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Batch 53

MOCK EXAM 6

Current Affairs

Part II

Q No 6

COP 29 summit ended in Baku. Critically evaluate its failures and commitments.

Outline:

I. Introduction

II. Commitments

III. Failure and Criticism

IV. Controversies

V. Conclusion

I. Introduction:

COP 29 summit ended in Baku with mixed outcomes, marked by both progress and notable shortcomings. COP 29 summit was majorly focused on the climate change preventive measures. But unfortunately, COP 29 which was considered to be impactful comes to an end with no significant improvement steps for lowering the temperature of earth. Developing countries are at risk of global

warming and they suffer. And while developed countries are only interested in giving some amount for the developing countries which is not sufficient for the developing countries. Therefore, there are some sort of mixed out-comes and short comings of COP 29.

II. Commitment.

In COP 29 two major commitments have been taken

1. Climate Finance Agreement
2. Article 6.4 Framework Adoption

1. Climate Finance Agreement:

In COP 29 developed countries pledged to give \$300 billion annually by 2035 to support developing countries in addressing the issue of climate change. This amount will assist developing countries to mitigate climate emissions.

2. Article 6.4 Framework Adoption:

In COP 29, second major commitment done is adoption of Article 6.4 Framework of the Paris Agreement. It establishes UN-backed body to regulate international carbon trading. This decision is expected to unlock significant climate finance, primarily benefiting

developing countries.

III. Failure and Criticism

COP 29 in Baku leads to several failures and criticism by the peoples such as

1. Inadequate Climate finance

2. Lack of fossil-fuel phase-out commitment

3. Support for small-scale farmers

4. Unresolved negotiations

1. Inadequate Climate Finance:

The \$300 billion annual pledge falls significantly short of \$1.3 trillion. Major concerns for developing countries is to combat climate change. Critics argue that this amount is not sufficient for the developing countries.

2. Lack of fossil fuel phase-out commitment:

In COP 29, there was not no commitment related to fossil fuel phase-out as fossil fuels are one of the major contributors to climate change. But developed countries does not show any interest to phase-out fossil fuel.

3. Support for small-scale Farmers:

Farmers plays vital role in food production and small-scale farmers received inadequate support. Only 14% of global finance reaches these farmers. Only less than 3% dedicated to food systems. despite their significant contribution to greenhouse gas emission.

4. Unresolved Negotiations:

In COP 29, there was unresolved negotiation among countries. It includes global stocktake outcomes, transition strategies and adaptation measures broke down without resolution. This also led COP 29 towards failure and critique.

IV. Controversies

1. Host Country's Interest In fossil fuels

2. Human Rights Concerns

There are two major controversies that broke out after COP 29 as above mentioned.

1. Host Country's Interest In Fossil Fuels:

Azerbaijan is doing agreement with many countries that are related based on fossil fuels. Trade agreement had been carried out with Saudi Arabia, China, Iran etc. When host country is

interested in fossil fuel how climate mitigation strategies could be possible;

a. Human Right Concerns

Another controversy revolving that Azerbaijani government arrest those journalists and activists who published report on shostarming of COP 29 in Azerbaijan, Baku. Freedom of speech is basic human right, and it should be taken from any person.

v. Conclusion:

COP 29, Baku ended but it raises many questions like how climate change issue will be resolved if host countries are doing fossil fuel trade agreements? However commitment have done by COP 29 it will not give long term fruitful effects. Climate Change is global issue developed countries needs to understand this that only by giving billion dollars amount is not solution. Therefore, globally earth temperature declining strategies and measures should be adopted by developed countries to mitigate the alarming risk of climate change by reducing carbon emissions.

Q No 7

Critically evaluate the beneficiaries and losers of the ongoing conflicts in the middle East.

Outline:

I- Introduction

II- Beneficiaries

1. Regional Powers
2. Arms Manufacturer and Exporters
3. Non-state Actors
4. Energy Markets.

III- Losers

1. Civilian Population
2. Weak States and Governance
3. Regional Stability
4. Environmental and Heritage loss
5. Global Instability.

IV- Critical Analysis.

V- Conclusion.

Introduction:

The On going conflicts in the Middle East, including wars in Syria, Yemen and increasing tensions in Palestine-Israel have created a complex web of geopolitical winners and losers. These conflicts are driven by a mix of historical grievances, ideological difference and competition for resources and influence. The ongoing

conflict in middle East created many opportunities for the countries and forces for many countries as discussed in detailed forward.

II. Beneficiaries:

1. Regional Powers:

In middle East ongoing conflict made regional powers beneficiaries majorly Iran, Turkey and Saudi Arabia. Firstly, Iran benefitted from power vacuum in Iraq, Syria and Yemen by expanding its influence through proxies like Hezbollah in Lebanon and Houthis in Yemen. Secondly, Turkey expanded its military and political operations in Syria and Iraq under the guise of counter terrorism. Thirdly, Saudi Arabia positioned itself as a leader in countering Iranian influence, particularly in Yemen. Furthermore, Saudi strengthened alliances with US and Israel through shared security interests. Therefore, in such a way regional powers become beneficiaries in ongoing middle east conflicts.

2. Arm Manufacturers and Exporters:

Ongoing middle east conflict gave opportunities to countries like US, Russia and European Union.

nations to have profit from arms sales to regional actors. ^{Secondly,} Middle East countries particularly Saudi Arabia and UAE are the world's largest arms importers. Therefore, this ongoing middle east conflict benefitted to arm manufacturer and exporters.

3. Non-state Actors:

Ongoing conflicts in middle east gave opportunities to ^{militants} groups like Hezbollah, ISIS and the Houthis capitalized on weak governance to expand their territories and influence. Secondly, Funding from western countries and support has strengthened these groups.

4. Energy Markets:

Middle East Conflict benefitted oil and gas producers. Geopolitical instability led oil prices hikes and it benefitted producers like Saudi Arabia, Iran & UAE. Secondly, countries that have diversified energy exports they used consolidate conflicts to market positions.

III. Losers of Ongoing Conflict in ME:

1. Civilian Population:

Major loss in ongoing middle east conflict is the innocent civilians. First, million of people displaced (e.g. 6.8 million Syrian Refugees) and

Secondly, thousands of people killed with Yemen experiencing one of the world's worst humanitarian crisis. Thirdly, it causes widespread destruction of infrastructure, health systems and education. Furthermore, it also causes economic devastation e.g in Syria, Palestine and Yemen.

2. Weak state and Governance:

Conflict in ME causes Syria, Yemen and Libya get to suffer severe fragmentation. Firstly, losing control over significant parts of their territory. Secondly, weak state are easily occupied by the strong state. Furthermore, Palestinians continued displacement, loss of land, worsening conditions in Gaza and West Bank.

3. Regional Instability,

ME conflicts causes regional instability in neighbouring countries as Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey have loaded with refugees. Secondly, these burden on the neighbouring countries would destabilize destabilized and it fosters tensions within the state.

4. Environment and Heritage Loss:

Increasing tension in ME causes environment and heritage loss.

Firstly, natural resources overexploitation and environmental degradation cause water crisis and have worsened the condition due to conflict. Secondly, it causes loss of cultural and historic sites in Iraq, Syria.

S. Global Instability:

Prolonged military involvement in the region (e.g. US, Afg and Iraq) strained resources and it will reduce domestic support for international interventions. Secondly, Rise in the terrorism and migration crisis has politically destabilized Europe and ~~EU~~ US.

IV. Geitical Analysis:

On going middle east conflict reflect broader struggle for power and resources with external powers and regional actors fueling the crisis for their strategic gains. Some countries have benefitted economically and geopolitically. Efforts to resolve conflicts often halt due to mean interest and mistrust. A sustainable resolution requires addressing the root cause such as inequalities, sectarianism and external influences while prioritizing the needs of civilian populations.

V. Conclusion:

To pen off, On going middle

exist conflicts gave many opportunities to countries like Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia to gain their strategic and political interest. On the other hand, it gave many countries losing their territories and devastation of their heritage and infrastructure.

This on going conflict have far reaching implications on global level.

Therefore, countries need to realize the importance of peace and stability. They should take measure to resolve this middle east conflicts.