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India-Pakistan bilateral agreements: some potential benefit

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Abstract

The paper serves as a precursor to the extensive examination of economic potentials inherent in the intricate relationship between India and Pakistan. It places particular emphasis on conducting a thorough and meticulous analysis of India's economic landscape, spanning across its primary, secondary, and service sectors, with a specific focus on nurturing trade linkages with Pakistan. Through this analysis, the paper aims to shed light on the multifaceted dimensions of economic collaboration between the two neighbouring nations. One of the central themes underscored in this is the historical ties that bind India and Pakistan. These ties, rooted in shared heritage and intertwined destinies, serve as a cornerstone for understanding the nuances of their economic interactions. Additionally, the abstract highlights the significance of cultural commonalities between the two nations. This shared cultural tapestry, characterized by traditions, values, and customs, forms the backdrop against which economic cooperation can flourish. Moreover, the paper delves into the role of entertainment as a catalyst for economic collaboration. The vibrant entertainment industries of both India and Pakistan, enriched by their cultural heritage, present avenues for creative partnerships and commercial ventures. By recognizing the intrinsic link between entertainment and economic growth, the abstract underscores the potential for synergy in this domain. Religious influences are also acknowledged as integral factors shaping the economic landscape of India and Pakistan. The diverse religious beliefs and practices prevalent in both countries exert a profound impact on consumer behavior, market dynamics, and business practices. Understanding and navigating these religious influences are essential for fostering meaningful economic cooperation between India and Pakistan.

Keywords: primary sector, secondary sector, service sector, historical relation, common culture and tradition, entertainment aspect, religious inclination

Introduction

The whole world is projecting India as the next super economic power in the coming decades. India is to become top third economy after U.S. and China. To realise such a dream, India's growth rate must be at least 8.1. Consistently for many coming years. India's policy makers have to search every inch of its economic structure to realise its dream.

Every country makes many types of bilateral agreements. With many countries to tap the economic benefits. India is no exception and we have signed many agreements with many countries, e.g. in defence products we have agreements with Israel, for petrochemicals with gulf countries, for software with U.S.

In this paper I have highlighted some potential benefits, if we could have bilateral agreements with Pakistan. The economic agreements with Pakistan will be more beneficial than similar agreements with other countries due to the following major reasons-

1. There will be very minimum cost of transport because

there is no long distance.

2. Due to common culture, it will be much easier to expand the market of various goods. There will be no need for developing new products or modifying the existing products.
3. Many sectors and industries are complimentary to each other in both the countries. This will further reduce the cost.

Analysis of potential benefits

Now we can take the various sectors which can be harnessed for economic benefits of both the countries by having bilateral agreements.

1. Primary sector

In Agriculture complimentary relation exist between two countries in many crops. E.g. Pakistan is having Rice production, vegetables, Tobacco but India having excess capacity in the form of Rice plants, cold storage and

tobacco processing industries.

- In animal husbandry, dairy sector fishing India having excess infrastructure which can be given to Pakistani products processing.
- In petrochemical sector, India having the second largest capacity of refining after China. This capacity can be used for Pakistan's energy needs.

2. Secondary sector

Many industries are having complimentary links with respect to India and Pakistan e.g. sugar, cotton, petrochemical, pesticides, fertilizers, automobiles.

- Infrastructure projects can be executed very easily by combined efforts of the two countries such as power projects, River Navigation, water transport, roads and railways. All rivers of Punjab and Sindhu valley have tremendous scope of economic prosperity for both the countries.

3. Service sector

Service sector is also having huge potential since we have common- history, language, traditions, culture and religion.

- In service sector we can tap the potential of tourism industry especially the religious tourism. All the important places of pilgrimages of Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism are found in both the countries.
- so many historical sites from Indus valley to the tomb of Jahangir are located in Pakistan to be visited by so many Indians.
- New emerging services like software, entertainment, education, medical services have complimentary links.
- Indian huge saving potential can be used by investing in Pakistan and having higher returns. Similarly Indian stock market can provide platform to Pakistan companies.

Advantages

If India make bilateral agreements with Pakistan, it will be providing following advantages-

- Readily available market for both the countries for various products ranging from bread to satellite launch.
- India Pakistan will become the joint block to face the other global issues.
- India Pakistan bilateral agreements will lessen the political conflicts between the two countries as the economic pressure groups in both the countries will influence their leadership in this direction.

Conclusion

India and Pakistan having history of bitter relationship since 1947. We have gone through three wars and still there is security threat. But since we are projecting our country to be the global leader of the future, we have to resolve our issues with our immediate neighbour. Since India Pakistan relationships are very complex but we can initiate to resolve these complexities step by step. It has been the crude reality that all politics is based on economic factors. So, by exploring the economic benefits with Pakistan, we can finally have

political solutions.

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