

the National Assembly.

Q2. Climate change has emerged as a major non-traditional security threat to Pakistan. Analyze its socio-economic and political implications, and evaluate Pakistan's institutional response to climate-induced challenges.

Q2. Answer.

Climate Change as a Non-Traditional Security Threat to Pakistan:

Climate change has emerged as one of the most serious non-traditional security threat to Pakistan, affecting its socio-economic stability, political governance and national security. Due to its geographical vulnerability

and weak adaptive capacity. Pakistan consistently ranks among the top ten countries most affected by climate induced disasters (Germanwatch Global Climate Risk Index).

Socio-Economic Implications:

The socio-economic impact of climate change on Pakistan is severe.

The 2022 floods, described by the UN as a "climate catastrophe", affected 33 million people, killed over 1,700 and caused economic

losses exceeding \$30 billion (Government of Pakistan, World Bank).

Agriculture, which employs around 38% of Pakistan labour force and contributes nearly 23% of GDP, remains highly climate-sensitive. Recurrent droughts, erratic monsoons, and glacial melt have reduced crop yields, intensified food insecurity, and increased rural poverty.

Climate change has also accelerated internal displacement.

According to the Internal

Displacement Monitoring Center, climate disasters displace over one million Pakistanis annually placing pressure on Urban infrastructure and social services.

Political and Security Implications:

Politically, climate stress has intensified governance challenges. Competition over water resources, especially under the Indus Basin system, heightens inter-provincial tensions. The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) warns that climate-induced migration could fuel urban unrest and exacerbate ethnic and class divisions.

Former UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres noted during his 2022 visit: "Pakistan contributes less than 1% to global emissions yet suffers disproportionately." This injustice strengthens Pakistan's climate diplomacy but also exposes domestic governance gaps.

Evaluation of Institutional Response:

Pakistan has developed policy frameworks such as the National Climate Change Policy (2012, updated 2021) and the National adaptation plan (2023). Initiatives like the 'Ten Billion Tree Tsunami' improved climate awareness. However, weak implementation, limited funding and poor inter-provincial coordination undermine effectiveness. Climate governance remains reactive rather than preventive.

Conclusion:

Climate change poses a multidimensional security threat to Pakistan. While institutional recognition exists, effective adaptation requires stronger governance, sustained financing and integration of climate resilience into national security planning.