

Natural Resources ; a Blessing or a Curse?

1) Introduction

Thesis statement: Natural resources such as food, water, energy and minerals are blessings. However, curse and challenges posed by mismanagement of resources and geo-economic gains can be addressed by stringent policies and collaboration at national and international level.

(2) How Natural Resources are a blessings? Arguments.

(1) Supports life of Humans, animals and marine species.

Case in point: Water, food, plants and coral reef supports Humanity.

(2) Promotes Biodiversity.

(3) Renewable sources of energies offers cheap and environment friendly energy.

Case in point: Solar energy, Wind energy and Hydel energy

(4) Earth's raw materials and rare minerals facilitate modern technology.

Case in Point: Semiconductors and micro computer chips.

(4) Strengthens Economy by attracting foreign direct investments.

Case in Point: Saudi Arabia investing in Saudi's project in Pakistan.

(5) Balances Environment by regulating the climate.

Case in Point: forests and oceans regulate climate.

(6) Helps modernizing infrastructure and households.

Case in Point: Concrete for building roads and wood for furniture.

(3) How Resources are a curse? A counter perspective.

(1) Curse due to mismanagement of resources.

(a) Causes Social and Political unrest.

Case in Point: Protests and sit-ins due to water & energy crisis.

(b) leads to regional conflicts and disputes.

Case in Point: Ganga river dispute between India and Bangladesh

(2) Curse due to Geo-economic and Geo-political gains.

(a) leads to trade wars.

Case in Point: US vs china trade wars on the export of rare earth minerals.

(b) Facilitates proxy wars to gain influence

Case in Point: Proxy war in Middle east on national oil resources.

(4) Recommendations For Effective Resource management ensuring peaceful world.

(a) Promoting civic education to reduce food and water waste.

(b) Ensuring effective water policies with regional countries to reduce conflict.

(c) Stringent policies for balanced distribution of resources among provinces

(d) International organization like WTO to hold dialogues for collaborative trade outcomes.

5) Conclusion