

# Global Warming: Causes & Remedies

## Outline:-

1) Thesis Statement:- Life on earth is in decline due to global warming. The international community, despite this realization has failed to work collectively to counter this grave threat.

2) What is global warming and what are the factors attached to it:-

a) Green house gases and green house effect played an important role in global warming.

b) Deforestation also led in global warming.

c) Urbanization is another factor leading towards global warming.

d) Population explosion

e) CFC's i.e. chlorofluorocarbons role in global warming

3) Global warming and role of international community.

a) Debate between Global North and Global South.

c) Paris agreement and commitments attached to it

d) Trump's agenda on global warming

e) COP-27 and its promises

f) UNGA 76<sup>th</sup> session

4) Effects of global warming

a) Direct threat to human life

b) Glaciers melting at a high speed

c) Coastal population lives are at risk

d) Rise in the intensity of natural disasters

e) Effects on agriculture

f) Increase in spread of diseases

5) Solutions to minimize the threat of Global warming

- a) Stabilizing the levels of Greenhouse gases.
- b) Promotion of sustainable transportation
- c) Increasing global forest cover and promoting indoor or rooftop plantation
- d) Using environment friendly fuels and stopping use of fossil fuels.
- e) Political realization i.e countries role to be on one page in fight against this threat.

## 6) Conclusion

Life on earth is in decline due to global warming. Despite this realization, international community has failed to counter this threat, instead the blame game shift between global north and global south has increased the risk. It was needed that the countries should have been on the same page, but no one took the pain and ultimately the issue became a direct threat to human life. Not only humans suffered with it, plants and aquatic animals also undergone the same threat. Global warming has changed the world's map. Due to rapid growth in industries and agriculture, the world did not get time to counter this problem, instead, in making life more comfortable for themselves, humans have made life miserable for themselves with their own hands. The rise in intensity of natural disasters is one of the main issue being faced by global warming. From a common man or a layman's perspective

global warming is something that is responsible for earthquakes, floods, droughts and hurricanes etc. But it is just the tip of the iceberg.

Global warming is basically a phenomenon in which the world witnesses an increase in temperature.

At present, as per report of Intergovernmental panel on Climate Change, about  $1.2^{\circ}\text{C}$  of the atmosphere has increased. And not only this, if the world did not take this issue serious, there is a chance that this temperature will increase to  $1.4^{\circ}\text{C}$  -  $5.8^{\circ}\text{C}$  <sup>by 2100</sup> which will make the world a hell to live.

Global warming is instigated by human activities.

If one looks at the history, the industrial and agricultural revolution played a key role in bringing this monster to our lives. Therefore one can say that it is the role of humans and they are humans who are responsible for the increase in global atmosphere.

Talking about the factors of global warming that what are the factors that results in this phenomenon then by unveiling the factors one by one will make the idea clear that how these factors will be responsible and, in true sense, are responsible for global warming.

The first factor that contribute to global warming is the role of green house gases and the green house effect. Green house gases are those gases which have the ability to trap heat.

They are huge in number but the common among them are  $\text{CO}_2$  (Carbon dioxide), methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ),

Chloroflouro carbons (CFC's) and nitrous oxide ( $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ).

As per IPCC (Intergovernmental panel on Climate Change) 61% contribution in global warming is of  $\text{CO}_2$ . Similarly,  $\text{CH}_4$  contributes 15%, CFCs contribute 11% and  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  i.e. nitrous oxide contributes 4% towards global warming. Hence, it can be said that nearly 91% of the global warming is being contributed or caused by above mentioned four gases only.

Similarly, deforestation is another major responsible factor in increasing global warming. Due to increase in population and in desire to make comfortable beds, chairs etc for themselves, forests have paid a price for it. Deforestation of bigger forests like Amazon rainforest etc have posed a huge threat to human life. As per National Geographic and Animal planet <sup>documentary</sup> reports, only Amazon rainforest, the biggest forest of the world produces 20% of the oxygen for whole world. But unfortunately, humans are cutting it in such a speed that by 2050, the said forest will remain to half of what it is today. Therefore deforestation is a serious factor that leads to global warming.

Moreover, world's population that has increased to more than 08 Billion now is another factor that contributes to global warming. As per Darwinian theory of evolution "survival is of the fittest". And this survival and making lives luxurious has contributed towards the said issue. e.g. increase in population means more need of transportation and more transportation means more burning of fuel which further causes global warming. Similarly the

rise in population causes degradation. As previously said, to survive in a better way, human contributed towards industrialization and unfortunately the poor disposal of waste from industries causes a direct threat to humans as well as aquatic or marine life.

Another factor attached with population explosion is globalization. The world has seen a rapid migration from rural areas to urban and as per report published by United Nations in 2015, about 54% population was urban. Similarly the problems attached with urbanization causes direct threat to raise this issue. e.g urbanization causes poor disposal of waste i.e poor waste management system. Similarly urbanization causes more need of transportation which result in pollution. If one takes the example of India and China, they are on top list in urbanization. Similarly Pakistan is also in this race of urbanization and cities like Karachi etc are at high risk of urbanization where due to overpopulation, the average speed of car is 18 Km/h. Hence urbanization attracts multiple factors attached to global warming.

In order to counter the above narrated factors International community has to step forward and play its role in minimizing this global threat. One has observed a massive blame game between Global North and Global South. Global North comprises of developed nations like USA etc while Global South contain countries like India etc which are in phase of development. North blames South for the rapid increase in global warming and vice-versa.

The world witnessed COP 21 or the Paris agreement in which commitments from both i.e. Global North and South were made. It was decided that United States of America will make carbon cuts by 45% by 2030 against its 2006 level. And China agreed to 30% carbon cut by 2030 against the 2015 level. Not only countries agreed on these commitments but multinational companies like Exxon Mobil, Shell and CNPC etc also agreed for carbon cuts. Similarly automobile industries like Toyota, Volkswagen and GM motors etc also agreed upon the same.

But all the above commitments were made practical in Obama's regime who for the first time declared global warming as national security threat and he jumped in to solve the problem and decided that his country will lead by making an example on carbon cuts. So he and his government decided to ban new coal projects at his time.

Unfortunately all his efforts were white washed by Donald Trump who simply walked away from above mentioned agreements. His stance was in competition with his rival China. i.e. if China cannot ban new coal projects then why only USA alone should fight for this cause. So he lifted ban on new coal projects. He was more concerned in providing jobs to his nationals because his campaign said so, to eliminate unemployment.

Then last year COP-27 held at Sharm ul Sheikh also witnessed promises in

which loss and damages fund was added in climate pactis. Fifty plus countries led by Pakistan persistently demanded for funds allocation on the basis of the damages faced by floods, droughts and earthquakes etc.

Similarly in the 76<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly session which was held few days back, UN Secretary General raised concerns on working for minimizing global warming. For the very first time, caretaker PM of Pakistan Anwar ul Haq Kakar participated in the event and emphasized that Pakistan will keep its mission going to plant more and more plants in order to make this world realize that Global warming is a serious threat for the whole world.

If one talks about the effects of global warming, they are alarming. Because global warming causes a direct threat to human life. World has witnessed huge temperature increase in the atmosphere. July was the hottest month in the history of mankind. London city witnessed 40°C temperature for the first time. Similarly as per Pakistan meteorological department, Hyderabad and Sibi were the hottest cities with temperatures 50 and 49°C respectively. In addition to that more than twelve hundred deaths have been recorded due to heat wave in last four years in Pakistan. Similarly more than 4500 people died in India due to temperature rise or heat wave.

Not only this, global warming has resulted in increase of natural disasters and

their intensity. Türkiye remained unlucky where thousands of people died due to massive earthquake of 7.7 magnitude and this earthquake jolted not only Türkiye but Syria too. Similarly Morocco was also among those poor country where earthquake of 6.6 magnitude caused death of around 1000 people. The problem is not only limited to earthquakes alone, global warming results in floods too. One can remember of 2022 floods that hit Pakistan. According to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) <sup>and World Bank</sup> Pakistan faced \$18 Billion loss in shape of floods. Not only this more than 2 lac livestock including cows, sheep and buffaloes etc died in the worst flood of its kind in 2022. Similarly Libya recently faced devastated flood which caused death of hundreds of people there.

Furthermore, global warming is also responsible in wildfire. Present year remained unlucky as it saw more than ten wildfire till now. Among which the most recent are Australian, New York, Canada, Lahaina and Greece, etc wildfires etc which not only roasted billions of trees but the ashes of those trees after their return in the environment polluted the air too. Similarly as per report issued <sup>recently</sup> by World Health Organization, global warming also causes 3.5% spread of dengue, 3% of malaria and typhoid. Hence global warming has multiple adverse effects globally.

Now, moving forward, there are <sup>also</sup> certain solutions attached to the problem. So one of the solution to counter this issue of global



warming is to plant more and more trees as it was the task in COP 26 and luckily Pakistan achieved its goal in planting the targeted amount of plants. But this effort alone is not sufficient.

The world has to work on usage of environment friendly cars. Similarly Government should make laws to fine those who are using old model cars which are responsible for noise and air pollution.

Similarly environment friendly fuels should be promoted and use of fossil fuels should be minimized.

Lastly, in addition to planting more trees at national level, Government should adopt measures to spread awareness about rooftop or window plantation to counter urban heat island effect.

Moreover religious clerics should be given the task to spread awareness about tree plantation and maintaining cleanliness.

To conclude, it can be said that Global warming has become a global threat and to fight against such threat, international communities should come on one page. One can expect that in the upcoming COP-28 which will take place in UAE, the countries participating in it will take this issue seriously. And one can expect that this world will become a better place to live.