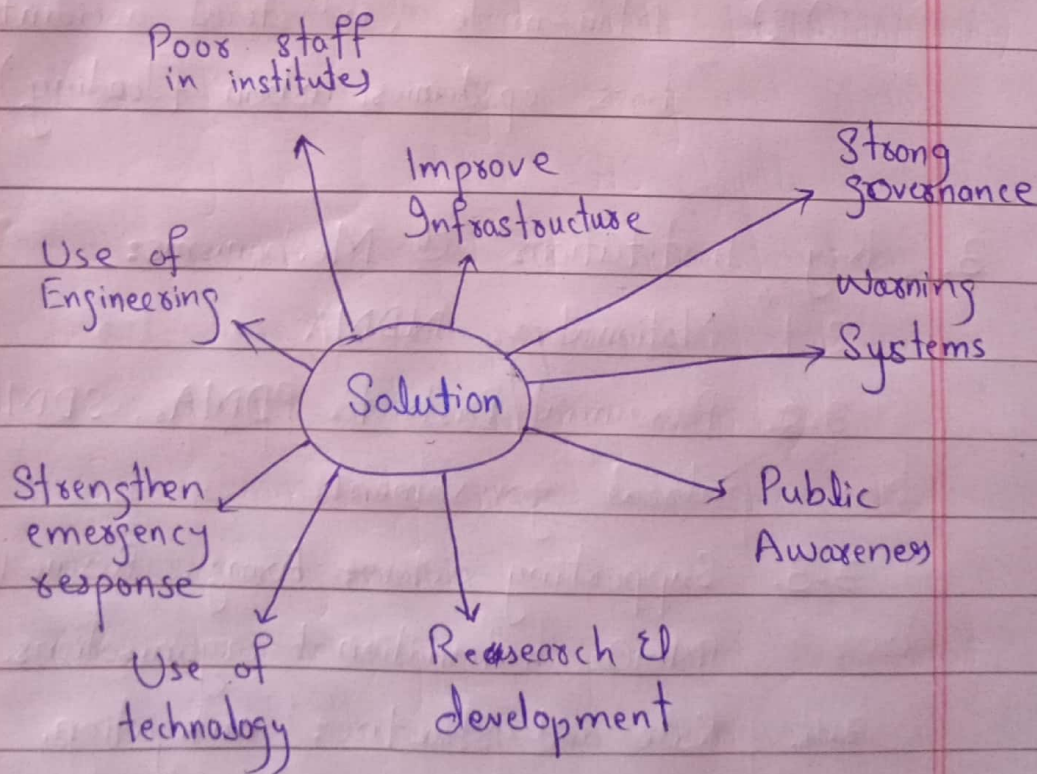
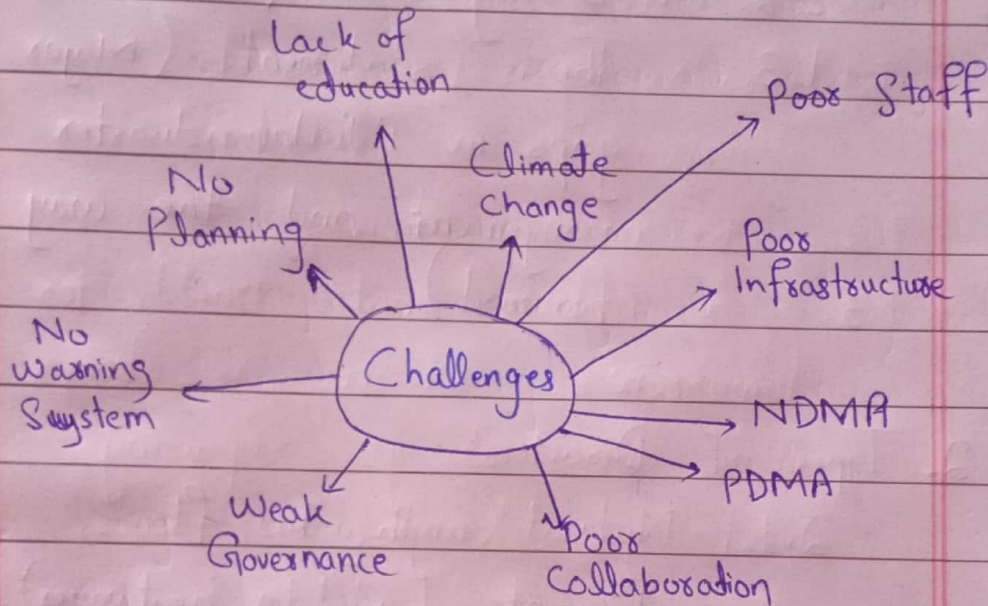


# "Disaster Management in Pakistan: Challenges & Way Forward."

## Brainstorming:



## Outline:

### 1. Introduction:

- 1.1. Hook
- 1.2. Background (Buner cloudburst)
- 1.3. Thesis statement (Major gaps in Pakistan disaster management, and the way forward).

### 2. Types of Disasters:

- 2.1. Natural (earthquakes, floods, droughts, landslides, heatwaves)
- 2.2. Man-made (industrial accidents, fires, epidemics, urban flooding)

### 3. Key Institutions & Mechanisms:

- 3.1. National: NDMA
- 3.2. Provincial/District: PDMA<sub>s</sub>, SDMA<sub>s</sub> local government.
- 3.3. Supporting actors: Army, Rescue 1125, NGOs, international organisations.
- 3.4. Role and Structure: mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery.

## 5. Challenges in Disaster Management:

- 5.1. Weak institutional coordination/funds
- 5.2. Poor infrastructure and buildings
- 5.3. Lack of warning systems.
- 5.4. Urban governance issues: informal settlements, encroachments, drainage failures.
- 5.5. Lack of Public awareness & participation.
- 5.6. Corruption, mismanagement & delayed relief.
- 5.7. Climate change (deforestation).

## 6. Way Forward:

- 6.1. Strengthen institutions (autonomy, funding, trained staff for NDMA/PDMA)
- 6.2. Modern early warning and data systems (satellite, GIS, cloudburst alerts)
- 6.3. Disaster resilient infrastructure.
- 6.4. Climate adaptation (reforestation, watershed management)
- 6.5. Community-based disaster risk management.
- 6.6. Urban planning and enforcement (no illegal construction on riverbanks, proper drainage)

6.7. Regional and international cooperation.

6.8. Use of modern technology.

## 7. Conclusion:

7.1. Urgency of disaster management in Pakistan.

7.2. Reconfirm thesis.

7.3. A nation that builds for tomorrow's storms is stronger than one always repairing yesterday's damage.

## The Essay

"Remember: when disaster strikes, the time to prepare has passed." — Steven Cyros.

These words ring especially true for Pakistan — a country repeatedly struck by natural and man-made calamities,

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yet persistently unprepared. From the devastating 2005 earthquake to the catastrophic 2022 floods, and most recently, the 2025 Buner flash floods that swept away hundreds of lives and homes, disasters in Pakistan are growing in frequency and intensity. Despite having formal institutions like the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs), the country continues to struggle with coordination, early warning, and emergency response. The increasing impact of climate change, rapid urbanisation, and poor governance only magnify these vulnerabilities. This essay explores the major challenges in disaster management in Pakistan and outlines practical strategies to build a more resilient, responsive, and prepared system.