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Day: \_\_\_\_\_

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BATCH - 211  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SCIENCE

Q: What is the importance of report "Our Common Future" in the history of Environmental Movement?  
What common threats were identified and what measures were suggested?

Introduction:

In 1983, UN established an independent organization formally known as World's Commission on Environment and Development, also known as Brundtland commission

because it was headed by Prime Minister of Norway - Gro Harlem Brundtland. It was created to focus on environmental and developmental problems and their solutions. It holds an importance in the history of environmental movement due to introduction of concept of sustainable development, re-rise of multilateralism and invention of corporate social responsibility. However, several socio-economic and environmental threats were identified in the report. Moreover, the commission also suggested solution in the form of sustainable development.

## Importance Of "Our Common Future" report

Brundtland commission report also known as "our Common Future" holds an importance in the history of Environmental movement, because this initiative raised environmental awareness and provided a strong platform. Moreover, it also marked a turning point by introducing sustainable development, multilateralism and corporate social responsibility.

1. Sustainable  
Development

2.  
Multi-lateralism

3. Corporate  
Social  
Responsibility

## 1) Introduced Sustainable development

This report introduced the concept of sustainable development for the first time. It raised awareness about the idea that humans must had to think about the future generations and the world they live in. while presenting the report, Gro Harlem stated that

"The environment does not exist as a sphere separate from human activities. It is where we all live and development is

what we all do in attempting to improve our lot."

The report stated that there is a strong link between poverty, inequality and environmental degradation. It was warned in the report that developing countries could not grow without environmental degradation if nothing was done. Therefore, the new era must be socially and environmentally sustainable.

## 2) Re-rise of Multilateralism

It laid the foundations of international cooperation in the area of sustainable development. Since the threats are common, there is need for collective political action and responsibility. It resulted into return of multilateralism and set-up of international conference to assess the progress made. Moreover, it also lead to the Rio-Summit 1992 and Kyoto protocol 1997 for stabilization of environment.

## 3) Invention Of Corporate

### Social responsibility

This commission not only call the governments for action but also identified new actors for environmental protection.

and economic development. It also called for every individual including scientific and educational institutions. It also focused corporate companies to acknowledge their responsibilities.

## Common Identified Threats

### Socio-economic threats

Several

common socio-economic threats were identified in Brundtland commission or Our Common Future report such as poverty, unemployment, growing population trends, food insecurity and illiteracy. Moreover, it also included increasing crimes, health sector deficiencies and gender disparity. Furthermore, short term economic policies, economic inequality and governance problems or corruption were also identified as common threats.

### Environmental Threats

Some

environmental threats such as environmental pollution, ozone depletion, global warming and climate change were also identified. Moreover, biodiversity loss, eutrophication

desertification and deforestation were also included in common environmental threats of "Our Common Future" report.

## Suggested measures for Common threats

# Sustainable Development

Sustainable development was introduced as a way-out to the environmental problems. It focuses on development which meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the needs of future generation. It focuses on all the three dimensions of sustainable development; at local, regional and global level.

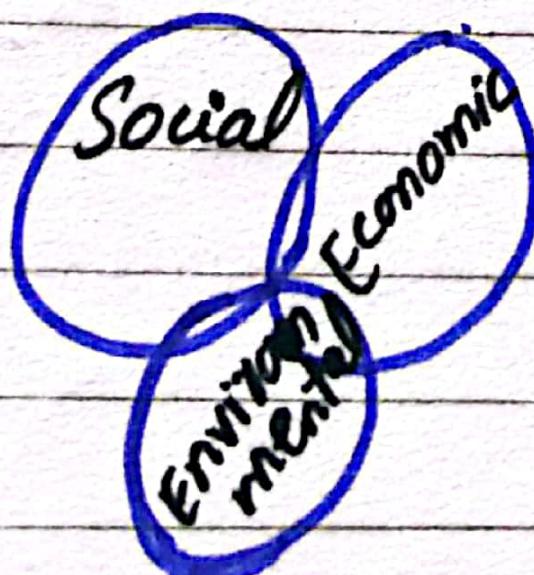


Fig: Dimensions of Sustainable Development

## Conclusion:

Brundtland Commission  
also known as ~~Our Common Future~~  
was established to address environmental  
problems. It marked an importance  
in Environmental Movement. This  
commission identified common socio-  
economic and environmental threats  
and suggested solution in the  
form of sustainable development.

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ANSWERS IS FINE AND RELEVANT  
OVER ALL CONTENT IS OK  
MAKE SMALL HEADINGS DONT  
WASTE SPACE

NEED IMPROVEMENT  
10/20