

Q.7. What is CPEC? What will be the impact of CPEC in the region? What is the stand of India on CPEC? (200 words)

Ans. CPEC stands for 'China Pakistan Economic Corridor' under which China will provide financial assistance & help in building the corridor so as to open a no. of options for trade in Pakistan. Generally, this corridor is being built from Kashgar in China to Gwadar port in Pakistan.

As the corridor is being built in Pakistan, it will open new opportunities of trade for China with West Asia & Europe. Politically, it is also a part of China's most ambitious 'Pearl of Strings' which is strategically important. Also, the regions through which the proposed passage will help in flourishing development in the cities of Pakistan.

As far as India is concerned, so India doesn't support the idea of CPEC. There are numerous reasons like it will help in growing the presence of China in Pakistan which can be source

of immense tensions in India. Also, China sees CPEC as a loan given to Pakistan which it has to pay after a certain duration of time. If Pakistan fails to repay the loan, then China can claim its territory in Pakistan & can grow its military & political powers.

But to tackle this problem, India is developing Chabahar port in Iran which is geographically close to Gwadar port. It will help India to keep a check on their activities which is strategically important.