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Question No 5:

If we do not take the charge of population size, then the nature will do it for us. Explain this phenomena in the context of Pakistan. Also suggest the measure.

Answer

Outline:

- 1: Introduction
- 2: Population explosion of Pakistan.
 - ↳ Rapid urbanization.
 - ↳ Limited resources.
 - ↳ Rapid industrialization.
 - ↳ Decreasing forest cover.
- 3: Reaction of Nature in form of Disast-erous events.
 - ↳ Heat waves.
 - ↳ Floods
 - ↳ Wildfire
 - ↳ disturb precipitation pattern.
- 4: Possible measures to counter the threat.
 - ↳ Responsible consumer Behavior.
 - ↳ Family planning.
 - ↳ To focus SDGs.

1: Introduction:

Increasing population is the major contributor in extreme climate conditions. Population of the planet is increasing exponentially every year. According to **United States Census Bureau** the population of globe in 2022 is 8 billion and is expected to further increased by 1 billion till 2050. Excessive population means more urbanization, more production and more carbon emission. Both developed and developing nations are at threat of worse climate condition due to increasing population. Humans by their activities damaged their environment and the nature is reacting adversely in form of floods, heat waves, wild fires and decreasing rain patterns. Reaction of climate cannot mitigated completely but taking timely measures human can overcome its adverse and severe impacts. If humans do not take any responsibility to minimize the impacts, nature will react in severe ways that humanity could unable to survive.

2: Repercussions of population explosion in Pakistan.

Population explosion refers to a sudden increase in number of individuals in a specific area a given time. (National institute of health). Rapid growth in Pakistan is having severe implication on economy, social fabric and political stability. Pakistan as a developing country having limited resources and limitless challenges and increasing population is the crucial among all. As per the recent census of **Pakistan Bureau of statistics** the population of Pakistan is 240 million and annually increasing at rate of 2 percent. There is a long list of implications of population growth on Pakistan. Few are discussed below.

- A: Rapid urbanization.
- B: Increasing imports.
- C: Decreasing forest cover.
- D: Irresponsible consumer behavior.
- E: Enomic challenges.

A: Rapid Urbanization:

Due to rapid population growth people are moving toward cities for the sake of better future and living standards. According to the recent report of **United Nation development programme** Pakistan has the highest rate of urbanization in South Asia, around 36.4 percent of population lives in cities and by 2050 almost half population will be settled in cities. Cities are expanding to construct more roads, malls and residential areas with cutting down of trees also capturing fertile land. In addition, the use of private vehicles are increasing resulting in polluting air. In 2023, Lahore was recorded the most polluted city on the globe having poor Air Quality. Hence rapid and unplanned urbanization is the major contemporary challenge of Pakistan arising from the rapid growth of population.

B: Increasing Imports:

Pakistan is a resource rich country but due to natural disasters, flawed policy, and increasing population resulting in resource deficiency. Pakistan was among the major exporters of Agriculture products, but after facing flood of 2022 it became the importer of Agriculture products. The Drastic impacts of floods crippled the agriculture sector of Pakistan. But the demand is continued to increase due to rapid population growth compelling the country to satisfy the demand by importing the goods. Already Pakistan is facing the problem of current Account deficit due to high import Bill and comparatively low export Bill. As per the July 2023 report of **Finance Division of Pakistan** the trade deficit reach to \$24.1 billion. Therefore the increased population is mainly responsible for the increasing import Bill of Pakistan.

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c: Decreasing Forest Cover:

As discussed earlier rapidly increasing population resulting in decrease increasing the construction of roads, buildings and expanding cities reducing the forest cover.