

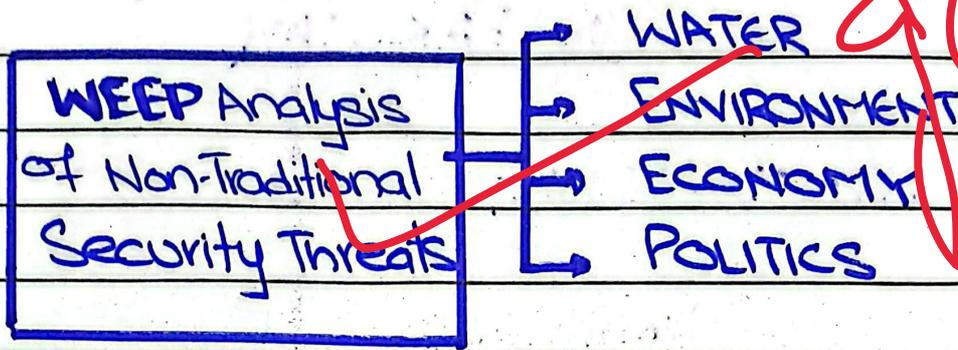
PART-IIGood attempt ANSWER: 2CLIMATE-INDUCED ISSUES
IN PAKISTANINTRODUCTION:

"Climate Justice and Social Injustice are inextricably linked."

- Jerome Foster

Pakistan is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. It is a major non-traditional security threat that adversely impacts health, development and macroeconomic stability in the country. Disasters occurring as a result of climate-induced changes expose the governance flaws and provincial segregations in the country. Unfortunately, Pakistan lacks the ability and resources to cater disaster management in such cases.

(1) Climate Change as a Non-Traditional Security Threat:

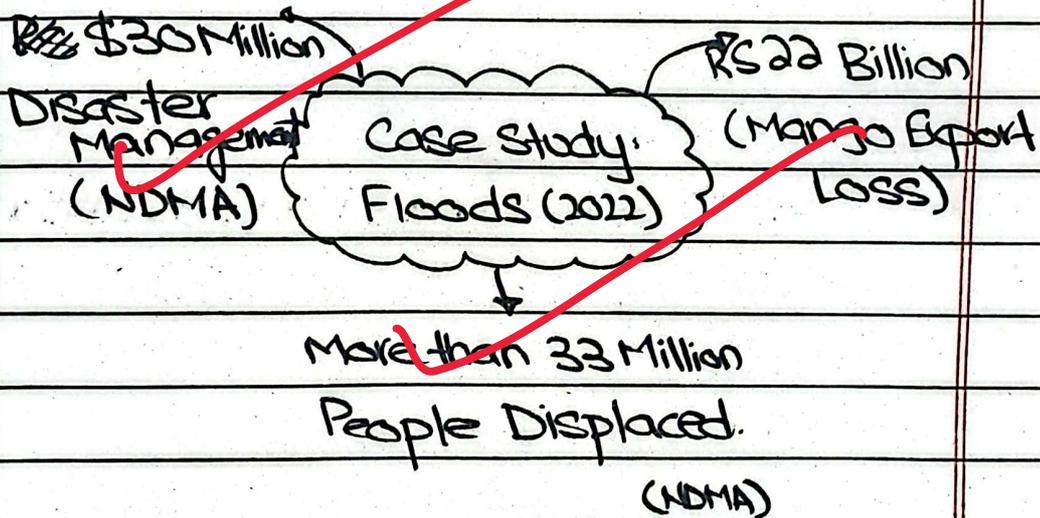


As per the WEEP criteria, climate change affects the environment and largely remains a threat. Ironically, it highlights the other three threats as it discloses political agendas and economic fragility during times of crises.

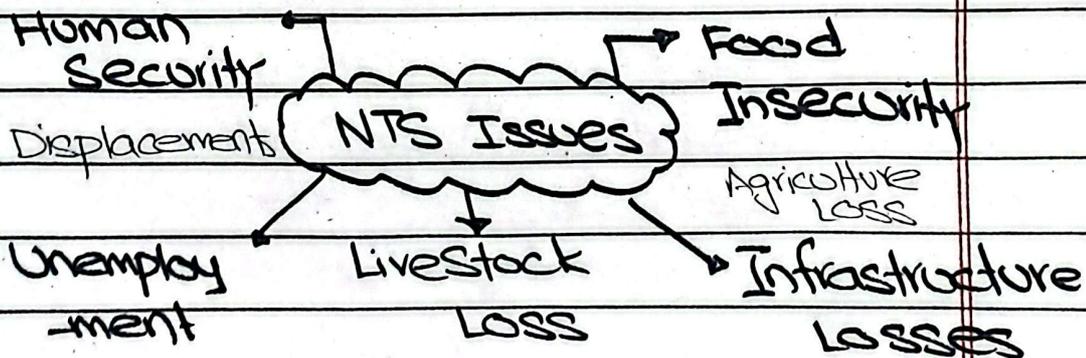
Pakistan has a disadvantage when it comes to climate-induced disaster. The contribution of Pakistan to climate change / carbon emissions is less than 1% but, it faces high risks due to neighbours; particularly India and China's massive industrialization.

(2) Recurrent Disasters induced by Climate:

Pakistan is victim of floods, harsh heat waves, extensive glacial melting and droughts. Such disaster cause huge threats to social well-being and economy.



Apart from immediate economic losses, such disasters pose extensive future burdens on the state.



Apart from floods, annual heat waves result in Droughts. Wheat/Cotton Crops are harmed. Lives are lost.

(3) Socio-Political Implications of Climate Change:

Climate change impacts the social order in Pakistan.

(3.1) Rural-Urban Fuel Escalation:

The divide between urban and rural population further deepens. It affects the social fabric of Pakistan.

Case study: Lahore vs Taunsa.

Urban Flooding in Ravi (2025) was managed within a month but South Punjab Belt (Taunsa) people are still uncatered. Livestock, homes are ruined.

(3.2) Inter-Provincial Disparities are Highlighted:

Due to climate-induced threats provincial governments are seen to be involved in political point-scoring.

Case Study of Wheat:

Post-floods (2025), it was estimated that wheat shortages were expected. Punjab, the major producer curtailed supply to KP, Sindh and Balochistan.

Canal Dispute - Sindh/Punjab:

From over a decade, Sindh and Punjab are fighting over water sharing. The Federal Government under GPI (GIFC) desired to create 7 canals in Cholistan Area for irrigation purposes. Sindh is skeptical and halts the development. It fears the cut of water supply to irrigate lands in Sindh.

(3.3) Politicization of Disaster Relief Fund/Aid:

Another political issue that erupts post every disaster in Pakistan is political scoring.

Recent 2025 Floods displayed verbal arguments between PPP and PMLN leadership on the agenda of flood relief.

The former suggested to use active BSP ~~pro~~ initiative to ensure timely but latter wanted to politicize aim in self-vested manner.

(3.4) Governance Flaws are Highlighted:

Such disasters indicate the political issues and lack of accountability in governance.

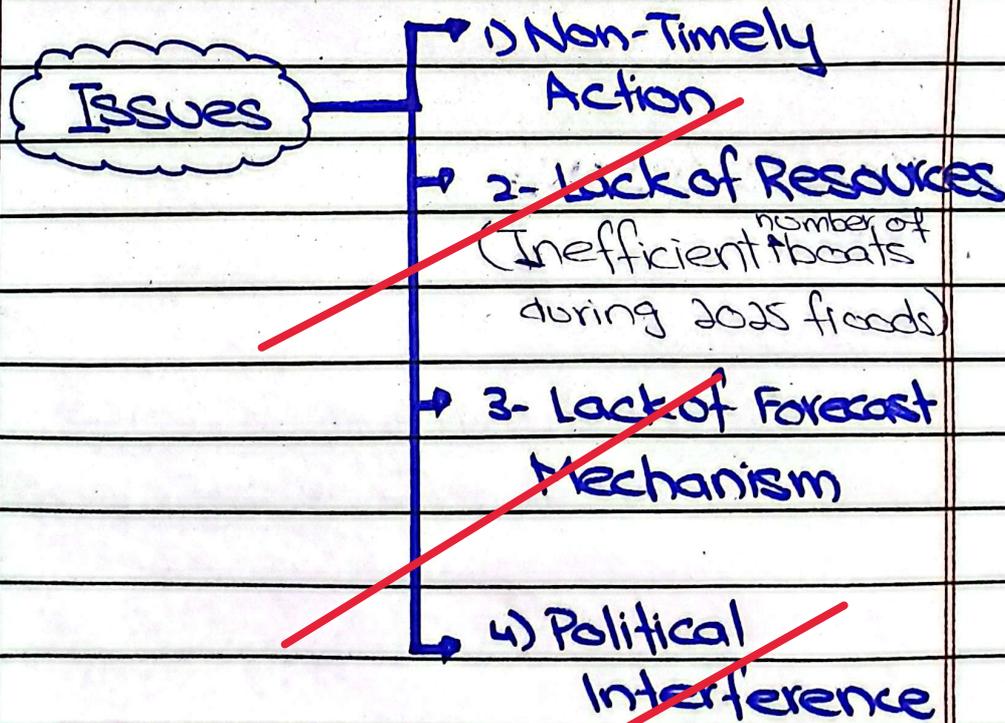
Be relevant In 2021, over 3 people died in Karachi rains due to electrocution.

This depicts a governance vacuum.

(4) Ineffective Disaster Management Authority- Ineffective Institutional Response:

Pakistan formed its Disaster Management Authority, NDMA - National Disaster Management Authority in 2001.

It has extensive loopholes that disrupt the handling of disaster in the country.



(5) Way Forward for Pakistan:

In order to avoid the potential political, economic and social implications of such threats in the future, the country must focus on reforms. An alternative, more efficient and inclusive risk and disaster management authority must be made. Construction of dams and canal remain pivot of agenda. Additionally, better awareness, prediction and forecasting can help the country.

CONCLUSION:

Pakistan must reform its institutions, focus on capacity building and enhance resilience to lesser the NTS threats posed by climate-related factors.

ANSWER: 3

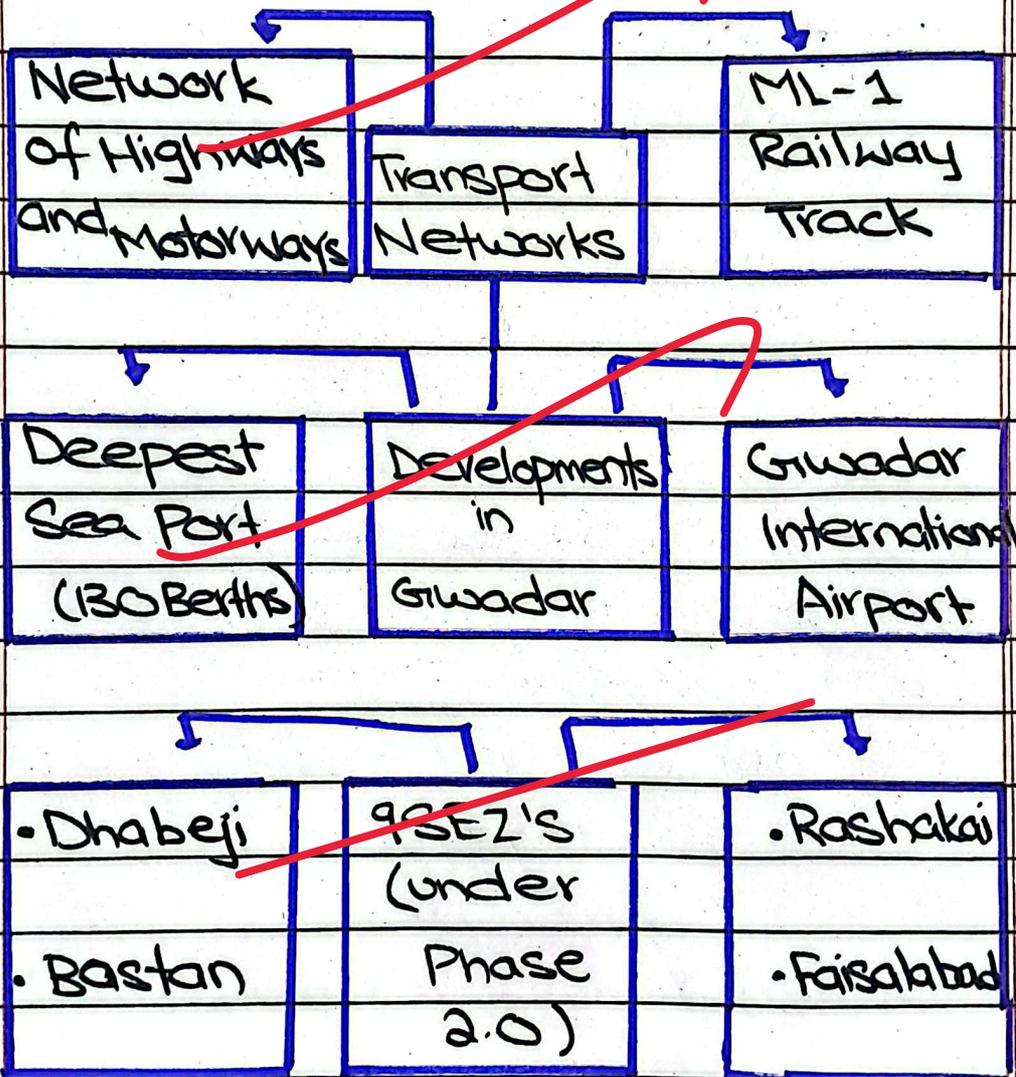
GEO-ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE OF BRI

INTRODUCTION:

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a whopping \$62 Billion Flagship project under the BRI. In the globalised world where liberal economic order of free markets exist, regional connectivity is the new buzz. BRI provides Pakistan with the geo-economic edge of linking to Central Asia for energy imports, becoming a regional transit hub for Middle East and South Asia and re-establishing its global relevance. As far as the regional relevance is concerned, 2025 has recalculated strategic values of states like India, China and Pakistan.

(1) Connectivity Initiatives under BRI:

BRI opens plethora of connectivity incentives for Pakistan. The Phase 1 of CPEC, initiated in 2015, was centred on a vast road and rail network



• Major Projects under CPEC

(2) Geo-Economic Significance for Pakistan:

Pakistan has become the pulse country for China's development infrastructure. CPEC provides us immense economic opportunities to cash our geographical location.

(2.1) • \$1 Trillion Economic Potential:

A country with economic value of **\$365 Billion** would generate an economic potential of **\$1 Trillion** by the end of CPEC.

(2.2) • Major 'Transit Hub/Trade Centre' for Global Powers:

The materialization of Gwadar port can provide Pakistan with the opportunity to be a regional transit hub for Iran, CA, Afghanistan and ME. Global powers of energy

would be reliant on Pakistan

(23) • Threat Minimization from India:

Liberalists argue that building economic interdependence guarantees security. In case of BRI's CPEC completion, India shall be trading through Pakistan. The possible risk of escalation shall reduce.

(24) • Energy Import Potential can be Magnified:

BRI opens connectivity of Pakistan towards energy-rich Central Asian Republics. This will allow Pakistan to get upper hand in energy deals.

TAPI, CASA-1000 can also be completed.

(3) Geo-economic Significance for China:

China is heavily investing on 7 strategic Choke Points of the world to hold the 'String of Pearls' intact. It can create supply chain efficiency through the BRI agenda.

Route	Present Time	Post-BRI Time
Shanghai to Jeddah	36 Days	11 Days (11,000km) less
China to England	42 Days	11 Days (22,000km) less

(4) Significance for Other Countries:

Countries of Gulf → Iran, Saudi Arabia can greatly use the BRI to trade with global

energy importers. - Europe in particular.

Russia can also have great advantage because of its oil exports to India. Historically, it has remained interested in warm waters of IOR. This shall help it doubly.

(5) Pakistan's Strategic Relevance:

Asia is the land of unexpected possibilities. John Mearshiemer labelled 21st century as the century of Asia. Pakistan lies at the core of South Asia.

Recently, US and Pakistan have witnessed a re-set of ties in 2021. Additionally, Pakistan's success against Indian Aggression in May 2025 has enabled it to regain position in Middle East. ~~Con~~ Parallely, US is drifting away from India.

If anything all these factors have increased the strategic relevance of Pakistan.

(c) Balancing US and China = Crossroads of Global Powers:

Pakistan faces this challenge on balancing China operationalizing CPEC 2.0 and simultaneously, gaining maximum advantage from USA.

The only constant in International Politics is Interest.

Pakistan must abide by this principle and balance US and China in order to attain maximum National Interests.

China	United States
• SEZs under CPEC 2.0	• \$500 M USSM-FWO Deal.
• J-10 Fighter Jets.	• \$400M for F-16 Maintenance

(1) An Analysis on Regional Alignment:

China Pakistan have been all-weather friends since decades. CPEC is important for both the countries.

USA has 'clientalistic relations' with Pakistan as mentioned by Stephen Cohen. It is important for Pakistan to draft a long-term policy of engagement with both states, prioritizing national gains for Pakistan.

CONCLUSION:

Pakistan must focus on attaining maximum strategic benefits from its evolving ties with China and America. It is imperative to adopt a balanced, yet informed approach, focus on national development and attainment of interests.

ANSWER: 4

POLITICAL INSTABILITY

INTRODUCTION:

Political Instability has been an evident phenomena throughout the history of Pakistan. Constant military rules, regime changes, lack of transparency, judicial amendments are all common practices in Pakistan. The phenomena is caused by economic instability, dynastic and weak political parties, lack of separation of powers in truest sense and inadequate accountability mechanism. Individuals become more powerful than the institutions. Political instability provides breeding grounds to foreign-sponsored proxies and terrorism. It also reduces investor confidence causing economic dents. Moreover, foreign policy inconsistency leads to chaos.

(1) Internal Political Instability leads to declining Economic and Political Performance:

Pakistan has faced the issue of political instability ever since inception. It causes economic and diplomatic setbacks.

(1.1) Decline in Investor Confidence leads to FDI Disruptions:

Regime changes result in a fluctuating GDP that does not attract FDI. For stable inflow of FDI, GDP has to be stable.

In Pakistan, GDP growth rate was 5% during 2020-21, then it touched rock bottom 1% (2021-22) due to ouster of government.



(1.2) Political Policy Inconsistency:

Frequent alteration of regimes cause no policy stability. Important matters are over-looked and public interest remains compromised.

Case Study of Sehat Card:

In Pakistan, positive initiatives are tied to political governments and not state-centric policy. The Sehat Insaf card scheme was annuled post-couster of previous government leaving many patients untreated.

Dr Maleeha Lodhi in her book

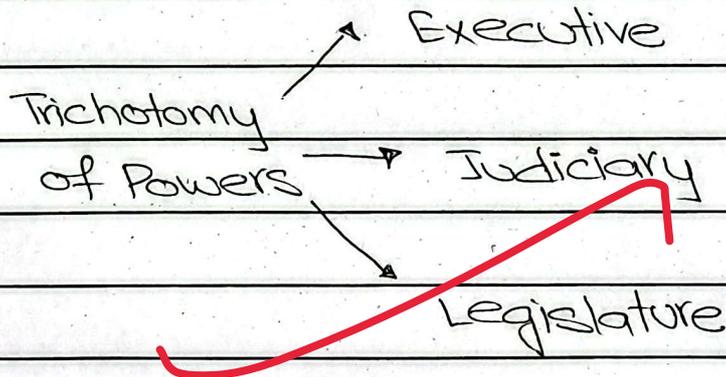
'Pakistan: A Search for Stability'

highlights the issues that the country faces in social and economic domains because of unstable politics.

(2) Structural Causes of Policy Instability in Pakistan:

There are multiple factors that contribute to political instability:

(2.1) Lack of Separation of Powers:



In the truest sense, no separation of power is practiced between the three. All powers misuse the authority and overstep boundaries. This provides ample space for instability.

(2.2) Weak Political Parties:

Politics of dynasty and nepotism is widespread in Pakistan. Regimes are based on power divisions within the structural elite. This causes public frustration and provides opposition the grounds to intervene.

(2.3) Judicial Outreach:

The judiciary is infamous for using its powers of *Suo Motu* under **Article 148 of 1973 Constitution**

It has recently been crippled with the passage of 21th Amendment. Previously, from MTK case to Dasso and Dam Fund issues it has been causing chaos in political arena.

Case study of ouster of PM Yousaf Raza Gillani (2012):

During Iftikhar Chaudhary's tenure, KSM case was also issue.

(24) Issue of "Deep State";

The presence of a state within a state is also an issue that disrupts political stability. There is blurred-line between civilian and military powers.

(25) Weak Institutions for Accountability;

The same people are coming to power again and again. Institutions like NAB, FIA are controlled and corrupt mafias pollute them.

(3) Impact of Political Instability on Pakistan's National Security:

Security is defined as:

"Security is all about the capability of a state to maintain its independence, integrity and identity."

- Barry Buzan

Unfortunately, due to political instability all three factors are tarnished.

(3.1) Proxies, Terrorism & Traditional Security Issues:

When writ of the state weakens, external powers find incentives to sweep in and destroy security apparatus of state. Proxies like BLA, TTP, AQ and ISK have found safe heavens in regions where state's writ is very weak. This is directly linked to political leadership and policy vacuum.

(3.2) Economic Challenges- Non-Traditional Challenge:

With a regime change changes the policy regarding employment, health, education and others. This poses serious repercussions for

public. Also, ongoing welfare & development projects are halted.

~~Case Study of Madrassah Reforms:~~

The Recent Societies Registration (Amendment) Act 2024, proved disruptive for NAP that has instructed registration of madrassah's under Education Ministry.

~~(4) Foreign Policy Implications:~~

Pakistan's Foreign Policy is inconsistent and dwindling. We are shifting blocs and allies. This is also because of political instability in the country.

The Sharief's have good ties with Saudi and try to make amends with India.

Populist Khan was more aligned towards Russia.

PPP Shares good terms with UAC and USA. Such matters greatly impact diplomatic affairs of the state.

Case Study: Ties with India

Cricket Diplomacy with Rajiv Gandhi and Bus Diplomacy with PM Vajpayee were halted as peace efforts because it did not favor the interests of the powerful.

Similarly, when a government tries to resolve the issue of Kashmir, its time to go home arrives.

CONCLUSION:

"Peaceful change is the central dilemma of IR."

- E.H Carr

It is high time Pakistan establishes

democracy in the truest sense.
 We need strong leadership
 and powerful institutions
 that operate on merit.

ANSWER 5
FEDERAL COHESION IN
PAKISTAN

INTRODUCTION:

" There is unity in
 Diversity and
 Diversity in Unity. "
 - Henry Tullidge

Pakistan is a federation based
 on constitutional units. Various
 disparities like distribution framework
 of National Finance Commission,
 Disproportionate Rate of Provinces,
 Marginalisation of people of
 territories, linguistic and ethnic

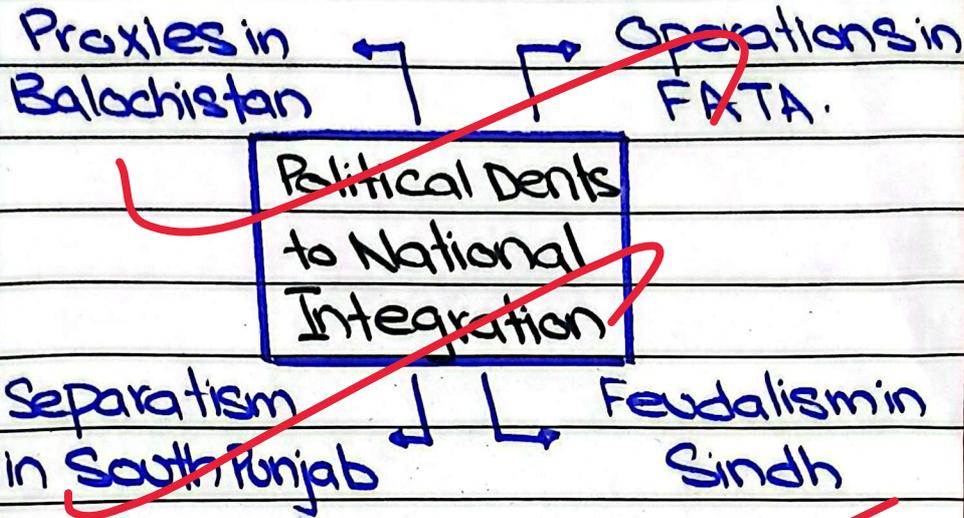
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diversity impact the federal cohesion. The state must develop an effective system of local governance, create Provincial finance commission and devolve powers to the provinces and alienated regions in accordance with 18th Amendment. This shall help overcome regional alienation.

(1) Political Factors that undermine Federal Cohesion in Pakistan:

Provincial disparities of high degree exist in Pakistan. The federal government is over-inclined towards development in a particular province, deepening its voter base for the following elections. This creates sense of deprivation in provinces that do not form central government.



(3) Political Standstill in Kashmir - Dent to Cohesion:

Regions like G.B, Kashmir and FATA are not political owned by any mainstream political party in Pakistan. This creates aura of distrust, feelings of alienation and sentiment of separation.

Plebiscite in Kashmir remains a distant reality. For over 77 years, the people are trying to seek identity.

(4) Economic Factors that Undermine Federal Cohesion:

NFC Awards remain the centre of agenda when economic indicators of federal cohesion are concerned.

Passed on 1st April, 1972, the Awards have been on presidential extension after 7th NFC Award came in 2010.

Distribution Indicators for NFC Award

- i) Population (82%)
- ii) Poverty (11.3%)
- iii) Revenue (5%)
- iv) Inverse Population Density (2.5%)

Finally, post 18th Amendment, 10% share of provinces in NFC was increased but the grievances of economically deprived provinces is still intact. It is evident in the development gap between Balochistan & Punjab.

(5) Administrative Factors that undermine Federal Cohesion:

Local Governance Structure remains at core.

Hea was to create nurseries of democracy but historical grievance of LG's being nurseries of dictator has been linked to them.

There is no system for growth in local governance. The EEP fails to conduct timely elections for self-local governance.

Red Tapism hinders progress of Bureaucratic Local Administration. Repetitive political interferences and transfers based on whims of powerful also cause alienation in public.

(6) Lessons to Prevent Regional Alienation:

"A House Divided Against itself can not withstand"

-Abraham Lincoln.

The state must focus on certain steps to ensure that regional alienation is avoided.

External Front:

- End Indian sponsored Separatism in Balochistan.
- Counter Pashtun irredentist claims of Taliban Regime.
- Conduct plebiscite in Kashmir.
- Cater Hazara Grievances.

Internal Front:

- Strengthen Local Government
- Create Provincial Finance Commission
- ~~Impose Single National Curriculum.~~
- Protect Interests of Baloch/Gwadar public.
- Provide royalty to Sindh for water/gas/dam.
- Abide by ~~Article 172(3) of 1973~~ constitution for Gas in Suis Fishing in Gwadar etc.
- Role of Media to create cohesion.

CONCLUSION:

Impose policy of cohesion, support ethnic, linguistic diversity and cater needs of public in order to manage federal cohesion.