



Day: **NOA MOCK-III**

Date: **30/9/25**

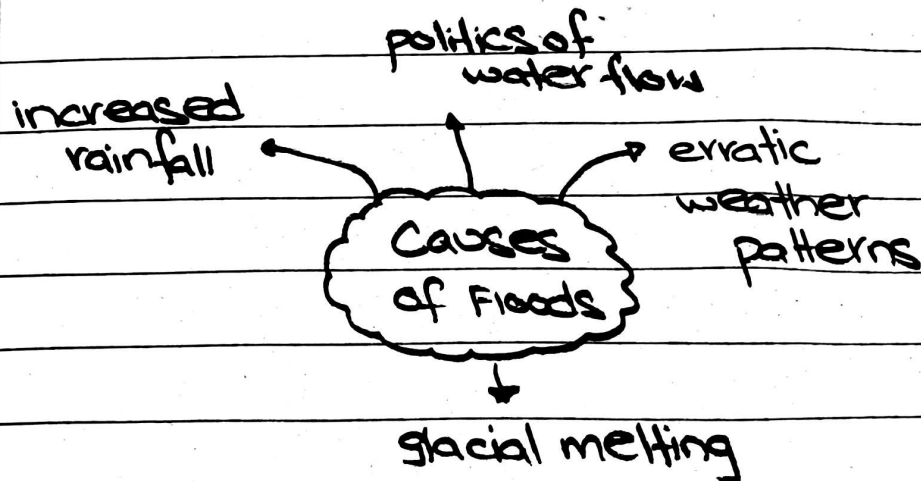
Q.5: Pakistan is repeatedly hit by devastating floods. Critically evaluate its reasons and recommend policy options for the nation to follow.

Introduction:

Devastating floods have become a recurrent phenomenon in Pakistan owing to reasons like changing weather scenario, extensive precipitation and cloud bursts as well as glacial melting. Moreover, water released by India results in flooding of Western Rivers. Certain inept policy decision delays are also causing enhanced flood losses. The nation must strengthen its disaster management authority, fight climate issues by agroforestry and restrict construction at sites of potential risks! The construction of dams, adequate measure to enhance food security are also needed.

Reasons of Recurrent Floods in Pakistan:

The following factors serve as causes of floods in Pakistan:



1. Torrential Rains/Cloud Bursts as a reason for flooding:

In lieu of inordinate climate scenario, extensive rainfall results in flash flooding. This very scenario was witnessed in Northern KP and Gilgit. Cloud burst incidents occurred in Buner, Islamabad, Sialkot etc where urban floods took place. Karachi has witnessed extensive rainfall (63 mm) in a

single day. This new threat of cloud bursts results in flooding of water bodies.

(2) Glacial Melting leading to GLOFs:

Glacial Lake outburst

Flooding is a high-risk flood that occurs as a result of glacial activity. In Pakistan, over 7000 glaciers are present out of which 3500 occur at such zone. Over 4-5 of them are declared as high-risk GLOF zones by NDMA. In 2025, over 30% of flooding is accredited to melting of glaciers by NDMA.

(3) Release of Water by India as a cause of Flood:

Indian released water in western Rivers resulted in high water levels. The limits were unmanageable for Pakistan.

Day: _____

Date: _____

The nation was largely underprepared because Indus High Commissioner informed less than 24 hours prior to release of water.

(4) Infrastructure Development at vulnerable regions enhance flood intensity:

Urban Development in Pakistan is devoid of town planning and comprehensive legal proceedings. The development of residential colonies / societies across river beds increase the intensity of floods.

4.1: Development on Sawan River:

Over 20 Real Estate projects are underway on Islamabad's Sawan River.

4.2: Development on Lyri canal. Karachi's inability to handle

Day: _____

Date: _____

monsoon rains is due to development on Lyari canal.

4.3: Urban Ravi Development Projects:

The water storage capacity of Ravi was reduced from 450,000 cusec to barely 200,000 cusec due to RUDA Projects. This has resulted in mismanagement of 350,000 cusec flood waters in Ravi during 2025.

Policy Options for Pakistan to handle Floods:

Floods are indeed crucial disasters that require immediate response for manage.

"Floods are acts of God" but flood losses are largely act of men "

- Gilbert F. White

(1) Construction of Dams to handle floods:

The construction of dams enables Pakistan to increase its water storage capacity. There are over 400 sites where dams can be built in KP, 70 in Balochistan and 35 in Punjab. This may not solve flood water management crisis completely but will be effective.

(2) Construction of Canals for Flood Management:

The completion of six canal projects from Sutlej under GPI is one policy option. The Greater Thal Canal, Malwa Canal, Cholistan shall equip more water storage that will prove beneficial in flood management.

(3) Improvement of Sewrage/Drainage System can assist flood handling:

In order to better handle the crisis of urban flooding and filled water bodies, the government must come up with proper drainage system. Blocked sewage lines cause flooding in water bodies. Revamping of old drainage systems is needed.

(4) Adaptations in Agriculture to handle floods:

Considering recurrent floods, certain adaptations are required. Inclination towards agroforestry to avoid soil erosion is one measure. Plantation drives, terrace farming are other potential options. The use of water-resistant crops is also important.

Conclusion:

In order to minimize the harsh effects of floods, better and advanced crisis management is required. The people most vulnerable must be well-educated about evacuation plans and routes. Solid policy must be formulated to mitigate climate effects. Strict zoning plans must be implemented to minimize losses at potential flood sites.