

DAY: Tuesday

DATE: 28 Oct, 2025

NOA TEST SERIES

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NOA Batch : OB-001 - NTS 26

Subject : Current Affairs.

Question no : 01

WATER POLITICS IN REGION:

Answer:

Outline:

- 1) Introduction.
- 2) Historical context of regional water politics.
- 3) India's withdrawal from the IWT: causes and implications.
- 4) China's construction of Dam on Brahmaputra River.
- 5) Emerging regional Hydro-Politics Dynamic: India, Pakistan and China.
- 6) Environmental and Security Implication.
- 7) Policy Recommendation and Future prospect
- 8) Conclusion.

its not an
essay! It
just write
a small

2 Introduction: ~~(under)~~

Water is the new geopolitical currency. As climate change, population growth and upstream development reshape hydrology, rivers that cross borders have become sources of cooperation and confrontation.

The shared rivers of South Asia play a vital role in agriculture, livelihoods and interstate relations - especially through Indus water Treaty and upper riparian waters controlled by China that feed Brahmaputra.

— "if the wars of this century were fought over oil, the wars of next century will be fought over water." —

(Ismail Serageldin)
(World Bank)

• Historical context of Water politics in South Asia.

The Indus Water Treaty, signed in 1960 under the mediation of World Bank, divided six rivers between India and Pakistan, giving India control of three eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) and Pakistan control of the three western rivers (Indus, Jehlum, Chenab). This treaty often called the world's most successful water-sharing agreement survived wars and political hostility. Meanwhile, China's control over Tibetan Plateau, the source of major Asian rivers like Mekong, Salween and Brahmaputra has given its strategic upper-riparian dominance.

India's Withdrawal from IWT: .

India's move to withdraw the treaty is driven by strategic considerations, national security concerns, and a desire to assert upstream rights.

Pakistan depends heavily on the Indus basin: about 80% of its irrigated agriculture, approximately 16 million hectares of land is fed by waters governed by IWT.

The treaty's governance of water flows is described as "the backbone of the country's agriculture sector".

The withdrawal therefore risks Pakistan's food-security, agrarian economy (which contributes around 21-25% of GDP and employs 45-65% of labour force) and regional stability.

At the same time, it sets precedent for trans boundary - water law and challenges the upstream riparians should not unilaterally alter flows without consent.

China's Construction of Largest Dam on Brahmaputra:

China has approved a mega-hydro power project on Yarlung Tsanpo in Tibet. About 60 GW capacity, costing US\$ 137-170 billion expected annual generation ~300 TWh. But the estimated 60-GW project has raised serious concerns from environmentalists and neighboring countries India and (China) Bangladesh because the dam site is in an earthquake

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fault zone, expert says.

China has rejected criticism about the risks involved in project.

— "Let me reiterate that the decision to build the project was made after rigorous scientific evaluation and the project will not have a negative impact on the ecological environments, geological conditions and the rights and interests related to water resources of downstream countries." —

— "Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Guo Jiakun" —

The project sits near the "Great Bend" where the river enters India.

India and Bangladesh have raised concerns about potential for china to control or manipulate river's flow, which could impact india's north eastern states and Bangladesh's delta regions.

Emerging Hydro Politics Dynamic:

India is in a dual position: as an upper riparian to Pakistan and a lower riparian to china. This creates a complex triangle of hydro-politics.

Pakistan fears reduced water from India. India fears China's upstream projects. China's upper-riparian control gives it leverage. These dynamics can morph water from a cooperative resource into a strategic asset or even a weapon of statecraft.

Environmental and security Implication:

Water stress in South Asia is rising due to glacier melt, erratic monsoons and population growth.

The Tibetan dam project raises seismic risk, ecological fragility of gorge and destabilisation of downstream hydrology.

Militarisation of river basins or unilateral water infrastructure projects without cooperation can intensify distrust, trigger conflicts or even ecological disasters.

Policy Recommendations and Future Prospects:

Given the stakes, regional cooperation is essential. Pak and

China should revive mechanism for joint river-basin management, data sharing, early-warning systems and environmental (work) impact assessments.

For Instance:

- ✓ Expanding IWT's institutional architecture could help.
- ✓ International actors like world Bank, UNDP could facilitate climate-resilient planning.
- ✓ India could negotiate a Brahmaputra-water pact with China.

Conclusion:

The twin moves - india's withdrawal from Indus water Treaty and china's mega dam on Brahmaputra are watershed moments in regional water politics. They mark a shift

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good idea
shift from shared resource diplomacy
to contested resource strategy. The
future of agriculture, livelihoods,
security and peace in south Asia
hinges on turning these rivers from
line of divisions into paths of
collaboration.

make better
circular
on border

Question # 02

FLOODS IN PAKISTAN

Answer:-

Outline:

Introduction

Brief overview of catastrophic situation

Main Reasons behind floods

Policy recommendations

Conclusion:

Introduction:

Pakistan's recurring, often - devastating floods are no longer isolated disasters but a systematic crisis that undermines livelihoods, food security and national development. The 2022 floods affected tens of millions and caused multi billion dollar losses.

Brief Overview of catastrophic Situation:

Pakistan unfortunately, is at such a geographic location on the global map that it always experiences outcomes of every climate menace, particularly climate change.

According to UN OCHA, 1037 people died, with 509 fatalities

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in KP, 322 in Punjab and in Sindh was 90. Approximately 152,140 people are displaced across 949 relief camps.

(ECHO 10 oct 2025)

According to NDMA around 1208 people were killed in 2022 floods.

Main Reasons :

Climate change and Altered monsoon dynamics:

Scientific attribution studies conclude that anthropogenic warming has intensified extreme monsoon rainfall events affecting Pakistan - warmer air holds more moisture, increasing extreme precipitation events that feed flash and riverine floods

These changes are geographic and systematic. The Indian ocean and regional atmosphere are warming, shifting monsoon patterns and increasing extreme rainfall incidence.

- **Rapid urbanisation, encroachment and weak planning:**

Unplanned urban growth, lack of building codes enforcement, inadequate stormwater drainage and encroachment on channels convert what would be survivable floods into disasters. Urban impervious surfaces increase runoff and overload inadequate drainage networks.

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Institutional, governance and financial gaps:

Early warning systems, forecasting - to - action linkages, pre-positioning of relief, land policy have been inconsistent.

Disaster risk reduction is under funded relative to need

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1) Short - term - prepare and protect:

Forecast based financing and early action:

Operationalize impact - based forecasts that trigger automatic, per funded evacuation and relief for high risk districts.

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Emergency drainage and urban de-clogging.

• Rapid audit of urban drainage bottlenecks in major cities before monsoon seasons.

• Temporary mobile pumping units for key-hubs.

Long-term : Transform and institutionalize:

- ✓ Strategic reservoir and
- ✓ Storage planning.
- ✓ National Flood Resilience Facility.
- ✓ Institutional reform and data governance.
- ✓ Climate diplomacy and loss and damage financing.

make a framework

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Conclusion:

Pakistan's floods are a compound crisis: climate change amplifies natural variability, while local land-use, infrastructure, governance weaknesses turn hazard into disasters. The cost of inaction is the repeated erosion of development gains; the cost of strategic investment is a future where floods are managed risks.

Act with urgency and finance with creativity because Pakistan's social and economic future depends on it.

