

~ (Question #01) ~

Introduction:

Indus Water Treaty (IWT) was signed between India and Pakistan in 1960 with World Bank as a facilitator. The purpose of this treaty was to solve water disputes between the two countries. IWT has survived many wars and decades of hostilities between the two countries. However, it was first time suspended after the ~~terrorist~~ ^{terrorist} attack in Pahalgam on April 22nd, 2025.

Provisions of Indus Water Treaty

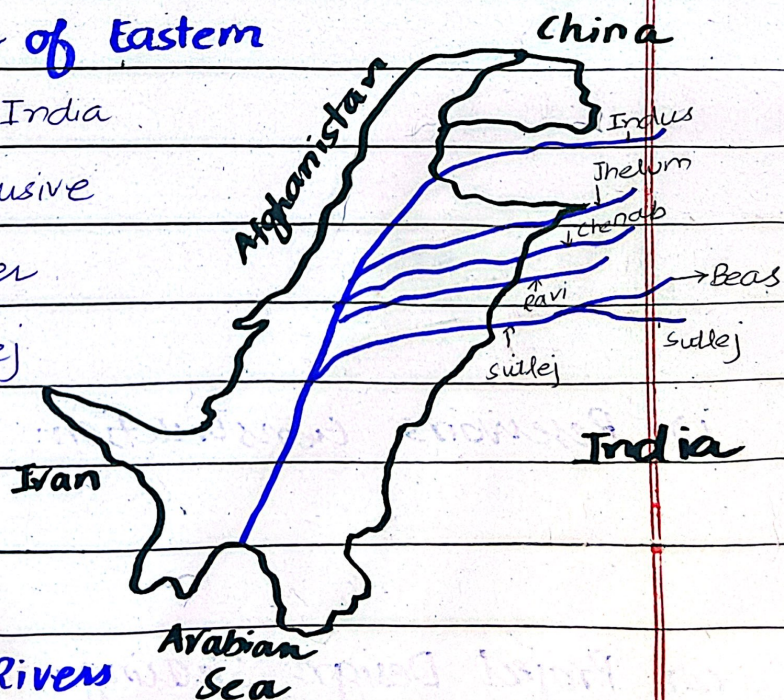
(1) Allocation of Eastern

Rivers: India

has exclusive right over Ravi, Sutlej and Beas

(2) Allocation

of Eastern Western Rivers

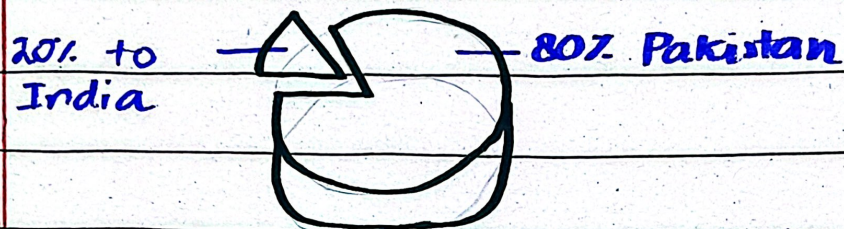


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Western Rivers (Jhelum, Chenab, Indus) have been given to Pakistan.

20% of the total water has been given to India while 80% has been given to Pakistan



∴ Water Distribution Ratio

India is allowed to use western rivers for limited irrigation and for non-consumption uses such as fish farming, navigation and electric power generation.

India is not allowed to build reservoirs or dams without Pakistan's permission.

(1) **Reservoirs Construction:** India can build dams if Pakistan's downstream water need is low.

(2) **Project Design Sharing:** India has

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to share the design of the project with Pakistan before construction.

(3) ~~Objection~~ **Objection**: Pakistan has the right to object to the size and height of the dam.

(4) **Inspection** :- India will allow Pakistan's inspection team to check the under construction sites.

(5) **Diversion** :- No diversion is allowed by building & canals or barrages.

Implications of abeyance or suspension abrogation of treaty

A. India

(1) **Violation of International law and Diplomatic Backlash:**

India cannot unilaterally hold IWT in abeyance as it is a

bilateral legally binding treaty.

Holding in abeyance is a violation of international law.

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India can get severe backlash from United Nations or World Bank. Its global image of a responsible treaty partner would be damaged.

B. Pakistan

1. Water Scarcity:

Pakistan is facing an alarming situation regarding climate change and water scarcity. It is ranked 14th out of 17th worst water countries with a high water risk. According to Ismail Serageldin,

"The future wars will be fought over water."

So in this alarming situation Pakistan needs to take a firm stance against India.

2. ^{Economy} Agriculture Concerns

Since last years, 50% of water has decreased in the western rivers. India blame it

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- on reduced rainfall but Pakistan rejects this claim by saying that the construction of Rattle, Salal, Kishanganga and diversions like Wullae Bunge are the main reason behind it. However whatever the reason may be, water remains one of the most important resource as Indus basin is the backbone of our economy. Agriculture contribute to over 24% in Pakistan's GDP (Gross Domestic Product). 70% of the agriculture of Sindh and Balochistan Punjab depends upon the Indus River. Less agriculture output will result in reduced exports which will eventually lead upto trade deficit.

3. Energy Crisis:

Mangla and Tarbela Dam

are responsible for water energy generation in Pakistan. Decrease in water may result into energy crisis in the country.

c. Regional Impact

Water has become a 'new fault line' in South Asia geopolitics and the water will decide the peace and peril of this region. Any war between the ~~not~~ two nuclear countries over water could destabilize the entire region. Many development projects like CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) will be hindered by this instability.

Policy Options for Islamabad

Under this treaty in case of any dispute, both the countries should try to solve it

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by bilaterally through Indus Water Commission as India is not ready to solve it bilaterally. Then these are the options left for Pakistan.

1. Neutral Experts:

Pakistan should take this matter to any neutral country who can maybe provide good Good Offices or may act as mediator to resolve this issue.

2. International Court of Arbitration

Pakistan If unresolved Pakistan should take this matter to World Bank or International Court of Arbitration (ICA). Pakistan should take a firm stand. and it should hire legal and technical experts who could present its case more effectively.

3. United Nation General Assembly

Pakistan can take this matter to UNGA and request a resolution against India as India has violated the treaty rules.

Conclusion:

Helding in abeyance or abrogating the treaty is a lose-lose situation for both the countries. For Pakistan, it can lead to water and food scarcity while for India it can cause diplomatic backlash so both countries need to resolve this matter as quickly as possible. Renegotiating the terms can prove to be a solution, but it will weaken the already agreed terms.

~(Question #3)~

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Introduction:

Floods are the most frequent and destructive natural disasters in Pakistan due to heavy rainfall, glacier melting and poor water management system. Pakistan Floods in Pakistan are not just natural, but also policy and governance failures. Therefore, it is necessary to combine engineering, institutional and community measure to reduce the vulnerability and improve the resilience.

Causes of Floods in Pakistan

Floods in Pakistan are divided into natural and human induced causes.

Causes

Natural

- ↳ Heavy Monsoon Rains
- ↳ Glacier Melting
- ↳ Topography

Human - Induced

- ↳ Deforestation
- ↳ Encroachment on Floodplains
- ↳ Poor Infrastructure and Coordination

A. Natural

1. Heavy Rainfall:

Heavy monsoon rain from July to September results in overflow of water in the rivers resulting into flash floods.

2. Glacier Melting:

In Gilgit Baltistan, when glaciers melt, they form temporary lakes, but due to global warming, glaciers are melting at an accelerated rate which is causing floods in these areas.

3. Topography:

Flat area of Sindh and Balochistan are very flood prone due to the presence of low elevation and poor drainage systems.

B. Human Induced/ Anthropogenic

1. Deforestation:

Pakistan is one of the most forest deprived countries. Less forests results into less water absorption so excess water does not get absorbed resulting into flash flash floods.

2. Encroachment on floodplain:

Construction of industries and housing societies on floodplain results into high risks for the destruction and loss of life.

3. Poor Infrastructure and Weak Coordination:

~~Before~~ Pakistan's flood water management involves

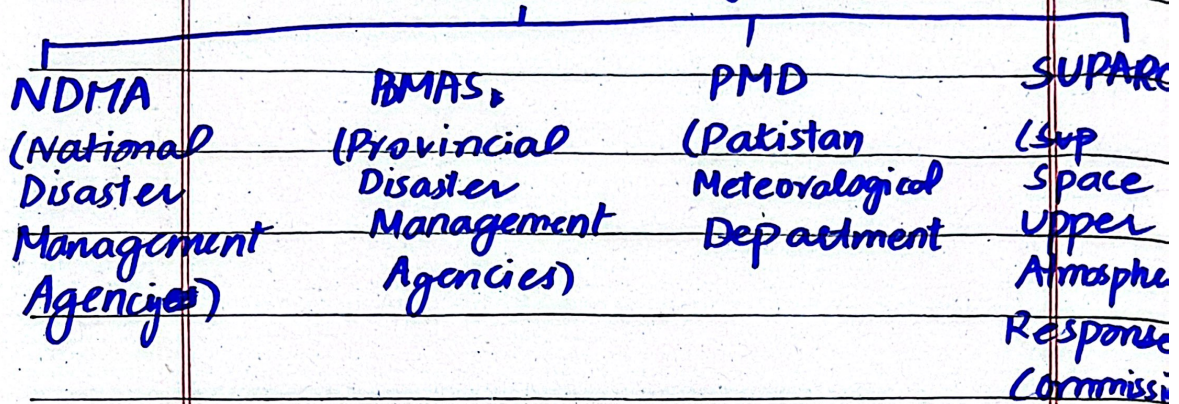
multiple agencies at federal, provincial ^{and} local levels.

~~NDMA~~ (National All of these department work separately and have poor coordination among themselves.

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Institutional Framework for Flood Water Management



Moreover, poor drainage systems in Malachi and Lahore results in urban floods. Broken embankments and neglected canals also result in floods as it was seen in 2005-2022.

Policy Reforms

A. Structural Reforms:

Structural reforms or measures are also called hard reforms.

(i) Building Dams and Reservoirs:

Mangla and Tarbela are used to store water, but capacity needs to be increased so for That reason construction of

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Damers Basha Dam should speed up.

2. Embankments and Canals

Embankments should be made around rivers in flood-prone areas. Moreover water ^{flow} should be diverted through the construction of canals and barrages towards the less populated areas.

3. Reforestation:

Government should spend on building ^{planting} trees. Trees are carbon eaters so they will reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well as reduce the destruction from floods.

B. Non Structural Measures

1. Floodplain zoning:

strict rules should be made ~~to~~ regarding encroachment on floodplains

2. Integrated water Management System (IWMS)

Although NDMA and PDMA issue warning, but due to lack of coordination with the local comm^m.

communities results in deaths of thousands of people.

3. Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction:

Government should involve local communities and should conduct evacuation drills so people know what to do in case of a disaster.

4. Financial support and Aid

Crops should be insured so whenever farmers lose their crops or livestock during flood, government should pay them.

5. Early Warning System

Early warning should

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be issued on mobile phones in local languages before any flood. SUPARCO uses satellite imaging and remote sensing so that can be utilized to issue warnings.

Pakistan has been experiencing devastating floods repeatedly so urgent policy measures should be taken by Pakistan to reduce the impacts of floods.