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## Pakistan Affairs

Q1: The recent floods have shown the ill preparedness of govt at all levels. Explain the importance of Disaster Management for Pakistan?

### Introduction:

Pakistan faces escalating climate threats with growing population. Pakistan is highly vulnerable to climate induced disasters. Its geographic location with huge volume of glacials at Northern sites and deserts in south make it more prone to catastrophic risks. Pakistan with only 1% emitter of Green house gas in whole world faces severe threats of deluges, cloudburst, landsliding, urban flooding. Recent 2025 floods in <sup>started</sup> the mid of June showed the ill preparedness of government at all level.



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## ★ Exposed weaknesses during the 2025 floods:-

### ✓ a. → Urban flooding and Riverbank encroachments:

Due to recent 2025 floods, the major weakness by the government is building housing societies at riverbanks like in Lahore's Part-view city, theme park etc at Ravi river. Overflowed Ravi river ~~for~~ water created widespread displacements and property destruction.

#### (Illegal encroachment)

Illegal encroachment near rivers blocking the natural flow. These illegal constructions exacerbating the risks of urban flooding.

### b → Infrastructure and economic destruction:-

Flash floods are destroying



infrastructure and creating massive displacements. Millions of people across Pakistan are displaced as deluge wipe out their houses. In KP, 45 bridges and 200 km road was washed out and creating cutting of rescues.

### c. → Delayed evacuations and weak relief system:-

Another weakness which is exposed is delaying in evacuations. Nearly 1.2 million people are affected and 300,000 are displaced in Punjab and faces the evacuation delay and shortage in relief camps.

### d. → Failure of early warnings:-

In contrast with other issues, another important and neglected problem is failure of early warning systems. In Punjab and Sindh, 100% of villages are submerged before evacuation.



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orders reached residents.

### e. → Deforestation by Timber Mafia:

Forests are cutting down across Pakistan mostly for logging purposes. 78% of trees cutted down for logging, 12% are destroyed in wild fires. From 2001 to 2024, Pakistan lost approximately 9.53 kilohectares according to Aljazeera report. Trees are the most important factors to absorb rain water and hold the soil.

✓ PM Shehbaz Sharif called for action against these timber mafias before 2025 floods and ~~acknow~~ acknowledging importance of environment.

### f. → Population Growth, Poverty and Resource distribution tensions

✓ Pakistan's population growth from 33.7 million in 1951 to 242.7 million in 2025 leading to most populous



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with projection up to **403** million by **2050** increasing disaster management complexity and resource distribution along with poverty.

✓ (Delayed in PC-1 Projects)

Delayed in financing of **10.71** PC-1 projects and problem over resource distribution between federal and provincial level creating more vulnerabilities to disaster managements.

## Importance of Disaster Management in Pakistan:-

### 1. Protection of Human Lives:-

One of the core importance to protect lives. In **2025** floods killed almost **820** people across Pakistan with many injured and at a great risk of coming more floods due to ongoing monsoon and more flow in Ravi river.



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According to UNICEF, Pakistan ranked 14<sup>th</sup> globally for child climate risk. Early disaster management steps are vital to save lives.

## ✓ 2. Protection of Economy and Infrastructure.

Another Most important factor is to protect Pakistan economy and infrastructure by building climate resilient infrastructure. Roads in Rawalpindi, KP Lahore are destroyed, bridges in KP are washed out, houses along river sides are completely vanished in ongoing flood.

## 3. (Agriculture loss)

Millions of worth agriculture lands across country is run off with flash floods. Agriculture contribute 20% in Pakistan GDP. To secure the food needs of the country due to overly Populus states there must be ensurity of the safety



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of crops and livestock to meet the food demands in future as well.

#### 4. Climate change adaptations:

There must be an urgent need to adapt policies for long term prevention instead of only focusing on recovery.

Climate change is enduring crisis and lasting national reality. **10 to 15%** intensity in rains are increased due to

CO<sub>2</sub> ~~emission~~ emission globally. High temperature leading to glacial meltings, cloud bursts exacerbating more threats of deluges.

Reforestation, building of dams and canals, adapting climate resilient policies are the only ways to overcome these threats.

#### 5. → Improve Institutional coordinations:

Important step to be taken is to better and urgent managing the



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transboundary water risks like recently India opened the two dams which causes Ravi river overflow. So diplomatic steps should be taken for advance preparedness. Building of dams like Kalabagh is necessary.

#### 6. → Preserving cultural and Religious heritage:

The 2025 flood submerged the Sikh's holy place in Lahore (Gurdwara Nankana Sahib) completely, which highlighted the risk of religious sites destruction and disturbance in future tourism. So preparations at early time before or post-disasters are necessary to secure these valuable assets.

#### 7. → Ensure national security:

To ensure the security of vulnerable regions like KP,



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Gilgit ✓ Baltistan, Sindh and Punjab must be ensured to avoid future disastrous situations. KP is most affected terrain due to 2025 floods with the hitting of **Sawat, Buner Shargala** etc. Northern districts are continuously bearing the climate burden.

#### 8. → Promote community resilience:

People must respect the warnings and have to cooperate with authorities to avoid risks of climate disasters, and Panic.

#### 9. → Reduce Foreign aid dependency:

A proactive system must be adopted to promote self-reliance at the time of climate problems to overcome dependency over foreign aids.

#### 10. → Better institutional coordination:

By enhancing coordination between federal, provincial and local levels



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and overcoming the corruption. and betterly distribution of resources are necessary. Through this, resources must fairly used to reduce climate problems and create the flood safe areas at the time of similar situation.

Spending over climate friendly infrastructure and stopping of illegal encroachment and constructions on flood plains by implementing effective laws are vital.

### ★ -Conclusion:-

Current management remains reactionary and not preventative to mitigate flood risks. The 2025 floods are not natural but are due to human inactive and careless actions.

Deforestation, building housing societies over riverbeds, CO<sub>2</sub> emission are all contributing to exacerbating risks. It is important to take urgent actions by



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making a National Reclamation Commission to set a national framework to avoid these catastrophic disasters in future.

GOOD WORK

ANSWER IS SATISFACTORY

READ NDMA MODELS OF CHINA AND JAPAN AND GIVE REFERENCES ETC

OVER ALL GOOD WORK

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