

Environment and International Politics

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Abstract: *Everything that surrounds or effects an organism during its lifetime is collectively refer to as its environment. It comprises both living and non living component .Human civilization and globalization are the dominant culprits of constant change in the global. Environment is present scenario. Various process that can be said to contribute to the global environment problems include pollution, global warming, ozone depletion, acid rain, depletion of natural resources, overpopulation, waste disposal, deforestation and loss of biodiversity. Almost all these process are the result of the use of natural recourses in unsustainable manner. These processes have highly negative impact on our environment. One of the major impacts is the release of large quantities of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in atmosphere as the result of burning of fossil fuels by industries and automobiles. The result is the worldwide pollution problem, temperature fluctuation of our planet, ozone hole and possible change in earth climate. Loss of forest, damage of water bodies and their ecosystem by acid rain, over-exploitation of natural resources, massive extinction of spices due to habitat destruction and other well-known causes worldwide are connected with environmental issues globally. The rapidly growing demographic structure and globalization are leading to a number of environmental issues because of the uncontrolled urbanization. The global environmental health impact remains profoundly perturbing. Unsafe water, poor sanitation and hygiene condition, air pollution and global climate change accounts for nearly a tenth of deaths and disease burden worldwide. Current environmental problems lead to disasters and tragedies now, will also be the reason of casualties in future and require urgent attention from the responsible authorities/nations to frame appropriate laws to overcome these issues and also by making people aware to use natural resources in sustainable manner.*

Keywords: Environment, international, politics, Global

1. Introduction

International environmental politics is a relatively new field of study within international relations that focuses on humans and the natural world. It was only in the 1980s and into the 1990s that global environmental politics began to establish itself as a distinct field with its own dedicated journal and publishers, and the focus of study expanded to include international environmental problems such as ozone depletion, climate change, biodiversity loss, deforestation, and desertification. The interdisciplinary approach has immense field of study. Global environmental problems face challenges. Global environmental problems involve scientific complexity. The very long timeframes of environmental problems and the efforts to address them create a number of governance challenges. Environmental problems pose challenges for international cooperation. The economic, political, and ecological dislocation and the policies to address those problems have provided scholars to study global environmental politics from every paradigm. Finally, Consequences of environmental problems have raised controversial questions within global environmental politics. Environmental

1.1 Objective

- 1) I want to collect the knowledge of environment politics
- 2) my objective is I will know how to effect the global environment
- 3) my objective to read the topic what is the factor of pollution

1.2 Characteristics of international Environment problem

- 1) Many of the international problems involve of use common resources – Air, Water, Ocean and Forest that are owned by no nation.

- 2) Human and environment problem transferred the border of any one nation.
- 3) International environment problems required International cooperation to resolve them.

1.3 Factor responsible for the emergence of the environment as a global issue

1) The rise of national and international Environmental Organization

Environment has become a dominant political force in many nations. In many western country environmental concern has manifested itself in the development of green movement and green political parties to challenge the environment management policies of established political parties. Beginning first in West Germany in the 1970's green parties sprung up all over the world including Brazil, Costa Rica, Japan, Canada, Soviet Union to press for solution to global environment problems.

2) The multiplication and Deeping of Environment Problems

The rapid growth of population and its effect on resource exploitation has led to the emergence of many environment problems. Problems such as deforestation, air pollution, acid precipitation and oil spills have become a common sight.

3) Improvement in Scientific research

An increase in Scientific research on environment problems has contribute to much richer and by no means, a complete understanding of several environment problems.

4) Evolution in thinking about Relationship between Economic Activity and the environment

With increased research on environmental issues and effective dissemination of such research finding, the public and some politician have come to understand the

relationship between the economic activities and environmental problems.

5) International Environmental conferences

The meeting of International leaders at international conference have highlighted common Environmental concerns and sought to local environmental groups into action.

1.4 International Efforts at environment management

The United nation is very much conscious of thr world- wide problem of maintaining the enviornment safe for human being. The united nation arranged many conferences are there:

1) 1972 Stockholm conference

Nations on the conference on the human Environment was held at Stockholm in June 1972. The conference involved the principles and action plan for controlling and regulating environment degradation. Institutional and financial arrangements were made for achieving that purpose. The united national gernal assembly passed a resolution on December 15,1972 emphasizing the need of active coopration among the states in the field of human environment. The designated June 5 as the world Environment day.

2) June 1992 Rio conference on the environment

The second conference of United nation on the human environment known as Rio earth summit was held in Rio de jenerio, Brajil . More than 100 heads of states and 1000 of public officials and more than 1400 accredited non government organisation from 178 nations met to develop plans for addressing environmental issues.

3) 2002 Johannesburg conference on the environment

The third International conference on the environment was held in Johannesburg, South Africa in the summer 2002 Framework convention on climate change. It emphasized the role of develop countries in the production of GHGs to take steps to cut it refers to programme that maintain an appropriate balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection. The convention on climate change and Biodiversity were framework norms institution and procedure for coordinated international actions.

4) The conventions on Biological diversity

This was under the auspices of UNEP and came in to force from 1993 after being signed by 155 states. The developing developed countries had avirtual monopoly of research and development in Biotechnolgyand therefore wanted a strict patents regime. Parties must develop plans to protect Biodiversity and to submit reports that will be international reviewed.

5) Agenda 21

The agenda was meant to ensure that concept of sustainable development became an important principle of the U.N. by integrated the goal of environmental protection and economic development based on local community and free market principles.

6) The forest principle

It emphasized the sovereign rights of individual state to exploit forest resources within the genial principles of forest protection and management

1.5 The Global environment Debate

Today nearly half of the world “s 6 billion people live and between 1and 2 billion of people do not have to safe drinking water. According to the 2009 Human Development report,54 countries became poorer during the 1990”s. While the millennium development goals include halving the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by 2015.

The issue of economic growth versus environmental conservation can also be seen as a debate between the developed countries versus the developing ones. Industrial countries such as the united state and other countries of Europe have depended upon large scale polluting industries for their economic growth and development.

Developing countries such as India, China and Brazil have to make industrialization and economic development a priority because they have to support their growing population. The industrialized World’s emphasis on green issues is seen as undue interference by the developing countries believes it is a deliberate attempt to stop possible economic competitors. Developed countries argue that nations are losing more from pollution than they are gaining from industrialization. China is perfect example. The last 20 years of economic development in globalized china have created chronic air and water this has increased health problem and results in annual losses to farmer of crops worth billion. Uncontrolled growth is therefore not only bad for environment it also make no economic sense.

Looking of both side the debate seems fairly evident that economic development has always taken priority over environment concern in both the first and third world economic growth even at the expense of some environmental damage has been sought to be justified by the need to feed the rising world population and removal of poverty.

2. Limitation of Internatinal Environmental Agreements

- 1) International Environmental treaties bind only those state that to comply with them.
- 2) There is no international police force to enforce such agreements as such, compliance to provision and obligation of such treaties depends on the good faith of the state beinf regulated by the treaties.
- 3) Leaders of rich and poor countries share different perspective on the nature of environmental problem and often fail to agree on the danger that could result from environmental disaster.
- 4) The environmental problems and solution that leaders of various countries choose to support or ignore depend upon environment politics within their countries.
- 5) Local events and internal politics compel leaders to commit to different stands prior to such as international conference on the environment.

- 6) The countries of the world have markedly different perspective about the attention that global environment problem must receive as against the economic and social problem at home.
- 7) The rich and poor country of the world do not agree on who must take responsibility for causing environmental problem we face today and how the cost of addressing the environmental problem should be shared.

3. Responsibility of the Rich Powerful Nation

These countries have had more experience with environmental problem and solution to such problems. The rich countries must therefore do more to solve environmental problems. However internal environment policies and the commitment of leaders in the rich countries depend upon the thrust of public opinion against hard lobbying by corporation.

4. Responsibility of Poor Developing Country

Leaders of the poor country of the world seems less atheistic about gall governess for the following reason

- 1) Economic development is of much higher priority for their people than the preservation of the environment.
- 2) The poor country have very few recourses and very low level of technology to devote some to saving the environment.
- 3) The poor country are saddled with heavy foreign debts, weak market for their goods and decline terms of trade that compel them to exploit more of their forest and natural recourses to import essential goods needed by people.
- 4) Rapidly growing population and poor economy in these countries necessitate further exploitation of recourses and hence the deepening of environmental degradation.

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