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Current Affairs.

Floods of 2022 in Pakistan :

Introduction :

Flood is the global problem. The developed and developing states all face this threat. Pakistan is one of the worst countries to be hit by the floods, whether of 2010 or of 2022. The floods of 2020 are the worst ever floods faced by the country because of excessive rainfall.

Intensity :

2022 floods of Pakistan are the worst ever floods in the history of Pakistan.

a. Balochistan :

Balochistan was the first province

which was hit by floods. The province received about 1500 mm of rainfall in the month of July.

The same was the ratio in

August. The province received

biggest ever rainfall in its history,

mostly in the Sulaman ranges

and beneath. Furthermore, seven

plus small dams were broken

down in the province which

increased the intensity of floods

b. Northern Pakistan:

Northern Pakistan was the

second most worst-hit of floods

area after Balochistan. Gilgit

Balistan received more than

1500 mm of rainfall in the

month of July, almost same was

in Hazara division of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Malakand division including Swat-Chitral etc received more than 1400 mm of rainfall, the second highest shower after 2010, which caused floods in rivers Swat and later on in Kabul river.

C. Sindh :

Sindh received the highest rainfall of its history. The province received about 1500 mm rainfall in the month of July and same in the month of August. All of the influx of the Indus river was because of the floods from Balochistan and Northern Pakistan and all

of the influx of water from Indus river entered Sindh.

Implications:

United Nations Secretary General termed the 2022 floods of Pakistan as the biggest tragedy. It damaged the agricultural, industrial and socio-economic life of the country.

a. Agricultural

More than 80% of the standing crops of Sindh were damaged.

Balochistan which already has a limited agricultural capacity faced damages to the crops.

Around 200000 Cattles, sheeps, donkeys etc were killed in Sindh in the floods of 2022. According to World Bank report Pakistan suffered

The loss of \$16 billion.

b. Domestic life:

About 1 million houses in Pakistan were completely or partially damaged. All the household products required for livelihood were lost in the affected areas.

c. Humanitarian Crisis:

About 36 million people were forced to be displaced from their houses. As a result of floods there were the viral diseases outbreak as well.

People suffered because of shortages of food and drinking water.

d. Infrastructure Damage:

About 1200 km of roads across the country was partially or

completely damaged, more than 800 small or medium sized bridges ~~dams~~ were broken down.

About 3000 km long railway network across the country was damaged.

Solutions

If following measures are to be followed the disastrous floods which frequently hit the country can be managed.

a. Build Dams:

Approximately 26 million cubic feet of water entered in Indus river.

If Kalabagh dam would be built - it would have stored

10.2 mcf of water, if Diamer Basha dam would be built - it -

would have stored 8.1 million cubic feet, if Mohmand dam would be ~~to~~ built, it would have stored 1.3 million cubic feet of water which becomes a total of about 20 million cubic feet - making the remaining 6 million cubic feet negligible.

b. Build Canals;

Bangladesh and India have built canals for multipurposes including flood management.

According to 1999 IRSA

Agreement there were canals

to be built in KPK i.e.

West Bank Canal, II, in

Balochistan Kachi Canal and

Nara Canal in Sindh. If these would have been built Pakistan could have better preventive measures against floods 2022.

c. Management,

Pakistan has not an efficient management system for floods due to which it is worst affected of floods. There should be accountability for illegal constructions on channels etc and those who do not follow law should be penalized for effective policy implementation.

d. Approach to International Community; According to UN Pakistan faced the worst ever floods in its history not because of its own fault but because of global carbon emissions. So the whole international community particularly the big powers should support the flood relief programs and to avoid further global carbon emissions from developed states at the expense of developing states.

Conclusion;

Flood is a global issue.
Pakistan was the worst hit-

by floods of 2022 because
of lack of management, infrastructure
and management system and
above all lack of dams.

It should work on these core
problems if it has to avoid
any future deadly disaster.