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Q# 2

1. Introduction:

Climate change is no longer viewed as a mere environmental issue, it has transitioned into a Non-Traditional Security (NTS) threat. While traditional security focuses on territorial integrity and military threats, NTS threats like climate change challenge the very survival of state through resource scarcity, economic collapse, and social upheaval. Despite contributing less than 1% to global greenhouse gas emissions, Pakistan consistently ranks among the top 10 most vulnerable countries on the global climate risk index.

2. Socio-Economic Implications:

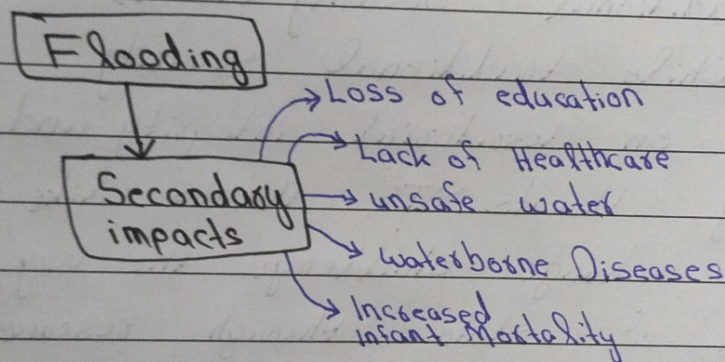
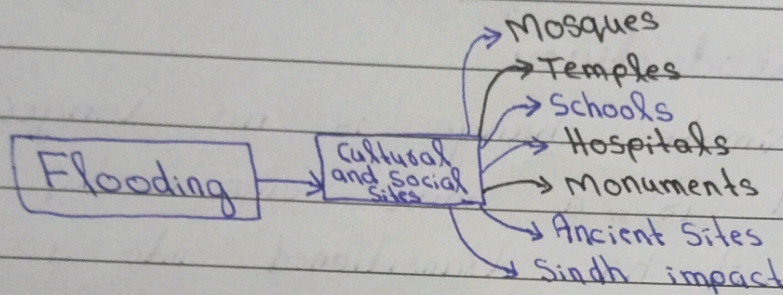
The floods of 2025 acted as a systemic shock, reversing gains in poverty reduction

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and crippling the agrarian economy



A- Economic Contraction:

The floods shaved an estimated 0.5% off the national GDP. The agricultural sector Pakistan's backbone, suffered catastrophic losses.

• Crop Destruction:

In Punjab, 60% of rice, 35% of cotton and 30% of sugarcane crops were destroyed.

• Inundation:

Over 2.5 million acres of farmland were submerged.

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nationwide

B. Humanitarian Crisis and Poverty:

Over 1000 fatalities and 6.9 million people were affected. The World Bank's revised poverty threshold saw Pakistan's poverty rate spike from 39.8% to 44.7% following the disaster.

C. Public Health Crisis:

Stagnant floodwaters in Sindh and South Punjab triggered a secondary disaster of waterborne diseases (Cholera, Malaria) and Malnutrition.

3. Political and Governance Implications

Climate change acts as a catalyst for political instability and inter-provincial friction.

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A. Erosion of Public Trust:

Delays in relief to remote areas like Swat, Buner, and Kohistan created a perception of "State Neglect" where marginalized communities felt abandoned.

B. Inter-Provincial Water Tensions:

The 2025 floods were preceded by a drier than average winter, leading to acute water scarcity in Sindh before the deluge.

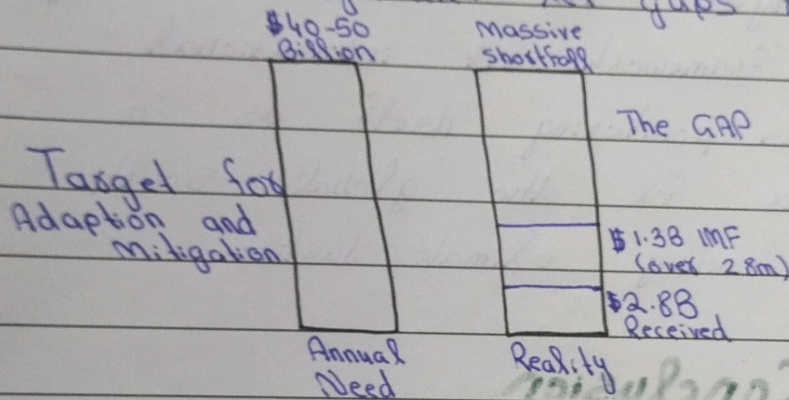
C. Internal Displacement and Urban Strife:

The migration of millions from flooded rural areas to cities like Karachi and Lahore often leads to ethnic and economic polarization in urban centers.

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Pakistan's response has shifted from "Reactive Relief" to "Proactive Risk Management." Yet gaps remain.



The establishment of the NEOC under the NDMA was a milestone in 2005. By using satellite imagery and AI-driven early warnings, the state managed to evacuate nearly 3 million people.

The government utilized

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the Prime Ministers Ex-Gratia Relief Package, providing Rs. 2 M to next-of-kin of the deceased.

C. Climate Diplomacy

Pakistan successfully leveraged the "Loss and Damage Fund" framework at international forums positioning itself as a leader for the global south in seeking climate justice.

5. Conclusion

Climate change is an existential threat to Pakistan that transcends environmental boundaries. It is a security challenge that requires a "Whole-of-Nation" approach. While the institutional framework exists, the transition from policy to practice supported by climate finance and technological transfer is essential to safeguard Pakistan's

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