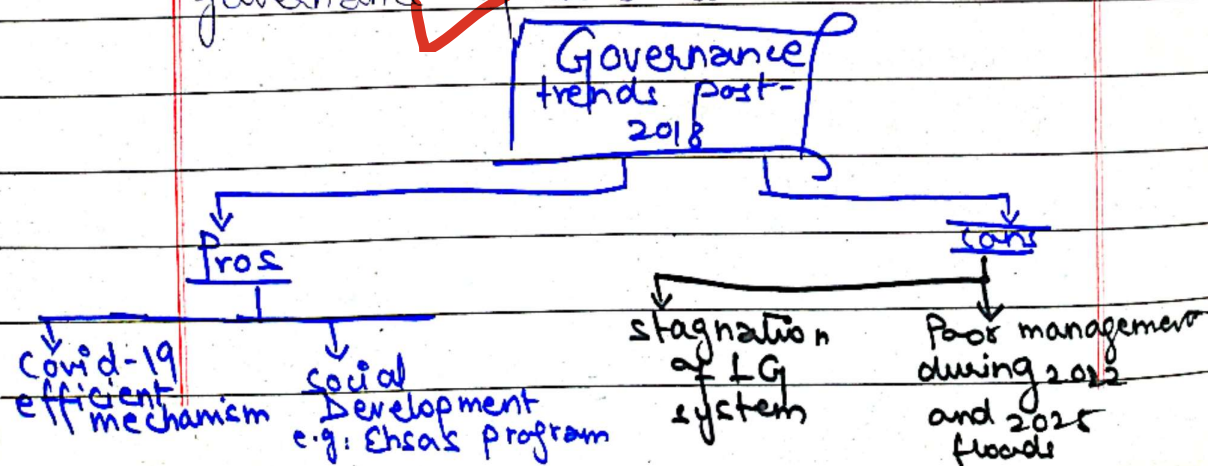
was performed in October, 2024. It is infamous for compromising judicial independence.



|| 26th amendment is violation of rule of law and independence of Judiciary in Pakistan || (ICJ report)

C- Governance development post 2018

This part of history is filled with natural disasters. Alongside, socio-political hurdles. Therefore, despite some positive efforts, collective essence of governance failed to revive.



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VI Conclusion

The political history of Pakistan has passed through different experiments after 1999. From military coup to democratic transitions and hybrid regime, political culture's change is evident. Moreover, Constitutional developments like 17th amendment and 26th amendment are notorious for undermining democracy. However, 18th amendment is a milestone in upholding democratic supremacy in Pakistan. Despite various paths adopted for improvement of governance, its real essence is shadowed by malpractices like corruption. Therefore, significant developments have taken place in political system since 1999.

Question No.3

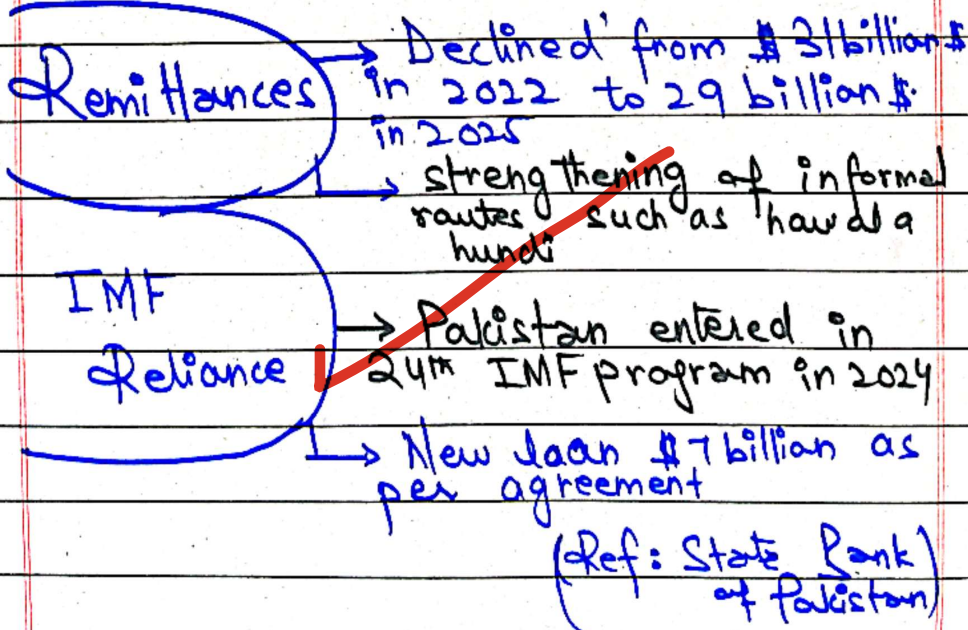
I- Introduction

The economic challenges of Pakistan have persisted since its independence, irrespective of its polity. It indicates that these challenges are deep rooted in structural flaws of economy. The major factors behind this declining economy is over-reliance on foreign aid, narrow tax base, export monoculture, lack of foreign direct investment and degradation of major economic areas. These issues need to be addressed by gradual shift towards self-dependence by broadening tax base, export diversification, ensuring and attracting foreign investment. Alongside uplifting of key economic areas is also essential for improvement in economy.

II- Major Structural flaws leading to Economic Challenges in Pakistan

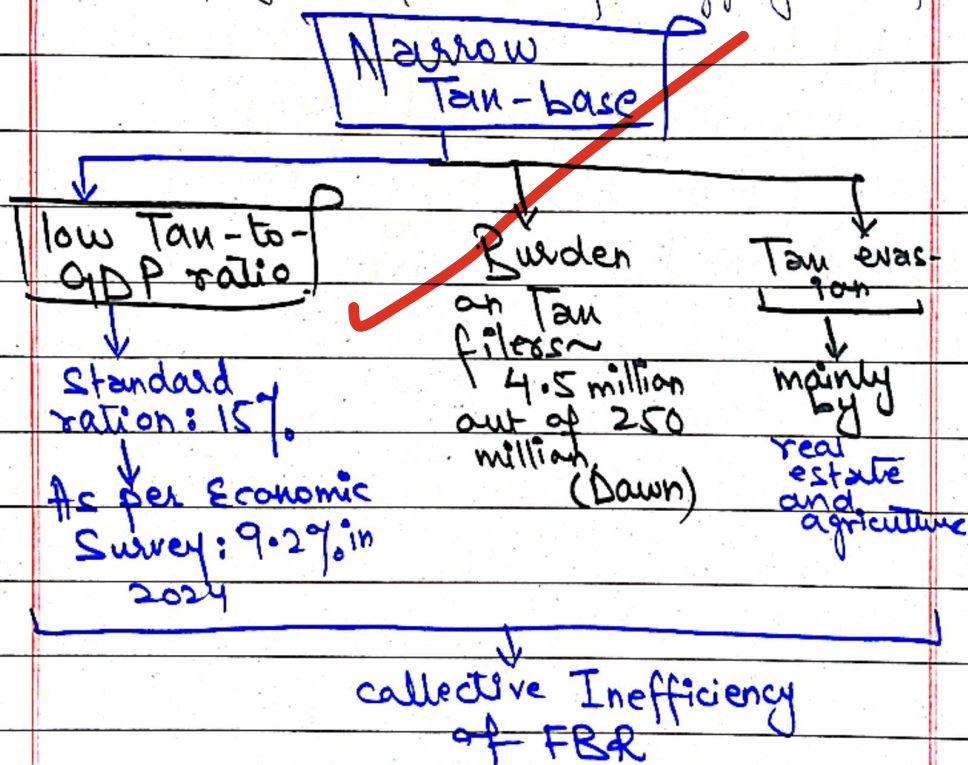
a- Over-Reliance on External Sources A suppressant of Domestic Economy

Pakistan has been over-relied upon external aids such as aid under Western pacts in 1960s, Afghan War 1979 and War on Terror in 2000s. Alongside the current reliance of Pakistan's economy is an IMF program and remittances. These fragile pillars can provide temporary support; however, they cannot ensure long-term stability.



b- Narrow Tax-base: A chronic failure of Governance leading to Economic Challenges

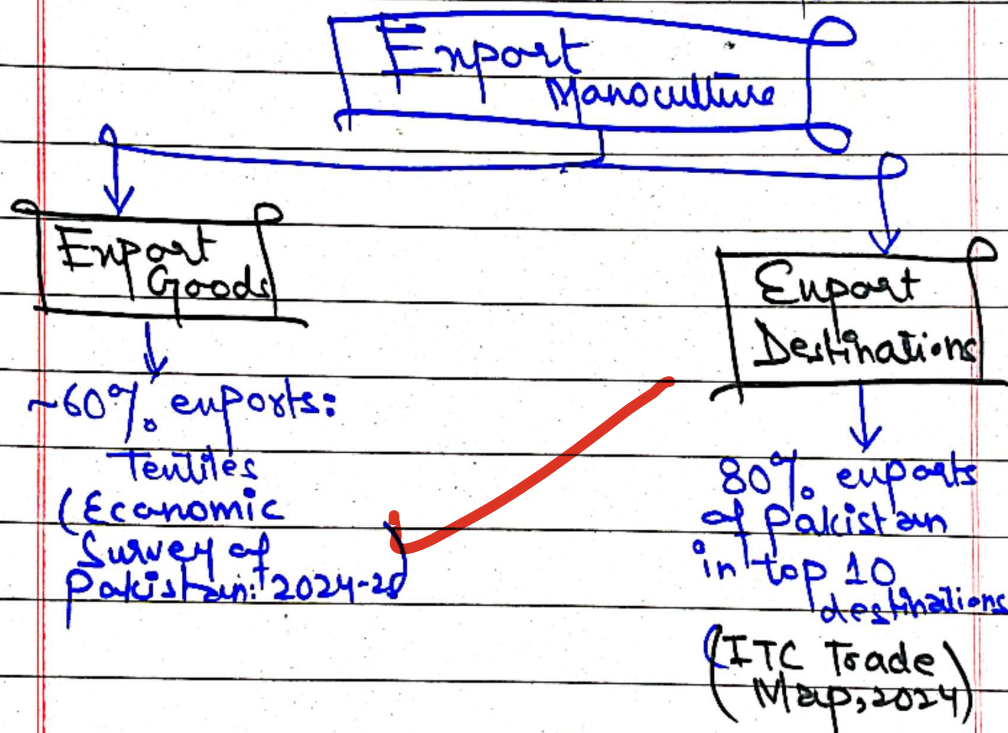
Narrow tax base is a long-standing challenge for stabilizing economy. On one side, strong instructions of IMF regarding tax base require urgent action. Alongside, it enhances the burden on tax filers by facilitating the evaders. It ultimately exacerbate the plight of already struggling society.



Ref: The Nation

c- Export Monoculture: A key challenge to Economy

Export monoculture has been a long-standing challenge for the economy of Pakistan. From export goods to destinations, the stagnation of exports has led to the lower domestic contribution towards GDP.



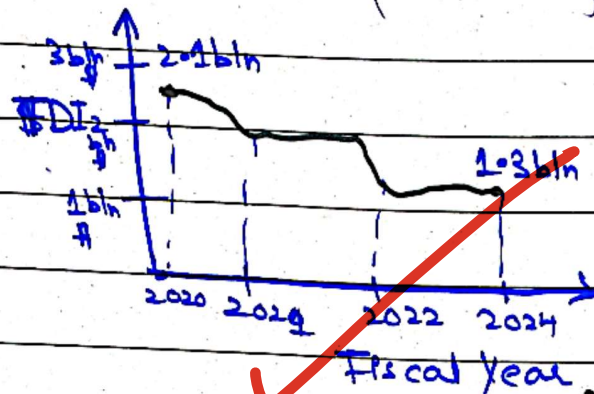
d- Lack of foreign Direct Investment: Leading Cause of Domestic Economic Decline

Investment requires socio-political security to sustain in a

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country. Factors like political instability, killing of foreign workers in CPEC project and revival of militancy in Balochistan has led to the loss of FDI in Pakistan. Therefore, low FDI causes decline in the domestic economic areas of country.



(Ref: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics)

e. Degraded contribution of key economic sectors lead to decreased Economy

Over the course of years, key sectors of economy have degraded their share in GDP. From agriculture to industry, governance failures, credit constraints, power rates and technical backwardness has led to their decreased share in economy. Alongside,

it has enhanced the plight of society by exacerbating poverty and unemployment.

Degradation of Economic Sectors

↓
Agriculture

~50% share
in GDP-1947 (PIDE)
~25% share
in GDP- (Economic
Survey 2024-
25 of Pakistan)

↓
Growth rate
stagnation at 2-3%
(World Bank Report)

↓
Industry

Large
Scale
Manufacturing -
Contraction
of 13.7%
in FY2024-25
(Economic
Survey of
Pakistan)

III Policy Measures to address the challenges to Economy of Pakistan

- a- Broadening the tax base: key to Enhance Gross Domestic Potential
- Efficient governance and de-politicized measures are required

to enhance the tax base of country. Following measures can be adopted in this regard.

Measures to Broaden Tax-base

- Strengthening of FBR
~ infrastructure, salary, power
- pin and paint system
installation in real estate and industries
- use of technology and digitization for record maintenance ~ agriculture
- Restricting of political patronage to particular economic groups.

Ref: PIDE Policy Brief.

b- Export Diversification: A Game changer for Domestic Economy and Geo-Economy

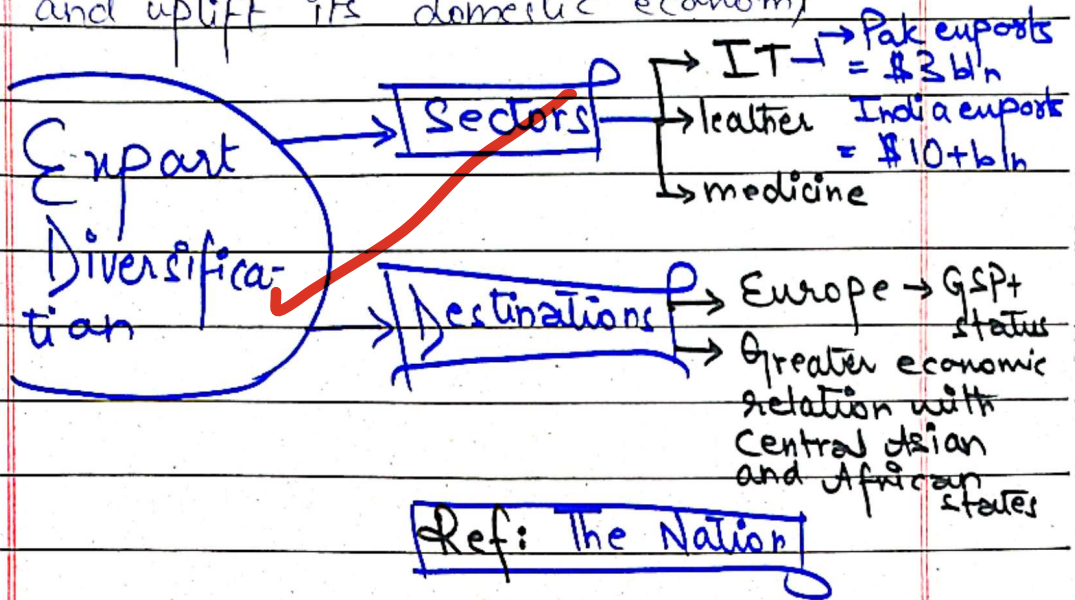
In the modern world, economy is the anchor of geo-politics. China and India are significant case studies of building global and regional hegemony through strengthening of economics by export diversification. Therefore, Pakistan needs to explore

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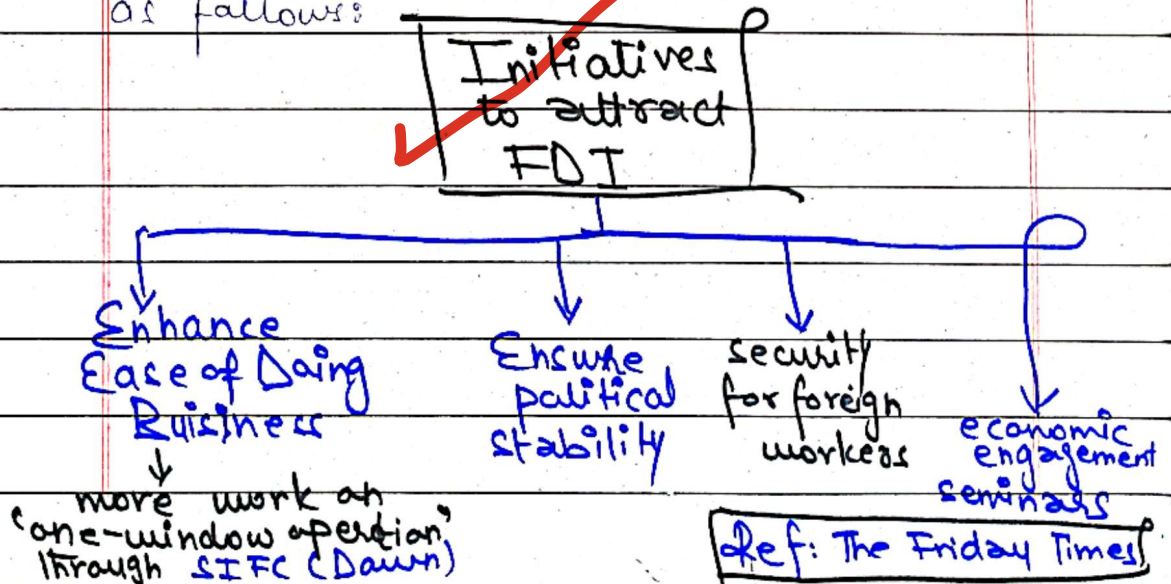
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new export sectors and destinations
to enhance its geo-economic image
and uplift its domestic economy

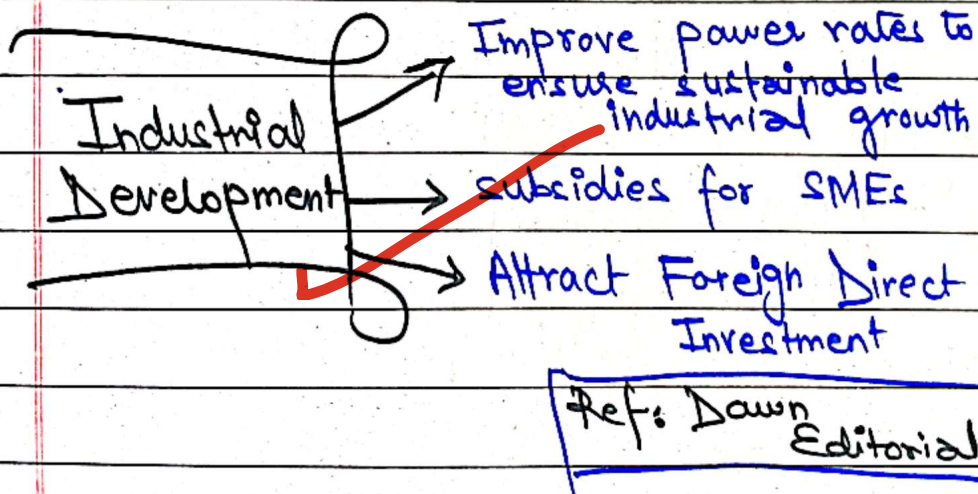
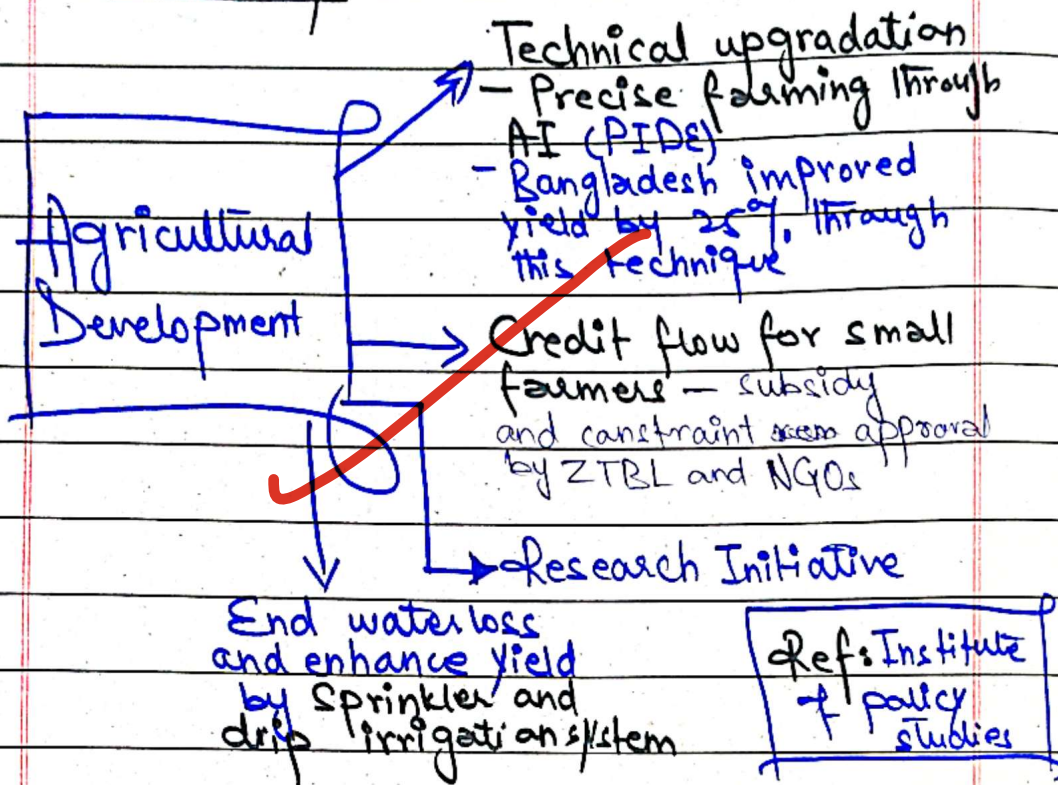


c- Attracting foreign Direct Investment: an initiative to support Local Economy

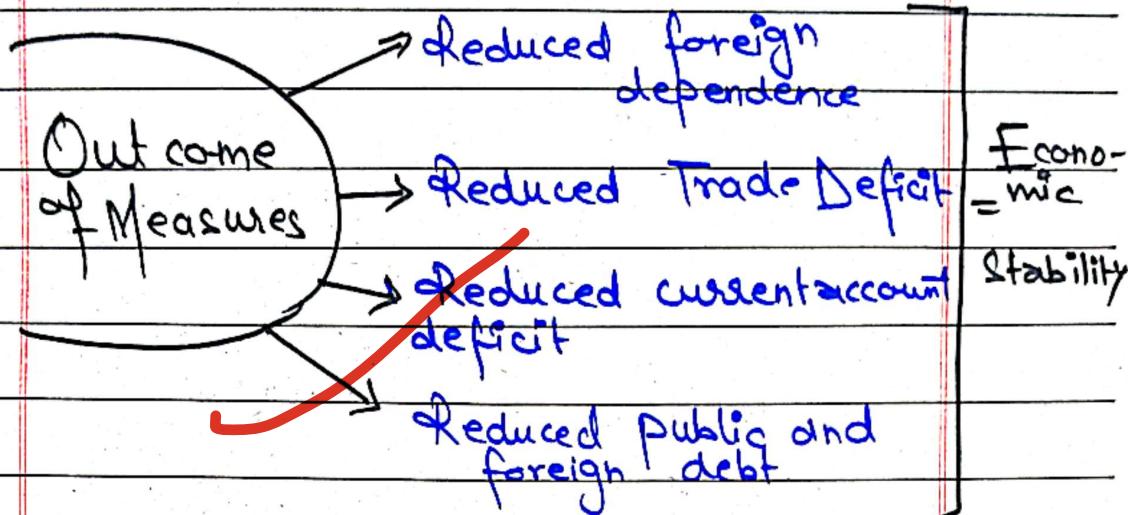
Numerous initiatives are required to enhance FDI in Pakistan. Some of them are enlisted as follows:



d- Development of key economic zones: Pathway to Long-Term Economic Stability



IV- Results of these Initiatives would lead to long-term stability of Pakistan's Economy



V Conclusion

Pakistan's economic challenges are manifestation of deeprooted structural flaws. These flaws have persisted irrespective of political regime.

The major challenges to economy, includes foreign dependence, constricted tax base and export stagnation.

However, these challenges can be addressed by broadening tax base, attracting FDI and upgrading key economic sectors.

good answer!!!