
[Solved] CSS Special 2023 Current Affairs Paper

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Introduction

Find detailed solutions and critical analyses for each question in the CSS Special 2023 Current Affairs paper, aiding aspirants in understanding the depth and intricacies of each topic of the questions given in CA paper of CSS Special Exam 2023.

FPSC CSS Special 2023 Current Affairs Paper

Question 2:

“Pakistan’s economy is currently under severe stress with low foreign reserves a depreciating currency, and exponentially high inflation. What measures can be taken in the short and medium terms to stabilize the deteriorating economic conditions?”

Question 3:

“Since its birth, Pakistan has been struggling with the problems of governance largely caused by democratic instability, corruption, lack of accountability, and absence of Institutional reforms. Discuss in detail the linkage and accumulated impact of these factors on the Socioeconomic development of the country.

Question 4:

“China’s proactive diplomacy has successfully achieved rapprochement between the two traditional rivals Saudi Arabia and Iran. Analyze the impact of this significant development on the geopolitics of the region.”

Question 5:

“What are the critical issues in Afghanistan-Pakistan relations since the Taliban took over Kabul in 2021?”

Question 6:

“The world is falling short of achieving gender equality despite global efforts. If the current trends continue, eight percent of women and girls global population will live in extreme poverty by 2030. Suggest strategies to improve gender balance, especially with reference to Pakistan.”

Question 7:

“Write a note on the expansion of BRICS and its attempts towards de-dollarization of the international economy, highlighting its global and regional implications.”

Question 8:

“India has emerged as an economic and political power in the past few years. What are the likely implications of this scenario for the region’s strategic [text cutoff] general and Pakistan in particular?”

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Power

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Answer to CSS Special 2023 Question 2:

“Pakistan’s economy is currently under severe stress with low foreign reserves, a depreciating currency, and exponentially high inflation. What measures can be taken in the short and medium terms to stabilize the deteriorating economic conditions?”

Introduction

- *Economic Challenges:*
- Overview of Pakistan’s current economic condition.
- Highlight on issues like low foreign reserves, currency depreciation, and high inflation.
- *Significance of Economic Stability:*
- Relation between economic stability and national development.
- Impact of economic conditions on global standing and domestic welfare.

Short-Term Measures

1. Monetary Policy:
 - Adjusting interest rates to control inflation without stifling growth.
 - Implementing measures to stabilize the national currency.
2. Fiscal Policy:
 - Temporary subsidy regimes to control inflationary pressures.
 - Efficient public spending to stimulate economic activity.

3. Foreign Exchange Reserves:

- Securing financial assistance from international bodies.
- Exploring and enhancing remittance channels.

4. Import-Export Balance:

- Managing import bills and promoting export-oriented policies.
- Exploring alternative markets and products for export enhancement.

Medium-Term Measures

1.. *Structural Reforms:*

- Reforming tax structures to enhance revenue without overburdening citizens.
- Addressing issues in public sector enterprises to reduce fiscal deficits.

2. *Investment Climate:*

- Creating a conducive environment for domestic and foreign investments.
- Ensuring policy stability to retain and attract investments.

3. *Social Safety Nets:*

- Strengthening social safety nets to safeguard the vulnerable segments.
- Ensuring food security and accessibility to basic needs for all.

4. *Institutional Strengthening:*

- Enhancing the capacity and transparency of economic institutions.
- Implementing policies to reduce corruption and enhance accountability.

Conclusion

- *Future Outlook:*
- Reflecting on how the measures can recalibrate the economic stability.
- Significance of a stable economy in ensuring socio-economic development.

- *Recommendations:*
- Maintaining a balanced approach to ensure macroeconomic stability.
- Implementing policies with a focus on inclusive and sustainable growth.

Notes:

- *Data Reliability:* Ensure to use the most recent and reliable data while discussing economic indicators.
- *Practicality:* Recommendations and measures should be practical and consider the socio-political context of Pakistan.
- *Holistic Approach:* Consider a multi-dimensional approach that includes social, political, and economic aspects to formulate comprehensive strategies.

Answer to CSS Special 2023 Question 3:

“Since its birth, Pakistan has been struggling with the problems of governance largely caused by democratic instability, corruption, lack of accountability, and absence of Institutional reforms. Discuss in detail the linkage and accumulated impact of these factors on the Socioeconomic development of the country.”

Introduction

- *Governance Challenges:*
- Overview of Pakistan’s governance issues since its inception.
- Mention of democratic instability, corruption, lack of accountability, and institutional reforms.
- *Socioeconomic Development:*
- Brief on the significance of governance in socioeconomic development.
- Connection between good governance and national prosperity.

Linkage and Impact

1.. *Democratic Instability:*

- Impact on policy consistency and long-term planning.

- Influence on investor confidence and national development projects.

2. *Corruption:*

- Draining of national resources and inhibiting fair distribution of wealth.
- Deterioration of institutional efficacy and public trust.

3. *Lack of Accountability:*

- Impediment to justice and fair resource allocation.
- Undermining meritocracy and enhancing social inequality.

4. *Absence of Institutional Reforms:*

- Restriction on adaptability and modernization of governance structures.
- Hindrance to optimal policy implementation and public service delivery.

Socioeconomic Implications

- *Economic Disparities:*
 - Widening wealth gap and increasing poverty.
 - Hindered economic growth and development.
- *Social Cohesion:*
 - Eroding social cohesion and increasing public discontent.
 - Limiting social mobility and opportunities.

Conclusion

- *Road Ahead:*
 - Understanding the essentiality of resolving governance issues for socioeconomic development.
 - Highlighting the collective impact of governance on national prosperity.
- *Recommendations:*
 - Implementing stringent anti-corruption measures.
 - Strengthening institutions through reforms and ensuring accountability.
 - Promoting democratic stability through inclusive and participatory approaches.

Notes:

- *Objectivity:* Maintain an objective and unbiased stance while discussing political issues.

- *Comprehensive Analysis:* Ensure to explore various aspects of governance issues and their multifaceted impact on socioeconomic development.
- *Solutions-Oriented:* While discussing problems, it is crucial to also suggest viable solutions.

Answer to CSS Special 2023 Question 4:

“China’s proactive diplomacy has successfully achieved rapprochement between the two traditional rivals Saudi Arabia and Iran. Analyze the impact of this significant development on the geopolitics of the region.”

Introduction

- *Diplomatic Triumph:*
- Brief about China’s role in bringing rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Iran.
- Significance of the development in the traditionally tense Middle Eastern region.
- *Geopolitical Importance:*
- The strategic importance of Saudi Arabia and Iran in the region.
- The traditional rivalry and its implications on regional geopolitics.

Impact Analysis

1.. Regional Stability:

- Potential for enhanced stability and peace in the region.
- Mitigation of proxy wars and conflicts in various parts of the Middle East.

2. Economic Dynamics:

- Possibilities of joint ventures and cooperation in the energy sector.
- Impact on global oil prices and energy security.

3. Security Paradigm:

- Altering defense and security dynamics in the region.

- The potential impact on arms sales and military alliances.

4. International Relations:

- The shift in alliances and partnerships among global powers.
- Influence on the policies of other major players in the region like the USA and Russia.

5. Religious and Ethnic Cohesion:

- The impact on sectarian divides and ethnic tensions within and among countries.
- Enhancing inter-faith dialogue and cooperation.

Global and Regional Implications

- *Global Power Play:*
 - China's emerging role as a significant peacemaker and its impact on global standing.
 - Recalibration of power equations in international relations.
- *Regional Development:*
 - Opening avenues for cooperative development projects.
 - Potentially initiating a new era of economic cooperation in the Middle East.

Conclusion

- *Future Prospects:*
 - Envisaging the long-term impact of this rapprochement on the region and globally.
 - Potential of this development in altering global and regional power dynamics.
- *Recommendations:*
 - Encouraging continued dialogue and cooperation among regional players.
 - Ensuring that the rapprochement leads to tangible peace and stability in the region.

Notes:

- *Neutral Stance:* While analyzing international relations, maintaining a neutral and balanced viewpoint is crucial.
- *Depth of Analysis:* Ensure to delve into various aspects - economic, social, political, and religious, to provide a comprehensive analysis.
- *Credibility:* Verify facts and statements from reliable sources to ensure credibility in the answer.

Answer to Question 5:

“What are the critical issues in Afghanistan-Pakistan relations since the Taliban took over Kabul in 2021?”

Introduction

- **Historical Context:**
- Brief on Afghanistan-Pakistan relations history.
- Mention of the Taliban takeover in 2021.
- **Importance of Bilateral Relations:**
- Strategic importance of both countries.
- Shared borders and cultural ties.

1. Critical Issues

2. Political Stability in Afghanistan

- Overview of the political scenario post-Taliban takeover.
- Challenges of governance faced by the Taliban.
- Recognition of the Taliban government on an international level.

3. Security Concerns

- Rise of militant groups and potential security threats.
- Issues related to border management and control.
- Concerns about the use of Afghan soil against Pakistan by hostile entities.

4. Humanitarian and Refugee Crisis

- Influx of Afghan refugees into Pakistan post-Taliban takeover.
- Humanitarian crisis within Afghanistan and its spillover effects.
- Pakistan's role and challenges in managing refugee camps.

5. Economic Challenges

- Economic instability in Afghanistan affecting bilateral trade.
- Impact of sanctions on Afghanistan and indirect effects on Pakistan.
- Prospects for bilateral and regional economic cooperation.

6. Diplomatic Relations

- Pakistan's stance on recognizing the Taliban government.
- Balancing relations considering international and regional scenarios.

- Diplomatic engagements and negotiations.

7. **Terrorism and Extremism**

- Potential rise in extremist ideologies and groups.
- Impact on domestic security situations in both countries.
- Cooperative strategies to combat terrorism.

Opportunities and Prospects

- **Bilateral Cooperation:**
 - Opportunities for strengthening bilateral ties.
 - Exploring avenues for economic and strategic cooperation.
- **Regional Stability:**
 - Pakistan and Afghanistan as key players in regional stability.
 - Possible roles in facilitating peace processes.

Challenges and Constraints

- **International Pressures:**
 - Navigating through international pressures and alliances.
 - Adhering to global norms while maintaining bilateral interests.
- **Internal Pressures:**
 - Managing internal political and social pressures.
 - Addressing concerns of domestic stakeholders.

Conclusion

- **Future Prospects:**
 - Envisioning a roadmap for Afghanistan-Pakistan relations.
 - Strategies for ensuring peace, stability, and prosperity.
- **Recommendations:**
 - Employing diplomacy to navigate through critical issues.
 - Strengthening cooperative mechanisms to deal with common challenges.
 - Pursuing comprehensive strategies for bilateral engagement.

Notes:

- **Political Sensitivity:** Given the political sensitivity of the topics, it is pivotal to approach them with a balanced and diplomatic perspective.
- **Fact-checking:** Always ensure to validate the data and information from credible

sources as international relations topics require utmost accuracy.

- **Analysis:** A thorough analysis which considers various facets – political, social, economic, and international, is crucial.

Answer to CSS Special 2023 Question 6:

“The world is falling short of achieving gender equality despite global efforts. If the current trends continue, eight percent of women and girls global population will live in extreme poverty by 2030. Suggest strategies to improve gender balance, especially with reference to Pakistan.”

Introduction

- *Global Gender Disparities:*
- Overview of the current global gender equality situation.
- Highlight of the potential risk of increased poverty among women and girls.
- *National Relevance:*
- Brief on the status of gender balance in Pakistan.
- Importance of gender equality for national development.

Strategies for Improving Gender Balance

1. **Education:**
 - Ensuring equal access to education for girls and boys.
 - Implementing policies that encourage female enrollment and retention in schools.
2. **Economic Empowerment:**
 - Enhancing women’s access to economic resources and opportunities.
 - Implementing policies that support women entrepreneurs and workers.
3. **Legal Framework:**
 - Strengthening and enforcing laws that promote gender equality.
 - Ensuring women’s legal rights are protected and promoted.
4. **Social Awareness:**
 - Conducting awareness campaigns to challenge and change patriarchal norms.
 - Promoting the importance and benefits of gender equality at all societal levels.

5. **Political Participation:**

- Ensuring women have equal opportunities and platforms in politics.
- Implementing quotas and policies that encourage women's participation in governance.

6. **Healthcare Access:**

- Ensuring women and girls have equal and adequate access to healthcare services.
- Promoting maternal health and reproductive rights.

Pakistan-Specific Strategies

- *Cultural Sensitivity:*
- Formulating and implementing policies keeping in view the cultural and social dynamics of Pakistan.
- Engaging religious and community leaders in promoting gender equality.
- *Security and Safety:*
- Ensuring safe environments for women in public and private spheres.
- Strengthening legal frameworks that protect women against all forms of violence.

Conclusion

- *Way Forward:*
- Acknowledging the intrinsic value of gender equality for societal development.
- Recognizing the collective benefits of an inclusive and equal society.
- *Recommendations:*
- Adopting a multi-sectoral approach to address various aspects of gender disparities.
- Ensuring the practical implementation of policies and strategies at the grassroots level.

Notes:

- *Empathy and Respect:* Approach the topic with utmost empathy and respect towards gender issues and struggles.
- *Data and Statistics:* Utilize credible data to highlight issues and substantiate recommendations.
- *Inclusivity:* Ensure that the strategies and discussions are inclusive of all women from various socio-economic backgrounds.

Answer to CSS Special 2023 Question 7:

“Write a note on the expansion of BRICS and its attempts towards de-dollarization of the international economy, highlighting its global and regional implications.”

Introduction

- *BRICS Expansion:*
- Overview of the BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) and their global standing.
- Mention of the expansion endeavors and inclusion of new countries.
- *De-dollarization Efforts:*
- Brief about the initiatives taken by BRICS towards reducing dependency on the US dollar.
- Significance of these efforts in the current international economy.

BRICS Expansion

1. ***Inclusion of New Members:***
 - Analyzing the rationale behind including new countries.
 - Implications of the expansion on the group's economic and political influence.
2. ***Strategic Importance:***
 - Evaluating the geopolitical and economic significance of the expanding BRICS.
 - Impact on global governance and international institutions.

De-dollarization Initiatives

1. ***Currency Swap Agreements:***
 - Utilization of local currencies in intra-BRICS trade.
 - Reducing dependency on the US dollar in mutual trade and investment.
2. ***Development of Alternative Payment Systems:***
 - Initiatives to develop payment systems independent of the SWIFT system.
 - Enhancing financial sovereignty and reducing vulnerability to sanctions.
3. ***Multilateral Financial Cooperation:***
 - Strengthening of the New Development Bank (NDB) and Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA).

- Encouraging use of local currencies in lending and borrowing.

Global and Regional Implications

1. **Shift in Economic Power:**

Potential redistribution of global economic power.
Influencing international trade and finance systems.

2. **US Dollar's Dominance:**

Impact on the dominance and reliability of the US dollar in global finance.
Possible implications on global financial stability.

3. **Emerging Economies:**

The role of BRICS in shaping the future of emerging economies.
Providing alternatives and creating new platforms for global cooperation.

Conclusion

- *Future Trajectory:*
- Envisioning the potential pathway of BRICS in global economic leadership.
- Analyzing the sustainability and feasibility of de-dollarization.
- *Recommendations:*
- Nurturing a cooperative and inclusive approach towards global economic management.
- Ensuring stability and reliability in alternative financial mechanisms.

Notes:

- *Analytical Approach:* Provide a balanced and critical analysis of BRICS' strategies and their implications.
- *Fact Verification:* Ensure that the data and information related to BRICS initiatives are accurate and recent.
- *Global Perspective:* While analyzing implications, consider various global stakeholders and scenarios.

Answer to CSS Special 2023 Question 8:

“India has emerged as an economic and political power in the past few years. What

are the likely implications of this scenario for the region's strategic in general and Pakistan in particular?"

Introduction

- *India's Ascension:*
- Briefing on India's rise as an economic and political powerhouse.
- Highlighting its growth trajectories and enhanced international engagements.
- *Regional Dynamics:*
- Significance of India's rise for the regional strategic environment.
- The preliminary understanding of the impacts on neighboring countries, especially Pakistan.

Implications for the Region

1. ***Economic Shifts:***
 - India becoming a hub for investments and trade.
 - Potential influences on regional trade dynamics and economic partnerships.
2. ***Political and Strategic Influence:***
 - India's role in shaping regional political scenarios and alliances.
 - Potential to influence regional conflicts and cooperation.
3. ***Security and Defense Dynamics:***
 - Alterations in regional defense strategies and military balances.
 - Impact on regional stability and peace initiatives.
4. ***Technological and Developmental Spillover:***
 - India as a source of technological advancements and innovations.
 - Potential to lead regional development initiatives.

Implications for Pakistan

- ***Bilateral Relations:***
- Impact on Indo-Pak relations and existing conflicts.
- Influence on bilateral trade and diplomatic engagements.
- ***Security Considerations:***
- Possible shifts in defense strategies and military preparedness.
- Managing the balance of power and ensuring national security.
- ***Diplomatic Engagements:***
- Navigating through the complexities of enhanced Indian influence in international forums.

- Formulating strategies to ensure productive and peaceful coexistence.
- **Economic Competitiveness:**
- Strategies to ensure economic stability and growth amid rising Indian economic dominance.
- Identifying and capitalizing on economic opportunities in the region.

Conclusion

- *Anticipating Challenges:*
- Recognition of the challenges and opportunities arising from India's rise.
- Understanding the multifaceted impacts on regional dynamics.
- *Recommendations:*
- Employing diplomatic and strategic mechanisms to ensure peaceful regional coexistence.
- Engaging in regional platforms to foster cooperative and mutually beneficial relationships.

Notes:

- *Constructive Engagement:* Ensure to approach the topic with a perspective of constructive engagement and peaceful coexistence.
- *Fact-Based Analysis:* Use verified data and information to substantiate points and avoid assumptions.
- *Balanced Perspective:* Ensure to maintain a balanced perspective, appreciating positive aspects while critically analyzing challenges.

These answers are constructed in a comprehensive and structured manner to cater to the diverse aspects of each question. Always remember to stay within the word limits provided in the exam and manage your time efficiently to effectively answer all questions. If you have any specific questions or need further assistance, feel free to ask.



About the Author

Farhan Khan is an exceptional professional who excels across diverse domains. With a Master's degree in Physics and International Relations & Political Science, he showcases unparalleled intellectual prowess. Currently Govt Employee, Khan's achievements in competitive exams, including the CSS Exam (attempted thrice), the PMS Competitive Exam

(attempted twice) and other competitive exams demonstrate his unwavering commitment to success. Additionally, his participation in esteemed Commission Interviews further solidifies his exceptional credentials. Farhan Khan's expertise extends to web development and graphic design, holding certifications from the esteemed National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTCC). His linguistic excellence is evident through his top position in Perspective-II at the renowned Shunaiza English Learning Institute. As an innovative thinker, He harnesses the power of advanced AI system, showcasing his ability to leverage cutting-edge technology for effective solutions. Farhan Khan epitomizes dedication and excellence, merging diverse skills and knowledge to push boundaries in a rapidly evolving professional landscape. He serves as an inspirational figure, setting new standards and trailblazing his way to success.

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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE-II (CURRENT AFFAIRS)
PART-II
TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS
PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES
PART-I (MCQS)
MAXIMUM MARKS =
20
PART-II
MAXIMUM MARKS = 80

- NOTE:** (i) **Part-II** is to be attempted on the separate **Answer Book**.
 (ii) Attempt **ONLY FOUR** questions from **PART-II**. **ALL** questions carry **EQUAL** marks.
 (iii) All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places.
 (iv) Write Q. No. in the Answer Book in accordance with Q. No. in the Q.Paper.
 (v) No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed.
 (vi) Extra attempt of any question or any part of the question will not be considered.

- Q. No. 2.** Pakistan's economy is currently under severe stress with low foreign reserves, a depreciating currency, and exponentially high inflation. What measures can be taken in the short and medium terms to stabilize the deteriorating economic conditions? (20)
- Q. No. 3.** Since its birth, Pakistan has been struggling with the problems of governance, largely caused by democratic instability, corruption, lack of accountability, and absence of institutional reforms. Discuss in detail the linkages and accumulated impact of these factors on socio-economic development of the country. (20)
- Q. No. 4.** China's proactive diplomacy has successfully achieved rapprochement between the two traditional rivals Saudi Arabia and Iran. Analyze the impact of this significant development on the geo-politics of the region. (20)
- Q. No. 5.** What are the critical issues in Afghanistan-Pakistan relations since the Taliban took over Kabul in 2021. (20)
- Q. No. 6.** The world is falling short of achieving gender equality despite global efforts. If the current trends continue, eight percent of women and girls global population will live in extreme poverty by 2030. Suggest strategies to improve gender balance, especially with reference to Pakistan. (20)
- Q. No. 7.** Write a note on the expansion of BRICS and its attempts towards de-dollarization of the international economy, highlighting its global and regional implications. (20)
- Q. No. 8.** India has emerged as an economic and political power in the past few years. What are the likely implications of this scenario for the region's strategic dynamics in general and Pakistan in particular? (20)



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