

Question No 1

Introduction

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan is known to be an intellectual in the 19th century, who played most important role in the muslim unity. Moreover, he was most focused on educating muslims of Sub Continent in order to compete with hindus during the British Raj. In this regard, Sir Syed wrote many books, founded Muhammadan Education Oriental and Educational Conference to strengthen the whole muslim community.

Sir Syed also took numerous social, political and educational initiatives. His political strategies for protection of Muslim interests in British India are given below:-

Political Strategies of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan

1- Cohesion between muslims and British government:-

As British replaced muslim rule after defeating Mughals in the Subcontinent, there was hatred among muslims against the British government. Due to his hatred, British were more tilted towards hindus, providing them with key opportunities including key positions in the government. However, muslim were considered to be their enemy and were completely sidelined.

Thus Sir Syed stressed through his ~~writing~~ ^{books} Books and

and magazines eg Our Indian Musalman and Asbab e Bagawat e Hind, in order to break ice between the muslims and british. This above given step was taken to allow muslim participate in mainstream and fight the system after being a part of it.

Promoted good relation with Ahle kitab (people of Books)

Another magnificent strategy of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan was writing a book namely "Ta'ameel Ahl al kitab".

This book was mainly focused on emphasizing muslim that as per Islam, they are allowed to maintain good relations with people of books including Jews & Christians.

He also intimated that even inter faith marriages are allowed in Islam - trying to cool down hatred of muslims for British.

Avoided to support any earlier Political Participation by muslims.

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan initially intimated muslim to refrain from Participation in Politics. Sir Syed wanted muslims to be well prepared before entering into Political playing field. Thus, Sir Syed was more focused on educating the muslims of sub continent in order to make them efficient enough to step into Politics.

Protection of Urdu against Hindi :-

During the British Raj, hindus were filled with hatred against muslim - Even during the downfall of Mughals, movements like "Shuddhi and Sanghathan" were specially focused on uniting hindus against muslims.

In this backdrop, another conspiracy of Hindus was to replace Urdu with Hindi. Sir Syed fought against this diplomatically and politically to protect Urdu. In this process, he wrote many books, held conference and convinced British for their support to maintain dignity of Urdu.

Two nation theory ::

Most important political step by Sir Syed was establishing two nation ideology, which simply meant that hindus and muslims are two separate nations, having different culture and values. Later, this ideology of Sir Syed was recognized by Muslim League under the leadership of Jinnah resulting in creation of Pakistan.

Political Identity to Muslims ::

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan was more focused on building muslims intellectuals by building scientific society and educational institutions. However his ultimate purpose was to allow muslims to compete

with hindus Politically for equal rights and opportunities. Thus, many of students who were educated from Aligarh Institutes, later Participated in Politics by Joining either Muslim League or at earlier stage Indian National Congress. Hence, Sir Syed gave Political Identity not only by ~~to~~ two nation theory but also by muslim Participation in Politics.

Employment opportunities to muslims at key posts:

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan's initiatives of Scientific Society, educational institutions and Conferences allowed muslims to get opportunities at key posts during British govern. Syed Amer Ali is the key example who was appointed as Justice and Sir Syed himself worked at key posts during British era.

Difference between political strategies of Sir Syed and IN Congress:-

1- Congress was more focused on Political Participation:-

As Sir Syed opposed. Early Political Participation of muslims, Congress did completely the opposite by having complete focus on Political Participation of Indians specially the Hindus regardless of the fact that whether they are capable to do the same.

Congress was less focused on education:

Unlike Sir Syed, who paid special focus to build educational capabilities of Muslims, Congress never gave this such significant aspect any importance. Congress remained Hindu centered and desired to get a higher political seat.

Congress never accepted two nation ideology:-

As Sir Syed made it clear through his writing that Muslims and Hindus are two different nations. Congress on the other end never accepted this fact. Moreover, Congress demanded free India without separation from British; while Sir Syed has already made it clear that both these nations are far away from each other and can't live together.

Congress was tilted toward Hindus:-

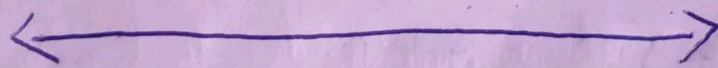
Politics of Congress tilted toward Hindus and never fought for Muslims. Moreover, Congress remained a Hindu centered party till the end. The reason why Mr. Jinnah left Congress was also their biased behaviour. Thus, Sir Syed and Congress politics differ from each other.

Congress: did Politics against British-:

Congress initially praised British to gain identity. however, later it was against British. Its movements like Swadeshi movement and leave India movement also demonstrate the same. However, Sir Syed wanted cohesion and good relation between muslims & hindus.

Conclusion ::

Aforesaid in view, the political strategies of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan strengthened muslims and protected their identity. On the other end Congress did hindu centred biased politics that was different from the political strategies of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan-



Question No 2

Introduction

Pakistan is ranked among the top ten most endangered countries due to the climate change. Climate change driven by global warming causes glaciers melting at an accelerated rate. Pakistan has largest glaciers as compared to any non polar country. This speedy glaciers melting increases the water flow into Indus river system-

Furthermore, the country now faces cloudburst instead of gentle rain spread. This increase in river flow causes floods as Pakistan's antiquated and mismanaged water management system is unable to tackle any flood like situation.

Moreover, Pakistan's relationship with water is a paradox of scarcity and abundance. As country is vulnerable to catastrophic floods, it also faces acute shortage in water all over the year. While reaching to no consensus and financial constraints also restricts it to construct any large dam to store water or to reduce flood intensity. Thus following social-economic and political implications are faced by the country:

Damage to Infrastructure:

Flood water - destroys the roads, railways tracks, bridges and feed gardens. This immense damage drags country back both socially and economically.

As per the reports of National Disaster Management Authority more than 300 bridges were destroyed during floods of 2022. In this back, Pakistan weak infrastructure becomes vulnerable to floods.

Agricultural loss:

Re Agriculture is the backbone of Pakistan economy.

However, floods destroy the standing crops including wheat, sugarcane and cotton. This not only results in food ~~in~~ insecurity, but also weakens the textile industry - which is the main export industry of Pakistan.

Loss of life and livestock:

Floods wipe off homes and every other thing that comes in their way - This includes the vulnerable people, who lose their previous lives either by drowning or by getting injured due to fall of infrastructure. Moreover, rural areas depend on livestock to feed themselves. However, floods also drown their livestock. As per reports published by dawn, Pakistan lost atleast 1 million livestock and more than one thousand human lives during floods of 2022 and 2025.

Poverty, hunger and health issues.

Due to the damaged infrastructure and agriculture majority of population, who work on daily wages system, suffer from poverty and

hanged- This leads to malnutrition in infants and mothers. Moreover, stagnant water allows pathogens to grow, leading to diseases like malaria, dengue and typhoid to the people, who are living in makeshift homes.

Damage to Schools and colleges:

Floods water either damage the buildings of educational institutions or otherwise they are used to procure temporary shelter to the homeless people. This generates an education gap for a generation, who has to bear the responsibility for their families and to contribute in country's economy. Thus this socio-economic implication also threatens Pakistan.

Economic loss:

By damaging country's main infrastructure, agriculture and textiles, it puts the nation backwards by years - Pakistan has to rely upon the Aid or on IMF packages that puts Pakistan in vicious cycle. Thus the rehabilitation and rebuilding costs economic loss and diverts country from main issues including public service delivery.

Droughts ::

The last nail in the coffin for agricultural industry, which already gets destroyed by floods, is droughts. Provinces of Sindh, South Punjab and Balochistan ~~face~~ respectively face acute shortage in water, leading to million of acres land go completely barren.

Conflicts with Neighbouring Countries ::

The most important Political implication of Climate Change for Pakistan is its conflict with India and Afghanistan over water. ~~Indian~~ Pakistan being a state at lower side depends on water coming from India.

As climate change already has reduced water flow, further Indian acts contribute to conflicts. Afghanistan also aiming to build Jam in Kabul rivers threats further shortage of water for Pakistan - leading towards conflicts.

Disintegration among provinces ::

Similarly climate change has generated conflicts among provinces of Pakistan

Facing the shortage of water - Almost 25 percent of land has gone barren in Sindh, who blames Punjab for not allowing water to travel to Sindh. However, Climate Change driven shortage is the main reason - This conflict further drives towards non consensus on building dams to store water

Pakistan's Institutional Response:

Empowering NDMA & PDMA

Pakistan has constituted NDMA and PDMA to deal with disasters caused by climate change. These subject authorities help in saving lives and direct water toward low populated areas. Moreover, Government also delegates NDMA to take after rehabilitation. However, the authorities act reactively rather than being proactive - which causes more damage -

Raising voice over International forums

Pakistan raised its voice in international forums specially in Conference of Parties. In this regard, Pakistan successfully established the case in favour of vulnerable countries who

not even responsible for climate change. Thus, loss and damage fund was constituted, however, payment is still awaited.

Installation of early warning systems ::

Pakistan has taken another step i.e. ~~ear~~ installing the early warning systems in backward and rural areas to evacuate the people before the disaster. Nevertheless, EWS still lacks efficient communication to make illiterate people understand in their manner.

Problems in Institutional response ::

I- Deforestation

Pakistan still haven't formulated any robust policy against deforestation - forest act as natural sponges that not only absorb the rain water, but also slow down the runoff - However, watershed areas are still deforested.

II- Encroachment over riverbeds

Pakistan's major issue is construction of riverbeds which is an open invitation to disasters - However, no concrete action has been initiated against the illegal encroachments.

III- Lack of funds and trained staff

Finally, Pakistan does have institutions but these authorities face acute shortage of fund and trained staff who are capable to act during the time of disasters to save precious lives -

Question No 6

Introduction

Regional organizations were established to focus over regional integration, resolving of issues, and establish peace and promote trade among the countries of both regions i.e. South and Central Asia respectively. However, these organizations failed to deliver meaningful integration among the countries of said regions. Unlike European Union, and ASEAN, the organization of South and Central Asia still haven't reached to any trade agreement, neither does it have promoted any integration. Following causes of failures of regional organizations merit attention :-

Failure of Regional Organization in South Asia-

The organization that is totally centered towards South Asia is South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation which includes all eight countries of South Asia, although membership of Afghanistan has been terminated temporarily due to regime change. The reasons behind the failure of SAARC are as follows :-

1. Indian hegemonization in South Asia:-

India is the only country who shares borders with 6 South Asian Countries. However, being a large country, it hegemonizes the region. India never treats its neighbouring states with equal status, thus failing the SAARC.

2. Presence of BIMSTEC as an alternative:-

Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral and Economic Cooperation is considered to be an alternative of SAARC. However, it is not South Asia Centric because it contains some members from South East Asia. Moreover, India more focuses on BIMSTEC instead of SAARC to isolate Pakistan.

3. India-Pakistan Rivalry

Pakistan and India have a long standing rivalry due to Indian occupation of Kashmir and its Water centric terrorism. These conflicts never allow both countries to sit together for strengthening the regional cooperation.

4. Economic Bankruptcy of Sialanka

Organization demands financial capacities of its member to participate thoroughly for joint economic mission of trade. However, its important member i.e. Sialanka is economically unstable that also affects the organization as a whole.

5- Regime change in Afghanistan:-

Afghanistan being a member of SAARC is an important member. However, due to recent regime change i.e. takeover by TTA weakens the SAARC.

7- Political Instability in Bangladesh:-

Bangladesh is the third largest country of population in SAARC member countries. However, growing political instability in the country and its growing tensions with India further keeps the issue.

9- Lack of Trust and no binding resolution:-

SAARC member countries have no trust on each other. Each of the country blames the other for terrorism and other problems. Moreover, the resolutions of SAARC are also non binding, that makes its decisions ineffective.

Failure of Regional organization in Central Asia

The main organization in Central and South Asia is Shanghai Cooperation organization, which fails due to following reasons.

1- No binding resolution.

Like SAARC, SCO also have no system of binding resolution. Thus, every country behaves on its free will and can act as a free rider.

2- Sanctions on Russia -

Russia due to its ongoing war with Ukraine is

under Sanctions - These Sanctions put limit on other countries to trade with most important member of SCO.

3- Sanctions on Iran

Iran is another important member of SCO, however due to its theocratic government, is under sanctions. Thus, countries face difficulties in trading with Iran.

4- India and Pakistan Conflict

Like wise India and Pakistan, both are immediate neighbors and members of SCO. However, their long standing rivalry puts the SCO at weaker position due to non agreement on certain issues.

5- Different Political Ideologies

Many of the members of SCO possess different political ideologies. While India and Pakistan are democratic countries, China is a socialist and Iran is a theocratic state. These differences also weaken the SCO.

6- No common trade agreement:

SCO has also failed to reach any common trade agreement like ASEAN Jit. This failure puts it backward from its main agenda i.e. trade between the member countries. Hence failing in main agenda caused unrest in SCO.

Suggestive Measures:

1- Make resolutions binding:-

Both SCO and SAARC are in dire need to make their resolutions binding in order to seriously gain benefits and promote peace and security in the region.

2- Talks between India and Pakistan

India and Pakistan, being an important member of both organization have to resolve their conflicts diplomatically by bilateral or multilateral platform.

3- Religious Diplomacy

Countries of South Asia and also some countries of Central Asia have religious commonalities, which can be used to bring all the countries together -

4- All other tracks of diplomacy.

If the government to government talks don't work, then other ways including private talks, media diplomacy and cultural/sports diplomacy must be utilized.

5- Trade agreement

Both SAARC and SCO put effort on reaching to a binding trade agreement so in order to benefit their common men best and attracting their focus more towards regional cooperation.

Question No 3.

Introduction

Pakistan is most important country due to its geography. Its the only way to connect the Central Asian Republics with South Asian Countries - Moreover, due to its sea ports, its the best possible way for China to end its chronic sea route challenge by trading through the Gwadar Port.

Significance of Pakistan's Connectivity under BRI

Pakistan's Connectivity under Belt and Road Initiative has many geo economic benefits as under:

1- Enhancing trade

Pakistan can enhance its trade with the help of its geo gifted location that helps it to connect with Central Asian republics through Wachen Corridor of Afghanistan and its connection with South Asia through India.

2- Improve energy sector

CPEC under BRI has ended Pakistan's chronic energy shortage by adding thousands of Megawatt electricity into its grid's station.

Pakistan's industrial can boost by the help of the enhancement in energy sector.

Better Infrastructure

Belt and Road Initiative have allowed Pakistan to improve its connectivity by building roads and railways tracks, that support in smooth operation and facilitation of transit trade activities.

Improvement in transport system

Pakistan has also improved its transport system by building railway tracks and roads. This transport industry initiative has shortened the distance and have improve economic activities through connectivity.

Effect toward ^{technological} technical advancement

With the help of investment under BRI and CPEC, Pakistan is headed towards technological advancement. Govt has already initiated projects that can help Pakistan in moving towards digitalization.

Effect of regional alliance in Asia on Pakistan:-

On the other end, there is an ongoing regional alliance in Asia that is thought to be related to Pakistan (CPEC).

Geo Political importance:-

Pakistan's geo political importance can be reduced due to its geographical location that connects it with Central and South Asian countries.

All other Asian alignments can replace Pakistan's importance due to its unique geographical location wherein, it connects with global power China, Arabian Sea and C.A.R.

Only way to Central and South Asia :

As mentioned above, Pakistan is only way of access for both South Asian and Central Asian countries. Other regional alliances especially Indian projects i.e. IMEC are unable to reduce the relevance of Pakistan because of its access to sea and major Asian countries.

Importance of Gwadar Port :

It has been worried that Chabahar Port of Iran can reduce relevance of Gwadar Port. However, Gwadar Port is about to operationalise and as intimated by the Ministry of Commerce and is more suitable port for transshipment of goods and services.

Moreover, Iran is under severe sanctions that restrict it from any free trade either transshipment of Axle road. Thus Pakistan's relevance can't be reduced through other Asian alliances.

Conclusion :-

Pakistan has unique geographic location that connects it with central and South Asia and also with major Economic Power China -

Moreover, its access to Arabian Sea is the best trade route for both Pakistan and China.
Thus Pakistan's relevance in Asia can be realised through - regional Alliances in Asia -
