

Topic : Despite its urgency, climate crisis remains the most neglected cause.

OUTLINE :

1 Introduction

Thesis statement: Climate change is the pressing issue all around the world. It has not received much of attention despite of its catastrophic impacts. However, certain immediate measures can be taken to address this issue to conserve the environment.

2 Climate crisis: A threat to human well being and health of planet.

3 Repercussions of climate change

- a Earth will continue to warm
- b Changing in weather patterns
- c Raising sea levels
- d Increased severity of natural disasters
- e Impacts on social life
- f Massive economic losses.

4 Reasons behind the negligence of climate urgency.

- a Increased green house gases
- b Over population a pressing issue in neglecting climate urgency
- c Unsatisfactory role of organizations

5

Preventive measures to make the world climate resilient.

a

Reducing green house gas emissions

b

Investing in sustainable infrastructure

c

Adopting three Rs strategy; Reduce

d

Reuse, Recycle.

e

Resources and funds to poorer countries.

6

Conclusion

"There is no planet B." (A Handbook by Mike Berners-Lee). This quote highlights the pressing issue of the climate change, its catastrophic impacts that needs to be addressed urgently to protect the future generations. Climate crisis is the hot debating issue of the time, its effects are being felt all around the world.

Rising temperatures, changing weather patterns, frequent natural disasters, melting glaciers, rising sea levels, loss of biodiversity are just some of the consequences of climate change that are already impacting our planet. The causes of its negligence are complex and multifaceted, International organizations' ignorance towards this issue, Lack of sound policies and mechanisms, unavailability of resources and funds, dependency on fossil fuels, climate politics are the primary drivers of this global phenomena. However, by taking certain preventive measures, this issue can be addressed such as, reducing green house gas emissions, investing in sustainable infrastructure, providing resources and funds, adopting reduce, reuse and recycle strategy can stop catastrophic climate change effects. Climate change is a pressing issue all around the world. While it has not received much

attention despite of its catastrophic impacts growing day by day. However, certain immediate measures can be taken to address this issue to conserve the environment.

The climate crisis poses a significant threat to both the well being of humans as well as the health of our planet. Its catastrophic impacts can disturb the healthy suture of human's life, causing the dangerous and widespread disruption in nature and affecting the lives of billions of people around the world. According to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change report: "The world faces unavoidable multiple climate hazards over the next two decades with global warming of 1.5°C (2.7°F). Even the temporarily exceeding this warming will result in additional severe impacts; some of which will be irreversible. Risks for the society will increase that will impact the socio-economic conditions of humans. Moreover, its devastating impacts can disrupts the marine ecosystem and biodiversity which are crucial for the health of our planet. Addressing the climate issue is essential for the well being of current and future generations as well

as for the health of the planet.

Climate change impacts all the regions around the world: Its consequences may have impact on different aspects of lives. Starting with its devastating impacts, climate crisis has increased the global temperature and is leading to further rise in the temperatures.

such as: **Heat waves**. Increased temperatures can cause the higher mortality, lower productivity and damage to the infrastructure, means it can disrupts the socio-economic conditions of humans. Temperature rises are also likely to impact the viability of agriculture and livestock. Capacity of ecosystem to produce goods and services will be diminished, if not controlled. Moreover, the rising temperatures pose a threat to the marine ecosystem, could diminish the biodiversity. In addition to this, higher temperatures increase the evaporation of water, reduced precipitation can lead to the drought risks.

IPCC finds that global temperature will surpass 1.5 degrees (2.7° F) between 2021 to 2040.

This report is enough to show the gravity of issue that must be tackled. Increased temperature means there

will be heat strokes, longer warm seasons, shorter cold seasons. This estimate is enough to provide a clear picture of past, present and future climate, which is essential for understanding, where the humans are headed and what can be done or how can be prepared to mitigate the devastating impacts of climate.

Climate change is also expected to cause changes in weather patterns around the world. As the global temperature rise, its consequences can be felt in the form of increased heat waves, drought conditions, and changing weather patterns may also cause the flooding.

Today the threats of flash flooding are being experienced all around the world due to changing patterns of weather. Recent examples are from Afghanistan, India where dozens of people killed, villages are swept under water, roads gone, farms destroyed. Pakistan has also witnessed the devastating impacts of flood in 2022, where 1700 people lost lives, 8 million displaced among 33 million victims. Catastrophic impacts of changing weather patterns can be estimated from this huge loss.

that shows the severity of the issue all around the world due to climate change. Moreover, Pakistan is also at the risk of heavy rainfall due to climate change this year.

A report by global information and early warning system (GIEWS) said: "Pakistan is among 20 countries that are at risk of excessive rainfall due to climate change.

Heavy rainstorms are projected to become more common and more intense due to higher temperatures leading to flash floods frequently across the country.

Furthermore, sea levels also rose over the years. This rise is mostly due to thermal expansion of oceans because of warming. Melting of glaciers due to rising temperatures is also contributing to rising sea levels. According to Senate Standing Committee on climate change;

"The country is witnessed a 300% increase in glacial lake^{out} burst flood (GLOF) incidents and rising sea levels threatening the existence of cities such as Karachi, Thatta and Badin in just one year. This rise in sea level will impact the lives of people living on the coast, disrupt their economic conditions which also contribute

to the GDP of country. Alongside increase in sea level will increase the risk of flooding and erosion around the coasts with significant consequences for the people, infrastructure, business in these areas. Sea level rise is also projected to reduce the amount of fresh water as the sea water pushes further into underground tables. This will also lead to the much more salted water intrusion into bodies of fresh water affecting agriculture and supply of drinking water. Rising sea level will also impact the marine habitat, threatening the species under water and natural plants on the coast.

Similarly, as the temperature increases due to climate change it increases the rate at which water evaporates leading to more severe droughts, shrinking the drinking water supplies, withering crops and making forests more susceptible to insect infestations. Moreover, the drier, hotter climate also creates the condition that fuel more vicious wild fire seasons. In addition to this, with rising temperature ~~warmer~~ air becomes warmer and warmer and that warmer air holds more moisture, making tropical cyclones wetter stronger and more capable of rapidly

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intensifying. As per IPCC, daily rainfall during extreme precipitation events would increase by about 7 percent for each degree celsius of global warming increasing the risks of flooding. Frequency of hurricanes is also expected to increase. The severity of natural disasters that is intensifying with each passing day shows the gravity of the climate crisis.

Along with the natural disasters, climate change also poses a threat on the social life. It could impact our society through disruption of a number of different social, cultural, economic systems humans depend on. Ultimately, the way climate change impacts weather, environment, animals, it affects humanity as well. Around the world the ways of life - from getting food to industries around which economies are based have all developed in the context of stable climates. But global warming shakes its foundation and alters every fabric of the society. As climate continues to change, millions of poor people face increasing challenges in terms of extreme events, health effects, food, water and livelihood security, migration and forced displacement, loss of cultural identity. Worsen air quality due to climate change increases the exposure to hazardous impacts on human health.

particularly for those living in slum areas. As per UNICEF report, more than six months since unprecedented floods savaged Pakistan. Still millions of people including children are fighting a losing battle against malnutrition, diarrhea, malaria, dengue fever, skin infections. This is how the catastrophic impacts of climate crisis put the well being of humans at risk.

Life wise, the catastrophic impacts of climate changes may lead the world to massive economic losses, affected directly or indirectly the productivity and viability of all economic sectors, affected the work force availability due to poor health conditions. Moreover, several economic sectors are highly vulnerable because of their dependence on regular climate conditions. ^{ie} Sectoral production shifts in agriculture ~~for~~ and tourism due to consequences of climate change. Changing patterns of climate change will displace millions of people from employment, affecting the total economic conditions of country. Industries will be at risk, prices will be at hike leading to inflation, shortage of goods will lead to less export and more import. Overall the economic losses due to climate changes impact the GDP.

of the country
Climate change and its impacts around the world is not all sudden, rather its obstructions has putting devastating impacts for a long time and despite its urgency shown over years it is neglected all around the world. Over the years the earth has experienced a series of changes ice ages, warmer periods. Since the industrial revolution, global temperature has increased at much faster rate. By this revolution human activity has quickly become the leading cause of changes to the climate. There are number of factors which are considered as the major reason behind climate crisis. At the root of climate change is a phenomena known as green house effect, which put the already warmer planet even more warmer than ever before. This green house effect in turn, dramatically altered the natural cycles and weather patterns, with impacts of increased heat, droughts, storms, increased floods and rising sea levels. **By continuously pumping the green house gases into air, humans have raised the earth temperature by about 1.9°F during 20th century.** This has brought to current era of deadly and increasingly routine of changing weather patterns and the so called climate crisis.

Similarly, the ~~depend~~ increased dependency on fossil fuels for generating electricity, power transportation and industrial process have exacerbated the situation. Negligence of attention paid to this issue further added the fuel and ~~and~~ made the situation worse. Burning fossil fuels have altered the Earth's ecosystem and causing the threat to human and environmental health. The levels of CO₂ in the atmosphere have risen by 50% since the start of industrial revolution, and this rapid growth continues to be key driver of the climate change.

Fossil fuel particulates considered to be the primary reason behind the climate urgency as it pollutes the air, impacting the overall health of mankind and deaths worldwide. It also has an impact on state of waters, posing risk to the biodiversity of oceans.

Furthermore, overpopulation is a pressing issue in neglecting the climate urgency. Massive increase in the world population since 20th century is the fastest in human history. As population grows, so too does the demand for food. To meet this

demand, agricultural development has caused deforestation on a large scale. The shrinking forests are unable to counteract the effects of carbon emission causing the temperatures to rise. This in turn caused the desertification, means increase in arable lands and ultimately less food production which threaten to leave millions undernourished. This means all the things are interconnected. Disruption in one, pose threats to all the sectors and put greater risk of the climate crisis, leave millions of people to live a life of misery.

Additionally, unsatisfactory role of organizations and lack of sound policies further enhanced the risks of climate crisis. Global warming has become a clear threat in the present age. Actions and commitment to date have fallen short. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres pleaded for immediate radical action on climate changing saying that Earth has passed from a warming phase in an "era of global boiling". However, despite this urgency, there is no equivalent attention to the crisis. For some there is no crisis at all. Countries are not contributing to combat this deadly challenge.

In the present times, Ideology, prestige, assets and territory are tactically understood to be worth more than life. The extreme climate change and its tragic consequences ~~needs~~ calls for an ~~immediate~~ immediate, swift, and far-reaching actions. In a system dominated by short-term policies, there is little appetite to adequately address the climate crisis. Air is unbreathable, heat is unbearable, level of fossil fuel and climate ⁱⁿaction is unacceptable. In this regard, leaders must lead. It's the time to make the sharp, immediate and long-term policies to combat the challenge. Government needs to revise the policies and embrace the idea of investing in environmentally sustainable practice will help in long run.

However, the problem of climate crisis is serious that needs a collective efforts at individual, national and global level to reverse the further devastating impacts of climate change. First and foremost step that can be taken in this regard is reducing the greenhouse gas emission, reducing the reliance on the fossil fuels. Shifting from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources like solar, wind and hydropower.

can significantly reduce the green house gas emission. Green house gases that contribute the global warming and change in weather patterns ultimately. Meeting the targets of emission reduction requires innovative strategy. Government of Pakistan has ambitious plans for reducing the green house gas emissions to 50% by shifting to 60% renewable sources and 30% electric vehicles by 2030. Banning imported coal and sequestering carbon emissions can help to mitigate the catastrophic impacts of global warming. COP27 meeting also made the countries to meet their pledges to cut the emissions by 2030 to prevent temperatures rising by more than 1.5°C .

Similarly, investing in sustainable infrastructure can slow the pace of climate risks and can reduce the severity of its impacts. For example, sustainable transportation infrastructure such as bike lanes can reduce the emissions from car or using the electric vehicles. Investing in sustainable infrastructure to implement a system of using the renewable energy sources that can reduce the emission from the heating and cooling. Additionally, sustainable infrastructure can also help to promote the economic

growth and create job opportunities. For example, investing in renewable sources such as coal and wind projects across the country can create jobs in energy sector as well as reducing the reliance on fossil fuels that ultimately help to ~~reduce~~ combat the climate impacts.

Furthermore, the three Rs strategy can be taken to make the world climate resilient. By reducing the amount of products used, Reusing the the products instead of throwing away that goes to landfills and reducing the need for new extraction. Recycling waste products can also help. Recycling the materials such as paper, plastic and metal, the amount of energy and ~~services~~ can be reduced that are needed to produce new products. This will reduce the risks of greenhouse gas emission. In addition, manufacturing products from recycled materials typically require less energy than making products from new materials. Overall, the 3Rs - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle strategy can be taken as an efficient method to make the environment friendly and coping with climate risks.

Apart from this, poorest countries face the greatest risks from climate change and most vulnerable, these countries need support to adapt to climate change. Unfortunately, the poorer countries are unable to adopt the changes. They typically lack the financing and institutional capacity to implement the needed adaptations for making the world climate resilient. Countries are struggling to raise the steady streams to shut the fossil fuel plants, switch to renewable mechanisms. Vulnerable countries are at risk due to contribution of wealthy countries' carbon emission. Devastating impacts of climate change such as heat waves, droughts, flood further exacerbate the already worsen situations. International communities can help poor countries to adopt changes by providing financial support and developing institutional capacity. These countries will suffer more devastating impacts of climate change even though they are not responsible for causing it. Goal was also set at COP27 to finance the poor countries for helping them out to fight with devastating impacts of climate. However, climate adaptation alone is not enough. Unless global temperature is stabilized by strong mitigation

adaption will become impossible expensive. Yet countries can still reap large benefits from investing in resilient growth and integrating adaption into development strategies.

Conclusively, climate crisis is a serious challenge for the world, putting its devastating impacts, making the countries vulnerable and prone to climate risks; effecting the large proportion of poor people to suffer from the devastating impacts of climate change. To address this issue, there is a need to reduce the Green house gas emissions and promote the sustainable infrastructure and practices. Additionally, advocating for the policies that address climate change can help. However, climate crisis is a pressing issue that requires immediate action. A collective will across the world will help to tackle this issue and will ensure a sustainable future for the planet.