

Disaster Management · GS - III

Disaster Risk Reduction requires a shift from reactive disaster management to proactive risk governance. Discuss the role of international cooperation and resilient infrastructure in strengthening India's disaster preparedness.

EXAM YEAR

Daily Practice 27/10/2026

PAPER

GS - III

SUBJECT

Disaster Management

MARKS

10

WORD LIMIT

~150 words

Answer Hint

Disaster Risk Reduction requires prevention, preparedness, resilient infrastructure and coordinated response. International cooperation enables technology sharing, early warnings, financing and capacity-building, while strengthening locally led resilience.

Model Answer

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) involves preventing new risks, reducing existing vulnerabilities and strengthening resilience to disasters. With climate change, urbanisation and interconnected infrastructure increasing exposure, reactive relief alone is insufficient.

India supports international cooperation through engagement with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and multilateral disaster-risk initiatives. Such cooperation facilitates knowledge-sharing, technology transfer, early-warning systems, resilient construction and coordinated humanitarian assistance.

Resilient infrastructure is crucial because disruptions to electricity, transport, telecommunications, healthcare and water supply can magnify disaster losses. Risk-sensitive planning, climate-resilient standards, ecosystem restoration and stronger building-code enforcement can reduce vulnerability. India's disaster governance framework also emphasises institutional coordination, preparedness and community participation.

However, financing gaps, uneven local capacity, inadequate risk data and weak enforcement remain challenges. India should strengthen multi-hazard risk assessments, invest in resilient public infrastructure, improve last-mile warnings and integrate disaster risk into development planning. Thus, international partnerships must complement domestic capacity and community-led preparedness to achieve sustainable disaster resilience.

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