

Disaster Management and Government Preparedness

◦ Outline

① Introduction

② Disaster Management and Government Preparedness in Pakistan : A Case Study of Floods of 2022 and 2025

③ Ineffective Disaster Management in Pakistan : Identifying the Loopholes

3.1: Institutional weaknesses and collective mismanagement

3.2 : Absence of coordination among designated bodies at central, provincial, and district level

3.3 : Lack of legal framework and enforcement mechanism

3.4 : Poor technological and modern facilities in practice

3.5 : Lack of specialized persons in respective fields

3.6 : Inefficient budget allocation and poor funding

3.7 : Prevalent corrupt practices and no accountability mechanism

3.8 : Political instability and weak governance model

3.9 : Reactive, instead of proactive approach

④ The way Forward: How the Government Preparedness can be Strengthened with regard to Disaster Management in Pakistan?

4.1: Adopting a proper framework, with institutionalized role and duties

4.2: Strengthening and operationalizing the local government system for better coordination at all tiers of government

4.3: Allocating appropriate budget and resources, with special focus on under-developed areas

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4.4: Revamping the system with the state-of-the-art international framework

4.5: Prioritizing preventive and proactive, instead of only reactive strategies

⑤ Conclusion

As Confucius rightly states, "study the past and you would define the future", which relates to learning from the past mistakes and redefining the future. Pakistan has always been a disaster-prone country. The 2005 earthquake, floods of 2010, 2022 and 2025 are a testament to this harsh reality. However, the recent floods in the past decade have wreaked havoc like never before, in terms of huge loss of lives, mass-level displacement, coupled with massive economic toll and environmental impacts. In this crisis situation, the government preparedness presents a bleak

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picture. Several loopholes are identified concerning disaster management in Pakistan. These include institutional weaknesses, absence of proper coordination, lack of enforcement mechanisms, and prevailing reactive, rather than proactive approach. Nevertheless, the reforms are required to be implemented, keeping in view the plight and needs of an area, from micro to macro-level. The disaster management, hence, in Pakistan highlights a sorry state of affairs, causing huge impact on economic, social, and environmental spheres, which should be revamped by the government on priority basis.