

DAY _____

DATE _____

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q02:

INTRODUCTION

The tensions between Afghanistan and Pakistan heightened after the strikes conducted by Pakistan on 9th October, 2025. The act resulted in a rise of cross-border skirmishes and fighting between the armed forces of the two nations. It was the first open confrontation since the Doha Accords in 2021, when the Taliban came into power. Tensions ^{had} been increasing gradually due to the behaviour of the Taliban government towards Pakistan. The aggression was the result of inefficient policies and decisions of the Taliban regime.

FACTORS SURROUNDING THE TENSIONS

1) Harboring of Terrorist Organizations

The Taliban government has been affiliated with the banned terror but "Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan" also referred to as "Fitna-al-Khwarej". The TTP has been increasing its activities in the form of attacks on the Pakistan military. Pakistan urged Taliban to restrain the outfit but its requests were not accepted. According to a UN Report, Taliban do not conceive of TTP as a terror group.

2) Pakistan's Carrot and Stick Policy

Rephrase into an idea

Pakistan conducted strikes on TTP's operative hideouts within Afghanistan. This led to an exchange of attacks on both sides of the border. Trade across the border has been since closed and ~~terror~~ situation remains fragile ~~and~~ on both sides. This was heavily criticized and opposed by Taliban regime.

DAY: _____

DATE: _____

3) Repatriation of Afghan Nationals

Pakistan increased the pace of repatriation of Afghan nationals from the country.

As of Oct 2025, more than 1.4 million nationals have been sent back to Afghanistan. This is yet another factor of contention between the two countries.

4) ~~Strategic~~ Rekindled ties with India

Afghanistan's foreign minister Amir Muttasqi visited India in October 2025. India recognized the Taliban regime. The Taliban foreign minister remarked on the Pakistan and India relations, clearly indicating a preference towards India. This led to an increase in tensions with Afghanistan, as it increases the ~~to~~ geostrategic risks for Pakistan from both sides.

5) Policy of Strategic Depth

Pakistan's foreign policy followed concept of ~~strategic~~ depth. It focused

on the establishment of a pro-Pakistan regime in Afghanistan. In case of war with India, Afghanistan could provide depth for the country. However, this policy has seemingly failed. The Taliban government did not support Pakistan's involvement in its affairs. This remains yet another reason over which tension situation remains tense.

6) Emergence of New Actors

The emergence of new alliances like Ittehadul Mujahideen Pakistan (IMP) has raised concerns for an even larger rise in terrorist activities. Attacks already rose by 70% in 2024. Due to lack of measures by Taliban, Pakistan faces new threats on multiple fronts. Due to this, tensions remain frayed between the two nations.

POLICIES TO IMPROVE RELATIONS

In order to curb tensions and fix the relation between the two countries, both Pakistan and Afghanistan need to adopt certain measures.

AFGHAN POLICIES

1) Removing support for terror outfits

Taliban government needs to fix its foreign policy by removing its support for banned groups within the country. It will help provide credibility to their government.

2) Acceptance of Durand line

Afghan government needs to accept the boundary between the countries which has been historically established and increase military presence and monitoring.

3) Balanced Foreign Policy

New terms with India should not be used to harm Pakistan through proxy networks. Therefore, it needs to maintain balanced ties with both Pakistan and India.

PAKISTAN POLICIES

1) Balance Kinetic / Non kinetic measures

Pakistan needs to balance approach to peace and provide deescalation of the tensions. Only kinetic measures may worsen the situation.

2) Targeted and sustained ^{Counter terror} measures

Activities

Improved intelligence methods can help locate targets more efficiently. Targeted operations can help reduce civilian casualties and improve effectiveness on both sides of the border.

3) Increase Pressure on Kabul

Pakistan needs to leverage its position to bring Kabul to the table and forge a long term solution. Actors like Qatar and Saudi Arabia can help mediate and carve out a permanent solution.

DAY: _____

Wrote 8-9 sides

Add graphs and charts

Go for diversification of references

DATE: _____

CONCLUSION

While a ceasefire has been signed recently on the issue, the situation continues to remain fragile. Pakistan and Afghanistan both need to come together to find a permanent solution and improve relations to enable growth between the countries.

Q03:

INTRODUCTION

The formation of new provinces in Pakistan has been the subject of debate across the country. The issue stems from the nature of provinces and its impact on governance. Pakistan currently comprises of four provinces and two federally administered regions. While a decision has not been made over the issue, the debate has been ongoing around the prospects and potential method of breaking the country into smaller units.

DAY: _____

DATE: _____

REASONS FOR MORE PROVINCES

Smaller units
means better
governance

International
best practice e.g.
India

REASONS

More accessible
to the communities

More focused
approach to
development and
training

HURDLES TO FORMATION

1) Approval from assemblies

The process requires a
2/3 majority from the relevant
assemblies in order to pass the
resolution. It is hard to get
all parties on board.

Add references

2) Financial Strain

New provinces means more
offices, buildings, infrastructure etc.

This will exponentially raise the cost to borne by the government and increase economic instability.

3) Lack of consensus over new boundaries

The way provinces will be carved out remains undecided. This has impacts further on how seats of assemblies will be decided and resource allocation carried out. Thus it poses a significant hurdle.

4) Risk of Disintegration

By following wishes of certain communities and areas, it opens the way for further demands from people who wish for a separate province. Therefore, it risks further disintegration and divide.

5) Loss of power and influence

Division into smaller units would mean that political parties lose their influence in their respective states. It will devolve power and divide power which would be unacceptable for political representatives.

RECOMMENDATIONS AS A LOCAL GOVERNMENT AS AN ALTERNATIVE MODEL

Instead of devolution into smaller provinces, the Local Government model provides a better tool to improve governance and reap the rewards offered by smaller units model. According ~~to~~ to the 18th Amendment Article ~~184~~ 10A, the provinces were required to devolve powers and make the local government effective. However, the model has not been made effective.

Benefits of the L.G Model

1) Responsive Governance

It is closer to the people and able to cater to the needs in a timely and efficient manner manner.

2) Cost effective

It does not require new or expensive infrastructure. The basic plan is already available and

needs little to be revamped.

3) Raises better leaders

It allows the representatives to gain experience at the grass roots of the system. The experience helps build skills and knowledge of handling affairs at a higher stage.

Do not elaborate this part but hurdles part

4) Targeted Interventions

The process allows one to recognize the root problems and address it accordingly. Public service delivery of sanitation, health and education is improved as a result, at the tribal and lower levels.

5) Citizen centric model

It helps to convey the problems of the citizenry to an empowered authority. Enables trust between the government and citizens, promoting harmony and conflict resolution in society.

DAY: _____

DATE: _____

CONCLUSION

The debate on new provinces has yet to culminate in a decision. The cases put forth on its adoption carry merit, however, it is an expensive idea which may not

Instructions to get good marks in current affairs paper

Important Note: The local governance system

Marks would be given on the following parameters

a- Content 60% References 15%
Subject specific language 15%
Graphs and charts 10%

Add 12-13 headings in each question and write 8-9 sides to get above 15 in each question

the questions carry 3-4 parts each part has equal weightage so discuss all equally

Stick to the asked part

Give examples from present events to justify answers

Give attractive introduction and Conclusion as well

INTRODUCTION

always give headings from the question statement.. take words from the statement

link each of the argument to the asked part in the question... if you fail to do so, no matter how accurate content is, if your heading is not align with what is asked in the question, it won't be