

Q.1

Pakistan is water scarce country and is severely hit by climate change. What are main reasons that Pakistan needs to build dams?

Ans

1-

Introduction

"Pakistan is the fifth worst climate affected country and the tenth global warming."

(~IPPC Sixth Assessment)

Pakistan is a water scarce country in South Asia. It needs to construct dams to save its future.

Pakistan has problems of water life, agriculture, hydal generating, floods, wastage of water etc.

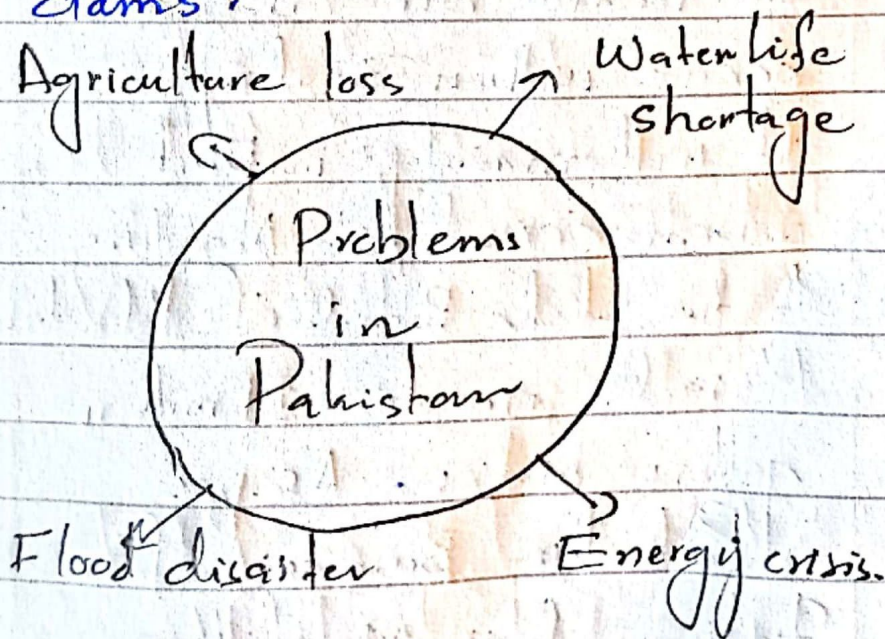
Thus, Pakistan needs to frame a policy to construct more and more dams.

2-

Why Pakistan needs to construct dams?

"Pakistan is a 'critical water insecure' country."
(United Nations Report, 2023)

Pakistan needs to save its water life. With water life, Pakistan also needs to save its agriculture. Due to floods, Pakistan's agriculture is the worst hit by climate change. Moreover, water is wasted in sea because no more dams. Thus, Pakistan needs dams.



• Pakistan needs dams

3-

Main issues that bring attention of Pakistan to construct dams

Following are main issues due to water shortage:

a) Short water life of Pakistan

"Source of water life in Pakistan is mainly rivers, which gets 67pc water from melting of glaciers."

(~ World Bank Report)

Water life of rivers in Pakistan is 33 days.

If rainfall does not occur within 33 days.

It will mainly impact urban countries. According to the State Bank of Pakistan,

Korachi needs 11 million gallon water.

As per Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, from 11 million gallon, 9 million gallon

Water received Karachi and 2 million gallon is stolen by 'Mafis'. Hence, water shortage in Pakistan is a critical problem.

b) Agriculture decline in Pakistan

Pakistan is an agriculture country. 19pc of GDP comes from agriculture (Economic Survey). Due to decline in agriculture, Pakistan imports 35pc in which chief is wheat, 30pc import. FY 2022, Pakistan imported wheat of \$ 1bn. Hence, Pakistan has a severe loss in agriculture.

c) Expensive electricity generation

Pakistan has been facing energy crisis since 2007. Its source of energy is imported.

60pc energy is produced from Hydro power. In 2022, Pakistan imported HC of \$12bn. HC contributes 25pc deficit in economy. Moreover it results climate problem. Hence, Pakistan needs to shift to renewable source.

d)

Flood disaster: a threat to Pakistan

Pakistan has suffered a lot from flood disaster. After 2010, recent floods in Sindh and Balochistan 2022, has brought destruction across Pakistan. Pakistan lacks dams to store flood water. Hence, Pakistan needs to make an effective strategy.

4-

To save future, Pakistan needs to build dams

Pakistan needs to build dams to save following terms:

a) To improve water life

"A country with water life 100 years is safe."

(~ World Bank Report)

Water life of dams in Pakistan is as below:

Dams	Water life
Diamen	22 days
Dasu	18 days
Mohmand	5 days

While, India has water life 120 days and China, 350.
Thus, Pakistan needs to save its water life.

b) To protect agriculture

Pakistan needs to save its agriculture to improve its GDP. Following is given data which

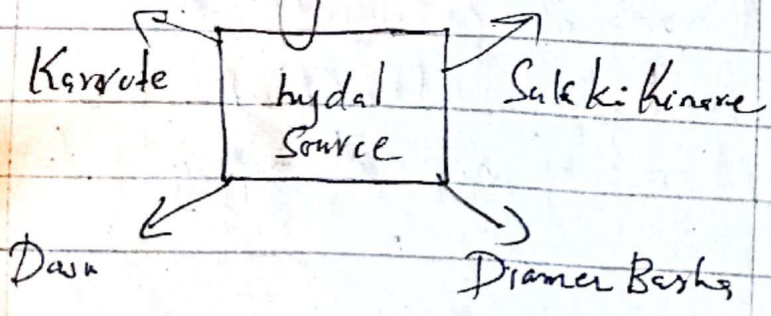
shows acres of cultivate lands :

Dams	lands per acre
Diamer	1.3 million
Dasu	more than 300ths
Mohmand	300 thousands

According to Irrigation Department, this will contribute 24pc in agriculture. Hence, Pakistan needs to construct dams.

c) To generate Hydal energy

Pakistan needs to cope climate change as well as expensive source of electricity. HC. By 2030, Pakistan will generate 60pc of energy from its hydal source in following manner.



Headst energy generation	
Kerrate	780 megawatt
Sukela Kinsre	88 MW
Dasu	4300 MW
Diamer Basha	4500 MW

5 Conclusion

"To save water before it gets too late."

Pakistan is water deficit country. Due to this problem, Pakistan has been facing many problems, such as floods, agriculture loss, and water wastage. However, by constructing dams, Pakistan has enough capacity to address these issues.