



## Urban Flooding

# URBAN FLOODING

### MEANING

- Flooding of land/property in a built environment, particularly in cities
- Caused not just by higher precipitation but also **unplanned urbanisation**

### CAUSES OF EXACERBATION

- **Encroachments** on drainage channels (Lakes, wetlands, riverbeds)
- **Climate change** (increased frequency of short duration heavy rainfall)
- Uninformed **release of water from dams** (e.g. Chennai Floods 2015)
- **Mining** activities (depletes natural riverbed and water retention capacity)
- Urban heat island effect
- **Storm surges** affecting coastal cities/ towns

### IMPACTS

- Loss of life and property
- Spread of diseases
- Disruptions in supply of power & water and communication
- Ecological impacts

### SUGGESTIONS TO MITIGATE

- Creating a unified **flood control implementing agency**
- **Blue-Green Infra** for urban and climatic challenges
  - Blue - Water bodies such as rivers and tanks
  - Green - Trees, Parks, and Gardens
- Mapping of Flood Vulnerability
- Construction of **flood walls, raised platforms** along basins

### Some of the Most Notable Urban Floods in India

