

DATE: ___/___/___

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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE - PAPER-II

"CURRENT - AFFAIRS"

QUESTION NO: 04

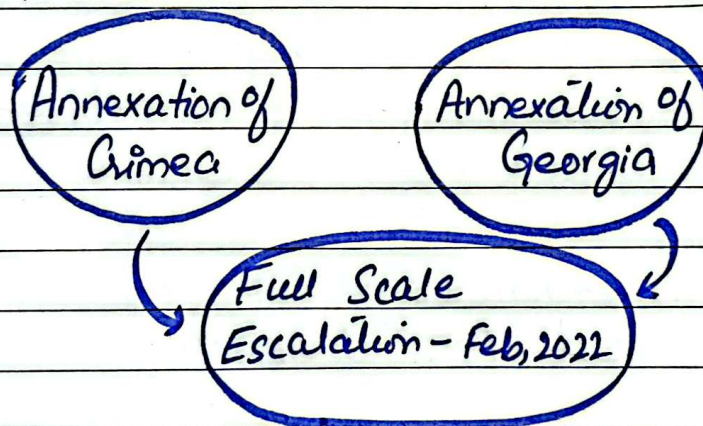
A. INTRODUCTION

Vladimir Lenin once said, "There are decades when nothing happens, and there are days when decades happen." The "war of attrition" between Russia and Ukraine caught the global concerns, where Russia and Ukraine have opposing stance on how to end the war. NATO and Russia's demands are contradictory. On the other hand, Trump has different stance from NATO leaders. The long standing regional conflicts, territorial disputes, NATO's expansion and recent drone warfare has worsened the situation and Trump's 28 point Peace Plan also highlighted serious concerns about future of NATO's expansion and entrance of Ukraine.

B. RUSSIA AND NATO'S OPPOSING STANCE ON HOW TO END UKRAINE'S WAR.

1. NATURE OF THE CONFLICT

The intensification of conflict has deepened after the annexation of Crimea 2014. Russia wants to prevent the Eastward expansion of NATO and claiming the security concerns. Also Russia demands that Western forces would stay away from Russian borders.



2. DEMANDS OF RUSSIA:

Russia refused to give back Ukrainian's territories and demanded NATO's non-expansion. Also, it demands that West stop funding militarily and financially to Ukraine, as it is undermining the security of Russia.

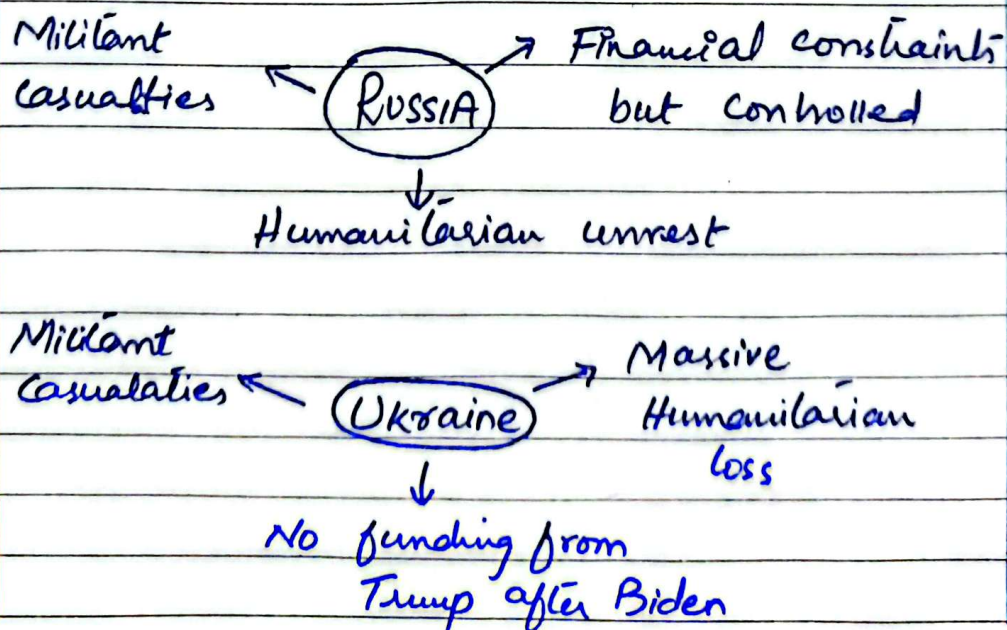
3. DEMANDS OF NATO

NATO's demands Russia to return the territories and step back from Black Sea which is impossible because Black Sea is heavily militarised by Russian Navy and 80% trade route of Russia.

4. TERRITORIAL DISPUTE DEADLOCK

The main reason of long standing conflict is the territorial dispute, which includes Crimea, Black Sea, and Eastern border nations. Russia's territorial expansion and NATO's eastward expansion creating the major deadlock.

5. INTERNAL CONDITIONS OF RUSSIA AND UKRAINE



C. TRUMP'S DIFFERENT STANCE FROM NATO LEADER

1. TRUMP'S PEACE PLAN

Trump has enforced peace plan due to a significant reason. Trump's major rival is China not Russia and this war distracts Trump for his significant agenda.

2. INCENTIVES FOR UKRAINE

Trump promised to provide some of the territories back to Ukraine from Russia and European Union membership, and the demilitarization of Ukraine.

3. INCENTIVES FOR RUSSIA

No NATO expansion to Eastward is promised by Trump. Along with that, West would not fuel Ukraine by providing weapons and Russia's unhindered access to Black Sea as before.

4. RESPONSE OF EUROPEAN UNION and NATO

NATO members did not accept Trump's plan as it has ultimately favored

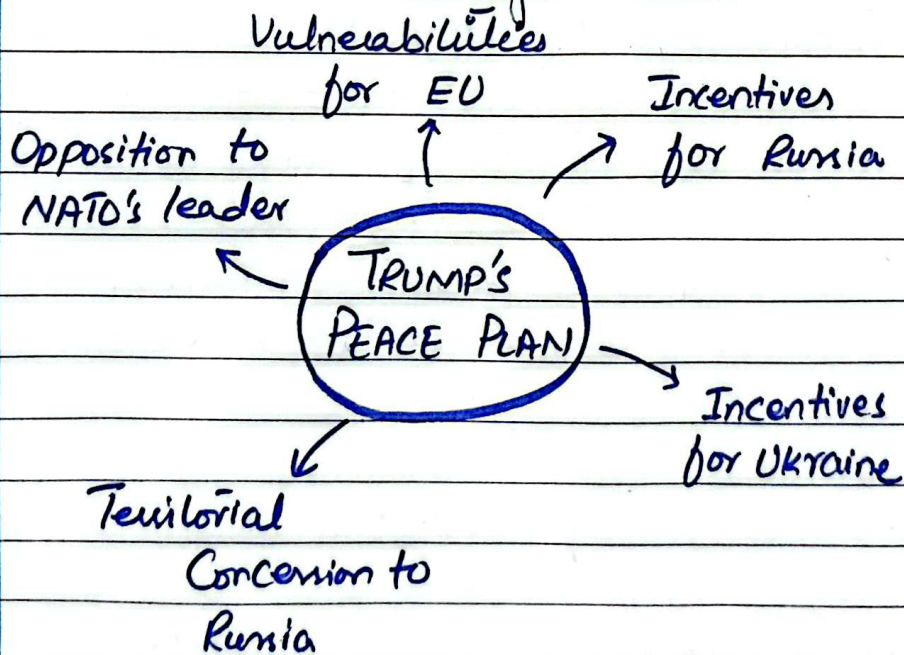
Russia.

5. RESPONSE OF UKRAINE

Ukraine didn't agree for demilitarization and wants the return of all territories but deep down Ukraine knows that alone EU's support would not be enough without Trump.

6. OPPOSITION TO TRUMP'S PLAN BY AMERICA'S MASSES.

Trump is facing both internal and external opposition. Now, the implementation depends on how Trump tackles the internal and external stances against Peace Plan.



D. RECOMMENDATION'S TO RESOLVE OPPOSING CONFLICTS AND RUSSIA UKRAINE WAR

1. NATO'S INCREASE IN DEFENCE SPENDING

Recent increase in NATO's defence spending from previous 2% to 5% under collective defense strategy is a clear message to Russia about the capability of Western nations to restrain Kremlin.

2. MILITARIZATION OF EASTERN BORDER NATIONS

Militarization of Eastern border nations could deter Kremlin from expansionist policy. Highly militarized force on Eastern borders would also favor the Ukraine's membership of NATO.

3. REGIME CHANGE IN AMERICA

The political shift in America can align the NATO's and America's conflicting stances on "war of attrition". America to provide funds to Ukraine along with EU.

4. MILITARY AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO UKRAINE

If Ukraine is supported enough to deter Kremlin, Russia would somehow stop the ongoing war particularly because of its own internal and demographic conflicts.

5. NEGOTIATIONS WITH RUSSIA

Although difficult, but at least it should be tried to bring Russia on negotiation table and remove sanctions from Russia to relieve the grievances of history.

6. ENSURE NON-EXPANSION OF NATO

The guarantee for the non-expansion of NATO can only decrease the intensity of Russia-Ukraine war. The security guarantee to Russia of its borders by NATO and EU would cause the war to slow down and ultimately to end.

D. CONCLUSION

To sum up, although difficult but-

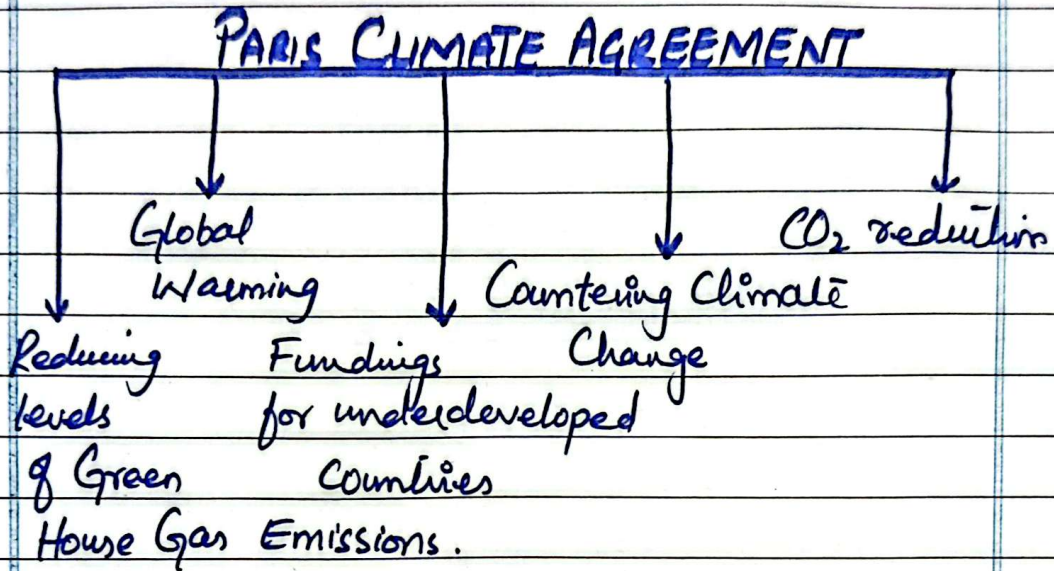
there are possibilities to end the war by significant measures to counter the opposing conflicts and preventing the nations to pursue national interests in terms of bringing peace.

QUESTION NO : 06

A. INTRODUCTION

In January 2025, Trump once again pulled out of Paris Climate Agreement signed in 2015. The agreement has achieved significant progress at the time of Biden, yet regime change or political shift in any country cause many political, economic, social and environmental challenges. The Paris climate agreement was signed to counter or reduce the level of emissions, climate change and human security threats. The non-serious attitude of world leaders cause significant challenges. However, the pledges in COP 21 by China and Europe could balance the effects but it highly depends on their commitments.

B. NATURE OF PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT



C. TRUMP'S PULLOUT FROM AGREEMENT

1. STANCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Trump has an opposing stance to climate change and calling it a hoax.

"Climate Change Is A Myth"

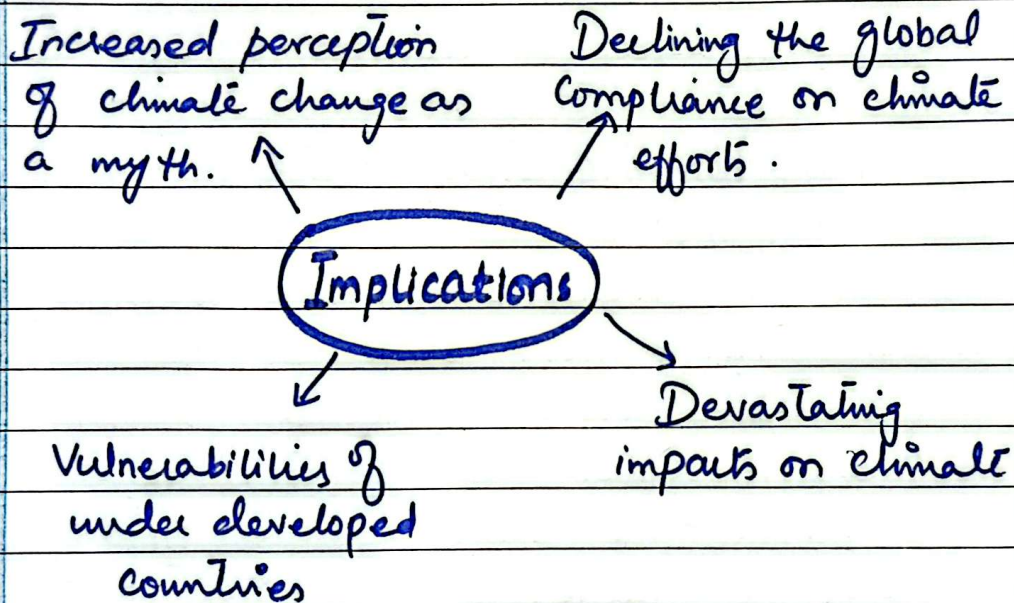
Trump says, climate change is a myth and if other powerful nations are not reducing the CO₂ emissions, Trump would also not obey.

2. ECONOMIC DECLINE

Trump claims that reducing the emissions are slowing the growth of

its industries and confiscation of economy.
So, it shifted from decarbonization
to recarbonization. Moreover, Trump
pursued the policy of:
"Drill Baby Drill"

D. IMPLICATIONS ON FUTURE CLIMATE EFFORTS



1... WORLD'S LARGEST POLITICAL LEADER AND SECOND LARGEST EMITTER PULLED OUT

America is the second largest emitter of the carbon emissions. Its stance of climate change as a myth and exit from climate agreement creates the perception among other countries that if world leader is not

obeying then why would we suffer?

2. VULNERABILITIES OF UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

The under-developed countries would suffer the devastating impacts of climate change because of decline in climate funds due to the exit of world's leader.

3. DEVASTATING IMPACTS ON CLIMATE

The climate would suffer because of Trump's "Drill Baby Drill" policy and shift towards recarbonization. Ultimately, other countries would also pursue the same policy affecting climate at large.

4. Increased perception of climate change as a myth.

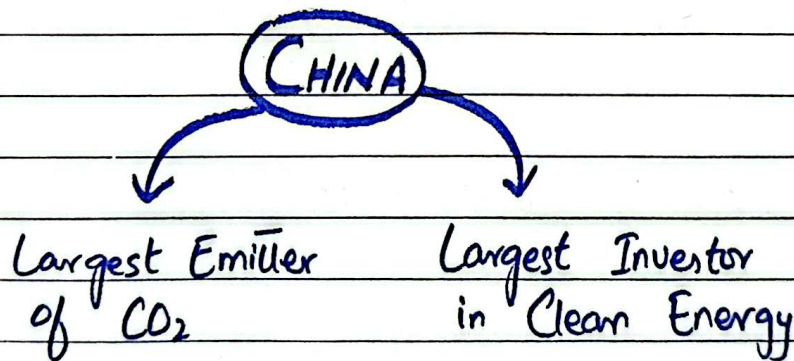
The other nations would also believe that climate change is a myth and continue the persuasion of their policies accordingly.

E. WHETHER CHINA AND EUROPE COULD HELP IN ACHIEVING THE PROMISES OF COP 21:

1. PROMISES OF COP 21:

World powers pledged in COP 21 to counter climate change. It includes, limiting the carbon emissions to 2% and ultimately to 1.5% by 2035. Also, the loss and damage fund was promised to provide to under-developed nations, for preventing the devastating climatic circumstances.

2. CHINA'S DUAL POLICY



China can help in achieving the promises of COP 21, yet it is trapped in its dual policy of emission and investment. China is the largest investor in the world, investing in clean energy and largest importer of wind and solar technologies. Hence,

it has the capacity to fulfill the promises of COP 21 with little more efforts.

3. EUROPE'S NET ZERO POLICY

$$\text{Emissions Generated} = \text{EUROPE} = \text{Emissions Absorbed}$$

Europe is pursuing its policy of net-zero emissions. i.e. the emissions it generates would be equal to the emissions it absorbs. Concludingly, Europe is responsible for its own emissions rather than the world emissions.

4. ROLE OF OTHER EUROPEAN NATIONS

Moreover, 38 countries refused to follow Trump's policy and they pledged that they would counter the climate change under Paris Climate Agreement. Hence, Europe also has the ability to fulfill the promises of COP 21 by taking significant precautionary measures.

F. CONCLUSION

In a nutshell, Temp's second time exit from Paris Climate Agreement have far reaching implications on future climate efforts. The role of other nations and organisations are of major concern regarding climate change. Yet, the seriousness of climatic conditions could foster the nations to pursue significant policies to balance the devastating impacts of climate change.

QUESTION : 05

PAK- SAUDI DEFENCE PACT

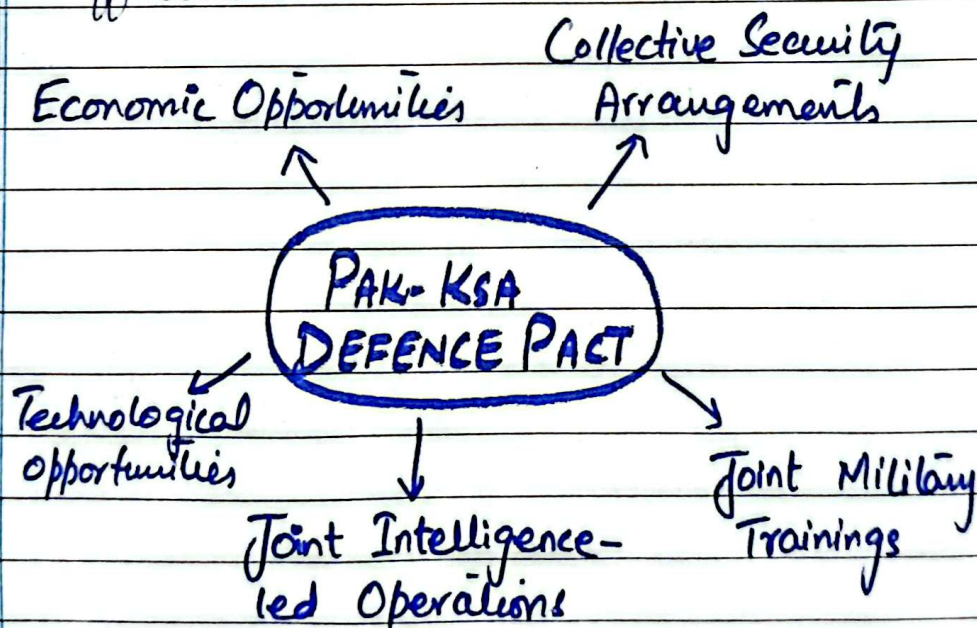
A. INTRODUCTION

Pak-Saudi Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement (SMDA) signed on 17th September, 2025. After the Israel's attack on Qatar, the conditions have changed and US image as a security guarantor had declined. In this aspect, the shift in geo-political and geo-strategic conditions led to a landmark agreement between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. Along with regional

and global implications, this defence pact has far reaching geopolitical implications for both the countries and economic opportunities for Pakistan.

B. NATURE OF AGREEMENT

The Pak-KSA defence agreement is similar to NATO's Article 5 of collective security defence. Although, Pakistan's claims not to be a nuclear and security umbrella, yet the nature of agreement demands something different.



C. IMPLICATIONS OF DEFENCE AGREEMENT

The agreement between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan has strategic, geo-economic

and geo-political implications.

1. BENEFITS FOR KSA

Saudi Arabia would get the support of a nuclear power with trained military and personnel on its conflicts with neighboring regions. Moreover, Saudi Arabia would have access to China from Pakistan for trade. Historical ties would play a major role in the successful implementation of this agreement.

2. BENEFITS FOR PAKISTAN

Pakistan got an ally in the Arab world and increased influence in Middle East. Moreover, Pakistan attained a diplomatic support from GCC in international forums. Also, oil and gas imports and access to Central Asian Countries and Middle East. Technological assistance and increased remittances from Arab world.

3. Religious Aspects

From religious and ideological perspectives, Pakistan got a chance again to protect the Holy Places in

in Saudi Arabia.

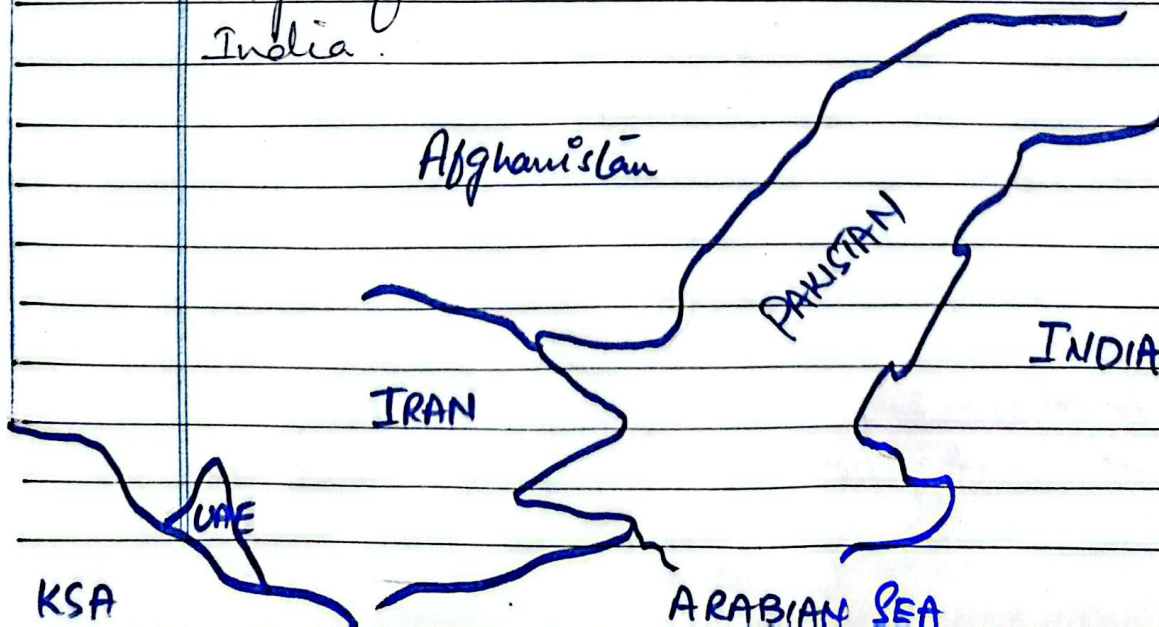
4. IMPLICATIONS ON REGIONAL POWERS.

4.1. Implications on Israel

The defence agreement has created a deterrence against Israel's non-stop aggression. Now, Israel got a clear message that any attack on either of the nations of Arab world, she would face serious consequences.

4.2. IMPLICATIONS ON IRAN

Iran also got a message to have controlled nuclearization. As Pakistan's neighboring region, Pakistan often face security threats about territorial sovereignty. Now, Iran got sandwiched between Pakistan and KSA, yet the chances are high for its inclination towards India.



D. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR PAKISTAN

1. INCREASE IN TRADE

All the GCC and Middle Eastern countries are rich in natural resources and so is the Pakistan. Pakistan's increased export due to an ally in GCC would cause the decline in its fiscal deficit. As of Pakistan Economic Survey, current account is in a **100 million Rupees Surplus** as in November, 2025.

2. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The defence agreement has increased the chances of employment in Arab world for Pakistani citizens. As millions of Pakistanis are currently working in UAE and KSA.

3. INCREASED REMITTANCES

A large Pakistani diaspora is working in Arab world and Middle East. Remittances are the only major source of foreign exchange reserves. According to State Bank of Pakistan, Remittances surged to **33.8 billion Rupees** in 2025.

4. INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The defence agreement made the linkage between KSA, China and Pakistan. Via CPEC, the infrastructural developmental projects would incline in Pakistan, making it a major trade hub from Middle East to South Asia, including Europe and African countries.

5. TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION

Pakistan would also get technological assistance from GCC to compete in contemporary technological world. It counters the dominance of world's leader on Pakistan and other developing countries to keep them technologically dependent.

6. INCREASED CHANCES OF INVESTMENT FROM OTHER GCC and ME COUNTRIES

The defence agreement would be a landmark agreement in Pakistan's history. As it would increase chances of FDI from Turkey, Egypt and Western Nations.

7. Pakistan's International Standing both Economically and Militarily

After the May 2025 conflict, Pakistan's position in international forums has surged both militarily and economically and imposed a great impression on world leaders. It ultimately attracted Western investments. **Strategic Mineral Agreement** between USA and Pakistan in Sep, 2025 in Balochistan.

E. CONCLUSION

On the way of conclusion, the Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement is a landmark agreement for both KSA and Pakistan along with significant impacts on regional and world powers. The agreement is not only politically but also strategically and economically important.
