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TOPIC : DISASTER MANAGEMENT IN PAKISTAN — CHALLENGES AND THE WAY FORWARD

OUTLINE

1) Introduction

Thesis Statement :

Despite having disaster management institutions, managing disaster has become a challenge in Pakistan due to coordination gap ^{across} among different departments, lack of anticipatory action and reliance on outdated technology. A shift towards coordinated and technology driven pragmatic strategies are needed for building nation resilience.

2) Disaster Management is a challenge in Pakistan

3) Challenges faced by Pakistan in Managing Disasters

- 3.1- Institutional fragmentation across different departments leading to coordination gap
- 3.2- Lack of anticipatory action
- 3.3- Lack of financial resources
- 3.4- Ill-trained staff within institution
- 3.5- Ineffective use of funding undermining preparedness and relief operations
- 3.6- Reliance on outdated and weak technology
- 3.7- Lack of preparedness and community awareness programs

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4) A Roadmap for Future Proactive and Resilient strategies

- 4.1- Build a unified and capable Disaster Management system
- 4.2- Invest in early warning system and forecasting system through International Donor Partnership
- 4.3- Ensure Transparency and Accountability through audit and public access to data
- 4.4- Promote Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) and school level preparedness
- 4.5- Integrate weather forecasts into pre-disaster preparedness measures
- 4.6- Establish refugee centers to provide shelter
- 4.7- Establish special ^{healthcare} facilities for disaster victims

5) Conclusion

INTRODUCTION

Prevention is better than cure and History repeats itself one cliché that captures the painful reality of our country. The unfolding destruction to life, livelihoods and essentials, being caused by recurring floods demonstrates the inadequacy of Pakistan's disaster management authority

Pakistan's approach to disaster risk reduction (DRR) has mainly remained reactive, focusing on post-disaster response and recovery rather than prevention.

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Pakistan is hot-spot for climate-induced disasters. It is ranked among the top 10 countries most adversely affected by climate change by Global Climate Risk Index 2021.

Disasters - like floods have become a new normal in Pakistan. Yet, managing them becomes a challenge for Pakistan. The reasons behind are coordination gaps due to institutional fragmentation across different departments, ineffective use of funds and ill-trained staff within institutions. In addition, lack of ^{Preemptive measures} ~~anticipatory~~ ^{actions}, not acting promptly to displace vulnerable community on time; despite being aware of weather forecast aggravates losses. It is high time for Pakistan to shift from reactive to a proactive disaster risk reduction paradigm by building a unified Disaster Management Authority, by institutionalising anticipatory actions and by promoting Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR). Despite having disaster management institutions, managing disasters has become a challenge in Pakistan due to coordination gap across diff departments, reliance on lack of anti-cipatory actions and reliance on outdated technology.

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A shift towards coordinated and
community based disaster risk reduction
one needed for building nation
resilience