

Q4) Pakistan's foremost national interest is to address the various challenges to its climate. Elaborate.

### Introduction

Pakistan due to its location<sup>is</sup> facing severe climatic challenges. Although its contribution in climate change is less than 1%, yet it is one of the most vulnerable countries in South Asia.

Drastic effects of climate change;

Floods, Monsoon patterns, Heat waves,

Glaciers melting, water scarcity,

Agricultural losses ~~have~~ are insisting to address challenges to climate ~~changes~~

as a part of national interest. Among these challenges unstable economic condition,

Ineffective implementation of policies, limited

grid system, Terrorism, Overloaded urban

population, poverty, <sup>absence of</sup> water storage reservoirs,

are necessary to be addressed immediately.

### Financial constraints

In order to mitigate the climatic effects

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it is necessary to adapt to sustainable life style. Renewable energy resources are good sources of sustainability but their cost is high. Pakistan's economic condition is not stable due to limited revenue generation and other fiscal challenges.

### Terrorism

It is one of the major challenges to mitigate climatic effects. Pakistan greatly rely on China for renewable energy resources. Terrorism creates hurdle in foreign investment. The less populated regions; ~~the~~<sup>ex</sup> FATA regions are more suitable to plant renewable energy systems but due to the peaks of terrorism it is not possible.

### Poverty

Poverty is also among one of the challenges to address the devastating effects of climate change. According

to the 2023 census of population about 24 million people reside in coastal zone. They rely on fishing or don't afford living costs in plain areas. They are the most <sup>vulnerable</sup> affected population to climatic effects.

### Over loaded urban population

The unaddressed high influx of population in urban regions are speedily declining the forest regions. Deforestation is posing significant dangers to Pakistan's climate.

### Ineffective implementation of policies

Policies designed to mitigate climatic challenges are restricted to documentation level. They are not visible at ground. There is lack of check and balance system to implement climate related policies. One of the central cause is political.

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disposers.

### Outdated grid system

In order to tackle reduce the use of coal for electricity production which is among the major contributors to climate change, we would switch to solar system. Due to outdated grid system it is not possible to install universal metering system

### Lack of water storage reservoirs

It is the need of an hour to construct water storage reservoirs because the ~~flood water~~ rivers become flooded and ~~the~~ overflow their banks and thus the water submerges agriculture land causing severe consequences for agriculture sector. Additionally, in summer due to high temperatures glaciers melt <sup>resulting in</sup> the loss of only source of clean water. Due to

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the limited water storage units water scarcity is ~~dominating~~ becoming dominant. It is forecasted that by 2030 Pakistan will be among 5 most arid countries in the world.

Conclusion

In a nutshell, it is important to address the challenges to climate of Pakistan. The devastating consequences of climate change faced by Pakistan have become a <sup>dominant</sup> non-traditional threat. It's costing lives, deteriorating life-standards, ~~and~~ causing food insecurity and major economic blow to the country.

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