

GS Paper 2
International Relations

India and its Neighbourhood

Indo Pakistan Relations

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Syllabus: General Studies, Paper II, International Relations

- **India and its Neighbourhood- Relations.**

- **Bilateral, Regional and Global Groupings and Agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.**

- **Effect of Policies and Politics of Developed and Developing Countries on India's interests.**

- **Indian Diaspora.**

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- **Important International Institutions, agencies and fora - their Structure, Mandate.**

How to Study International Relations

Sources

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Indo Pakistan Relations

Geo Political Strategic Significance of Pakistan

1) Location

- Border Sharing
- ✓ Security Concerns



- **Gateway to Central Asia**



2) Interest of Great Power

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Nature of Indo Pak Relations

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Phases in Indo Pak Relations

1) Phase of Active Aggression (1947-2001)

- 1947----1st Indo Pak War
- 1965---2nd Indo Pak War (Tashkent Agreement) (We returned imp. location that is Haji Pir)
- 1971----3rd Indo Pak War (Shimla Agreement 1972) (We returned 90k prisoners of war w/o negotiating on PoK)
- 1984---Operation Meghdoot (To capture Siachin Glacier)

- **1980's and 1990's---** (Infiltration and Insurgency in J&K)
- **1998---** (Both India and Pakistan became nuclear power.)
- **1999----**Kargil war
- **2001---**Attack on Indian Parliament.

2) Phase of Reconciliation (2001-2008)

- **1999---Lahore declaration** (Delhi to Lahore bus service started) (Ex: of Non-Military CBM)
- **Vajpayee's principle of Insaniyat (humanism), Jamhooriyat (democracy) and Kashmiriyat (Kashmir's legacy).**
- **2008----TAPI** gas pipeline project. (Connects energy surplus Central Asia with energy starved South Asia.)
(Ex: of Non-Military CBM)
- **2008---Mumbai attack**

3) Phase of Passive Bilateralism (2008-2015)

- **2014---Neighbourhood 1st policy** (The policy introduced with a regime change in India talks about strengthening India's relation with its immediate neighbors through initiatives like connectivity, economic cooperation and people to people exchange.)

4) Phase of Renewed Aggression(From 2015)

- 2015---China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)



- **2015---Gurdaspur terror attack**
- **2016----Pathankot attack, Uri attack** (Since we did Uri attack o from now onwards India shifted from soft state to hard state)
- **2017---Amarnath Yatra attack**
- **2019---Pulwama attack**
- **Oct 2019---Abrogation of Article 370**

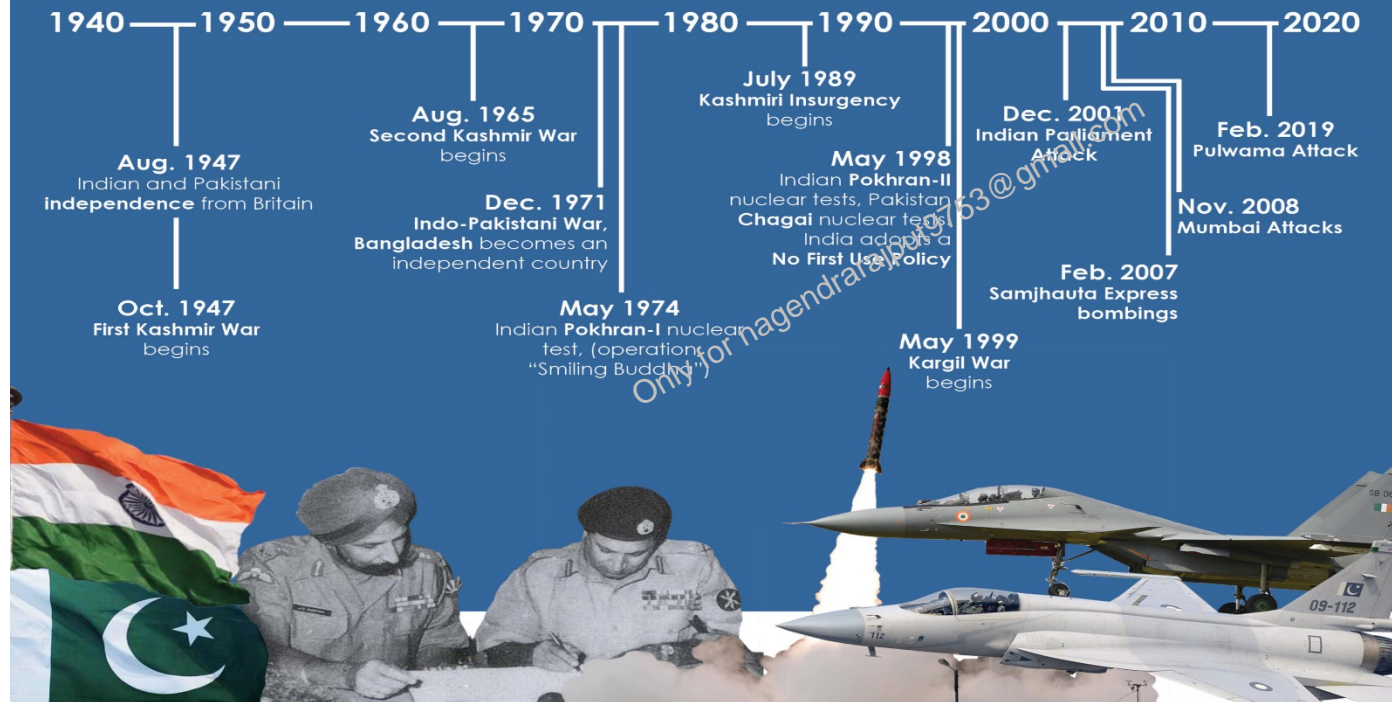
Feb 2021---India Pakistan joint Statement regarding observing 2003 ceasefire along LOC.

Aug 2022---India called on Pakistan to stop its discriminatory approach towards minority.

April 2022---Shahbaz Sharif became the new PM

14th August 2023--- Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, a senator from Baluchistan took over as care taker PM. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif dissolved the Parliament last week as its five-year term came to an end.

INDIA-PAKISTAN HISTORY OF CONFLICT



Factors behind the complex bilateral ties between the two countries/ Conflict Zones between India and Pakistan/ What makes peace elusive between India-Pakistan?

(We will start our answer from our question's tail)

1) Cross-border Terrorism

- > Pakistan sponsored terrorism is based upon the military doctrine of leading India with the thousand cuts.
- > India has been asking Pakistan to take credible verifiable and irreversible actions against terrorist networks and bring the perpetrators of 26/11 Mumbai attack and 2016 Pathankot attack to justice.
- > However the world has witnessed how the two iron brothers i.e. China and Pakistan had tried to cut India in this regard, recently in June 2023 China blocked the proposal by India and US at UNSC to designate Pakistan based Lashkar-e-Taiba member Sajid Mir as a global terrorist for his involvement in 26/11 Mumbai terror attack.

Ques/-Terrorist activities and mutual distrust have clouded India – Pakistan relations. To what extent the use of soft power like sports and cultural exchange could help generate goodwill between the two countries? Discuss with suitable examples. (2015)

2) Trade and commerce or low economic engagement -

There are two major routes via which trade is conducted between the two countries:

- ✓ Sea Route – Mumbai to Karachi
- ✓ Land Route – via Wagah Border through trucks

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3) Water Dispute

Indus Waters Treaty

Why in news?

January 2023

India has issued a notice to Pakistan for modification of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) of September 1960 following Islamabad's "intransigence" to comply with the dispute redressal mechanism of the pact.

The dispute is over the Kishanganga and Ratle (on Chenab River) hydropower projects (Jammu and Kashmir).

This issuance of notice was post “contravention of the graded mechanism of dispute settlement envisaged by Article IX of the IWT.”

India is invoking Article XII (3) of the treaty to bring changes to the 1960 pact.

Court of Arbitration (CoA)



Neutral Expert (NE)



Permanent Commission (PC)

This is the hierarchy to resolve IWT disputes between India and Pakistan.

What is the History of the Dispute over the Hydel Projects?

- **2015**---Pakistan requested for appointment of a neutral expert to examine its technical objections to India's Kishenganga and Ratle Hydro Electric Projects (HEPs).
- **2016**---Pakistan unilaterally retracted this request and proposed that a Court of Arbitration adjudicate on its objections.
- India made a separate request for the matter to be referred to a neutral expert. India had argued that this unilateral action by Pakistan is in contravention of the graded mechanism of dispute settlement envisaged by Article IX of the IWT.

- Despite repeated efforts by India to find a mutually agreeable way forward, Pakistan refused to discuss the issue during the five meetings of the Permanent Indus Commission from 2017 to 2022.
- At Pakistan's continuing insistence, the World Bank has recently initiated actions on both the neutral expert and Court of Arbitration processes.
- The sources added that such parallel consideration of the same issues is not covered under any provision of IWT.
- Faced with such violation of IWT provisions, India has been compelled to issue notice of modification.

The Indus Waters Treaty (IWT)

■ The distribution of waters of the Indus and its tributaries between India and Pakistan is governed by the Indus Water Treaty (IWT).

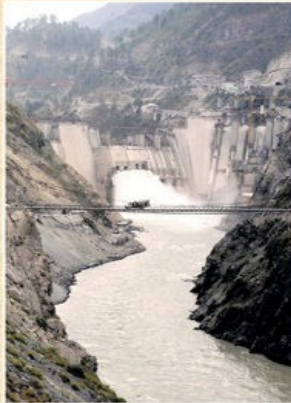
■ Was signed on Sept 19, 1960, between India, Pakistan and a representative of World Bank after eight years of negotiations.

■ Partition of India cut across the Indus river basin, which has the Indus river, plus five of its main tributaries.

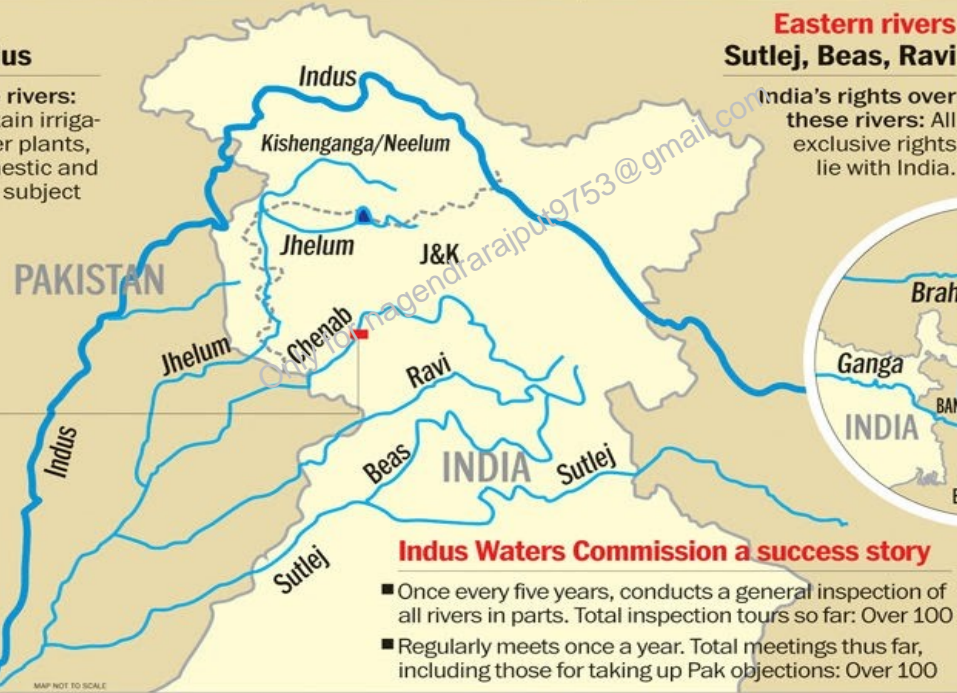
Western rivers

Chenab, Jhelum, Indus

India's rights over these rivers: Limited — can set up certain irrigation, run-of-the-river power plants, very limited storage, domestic and non-consumptive use, all subject to conditions



Baglihar dam on Chenab



Eastern rivers

Sutlej, Beas, Ravi

India's rights over these rivers: All exclusive rights lie with India.

Indus Waters Commission a success story

- Once every five years, conducts a general inspection of all rivers in parts. Total inspection tours so far: Over 100
- Regularly meets once a year. Total meetings thus far, including those for taking up Pak objections: Over 100

Key provisions of Indus Waters Treaty

1) Equitable water-sharing

The three 'western rivers' (Indus, Jhelum and Chenab) went to Pakistan and the three 'eastern rivers' (Sutlej, Ravi and Beas) were portioned to India.

Equitable it may have seemed, but the fact remained that India conceded 80.52 per cent of the aggregate water flows in the Indus system to Pakistan.

2) It also required both the countries to establish a Permanent Indus Commission constituted by permanent commissioners on both sides.

3) Although Pakistan has rights over the waters of Jhelum, Chenab and Indus, Annexure C of the IWT allows India certain agricultural uses, while Annexure D allows it to build 'run of the river' hydropower projects, meaning projects not requiring live storage of water.

4) **Dispute Resolution Mechanism:**

- As per Article IX of IWT, there exists a three-step dispute resolution mechanism, wherein issues on both sides can be resolved at the Permanent Commission, or can also be taken up at the inter-government level.
- In case questions or “differences” (technical differences) between these two countries gets unresolved, either side can approach the World Bank to appoint a Neutral Expert (NE) to arrive at a decision.
- Ultimately, if either party remains unsatisfied with the NE’s decision, matters can be referred to a Court of Arbitration.

Analysis:

Present objections to Three Indian Hydropower projects by Pakistan: in the Chenab basin in Jammu and Kashmir-

- ✓ the 1000 Megawatt (MW) Pakal Dul project,
- ✓ the 48 MW Lower Kalnai project and
- ✓ the 624 MW Kiru project, aside from other smaller Hydropower units India wants to develop in Ladakh.

Way Forward

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4) Kashmir Issue

- Issue of abrogation of Article 370

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5) Siachen Glacier

- Why is Siachen important?

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Siachen Glacier



- **Historical background of the Siachen glacier issue:**

1949: Ceasefire Agreement (The ceasefire line was drawn up to a point known as **NJ 9842** on the map)

1972: This formulation was repeated in the agreement on the Line of Control in 1972, which followed the Shimla Agreement of 1971. The line beyond NJ 9842 was not demarcated on maps in 1972.

Late 1970s

1984: Operation Meghdoot

2003 : 2003 armistice treaty.

Q/- Bring out the strategic importance of Siachen Glacier for India, Pakistan and China. Though Demilitarisation is not a bad idea if the intentions of parties involved are not bad. Analyse

Ans./- Why India should pull-back from Siachen?

Arguments in favour of the demilitarisation of Siachen:

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Why India should not pull-back from Siachen?

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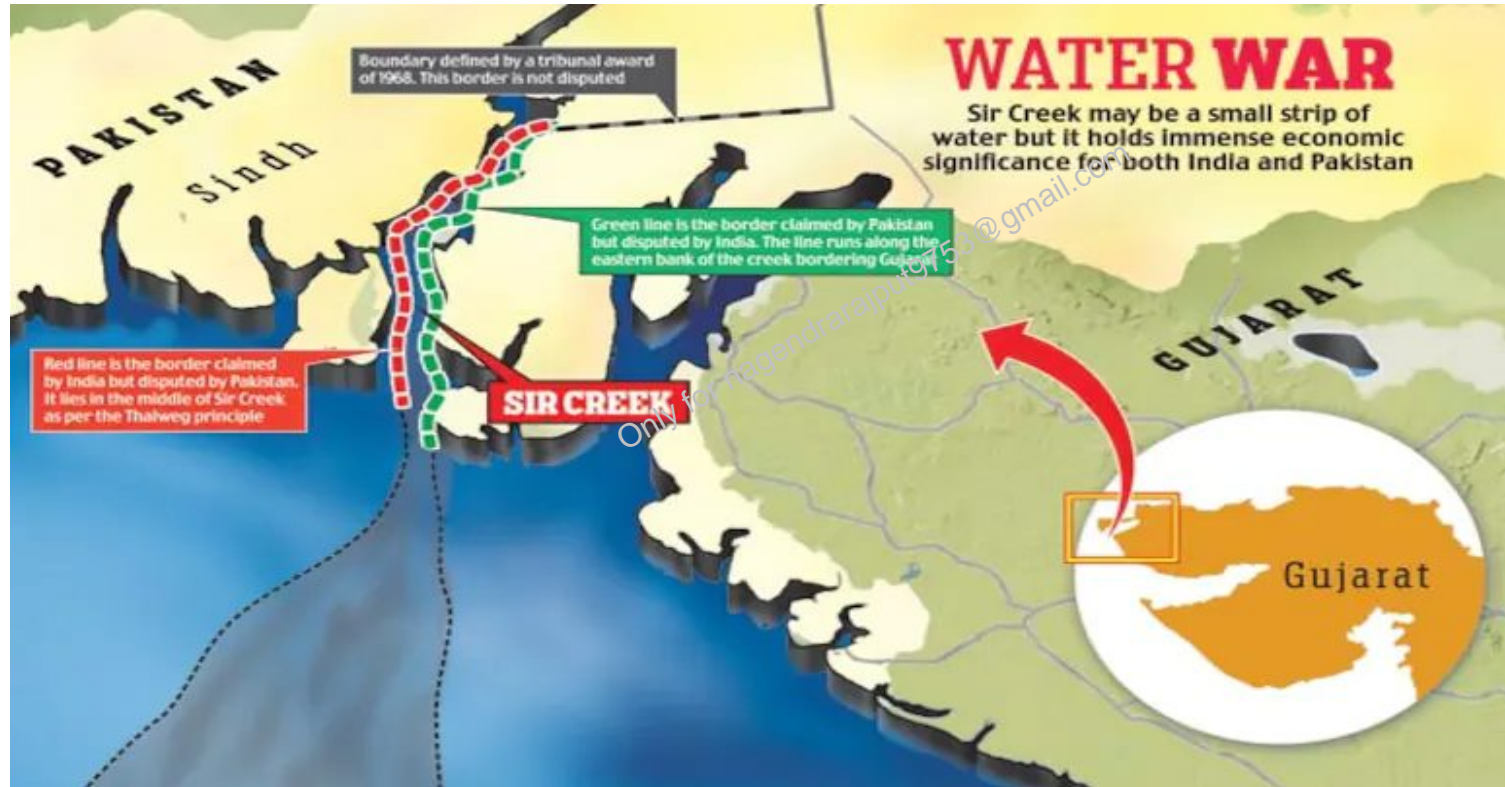
6) Sir Creek

What is Sir Creek?

What's the importance of Sir Creek?

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Sir Creek



What is the dispute?

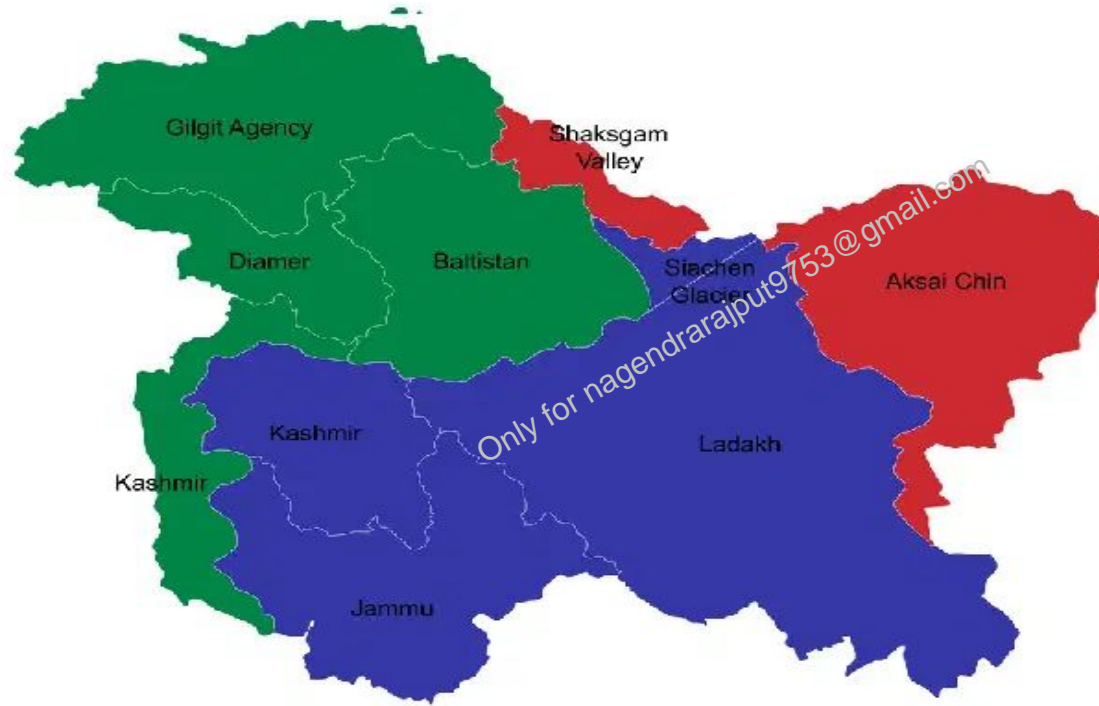
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(7) Chinese angle

The China-Pakistan axis in Asian geopolitics is often described with metaphors such as “higher than the mountains” and “deeper than the oceans”.

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Chinese Angle



Why is China interested in Pakistan?

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Why China is important for Pakistan?

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What is the Present Status of the India-China-Pakistan Triangle?

What is CPEC?

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China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)



(Here Belt means road component and Road means maritime component.)

One Belt One Road Initiative



What are CPEC's Implications for India?

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Mains Questions

Q. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is viewed as a cardinal subset of China's larger 'One Belt One Road' initiative. Give a brief description of CPEC and enumerate the reasons why India has distanced itself from the same. **(2018)**

Q. China and Pakistan have entered into an agreement for the development of an economic corridor. What threat does this pose for India's security? Critically examine. **(2014)**

What are the Implications of China-Pakistan Closeness For India?

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Way Forward regarding Chinese angle in Pakistan

-> Give a look on Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025

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Major Achievements

Military CBMs

1) 1965---A hotline between the Directors-General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of both the countries got established.

1) Agreement on the Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear Installations and Facilities was signed in 1988 and ratified in 1990. The first exchange took place on January 1, 1992. As per the Agreement, India and Pakistan exchange the list of their nuclear installations to prevent attacking each other's atomic facilities. This practise has been followed to date.

2) 1991---Agreement on Advance Notification on Military Exercises, Manoeuvres and Troop Movements was brought into effect. It played an important role in deescalating the tensions on both sides of the LoC.

3) 2005----A communication link between Pakistan Maritime Security Agency and the Indian Coast Guard was established to facilitate the early exchange of information.

Non-military CBMs

1) Delhi-Lahore Bus Service:

- Initiated in 1999. (After Lahore declaration)
- 2001---got suspended in the aftermath of the 2001 Indian Parliament Attack.
- 2003--- got resumed.
- 2019---got suspended again in 2019 in the aftermath of the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A of the Indian Constitution and continues to be suspended.

After Shimla agreement 1972

2) **Samjhauta Express** was launched following the signing of the Shimla Agreement connects the Pakistani city of Lahore and the Indian town of Attari. In 2019, it was suspended after the revocation of the special status of Kashmir.

3) Efforts of repatriation of Indians from Pakistan's custody and vice versa.

4) Kartarpur Sahib Gurudwara corridor:

- The corridor linking Dera Baba Sahib in India's Gurdaspur with the gurdwara in Pakistan's Kartarpur.
- Opened in November 2019 in a historic people-to-people initiative.
- It was shut down due to the Coronavirus pandemic.
- The corridor – often dubbed as **the “Road to Peace”** – will connect Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Pakistan's Kartarpur with Dera Baba Nanak shrine in India's Gurdaspur district.

Fallouts of Limited engagements

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Way Forward

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Conclusion

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Pakistan's Economic Crisis

July 2023----UAE has reportedly offered to invest in Pakistan, which could help pull it out of its entrenched economic crisis.

May 2023----The International Monetary Fund (IMF) asked Pakistan to arrange USD 8 billion in fresh loans to back the external debt repayments during the next seven months for the successful completion of the long-stalled ninth review bailout package. The demand comes despite receiving confirmation from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) further eroding chances for the revival of the USD 6.5 billion bailout package.

26th February 2023----Pakistan's government has agreed to increase the policy interest rate which stands at 17 per cent by two per cent or 200 basis points to meet another condition set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

With the new decision, Pakistan has accepted another pre-condition of the IMF for the release of USD 1.1 billion in critical funding, a part of the USD 6.5 billion bailout package.

Reasons for Pakistan Economic crisis

- **High Inflation:** Pakistan experienced a high inflation in 2022 of about 24.5%. The percentage was about 29% higher in rural Pakistan.
- **High Indebtedness**
- **Weak External Position:** Pakistan was finally taken off the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) grey list in 2022, after being on it for many years.
- **Food Crisis:** The cost of perishable foods has increased by over 56%.
- **Rising Terrorism**

- **Low foreign exchange reserves**
- **Political crisis**
- **2022 floods**
- **Economic policies that are inconsistent and procyclical**
- **Local problems**

Impact of Pakistan's Economic crisis on India

- Increased Chinese influence in Pakistan
- Increasing terrorist activities
- Volatile situation in neighbourhood
- Influx of refugees
- Impact on India's export to Pakistan
- Ripple effect in South Asia

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India's response to Pakistan Crisis

The bigger question is :Will India help Pakistan come out of its economic crisis?

23rd February 2023----External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar dismissed the idea of helping Pakistan to come out of its economic mess. Speaking at the annual Asia Economic Dialogue organised by the external affairs ministry, S. Jaishankar said he will consider the local public sentiment while making a big decision.

"I would have a pulse (on) what do my people feel about it. And I think you know the answer," he said.

When it comes to Pakistan, the fundamental issue impacting the New Delhi-Islamabad ties is terrorism adding that one must not be in denial of this problem.

"No country is ever going to come out of a difficult situation and become a prosperous power if its basic industry is terrorism. Just as a country has to fix its economic issues, a country has to fix its political issues too, a country has to fix its social issues," he said without naming Pakistan.

The world can only provide options and support systems, S. Jaishankar said, making it clear that Pakistan will have to make "tough choices"

Thanks

Dr. Shruti Joshi