

Internal and external policies

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Foreign policy of the state is the extension of its internal policies as said by Jawahar Lal Nehru. In other words internal and external policies are co-related. In under developed countries the Foreign Minister as such assumes more responsibility for achieving the domestic goals through skillful diplomacy.

He has to arrange both economic and technological resources for internal development. Foreign policy cannot be framed in isolation. It is imperative that national issues must therefore be carefully analysed to set the right path for achieving the desired goals.

Pakistan's dream of independence and achieving separation from Hindu community was materialised in August 1947. This separation was indispensable because both the communities were culturally and ethnically at tangent. The ultimate goal was however not fully achieved because of the antagonistic relationship with India over the unresolved division of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Rivalry started soon after independence with first conflagration with India in 1948.

Thus, strengthening of security needs and preservation of territorial integrity became the first and the primary national issue. Pakistan inherited the peripheral areas of the sub-continent with lack of industry and natural resources. An attempt for occupation of Kashmir further aggravated our agricultural problems and India started controlling water of all the rivers originating from Kashmir.

Poor economy therefore became our second major national issue. Our neighbour Afghanistan, a landlocked country, largely depends on export of her narcotic crop. Soviet aggression on Afghanistan in 1979 and US effort to block their further

ingress from our soil through massive supply of armament and equipped every Afghan with modern weapons.

Their narcotics and weapons sales business has badly affected our internal security.

Frequent interruptions of our democratic history by martial laws have precipitated our socio political issues. In brief our national

issues revolve around national security and threat perception, poor economy, internal security and socio

would enhance economic interaction at international platform and lateral linkage of Iran and Afghanistan with India should also be encouraged.

Regional economic activity would enhance Pakistan's status geo-strategically and geo-economically during the WTO era commencing from January 2005. A lot of research is needed to modernise our agriculture sector for increasing production output. Pakistan must achieve self-sufficiency at all cost and rather develop export potential of our agricultural production. Effort should be made to enhance energy production through hydropower, coal, natural gas and nuclear technology for utilisation at minimum possible per unit rate. This would radically reduce the cost of production and make our industry compatible in the international market. In case we fail to achieve this, it would cause unemployment problem at mass scale during WTO era.

Our economic activity largely depends on sound internal security. Presently, our internal security system is far from satisfactory and warrants complete reorganisation. The internal security force should be physically, technically and professionally competent like our armed forces.

The officer cadre should be separately selected and trained with combat orientation. Separate legal laws, independent from the national legal procedures, are required to frame and achieve the desired level of discipline and proficiency in their ranks and files. The force should be capable of proficiently maintaining law and order in all rural and urban areas and highways of the country. Very large, trained and well-equipped force is therefore the requirement to harness our vast population base.

These reforms would be able to extend security to the international traffic carrying goods to the ports from North to South. Foolproof security measures in the rural and urban areas would encourage foreign investment, which is badly needed to boost our economy during the WTO era.

Our political history presents a gloomy picture.

Unfortunately there has been a power struggle between the political leaders and military junta. Repeated im-

political issues.

Both India and Pakistan should realise that bilateral disputes are a source of economic drain on the exchequers. Out of all bilateral irritants unresolved dispute of Jammu and Kashmir form the focal point, which both countries fully comprehend. Once the core issue is resolved it would set the pace for resolving other issues like Wuller Barrage, Sir Creek, Siachen Glacier etc more smoothly.

The world has progressed and enjoys the facilities of modern living, better education, health facilities, high per capita income etc. These effects are more vivid when viewed from outside, and they distinctly indicate the clever strategies of big powers of keeping the third world countries engaged in rivalries.

Now the people of both the countries fully realise and earnestly desire that bilateral issues must be resolved. They feel that these rivalries have resulted in awesome financial drain of their resources. Their assets should be diverted from defence purchases to social development.

The leaders of both India and Pakistan possess the requisite caliber of finding solutions to all problems. It requires concerted effort and sincerity without any external pressures. It may be mentioned that external powers are not interested in bringing peace to disturbed regions of the globe.

This is with the view to maintain their hegemony of modern armament supply capability. Both India and Pakistan have very high caliber and talented statesmen. There is need for holding continuous meetings till they mutually find tangible solution to all disputed issues. Option of suppressing people using armed forces and blatantly violating the human rights is not the strategy to resolve the disputes. Amicable resolution of bilateral disputes would become a source of economic prosperity for both the countries. It is added that India and Pakistan have achieved nuclear capability, which must be maintained.

This will certainly eliminate the dependability on big powers of providing security umbrella against any external threat. No external power should be extended the facility of using our soil for aggressive intentions to meet their own national interests.

Pakistan, however, maintain good relations with big powers at diplomatic level to benefit from their educational and technological advancement. Cordial relations with neighbour Iran and Afghanistan are essential because of our cultural affinity. Moreover we share identical ethnic and social problems. China has proved to be our sincere friend according to the Asian traditions.

There is a dire need to expedite development of our communication infrastructure to link our seaports with China, Central Asian States and Afghanistan. Free flow of trade

position of martial laws diluted the political fibre and maturing of our democratic process. This resulted in retardation in our industrial development and economic activity.

The masses in general have also not been groomed and educated in democratic systems. Both the political leaders and the masses consider democracy as a system above the national laws and therefore emanate massive corruption and insecurity at the national level. Democratic system is so framed that it suits our culture and environment.

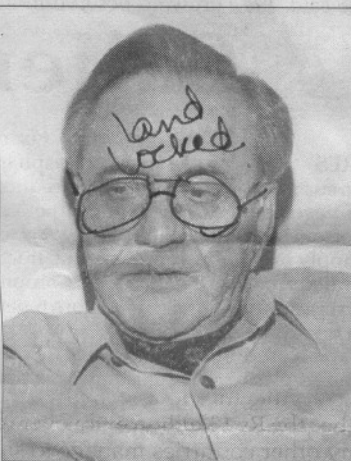
Requisite monitoring organisations should be in built in the system to keep a firm check on the ruling junta and the elected representatives. Proficient internal security force, as proposed, is organised to maintain law and order in every corner of the country. These reforms would give stability to our political structure in particular and the masses in general.

Pundits of foreign affairs should evolve strategies with a view towards resolving our multi dimensional internal issues. The political government and associated bureaucratic structure must carry out deliberate research, analyse the issues and identify the vulnerable areas to facilitate the highest level to modify the systems. No venture should be made in isolation without material gain. Bilateral disputes be resolved through sincere and honest efforts by both India and Pakistan and should suit the people of the affected regions. It is reiterated that the Western lobbies including the US are not keen to resolve interstate disputes.

Their armament business in the deputed regions of the globe is their main economic stay. They know that they would not be able to compete with the third world countries during WTO era because of their very high production cost for manufacturing utility items. India and Pakistan must maintain their nuclear deterrence for any threat perception projected by external powers.

Dependence on big powers for security cover therefore should not be given unnecessary priority at the cost of economic development. Pakistan must maintain good relations with big powers for acquiring educational and technological benefits. Friendship needs to be further strengthened with China and other neighbouring Muslim countries.

Both India and Pakistan, more so India being a bigger power, must ponder over the international trends and expeditiously resolve the bilateral disputes mutually to economically remain competitive at international level during the WTO era. Pakistan's relations with other regional sub-systems must be developed for exchanging industrial technologies and economic inter-action. Weaknesses at national level in internal security and political stability require to be achieved through progressive education of the masses and reorganisation of the institutions on sound footing.



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