

Instructions to Secure Good Marks in the Current Affairs Paper

Important Note: Marks will be awarded strictly on the following parameters: Content 60%, References 15%, Subject-specific language Part II 15%, Graphics, charts & diagrams 10%.

Key Guidelines: Each question should be attempted with 12-13 clear headings. The answer must be 8-9 pages (sides) in length to score above 15 marks per question. Questions usually contain 3-4 parts; each part carries equal weightage, so all parts must be discussed equally and proportionately.

Content & Argumentation: Always use examples from current and ongoing events to justify your arguments. Demonstrate strong analytical depth, not mere narration of facts. Support arguments with relevant data, reports, international indices, treaties and recent developments.

Structure & Presentation: Begin every answer with an attractive, context-setting introduction. End with a forward-looking, well-linked conclusion that ties back to the question. Use headings directly derived from the question statement - pick words and phrases from the question itself.

Alignment with the Question: Each argument must be explicitly linked to the specific part of the question being asked. If your heading is not aligned with the demand of the question, the content, no matter how accurate, will not be rewarded. Avoid generic or unrelated headings; precision is key.

Language & Visuals: Use subject-specific terminology relevant to international relations, geopolitics, economics, and security studies. Incorporate simple graphs, flowcharts, tables, or maps wherever relevant to enhance clarity and scoring potential.



3) Structural Analysis of the Trump Peace Plan (The 2.0 framework)

3.1) Immediate military and humanitarian measures.

3.1.1) Core declaration

Gaza is to become a demilitarized zone, free of terrorism, a central issue and US objective stated as preconditions.

3.1.2) Mechanisms.

A ceasefire and limited Israeli pullback are to allow the exchange of Israeli prisoners for Palestinian prisoners.

3.1.3) Fate of Hamas members.

Hamas has given two plans. Drop weapons and remain or leave Gaza through safe passage.

4) Interim Governance and Security Arrangements.

4.1) Proposed governance structure.

A technocratic government supported by international experts to govern the Palestinian administration.

There shall be a "board of Peace" which would be chaired by Trump himself.

4.2) Proposed security structure.

An "International Stabilization Force" would be formed to look after the management. They would be from Arab countries mostly, and the Palestine security force would be trained by Jordan and Egypt military.

5) Major pitfalls to the implementation of Trump's peace plan.

5.1) Immediate Operational Fraction.

Fraction was arose at the very hours after the Plan been proposed. 72 hours were given to

Hamas to accept the plan.

5.2) Fundamental and unresolved disputes.

5.2.1) Disarmament arrangements

The core condition

for Israeli withdrawal is the issue, Hamas deems non-negotiable unless Palestinians have a sovereign state or at least sovereign political authority.

5.2.2) Governance model

Palestinians reject long term surveillance by international supervision. They term it as "neo colonialism"

5.2.3) The political Link:

Palestinians insist on

political linkage between Gaza and the West Bank, which the plan deliberately cuts.

5.2.4) Force composition

Perceived as Arab participation in the stabilization force.

6. Islamabad policy regarding the plan.

According to the constitution of Pakistan, article 40, "Pakistan shall endeavor to preserve and strengthen fraternal relations among muslim countries, promote international peace and security, and to encourage the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means."
— (IPRI)

Islamabad has accepted the plan because it was in favor of two-state solution for Palestine long ago. Pakistan welcomed the plan arguing that all the arrangements are required to take place, and palestinians humanitarian aid should also take place properly, as the people have long been suffering.

L.P.T.O.

2) Conclusion

The trump peace plan
is though a good initiative for
stopping the war temporarily but in
the long run, it is not seems
to be sustainable to make a
full ceasefire. It has some structural
pitfalls which are seems non-negotiable
for Hamas and other palestinian factions.

Though it is said hopefully, that
overcoming the issues could create
a full ceasefire which is good for
the survival of palestinian and for
limiting the expansion of Israel.

Conclusion

Ar 15) Pakistan - USA Defence Pact: Geopolitical Achievements and Economic Opportunities.

1) Introduction.

The defence cooperation between Pakistan and the (USA) represents a strategic alignment of two pivotal muslim states. A formal defence pact would not only strengthen bilateral ties but also reshape regional geopolitics, enhance collective security, and open new avenues of economic collaboration for Pakistan.

2) Geopolitical Achievements

2.1) Strengthening muslim world unity:

The pact would symbolize solidarity among muslim countries, paving the way for a unified stance in global affairs.

2.2) Regional Stability.

Enhanced defence cooperation

CS Scanned with CamScanner
would deter external threats, particularly in the

Middle East and South Asia, ensuring stability in volatile regions.

2.3) Counterterrorism and security cooperation

Joint military exercises, intelligence sharing, and counterterrorism strategies would improve regional security against extremist threats.

2.4) Strategic balancing

Pakistan's role as nuclear power and USA economic clout would balance regional power dynamics, especially vis-à-vis Iran, & other regional actors.

2.5) Global recognition

The pact would elevate Pakistan's diplomatic profile, positioning it as a key regional partner in the Gulf & beyond.

3) Economic Opportunities for Pakistan

3.2) Defence industry collaboration
Pakistan could export defence equipment, training, & services to USA, boosting its defence industry.

3.2) Employment and Remittances.
Enhanced cooperation may lead to greater employment opportunities for Pakistani professionals in Saudi defence and security sectors, increasing remittances.

3.3) Energy Security
Strategic ties could ensure favorable oil deals and energy cooperation, stabilizing Pakistan's energy needs.

3.4) Investment and Infrastructure Development
Saudi investment in Pakistan's defence-related infrastructure and broader economic projects (e.g., RPEC-linked ventures) would accelerate growth.

3.5) Technology transfer.

Collaboration in defence technology and R and D could modernize Pakistan military capabilities.

4) Challenges.

4.1) Regional rivalries.

The geo-strategic Pakistan's relation with India and complicate its balancing act in the middle east.

4.2) Dependence on external aid.

Over-reliance on Saudi financial support could limit Pakistan strategic autonomy.

4.3) Domestic concerns:

Public opinion and political debates may question the implications of signing too closely with great geopolitics.

5) Conclusion
Pakistan's Pakistan-KIA defense
Pakistan holds the potentials to be a
significant achievement in regional geopolitics.
For Pakistan, it promises economic modernization,
defense modernization, and enhanced global
status. However, prudent diplomacy will
be required to balance regional sensitivities
& ensure that the deal serves Pakistan's
long-term national interests.

Ans-2

Privatization of state-owned Enterprises in Pakistan.

Introduction

State-owned Enterprises (SOEs) in
Pakistan have long been criticized for
inefficiency, corruption, and financial mismanagement.
Their persistent losses have become a significant
burden on the national exchequer, compelling
policy makers to consider privatization as an
inevitable solution. The debate revolves
around whether privatization can truly revive
economic efficiency or whether it risks creating new
challenges.

2) Burden of SOEs on Pakistan's Economy.

2.1) Fiscal Drain

Loss-making SOEs such as PEA, Pakistan Steel Mills, and DISCO consumes billions in subsidies annually, worsening fiscal deficits.

2.2) Operational Inefficiency.

Overstaffing, political interference, and lack of innovation have hampered productivity.

2.3) Debt Accumulation

SOEs contribute heavily to circular debt in energy sector, undermining financial stability.

2.4) Budgetary Constraints.

Resources diverted to bailouts reduce funds available for health, education, and infrastructure.

3) Arguments for Privatization.

3.1) Efficiency gain

Private ownership
incentivizes profit-making, innovation, and accountability.

3.2) Fiscal relief

Reduces government liabilities
and debt burden.

3.3) Foreign investment

Privatization attracts
international investors, bringing capital and
technology.

3.4) Economic growth

Frees government resources for
development projects and social welfare.

4) Challenges for Privatization.

4.1) Social concerns

Job losses and labor unrest
may arise from restructuring.

4.2) Strategic Assets.

Selling critical sectors (energy, aviation) may compromise national security.

4.3) Regulatory Weaknesses.

Without strong oversight, privatisation may lead to monopolies & exploitation.

4.4) Public Resistance.

Past privatisation experiences (PDA, PTCL) have created skepticism about outcomes.

5) Recommendations.

5.1) Selective Privatization.

Privatize loss-making non-utility enterprises while retaining control over sensitive.

5.2) Public Private Partnership

Encourage joint ventures to balance efficiency with state oversight.

5.3) Strengthen Regulatory framework
Establish Independent
regulators to prevent monopolistic practices.

5.4) Institutional Reforms.
Improve governance in remaining
JOEs to prevent future inefficiencies.

Conclusion:

Privatization in Pak appears
inevitable given the unsustainable burden of
JOEs on the national budget. However,
its success depends on careful planning,
transparency and strong regulatory mechanism.

Ans: 3

Internationalization of Dollar and SWIFT: Implications for Global South

1) Introduction:

The Russia-Ukraine war has not only transformed geopolitics but also transformed the global financial order. The US & Europe used the Dollar and SWIFT system as instruments of economic warfare against Russia, freezing assets and restricting transactions. This is strong signal to Global South that overdependence on western-controlled financial system poses strategic risks.

2) Dollar and SWIFT as Tools of Economic Power

2.1) Dollar Dominance

The US dollar accounts for majority of global trade & reserves. Freeing Washington leverage and int'l financial flows.

2.2) SWIFT Network

At the backbone of global banking communication SWIFT enables monitoring and exclusion of states from int'l transactions.

2.3) Sanctions on Russia

Russia was cut-off from SWIFT and faced restrictions on dollar-based transactions.

2.4) message to Global South

These measures demonstrated that western powers can weaponize financial systems to pursue global geopolitical objectives.

3) Implications for Global South.

3.1) Increased vulnerability.

Heavy reliance on dollar-based trade exposes countries to sanctions & coercion.

3.2) Search for alternatives.

Nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America are exploring regional payment systems and local currency trade.

3.3) Rise of multipolar finance.

China's push for yuan internationalization & Russia's MIR payment systems are examples of emerging alternatives.

34) South-south cooperation.

BRICS Nations are discussing a common currency and independent financial infrastructure.

4) Inclusion

The weaponization of Dollar and SWIFT against Russia has exposed the vulnerabilities of the global financial system. For the Global-South, it is a wake-up call to diversify trade, payment and transaction systems.
