

Solution

B-1 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES WS 2

Class 12 - Political Science

Section A

1.
(d) Water is not relevant to global politics
Explanation: A number of studies show that countries that share rivers are involved in military conflicts with each other. Examples of violence include those between Israel, Syria, and Jordan in the 1950s and 1960s over attempts by each side to divert water from the Jordan and Yarmuk Rivers, and more recent threats between Turkey, Syria, and Iraq over the construction of dams on the Euphrates River. Hence water is another crucial resource that is relevant to global politics apart from oil, coal, etc.
2.
(c) Option (a)
Explanation: In the world, there are some areas which are located outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state and hence require common governance by the international community. This is known as Global Commons. They include Earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, the ocean floor, and outer space.
3.
(b) Saudi Arabia is the world's 2nd largest oil producer
Explanation: Gulf region has about 64% of the earth's known reserves. Saudi Arabia has a quarter of the world's total reserves and is the single largest producer.
4.
(b) Global North and South pursues the same environmental agenda
Explanation: The rich and poor countries of the world were pursuing different environmental agendas in the Rio summit. Whereas the Northern states were concerned with ozone depletion and global warming the global South was anxious to address the relationship between economic development and environmental management.
5. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development was held in June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Section B

6. Earth Summit was a conference on environment and development held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in June 1992. The Earth Summit drew the attention of global politics towards environmental issues because it produced conventions to deal with climate change, biodiversity, and forestry. It recommended a list of development practices called Agenda 21. Under this list, there was consensus on combining economic growth with ecological responsibility, known as sustainable development. Earth Summit laid stress on the cooperation of states to conserve, protect, restore the health and integrity of the earth's ecosystems.
7. Cooperation over the global commons is not easy due to the following reasons:
 - i. There is difficulty in achieving consensus on common environmental agendas on the basis of vague scientific evidence and time frames.
 - ii. The history of outer space as a global common show that this area is thoroughly influenced by North-South inequalities.
8. The outcomes of the Rio summit were:
 - i. There was an agreement on combining economic growth with ecological responsibility.
 - ii. The summit started the environmental issues and discussions at the global level.
 - iii. The Rio Summit produced conventions dealing with climate change, biodiversity, forestry and recommended a list of development practices called 'Agenda 21'.
9. **Measures to conserve natural resources:**
 - i. **Use renewable sources of energy:** Shift from non-renewable to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydro power to reduce depletion of natural resources.
 - ii. **Obey international rules, regulations, and environmental laws:** Adhere to global agreements and national laws aimed at protecting the environment and sustainably managing natural resources.
10. The two steps taken by the government to check pollution and save environment are:
 - i. India's National Auto-fuel Policy mandates cleaner fuels for vehicles. The Energy Conservation Act, passed in 2001, outlines initiatives to improve energy efficiency.

- ii. The Electricity Act of 2003 encourages the use of renewable energy.
11. 'Common' are those resources that are not owned by anyone but rather shared by a community. The protection of global commons means the areas or regions of the world which are located outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state and therefore require common governance and protection by the international community. These are known as *recommunis humanities*. They include the earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, the ocean floor and outer space.
12. Outcomes of the Earth Summit 1992
- i. The environmental issues were brought into the focus of global politics.
 - ii. A list of development practices called "Agenda 21" were recommended.
 - iii. There was a focus on sustainable development.
 - iv. The rich and the developed countries pursued different agenda than the poor and developing environmental countries of the third world.
13. The Indigenous people are inheritors and practitioners of unique cultures and ways of relating to people and the environment. The UN defines it as comprising the descendants of peoples who inhabited the present territory of a country at the time when persons of a different culture or ethnic origin arrived there from other parts of the world and overcame them. The indigenous populations follow the 'World Council of Indigenous People'.
14. The Government of India should take the following steps to save the environment:
- i. Ensure sustainable and equitable use of resources without degrading the environment or risking health or safety and improve the condition and productivity of degraded areas.
 - ii. Conserve and enhance natural and man-made heritage including biological diversity of unique ecosystems.
 - iii. Raising awareness and understanding of the link between environment and development.
 - iv. Promoting individual and community participation and proposing strategies, mechanisms, economic and social instruments for improving environmental quality.
15. Environment refers to the surroundings of a region which can be improved by taking the following steps:
1. Eco-friendly industries should be set up as well as industries adherent should be disposed of with scientific methods and by treating wastewater through primary, secondary and tertiary treatment. Industries should be established at far away places from populous/residential areas.
 2. By planting green belts in and around industries for promoting ecological balance and holding afforestation drives. More focus should be on afforestation i.e. planting more trees to maintain ecological balance, prevent soil erosion and enhance water cycle also.
16. i. Kyoto Protocol is an international treaty which extends the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that commits state parties to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, based on the scientific consensus. The Kyoto Protocol was adopted in Kyoto, Japan on 11 December 1997 and entered into force on 16 February 2005.
- ii. Certain gases like Carbon dioxide, Methane, Hydro-fluoro Carbons etc. are considered responsible for global warming.
 - iii. This global warming may raise the global temperature to have catastrophic consequences for life on earth.
17. Common property refers to the rights and duties of a group together over a natural resources. Different norms of common property are as follows:
- o The group members have both rights and duties with respect to the nature, levels of use and the maintenance of a given resource.
 - o Mutual understanding and centuries of practice in India, many village communities have defined members' rights and responsibilities.
 - o The institutional arrangement for the actual management of sacred groves on state owned forest land appropriately fits the description of a common property regime. Along the forest belt of South India, sacred groves have been traditionally managed by village communities.
18. Two important international movements against environmental degradation are:
- i. **The Earth Summit of 1992:** This was one of the first major organizations to openly discuss the world's environmental challenges. At this summit, the notion of sustainable development was conceived. This Summit included Agenda 21, which included the basis for sustainable development.
 - ii. **Kyoto Protocol:** This treaty was ratified in 1997, and it assigned nations the obligation of reducing their Greenhouse Gas emissions, which were the primary cause of global warming.
19. Development mostly causes degradation of environment as:
- i. Industrialisation and urbanisation have resulted in deforestation which increased environmental pollution. The forest movements of the South, in Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Malaysia, Indonesia, continental Africa and India started the movement

against deforestation.

- ii. The minerals industry also harm the environment by extraction of earth, use of chemicals, pollution of waterways and land is increased. Philippines started a movement against an Australian based MNC known as Western Mining Corporation.
20. Two environmental issues which are causes of concern to global politics are:
- i. The cultivable land is not expanding anymore, and a substantial portion of existing agricultural land is losing fertility. Grassland has been overgrazed and fisheries over-harvested.
 - ii. The Ozone poses a real danger to ecosystems and human health.
21. Yes, there is a difference between the perspective adopted by the rich and the poor nations to protect the Earth at Rio-Summit:
- i. The rich countries were known as Global North whereas the poor countries were called Global South.
 - ii. Northern states showed concern on environmental issues like ozone depletion and global warming whereas southern states showed concern for economic aspects such as economic development and also on the management of the environment.
- 22.
- o **Deforestation:** Mining causes significant habitat destruction and a severe loss of biodiversity.
 - o **Pollution:** The release of harmful chemicals during mining operations contaminates the air, water, and soil.
 - o **Ecosystem Damage:** Acid mine drainage and the generation of waste products disrupt entire ecosystems.
 - o **Climate Impact:** Mining activities contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, significantly affecting the climate.
23. Four environmental concerns that have become issues of Global Politics were as:
- i. Cultivable area is barely expanding and is losing fertility, grasslands, overgrazed water bodies suffering from extensive depletion thereby restricting food production.
 - ii. No access to safe water resulting in the death of more than 3 million children every year.
 - iii. Loss of biodiversity continues due to the destruction of Habitat in areas which are rich in species.
 - iv. A steady decline in the total amount of Earth's stratosphere causing danger to health.
24. The major problems of ecological issues related to:
- i. The difficulty of achieving consensus on environmental agendas on the basis of vague scientific methods and time frames.
 - ii. Management of outer space is influenced by North-South inequalities.
 - iii. Technology and industrial development are also the issues over the Earth's atmosphere and ocean floor
 - iv. The discovery of the ozone hole over the Antarctic in mid 1980s also revealed the opportunity as well as dangers inherent in tackling global environmental problems.
25. Resource Geopolitics is about who gets what, when, where, and how. It is concerned with the allocation of distribution of natural resources among the nation states of the global arena. They have been the focus of inter- state rivalry and western geopolitical thinking about resources have been dominated by the relationship of trade, war and power, at the core of which are overseas resources and maritime navigation.
26. The two adverse effects of the construction of the mega dams are:
- i. **Displacement of People:** Mega dam projects force individuals to leave their homes and sources of income, leading to significant social and financial suffering. Rehabilitation of such large populations is challenging.
 - ii. **Loss of Habitat and Floods:** Mega dams lead to deforestation, loss of biodiversity, and extinction of species. Additionally, altering river paths can cause devastating floods and loss of lives and resources.
27. Global Commons include:
- a. The Earth's atmosphere
 - b. Antarctica
 - c. Ocean floor
 - d. Outer space
- 28.
- i. Demand to stop construction of dams is criticized by many as obstructing the process of development.
 - ii. Dams provide water for irrigation generate electricity, provide drinking water control floods, importance of dams was upheld by the supreme courts.
29. The efforts made by the Government of India to reduce greenhouse gas emission to have better environment were as:
- i. India's National Auto-Fuel Policy mandates cleaner fuels for vehicles.
 - ii. The Energy Conservation Act 2001, is to improve energy efficiency.
 - iii. The Electricity Act 2003, encourages the use of renewable energy.
 - iv. The government is keen to launch a National Mission on Bio-diesel.
30. Indigenous people require special protection to protect their rights due to the following reasons:

1. Indigenous have paid a huge cost for development. They are the largest group among the people displaced by various developmental projects since independence.
 2. Issues related to the rights of indigenous people have been neglected as people of varied cultures from various parts of the world overcome them.
 3. These people have a threat to their survival due to the loss of land which is the main source of their livelihood.
31. a. 'Commons' are those resources that are not owned by anyone but rather shared by a community. There are some areas or regions of the world which are located outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state and therefore require common governance by the international community. These are the earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, the ocean floor and outer space.
 - b. The global commons are exploited and polluted due to the product of industrial development undertaken by the developed countries.
32. We can protect the rights of the indigenous people with regard to the environment through :
 - i. Institutional safeguards like rules and regulation.
 - ii. Creating a social security net.
 - iii. They must be allowed to have free access to as much land as they could cultivate.
 - iv. The governments should accept the existence of indigenous people as enduring communities with an identity of their own.
 33. The parties to the Protocol agreed that the largest share of global emissions of greenhouse gases has originated in developed countries. It was acknowledged that per capita emission of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide was still relatively low in developing countries. Therefore, developing countries such as India and China were exempted from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol.
 34. The two outcomes of Rio Summit were as follows:
 - i. It provided a consensus on combining economic growth with ecological responsibility for sustainable development.
 - ii. It produced conventions dealing with climatic change, biodiversity, forestry and recommended a list of development practices called ' Agenda 21 '.
 35. We can protect the rights of indigenous people with regard to the environment in the following ways:
 - i. They must be allowed to have free access to as much land as they could cultivate.
 - ii. Forests should not be cut in order to avoid displacement for indigenous people. Forest clearing should be stopped in the Third World Countries because it is harmful for the environment as well as for the indigenous population.
 - iii. The governments should accept the existence of indigenous people as enduring communities with an identity of their own.
 36. Some of the environmental concerns of global politics are given below:
 1. Ozone layer depletion is an alarm in concern for the ecosystem. The ozone poses a real danger to ecosystems and human health.
 2. Loss of fertility of agricultural land due to extreme use of fertilizers and overgrazed grasslands.
 3. Natural forests are being cut down and people are being displaced. There is a loss of biodiversity due to the destruction of habitat in areas which are rich in species.
 37. Common property can be defined as community's natural resource, where every member has right of access and usage with specified obligations, without anybody having property rights over them. It represents common property for the group. The members of the group have both rights and duties with respect to the nature, levels of use, and maintenance of a given resource.

Section C

38. i. The methods adopted by industrialised countries to fulfill their essentials from weaker sections is represented by the cartoon.
 - ii. In the given cartoon, the stronger country like the USA and the weaker nation like Iraq is shown.
 - iii. The picture conveys the following message: Resources are the real strength of a nation and neo-colonialism play politics to obtain it.
39. i. The above picture shows the way neocolonialism works. Firstly a country attacks and destroys and then takes control or accepts natural resources such as oil for rebuilding it.
 - ii. Oil continues to be the most important resource in global strategy.
 - iii. Oil is a portable and indispensable fuel. The immense wealth associated with oil generates political struggles to control it as has happened in West Asia and Central Asia. West Asia particularly the Gulf Region accounts for about 30 per cent of global oil production. It has about 64 per cent of the planet's known reserves. Saudi Arabia has a quarter of the world's total reserves and is the single largest producer. Iraq's known reserves are second only to Saudi Arabia but actually it might be far larger. Iraq's invasion by the US was motivated by objectives such as controlling Iraqi oilfields and installing a regime friendly to the US.
40. i. Industrial Pollution commenting on 'Global warming' is represented by the picture.

- ii. The fingers are designed like chimneys as it denotes pollution coming out of chimneys from industries and the world made into a lighter representing burning and depleting of natural resources.
 - iii. The given picture draws the attention of the world towards excessive industrial pollution, if it continues on, flora and fauna will be depleted which will create an imbalance to the ecosystem.
41. i. The Earth Summit on environment issues was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (South America), in June 1992.
- ii. Here is a dense rain forest above. Just below, it is shown that these forests are being felled relentlessly. Another is the mangrove forest. Forests stabilise the climate, moderate water supplies and harbour the biodiversity on land.
 - iii. a. Earth's atmosphere, ocean floors, outer space and Antarctic region are Global Commons. Any country in the world has no claim or coverage on these visible and invisible entities.
 - b. As the regions described in (a) above are global commons, only world politics can get enforced rules and regulations for their conservation. Any two countries may fall in controversy or disputes but the rules passed by convention/summit will prevail.

42. State True or False:

- (i) **(a)** True
Explanation: True
- (ii) **(b)** False
Explanation: False
- (iii) **(a)** True
Explanation: True
- (iv) **(a)** True
Explanation: True

43. The Indian government is participating in global efforts through a number of programmes:

- i. India's National Auto-fuel policy mandates cleaner fuels for vehicles.
- ii. The Energy Conservation Act, passed in 2001, outlines initiatives to improve energy efficiency.
- iii. The Electricity Act, 2003 encourages the use of renewable energy.
- iv. Recent trends in importing natural gas and encouraging the adoption of clean coal technologies show that India is making real efforts.

44. Compromise and Accommodation are the two essential policies to Save Planet Earth by the states but the states from the North and the South have different notions towards environmental issues:

- i. The Northern States are concerned with Ozone depletion and global warming, whereas Southern States want to address the relationship between economic development and environmental management.
- ii. The developed countries of the North want to discuss the environmental issues as it stands now and want everyone to be equally responsible for ecological conservation.
- iii. The developing countries of the South feel that much of the ecological degradation is the product of industrial development undertaken by the developed countries. If they have caused more degradation, they are supposed to take more responsibility for undoing the damage now.
- iv. Moreover, the developing countries are in the process of industrialization and they must not be subjected to the same restrictions, which apply to the developed countries through various conventions like Kyoto Protocol etc.
- v. The special needs of the developing countries must be taken into account in the development, application, and interpretation of rules of International Environmental Law.

This argument was accepted in the Rio Declaration at the Earth Summit in 1992 and is called the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities".

45. 'Commons' are those resources which are not owned by anyone but rather shared by a community. This could be a 'common room', a 'community centre', a park or a river. Similarly, there are some areas or regions of the world which are located outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state, and therefore require common governance by the international community. These are known as res communis humanitatis or global commons.

Examples- Earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, Ocean floor and Outer space.

Reasons to save them

- i. To maintain ecological balance.
- ii. They are essential for scientific research for the present and future generations as well.

46. The UN defines indigenous population as comprising the descendants of people who inhabited the present territory of a country at the time when persons of a different culture or ethnic origin arrived there from other parts of the world and overcame them. The following problems are faced by such people:
- i. They lost their lands which belonged to them from long time. The indigenous people used the phrase "Since times immemorial" refers to their continued occupancy of the lands from which they originate.
 - ii. The loss of land, which also means the loss of an economic resource base, is the most obvious threat to the survival of indigenous people.
 - iii. Issues related to the rights of the indigenous communities have also been neglected in domestic and international politics for long.
 - iv. The rights of the indigenous people have been neglected in domestic and international politics.
47. The role of environmental movements to meet the change of environmental degradation is very important. It is justified from the points below:
- i. Some of the most significant responses to environmental challenges have come not from government but rather from groups of environmentally conscious volunteers around the world.
 - ii. Three environmental movements are amongst the most vibrant, diverse and powerful social movements all over the world. These movements create new ideas and long-term visions. There are some examples to show that diversity is a significant feature of contemporary environmental movements.
 - iii. There are forest movements in Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Malaysia, Indonesia, Continental Africa and India are faced with enormous pressure. Forest clearing in the Third World continues at an alarming rate despite three decades of environmental activism.
 - iv. In the Philippines, a big network of groups and organisations campaigned against the Western Mining Corporation. Mineral industry's extraction of earth, its use of chemicals, its clearance of native vegetation and its displacement of communities continue to invite criticism and resistance in various parts of the globe. Much opposition to the company in its own country, Australia, is based on anti-nuclear sentiments and advocacy for the basic rights of Australian indigenous peoples.
 - v. Another group of movements is involved in struggles against mega-dams. In every country where mega dams are being built, we find the environmental movements opposing the projects. There are struggles and movements against the construction of mega-dams such as Narmada Bachao Andolan in India. Increasingly anti-dam movements are pro river movement for more sustainable and equitable management of river systems and valleys.
48. Global Commons are those resources which are not owned by anyone but rather shared by a community. In the world, some areas are situated outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state, hence they need united control by the international community. These are known as global commons.
- The international cooperation over the 'global commons' is not easy because:
- i. Cooperation over the 'global commons' is not easy. There have been many path breaking agreements such as the 1959 Antarctic Treaty, the 1987 Montreal Protocol, and the 1991 Antarctic Environmental Protocol. A major problem underlying ecological issues relates to the difficulty of achieving consensus on common environmental agendas on the basis of vague scientific evidence and time frames.
 - ii. Similarly, the history of the outer space as a global commons clearly shows that the management of these regions is completely influenced by North-South inequalities.
49. "Let the polluters pay" is the statement quoted by the developing countries of south to the developed countries of north at the negotiations between south and north countries over environmental pollution.
- 'Let the polluters pay' or 'Polluter Pays Principle' (PPP) means that the polluters are liable to pay compensations to those affected due to the pollution created by them. It aims to determine how the lists of pollution prevention and control can be allocated and how resources can be used efficiently.
- The following arguments justify the above statement:
- i. In order to control pollution and punish the polluters, the government has passed various acts such as the Water Act, the Air Act, the Environment Act, the Wildlife Protection Act and the Forest Conservation Act. This safeguards the nature and the ecosystems for the betterment of human beings.
 - ii. Thermal power plants lead to air pollution due to fly ash content, water pollution due to dissolved heavy metals, toxic waste disposal and heating, and soil pollution due to the dumping of toxic waste. This leads to retarded mental growth in children, less productive water bodies and soil for which the thermal plant should be liable to pay. As a result, to control these pollutions, the government has taken initiatives by passing various acts to safeguard both nature and human beings.

50. The concept of common property displays the similar and common property for group. The rule is that the participants of the group have both rights and duties related to nature, levels of use and maintenance of given resources.

Example:

- i. With the help of common belief and long-term practice, many village communities in India have set out rights, and responsibilities of members.
 - ii. A combination of factors including privatisation, population growth and ecosystem degradation have affected the poor masses to a great extent.
 - iii. The international requirement for the conservation of the sacred groves on state-owned former forest land is an example of the common property resources, which have been traditionally conserved by village communities.
 - iv. The management of the sacred groves along the forest belt of South India, sacred groves have been traditionally managed by village communities.
51. Throughout the Cold War, the industrialised countries of the North adopted a number of methods to ensure a steady flow of resources. These included:
- i. Deployment of military forces near exploitation sites and along sea lines of communication.
 - ii. The stockpiling of strategic resources.
 - iii. Efforts to prop up friendly governments in producing countries.
 - iv. Support for multinational companies and favourable international agreements.

Traditional Western strategic thinking remained concerned with access to supplies, which might be threatened by the Soviet Union.

52. The UN defines indigenous populations as comprising the descendants of peoples who inhabited the present territory of a country at the time when persons of a different culture ethnic origin arrived there from other parts of the world and overcame them. In India 'indigenous people' are referred to as 'Scheduled Tribes- who - constitute nearly eight percent of the population. Most indigenous populations in India depend for their subsistence primarily on the cultivation of land. They enjoy constitutional protection in political representation. Some seats in the legislatures have been reserved for them. In spite of political representation, they are the largest group among the people displaced by various developmental projects since independence.

Section D

53. Fill in the blanks:

- (i) 1. Agenda 21
- (ii) 1. UNFCCC
- (iii) 1. overgrazed, overharvested
- (iv) 1. Sacred groves
- (v) 1. India
- (vi) 1. Rio Declaration

54. It is necessary that the states should adopt a policy of compromise and accommodation to save planet Earth. There has been a difference in the approach to the environment between the countries of the North and the South i.e. between the developed countries and the developing countries. However, at the Rio Summit in 1992, the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities' was accepted. The Rio Declaration states that 'States shall cooperate in the spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem'. In 1992, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has also emphasised that the states should act to protect the climate system on the basis of equity' and the largest share should be borne by the developed countries. At the Kyoto Protocol, China and India were exempted from its requirements. Thus, policies of compromise and accommodation have been followed to save planet Earth.

55. The UN defines an indigenous population as the descendants of people who inhabited the present territory of a country at the time when persons of a different culture or ethnic origin arrived there from other parts of the world and overcome them. The rights of indigenous people can be summarised as follows:

- i. Indigenous people speak of their struggles, agenda and fights like social movements.
- ii. Their voices in world politics call for the admission of indigenous people to the world community as equals.
- iii. Many of the present day island states in the Oceania region (including Australia, New Zealand) were inhabited by various indigenous people over the course of show for thousands of years.
- iv. Indigenous people appeal to the government to create indigenous nations with an identity of their own.
- v. The World Council of indigenous people was formed in 1975. The council became the first of 11 indigenous NGOs to receive consultative status in the UN.

56. a. The Rio Summit produced conventions dealing with climate change, biodiversity, forestry, and recommended a list of development practices called 'Agenda 21'. But it left unresolved considerable differences and difficulties.
- b. It gave the concept of 'sustainable development' to be combined economic growth with ecological responsibility.
- c. The problem, however, was how exactly this was to be achieved. Some critics have pointed out that Agenda 21 was biased in favour of economic growth rather than ensuring ecological conservation.
- d. Rio-Summit developed various contentious issues like Commons, Global Commons in the global politics of the environment.
57. Some environmental issues have been considered as global issues:
- Natural resources are being depleted i.e. the cultivable area has not been sustained anymore, agricultural land lost fertility and grasslands have been overgrazed. Overexploitation of non-renewable resources has created these issues.
 - Waterbodies have suffered a depletion and pollution both, which is resulting in an acute shortage of water resources.
 - A steady decline in ozone layer also poses a threat to the ecosystem and human health. It has been seen recently that the size of this hole is increasing. It is a great threat.
 - Natural forests stabilize the climate, moderate water supply and habitat various species also which are also being lost creating destruction to biodiversity through industrial pollution etc.
 - Due to land-based activities, coastal pollution is also increasing which affects fisheries.
58. **Measures of reconciliation between the global environment and economic development:**
- Macrocosm is a unit of an organism comprising plant and animal kingdoms including mankind. Imagine a human body in which five sensory organs, five executive organs, the skeleton, marrow, tendon, cartilage, nine internal systems consisting of numerous nerves (sympathetic, para-sympathetic, somatic etc.), three parts of the brain, several crore cells etc. are united much like the world in its miniature form. Cell is the basic unit but not neglected. In the same way, each individual is the basic unit of a global society. Hence, individual irrespective of class, status etc., his ascriptive identity or identity based on acquired traits, should be given special care in the process of globalisation.
 - Issues gradually overlapping sovereignty of any nation should be restricted. WTO's pressure on developing countries through her Ministerial Conference (viz, the highest decision-making body) is unwarranted and uncalled-for. Member countries should be given a questionnaire containing questions on culture, framework of society, specific attributes of people living there, their aspirations, past records (History, Literature, Theological aspects, Ethics etc.) and answers given by them should be routed through the basic unit of political entity (like Gram Sabha/Panchayat in India) in order to get their response. It is now all possible in this IT era.
 - Over commodification and marketisation should be prohibited. For example, selling bottled water, accede to the patent of margosa and mint like herbs are beyond the common etiquette and hospitality to humanity and social ethics. Such practices gradually lead to wiping of virtues like kindness, compassion and empathy without which no society can sustain any longer. U.N. should, therefore, deal these sensitive issues with precautions.
59. Common but differentiated responsibilities mean that the states shall cooperate in the spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the earth's ecosystem. As the states have common but differentiated responsibilities over the various contribution of global environmental degradation. The developed countries acknowledge that the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technological and financial resources they command.
- We could implement the idea with the help of conventions and declarations:
- The Rio Summit held in June 1992 produced conventions dealing with climate change, biodiversity, forestry and recommended a list of developed practices called Agenda 21.
 - The 1992 United Nation's Framework Convention on Climatic Change (UNFCCC) also emphasised that the parties should act to protect the climate system on the basis of common but differentiated responsibilities.
 - An international agreement known by its Protocol set targets for industrialised countries to cut their greenhouse gas emissions which support for global warming.
- The 1992 UN negotiations were organized around the four key themes of climate change, deforestation, desertification, and biodiversity degradation—environmental problems whose global repercussions brought home the need for a collective response, which needed, in turn, to be grounded in a common responsibility. In legal terms, CBDR describes the shared obligation of two or more states toward the protection of a particular environmental resource.
60. The various declarations/conventions are as mentioned below:
- Rio Declaration:**
 - It states that states shall cooperate in the spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the earth's ecosystem.

b. It states that in view of the different contributions of global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities.

c. The developed countries acknowledge their responsibilities in pursuit of sustainable development.

ii. **The 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change:** It provides that the parties should act to protect the climate system “on the basis of equality and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities”.

iii. **The Kyoto Protocol (1997):** As the per capita emissions in developing countries is low, China and India were exempted from cutting their greenhouse gas emissions.

61. India plays a dominating role among Asian countries on environmental issues. India has been struggling with lots of environmental problems like air pollution, water pollution, global warming etc. India has taken the following steps to counter with these environmental issues:

i. India signed and ratified the 1997 Kyoto Protocol in August 2002 which emphasised to follow the principle common but differentiated responsibility.

ii. India feels this convention is the very spirit of UNFCCC. Neither does it seem fair to impose restrictions on India when the country’s rise in per capita carbon emissions by 2030 is likely to still represent less than half the world average.

iii. The Indian government is also keen to launch a National Mission on Biodiesel which makes India have one of the largest renewable energy programmes in the world.

iv. The government is also participating in global efforts through a number of programmes i.e. National Auto Fuel Policy, Electricity Act 2003, Energy Conservation Act, 2001, etc.

Recent years have seen a shift in India’s approach to negotiations within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as well as more advanced climate policy action in the national and sub-national areas.

62. India’s stand on environmental issues is mentioned below :

- India signed and ratified the 1997 Kyoto Protocol in August 2002.
- At the G-8 meeting in June 2005, India pointed out that the per capita emission rates of the developing countries are a tiny fraction of those in the developed world.
- India believes in the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and therefore is of the view that the major responsibility of curbing emission rest with the developed countries, which have accumulated emissions over a long period of time.
- India's international negotiation position relies heavily on principles of historical responsibility, as enshrined in UNFCCC.
- India has initiated different programmes and policies such as National Auto-fuel Policy, the Energy Conservation Act 2001, Electricity Act 2003 to improve the environment.
- India wants that SAARC countries should adopt a common position of major global environmental issues, so that region voice carries greater weight.

Earth Summit The growing focus on environmental issues within the coliseum of global politics was firmly consolidated at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992. This was named as the 'Earth Summit' in which 170 states, NGOs and MNCs participated in this summit.

Usefulness of Summit The Rio Summit produced conventions dealing with climate change, biodiversity, forestry and advocated a list of development practices called 'Agenda 21'. There were some significant differences and difficulties which were left unsolved. There was an agreement on combining economic growth with ecological responsibility and this approach came to be known as 'sustainable development'.

Outcomes of Rio Summit Rio summit coined the term 'global commons' and differentiated responsibilities. It focused on ecological conservation. Rio summit started the environmental issue and discussions at global level.

63. **Agenda 21** is a non-binding voluntarily implemented action plan of the United Nation (UN) with regard to sustainable developments. It is a product of the United Nation Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio-de-Janeiro, Brazil in 1992. It aims at achieving global sustainable development. It is an agenda to combat environmental damage, poverty, disease through global co-operation on common interests, mutual needs and shared responsibilities. One major objective of Agenda 21 is that every local government should draw its own local Agenda 21. The '21' in Agenda 21 means 21st century. It is a plan to reduce emission which increases Chlorofluoro Carbons or greenhouse gases resulting in global warming.

The concept of common but differentiated responsibilities:

- There are differences between the approaches of the countries. The developed countries of the North want to discuss environmental issues as it stands now and want everyone to be equally responsible for ecological conservation whereas the developing countries of the South feel that ecological degradation in the world is the product of industrial development undertaken by developed countries. So they must take more responsibility for undoing the damage now.

- The developing countries are still in the process of industrialisation and they must not be subjected to the same restrictions which apply to the developed countries. Thus the special need of the developing countries must be taken into account in the development, application and interpretation of rules of international environmental law. This debate was accepted in the Earth Summit in 1992 in the Rio declaration and is called the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.
- The most important part of the Rio Declaration says the 'States shall cooperate' in the spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem. In view of the different contributions of global environmental degradation, states have common but differentiated responsibilities.
- The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technological and financial resources they command.

64. **Definition of indigenous people:** There are many definitions given for the indigenous people. But the United Nations provides an exact definition of indigenous people.

"Population comprising the descendants of people who inhabited the present territory of a country at the time when persons of a different culture or ethnic origin arrived there from other parts of the world and overcame them."

In the background of world politics, there are some mutual interests of almost 30 crore indigenous people expanded throughout the globe. Among the 30 crore people, 20 lakh indigenous people belong to the Cordillera region of the Philippines, 10 lakh Mapuche people of Chile, 6 lakh indigenous people belong to Chittagong Hill in Bangladesh, around 35 lakh are North American natives, 50000 Kuna living in East of Panama Canal whereas 10 lakh small people live in Soviet North. Just like other social movements these people talk about their struggles, their problems and their rights.

Threats/problems of the indigenous people are:

- i. The indigenous people in the global politics desire for the entry of indigenous people to the global community as equals. Regions of Central and South America, Africa, India and South Asia are the regions where most of the indigenous peoples are found and they are known as tribals in these regions. The present-day island states belonging to Oceania region which includes Australia, New Zealand, were occupied by the Polynesian, Melanesian and Micronesian people for thousands of years.
 - ii. They have requested the governments to retain the existence of indigenous people as enduring communities with an identity of their own. These people use the expression 'since times immemorial' to refer to the occupancy of the lands from which they originated.
 - iii. Issues related to the rights of indigenous people have been neglected as people of varied cultures from various parts of the world overcome them. Also, these people have a threat to their survival due to the loss of land which is the main source of their livelihood.
 - iv. Despite institutional measures, they have not got many benefits of development. In fact, they have paid a huge cost for development because they are forced to be displaced from their motherland owing to developmental projects.
65. The economic development without causing further damage to the global environment can be achieved in the following ways:
- a. The approach to development should be 'of sustainable development'. For example, there was a consensus at the Rio Summit in 1992 on combining economic growth with ecological responsibility.
 - b. There should be more cooperation over the global commons i.e., earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, the ocean floor and outer space. Some agreements such as the 1959 Antarctic Treaty, the 1987 Montreal Protocol and the 1991 Antarctic-Environmental Protocol have been signed to break the deadlock among the states.
 - c. In June 1992, Earth Summit provided some conservative measures for sustainable growth without damaging the environment anymore.
 - d. Kyoto protocol cut greenhouse emissions from industrialised countries to protect the environment and to develop industries also.
 - e. Forest clearing in the Third world which continues at an alarming rate should be stopped.
 - f. The mineral industry's extraction of earth, its use of chemicals and its clearance of vegetations and other activities should be checked.
 - g. The construction of the Mega-dams should be discouraged.
 - h. The use of renewable resources should be encouraged.

Hence, the above-mentioned practices protect the global environment and even though the states are developing we could achieve this challenge only if we follow the provisions and practices mentioned in all these conferences and summits.

66. Diversity is an important trait of contemporary environmental movements as mentioned below:

- a. There are forest movements in Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Malaysia. Indonesia, Continental Africa and India are faced with enormous pressure. Forest clearing in the Third World continues at an alarming rate despite three decades of environmental activism.

- b. Mineral industry's extraction of earth, its use of chemicals, its clearance of native vegetation and its displacement of communities continue to invite criticism and resistance in various parts of the globe. Much opposition to the company in its own country, Australia, is based on anti-nuclear sentiments and advocacy for the basic rights of Australian indigenous peoples.
 - c. There are struggles and movements against the construction of mega-dams such as Narmada Bachao Andolan in India. Increasingly anti-dam movements are pro river movement for more sustainable and equitable management of river systems and valleys. The early 1980s saw the first anti-dam movement launched in the North, namely, the campaign to save the Franklin River and its surrounding forests in Australia.
67. The developed countries of the North want to discuss the environmental issue as it stands now and wants everyone to be equally responsible for ecological conservation. The developing countries of the South feel that much of the ecological degradation in the world is the product of industrial development undertaken by the developed countries. If they have caused more degradation, they must also take more responsibility for undoing the damage now. Moreover, the developing countries are in the process of industrialisation and they must not be subjected to the same restrictions, which apply to the developed countries. Thus the special needs of the developing countries must be taken into account in the development, application, and interpretation of rules of international environmental law. This argument was accepted in the Rio Declaration at the Earth Summit in 1992 and is called the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities'.