

Instructions to Secure Good Marks in the Current Affairs Paper

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Important Note: Marks will be awarded strictly on the following parameters: Content 60%, References 15%, Subject-specific language 15%, Graphs, 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.

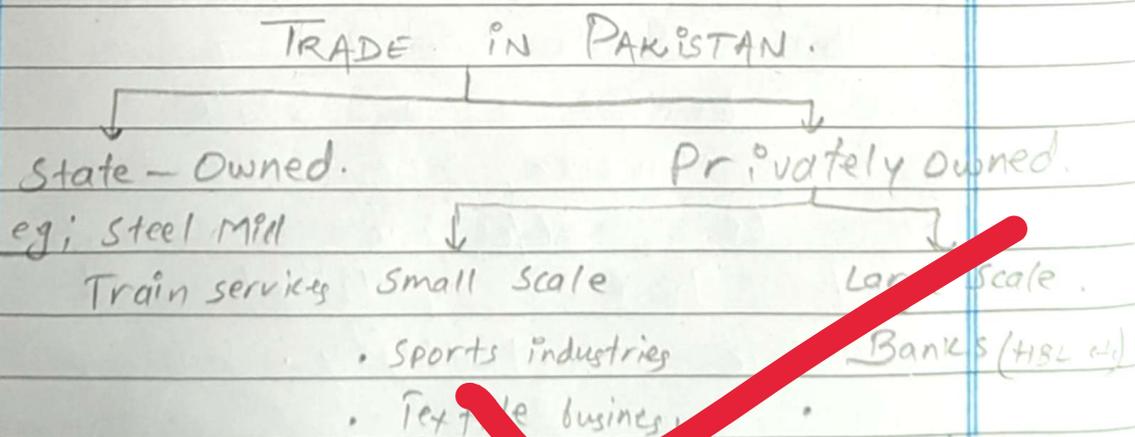
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simply cannot afford to fund main business currently. Hence, a privatization policy will bring a respite on its budgetary economy. Privatization is inevitable as state owned enterprises have been a huge budgetary burden for the budgetary economy of Pakistan.

TRADE STRUCTURE OF PAKISTAN.

Pakistan has a mixed trade structure. It has many state owned enterprises (SOE), small scale businesses, and large scale private business.



A small semi-private pool of business are also present in Pakistan, e.g; PPA etc.

NATIONALIZATION OF 1970s AND ITS EFFECTS.

The government of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto tried to bring many large businesses under the state umbrella. For this purpose the government launched a large scale nationalization process. This had several negative effects.

- i - Scaring-off foreign investors.
- ii - Extreme strain on state's economy.
- iii - Lack of human resources lead to large scale mismanagement of these newly state owned business.

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PRIVATIZATION OF 90s AND EARLY 2000s.

Pakistan's economy could not carry the burden of under-managed SOEs. Hence, from 90s a privatization process started. NBP, being a large SOE, was privatized. ~~This~~ This process of privatization helped in respite for the strained economy of Pakistan.

RECENT PRIVATIZATION.

To help Pakistan's economy breathe more, more large scale SOEs were or are privatized recently. PIA, a state-owned airline, sold its 75% share to become a private enterprise.

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PRIVATIZATION: THE ONLY SOLUTION.

Pakistan's economy is too strained by SOEs. Also, the management of these SOEs has also been a big issue for the state.

Budgetary constraints and mismanagement have only been a burden on both the state and these SOEs. Hence, only a comprehensive and large scale privatization can save these SOEs and bring respite for Pakistan's economy as well.

HURDLES IN PRIVATIZATION.

Although beneficiary, privatization has several hurdles in its way that must first be crossed before the start

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of actual process of privatization. These hurdles are as follows.

i- Political instability.

Pakistan has never seen complete political stability for a long period that could provide a ground for privatization.

ii- Varying stances of State holders.

Whenever a large scale SOEs are put forward for sale, many state holders bring objections, state pillars also, sometimes, go against the process of privatization. For instance, when

the Karachi Steel Mills were tried to be privatized, the judiciary opposed it and stopped the process of privatization for this enterprise.

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iii - NO-incentives for Foreign Investors.

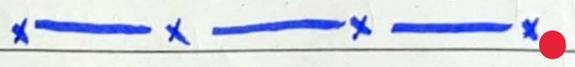
For an economy to grow it must attract foreign investors as well. This will boost foreign exchange reserve. However, Pakistan has failed to attract such investments. It has failed to provide ample grounds for foreign investors to take interest in owning a business in Pakistan.

CONCLUSION.

For Pakistan's economy to survive and grow it must privatize at least some of its SOEs. Nationalization drive of the 70s brought many businesses under state and scared-off many investors. To counter this, in 90s and

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2000s, several SOEs were privatized for further privatization and to occur and for economy to grow Pakistan must first clear the hurdles of stability, and policy movements.



QUESTION NO 7.

INTRODUCTION.

Traditional warfare is getting extinct. Today armies don't face each other. The first step in modern warfare is trade war. We live in a global village where every

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person is dependant on other. same is the case with states. A country is never absolutely self-sufficient. For a country to complete its needs it must trade with others. Modern warfare targets this soft point. ~~chi~~

China and USA have growing agitations against each other. The world might even be in second cold war. However, today's cold war does not employ armies and ~~war~~ conventional weapons, it uses trade, ~~a~~ tariffs and sanctions to achieve goals.

US-CHINA RIVALRY: A HISTORY.

USA and China have opposing ~~rivalry~~ ideologies; Capitalism and Socialism. It is only

natural that each of these two
opposing ideologies
the growth of
other.

Taiwan is another
bone of contention between
the two states.

The two countries
faced each other in
war and Taiwan.
Later on in the beginning
of Trump's second
term as US president
started a tariff
war between the two
states. Preceding this,
a chip-ban for
chinese manufacturer
also added to the
causes of the ongoing
trade war.

CHIP-BAN AND RARE EARTH METALS.

many of
modern electronics especially
mobile phones use

US manufactured chips. The USA blocked supply of such chips to china in the 2010s. In retaliation china (being the largest reservoir of rare-earth metals) stopped the supply of rare-earth metals such as titanium and nickel. This created hurdles for US manufactures as most electronic including chips use these rare-earth metals.

THE TARIFF WAR.

Trump, in the beginning of his second presidential term, imposed heavy tariffs on the imported goods of china. China retaliated with by imposing tariffs on US products.

The tariffs on both sides raised to a whopping 24% at one stage.

TRADE WAR AND GLOBAL FUTURE.

Trade wars ripple states' economies. The recent tariff war between USA and China resulted in heavy surges in prices of imported goods affecting at the end, the common people of both these states.

These two giant are opposites of each other however they cannot survive within full without the each other. As we have seen during the tariff war and chip blockage, both these countries eventually drew back for their

people to enjoy better life.

CONCLUSION.

Today is the age of modern trade wars, where instead of guns chips and metals, and airports are used to cripple the opposing nation. However, whatever the mode of war be the people will always suffer.

