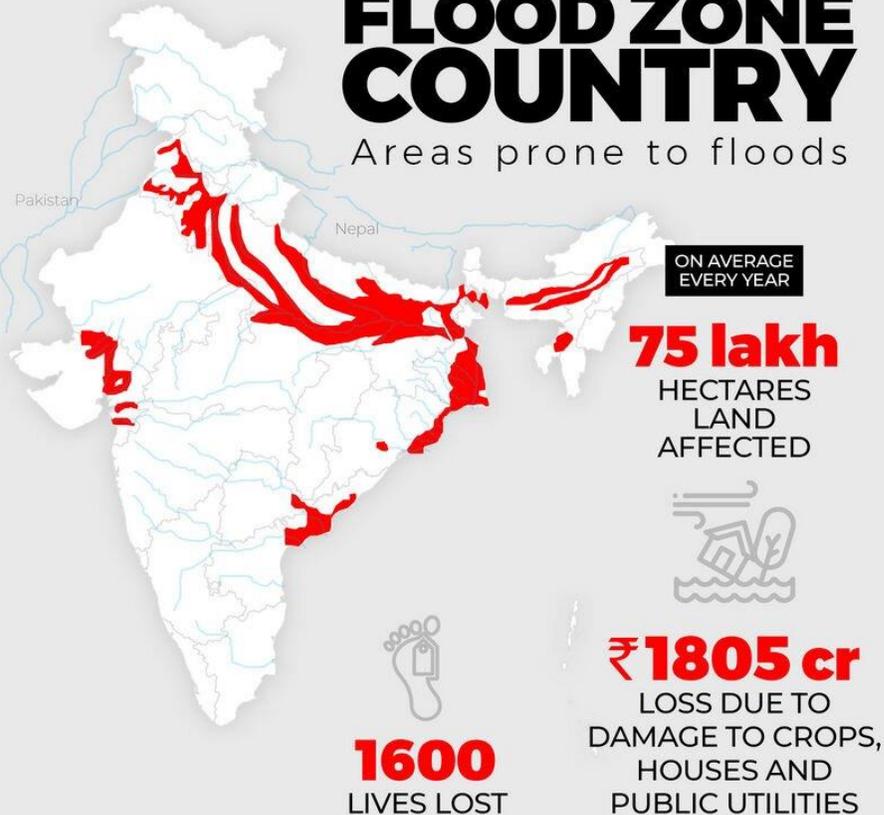


Floods: Causes and Consequences

FLOOD ZONE COUNTRY

Areas prone to floods



Floods

Natural
& Man-
Induced

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What are floods?

Generally, floods are considered to be associated with rivers and people conceive floods as the outcome of accumulation of huge volume of water coming out of the rivers through overtopping of river banks during peak discharge period.

Flood is an attribute of physical environment and thus, is a component of the hydrological cycle of a drainage basin.

It may be pointed out that floods are natural phenomenon and are a response to rainfall but it **becomes hazard** and **disaster** when it causes colossal loss to human lives and property.

Noteworthy that, floods are also aggravated by human activities and thus, flood hazard is both natural as well as human-induced phenomenon.

Types of floods

Generally, **floods** are classified into the following three types:

- **Land-borne floods** or river floods
- **Coastal floods** or storm surge flooding
- **Local water logged** flooding



Causes of floods

The following **causes of floods** can be traced out.

- Heavy incessant rainfall
- Spell of extremely heavy rainfall
- Highly sinuous and meandering courses of rivers
- Large-scale deforestation
- Increased urbanization
- Faulty agricultural practices
- Blocking of natural flow of water

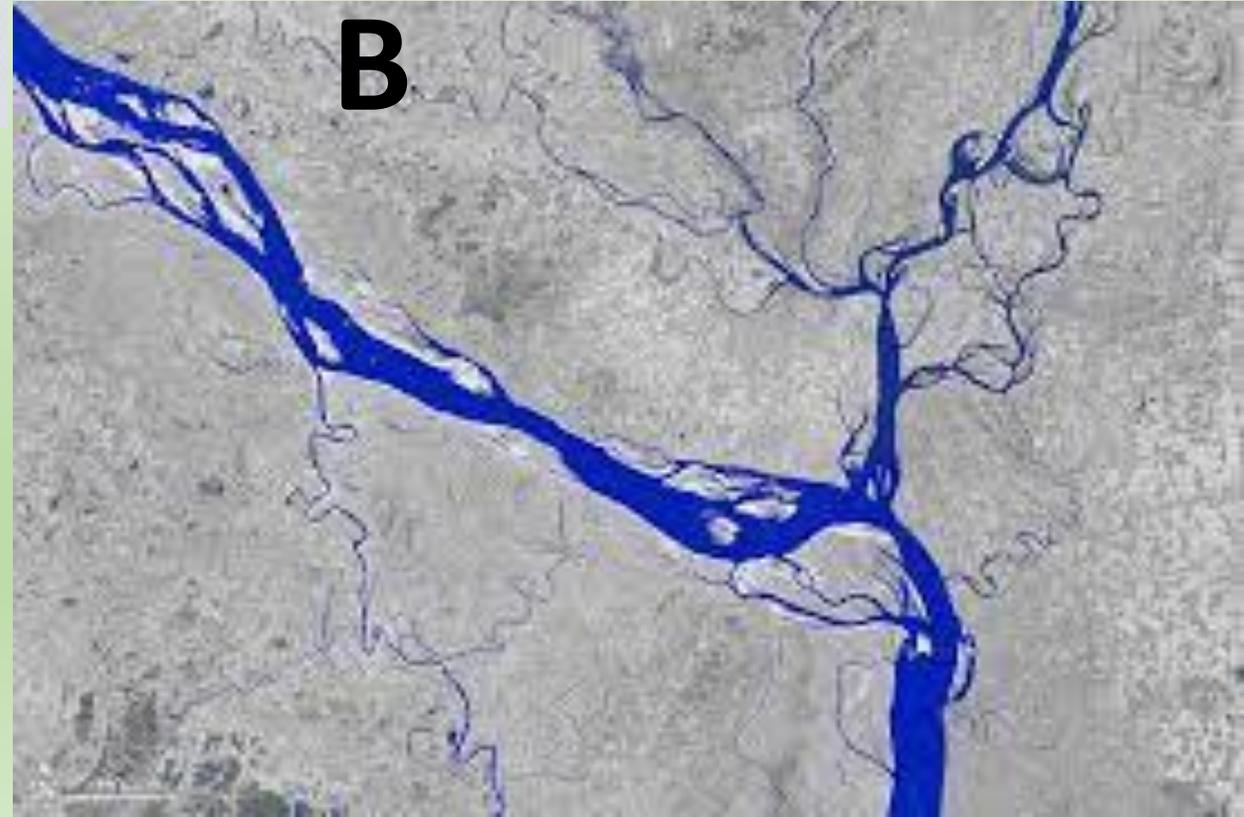


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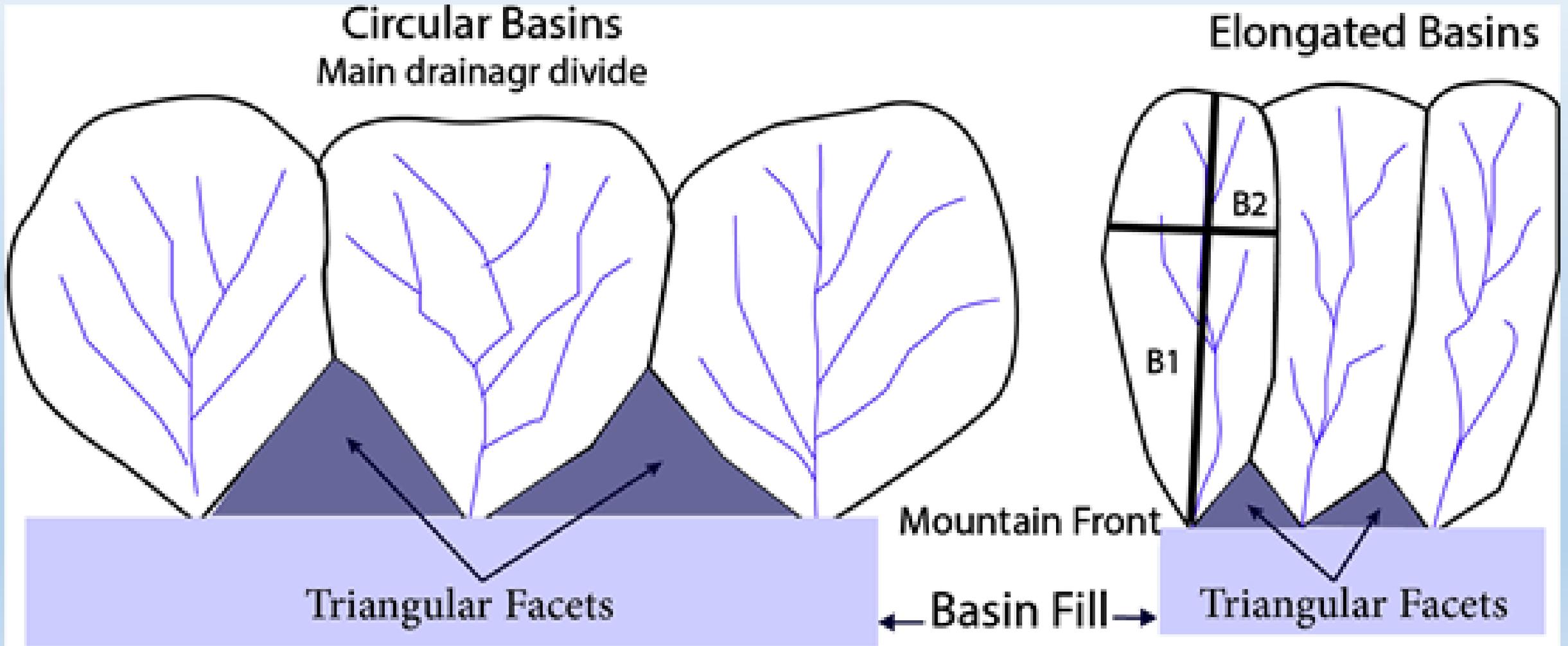


A. Incessant Rainfall and Meandering river gearing up floods

B. Huge water volume and less carrying capacity



Basin Shape and Flooding



Impacts or Consequences

Floods can also have **medium-** and **long-term** health **impacts**, including:

- water- and vector-borne diseases, such as cholera, typhoid or malaria
- injuries, such as lacerations or punctures from evacuations and disaster cleanup
- chemical hazards
- mental health effects associated with emergency situations
- disrupted health systems, facilities and services, leaving communities without access to health care
- damaged basic infrastructure, such as food and water supplies, and safe shelter.

Thank You