

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हाशिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
must not
write on this
margin

Q. Account for the huge flooding of million cities in India including the smart ones like Hyderabad and Pune. Suggest lasting remedial measures(150 words). (2020)

Flooding is a major issue in India, has become more frequent than before due to several artificial factors & Climate Change also.

• Growth- Efforts to modernize urban cities cause other issues ~~for~~ related to poor → Planning & water management-

⇒ ① Urban flooding as Key factor:

→ Rapid Urbanization has led to poor water management e.g. as witnesses in Guwahati. natural wetlands replaced by building results to pool in streets during monsoon.

⇒ ② Drainage System Overload:

- Encroachment on Natural Waterways & Construction on river bed, Lakes & Ponds disrupted natural flow of rain water. e.g. Hydrabad face severe floodings in 2020 due to encroachment- on Lakes used to act as natural reservoir

⇒ ③ Climate Change: Erratic rainfall pattern

As seen in cities like Hydrabad, increase the frequency and intensity of the flood

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① Smart Cities Struggling: Even Pune a Smart City under Smart City Mission saw major water logging in 2021 during heavy rains.

Way forward :

① Upgrading Flooding: Cities must invest in modern drainage & stormwater system
example - China Sponge city, Replacing artificial infrastructure with natural system like sewage & roads.

② Restoration of Wetlands:

Protect natural flood ~~like~~ buffer like Buwanati's wetlands to mitigate flooding
NWCP (National Wetland Conservation Program) ~~can~~ should expedite its wetland restoration efforts.

③ Smart Flood Management: Integrated flood monitoring and early warning systems in Smart cities.

e.g. Copenhagen, Denmark implement advance climate adaptation plan, including monitoring automated - flood gates, which improved the city flooding issues. & UK, London Thames Deanders

Urbanization changes habitat, removal of vegetation alters hydrology, from China example we can learn that ~~that~~
By incorporating natural infrastructure into city design we can create more resilient & sustainable urban environment.