

STUDY ON FRONTIER FUNCTION IN ECONOMY OF FRONTIER CITIES OF SISTAN AND BALOUCHESTAN PROVINCE (CASE OF STUDY: ZAHEDAN AND MIRJAVEH CITIES)

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ABSTRACT: Backwardness in the east of country especially borderlands of Sistan and Balouchestan Province (Zahedan and Mirjaveh Cities), in more than 300km land frontiers with Afghanistan and Pakistan, results from historical management problems than climatic and natural conditions, inadequacy of water and tribes. Closing frontiers, limiting communications and ignoring these lands have caused to backwardness during 2 centuries ago. Unfortunately, there wasn't any developmental promotion to solve frontiersmen's economical problems after Islamic Revolution Victory. Then, this paper has studied on borders of Zahedan and Mirjaveh Cities to consider problems from incoordination and nonmanagement in the frame of an analytical and descriptive method. It is found that there is a significant relation between nonmanagement and economical function of frontier and common frontier markets are effective to entrepreneurship.

KEYWORDS: Economical Function, Frontier Market, Urban Economy, Zahedan and Mirjaveh Cities.

INTRODUCTION

Difference and Separation is a neural need to live and to get independence and security. Therefore, people have defined their environment to not interfere neighbors' actions, and then they should define contractual lines at the end of their territories. A developed example is a border line where define nation's extreme actions and it is a political concept called frontier ([Mojtahed Zadeh, 1996](#)). Forming frontier is originated from time of creating mankind on the earth because each person has defined a separate border and separated itself from others. The ancient people thought that extremities of their victories are the "borderline". Frontiers and borderlines define limit of ownership and authority of governments and they have considered by the governments as guarding and preservation of borderlands is a disturbance for all governments. Today, frontiers play security, social, economical, political and cultural roles and they are useful for governments to control, manage communication and relate to adjacent governments and others ([Hafeznia, 2002](#)). Practically, it is found that coincident with developing communications, globalizing economy of free market, economizing global system and increasing regional and universal groupings, aims of autonomy and patriotism based on independent national identity have been also developed. According to these changes, political world moves in direction of

integrating information but all nations couldn't integrate in one political system and role and function of frontiers will change alone. Therefore, the frontiers have not only omitted but they have played important role. Generally, frontier is a base for a governmental territory because of any governments can't act in the fields of politics, economy, society and justice without defining limited frontiers. Then it is necessary for authority and relations with other countries to consider the concept of frontier and its inter-relations including entrepreneurship, economy and revenue. The frontiers of a country determine limits of its government and they are the most important factor to separate it from adjacent countries and natural and human extremes. The reason of considering some probes such as geographic isolation, high unemployment rate, low income, high population development, poverty, tribes in Zahedan, frontier between Afghanistan and Pakistan can be defined as strength point and an index for dynamism of urban economy and its new and numerous functions and roles can be considered. Then, it seems that in-coordination to control the frontiers, making security and not interfering frontiersmen in the frontier affaires are considered as a fundamental problems and challenges in this paper. Here, there is a question as follow:

Can unity of management policy and existing frontier potentials affect on decreasing unemployment rate, poverty, immorality and

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other social crimes? Additionally, the successive droughts that happened during two recent decades have weakened agriculture and husbandry in this area. Then, can urban economy geography help us to use optimally many capacities of frontiers? Generally, we can note ask that can coordinate management policies in economical, political and security dimensions affect on decreasing unemployment rate by using some capacities including activating frontiersmen' cooperatives and stabilizing the function in temporary and permanent frontier markets.

THEORETICAL DISCUSSIONS

Natural needs to the surrounding sources have been caused to define definite limits for people from time of creation and group life as they can

defend against other interference and exploitation. In America Continent, when Europeans advanced to occupy from east to west, there was an area where were barrier on enemy's advance called borderlands. In Iran, rule of guarding of the border has been transformed to rule of guarding of the frontier that caused to establish government of guarding of the frontier but this ancient rule couldn't meet all needs in the field of guarding of the frontier ([Mojtahed Zadeh, 2008](#)). Then, geography-politics and geopolitics have considered all problems of frontier since many years ago and there have been various definitions for frontier. (See Table 1)

Table 1: Geographers' view about frontier

Glassner	In fact, frontier isn't a line but it is a surface, it is a vertical surface that cut adjacent governments by space, soil and underground (Glassner, 1992)
Richard Moyer	The frontiers have been described as a liner thing. In fact, frontier is a public common between countries (Moyer, 2000)
Taylor	Frontier means from outside to inside and it is a definite separated line (Taylor, 1989)
Remly and Minghi	In 1991, they believed that the frontier may be a linking line but it is found that it plays both political and economic roles (Remly and Minghi, 1991)
Prescott J.R.V	He emphasized (New Branches in Political Geography, Translated by Hedari, 2009) that the frontiers have played various roles and changed during passing time. When a frontier line creates, it can affect on the nature, development and policies of adjacent countries (Prescott, 1987)
John Guehenno	Father of Political Geography believes that "some nations think that the frontier is a line in the space that should be preserved. May be, The French meaning of "Natural Frontier" is better for this description. Other nations believe that the frontier is a peripheral area that causes to social and economical transforms creating a nation and help to live them (Guehenno, 1995).

2.1. Core-Periphery Theory

John Freidman provides a harmonious framework for regional structure. Centralized population, possibilities, services and many various functions in the capitals, metropolises and big cities have stimulated people to immigrate to the peripheral areas to meet their needs. It increases central advantages and authority. Then, it is necessary for planners to consider all kinds of functions and roles (especially economy) of city and peripheral areas. In this paper, it has studied effect of mutual relations as a "frontier role" in Zahedan. (See Fig. 1)

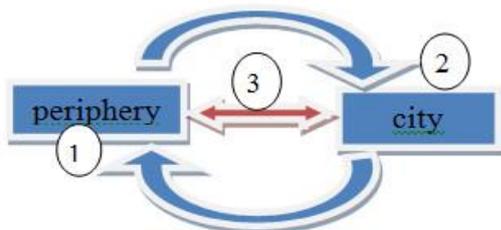


Figure 1: All kinds of relation between periphery and city in view of origin and target

2.2. Globalization and Frontiers

According to Robertson's Theory, Globalization means that pressing the world and transforming it to a one area. He believes that Globalization is an independent process, the world is a socio-cultural system and the world advances from "internal position" to a position "for itself" ([Robertson, 1994](#)). Some of geographers found that formation of global system is originated from Vestafilia Contract in 1648. There are some international institutes where established in these fields including International Money Fund, World Trade Organization, A.S.A.N., Shanghais Organization, Golf Cooperation Council and World Insurance Organizations. In Globalization Century, the position of land and frontiers in different areas especially some localities named advanced world suggests the retrogression. For example, Canada and USD Frontiers are a proper evidence for potential of territory functions such as government to control space management in globalization age. Intelligent frontiers, Security Technologies, making multi- layers walls and strong army in the northern frontiers on USA suggest that it is not according to globalist's claims.

2.3. United States-Mexico Border

United States- Mexico Border is one of the most dangerous places all over the world and it had been one of the most important places till 1990. United States- Mexico Border, 3141km, (equal to double land and marine borders of Sistan and Balouchestan Province) has separated four states of US from 6 states of Mexico. Borderlands of two sides aren't safe and developed places (Andlib and Maroof, 2009). Some specifications of these border localities are as follow as:

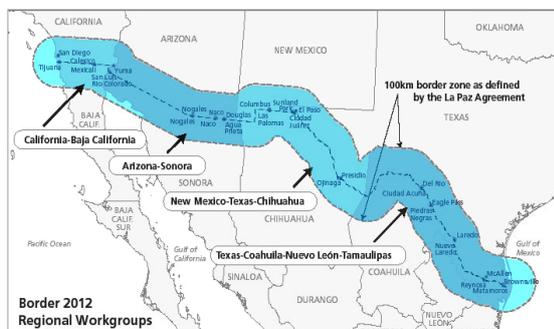
Illegal passage and unsafe atmosphere with backwardness: these specifications have transformed these places to the most critical places in the world. NAFTA Contract was made between United States, Mexico and Canada in 1990. Object of this contract was to plan development and security in border localities of three countries. Some articles of this contract are as follow:

- Americans have invested their capital in Mexico to develop economically in southern areas of United States and northern areas of Mexico and to be safety these places.



Map 1: The boundary between the United States (north) and Mexico (south). Source: www.usembassy-mexico.gov

- United States- Mexico Border, 3141km in length and 100km in width (50km in America and 50km in Mexico) is a special area to invest to develop and immigrate to Mexico to work (Map 2).



Map 2: of the U.S. border with Mexico in four states and six provinces. Source: www.EPA.GOV

- In borderlines inside of United States (50km in width), cities of United States and Mexico located on this area are called adopted sister. According to NAFTA Contract, cities of United States help their Mexican adopter sisters to develop. After passing three decades from Islamic Revolution and spending much money in the border localities, firstly, we couldn't use capacity and potential of borders successfully and optimally, secondly, we doubt whether these borders are effective then we couldn't relied on frontiers and frontiersmen and we show them dreadful. Thirdly, we haven't defined economical and developmental role for the frontiers and we have ignored them. Finally, we could never manage the frontiers and we have locked them to prevent any abuses and negative results and considered them one-dimensionally.

STUDIED AREA

On the basis of the recent information and Iranian Geographic Studies, it has been estimated 1,623,779km² and according to common word, it has been estimated 1,648,000km². Islamic Republic of Iran has the land and marine frontiers with 15 countries and it is holder of third rank after Russia and China. Currently, length of Iran frontiers is 8574km that 3965 km of it is land frontier and 2045 km of it is river and swampy frontiers and 2564km of is marine frontier (Persian Gulf, Oman and Khazar Seas). The longest land frontier is located between Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq in 1181.5km and the longest watery frontier is located between Iran and Azerbaijan in 578.1km (Khazar Sea) and the longest marine frontier is located between Iran and Oman in 683km (See Map 3) (Akhbari and Nami, 2010).

Sistan and Balouchestan has been located on an area of 181,758,28km² and its population is about 2,534,327 and has 1220km common frontier with Afghanistan (300km) and Pakistan (920km). Zahedan where is capital of this province has had more than 300km common frontier with Afghanistan and Pakistan before separating Mirjaveh till 2002 but it has 110km common frontier with them now. There are many differences in the fields of Geography, Culture, Politic, Economy and Society as there are many strength and week points in the field of security. Additionally, there are other problems such as confusion, bad management, smuggled goods and foreign currency, drug, arms, unauthorized traffics and enemies that lead to difficult management and control on the frontiers and neighbors. In this paper, we focus on other subjects including effect of frontier and

economy on entrepreneurship and less unemployment of active population in these cities and prompting frontiersmen's earnings, direct and indirect effects of economical and commercial actions of frontiers on improving relative welfare.



Map 3: along the borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran and neighboring countries.



Map 4: latest political divisions Sistan and Baluchistan-Iran.

PROBLEMS OF THE FRONTIERS

4.1. Human Security in the borderlands between Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan

Frontier Security means that prevention from committing illegal actions along the frontiers and performing authorized traffics and transportations according to legal standards. It is clear that security, management and control of frontiers will support human security seriously in the country. If there are unsafe problems in the frontiers, economical, cultural, political, social and military system will be disordered in the country. On the contrary, desired security plays important roles in frontiers and country security (Etemad, 1996). Therefore, countries where have many problems in the field of security of their frontiers found that backwardness and its results are the most important factors to be unsafe. In other words, poverty and religious differences can be caused to create unsafe area and to provoke enemies to exploit. In fact, there is a direct relation between backwardness and unbalance in borderlands and central areas of a country and its results will affect on all country indirectly (Andlib, 2001).

Iran is a country where there are much local potential and differences in the field of environment efficiency, then it causes to a deep gap to distribute population and it creates empty and high density places. Importantly, many areas of Iran have been located on the lands with rough nature that can't meet well efficiency and economy (Sarvar, 2003). Additionally, centralism in development policies and economy has led to regional asymmetries in the country. Theoretically, it has caused to use the area improperly, to immigrate and replace human forces and capital and to make many differences between poor and rich areas. Although spatial unbalances depend on physical and natural abilities but economy in the field of investing and exchanging also leads to use the limited abilities faulty (Yasouri, 2005). Sistan and Balouchestan Border located in the south-east of Iran is one of the most obvious spatial unbalances in view of economical development. This area is far from central areas and it locates on the border and it bears a spatial discontinuity, then it is not effective and one of undeveloped areas in the country in spite of natural abilities and governed economical policies. Backwardness in Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan Borders leads to bad economy and unemployment and importing smuggled goods. It and following problems lead to human and economical insecurities and influence on people's life variously.

- 1- Backwardness in Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan Borders as the most important problem
- 2- Smuggling human, goods and drug
- 3- Presenting dominant powers and drug mafia
- 4- Afghan and Pakistani and also natives of Sistan and Balouchestan Province live in the tribal society
- 5- Central government can't control and dominate Afghanistan
- 6- Vahabi's attacks in the recent years
- 7- Illegal traffic and immigration
- 8- Etc...

4.2. Development View in East of Iran

Development is a social and economic fact (Azkia and Ghafari, 2004) that accepted globally and it results from people's logical and rational actions in proportion with their structure, possibilities and special location (Ebrahimbay Salami, 1994). It is clear if there are more opportunities to earn and invest, human forces will be changed. Similarly, if people learn different sciences and raise literacy level, it will be affected on increasing their earnings and capitals. All people agree to focus on economical development in all societies even despotic rules.

Burton found that in process of economical development, the development of country is a definite process that should be followed in the definite opportunities and limits by each economy (Hunt, 1995). On the basis of above-mentioned theory in Iran political and economic system, if it is planned to improve backwardness of east (Sistan and Baluchestan Province) to develop, the first stage will be making possible substructures to motivate natives to connect with Iranian and Foreigners in the field of cultural and social subjects. Then people and governments should use these opportunities to develop (Mojtahed Zadeh, 2000). There are various limitations in the capital of this province (Zahedan) in the field of agriculture and business and lack of commercial relations between different industries, and then it is better to focus on the plans of common investments and utilize valuable potentials of border to change economical conditions. It should be implemented by the government and followed to access "Stable Development" according to compiled plans. Therefore, the theoreticians have focused to observe some priorities to prepare developmental substructures and foundations such as roads, water, energy and communications (Lewis, 1991). Production and business have been two main and dynamic elements since last times that can prepare the fields of developing economical dimensions. Currently, there are various operational projects such as rail roads, border transportations, frontiersmen' economy, security and managing border exchanges, renovating Silk Road, communications and technology that have a promising future to develop this area and beyond frontiers.

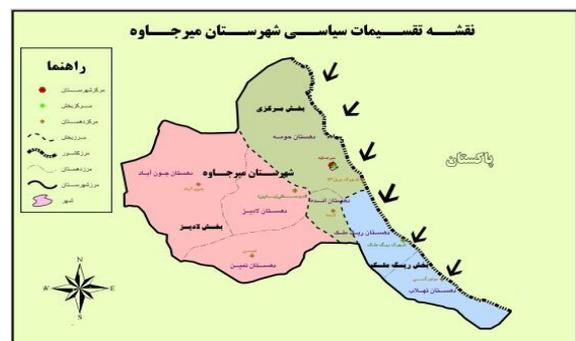
4.3. Border Markets

Based upon national development and renovating the area, Sistan and Baluchestan's duties will be based on developing commercial activities, industry and mine, utilizing agriculture and fishing abilities. In foreign trades, this area contains 7 formal and authorized customhouses, more than 80 frontiersmen's cooperatives and 13 approved border markets (seven markets is acting now) that considered as the strength points in the field of economy. There are many border markets that five of them (Mirjaveh in Zahedan, Pishin in Sarbaz, Koohak and Jalogh in Saravan, Rimdan in Chabahar) where have common border with Pakistan and also two of them (Milk and Gomshad in Hirman) where have common border with Afghanistan have played important role in the field of commercial exchanges with neighbor countries. Also, four border markets (including Choto in

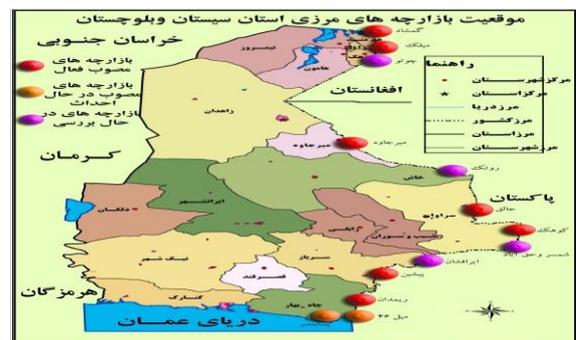
Zahk, Rootak in Khash, Shamsar and Haghbad in Saravan and Irafshan in Mehrestan have been approved after traveling government board to this province in March 2011. Two border markets named Mil and Pasabandar that were approved market but omitted in the past have been approved again on the basis of council of ministers. All border markets have acted since 2012 but Jalogh Market in Saravan hasn't acted in the field of imports (Governor, 2013) (See Map 7).



Map 5: of political divisions city of Zahedan-Iran.



Map 6: new city Mirjaveh political divisions-Iran.



Map 7: position of the border marketplaces Sistan and Baluchestan-Iran.

METHODOLOGY

In this paper, some common methods such as observation, interview, questionnaire, Test and discussion have been used. A questionnaire has been prepared with a method of simple random sampling (it has selected some people from

different business domains such as managers, bosses, governors, military, political, security and informational responsible, businessmen, etc) to gather data and information. Regarding aim, kind of assumptions and questionnaire to conclude and interpret results, Likert (in five options) has been used. Also, Pearson Correlation Coefficient, Friedman Variance Analysis and T-Test have been used to evaluate descriptive data. Also, data has been analyzed on the basis of processing by SPSS. Geographic places have been displayed by using GIS.

RESULTS

A questionnaire that contains 49 questions has been prepared by the researcher and distributed among reference society. After completing and gathering, they are coded. The α -Cronbach Test has been used to rely on research tools. After that, all questions and information results from each question, hypothesis, findings with tables and graphs have been analyzed as follow.

Table 2: Frequency Distribution of responders' demographical specifications

Gender	Masculine	83.4
	Female	16.6
	Total	100
Age	15-30	22.3
	31-45	55.1
	46-59	20.1
	More than 60 years old	2.5
	Total	100
Education	elementary	15.7
	High school Diploma	17.2
	Associated degree program	15.7
	Bachelor's degree program	34.9
	Master's degree program	16.4
	Total	100

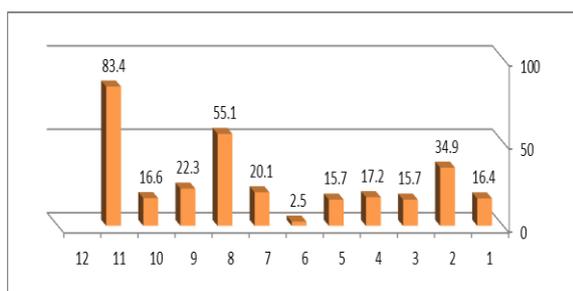


Diagram 1: Distribution of responders' demographical specifications

As it is illustrated in Table and Graph 1, most of responders are men (83.4%). More than half of them (55.1%) are 31-45 years old and 34.9% has graduated from Bachelor's degree program.

Table 3: Responders' Residence and Occupational Specifications

Occupation	Business	14.8
	Public	42.9
	Cultural	4.5
	Military	6.4
	Business	7.8
	Farmer	5.9
	unemployment	6.7
	others	10.9
Total	100	
Time of Residence	Less than 1 year old	1.4
	2-5	7.0
	6-10	11.3
	11-20	24.2
	21 and more	56.1
	Total	100

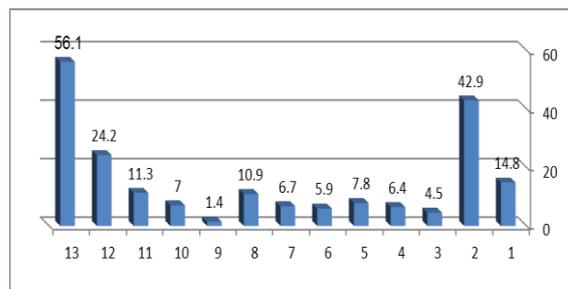


Diagram 2: Responders' Residence and Occupational Specifications

Table and Graph 2 illustrates that most of responders (42.9) are employed in public departments and more than half of them (56.1%) have resided in this area since more than 21 years ago.

EVALUATING AND ANALYZING RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

One of the important and effective indices in economy role of frontiers that can be led to entrepreneurship and positive performances is to establish common markets in border localities. Therefore, the author has considered role of Mirjaveh effective border market on entrepreneurship in the first hypothesis.

- Effect of border market on entrepreneurship

Statistics	Values
Pierson's correlation coefficient	-0.402
Significant level	0.000

The first hypothesis is accepted. According to Pierson's correlation coefficient that is equal to -0.402, it is concluded that this relation is reverse. It means that multi-authorities, multi-rules and multi-supervisors are detrimental to frontiers. Fewer authorities, more uniformity. If every department or organization interferes in frontier affairs improperly and willfully and obstacles to transit the goods easily, frontier economy will be faced to many problems and it will affect on adjacent cities. *Vise versa*, if the authorities enact the regulations and rules

uniformly, all economy problems will be solved in these areas.

Administrating authorities' unstable policies and individual ideas are the main and important problems of frontiers. It has affected on economy role and frontier functions in local and regional levels. Then, Hypothesis 2 has been considered.

- It seems that there is a significant relation between lack of integrated and uniform management and frontier economy role.

Average	3.8280
Standard Deviance	1.23372
Average Standard Error	0.6364
Value of t	13.049
Significant level	0.000

The T-Test has been used to study on this hypothesis. It is founded that average effect of border common market is 3.83 for entrepreneurship that is more than theoretical average (i.e. 3). Regarding test significant level is less than 0.05(sig= 0.000). It is concluded that this result can be generalized to statistical society and this hypothesis will be confirmed, i.e. border common market is effective for entrepreneurship. Then Hypothesis 2 will also be accepted. If frontiersmen take actions to import the goods legally via frontiers and government support them to supply and demand in border common market, it will be played important role to decrease unemployment and increase entrepreneurship, production and service affairs in this area.

There aren't any similar climates in the east and east southern of Iran and it is clear that continuous drought has influenced on human life conditions and it is more difficult and complex. If it has been taken necessary actions to utilize many potentials of Border localities of Sistan and Balouchestan, frontiersmen's relative welfare and wealth would be provided. Unfortunately, it hasn't been happened until now, and then entrepreneurship can't be solved because of natural problems and far from the capital. Therefore, the third hypothesis will be formed.

- Frontier Economical Role couldn't help to increase entrepreneurship and faraway towns (Zahedan and Mirjaveh)

Average	1.9979
Standard Deviance	0.89650
Average Standard Error	0.4611
Value of t	21.744
Significant level	0.000

The results of T-test show that average effect of border economy role than saves faraway towns

from geographical isolation is 1.99 that is less than theoretical average (i.e. 3). In the other words, border economy role couldn't help to increase entrepreneurship and faraway towns. Regarding test significant level is less than 0.05(sig= 0.000). It is concluded that this result can be generalized to statistical society and this hypothesis will be confirmed. Then Hypothesis 3 will also be accepted because safe economy is one of the dynamic and active factors in an area. Generally, if there are many possibilities and facilities in the field economy and well fare in an area, then it can help to increase entrepreneurship and save faraway towns from geographical isolation. Also, it seems that preserving effective human forces, economical development and entrepreneurship can be obtained in a safe area.

CONCLUSION

There are one border market in Zahedan where is at a distance of 15km from Mirjaveh. Although it has played important role in the fields of fun, entrepreneurship for frontiersmen but there are some economical problems because Pakistan isn't bound to perform standards and duties in the field of transactions. It is founded that there is significant and positive relation between uniform management of border economy role and its effect on urban economy, on the one hand, and decreasing unemployment rate and activating frontiersmen's cooperatives and markets as the related variables to the frontiers on the other hand. Also, there isn't any relation between education variables and time of residence in the border localities. Then, they don't introduce on border efficiency and urban economy but occupation variable related to frontier economy role is different. As the militaries and businessmen are 30.4% and 3.68% in the field of economy, respectively. The threefold hypothesis in coefficient of 95% is confirmed. It seems that many authorities have affected on economical stagnation and missing the chances to make important decisions about frontier role. Finally, there are some suggestions about geopolitical importance of Sistan and Balouchestan frontiers:

1. Islamic Revolution Guards Corps put the frontiers under care of the natives culturally, economically, developmentally and security and it leads to high efficiency.
2. Considering and providing correlation and relation fields in the frontiers and reconciling frontiersmen and government in the field of economy by public and private departments such as: border markets, customhouse and the frontiersmen's cooperatives. It will lead to decrease the smuggled goods and crimes.

3. Regarding none of supervision, self-control in the frontiers, it is necessary to provide well approaches in this field. Office of a governor general can play important role in coordination.
4. Concentrating and participating people to manage cities especially in the field of investment and production in adjacent localities that it affects on overlap people and government benefits.
5. Establishing Non Governmental Organizations to participate frontiersmen in the field of Frontier Management Affairs.
6. Regarding isolation of Mirjaejh from Zahdan, it is necessary to establish frontier markets or economical area in frontier localities of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan to develop economy in this province.
7. Planning and using optimally Transit abilities in this province and raising investment in rail, land and air transportations with Pakistan and India. They are considered as extra capabilities (regarding there are a customhouse and 7 active markets)

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