Q1 There is a need to move away from disaster management to disaster risk management which requires us to pursue all developmental activity in a manner that lead to reduction of disaster risk. Discuss (250 words)

Ans With development, the anthropogenic disasters risks are increasing and so is the need for a shift from the conventional 'Disaster Management' to Disaster Risk Management which involves scientific assessment & measures for disasters to averse the risks.

The Need of Risk Management arises because:

1) As per World Bank, Economic ~~loss~~ losses due to disasters is 2% of GDP.
2) More development → more risks → Chemical, Biological, Infrastructural
   e.g. Recent fire incident in Surat.
3) Intertwined Risks like heavy Rains leading to floods & landslides & deforestation increasing the chances.
4) Losses from disasters will reverse the progress achieved in Sustainable Development Goals.

From Disaster Management to Disaster Risk Reduction

India has put in place Legal & institutional mechanisms and deployed scientific and technological capabilities for disaster risk reduction.

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→ Globally also the need has gained momentum with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015) which calls for involvement of all stakeholders (local, private) to reduce disaster risk

Inspite of efforts, Challenges remain :-

→ Technological Disasters like industrial continue to spiral

→ Environmental Disasters including the looming water crisis is making the task difficult.

→ Little success has been achieved in mainstreaming disaster mgmt with development processes.

→ Lack of awareness among local communities & Top-down approach

→ Amount spent on developing Early warning systems & infrastructure or developing disaster resilient crops is miniscule compared to expenditure on disaster response.

Way Forward

↳ Disaster Risk Audit of future projects in prone areas

↳ People centred preventive approach

↳ Engage and incentivize private sector in design & implementation of standards

↳ Inclusive strategy involving women, Youth & civil society as leaders

↳ Adapting disaster resilient building byelaws, land use zoning, resource planning, technical competence at National & local level.

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↳ Integrating MAKE IN INDIA, SMART CITIES MISSION, DIGITAL INDIA with disaster risk planning.

Its high time that we learn from past mistakes and develop strategies of implementing Sendai framework in conjunction with the SDG's and Paris climate agreement to address the neglected but inevitable task of Disaster Risk Management in India.

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