

Disaster Management and Our Preparedness

Outline

A. Introduction

Thesis statement: Pakistan is one of the most climate vulnerable countries, heavily exposed to natural disasters. Disaster management in Pakistan is stuck at some national levels, such as national disaster management authority (NDMA). However, Pakistan is not prepared at all for natural disasters due to various reasons: institutional failure, lack of inclusivity and cooperation, widespread corruption, lack of human resource training, funding constraints, and weak infrastructure.

Pakistan has not taken any steps

B. Disaster management plans in Pakistan

c. Why Pakistan is still not prepared for future disasters?

a. Lack of institutional capacity

b. Funding constraints and widespread corruption

c. Absence of political will to implement policies effectively.

d. Lack of training programs to handle disasters.

e. Weak

D. Way forward.

E. Conclusion

ESSAY

what if tomorrow

what if flood hits our city tomorrow?
what will we do? Do we know where to go?
where to live? And how to survive? These questions
reflect our preparedness for disasters. Disasters are
the climate shocks that produce unexpected

devastation and human losses. Pakistan is among
top ten countries in the world which are highly
exposed to the risk of frequent disasters. Common
disasters in Pakistan are floods, earthquake,

landslides, droughts, and heavy snowfall. These
disasters have produced heavy economic and
human losses in last. Despite efforts to reduce
damages, Pakistan is still not prepared to face

another disaster. Some national level institutions
are working in Pakistan, such as National disaster
management authority (NDMA) and Pakistan
meteorological department (PMD). However, Pakistan
is not fully prepared to face disasters due

to myriad of reasons. There is institutional failure
with less capacity to manage ^{huge} ~~large~~ disasters.

Alongwith this, Pakistan faces funding constraints
and widespread corruption that ^{further} ~~widens~~ those
constraints. Formed ~~institutions~~ are not ~~able~~

implement effectively due to lack of political
will.

Institutions lack training programs so,
it leads to absence of efficient human resource.
Besides this, Pakistan has feeble infrastructure.

that can't withstand heavy disasters. However, these issues can be resolved with some effective measures. Pakistani government should take steps to mitigate resolve above problems and help the country in preparedness for disasters.

Plz do not write in passive too much

Pakistan has faced major disasters in past. There are institutions that have improved disaster management capability of Pakistan as compared to past. In 1958, West Pakistan **National calamity act was passed**. Through this act ~~in~~ aftermath of calamities and emergency response was managed. In 2005, northern Pakistan faced intense earthquake that led to 80000 casualties. After this ~~egg~~ earthquake, National disaster management act was passed in 2005. However, formalized institutions was formed after 2010 flood that impacted 12 million people. National disaster management authority (NDMA) is a national level institute with provincial and district level management units. It works for disaster relief, rescue and rehabilitation. Another working unit is Pakistan meteorological unit (PMD) that gives ~~warning~~ alerts in the country regarding early warning systems and forecasting. Despite these steps, Pakistan is not fully prepared for future climate shocks.

Plz avoid irrelevancies

Firstly, national institutions in Pakistan lack in-built capacity to deal with heavy disasters. These institutions lack

effective leadership to work in a cooperative manner. Disaster relief institutes work separately and lack of cooperation leads to funds ~~for~~ exploitation and lesser results. In 2018, a Pakistani professor, Farzadkh A. Khan warned about institutional failure. He said that Pakistan suffers from institutional failure. Failed institutions are unable to correct problems of the society, which eventually leads to economic failure! Integrated planning among disaster management, environmental management, and development planning are absent. ~~lack of~~ ~~coherent and inclusive approach~~ between institutions reduces their capacity to manage disasters.

Secondly, funding constraints, lack of accountability, and widespread corruption obliterated Pakistan's preparedness for disaster management. Pakistan was on the brink of default two years back. Today, ~~but~~ it is ^{still} on the path of macro-economic growth but it lacks adequate funds to allocate for disaster preparedness. Besides this, lack of accountability led to widespread corruption in Pakistan. ~~Former~~ ^{America} Former president of Pakistan, Joe Biden, said that corruption is like a cancer; cancer that eats away a citizen's faith in democracy and instinct for innovation and creativity. Hence, corruption in these institutes of disaster relief further constraints the available resources. Hence, lack of adequate funds and corruption are hindrance in the preparedness for disaster management.

Thirdly, Pakistan faces lack of political will to implement policies effectively. The government has prepared five-year disaster plan and 10 year disaster and development plans. But there are gaps between formulation and effective implementation of these policies. Floods of 2022 was a prominent example where areas of higher political and economic influence were saved and major water flow was diverted to remote areas of KPK and Balochistan. With the lack of will and effective leadership, the disaster management institutions will fail to respond effectively instead of reacting to the crisis. Hence, absence of political will has hindered the preparedness for disaster management.

Fourthly, there are lack of training programs in disaster management institutes. Due to lack of efficient human resources the workforce is not up to the mark. In 2022, the public. Most of the time, government has to call army to the disaster flood areas to provide ration and relief operations to the public. Besides this, after 18th amendment the powers of disaster management were decentralized to the provinces. When floods struck in 2022, provinces had no capability to manage and they called to the center for help. It highlights that local authorities are less lack skills which are required for rescue operations. One incident that emboldens

this fact happened in Srinagar. In 2005 floods, five men stuck on a rock surrounded by flood water. They held themselves tightly with ropes and waited for help for almost 3-4 hours fighting for life. The disaster management authority was unable to rescue them. Four of them drowned in flood water while only one of them was saved. The disaster preparedness and disaster management

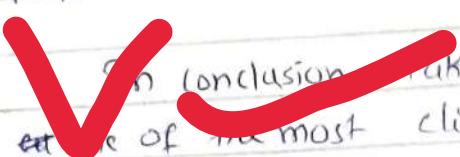
Avoid writing confused statements

Finally, feeble infrastructure is another significant factor that makes Pakistan even more vulnerable to natural disasters.

According to World Bank report, Pakistan is ranked 18 out of 191 countries which are prone to disaster risk due to poor infrastructure. After the floods in 2005, less than half a million people became homeless and displaced from their villages. The water sanitation, education, health infrastructure are very old and weak. Public suffers from homelessness, diseases, and other socio-economic crisis due to poor infrastructure. Hence, another cause of failure for disaster preparedness is feeble infrastructure.

The problems which are described above are manageable if the government takes effective measures. The disaster management institutions should work with cooperation and inclusivity. They should make policies for a long term.

benefits. Adequate funding and accountability on spending can reduce corruption. Besides this, there should be proactive measures initiated to avoid negative outcomes. There should be pro-active approach instead of reactive approach after the disaster. It will reduce not only human losses but also economic losses on the site. Public development plans should be started for infrastructure development. Earthquake resistant building, rainwater harvesting, green infrastructure, and climate-friendly buildings like heat walls are some of the examples for infrastructure building. With these measures, Pakistan will be prepared for disasters in the future.

 In conclusion, Pakistan instead of being one of the most climate-vulnerable country has remained unprepared for the disaster management. Reasons behind this failure are lack of institutional capacity and absence of training programs in disaster management institutes. Financial constraints and corruption further hinders the pathway. Another reason for unpreparedness is poor infrastructure of Pakistan. It is witnessed that around 40% of infrastructure is damaged in flood and earthquakes. These are due to absence of institutions will to effectively manage the situation. However, efficient workforce and empowered institutions that work for long-term policies can prepare Pakistan for impending disasters in future.