

The threat of global warming and the ways to counter it.

Outline

Introduction

Thesis Statement: The threat of global warming is like a sword of Damocles over the countries of the world. It is severely affecting ecosystem and disturbing ecological balance. However, it can be countered by taking pro-active measures.

How global warming has become a threat.

Prevailing threats of global warming.

- a. Wide spread shifts in weather patterns.
- b. Eruption of wildfires
- c. Melting of glaciers at an accelerated rate
- d. Rising of the sea level.
- e. Crops destruction and loss of soil fertility
- f. Effects on human health.
- g. Threat to national security
- h. Direct threat to life
- I. Severe set back to economy.

Ways to counter the threat of global warming

- a. Reduction in emission of green house gases by using renewable sources.
- b. Reduction in emission of carbon gases by installing carbon filtration plants
- c. Increasing global forest covers through focused drives.

- d - Initiation of environmental education and awareness
- e - Use of modern technology instead of outdated transportation system
- f - Implementation of national policies and international treatise.
- g - Promotion of international co-operation at all levels.

5- Conclusion

Although the proverbial rabbit had all the speed and skill to win the race with the tortoise, he took the race as too easy and went to sleep on the way. On the other hand, the tortoise showed persistence and he kept on walking continuously and won the race. Similarly, the countries are having all the essential skills and expertise needed to overcome the threat of global warming, yet it has ignored this threat, and has turned a deaf ear to it. As a result, world is facing the threats of global warming. One of those threat is the widespread shifts in weather patterns. Wild fires are erupted which leads to glaciers melting and rise in sea level. As a result, soil fertility is lost and crops are destroyed which are badly affecting economy, human health, life and national security.

However, these threats can be countered by taking pro-active measures. Using renewable sources instead of fossil fuel, and increasing global forest covers through focused drives and using modern technology and of transportation will help in reducing green house gas emissions. Moreover, creating awareness among the masses, initiating environmental education,

implementing national policies and international treaties and promoting co-operation at all levels will help in countering the threats of global warming. The threat of global warming is like a sword of Damocles over the countries of the world. It is severely affecting ecosystem and disturbing ecological balance. However, it can be countered by taking pro-active measures.

Since the industrial revolution, the global annual temperature has increased in total by a little more than 1 degree Celsius. Between 1880 and 1980, it rose on average by 0.07°C every 10 years. Since 1981, however, the rate of increase has more than doubled: for the last 40 years, we have seen the global annual temperature rise by 0.18°C , per decade. Global temperatures are likely to surge to record levels in the coming years. According to World Meteorological Organization, there is a 66% likelihood that the annual average near-surface global temperature between 2023 and 2027 will be more than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels for at least one year. That's why global warming has become a threat for the

world which needs to be countered.

One of the prevailing threats of global warming include widespread shifts in weather patterns. As global temperature climb, widespread shifts in weather systems occur, making events like droughts, hurricanes, and floods more intense and unpredictable. Droughts, floods and hurricanes have a significant impact on the world, causing loss of life.

According to United Nations, draughts, floods, and hurricanes affect around 1 billion, 250 million, and 10,000 people respectively every year. Moreover, such disasters are costing economies hundreds of billion of dollars.

Last year's extreme draughts, floods and storms led to global losses of more than \$ 224 billion, according to the Brussels-based center for Research. In short, wide-spread shifts in weather pattern is an alarming threat of global warming.

Besides this, eruption of wild fire is also a prevailing threat of global warming. Eruption of wildfire not only affect human, but also has disastrous effect on ecosystem and infra-structure. Wildfires have a significant impact on the environment by destroying habitats, and infra-structure. In 2019-2020 Australian fire burned over 47 million acres of land, destroyed over 5,900 buildings, and killed at least 34 people and an

estimated 1 billion animals. The likelihood and severity of wildfires increases by rising in temperatures and changing weather patterns. The intergovernmental Panel on climate change (IPCC) has reported that the frequency and severity of wildfires are likely to increase in many regions as a result of climate change. To boil down, wildfires have a devastating impact on the earth.

Moreover, glaciers are melting at an accelerated rate because of soaring global temperature. Glaciers can not sustain themselves amidst the increasing temperature as the former and latter are anti-thesis to each other. Subsequently, the global ice-sheets are melting rapidly with each passing day. According to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the earth is losing 1-2 trillion tons of ice each year. Additionally, the melting of glaciers can cause landslides and rock falls, which can be particularly dangerous in mountainous areas. In 2018, a massive land slide caused by melting glaciers killed over 200 people in Colombia. Therefore, melting glaciers, the outcome of global warming, has spawned daunting challenges for human beings.

Apart from this, the rising of the sea level is another threat of global warming which causes colossal destruction

in coastal areas. Rapid melting of ice sheets is adding an enormous amount of water to the oceans. Resultantly, the level of sea water is increasing to a great level. In 2020, the World Meteorological Organization reported that the rise in sea level accelerated to 0.12 inches per year on average world wide. Moreover, rising sea level leads to flooding and erosion in low-lying areas. Some low-lying island nations, such as Maldives and Tuvalu, are already experiencing the effects of rising sea levels, with some communities being forced to relocate due to flooding and erosion. Conclusively, the rising sea level is an existential threat to human survival.

Furthermore, global warming causes crops to fail and soil fertility to decline. Higher temperature leads to extreme weather events such as droughts, floods and hurricanes, which destroys crops and lead to soil erosion. Reduced crops yields leads to food shortages and higher food prices. A study published in the journal Environmental Research Letters estimates that global warming could cause wheat, rice, and maize yields to decline by 6% per degree Celsius of warming. Additionally, soil erosion leads to land degradation and desertification, which can reduce the amount of arable land available.

for farming. According to FAO, soil degradation affects nearly one-third of the world's arable land. Hence, crops destruction and loss of soil fertility is a severe challenge posed by global warming.

More significantly, human health is badly affected as a result of global warming. Higher temperature leads to different kind of diseases in human. Climate change also increase the spread of vector-borne diseases, such as malaria, dengue fever and typhoid. As per WHO, 3.5% of dengue cases, 3% of malarial cases and 3% of typhoid cases are contributed by climate change. Furthermore, climate change put a strain on healthcare systems by increasing the frequency and severity of climate-sensitive health outcomes. For examples, the burden on health care systems includes increased healthcare costs and a shortage of medical supplies and personnels. In short, global warming is a direct threat to humanity on earth.

Besides this, global warming has become an imminent threat to national security. Increasing cyclones, irregular weather patterns, drought and food insecurity are causing mass migration at the global level. A number of refugees coming from poor countries spawns an economic and social burden on the host country. A report by World Bank

found that hosting refugees strain public services, increase competition for jobs, and contribute to social tensions. Climate Change is impacting safety and security on a global scale. According to a World Wide Threat Analysis issued by the Director of National Intelligence, "global environmental and ecological degradation, as well as climate change, are likely to fuel competition for resources, economic distress, and social discontent." In brief, global warming has spawned a multi-dimensional threat to global security.

Moreover, global warming poses direct threat to life. Global warming causes climate change; which poses a serious threat to life on Earth in the forms of widespread flooding and extreme weather. Prolonged periods of abnormally high temperatures leads to serious health effects on vulnerable populations, such as the elderly and the sick. This was already seen during the 2003 heatwave in Europe, which claimed approximately 35,000 lives.

Moreover, global warming result in droughts that can worsen living conditions, particularly in Africa. The World Wide Fund has reported that climate change can drastically alter rainfall pattern, and risk water and food supplies for millions. To boil down, global warming is posing direct threat to life on earth.

Furthermore, global warming leads to significant economic harm, and poses worrying tail risks. The temperature rise due to climate change radically damages the global economy. As global temperatures continue to rise, extreme weather events are happening more often, causing greater destruction and resulting in greater costs. A study from U.K. charity Christian Aid found that the 10 most destructive weather events in 2021 cost a combined \$170 billion in damages. South Asian countries such as Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh have greater exposure to floods, water shortages, wildfires and storms. A report from S & P Global estimates that South Asia may lose 10% to 18% of its GDP due to extreme weather events - 10 times more than Europe. Extreme weather events due to global warming is responsible for shrink in global economy.

However these threats can be countered by taking certain proactive measures. First and foremost, fossil fuels should be replaced with renewable sources. In this context, developed nations should abandon further exploration of fossil fuels to limit the emission of green house gases. Rather, all the leading economies need to shift their energy sources from fossil fuels to renewable energy in the form of wind,

solar and hydropower. In this way, the comity of the nation would be able to cope with the growing menace of global warming.

Besides, the excessive emission of carbon gases must be reduced. States should utilize all available resources to install carbon filtration plants so that to limit greenhouse emissions. For instance, China has installed filtration plants that absorb carbon gases and convert them into the fresh air to limit environmental pollution. The rest of the countries should follow the same suit. In addition, the burning remnant of crops must be discouraged at the global as well as national level. By adopting such measures, the international community would be able to bring down the soaring global temperature. Conclusively, reducing carbon emissions is an effective panacea to global warming.

Moreover, massive forestation should be initiated at the national and global levels to cope with the threats of global warming. Forestation impedes the soaring temperature of the earth's normal. In turn, the irregular weather pattern can be reversed therefore all the global and national leaders should make serious efforts to promote foresta-

-tion. Pakistan's federal government has initiated 'Ten Billion Tree Tsunami' programme to foster forestation throughout the country. Rest of the countries should follow the same path. Resultantly, massive forestation will help the countries in coping the threats of global warming.

More significantly, a massive awareness campaign and initiation of environmental education should be launched to sensitize the public regarding the lethal impacts of global warming. The government's efforts without public support go to smoke. Therefore, it is pertinent to win public confidence to contain the mounting emission of greenhouse gases. Once the public realizes the implications of global warming, they keep themselves away from man-made pollutants. Undoubtedly, mass awareness would restrict environmental pollution.

Apart from this, an out-dated transportation system must be replaced with modern technology. The entire global community should adopt electric and solar-driven cars in order to protect the deteriorating environment. It not only saves the environment but also leaves positive impacts on human health.

Electric and solar vehicles are more environmentally friendly than the prevailing

means of transportation. To adopt this, global leaders should pursue this objective with unwavering commitment. Thus, modern transportation put an end to the instant global temperature.

Besides this, national policies and international treaties must be implemented in its letter and spirit. International treaties such as Paris Accord must be implemented to limit global temperature. It is a universal commitment to exert joint efforts to tackle global warming. In this regard, all nations need to discourage the use of fossil fuels and man-made chemical pollutants in order to protect the environment. Once, all the states come on the same page, this menace of rising global temperature can easily be curtailed. Thus, the Paris Accord must be implemented in letter and spirit.

Last but not the least, international co-operation should be promoted at all levels to curb the threats of global warming. International co-operation such as scientific co-operation, technical co-operation and financial co-operation will help in reducing the threat of global warming by sharing knowledge, resources, and solutions to tackle climate change together. Political climate

responsibility should be taken by countries. Developed countries should take a lead in this regard. Resultantly, the international co-operation at all levels among the countries will help in combating the threats of global warming.

In a nutshell, global warming has spawned multidimensional threats to human lives. As discussed above, shifts in weather patterns, eruption of wildfires, melting of glaciers, rising of the sea level, environmental disasters, food insecurity and health issues have snatched away the beauty of this planet. In such circumstances, states have lost billions of dollars by repairing the health and developmental infrastructure damaged by natural disasters. If global warming remains unchecked, it would put an end to the survival of the planet. However, the clock has turned now. The global community has realized the intensity of the prevailing threats of global warming. The world leaders have come on the same page to limit the mounting emission of green house gases. Renewable energy is being used to meet the energy demand across the world. The use of electric vehicles has been adopted by a number of states. In this regard, Pakistan has also taken laudable action by initiating massive plantations programmed to uproot

The threats of rising temperature. It is hoped that recent efforts of the global community will pay off in the form of environmental, social and economic progress.