

Essay:

Climate Change in Pakistan: Causes and Consequences

Outline

① Introduction:

Thesis Statement: Climate change has adversely impacted Pakistan due to excessive fossil fuel use, deforestation, rapid urbanization and industrialization and inadequate environmental governance. These factors have led to frequent extreme weather events, water and food insecurity, health crisis, economic damages and socio-political instability. A holistic climate resilient approach is necessary for sustainable development.

② Understanding What is Climate Change and Pakistan's Contribution:

(a) Climate change is long-term alterations in temperature, precipitation and weather patterns

(b) Pakistan's vulnerability due to its geographical location

③ Major Causes of Climate Change in Pakistan:

(3.1) Dependence on Fossil Fuel:

- Widespread use of non-renewable energy resources
- Inefficient transportation system and increased vehicular emissions.

(3.2) Deforestation and Desertification:

- Rapid forest cover loss due to land misuse
- Lack of effective land use and forest management policies
- Reduced carbon absorption due to loss of trees.

(3.3) Overpopulation and Unchecked Urbanization:

- Increased pressure on natural resources and infrastructure
- Increased industrial activities and emissions
- Urban heat island effect

(3.4) Waste Mismanagement:

- Open burning of solid waste
- Burning of crops stubble

(3.5) Lack of Environmental Policies:

- Lack of implementation and enforcement of climate policies
- Poor institutional response capacity.

(4) Consequences of Climate Change in Pakistan:

(4.1) Increased Frequency of Extreme Weather Events:

- More severe and frequent heatwaves
- Devastating flash floods and drought

(4.2) Water Insecurity:

- Rapidly melting glaciers
- Unpredictable seasonal water flow
- Sea level rise threatening coastal areas.

(4.3) Food Insecurity:

- Decline in agricultural productivity
- Disruption of food supply chain
- Increasing rate of malnutrition and hunger

(4.4) Health Hazards :

- Spread of vector-borne diseases
- Overburden healthcare infrastructure

(4.5) Economic Damages :

- Destruction of infrastructure and loss of farmland
- Reduced competitiveness of export-based sector
- Shrinking tourism industry

(4.6) Social and Political Instability:

- Climate induced migration and displacement
- Increased frequency of conflicts over natural resources
- Greater vulnerability of marginalized and rural communities

⑤ Remedial Measures to Mitigate Climate Change in Pakistan :

(5.1) Transitioning to Renewable energy

(5.2) Promoting Reforestation and Afforestation

(5.3) Strengthening Climate Change Policies

(5.4) Raising Public Awareness

⑥ Conclusion:

Introductory Paragraph

Barack Obama on Climate Change says that, "We are the first generation to feel the impact of climate change and the last generation who can do something about it". This quote underscores the gravity of climate change and the urgency of action. Climate change is not a new issue. Developed countries are dealing with it successfully. Whereas, underdeveloped countries are still struggling. Unfortunately, Pakistan is one of them. Despite contributing less than 1 percent to global greenhouse gas emissions, Pakistan remains one of the most vulnerable countries to the consequences of climate change. The main causes of climate change in Pakistan include excessive burning of fossil fuels, rapid urbanization and industrialization, deforestation and weak environmental governance. These factors have led to an increased frequency of extreme weather events, water and food insecurity, ~~ten~~ and health related

challenges. Moreover, it has resulted in economic damages triggering socio-political unrest. It is therefore, imperative for Pakistan to adopt a holistic climate resilient approach to ensure sustainable development and growth.
