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Topic: Assessing the effectiveness of sanctions

“No sanction can stand against ignited minds”- A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

Since 1978, China’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth has averaged over 9 percent a year. To add to the improvements, almost 800 million people have lifted themselves out of poverty. There have also been prominent improvements in access to health, education, and other services over the years. But due to several sanctions , which are measures that countries or organizations use to address security concerns, promote compliance with international laws, and safeguard international peace and security, China’s trade and exports and imports have been affected.Countries depend on their sanctioning tools that they have. For example, one of the tools of The United States , which has only been used recently, is the control of high-tech components and intellectual property rights, in which China has been majorly targeted.

Over the years China has been in the discussion of various sanctions. For example,when the treasury Sanctioned China Linked Hackers for Targeting U.S. Critical Infrastructure,or the time when the United States and United Kingdom sanctioned alleged China-based hackers for targeting voters etc. Li Zhaoxing, a former foreign minister of the People's Republic of China, said that ”China always urges that no use or threat of sanctions should be allowed in international relations”. Contrary to the presumption that sanctions are disciplinary, sanctions are overwhelmingly a tool of wealthy and powerful nations used against nations. Sanctions are not only burdening the citizens of the targeted nation but also affect the businesses of the imposing country. Thus, it's worth understanding that sanctions could serve as a strategy employed by affluent and influential nations against those in the Global south. It attributed The Anti-Foreign Sanctions Law (AFLS), passed on June 10th 2021, which states that if foreign or Chinese entities implement sanctions that hurt China, then they can be subjected to penalties.

The success of sanctions can be measured by the desired policy goals or their cost to the targeted countries and individuals. They can also impose costs on the targeted country's citizens and the sanctioning country's companies. Sanctions do not operate, succeed or fail at a rapid pace. The measures taken are majorly successful at maintaining or restoring international peace and security when administered as part of a thorough strategy enclosing peacekeeping, peacebuilding and peacemaking. China believes that the use of sanctions to threaten nations ought to not be used and that sanctions reduce the trade and the exports and imports of both the targeted nation and the imposing country.

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