

IR - PAPER - I

QUESTION NO: 04

A. INTRODUCTION

The water security is a new emerging non-traditional security threat in South Asia. The recent hydro-aggression conducted by upper riparian states and the unilateral suspension of India from Indus Water Treaty exercising the regional hegemonic role in South Asia. Therefore, such conflicts between India and Pakistan disturb the regional Balance of Power, and rising insecurity for lower riparian states in the region. Several steps like international mediation, renewal of agreement should be taken to reverse the hydro-aggression and to protect the sovereignty of other states. Modi's Aggressive stances such as:

"Blood and Water Cannot
Flow Together"

→ Narendra Modi

B. ISSUE OF WATER SECURITY IN SOUTH ASIA - IN THE CONTEXT OF RECENT HYDRO-AGGRESSION AND UNILATERAL ABROGATION OF IWT:

1. MODI'S UNILATERAL STANCE ON IWT.

From the lens of Realism, India's unilateral abrogation of Indus Water Treaty (1960) is an aggressive stance on a shared treaty and delayed sharing of hydrological data affects the sovereignty of Pakistan.

2. PAKISTAN'S STANCE - AN ACT OF WAR

From the lens of Liberalism, Pakistan openly threatens India that its unilateral suspension of IWT is an act of war against Pakistan and would have serious consequences. As IWT is a shared agreement, so, India can not unilaterally suspend the agreement.

3. FOOD SCARCITY IN SOUTH ASIA

As 80% of agriculture depends on shared water sources, and the rule

based on self-interest creates food insecurity in developing nations, ultimately resulting in human insecurity. From the lens of Neo-Realism, India's stance is based on self-interest and aggression against Pakistan.

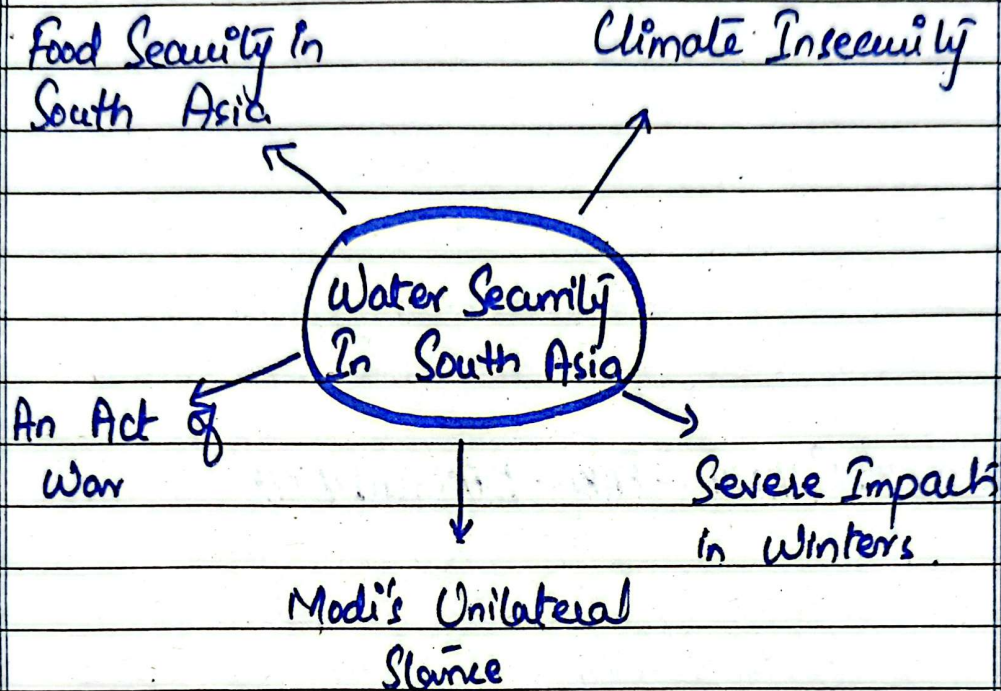
4. REGIONAL INSECURITY

According to Neo-liberalism, international system is anarchic but cooperation is possible. India's stance can foster regional insecurity and increase China's aggression against India to support Pakistan. It can hinder China's non-interventionist policy. For instance, China's stance on making Brahmaputra dam, after that India will face the same threats as Pakistan is facing.

5. CLIMATE INSECURITY

From the lens of realism, India's hegemonic role and historical grievances (constructivism) disrupts the environmental security in developing states. For instance,

2025 floods in Pakistan are due to India's unilateral suspension and sudden release of water.



C. WATER CONFLICTS AFFECTING REGIONAL SECURITY

1. AN ACT OF WAR — Security Dilemma

India's unilateral suspension is an act of war against Pakistan which creates security dilemma in the region. As both states try to defend themselves resulting in the perception of the preparation of war for other state.

2. China's Factor → Neo-Liberalism

China plays a major role in regional security and wants to contain China India in the region. China wants to maintain the Balance of Power. However, India's aggression forces China to react, therefore, China decided to make Brahmaputra Dam so that India would face the same crisis as Pakistan.

3. CHINA - PAK - BANGLADESH

A triangle of China - Pakistan - Bangladesh increases security concerns for India. The joint agreement between these three states leaves India vulnerable in the region and alignment with West, further increases insecurity and disrupts the regional Balance of Power and creates security dilemma in the region.

4. FURTHER ASPECTS OF REGIONAL SECURITY AFFECTED BY WATER CONFLICT

(Food Scarcity)

↳ (Water Scarcity)

↳

(Natural Disasters)

↳

(Human Insecurity)

↳

(Climate Vulnerability)

D. STEPS THAT CAN BE TAKEN TO ENSURE STABILITY

1. International Court of Arbitration (ICA)

From the lens of liberalism, the international organisations play a central role in the resolution of a conflict. As on 5th Aug, 2025, ICA gave the verdict in favour of Pakistan that India has no right to suspend the Treaty without mutual consent.

2. Renewal of the Agreement

To reduce the grievances and aggression, the Treaty should be renewed to address the missing clauses on environmental insecurity or climate change which India is using to justify its aggressive stances.

3. Agreement Between China, Pak. and Bangladesh to Contain India

An agreement on water conflict between China, Pak and Bangladesh can also resolve the issue due to India's containment in the region. From the lens of neo-liberalism, international treaties and organizations fosters cooperation while making the chances of war to decline.

4. Negotiations between India and Pakistan

From the lens of positivism, scientific methods to share the hydrological data on time should be used in the negotiations Table to counter India's hegemonic role and foster cooperation because environmental insecurity is a mutual concern for both the nations and for the world.

E. CONCLUSION

On the way of conclusion, water

Security is an emerging issue of South Asia, mainly due to hegemonic roles of regional powers. India's hydro-aggression and unilateral stances affect water security, signifying a shift of security from territorial disputes to natural resources.

However, they can be improved via significant measures.

QUESTION NO: 06

A. INTRODUCTION

The international financial institutions' as IMF's financial intervention impacts the economies of developing countries, particularly Pakistan.

Economic dependency, technological backwardness and political autonomy lacks due to IMF's financial intervention. Although, it offers short term economic recovery, while resulting in long term vicious cycle of debt dependency. However, the loss of economic and political sovereignty are the most concerning threats associated with

IMF loans.

B. Impact of IMF Financial Interventions on Developing Economies — Pakistan.

1. Debt Dependency

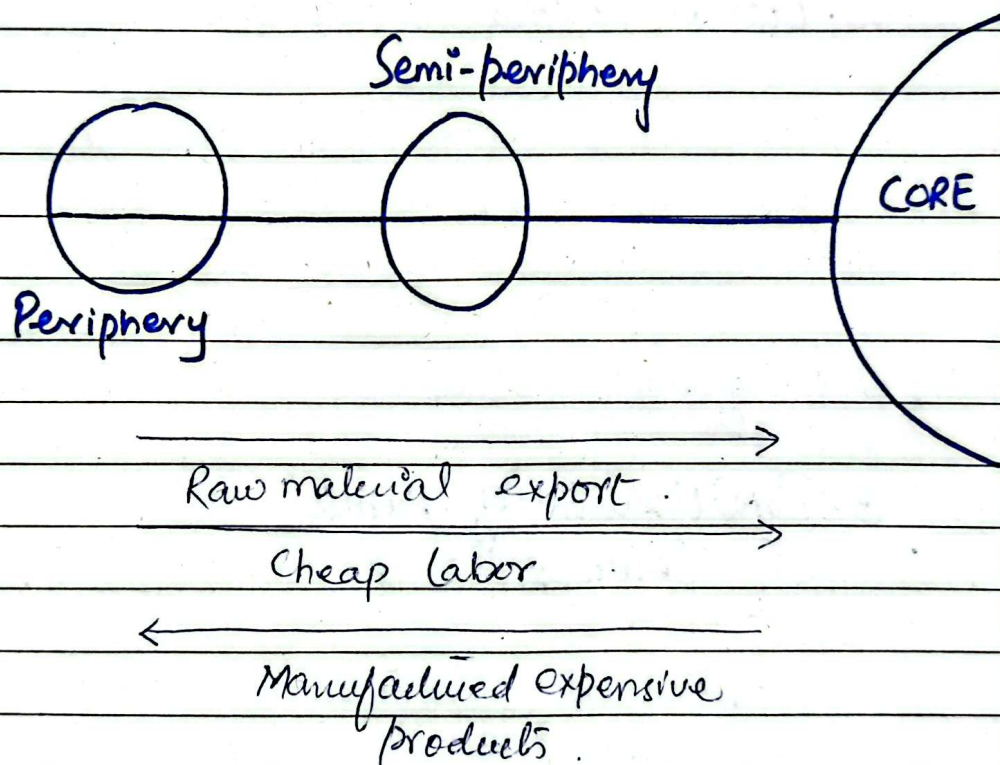
IMF loans create a cycle of debt dependency for developing economies. From the lens of dependency theory, IMF programs never let a country out of it. For instance, 70-80% of the budget of Pakistan is required annually to cover the pending debts.

2. Unequal Global Supply Chains

Moreover, lenders in IMF creates unequal trade relations with developing countries. According to Prebisch's Core-Periphery theory, Periphery countries are limited to ^{supply} provide raw materials and cheap labor while Core getting the significant benefits.

3. Technological Dependence

From the lens of structuralism, the core-periphery and semi-periphery countries where core makes the periphery countries technologically dependent and backward while enjoying the progress due to advanced technologies.



C. Economic Recovery Through IMF Loans

1. Reduction in Fiscal Deficit

From the lens of economic liberalism, IMF loans prevents the economy

from collapse and bankruptcy. The reduction in fiscal strain provides relief for short term.

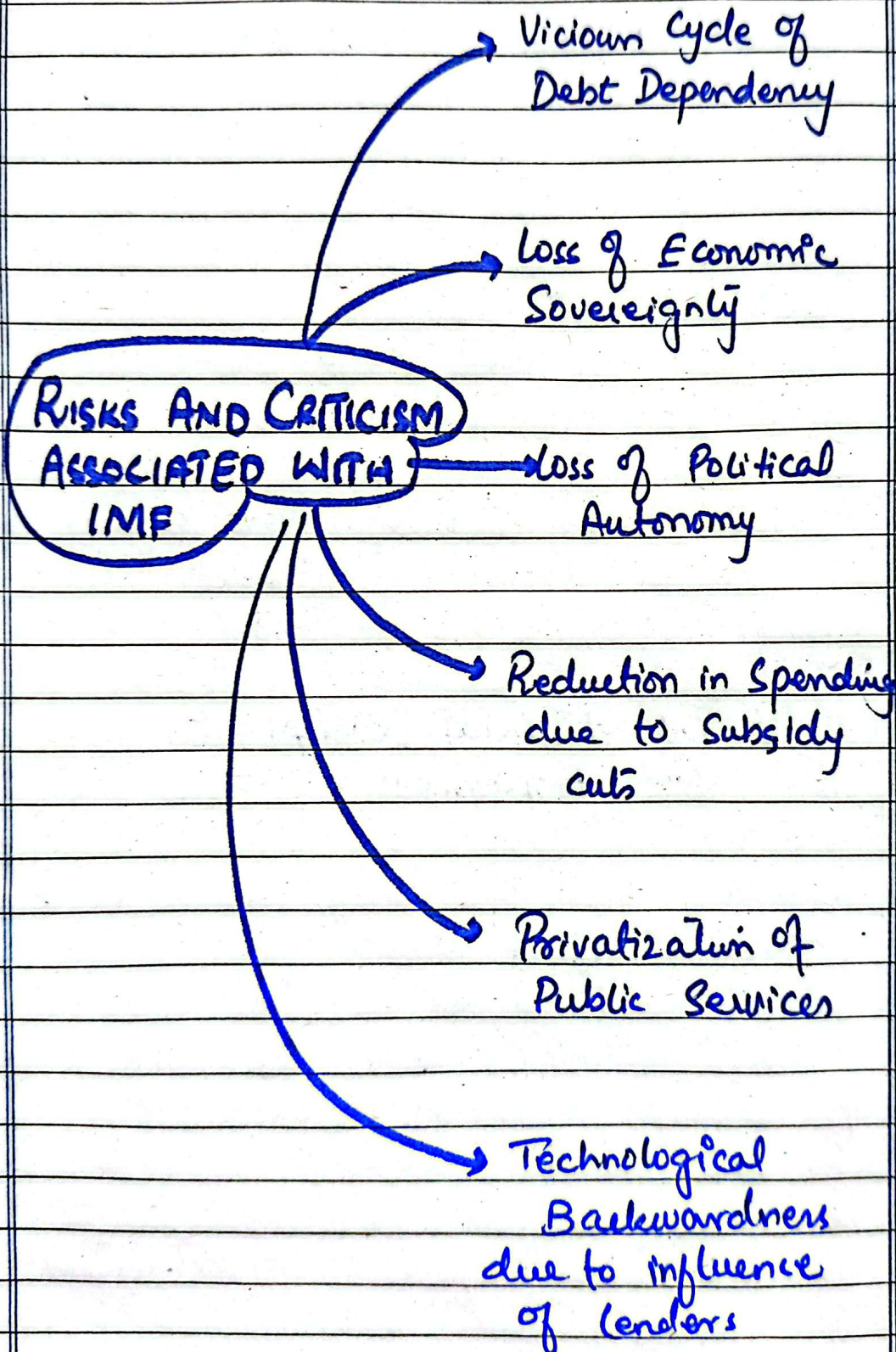
2. Transparency and Accountability

From the lens of interventionism, IMF's intervention with its conditions and austerity measures maintains check and balance and ensures transparency and accountability in a nation. For instance, among 11 new conditions, one is that Pakistan will publish the assets of office holders in official government website.

3. Infrastructural Development and Employment

Moreover, from the lens of economic liberalism, IMF also promotes the infrastructural development in a country. From the lens of English School theory, it also provides human security to the developing countries while generating employment opportunities.

D. Risks and Criticisms Associated with their Long-term Effects



1. Loss of Economic Sovereignty

From the lens of Dependency theory, IMF loans results in the loss of economic sovereignty of a nation due to the conditions associated with loans. Result in the decline to autonomous spending of the funds.

2. Loss of Political Sovereignty

From the lens of structural Imperialism, the core countries diminish the political autonomy of a nation. Playing a key role in the internal affairs of a state.

3. Privatization of Public Services

IMF impose such conditions with the allocation of loans, such as the privatization of public services that results in social unrest and increase in inflation in a state. For instance, PIA has been privatized in Dec, 2025 as per the conditions of IMF.

E. CONCLUSION

To sum up, IMF's financial intervention disrupts the developing economies with short term reliefs and long term loss of economic sovereignty and a vicious cycle of debt dependency. The role of lenders also affects the developing economies specially Pakistan as they restrict the developing countries to become technologically and economically independent. Therefore, risks and criticisms are associated with IMF loans on the basis of long-term effects.

QUESTION NO: 02

A. INTRODUCTION

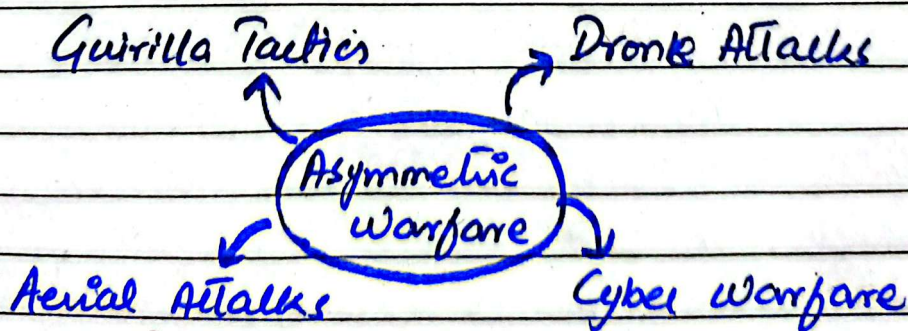
In contemporary world, the arising conflicts and wars have shifted from traditional symmetric warfare tactics to asymmetric warfare.

The Pak-India relations are largely based on asymmetric aerial deterrence, drone warfare and cyber attacks. This asymmetric warfare is affecting the strategic

calculations of the conduct of war and military strategies in contemporary wars in South Asia.

B. Concept of Asymmetric Warfare

Asymmetric warfare of 21st century in South Asia has changed the dynamics of strategic calculations and military strategies. It includes Guerrilla Tactics, Cyber warfare, drone attacks, to exploit the adversary's vulnerabilities, avoiding direct and conventional battles to wear them down and achieve strategic goals. With the advent of asymmetric warfare, nuclear deterrence still plays a major role but the control of skies and technology is of major concern.



C. APPLICATION IN CONTEMPORARY CONFLICTS → PAK-INDIA RELATIONS

1. DRONE WARFARE → May, 2025

From the lens of Realism, states acting in self-interest, violating the sovereignty of other nations. In May, 2025, the conflict between Pakistan and India signified a drone warfare between the two countries. To get the information about military facilities.

2. Cyber Attacks → Pak-India Relations

The cyber attacks on Pakistan's intelligence forums to theft data, are conducted by India violating the core principle of Nation-State, Territorial Sovereignty. In South Asia and particularly in the context of Pak and India, due to technological advancement, cyber attacks have shifted the conventional warfare to non-conventional asymmetric warfare.

3. Aerial Strikes → 2025, May Conflict

The aerial strikes carried out by both Pakistan and India highlighted that nuclear deterrence is important, yet aerial deterrence with the control on skies is of major concern in contemporary world. From the lens of security dilemma, both the countries are attaining defensive strategies but are offensive to others.

4. Terrorism in South Asia

From the lens of interventionist policy, the supporting terror groups inside an adversary's state is also an aspect of asymmetric warfare undermining the national sovereignty of a state. For instance, India and Afghanistan both are financing the terror groups inside Pakistan.

D. Asymmetric Warfare Affects Strategic Calculations and Military Strategies in South Asia

1. Strategic Calculations

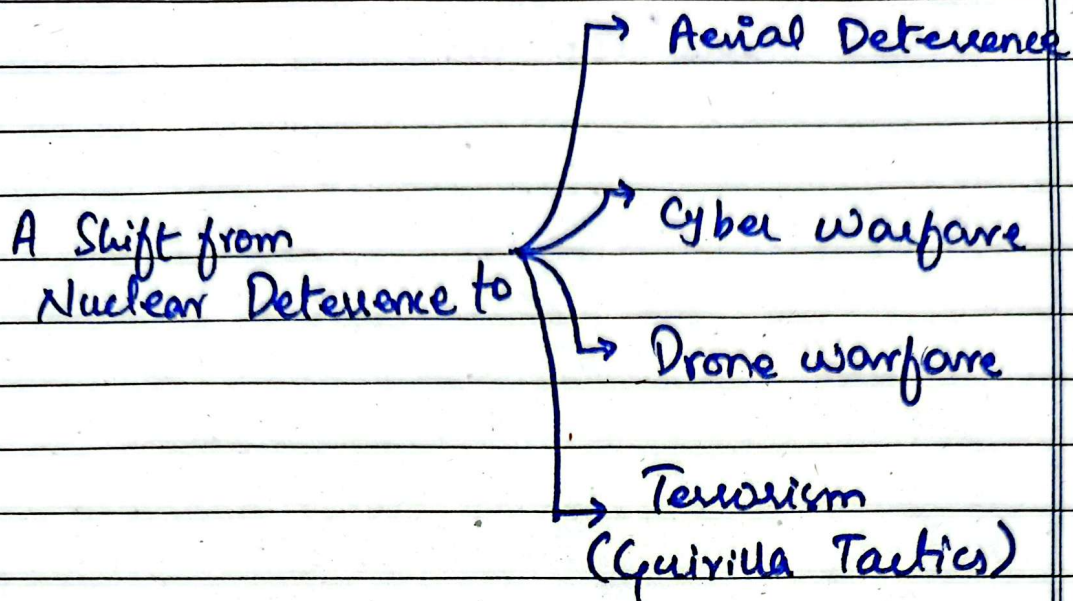
↳ Constructivism

Constructivism emphasizes the roles of ideas, norms and identities in shaping state behavior, and the growing importance of drones and cyber warfare, reflecting a shift in strategic calculations between Pak. and India. The use of drone and cyber capabilities in May, 2025 escalation has added new dimensions in deterrence theory.

2. Military Strategies

↳ Realism

Realism explains the state's self interest for its survival in international relations. The asymmetric warfare affected the military strategies in South Asia, while shifting from nuclear deterrence to aerial deterrence. The use of Thunder and Bighor jets in May, 2025 highlighted the significance of aerial deterrence.



E. CONCLUSION

In a nutshell, the asymmetric warfare has shifted the nature of contemporary politics affecting human security, cyber security and territorial sovereignty on a large scale. As it can be clearly seen from recent 2025 conflicts in the context of Pak-India relations along with other acts of war in the world. Therefore, it has shifted the strategic capabilities and military strategies in South Asia at large.

QUESTION NO: 05

A. INTRODUCTION

In the context of International Relations, the concept of Balance of Power has reemerged in Asia-Pacific hotspots which includes the Indian Ocean Region, South China Sea and Taiwan issue. Geo-political, geo-economic and geo-strategic conflicts emerged between regional and world powers. However, diplomatic engagements can help in resolving the conflicts to bring stability in the region.

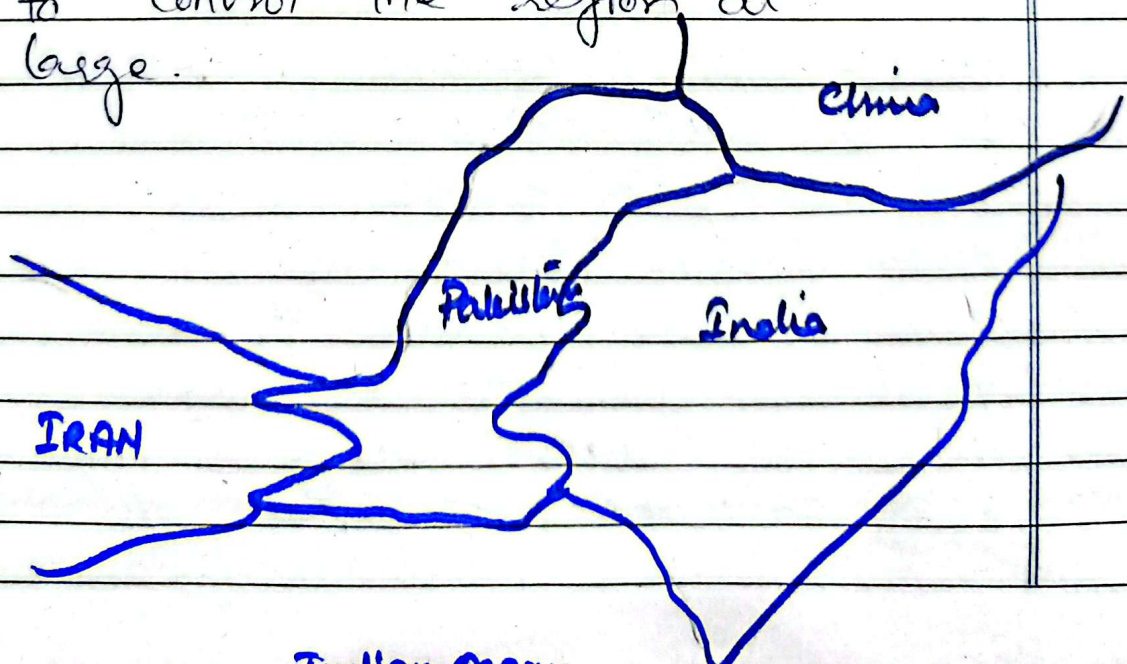
B. Concept of Balance of Power

The concept of Balance of Power has its roots in the 19th and 20th century in Europe where great powers tried hard to maintain the Balance of Power in the region. However, Balance of Power theory plays a key role in the reemergence of

Asia-Pacific hotspots in the light of geo-economic, geo-political and geo-strategic aspects. Where powers want to gain influence economically, politically and strategically in Indian Ocean, Taiwan and South China Sea mainly between China and US and their allies.

1. Geo-Political Reemergence

From the lens of Realism, regional powers like India and China are trying to gain geo-political advantages in the Indian Ocean Region. India's **Necklace of Diamonds** Vs. China's **String of Pearls** is trying to gain political and strategic capabilities in IOR, to control the region at large.



2. Geo-economic Re-emergence

From the lens of expansionist policy, US and China's influence on Taiwan due to strategic and economic gains to technological advancements. US support to Taiwan and heavy investment, whereas, China's claims that Taiwan is the core of China and is still under China's influence. This rivalry between US and China caused the geo-economic re-emergence of Asia-Pacific hotspots where both the states are trying to maintain dominance and a balance of power.

3. Geo-Strategic Re-emergence

The South-China Sea and US-China rivalry where China claiming its historical belonging to the region and drawing the 9-dash line that the entire area belongs to China. Whereas, US and its allies, Japan, India and Australia

are trying to counter China's dominance in the region.

C. Tool of Diplomacy can Help to Achieve Objectives and Long term Stability in The region.

1. US- China Engagement

US- China engagement on Asia-Pacific conflicts can help in the reduction of uncertainties of the region.

The removal of sanctions from China for the import of CHIPS for advanced technology could relief the US- China tech and trade war.

From the lens of economic liberalism, trade reemergence, although trade war not ended but halted to some extent that should be renewed to maintain regional stability.

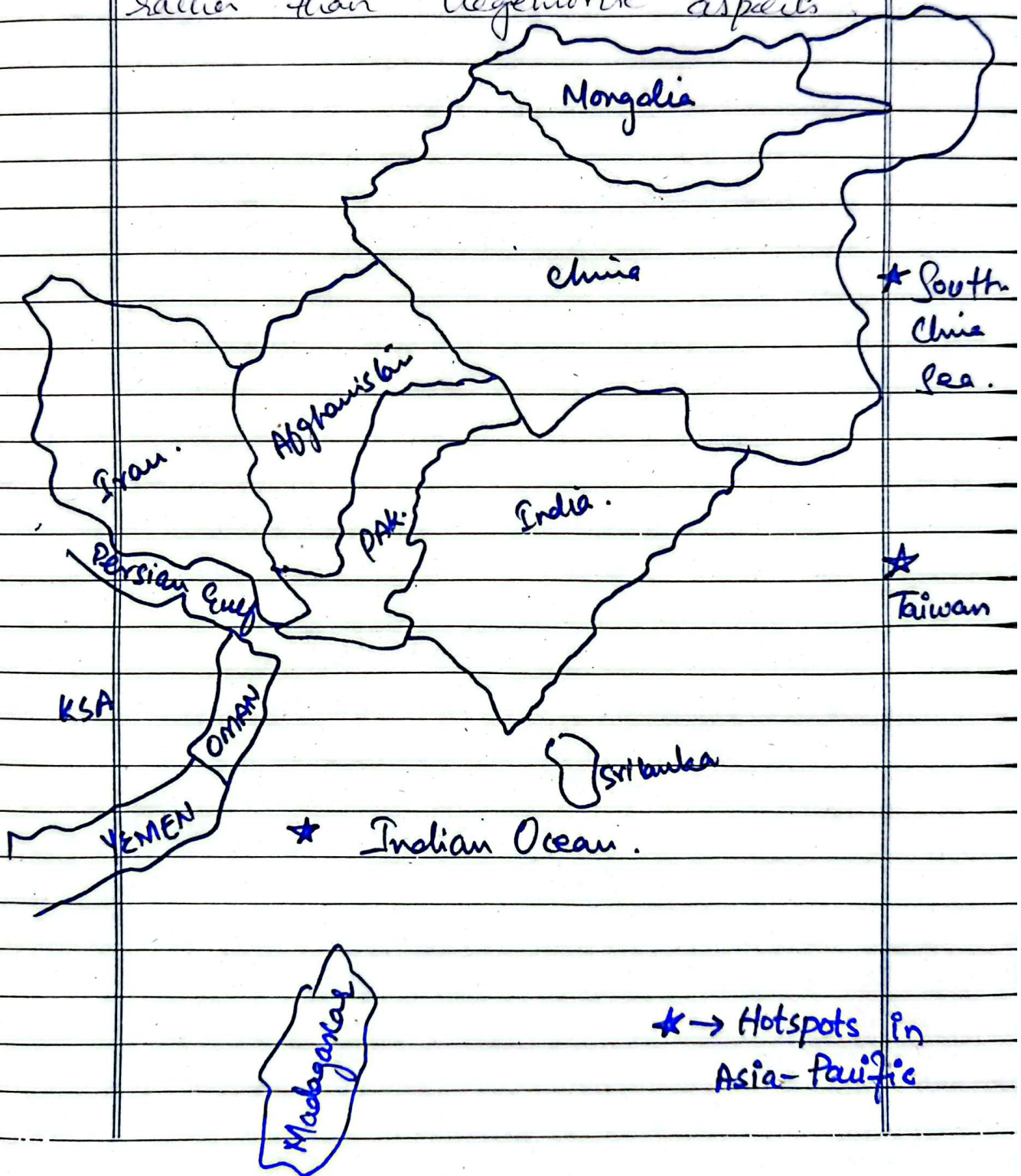
2. India- China Engagement

The difference in India and China's foreign policy creates the conflict. For instance, the investment in ports in IOR to gain influence and

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contain the other state interests in long term rivalry in the region and china would ultimately gain the dominance. Therefore, India should incline towards diplomatic engagement rather than hegemonic aspects.



D. CONCLUSION

The Asia Pacific region is an ~~an~~ hotspot of regional and world powers as it contains significant importance for trade, navy employment and geo-political and strategic containment of rival nations.

Therefore, the engagements between powers could help in the stability achievement of the region.

