

# "Disaster management in Pakistan: challenges and way forward"

Brainstorm  
Challenges | way forward

- |                          |                                  |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| i- Budget constraints    | i- Budget enhancing              |
| ii- Genderacy            | ii- Improving educational system |
| iii- poor urban planning | iii- Improving technology        |
| iv- Outdated Technology  | iv- Local government system      |
| v- Bad infrastructure    | v- Proactive management          |
| vi- reactive management  |                                  |

## Outline:-

### 1- Introduction:-

Thesis Statement:-

Pakistan faces several challenges like budget constraints, poor infrastructure, outdated technology, no urban planning and reactive disaster management in disaster management. Pakistan can overcome these challenges by enhancing its capacity to deal with disaster. It can be done by

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allocation of sufficient budget, creating proactive disaster management, spreading awareness, adopting advance technology and by strengthening local government system.

## 2- Disasters being faced by Pakistan:-

- i- Climate change
- ii- Terrorism
- iii- Poverty
- iv- Wild fire etc.

## 3- Challenge faced by Pakistan in disaster management:-

- i- Budget constraints
- ii- Lack of awareness
- iii- Poor infrastructure
- iv- Poor urban planning
- v- Reactive management
- vi- Outdated technology.

## 4- Way forward for Pakistan in disaster management:-

- i- Increasing budget allocation
- ii- Awareness campaigns
- iii- Urban planning
- iv- Proactive management

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- v- Adopting advance technology
- vi- Strengthening local government system.

#### 4. Conclusion

"The essay"

Pakistan is one of the most vulnerable country to climate change. It has been grappling with multiple disaster like floods, earthquakes, terrorism and poverty since its emancipation. It faces multiple challenges like budget constraints, poor infrastructure, lack of urban planning, lack of awareness and reactive disaster management in management of disaster. These challenges can be overcome by allocating sufficient budget, developing climate resistant infrastructure, urban planning, running awareness campaign and by strengthening local government system.

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Pakistan has been facing different disasters like terrorism, climate change and poverty since its emancipation. Pakistan ranked 2nd in global terrorism index. Terrorism has caused great loss of life in Pakistan. The year 2014 was deadliest year of Pakistan's history, terrorist organizations conducted almost 1000 attacks on civilian and armed forces. Climate change has caused damage, floods in 2022, 2024 and 2025 were devastating floods in Pakistan's history. Poverty is another crisis Pakistan is grappling with, according to world Bank finding 15% of Pakistan population lives below poverty line. People are living without shelters. Pakistan needs to manage these disasters but it has certain challenges in disaster management.

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The biggest challenge for Pakistan in disaster management is budget constrain. Pakistan has limited resources but large number of problem to face. In disaster management Pakistan require requires 40-50 billion dollar annually till 2050 according article published in dawn. Pakistan has lost 6% of its total GDP in climate change. Pakistan is 3rd most polluted country in the world according to WHO. Pakistan receive only a fraction of required finance from global climate finance which is 250 million dollar. The Government of Punjab has allocated Rs 100m but there is still need for increase budget for disaster management. There are institutions like NDMA and PDMA for disaster management but their working require budget which

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not sufficient for their working  
Lack of awareness is  
another challenge. People are  
unaware of disaster management  
and basic first aid skills.  
They are not aware of  
intensity and magnitude of  
disasters. During recent  
floods in Punjab people  
remain trapped in water  
because of their unawareness  
of the magnitude of  
floods and lost their lives  
and properties. During  
flash floods in some  
places people were swept away  
in front of their families  
due to unawareness of people flow  
and speed of river.

According to report 70 people  
were trapped in 7 different  
places in state.

The infrastructure  
is partly designed to  
withstand disaster like  
floods and earthquakes.

The clothes of rivers were  
unable to stop water.  
part of road destroyed  
roads, crops and houses etc.  
countries are using modern  
technology to make their  
infrastructure climate and disaster  
resilient. Pakistan is still  
employing old and outdated  
technologies to build its  
infrastructure.

Furthermore, lack of  
urban planning presents a  
great challenge for disaster  
management. There is no  
regulation of housing societies  
in Pakistan. People have  
constructed houses in residential  
areas with no roads or  
connections. The "Pillar view city"  
is a case study in  
this regard. The society  
was submerged in water  
because of its poor planning.  
Likewise, people construct  
houses and farm the

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land during low stream  
without any resistance from  
authorities which presents  
a challenge during disaster  
management.

Moreover, the disaster management  
in Pakistan is reactive.

of responses to the crisis and  
disasters. During the floods  
of 2015 people were getting  
updates and warnings through  
social media rather than

any government system. There  
is not any early warning  
system. People remain unaware  
of disasters and lose  
their lives. The NDMA

and government responded  
to the disaster and  
helped people. The people  
were left at their  
own in flood. No teams  
were there to evacuate

people. & & warn people  
before the disaster.

of both days / & government

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to reach and help people. The part of the essay explained challenges faced by Pakistan in disaster management. The second part of the essay will explain the way forward for Pakistan to overcome these challenges in disaster management.

Every Pakistan requires budget for disaster management. According to World Bank Chief south asia receives only 20% of climate finance of its requirements. Pakistan receives only 250 million dollars as compared to India's 12Bn and Bangladesh 441 millions. Pakistan being one of the most climate vulnerable countries requires more finance to overcome the challenge and disaster management. The Government of Pakistan is taking initiative like

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it has projected 50% of clean energy production till 2030 and 100% electric vehicles production. The and replacing 50% vehicle with EVs. The Punjab government has allocated 100% for disaster management but it is not enough to deal with long scale crises.

Secondly, there is the need of early warning system and adoption of new technologies. Advance technologies must be employed by government to build infrastructure and early warning system. The use of social media and portals are necessary for early warning. The internet is not accessible to all and government can warn people through newspaper, TV channels and by distribution of pamphlets.

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Thirdly, government should start awareness campaigns for disaster management. People must be educated how to react in emergencies and disasters. For this purpose the Government should utilize resources like TV, digital media, social media, news papers, and TV shows. In recent flood where people were unaware of how to evacuate their loved one from flood the must be given awareness of disaster management. The awareness of first aid and climate resistance and disaster resistance houses must be provided to the people who have lost their houses.

Lastly, There is need for the strengthening of local government system.

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as the government officials are not available to everyone, and in local governments the members are easily accessible to everyone. And they can respond well to people. The local government member can help in early warning, evacuation operations and rehabilitation of people as they are well aware of economic and social conditions of the people. As the local government system is fragmented in Pakistan it can not play role in disaster management. Disasters are best managed at local levels where interact and know each other.

Pakistan disaster management is not effective in large scale crises and disasters as it faces multiple challenges like budget constraints.

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poor infrastructures, lack of awareness  
Bad urban planning, use of outdated  
technology and reactive disaster  
management. Pakistan can overcome  
these challenges by allocating  
sufficient budget for disaster  
management, running awareness  
campaigns using improved and  
advance technology, strengthening  
local government and establishing  
proactive disaster management  
rather than reactive.