

Current Affairs (mock 2026)

Q.5 :-

Introduction :-

Floods have become a recurring national emergency in Pakistan. Instead of being occasional disasters, they now strike with alarming frequency, derailing development and causing humanitarian crises.

The floods of 2025 have now again exposed Pakistan's vulnerability, and killing more than 800 people, displacing 167,000 in Punjab, destroying over 4200 homes, and shrinking agriculture by 13%.

These facts illustrate that the flood problem is not purely natural but also a result of poor governance, fragile infrastructure, and lack of resilience.

Reasons of Floods :-

(1) **Climate Change :-**

Rising global temperatures are accelerating glacial melt in the north and increasing the unpredictability of monsoon rains.

According to Scientific Study, rainfall in 2025 is intensified by 15 - 22% due to human-induced Climate Change, making floods more destructive than in past decades.

Geographical Location:-

Pakistan's location in the Indus basin naturally makes it flood-prone. The vast river system spread across the plains of Punjab and Sindh, which are low-lying and easily submerged. Like that, the hilly terrain of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is highly vulnerable to flash flood. Geography makes floods likely, but poor management makes them catastrophic.

Weak infrastructure :-

Most of Pakistan's bridges and dams are decades old and not designed to handle water pressure. They easily break during high floods. Similarly, cities lack proper drainage system.

Deforestation :-

Pakistan has less than 5% Forest Cover, compared to the 25% global benchmark. Forest naturally absorb rainwater and slow down floods. The destruction of mangroves in Sindh has removed natural barriers that protect coastal areas from storm surges.

unplanned Urbanization :-

unregulated growth of cities has blocked natural waterways. Concrete surfaces and housing schemes have sealed water absorption channels and this causes rainwater to accumulate and turning heavy rain into urban flooding.

weak Governance and Institutional Failure :-

Flood management in our country is largely reactive. overlapping responsibilities and lack of coordination delay response.

Policy Recommendations :-

(1) Build Climate - Resilient Infrastructure :-

Dallistom must build small and medium reservoirs to store excess water and upgrade its dams to modern standards.

Strengthened infrastructure will not only protect against floods but also provide water storage for agriculture.

(2) Improve Urban Flood Management :-

There must be proper drainage and stormwater management system.

(3) Invest in early warning system :-

Modern flood forecasting can give early warnings. These alerts must reach the grassroots level in local language, so villagers have enough time to evacuate safely.

4. Reform institutions & Disaster governance:-

A dedicated annual budget should be set aside for disaster risk reduction (DRR) instead of spending only on relief after floods.

5. Enhance International cooperation:-

Pakistan should seek technical expertise from flood-resilient countries. At the same time, it must access global climate financing to build long-term resilience against climate disasters.

Floods demonstrate that Pakistan's crisis is not merely environmental but a mixture of climate change, poor infrastructure, and weak governance. By investing in resilient infrastructure, reforming institutions, and cooperating internationally, Pakistan can shift from reactive relief to proactive resilience.