

6/Jan/26

Mock 5

Pak Affairs

Answer 1.

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan (1817-1898) emerged as the foremost Muslim political thinker of 19th century, when Muslims were politically marginalized, economically backward, and psychologically demoralized. His political strategy emerged as protecting Muslim interests through educational uplift, political separatism.

Political context:

After 1857, Muslims faced British dominance, loss of jobs in administration, educational backwardness and also a fear of Hindu dominance. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan realized that Muslims were not strong enough to compete politically, therefore, he emphasized on building Muslims with political strategy to compete with British and Hindus. His political strategy comprised of following points.

i) Two Nation Consciousness:

Sir Syed was aware of the point that Indians ~~muslims~~ are ahead than Muslims and are dominant over them and except separating both

there was no other solution for them. Therefore, he gave the point of Two nation theory that Indian and Muslims are two separate nations having different cultures, ideologies, ethnicity and lifestyles therefore, separatism was the only option for them. This deepened the Hindu-Muslim divisions but ensured political stability for Muslims.

2. Educational upliftment:

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan emphasized on education of Muslims. There were 8-10% literate Hindus and only 2-3% literate Muslims. This persuaded Sir Syed to promote education more in Muslims therefore, he created many schools including Gulshan School, Victoria School, Aligarh Universities, many societies including Scientific Society, British Indian Association and many conferences including All India Muhammadan Conference.

3. Opposition to India National Congress:

Sir Syed strongly opposed Congress. He claimed it to be pure Indian reform which only

protected rights of Indian, represented only Indians, was Hindu dominant and was a risk to muslim identity

4. Spreading Awareness:

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan not just himself realised that muslim's identity ~~are~~ is in very high risk but also through his writings, spread awareness of achieving knowledge, boosting personality and political upliftment. He wrote many books to highlight the current scenario of muslims, to warn about future vulnerabilities and to ~~big~~ emphasize on the negative aspects of British rule and Indian society.

His writing included:-

- 1) A treatise on standards (Great monuments).
- 2) Jilal-ul-Qalb ba zikr-ul-mehboob (Religious and cultural subjects)
- 3) Tubfa-e-Hind
- 4) Tahsil-fi-jar-i-sagil
- 5) Asbab-e-Bagawat-e-Hind.
- 6) Tabiyin-ul-Kalam.
- 7) Commentary on bible (common avenues between Islam and christianity).

- Political strategy of Indian National Congress:

Congress emerged as the political platform for Indian nationalism. It protected the Indian representation, it created a nationwide political organization through resolutions and petitions, it developed political consciousness through agitation and protests, it pressurized Britishers for constitutional reforms through economic boycott and Round Table conferences. Despite all these, it only was an inconsistent strategy which protected Hindu representation, it failed to accommodate Muslim demands and led to communal polarization.

Sir Syed vs Congress:

Sir Syed's strategy of politics was cooperation with British to improve Muslim condition while Congress confronted Britishers. Secondly, Sir Syed's view of democracy was that considered as western style democracy (majority rule) which was dangerous for minorities while Congress reflected as an essential political tool. Furthermore, Sir Syed's demand was a separate political identity of

Muslims but Congress emphasized on majoritarian nationalism.

Sir Syed prioritized education and after that he recommended politics where as Congress prioritized politics more.

Sir Syed's strategy's long term impact is seen as the foundation of Muslim nationalism while Congress was seen as the growth of Hindu dominance.

Conclusion:-

Sir Syed's strategy was defensive, pragmatic and minority oriented -

Unlike Congress which pursued nationalism and ^{mass} politics, Sir Syed opted for education and political separatism. He did not oppose freedom but redefined its time and method for vulnerable community.

Ans 2.

Climate change:-

Climate change has transcended environmental concerns to become a major non-traditional security threat for Pakistan. Pakistan faces recurring floods, droughts, heat waves, glacial melt and water stress. These climate induced stresses have challenged state capacity, governance and national cohesion.

Climate Change as Non Traditional Security threat:

Climate change constitutes a non-traditional security threat because it does not attack borders yet it erodes the foundation of state stability. It undermines security and exacerbates resource scarcity.

Human Security:

Climate change endangers human security by endangering lives, health and livelihoods. Extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and heatwaves lead to loss of lives, displacement, food insecurity and spread of diseases.

Resource scarcity:

Climate change intensifies scarcity of critical resources, particularly water, food and energy. Melting glaciers, extreme rainfall and prolonged droughts reduce agricultural productivity and water availability increasing competition over limited resources at local, provincial and national levels.

Weakens state legitimacy:

Inadequate preparedness and poor disaster response expose governance weaknesses eroding public trust in state institutions. When the state fails to protect citizens from climate-related risks or ensure equitable relief, its legitimacy and authority are increasingly questioned.

Economic losses:

Due to the climatic events, Pakistan has faced a huge loss and is still facing losses. Recurrent floods caused billion dollar damage, destruction of infrastructure, crops and livelihoods, diverts development funds towards disaster relief and hampers GDP growth and investor confidence.

Agriculture Insecurity and food shortages:-

Monsoons, droughts and water shortages reduce crop yields - Due to inflation food prices rises which everyone can't afford and lead to hunger.

Federal Provincial Tensions:

Climate change causes water distribution disputes. Due to shortage of water, poor distribution system leads to improper distribution. Also, unequal climate impacts between provinces is a reason escalating this issue. Floods in Sindh and Balochistan or droughts in Thar have led to perceptions of unequal resource allocation and neglect. Furthermore, according to 18th amendment, Environmental and disaster management responsibilities were headed to provinces without ensuring adequate capacity and coordination mechanisms.

Institutional Response:

i) Policy Frameworks:

Pakistan has adopted many policy frameworks to tackle climate change problems. Involvement in many climate change meetings has also played a significant role but although the vision exists implementation is weak. Some of the frameworks include:

- National climate change policy.

- National Disaster management Act
- National Adaptation Plan (NAP)
- Participation in global climate diplomacy (Cops).

• Institutions:

Pakistan has many institutions to solve climate change problems.

The key institutions include:

- Ministry of climate change
- NDMA and Provincial DMAs
- Pakistan meteorological Department
- Planning commissions.

All these are to solve climate problems but there is poor coordination among them. Moreover, these institutions face funding constraints and weak local level preparedness which result in poor activity of these institutions.

• Financial constraints:

Pakistan heavily relies on international aid and loans. It has limited access to climate finance although it just contributes 1% to global emissions. These raise the issues of global climate injustice.

way forward:-

Pakistan should take reactive approach instead of preventive approach to solve these problems. This will open many ways to resolve climate issues for e.g.

- 1) Pakistan should shift from disaster response to climate resilience.
- 2) It should strengthen coordination between ~~at~~ federal and provincial provinces.
- 3) It should invest in water governance and storage.
- 4) It should enhance its early warning and data systems to take proactive measures.
- 5) It should leverage international climate finance effectively.

Introduction:

Pakistan's federal cohesion has historically been fragile due to persistent regional disparities, uneven power sharing and governance inefficiencies. The federation struggles to balance center and province relations, manage economic resources equitably and maintain political inclusivity. These weaknesses have fueled ethnic, linguistic and regional grievances, especially in Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

1. Political factors:

There are many political factors threatening Pakistan's growth which includes:

• **Centralized Power and Dommanance:**

In Pakistan power is centralized and state is dominant even on wrong decisions. Smaller provinces often perceive political marginalization; for example, Sindh and Balochistan feel sidelined in appointments to key federal posts. Moreover, Punjab being the most populous province and the center of military and bureaucratic power, dominates national

politics - This leads to distant and regional development -

Ethnic and Sectarian Politics:

The basis of Pakistan's society is pro sectarianism - Also, political parties are often regionally and ethnically oriented (e.g. MQM in Sindh, ANP in KP, Baloch nationalist parties). Such politics weakens national cohesion by prioritizing local ethnic agendas over federal interests.

Weak Provincial Representation:

Major national decisions like water allocation, energy projects, taxation policies etc often occur without full provincial consultation. This intensifies that perception that provincial interests are ignored and deepens alienation. This weak representation also boosts center and province conflicts.

Economic Factor:

Apart from politics, factors also play a major role in effecting Pakistan's growth:

i) Unequal Resource Allocation:

The first and major factor is unequal allocation of resources. Provinces which are rich in natural resources e.g. Sindh (Korachi port revenues) and Balochistan (rich in gas and minerals) complain that they do not get fair share of wealth ~~allocated~~ generated, thereby creating a perception of exploitation and demands for economic justice.

i) Development Disparities:

Punjab and some other urban areas often receive disproportionate development funds and infrastructure investment. Moreover, other provinces particularly Sindh and Balochistan lag behind in health, education and transport infrastructure which is a major concern but neglected one.

i) Revenue Collection and Distribution

There are tensions between collection and distribution of revenue. Federal revenue-sharing mechanisms since (the NFE awards) often generate disputes over distribution and

particularly regarding tax collection and gas royalties. Provinces are financially dependant on the center weakening the sense of equality in the federation.

Administrative factors:

There are many administrative factors also including,

Weak Provincial Institutions:

Many provinces lack capacity in planning, governance and resource management. This increases reliance on the center, making provinces feel subordinate rather than equal partners.

Poor Disaster and Crisis Management:

The institutions lag behind in the steps taken to resolve disaster management. Pakistan's response to climatic events like floods, droughts, has revealed coordination weaknesses among the federation and provinces.

Implementation gaps of 18th amendment:

The 18th amendment devolved significant powers to provinces

but did not fully align financial resources with responsibilities, therefore provinces struggle to implement policies effectively, undermining federal cohesion.

Way forward:

There are many solutions to regional alienation.

1) Strengthen fiscal federalism:-

There should be equitable revenue sharing and transparent resource allocation to ensure provinces feel financially empowered and play role in regional cooperation.

2) Inclusive Political Decision making.

Provinces should have real and equal representation in national policy making, especially on water, energy and security.

3) Improving Disaster Management.

Implementing early warning systems and equitable disaster relief across all provinces to prevent heavy devastation and destruction.

4) Inter-Provincial Dialogue:-

There should be creation of platforms to resolve disputes over resources and infrastructure projects ensuring transparency. This will also help in boosting coordination and relationship between provinces.

5) National cohesion programs:-

Provinces should encourage cross provincial education, economic and cultural initiatives to build mutual understanding and national identity.

Ans 8.

Introduction:

Technological innovation has become a key driver of competitiveness and sustainable development worldwide. Countries that are focused on technology led developments have achieved accelerated economic transformation. Pakistan with its demographic dividend, growing IT sector and entrepreneurial talent, possesses potential for technology led development but needs coherent policy frameworks and institutional reforms.

Pakistan's potential:

1) Demographic and human Capital advantage:

Pakistan has a young and growing population (over 60% under 30) providing large and capable workforce adaptable to technology intensive sectors. There are increasing number of IT, engineering and science graduates which form a ~~few~~ pool for innovation and entrepreneurship.

2) Digital Economy:

Pakistan's IT exports exceeded \$6.5 billion in 2025, showing rapid growth. Government initiatives such as the Digital Pakistan Vision and special IT zones aim to stimulate tech-driven economic growth. Furthermore, expansion of IT fields, freelancing, e-commerce and fin-tech demonstrates the economy's capacity to leverage digital technologies.

3) Entrepreneurship:

Pakistan hosts thriving startup ecosystems in many cities like Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad. There is access to venture capital, and accelerators is increasing, supporting innovation in fintech.

health tech, agri-tech and AI.

Policy and Institutional Reforms:

Although Pakistan has capability of technology led development, still some areas need improvement-

1) Strengthening R and D: [Research and Development]

Pakistan's R & D expenditure is currently below 1% of GDP, insufficient to drive technological breakthroughs. There should be policy reforms to increasing funding for such initiative - moreover, incentivize private sector R & D and encourage university-industry collaboration.

2) Education and skill Development:

There should be vocational and technical training expansion to support tech-intensive industries. Moreover, there should be curriculum reform that needs to be aligned with education related to market needs, emphasizing on trainings of programs like STEM, coding, AI and robotics.

3) Regulatory and Investment Environment

Policies must encourage start-ups, digital entrepreneurship and innovation clusters. There should be simplification in business registrations, protecting intellectual property and also tax incentives should be offered to attract domestic and foreign tech investments.

4) Public-Private Collaboration:

Technology led development needs synergy between government, academia and industry. There should be research hubs and funding mechanism to foster knowledge transfer and commercialization.

Challenges:

There are many challenges in transforming to technology led society.

- 1) There is limited funding for innovation and Research and development.
- 2) There are infrastructure gaps, including energy shortages and limited internet penetration.
- 3) Due to political instability and policy inconsistency, investor confidence undermines

- 1) There is weak ^{Intellectual property} ~~intellectual~~ enforcement.
- 2) There is brain drain of skilled professionals seeking opportunity.

Conclusions

Palestine possesses significant potential for technology led development through its young population, emerging IT sector and entrepreneurial talent.

However, realizing this potential requires comprehensive policy reforms, strengthened R and D, education and skill development. If successfully implemented, technology driven growth can enhance productivity, create jobs, boost exports and reduce socio-economic inequalities transforming Palestine's economy into growth and knowledge based economy.