

Disaster Management in Pakistan = Challenges and Way forward.

1 Introduction

1.1 Hook

1.2 Thesis statement: Pakistan is facing numerous challenges on disaster handling front. It needs to shift from response-oriented approach to a resilient based policy.

2 Challenges faced by Pakistan in Disaster Management

2.1 Political Challenges

2.1.1 Political fraternity has not yet accepted it as a major national problem.

2.1.2 Local government system is absent in major provinces of Pakistan.

2.1.3 Public and ruling class both perceive disaster as a natural calamity where they do very little to manage it.

2.2 Economic Challenges

2.2.1 Pakistan is already going through economic crises.

2.2.2 Very little amount of funds are allocated for disaster management.

In financial budget.

2.2.3 Pakistan is always dependent on foreign aid for calamity issues.

2.3 Institutional Capacity problems.

2.3.1 Disaster management authorities especially PDMA and DDMA are weak to cope with disasters.

2.3.2 Coordination and coherence is weak between national and provincial, district level ~~disaster~~ disaster management authorities.

2.3.3 Relative institutions have legacy of a response-oriented approach.

2.3.4 Early warning systems are inadequate.

2.3.5 Relief activities are carried out very poorly.

2.3.6 Technology resources are not incorporated and no real time data is available.

2.4 Administrative level issues.

2.4.1 No clear cut rules to define the spheres of federal, provincial and district levels eligibility to handle certain levels of calamities.

2.4.2 There is no mechanism and policy to determine the accurate amount of loss faced by effected households.

3 Way forward / Recommendations

- 3.1 Full consensus and ownership to address this matter ~~sho~~ can be adopted by ~~small~~ political parties.
- 3.2 A comprehensive national disaster control policy addressing all challenges may be implemented.
- 3.3 A separate fund ~~for~~ ^{can} ~~disaster~~ be allocated for it in the national budget.
- 3.4 Resilient approach may be adopted towards catastrophic matters.
- 3.5 Due to Pakistan's vulnerability it could be treated as a national security matter.
- 3.6 Capacity of provincial and district level authorities can be enhanced.
- 3.7 Latest technology may be incorporated at all levels.
- 3.8 Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives could be integrated in development process.
- 3.9 Local governments may be reinstated to effectively contribute to it.

4 Conclusion.