

Date: 27-08-25

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LMSID- 38743

Batch - 003

General Knowledge II

Current Affairs

Q5:

1

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

Introduction

Flooding in Pakistan is not an isolated incident, however, it is a recurring phenomenon. Similarly, every decade in Pakistan faces devastating flood such as, floods in 2010, 2024, 2022 and 2025. There are multiple factors which are responsible for this. These are, climatic and meteorological factor, melting of glaciers, water management issues, encroachment on

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floodplains, deforestation, weak infrastructure and socio-economic vulnerability. To cure this certain policy options are required such as, strengthen community-based early warning system, planned flood-plan space, reforestation, sustainable urban drainage system and early detection of disaster.

1. Reasons of devastating flood in Pakistan

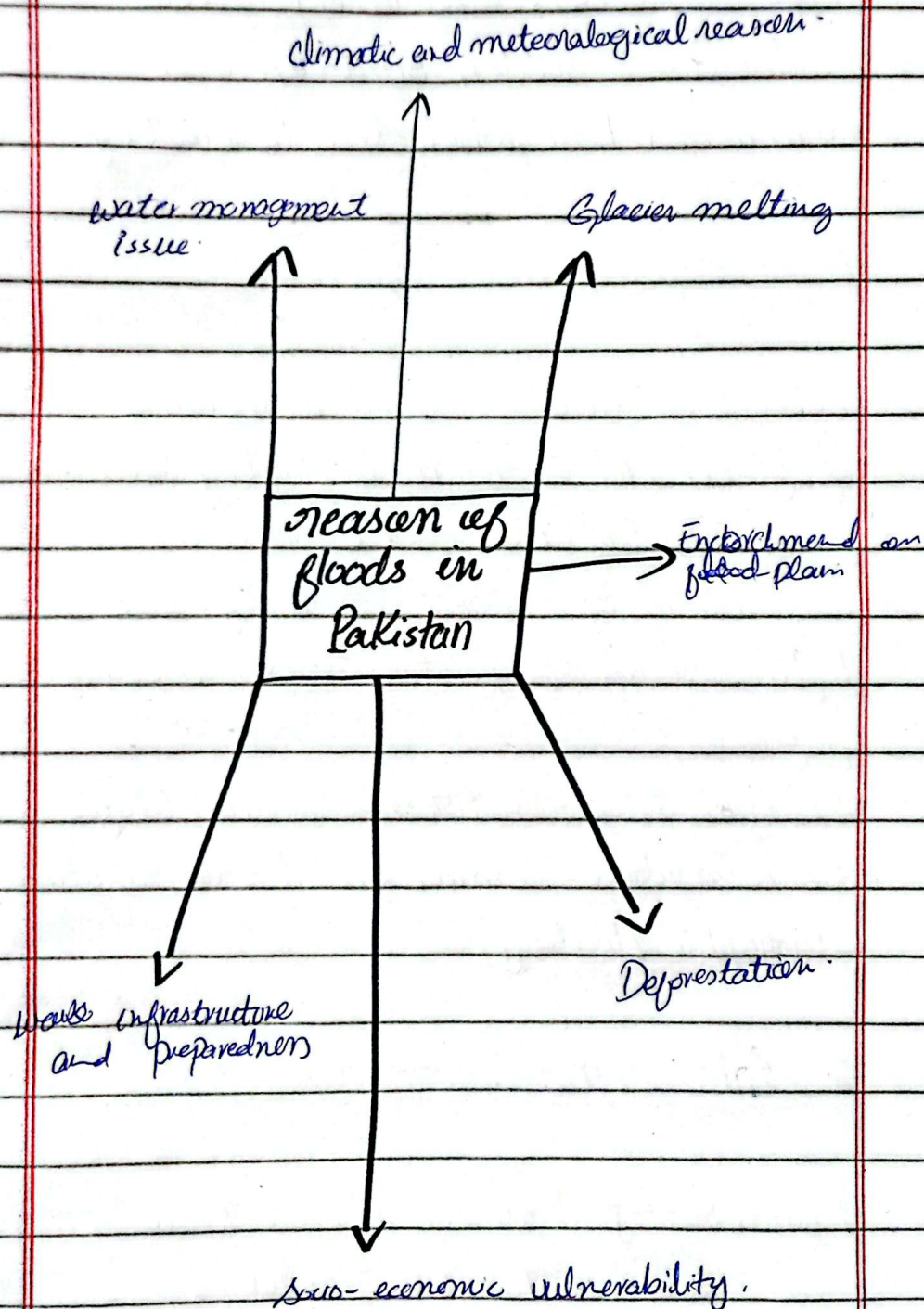
1.1. Climatic and meteorological reason

Pakistan lies in the monsoon belt, and every year receiving around 60-70% of annual rainfall in July - September. However, this year Pakistan received more rainfall than normal range.

According to World Weather Attribution study, monsoon rainfall in Pakistan in 2025 was intensified by climate change.

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And, received upto 10-15% than normal range. Moreover, Pakistan experienced cloudburst — sudden bursts of over 10 mm per hour, which lead to flooding.

2. Glacier melting

Higher temperature can triggered melting of glacier, which results to flooding. This year temperature was 6-7°C higher as compared to year 2021. Similarly, this higher rate of temperature causes melting of glacier.

This year Gilgit-Baltistan — district Gizer saw a mudslide-dammed glacial lake threaten catastrophic flooding.

3. Glacial management issue

Indus, Sutlej, Ravi and Chenab flows from India into Pakistan. However, the sudden releases of water during

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during heavy rainfall can exacerbate flooding in Pakistan.

In August 2025, India opened dams and sending water into Ravi and Sutlej which evacuating 150,000+ in Punjab.

1.4. Encroachment on Floodplains

The illegal encroachment on floodplains, especially illegal housing schemes, agriculture, and industries are reducing water absorption.

In Karachi 2020 & Lahore 2025, the floods submerged into main roads due to clogged drains system and poor planning.

1.5 Deforestation

As Pakistan has one of the highest deforestation rate in South Asia. Similarly, loss of forest reduces natural floods buffers and accelerates landslides and floods.

In 2022 and 2025, flood washed away bridges^{and} here due to reduced forest cover.

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1.6. Weak Infrastructure and disaster preparedness

Old barrages and canals cannot control the extreme discharge of water, which can trigger devastating flood.

1.7. Socio-economic vulnerability

Poverty and lack of awareness limit community preparedness. As over 65% of Pakistani population live in rural areas, and heavily dependent on agriculture and located in floodplains.

Case study: In Sindh 2022, 33 million people affected, 8 million displaced. This is because poor farmers living in muddy houses near riverbank.

2. Policy options for Pakistan to prevent from devastating flood

Community-based early warning system.

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Planned floodplain space

Reforestation

Recommendation
to prevent from
flood

Sustainable urban
drainage system

Early detection
of disaster

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2.1. Community based early warning system

Invest on community sirens, local flood shelters, train volunteers and run seasonal drill

Case study: Bangladesh community-based early warning system reduced repeated losses of flood.

2.2. Planned floodplain space

Identify non-critical floodplain areas to keep as temporary storage and set buyout/relocation for the worst-exposed settlements.

Case study: The Netherlands "Room for the River" program, which lowering levees, creating side channels and flood plains, which reduces the risk of flooding.

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9.3. Reforestation

Reforestation can restore Indus delta mangroves and coastal wetland to absorb storm surges and slow runoff.

9.4. Sustainable Urban Drainage system

Sustainable Urban drainage system reduces urban floodings from cloudbursts and provides groundwater recharge.

9.5. Early detection of disaster

The high-risk glacial lake, install low cost remote sensors / river gauges in valley and set downstream where feasible.

Conclusion

As Pakistan is the top 10 vulnerable country to climate change. Every decade

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, Pakistan hit devastating flood.

Similarly, multiple factors are contributing to flooding. These are ~~are~~ climatic factors, water management issues, glacier melting, encroachment on floodplain, weak infrastructure and preparedness and deforestation. To prevent from flood, multiple policy options are required, which are: community based early warning system, planned floodplain space, reforestation, sustainable urban drainage system and early detection of disaster.

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Q6:

How do you see the challenges and opportunities for china in Trade tariffs imposed by US on both adversaries and allies?

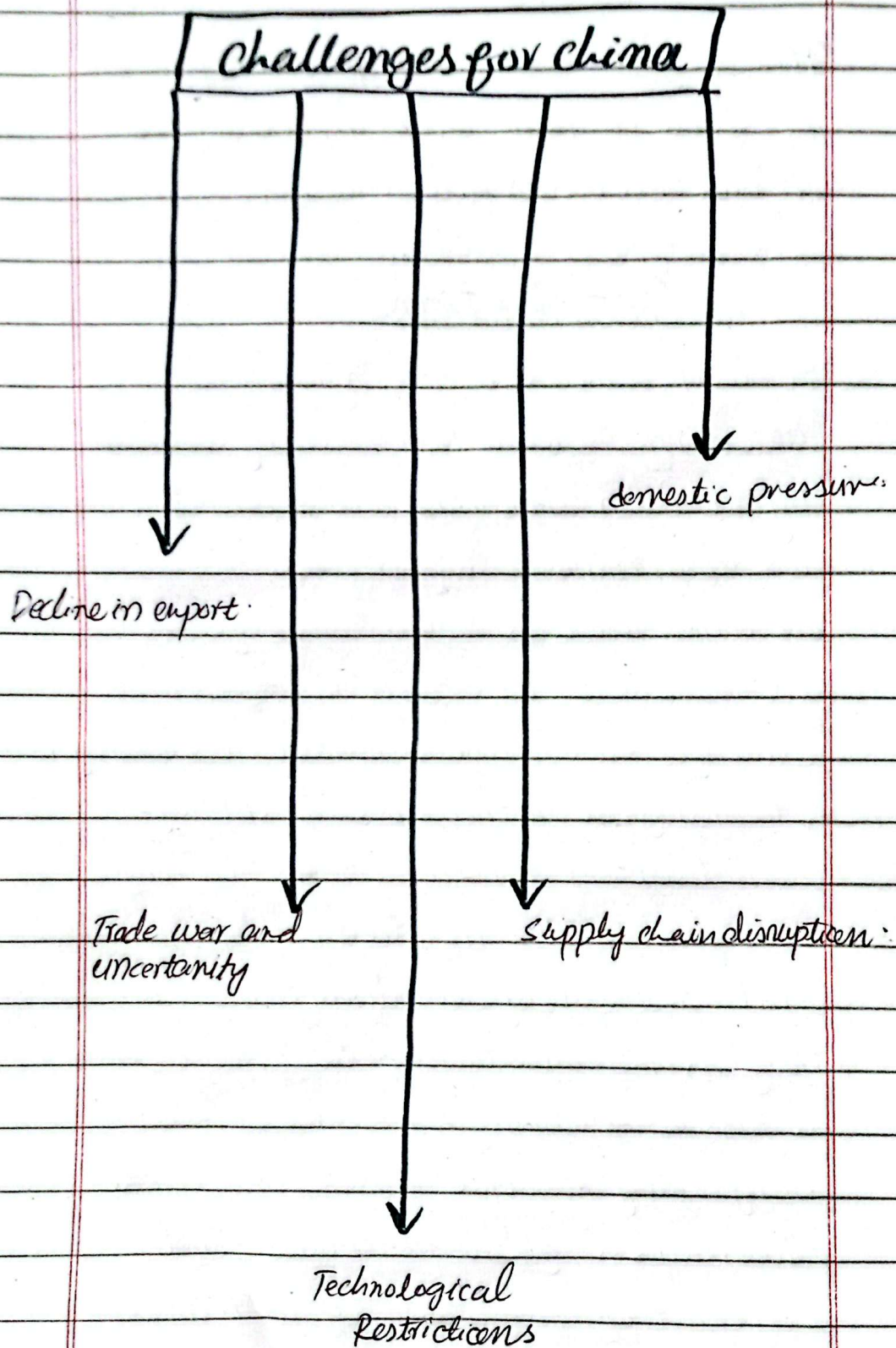
Introduction

The trump administration has imposed trade tariffs, which was partially continued by the Biden administration. Similarly, US also imposed higher trade tariffs on china which is also a challenge for both and US. For china these challenges are, decline in export, uncertainty, technological restrictions and supply-chain disruptions. For America these challenges are expensive goods, inflation, reduces export and supply chain disruptions.

Moreover, the imposition of tariffs on china is also an opportunity for china, such as strengthening domestic Market, new trade partnerships, global perception shift and export of green and digital technology.

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1. Challenges for china

1.1. Decline in export to US

The worth of tariff on china is hundred of billion of dollars, which have reduced chinese export to US especially in electronics, machinery and steel.

1.2. Trade War and uncertainty

The trade war between china and US increased economic uncertainty.

Similarly, this economic uncertainty lead to damaged the investor confidence and slow down china's GDP growth from 6.6% in 2012 to below 5% in recent years.

1.3. Technological restrictions

The tariffs and sanctions on chinese

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firms like Huawei, ZTE and DJTOR have showed china's advancement in semi-conductor and AI.

1.4. Supply-chain disruption

Global companies are de-risking from china and to avoid future tariffs risk, especially in pharmaceuticals, electronics and aerospace.

2. Challenges for US

2.1. Higher costs for American consumers

Tariffs on chinese imports is like tax on U.S. consumers and goods like electronics, furnitures, machinery and clothing will be more expensive for U.S. consumers.

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challenges for US

Higher costs for
American goods

Supply chain disruptions

Inflation

High tariffs hurt US exporters

2.2. Inflation

China is a major supplier of low-cost goods, ~~however~~ however, high tariffs will contribute to supply-chain inflation.

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2.3: Tariffs hurt US exporters

China's retaliation by the imposition of tariffs on US agriculture and industrial exports, will hurt the US exporters.

2.4: Supply Chain Disruptions

Many US industries depends upon on Chinese intermediate goods such as electronics, rare earth, auto parts. Similarly, increase cost as a result of tariffs delay production.

3: Opportunities to China

3.1: Strengthening domestic market

Tariffs on China have encouraged 'dual circulation strategy', where China reduces

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Opportunities for china

Strengthening
domestic market

global perception
shift

New-Trade
partnership

Rise of Yuan
and financial
independence

export of green
and digital technology

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dependency on exports and strengthens its internal market and self-reliance. Moreover, investment con made in china 2025 will boost high-tech industries domestically.

3.2. New Trade Partnership

China have signed the regional comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), which is World largest Trade deal and including around fifteen Asia-Pacific countries. Similarly, China is also expanding the "Belt and Road Initiatives (BRI)" to develop alternate market.

3.3. Global perceptions shift

US also imposes tariffs on its allies and many of its allies are looking china as a more reliable trading partnership, especially in Asia, Middle

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East and South Asia

3.4. Export of Green and digital technology

China is emerging leader of solar panels, electric vehicles and digital payment, which is opening a new trade sector.

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