



Dated: 25 March 2025

Subject: **Drought Conditions Emerging in Parts of the Country**

Reference: NDMA's Drought Advisory dated 21 January 2024.

Recent rainfall spells in the country have **improved drought** conditions in central and upper parts of the country but drought conditions are continue to persist in **Sindh**, **southern parts of Balochistan** and lower eastern plain areas of **Punjab**. Overall, **below normal** rainfall (**-40%**) is observed across Pakistan from **1<sup>st</sup> September 2024** to **21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025**. The major rainfall deficits were observed in **Sindh (-62%)**, **Balochistan (-52%)** and **Punjab (-38%)**. The details of (%) age departure of rainfall is given as:-

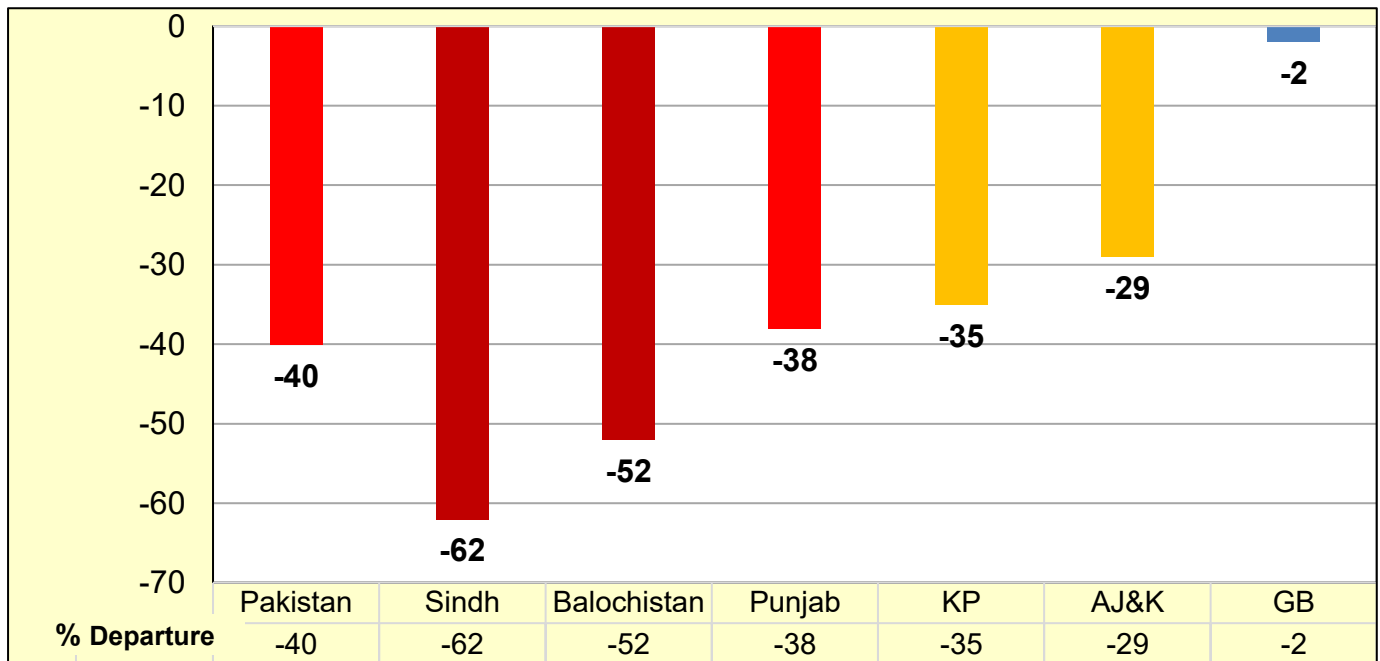


Figure-1: Rainfall Departure (%) across Pakistan

(Source: PMD)

2. There is an **acute shortage** of **stored water** in the **Tarbela** and **Mangla dams**, with river flows at **extreme lows** (Figure-2). The mean temperature in the lower half of the country during **March 2025** is **2-3°C above normal**, **intensifying** the **water crisis**. Some **southern regions** have faced over **200 consecutive dry days**, **worsening drought conditions**. This alarming situation threatens **agriculture**, **drinking water supply**, and **hydropower generation**, demanding urgent **conservation efforts** and **interventions**.

3. Keeping in view the current weather situation and seasonal climate outlook, the drought

situation may exacerbate and intensify in the following drought affected areas of the country.

S.No.	Sindh		Balochistan		Punjab
	Moderate	Mild	Moderate	Mild	Mild
1.	Padidan	Ghotki	Gawadar	Chaghi	Bahawalnagar
2.	Shaheed Benazirabad	Jacobabad	Kech	Jaffarabad	Bahawalpur
3.	Dadu	Larkana	Lasbella	Jhal Magsi	Rahim Yar Khan
4.	Tharparkar	Sukkur	Panjgur	Sibbi	-
5.	Umerkot	Khairpur	Awaran	Nushki	-
6.	Hyderabad	Sanghar	-	Washuk	-
7.	Thatta	-	-	-	-
8.	Badin	-	-	-	-
9.	Karachi	-	-	-	-

Figure-2: Drought Monitor

(Source: PMD)

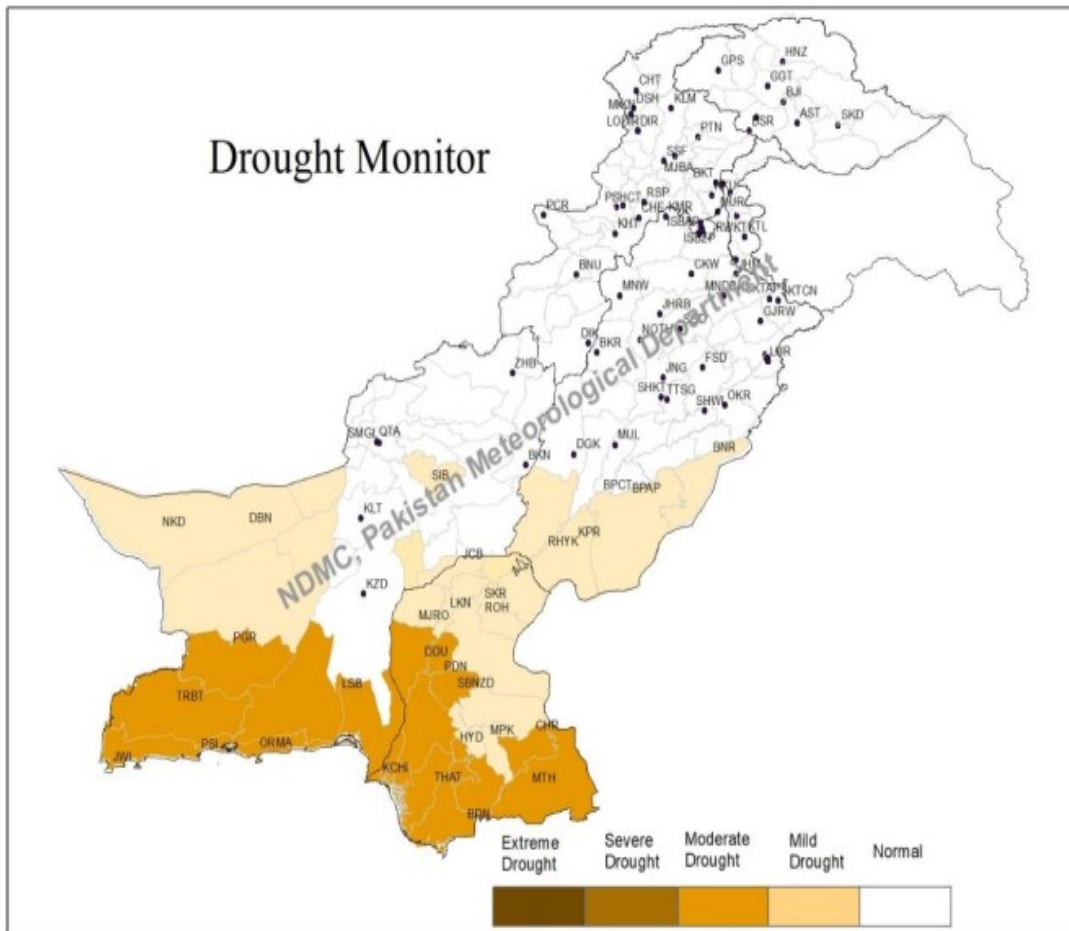


Figure-3: Drought Monitor

(Source: PMD)

4. The National Drought Monitoring & Early Warning Centre (NDMC), Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) and NDMA, Tech Team is continuously monitoring the meteorological conditions over the country. The emergence of persistent drought also anticipated in upcoming months in light of the lasting rainfall deficit as well as the increasing temperatures in months to come, as per the climatology of the country.

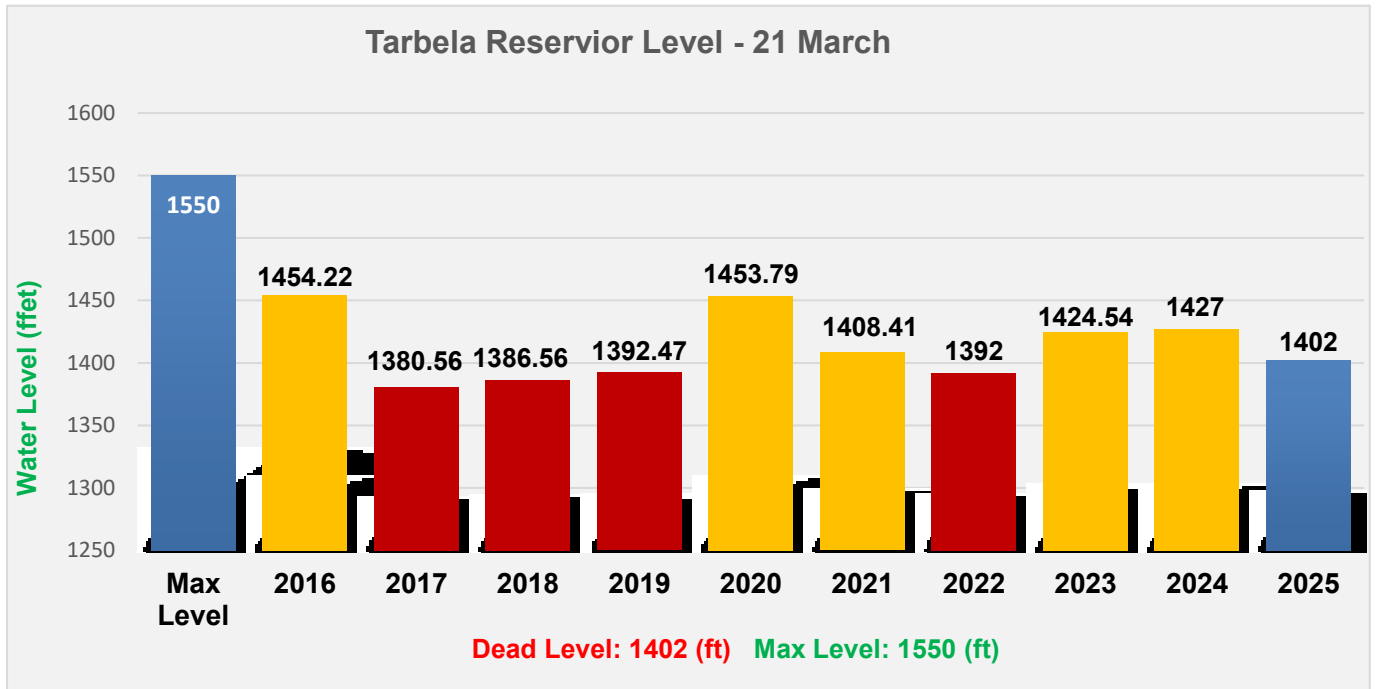


Figure 3: Tarbela Reservoir Level  
(Source: PMD)

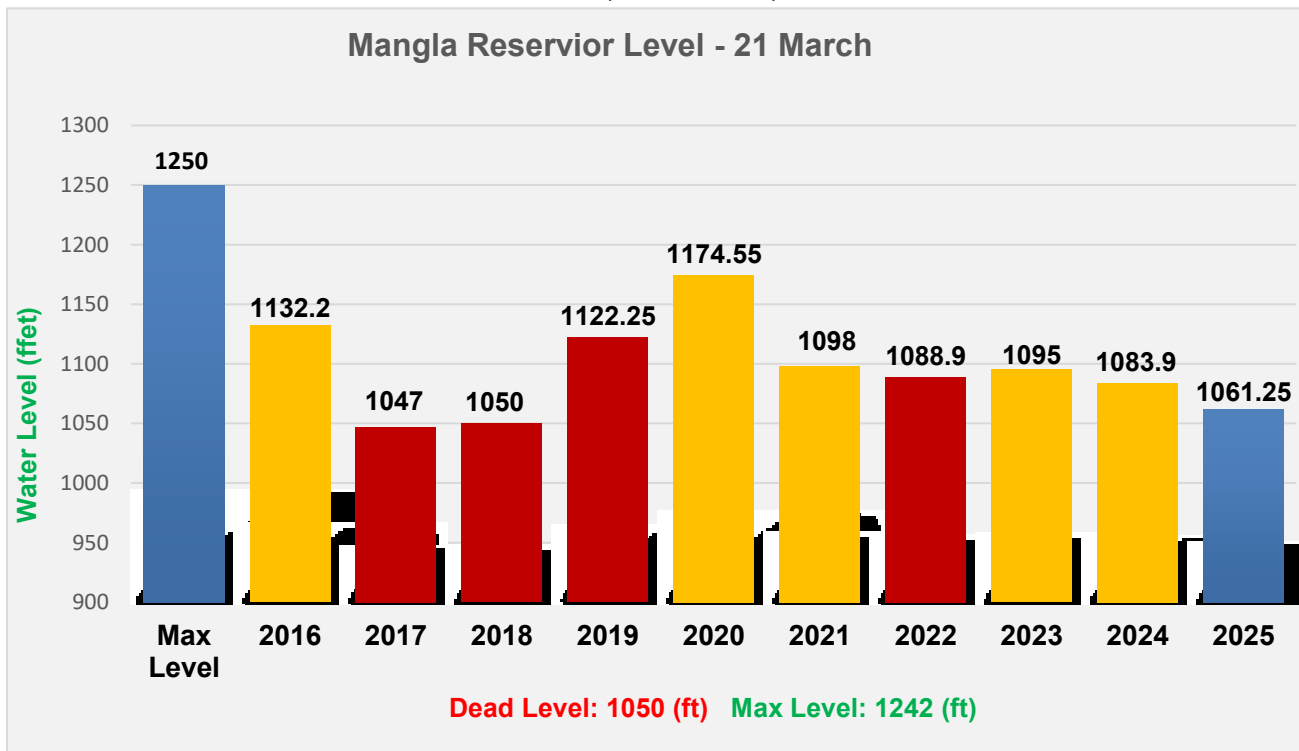


Figure 4: Mangla Reservoir Level  
(Source: PMD)

6. Foregoing in view, PDMA's (Balochistan, Sindh and Punjab) and local administrations to ensure anticipatory action in addition to any precautionary steps deemed necessary as per specific conditions of respective areas.

7. **Press Information Department Only.** With the request to ensure wider circulation and public awareness.

8. Forwarded for information and necessary action, please



**(Ali Imran Sayed)**  
**Director (Response)**  
Tel No: 051-9030924  
Fax No: 051-9030729

(Distribution list attached)

**DISTRIBUTION LIST**

To: Secretary, Ministry of Interior, Islamabad  
Secretary, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulation & Coordination, Islamabad  
Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Islamabad  
Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change, Islamabad  
Secretary, Ministry of Communications, Islamabad  
Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Islamabad  
Secretary, Ministry of National Food Security & Research, Islamabad  
Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Islamabad  
Secretary, Aviation Division, Islamabad  
Secretary, Ministry of Defense, Islamabad  
Chief Secretary, Government of Balochistan, Quetta  
Chief Secretary, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar  
Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, Lahore  
Chief Secretary, Government of Sindh, Karachi  
Chief Secretary, Government of Gilgit Baltistan, Gilgit  
Chief Secretary, State of AJ&K, Muzaffarabad  
Director General, Pakistan Meteorological Department, Islamabad  
Director General, Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority, Karachi  
Chairman, Federal Flood Commission (FFC), Islamabad  
Chairman, National Highway Authority (NHA), Islamabad  
Chairman, WAPDA, Lahore  
General Manager, Tarbela Dam Authority  
General Manager, Mangla Dam Authority  
Director General, PDMA Balochistan, Quetta  
Director General, PDMA Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar  
Director General, PDMA Punjab, Lahore  
Director General, PDMA Sindh, Karachi  
Director General, GBDMA, Gilgit  
Director General, SDMA AJ&K, Muzaffarabad  
Director General, Rescue 1122 Balochistan, Quetta  
Director General, Rescue 1122 Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar  
Director General, Rescue 1122 Punjab, Lahore  
Director General, Rescue 1122 Sindh, Karachi  
Director General, Rescue 1122 Gilgit Baltistan, Gilgit  
Director General, Rescue 1122 AJ&K, Muzaffarabad  
Chief Commissioner, Islamabad Capital Territory  
Deputy Commissioner, Islamabad Capital Territory  
Principal Information Officer, Press Information Department, Islamabad  
Headquarters, Frontier Works Organization (FWO), Rawalpindi  
Headquarters, National Highways & Motorway Police, Islamabad  
Headquarters, National Electric Power Regulatory Authority, Islamabad  
Headquarters, National Transmission & Dispatch Company (NTDC), Islamabad  
Headquarters, Pakistan Railways, Lahore

Cc: Secretary to Prime Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad  
Secretary, Cabinet Division, Islamabad  
Joint Crises Management Cell, Joint Staff Headquarters, Chaklala Cantt  
Military Operations Directorate (MO-4), General Headquarters, Rawalpindi Cantt  
ACNS (Operations), Naval Headquarters, Islamabad  
ACAS (Operations), Air Headquarters, Islamabad  
Headquarters, Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA), Karachi  
Headquarters, Pakistan Coast Guards (PCG), Karachi



Ph: 051-9250598  
Fax: 051-9250369

No. DR-5/DRT/ADV/ALERT/2021-22

**Government of Pakistan**  
**Pakistan Meteorological Department**  
(National Drought Monitoring Centre)  
Sector H-8/2, Met HQ,  
**Islamabad, Pakistan**  
[ndmcpmd@gmail.com](mailto:ndmcpmd@gmail.com)

Islamabad, 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

### **DROUGHT ALERT-1**

This drought alert is the continuation of Drought Advisory-II issued dated 21.01.2025. Recent rainfall spells in the country have improved drought conditions in central and upper parts of the country but drought conditions are still continued in Sindh, southern parts of Balochistan and lower eastern plain areas of Punjab. Overall, **below normal** rainfall (-40%) is observed across Pakistan from 01<sup>st</sup> Sept 2024 to 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025. The major rainfall deficits were observed in Sindh (-62%), Balochistan (-52%) and Punjab (-38%). The details of the (%) age departure of rainfall is given as:



Figure-1: Rainfall Departure (%) across Pakistan

2. There is acute shortage of stored water in the Tarbela and Mangla dams and water in different rivers is flowing at extreme low level (Figure-2). The mean temperature during March 2025 in the lower half of the country is 2-3 °C above than normal. The consecutive dry days in some of the southern parts have even exceeded 200 days.

3. Keeping in view the current weather situation and seasonal climate outlook, the drought situation may exacerbate and intensify in the following drought affected areas of the country.

S.No.	Sindh		Balochistan		Punjab
	Moderate	Mild	Moderate	Mild	Mild
1	Padidan	Ghotki	Gawadar	Chaghi	Bahawalnagar
2	Shaheed Benazirabad	Jacobabad	Kech	Jaffarabad	Bahawalpur
3	Dadu	Larkana	Lasbella	Jhal Magsi	Rahim Yar Khan
4	Tharparkar	Sukkur	Panjgur	Sibbi	
5	Umerkot	Khairpur	Awaran	Nushki	
6	Hyderabad	Sanghar		Washuk	
7	Thatta				
8	Badin				
9	Karachi				

4. The National Drought Monitoring & Early Warning Centre (NDMC), Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) is continuously monitoring the meteorological conditions over the country. The emergence of flash drought is also anticipated in upcoming months in light of the lasting rainfall deficit as well as the increasing temperatures in months to come, as per the climatology of the country.

5. Hence, it is advised to all stakeholders to take pre-emptive measures for drought prone areas. Farmers/agriculturists are advised to keep themselves updated from PMD website <http://www.pmd.gov.pk>.

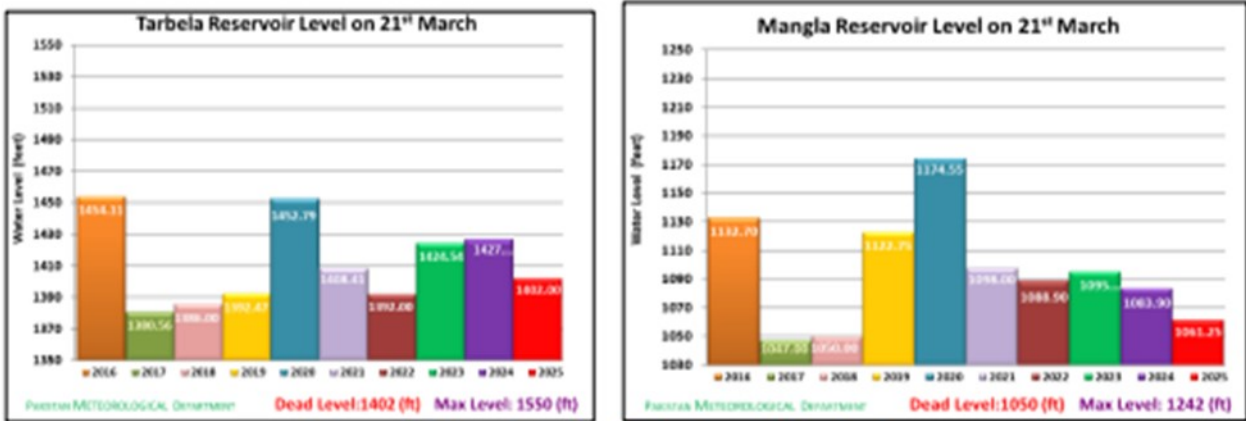


Figure 2 (Water Level at Tarbela and Mangla dams)

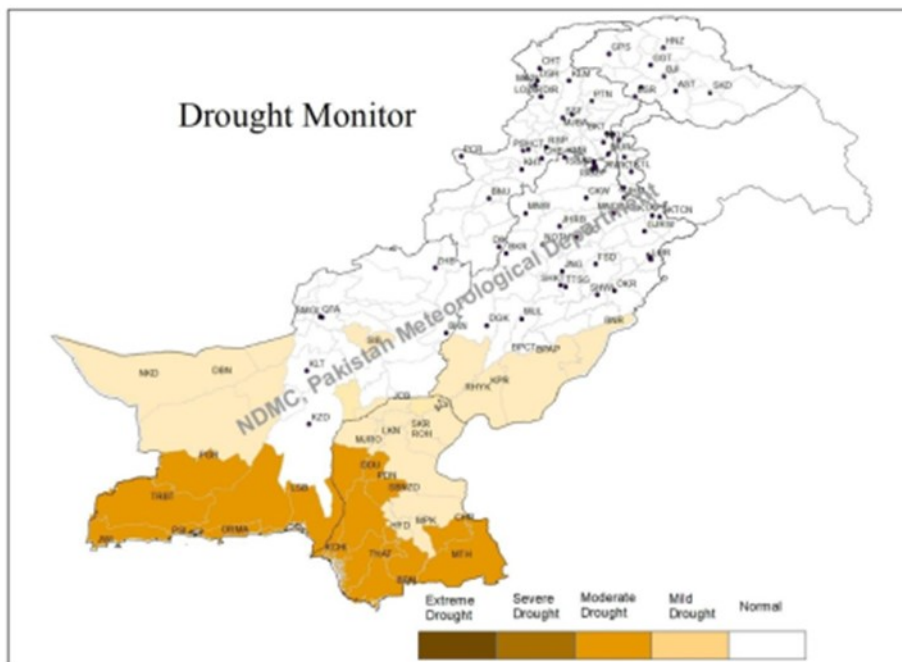


Figure-3: Drought Monitor March 2025