

28: Oct: 2025
KINZA NAWAZ

Current Affairs (Mock #01)

Question #03

Pakistan is repeatedly hit by devastating floods. Critically evaluate its reasons and recommend policy options for the nation to follow.

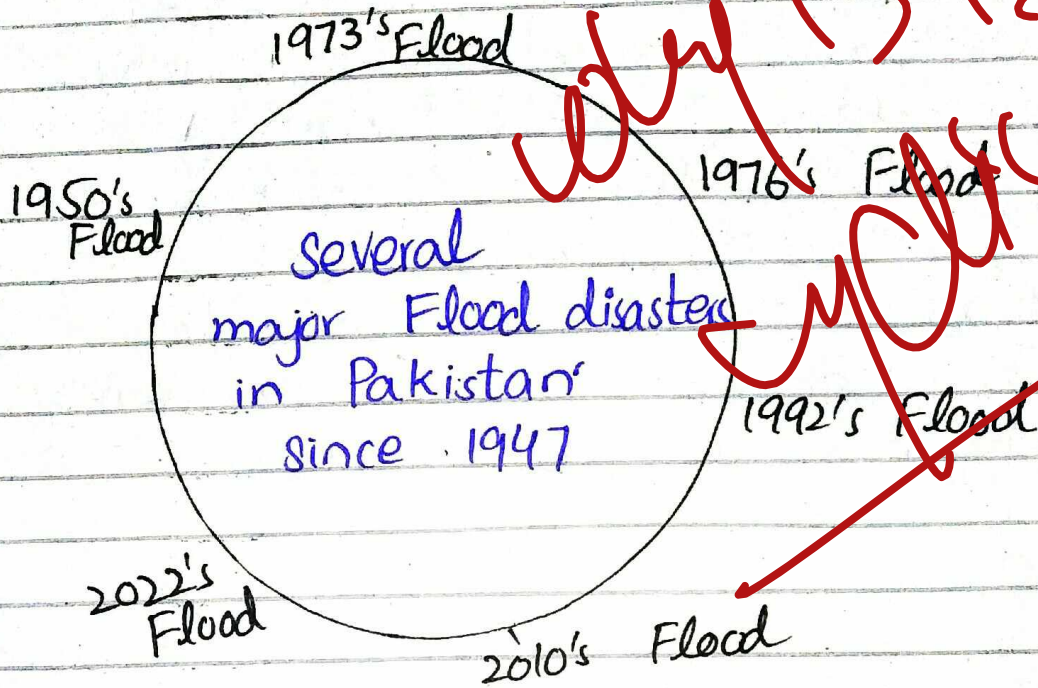
Introduction:

Pakistan being an agricultural country is highly vulnerable to recurrent floods. Since its independence, from almost seven decades it faces more than 20 major ~~floods~~. It causes loss of thousands of lives, economic losses, ~~social vulnerability~~, and administrative mismanagement. Some reasons behind this vulnerability are poor infrastructure,

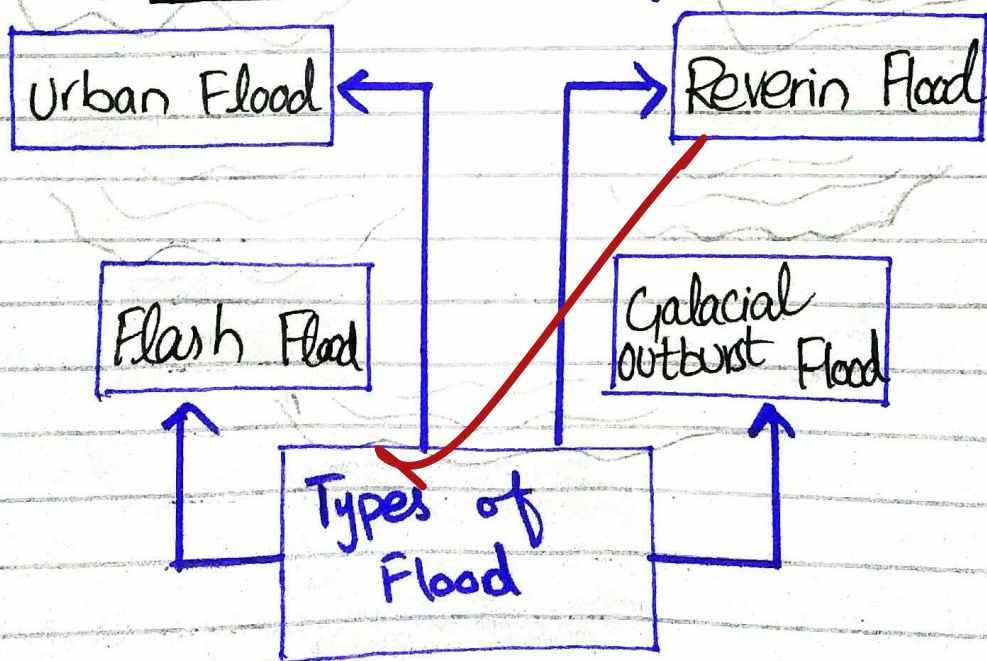
Weak disaster preparedness,
national distrust and political
interference. To overcome
all these issues related
to flood disaster, government
should take appropriate
measures including awareness
campaigns, early warnings
system, Dams construction
and betterment of
infrastructure. So floods
can become an opportunity
rather than a crisis.

Historical Overview:

Since its independence Pakistan had faced several floods. Notable among them are:



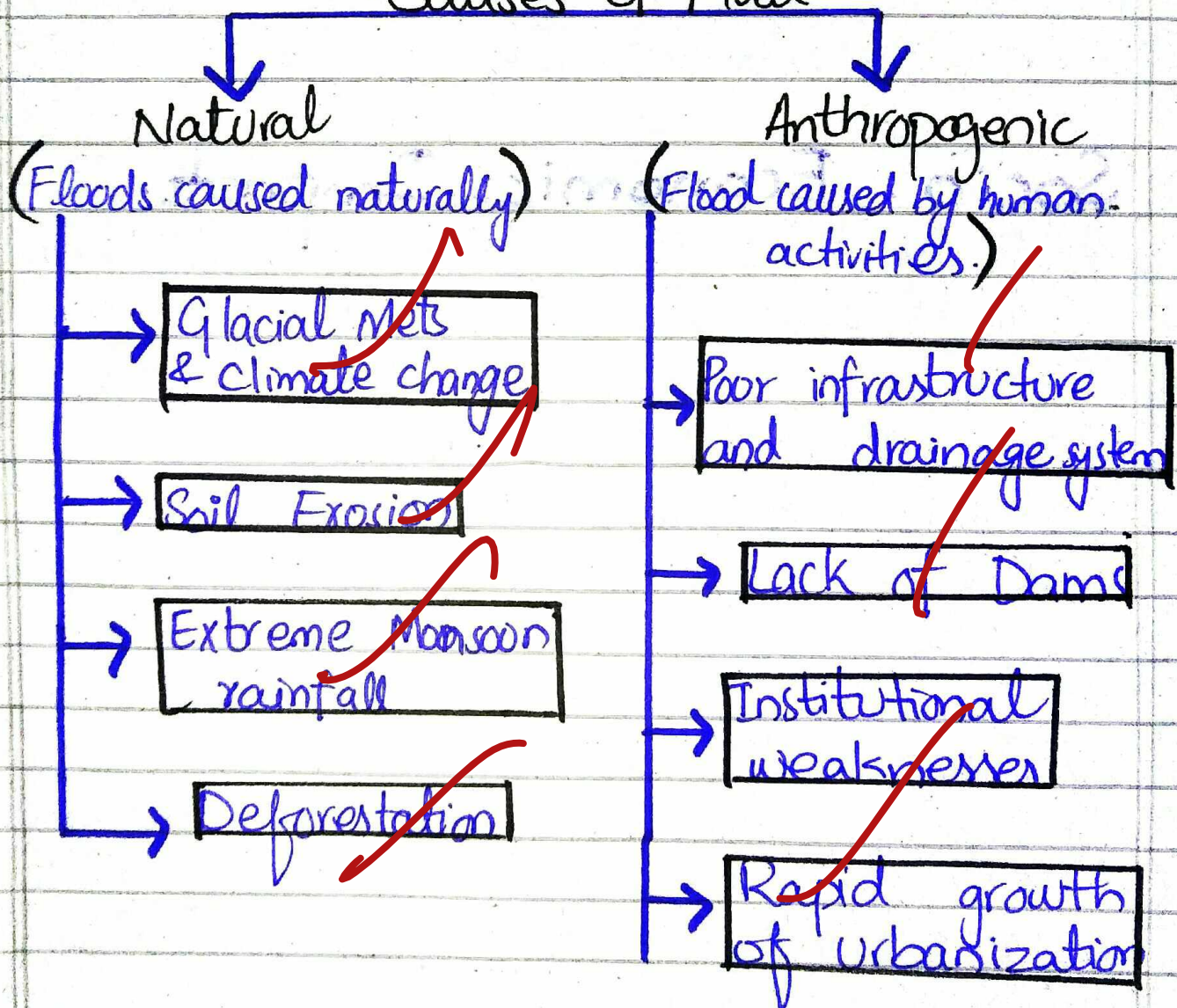
Nature and Types of Flood in Pakistan



Major Causes of Flood in Pakistan

In Pakistan, flood is caused by several reasons. These reasons are categorised into two types

Causes of Flood



Consequences of Flood in Pakistan.

Pakistan is facing consequences of flood from several decades. Floods have weakened Pakistan economically and socially, politically and environmentally.

• Socio - Economic Impacts.

→ Million of livelihoods displaced, and several lives lost.

→ Infrastructure have been destroyed including roads, buildings, bridges, schools and health centers.

→ Crops destroyed, which results in food scarcity.

→ In major flood years, 2-3% economic loss has been estimated 2-3% of GDP annually.

• Environmental Impact

- Flood caused soil erosion, water contamination, biodiversity loss, long term salinization.
- Due to flood many diseases included malaria, dengue, cholera and eye diseases spread rapidly.

Political and Administrative Implications

- Floods increased dependence on international loans and aids.
- Due to inequitable distribution of relief increase regional tensions.
- Public dissatisfaction increased due to crisis response by government.

Critical Evaluation

Despite policy interventions, Pakistan's flood management remains ineffective due to many reasons including:

Institutions Overlap and Non-Coordination:
Instance contains NDMA, PDMA and WAPDA

Outdated Infrastructure:

Outdated infrastructure results in the infrastructure loss due to flood.

Lack of Public participation:

During flood disaster absence of local participation has been observed that causes weakening of early warnings and evacuation system.

Weak enforcement of Law:

Laws related to risk management exist but they are rarely implemented.

Corruption and Political interference:

Funds associated to disasters mitigation are often delayed or misused by corrupt authorities.

Policy Recommendations

Short term Measures

- • Strengthen early warning system.
- • Awareness Campaigns
- • Evacuation of targeted Areas
- • Emergency response preparedness

Long term Measures

- • Construction of dams
- • Afforestation and Reforestation
- • Urban flood Management
- • Updated Infrastructure
- • Watershed Management
- • Data driven decision making
- • Strengthening of Institutions

Conclusion:

There was a time when floods were just a natural calamity. Nowadays floods are not merely a natural calamity in Pakistan. They are outcome of human negligence, poor planning and weak governance. It causes environmental vulnerability, lead to economic loss and nations distrust. To overcome all these Pakistan's government can make their policies for long term and short term measures. The main reason is not the policy making but the policy implementation. If by policies enforcement Pakistan move from "Crisis management" to "Risk management". It can minimize losses and transform flood disasters to opportunities of water storage, agriculture and sustainable development.

Question #02

How do you see the water politics in the region after India's decision to move out of Indus water treaty and China's decision to build the world's largest dam on Barhamaputra River?

Introduction:

Water is South Asia is not merely a resource it is a strategic asset. Energy systems rely on hydropower, flood management need timely data. Recent policy shifts India's suspension from the 1960's Indus Water Treaty and a mega project of China (Dam construction) have transformed the system and create a new phase of regional water politics. These developments increased the tension in the region.

Indus Water Treaty-Background:

The Indus water treaty was signed between Pakistan and India in 1960. With the help of world Bank. This treaty divides the six rivers of Indus basin between Pakistan and India.

It was decided that eastern rivers (Ravi, Sutlej and Beas) were allocated to India while Pakistan got western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab).

Roughly estimated, Pakistan receives 80% of Indus system and India about 20%.

India's Recent Decision:

In April 2025, India announced the suspension of treaty citing the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir.

In June 2025, Indian Home Minister Amit Shah publicly stated that India would never restore this treaty and shows intent to use water for domestic purposes that was allocated to Pakistan.

China's Brahmaputra Mega Project

In July 2025, China started a mega project of building a world's largest dam on upper Brahmaputra near Tibet. It is estimated to generate 300 billion kWh annually and an investment of 1.2 trillion ~RMB.

Strategic and Political Implications

- Immediate Risks to Pakistan:
Due to suspension of Indus Water Treaty and formation of world's largest dam, Pakistan is vulnerable in the following fields.
- Water security & agriculture
 - Electricity

- Military Risk
- Economic and human costs

Conclusion:

The unfolding changes in Indian water politics marked by Indian suspension from Indus Water Treaty have pushed the region into a more dangerous hydropolitical environment.
