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Assignment: Pak-Study

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1) CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF

PAKISTAN'S FOREIGN

POLICY POST 9/11

ABSTRACT:

(Since its emergence in 1947, Pakistan has had to face daunting crises and challenges. The after shocks of 9/11 have impacted on Pakistan severely necessitating radical revisions in some of its key foreign policy goals. The country under intense international scrutiny as a frontline state in the global fight against the terror.

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There is need for Pakistan to undertake far reaching domestic reforms as only political, economic and social stability under a democratic dispensation will enable it to overcome the internal and external threats that it now confronts. This necessitates more emphasis on internal restructuring and the crafting of "a low profile foreign policy".

THE TURNING POINT:

On 9/11, that fateful day, Pakistan faced the worst dilemma of its life. It did not know which way to go, and which way not to. Its options were limited and bleak. The world had changed overnight altering the fundamentals of global relations.

Political, economic and security shocks had been transmitted across the globe at an electronic pace, if not faster. Terrorism became world's foremost and "unizocal"

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challenge transcending all other preoccupations with issues of peace, security and development.

THE RECKONING:

Pakistan was thus under tremendous pressure to comply with the US demand to sever its relation with the Taliban and to assist in apprehending Osama bin Laden. Through UN resolutions, Washington had already built an international consensus on combating terrorism with Pakistan could not ignore. Given the prevailing mood in Washington, any reservation or reluctance on Pakistan's part would have been seen as "defiance" and triggered grave consequences including economic and possibly military reprisal.

THE TRADE-OFF:

9/11 represented a critical threshold in Pakistan's

foreign policy. President Musharraf's own words, "9/11 came a thunderbolt" that presented (him) acute challenges as well as opportunities. He was right in claiming that he had to "absorb external pressure and mould domestic opinion" in readjusting Pakistan's policies to the new global environment. He chose, and rightly so, to avoid the "wrong side" of a "wounded" super power, and made Pakistan a vital ally in the US-led anti-terrorism coalition.

THE GEO-POLITICS:

The challenge to Pakistan's foreign policy resulting from its "moment of reckoning" is manifold and not without serious implications for its long-term geo-strategic security and economic interests. It cannot change its geography, nor escape from the fallout of this volatile region's

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turbulent political history.

THE AFGHAN NETTLE ⇒

"It is

that the world be made fit and safe to live in; and particularly that it be made safe for every peace-loving nation which, like our own, wishes to live its own life, determine its own institutions, be assured of justice and fair dealing by the other peoples of the world as against force and selfish aggression. All the peoples of the world are in effect partners in this interest, and for our own we see very clearly that unless justice be done to others it will not be done to us".

THE Dilemma:

"Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes".
Oscar Wilde.

In the aftermath of 9/11, Pakistan is once again a

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frontline state, and a pivotal partner of the United States in its war on terror. As a battleground of this war, Pakistan could not escape the fallout of the crises in the form of a heavy toll on its already volatile socio-economic environment as a result of protracted violence, instability, displacement, trade and production slowdown, export stagnation, investor hesitation, and concomitant law and order situation.

2 CPEC: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES

ABSTRACT:

The Pakistan-China Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a US\$62 billion project designed to resolve Pakistan's energy deficit, improve connectivity, and establish economic development zones and supporting social infrastructure.

that lay the foundations for subsequent economic growth, grapple with endemic instability and exploit Pakistan's strategic position. Challenges posed by the geographical environment, terror groups, political instability and the management of debt, along with geopolitical issues relating especially to relationships with India, are examined and assessed.

PROSPECTS OF CPEC:

The prospects of CPEC can be split in to two parts; its potential benefits for Pakistan and China. This paper sheds light on both the questions. In this passage the benefits of CPEC for Pakistan have been discussed followed by the productive outcome for China.

Development of Infrastructure:

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Pakistan holds pivotal position in all projects of CPEC. The investment of US\$ 45.6 billion roughly equates to one-seventh of the total economy of Pakistan. Around \$12 billion have been reserved for infrastructure development in Pakistan. The bedrock of the project falls in this country. Pakistan has immense potential beneficial value from the investment under CPEC.

Incentives In Energy Sector:

Energy is termed as the life line for any economy. The utility and indispensable nature of energy has been catalyst for the major chunk of investment for energy related projects. The harvest or the short term goals of CPEC included production of 10,400 MW of electricity. Apart from this target, an additional 6,600 MW is destined to be produced during the

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Projects of CPEC. The private sector is also guaranteed with support from government to produce electricity upto 16000MW. Pakistan can benefit greatly from the additional production of energy in coming years.

Economic Incentives:

The potential benefits are estimated in enormous numbers for Pakistan.

Ishrat Husain has reported that the economy of \$274 billion of Pakistan will receive expansion by 15%. Pakistan would receive immense benefit in terms of employment opportunities due to the establishment of special economic zones alongside roads and rail. The remote areas would receive special attention with respect to CPEC.

Especially, the regions of Gawadar and Balochistan have been heavily pampered with economic investment and instruments.

CHALLENGES OF CPEC:

In spite of the prospects entailed above, various challenges hover around the whole scheme of CPEC. Amongst these opposing forces, a few have been prescribed below:

Security Upheavals:

The entire belt from Xinjiang to Gaudar contains many pockets where the militant groups and terrorists reside. The worst mentioning groups include East Turkestan Muslim movement, Tahreek-e-Taliban, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi and ISIS. These organizations do not have negative designs against china, but their activities have been aimed to disturb the Pak-China relations by targeting chinese projects.

CPEC And Competitors:

An important point of contention for the projects of CPEC stem from the barrel of Iranian chabahar port. In this way, the competitors are creeping in to counter the massive investment in Gawadar port. India is heavily investing in chabahar port to tackle and marginalize the benefits of Gawadar port. Chabahar port is few miles away from the the Gawadar port. If this port of Iran is developed, it will open trade route to land locked region of Afghanistan and central asian states. India is trying to get transit route from Gawadar port.

Issues Of Tariffs And

Duties:

under the agreement signed between Pakistan and china, all the tariffs will be lifted from

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the exports and imports flowing between the two countries. However, Federal Board of Revenue is showing resistance to act upon this idea. China is showing concerns on this hurdle. Once the duties will be lifted, the local industry of Pakistan will face serious challenges and competition from the industries of China. An important consideration in the deals revolve around the protection of local industry of Pakistan against the large scale industries in China.