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Question: 01

→ Floods and water scarcity are the two extreme situations Pakistan is faced with. Analyze the factors responsible and give recommendations?

Floods and water scarcity are indeed significant challenges faced by Pakistan. These issues are caused by various factors, including natural phenomena and human activities. Let's analyze the factors responsible for floods and water scarcity in Pakistan and provide some recommendations.

1- Climate Change

Climate Change is a major contributor to both floods and water scarcity. Pakistan has experienced erratic weather patterns, including intense monsoon rains and prolonged dry spells. These changes disrupt the natural water cycle, leading to flooding during heavy rains and water scarcity during droughts. - Recommendation: - Pakistan

Should prioritize efforts to mitigate climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting renewable energy sources, and implementing climate adaptation measures.

2- Poor Water Management

Inefficient water management exacerbates both floods and water scarcity. Pakistan's water infrastructure, including dams, reservoirs, and irrigation systems, requires improvement. Lack of maintenance, outdated technology and inadequate storage capacity contribute to water mismanagement, leading to flooding when heavy rains overwhelm the infrastructure and water scarcity during dry periods.

Recommendations

Invest in modernizing and expanding water infrastructure, including the construction of new dams, reservoirs, and canals, to improve water management and reduce the impacts of floods and water scarcity.

3- Deforestation and Land Degradation

Deforestation and land degradation play a significant role in causing floods. Trees and vegetation act as natural barriers, absorbing rainwater and reducing surface runoff. However, extensive deforestation for agriculture, urbanization, and fuelwood leads to increased soil erosion and faster water runoff, which contributes to flooding.

Recommendation:

Implement strict regulations to curb deforestation, promote reforestation initiatives, and adopt sustainable land management practices to prevent soil erosion and reduce the risk of ~~floods and water scarcity~~ ~~the risk of flooding~~.

4- Urbanization and Encroachment

Rapid urbanization and encroachment on natural water bodies and floodplains aggravate flood risks. Unplanned urban expansion reduces the land's capacity to absorb rainwater, increases surface runoff, and obstructs natural drainage channels. Additionally, encroachment on riverbanks and floodplains restricts water

flow, exacerbating flooding -
Recommendation

Enforce proper urban planning and zoning regulations, discourage encroachment on flood-prone areas, and develop sustainable drainage systems in urban areas to minimize flood risks.

5- Population growth and Agricultural Practices

The increasing population and unsustainable agricultural practices contribute to water scarcity. High population growth leads to increased demand for water, putting pressure on limited water resources. Moreover, inefficient irrigation techniques, such as flood irrigation, result in excessive water wastage.

Recommendation

Promote water conservation practices, including modern irrigation techniques like drip irrigation and precision agriculture, and educate farmers about efficient water use. Encourage population control measures and promote awareness about the importance of water conservation among the general public.

6- Transboundary water Issues

Pakistan's water challenges are further complicated by transboundary water issues with neighboring countries, such as India and Afghanistan. Disputes over water sharing, construction of dams upstream, and unregulated water with drains affect water availability downstream, leading to water scarcity in Pakistan.

Recommendation:

Foster diplomatic efforts to resolve transboundary water disputes through dialogue, negotiations, and adherence to international water laws. Promote regional cooperation for sustainable water management and consider joint projects for shared water resources.

In conclusion, addressing floods and water scarcity in Pakistan requires a comprehensive approach involving climate change mitigation, improved water management, sustainable land practices, urban planning, water conservation, and international cooperation. By

Implementing these recommendations, Pakistan can mitigate the impact of floods and water scarcity, ensuring a more sustainable and secure water future for its people.

2 - US-India growing strategic partnership is mainly to contain China but it also ~~have~~ has massive negative implications on Pakistan. Recommended policy options for Islamabad to follow

The growing strategic partnership between the US and India, driven partly by their shared concerns about China, indeed has implications for Pakistan. To effectively address these implications, Islamabad could consider the following policy options:

1 - **Strengthen Regional Diplomacy**
Pakistan should engage in robust regional diplomacy to strengthen relationships with neighboring countries and other global players. By building strong ties with other nations, Pakistan can expand its diplomatic leverage, diversify its strategic partnerships,

and present its perspective on regional dynamics.

2 Focus on Economic Development

Pakistan should prioritize its economic development and enhance its trade and investment ties with various countries. By promoting economic growth, Pakistan can strengthen its position in the global arena, reduce its dependence on external assistance, and enhance its national security.

3- Enhance Regional Cooperation

Pakistan should actively participate in regional forums and initiatives such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). By engaging in constructive dialogue and collaboration with regional partners, Pakistan can work towards addressing common challenges, promoting stability, and countering any potential adverse effects of the US-India partnership.

4- Strengthen Defense Capabilities

Pakistan should continue to invest in its defense capabilities and modernize its armed forces. This include improving its defense technology, intelligence capabilities, and counterterrorism efforts. By maintaining a credible defense posture, Pakistan can deter potential threats and ensure its national

security.

2- Promote Peaceful Resolution of Disputes.

Pakistan should actively pursue peaceful resolution mechanism for outstanding disputes, particularly the long-standing Kashmir issue with India. By advocating for dialogue, diplomacy and adherence to international law, Pakistan can demonstrate its commitment to regional stability and international support for its cause.