

# THE THREAT OF GLOBAL WARMING

## A. Introduction

## B. Threats posed by Global Warming

1. Global Warming results in recurrent ecological disasters.

Case in Point: Hurricane Helene

in USA, Floods in Nepal etc.

2. Global Warming poses threat to existence of coastal areas.

Case in Point: Maldives will

be extinct by 2035. (NASA Report).

3. Heat Waves cause great loss of human lives.

Case in Point: Deaths (1000 plus)

during Hajj 2024, UK Heat Wave.

4. Excessive glacial melting causes spread of water-borne diseases.

Case in Point: Outbreak of

Cholera in Nepal.

5. Natural disasters pose economic losses because of delayed shipments and reconstruction.

Case in Point: Floods in

Pakistan 2022 cost over

\$30 Million. (SBP Report).

6. Global Warming causes loss to agricultural yield and eventually food insecurity.

Case in Point: Pakistan faced 40% loss in Mango yields (2022)

7. Global warming lays out the administrative faultlines of International Organisations.

Case in Point: Failure of UNFCCC, UNEP, Montreal Protocol, COP-24

8. Global warming results in water scarcity in major population regions due to high evaporation.

Case in Point: Water Crisis in India.

9. Global Warming contributes to hunger and poverty.

"Case Study of Pakistan"

Case in Point: Repatriation issues post calamities.. (UNHRC).

10. Global Warming extends the Global North-South Divide.

Case in Point: UAE, USA

managed floods but India-Pak

could not. (Diplomat Asia Report)

## C. Conclusion



"The age of Global Warming is over, this is the era of global boiling" said UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres. The depth of the statement attracts human attention towards the lingering threat of rising global temperatures. The average global temperature, according to NASA, has risen by  $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  since 1990. This is an alarming increase in temperature. It will eventually disrupt weather patterns on the planet and cause miserable problems for the inhabitants. Global Warming poses serious concerns like occurrence of natural calamities (cyclones, floods, forest fires) that eventually result in significant health issues. Recent Heat Waves have reported to cause numerous deaths. Regions that are geographically close to coastal belts are endangered to exist. The vegetative loss results in loss of agricultural production that in turn brings food insecurity. The environmental impacts disrupt

human activities and lead to outbreak of diseases. The nuance of global warming is a significant setback to evolving global trade patterns. It is a pertinent fact that global warming poses severe environmental, social and economic threats to the world.

Global Warming has been a key factor in instigating disasters like floods and storms in the waters. It owes to the fact that polar ice-caps melt due to higher temperatures and resultantly water bodies react to sudden alterations in a disaster. Such events pose all sorts of threats to life on the planet, let alone the psychological impact they leave on human beings. The recent Hurricane Helene in Carolina and the floods in Nepal were caused due to excessive glacial melting, as per UNEP reports. It is indeed a challenge to cope-up with such



recurring phenomena of destruction.

Global Waters have always possessed great significance for human settlements. People have been attracted to residing in areas near the coast and wake up to scenic beauties of the islands! Global Warming impacts the very existence of such countries. With the average sea levels rising at unexpected rates annually, it is a distant dream to witness such beautiful destinations ~~at~~ in the upcoming decades. NASA has reported that if the current rate continues, **Maldives** shall become uninhabitable by 2050.

The alarming and unprecedented rise in global temperatures results in Heat waves. A phenomena where temperature rises to unbearable levels and scorching blazes from the sun drain all human energies. While normal heatwaves instill severe dehydration or symptoms of fever, acute cases of excessive exposure

to the sun during heat waves has resulted in death. The Washington Post has reported over 1000 deaths due to heat wave during Hajj 2024. It is very unfortunate that human activities are causing humans death.

Water is a double-edged sword. Not only is it necessary for survival but it can lead to diseases if contaminated. The extensive and sudden glacial melting causes run-off of water through downstream paths and spread disease-causing agents. The common pathogens are host of Cholera, Dysentary etc.

Recently, Nepal has managed to overcome floods but it could not prevent the outbreak of cholera.

There is no doubt that the damage of global warming sees no bounds.

Floods and Hurricanes do not limit to environmental damage but pose economic losses as well.



With the globalized connectivity, states are dependent on each other for trade of essentials. Such disasters halt the exchange of commodities.

Ten, millions are required for the reconstruction of damaged trade infrastructure. The NDMA and SBP have issued reports stating a whopping total of \$30 Million has been spent to handle 2022 floods in Pakistan. Economic setbacks are unbearable for both state and people in present times.

Global warming is harsh for vegetation and crops. This is why it affects the agricultural yield. It can also, cause food insecurity due to heavy losses posed by excess heat or flooding. While the entire world is targeting energies to eradicate hunger (UN SDG 2 - No Hunger), the nuance of global warming is a existant evil. This could in turn trigger all sorts of social, economic or even political



issues. The recent (2022) floods across Pakistan have reported to cause a massive 40% decline in crop yield of mango; one of the most fruitful export item of the country. This would intorn cause major economic setback.

Global warming has unveiled errors of global administration by pointing out flaws in consensus between nations. Regardless of the danger ticking over world community and dire need to enact urgently, no promiseable and reliable solution has been derived. The entire notion of a liberal, interconnected globe has failed to counter the collective harms posed by global warming. Not just one but multiple instances, like tragic failure of Montreal Protocol followed by inefficiencies of UNEP to the recent controversial end of COP-29, there seems to be no way-out for all nations to agree upon mutually.



Global Warming, in all its glory, poses a significant threat to blue-gold. Water on the planet, essential for human survival is termed Blue Gold. Recently, due to higher global temperatures and recurrent crises, the water table has dropped unbelievably low. This has caused domestic shortages in supply of water. People have to shift to expensive sources for carrying out petty routine tasks. India, for instance, faces acute shortage of waters mainly in urban centres like Delhi and Calcutta. It is very difficult to provide and sustain life with evergrowing populations without basic necessities like water.

The two most hated evils of present-day are hunger and poverty. They are placed at top agenda of UN Sustainable Development Goals but global warming seems to be a contributing factor to global hunger and poverty. When a storm or flood, for say, hits

any region; it destroys or at least damages infrastructure and displaces the indigenous population. People are abandoned without food and shelter, seeking refuge in alien lands. The UNEP works closely in collaboration with UNHRCR to repatriate such victims. The flood affectees in Pakistan (2010 and 2022 both) are still seeking repatriation. They have lost business, livestock (which was a source of income) or any lands they previously owned. Global warming harms in inevitable ways.

Lastly, The world is significantly divided based on classification of rich and poor. Global warming is an applicable example here. Richer countries possess the potential to overcome issues and fight the threats of climate change while, the poor nations are left to suffer. This concept could be elaborated by the handling of floods by UAE in 2024. They



were equipped with top-notch technologies and plentiful resources while poorer states like India, Pakistan could not handle these issues by themselves.

This has further aggravated sentiments of hatred and indifference, deepening the divide further.

~~There is no doubt~~ In a nutshell, there is absolutely no doubt that global warming causes several damages to the agriculture, trade and industrial domains of a country.

It has played antagonistic roles in crushing food supplies and agrarian growths. The phenomena has been essential in highlighting conflicting interests of states within the community to tackle the issue. It has significantly lowered the levels of underground water or the water available in reservoirs.

The devil of global warming contributes to penetrate hunger and poverty further into the social fabric of states. The

elevation causing greater divide among states in different parts of the world. Global warming has become the Achilles Heel to international progress of nations as well as environmental sustainability. Apparently, it seems to be a matter that concerns only few people but the threats posed by global warming trickle down to almost all segments of the society. This issue require prime attention of policy makers and environmental activists. Every person must play their part to hinder the threats posed by global warming. Its never too late to act, they say. The world community should abide by the proverb; "**Dum Spiro, Spero**", which literally translates to, "As I breathe, I hope", for a better life on this very planet.