



Dear Delegates,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 2018 University of Central Punjab MUN.

The following pages intend to guide you in the research of the topics that will be debated at UCPMUN 2018 in committee sessions. Please note this guide only provides the basis for your investigation. It is your responsibility to find as much information necessary on the topics and how they relate to the country you represent. Such information should help you write your Position Paper, where you need to cite the references in the text and finally list all references in the Modern Language Association (MLA) format.

The more information and understanding you acquire on the two topics, the more you will be able to influence the Resolution writing process through debates [formal and informal caucuses], and the UCPMUN'18 experience as a whole. Please feel free to contact us if and when you face challenges in your research or formatting your Position Papers.

We encourage you to learn all you can about your topics first and then study your country with regard to the two selected topics. Please remember that both committee members need to be well versed and ready to debate both topics.

Enjoy researching and writing your Position Papers.

We look forward to seeing you at the Conference!

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PAKISTAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AGENDA

PAKISTAN; A SECURITY STATE OR WELFARE STATE?

As a Security State;

Over the years, many readers have asked me why Pakistan should fear an attack from India. They suggest that as we are under no threat from our eastern neighbour, our army could move more of its troops to the Afghan border where heavy fighting is going on, and where our embattled units could do with reinforcements.

Every state has security concerns, and needs resources to address them. The task of the leadership is to decide how total available funds will be divided between the imperative of guarding national frontiers, and the needs of the population. In a democracy, these competing demands on the exchequer are mediated through parliament. But when the military seizes control of the state, it can dictate the size of the cake it wants for itself.

In Pakistan, where we currently have all the outer trappings of democracy, the army has made sure that elected governments are too weak to challenge it either on the question of resource allocation, or over core security-related policies. The recent army-inspired furore over the Kerry-Lugar Act is an indication of the grip the generals have on real power.

Over the years, the army came to perceive that apart from external threats, it also had to guard against internal weakness. In the eyes of the military establishment, the political class and the democratic system were both sources of instability, and thus had to be kept under strict check. What it failed to see (and still does not) is that its own repeated interventions have done more to weaken the fabric of the state than any other factor.

By becoming the self-appointed guardian of 'Pakistan's ideological frontiers,' the army took on a third role, and one for which it needed the cooperation of the Islamic parties.

This suited the mullahs perfectly, as it permitted them to advance their reactionary agenda in a Muslim country where they were regularly thumped at the polls. This marriage of convenience was sanctified during the Afghan war when jihadis from around the world flocked to fight the godless Soviet Union.

Generations of young officers at the military academy at Kakul have been taught that India is the eternal enemy; and that civilians are a necessary evil who have to be endured, but never trusted. A part of this indoctrination is the notion that one Muslim soldier is equal to 10 Hindus.

These are the officers now manning the highest positions of the defence forces. They are also the ones who shape Pakistan's foreign relations, especially with nations affecting our security. In the 1990s, when India made rapid economic strides, it became clear to even our military establishment that Pakistan could no longer compete in terms of conventional military power. While we matched India's nuclear programme at crippling expense, we could not keep up with our traditional foe in terms of planes, tanks and men.

Above all, we had lost the technological edge that American weaponry had given us. Years of sanctions triggered by our nuclear programme lie behind the anti-Americanism that infects our officer corps, and through them, much of our media.

In order to restore the military balance, our establishment turned to the army of jihadis raised to fight the Soviets in Afghanistan. When the Kashmiri uprising began spontaneously following rigged elections in the late 1980s, Pakistan reacted by first training Kashmiri freedom fighters, and then infiltrating Pakistani terrorists belonging to various jihadi outfits. India responded by sending in several army divisions. This suited our generals fine, as they had tied down close to half a million Indian soldiers by sending in just a few thousand jihadis.

In Afghanistan, Pakistan's support of the Taliban in this period held out the promise of a compliant government in Kabul. These policies were turned on their head by 9/11, when all forms of terrorism began to be viewed as anathema by the international community. The Americans, in particular, put huge pressure on Musharraf to halt his use of Islamic holy warriors as proxies.

But old habits die hard. India is still seen as the real foe. Above all, Pakistan's generals are convinced that sooner rather than later, the Americans will be forced to pull out because of flagging public support, much as they did from Vietnam. In this scenario, they are sure India would be asked to step in to ensure that the Taliban do not return to Kabul.

Should this happen, Pakistan would be encircled by Indian forces, and this is the security state's worst nightmare.

For further detailed analysis,

http://www.ipcs.org/comm_select.php?articleNo=4510

As a Welfare State ;

A welfare state is an idea of government in which the state plays a major role in the promotion and protection of the economic and social well-being of its people. Such a government is a part of the lives of its people as it caters to the material, physical and social demands of its people. The main aim of a welfare state is to primarily generate economic and social equality and to ensure fair access to justice, well standards of living, freedom of faith and speech and complete transparency in decision making of executives and officials. The services that the welfare state should offers include sustenance, insurance, health services, unemployment, housing, education, days off for injuries and sickness, extra income in special condition and equivalent wages by wage controls. Other services that a welfare state offers include child care, public transportation, social public goods such as libraries and public parks, swimming pools etc.

Some of the services offered could be financed through the government insurance schemes or taxes gathered by the government. And above all state should be accountable to the citizens. In Pakistan, many leaders of the state have promised to make the country into a welfare state but still we hope for the best and when that time will come?

Pakistan lacks an overarching social strategy embodied within a social justice structure. The Government of Pakistan's aspirations to become a welfare state are far from attainable in the predictable future. The government needs to analyze its social welfare strategies in terms of pragmatic and attainable long term targets.

No doubt, the idea of a welfare state was introduced by the Muslims but has been adopted by everyone except for Pakistan, proving that the attempts our forefathers made in achieving a separate Islamic state has brought no relief to the common man but has opened doors for dishonest and corrupt citizens who have robbed the state and the common man. BISP which is supposed to aid Pakistan in becoming a welfare state remains far from the truth. Despite of these, it is still said Pakistan an Islamic welfare state where equal social and economic rights would be ensured for all.

<http://blog.pakistaneconomist.com/2018/03/12/pakistan-welfare-state-reality/>

Some of the services provided could be funded by government insurance programmes or taxes collected by the government. A good example of a true welfare state is the Netherlands, as it is doing really well on all its economic indicators. Their health benefits provided to their citizens and social security system is exemplary. To support people on a low income, the Dutch government offers a healthcare allowance, a regular contribution to help cover the monthly premiums for Dutch health insurance and this is compulsory for everyone. The Netherlands' social security system covers four areas: the pension system, child benefits, survivor benefits and long-term care. Then there is the employment social security, where social security payments for employee insurance — required for all employed persons are automatically deducted from their income by their employer. This includes unemployment benefits, sick leave and disability benefits. Another help to its citizens is their family benefits and child allowance. In this each family with at least one child under the age of 18, including adopted and step-children, can receive child allowance. If we compare this to our country, our federal government, as well as provincial governments, allot a meagre amount of their budgets for health, education and other basic necessities. Our national debt has increased manifold, causing a high rate of inflation. It becomes more and more difficult for people to arrange for their basic necessities due to high inflation. Building motorways and expressways is good but not at the cost of basic necessities.

To realise the vision of a 'welfare state' for Pakistan's poor, the government needs to go further. At present, only 30 per cent of children in the poorest families go to school. The government needs to roll out its plan to provide each family with an additional Rs200 a child every month if their children have an 80 per cent attendance record at school. Nearly half of all under the age of five in Pakistan are chronically undernourished. This stunts mental and physical development, lowers IQ and achievement at school, and reduces earnings in adulthood. These children are half the future workforce of Pakistan.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/1683245/6-ready-become-welfare-state/>

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/274551/pakistan-the-welfare-state/>

Do open these links for detailed and better research. Thanks!