

NEXT IAS

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना पना है।
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- Q.1 You can't serve data on a hungry man's plate.
आप किसी भूखे आदमी की थाली में डेटा नहीं परोस सकते।
- Q.2 AI is overcoming our mental limitation but not expanding our mental horizon.
ए.आई. मनुष्य की मानसिक सीमाओं को नियंत्रित कर रहा है, किंतु मानसिक क्षितिज का विस्तार नहीं कर रहा है।
- Q.3 We are using environment for politics, not politics for environment.
हम पर्यावरण का उपयोग राजनीति के लिए कर रहे हैं, न कि राजनीति का उपयोग पर्यावरण के लिए।
- Q.4 The worst form of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal.
असमानता का सबसे बुरा रूप है असमान को समान बनाने का प्रयास।

Ans. 3. We are using environment for politics,
not politics for environment.

"Germany, Netherlands drown in worst deluge ever"

"Yamuna water touches
walls of LalQuila after
200 years"

"Australia grapples
with devastating
Bush Fire"

"You may as well Bomb Us"

- Tuvalu Foreign Minister in knee
deep water

"China's Xi-naan sees
first ever urban floods"

"800 Mn. people globally are
multidimensionally poor": UNDP"

These are handful of new headlines
floodng popular distress for last couple of decades.

If human beings are smart enough to grasp the essence of these headlines, they would be quite aware that - humanity is awed its WDE RED. The only habitable planet in our solar system is grappling with serious perils. Lowkey - Indiscriminate exploitation of our immediate environment. Ever since the Brundland Report highlighted the connection between human development pursuit and associated environmental disasters, there has been plethora of conferences, meetings, protocols to arrest the deterioration - at least in theory. However, in practice, there has been more politicisation of environmental issue than environmentalisation of global politics.

In the present discourse, we shall see the historical evolution of various political steps regarding environmental issue i.e. how manifold has used environment as a tool for politics, its obvious fallouts i.e. implications of not using politics for regeneration of the same. We shall then discuss.

some practical political steps that must be taken now to at least pass our future generations, what we inherited from our forefathers.

To start with, one can trace back to the World Environment Conference at Stockholm, 1972, when top global leaders met for the first time and accepted the fact that there has been enough destruction of environment in the name of development. Our then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was an active participant at the event.

Then followed the Brundtland Commission Report which quantified the issue of environmental degradation. The report, for the first time called for - sustainable development i.e. a form of development which ensures both intra-generational as well as intergenerational equity.

The Report was immediately followed by the now famous Rio Earth Summit of 1992 that ended up with creation of three ~~new~~ important commitments - on climate change, on Biodiversity and on combating land degradation. These commitments were immediately followed by Kyoto Protocol too.

The protocol explicitly defined the most potent greenhouse gases such as methane (CH_4), carbon dioxide (CO_2), sulphur dioxide (SO_2) etc that were particularly responsible for fast change in climate characteristics.

This was followed by Vienna Convention on substances depleting the protective ozone layer and the associated Montreal Protocol that explicitly enumerated the major gases harming ozone layer. The protocol was then modified via Kigali amendments to add some more of them.

Apart from these conventions, global leadership agreed on some more conventions to protect our environment such as Stockholm Conference on persistent organic pollutants, Minamata Convention on Mercury pollution etc.

The turn of century also saw some more of the political steps to save the environment. Rio+20 is among the most celebrated one which promised to double the efforts and targets as promised way back in 1992.

It was followed by Paris Climate Deal that made perhaps the most realistic global pact regarding climate change, setting a target of limiting the average temperature below increase below 2°C from that of Industrial Revolution era.

The pact followed some more political gatherings such as Glasgow conference which resulted in some positive steps such as Global Methane Pledge, phasing out coal etc. India also made a bold statement with her Panchsankrit targets.

To suffice, there have been no dearth of political leadership and associated policies over environmental issues ever since 1972 Stockholm Conference. But have these steps yielded result?

Various climate reports and global studies suggest that we have just need environment for policies and not the otherway round. Let us discuss some of them in detail.

The most recent IPCC report - AR6 clearly mentions that humanity is not on its way to achieve any of its climate targets made so far. It

enlists various factors that has led to the same and the most stark lesson it points out is - lack syncing of all the promises made by developed block of the world.

UNEP, 2022 report says that even if all the targets and promises made so far by both developed and developing countries are realised by them, the turn of 21st century is bound to witness a 4°C average temperature rise - a number almost triple of the Paris peak target.

Global G-40 report recently made a threatening revelation that by 2050, close to 800M population residing in coastal zones across the world will face existential crises and extreme events in the form of severe cyclones, flash floods etc.

Centre for Environment and Economics

(CEE) report of 2020 makes some eye opening revelations regarding wrath of climate change. According to it, 75% of Indian districts are prone to extreme events such as deluge, heatwaves, cyclones, flash floods. 40% of districts are facing swap problems i.e. areas used to see floods are witnessing drought now & vice versa.

It was not far ago when the entire world was grappling with COVID-pandemic - worst health problem humankind witnessed in decades. Lancet Report says that thawing of global glaciers has potential to unleash 1.5 Mn of ancient microbes with half of them capable of hurting human existence.

World Food Summit, 2021 and the recent Global Multidimensional Poverty Index by Oxford and UNDP also make report that environmental degradation has direct bearing on food security with close to 800mn people being multidimensionally poor globally.

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Talking in the same vein, condition of our own country too is not much appealing.

India saw ~~3rd~~ ^{most} worldwide COVID related death close to 250M population are multidimensionally poor. The frequency of extreme events has increased by 20 times or per CSE report and most of the regions are experiencing swapping tendencies e.g. flood to drought phase and vice-versa.

Now, these reports, numbers and revelations are enough for us to conclude that mankind is not using politics for environmental sustainability in real sense and there has been, but, only politicisation of ~~it~~ such crucial global issue.

Hence, it becomes even more important to start walking the talk made so far. Stephen Hawking once said that given the level of destruction we are doing, ~~to~~ mankind will need another planet for survival of the entire race. This simple statement should be a warning enough to start using politics for environmental cause

And to start with, there is requirement of a strict timeline to adhere to the carbon neutrality targets. Given the level of carbon emission, development indices and legally recognition, developed countries such as Europe and USA etc. must go carbon neutral by 2040, semi-developed (China and Japan etc) should comply by 2050 and developing blocks such as India and Brazil must do so by 2070. A UNSC sanction is required to enforce the same.

Next comes the case of climate funding. Eminent economist, Raghuram Rajan suggest per capita carbon emission based funding pattern. Those above global average of 4 tonne would pay into it and those below global average such as India (2 tonne) should get the fund in proportion to their emission. Climate solutions cannot proceed without climate justice. Also the target of mobilising 100 B\$ by 2030 need diversion by atleast 400 B\$ that too by 2030 itself.

Nations such as New Zealand, EU and USA have come up with their carbon neutral legislation such as Green Deal (EU), Green New Deal by USA and Zero Carbon Law (NZ). These advanced blocks need to do the same to go carbon neutral by 2040. India complying with its development net-zero targets 2070 for the same.

Developing South block of nations need unconditional support from developed North block in the form of man, material and technology. There should be more schemes such as Carbon emission trading to make carbon space available for developing blocks.

Peace for world Report by UNEP suggests that today's environmental, economic and social problems are integrated and hence require an integrated approach as well. In this regard the targets and recommendations made by MUSCAT manifesto on ONE HEALTH approach

we need start following to integrate health, environment and human development problems in a coherent whole for long lasting sustainable solution.

Closely related with above recommendation is the idea of disaster risk reduction. ~~as~~ as recommended by Sendar Framework. The idea of disaster risk related governance need an integrated approach that should be permeate from national level to regional, state and district level to meet the 7 fold target set by Framework.

Equally important step will be strengthening global food security system from vagaries of environmental destruction and climate change. UN-FAO has declared 2023 as International Year of Millets to boost its production and trade. Millet are excellent option to secure global food security system. and India ~~is~~ at its forefront to ensure the idea becomes a global thrust.

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Apart from those political steps, the recommendations made by IPCC ARC report ~~is~~ are the most advanced scientific solutions available to mankind to stop and reverse the environmental degradation and that should be urgently followed.

India is chairing 2023 G-20 Summit where most of the global political leadership converge ~~to~~ to discuss major socio-economic issues. India should make sure that environment acquires central place among all discussions. Time has come ~~to~~ to take the national call of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Bhavna and Sabka Vishwas at international level for a sustainable green earth.

खण्ड-B / Section-B

उम्मीदवारों को
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- Q.5 Existence is a science, living is an art.
अस्तित्व एक विज्ञान है, जीना एक कला है।
- Q.6 If the truth shall kill them, let them die.
यदि सत्य से किसी की मृत्यु होती है, तो उन्हें मरने दो।
- Q.7 The only way to go beyond things, is to go through them.
हालातों से परे जाने का एकमात्र तरीका उनसे होकर गुजरना है।
- Q.8 Dream for the best. Be prepared for the worst. Enjoy life in between.
सर्वश्रेष्ठ के लिए सपना देखें। सबसे बुरे के लिए तैयार रहें। इसके बीच के जीवन का आनंद लें।

Ans.7. The only way to go beyond things, is to go through them.

A young prince, from a well off kingdom, was once suddenly struck by the idea of human sufferings and pain. He wanted to know about the causes of all sufferings to liberate mankind from its miseries. He sought help of his political guru but of no avail. He then set out to find the answer on his own. In the process, he got drowned in a river, only to be saved by a young girl. He then meditated under a peepal tree for 49 days.

to emerge as an enlightened being. The person who wanted the answer was Gautama from Lakya kingdom and the enlightened form is what we all know today as - Buddha.

This small anecdote suggests a very simple fact that the only way to go beyond things is to go through them. Encounter any big target, any aspiration or objective, there lay unsurmountable obstacles which an individual, or a community or even a country, at times, need to go through to emerge enlightened, and victorious.

This essay deals with the theme in some detail. We shall discuss as to why it is imperative for us to go through situations. Then we shall discuss few national and global examples that proved the same. We shall then discuss some ways that help us go through certain situations. We shall conclude our conversation by looking at some prominent situations out there.

finds itself between along with same heavyweights to see through them.

Now before we discuss the same, let us first try to discover as to why the only way for going beyond things is to go through them.

Eminent psychologist and administrative thinker Herbert Simon says that we as human beings have certain physical, biological, and intellectual limitations. Owing to them we are unable to grasp any problem in totality at its first sight. That forces human to go through the same ^{with} small steps at a time.

Charles Lindbloom, another management scientist also talks in same vein when he says that the feasibility of any finding solution to a given problem lies in breaking the same in small parts and then muddling through them. He calls it 'science of muddling through'.

And, If we flip the pages of history we come across plethora of incidents and examples

wherein people went through various tough circumstances to ultimately emerge victorious.

To start with, the bloody battle of Kalunga made Achoka realize the pain and sufferings associated with Bherighatta. By going through such horrendous episode of killings, he decided never to wage war again and turned to Dharmagotta. That the realization came after going through a war of such scale shows that the only way to go beyond things is to go through them.

When Alexander arrived on the banks of Hydaspes (Jhelum today), the advice of King Porus suggested him to surrender given the vastness and ruthlessness of his Greek Army. However, Porus decided to face the situation. Impressed by his valour, Alexander mastered him as King. ~~if~~ Had ~~he~~ Porus decided not to fight or go through the situation, the ~~situation~~ ^{story} would have been different.

Cut to modern times and all the
revolts that occurred before the first war
of Independence (1857) was nothing but revolt
of chitpans, peasants and tribals to go through
the atrocities and seek a permanent solution.
The revolt resulted in famous revolts such as
Sanyasi Revolt, Fakir rebellion, Santal Rebellion
Nalkabera uprising etc.

The success of Russian Revolution
made an impeccable impact on Indian freedom
struggle and revolutionaries as well who firmly
decided to go through suffering rather than
being mere spectator in face of colonial atrocities
The likes of Bhagat Singh, Ashfaqullah-Khan,
Ram Prasad Bismil, John Doe are some names
who became optome of sufferings to gain freedom.

The fact that India went through
series of movements such as Swadeshi movement
Non-cooperation movement, Civil Disobedience and
Quit India Movement to gain Independence in

1947 also testifies to the fact that going through the problem is the only way of solving them.

The successful re-organisation of states on linguistic and cultural lines was also a result of long drawn battle that started with Andhra Movement by Potti Laxmanulu. The complex coalition of independent India made the then leadership to postpone the reorganisation for a while. However, the movements following death of Cessamalu led to establishment of State Reorganisation Commission and resultant re-organisation. This shows the need of going through the problem to go beyond the same.

The precarious financial condition due to socialistic oriented looking economic policies forced India to go through conditionalities of IMF in the form of New Economic Policy of 1991. We went through the bitter pill only

to emerge economically powerful enough to withstand the vagaries of Global Financial Crisis of 2007.

And not only at national level, we have ample examples at International level as well to prove the dictum of going through to go beyond.

When the atrocities of British colonial governance grew beyond limits of people of 13 American colonies, they decided to go through prolonged struggle to free themselves from foreign yoke. The resultant American Revolution which led to establishment of first democracy of world is fine example of going through a situation to go beyond it.

Similar case goes for the people of France, who inspired by the success of American Revolution, decided to stand against

the corrupt governance of Louis XVI and the deep social divide of clergy, aristocracy and third estate. The French revolution which ensued gave not only to France, but to entire world the idea of - liberty, Equality & Fraternity

Having discussed these examples, it becomes evidently clear that indeed the only way out of complex situations is to muddle through them. Now, the important question is how to?

To begin with, at individual level, owing to obvious limitations pertaining to physique, intellect etc, we humans must collaborate. Chester Barnard, psychologist says that human beings are social and wanting animals and they seek association. Only through meaningful associations, such as being part of knowledge economy or going for higher academic qualifications can human succeed and attain the ability to go through any situation.

At social level, the key to moving along is to foster social harmony and brotherhood. Hobbes says that a society without social harmony is nasty, short-lived and dangerous.

At national level, the obvious weapons that can help any country to sail through any problem are its social capital, economic might, and political wisdom. A far-sighted leadership is the one which helps a nation sail through its tough times such as Jawahar Lal Nehru, John F Kennedy, etc.

And not just at these three vital levels, given the magnitude of global issues today, international socio-economic and political system too needs to go through them to solve them and that requires following the principles of solidarity, cooperation, mutual non-aggression and respect for each other's sovereignty.

Having discussed these issues, it becomes important to discuss a few prominent situations India finds itself a part of and some ways out to help our country go through ^{them} easily.

The most pressing problem is perhaps the slow-economic development. We still need to bring more than 200m people out of multi-dimensional poverty as per UNDP Multidimensional Poverty Index. For this we need increase in social expenditure from present 4% (health & education combined) to at least 8%. Also, we need more decentralised approach to fight poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

Next comes the aspiration of doubling farmers' income. To this end, we need amalgamation of technology and agriculture.

M. C. Swaminathan says that for rural future the upskilling of its rural population and the skills of its professionals need integration.

Towards the idea of becoming economic superpower i.e. 5T\$ economy by 2025 and 10T\$ by 2037, we need strategic reforms in our logistics sector, foreign trade sector, and in MSME. We need to boost trade competitiveness to achieve the targets set in National Foreign Trade Policy.

For the goals set under Panchamist target, although a series of initiatives have already been taken viz. National Action Plan on Climate Change, National Hydrogen Mission, Osomog Initiative, yet we need more in form of practical realisation of LIFE movement and consumer responsible behaviour related awareness programmes.

Ultimately, we have in our sight 2047 - as the year to become a developed economy. To go beyond it, we need to go through all the existing short term targets listed above.

To end this discourse, it is pertinent to quote Martin Luther King Junior who says -

If you can't fly, then run, If
you can't run, then walk, If you can't
even walk, then crawl but do not stop
until your goal is reached.

Going through any complex
situation would require the same goal. In
order to go beyond such situations.

Space for Rough Work

We are using env. + politics - not politics for environ.

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Env + politics - ① Stockholm conference

② Baurland Comm

③ Rio Conference

④ Kyoto Protocol

⑤ Vienna Convention & Montreal Protocol

⑥ 1992 Stockholm Conference, Minamata

⑦ 2012 Rio+20 ⑧ Paris Deal ⑨ Glasgow Conf

⑩ 2021 Manifesto - one health

⑪ 2021 Manifesto - one health

⑫

Debt

① Doha - part of all women, NAPCC, Panchamati, Paris Deal, 15th, LIFE, LEADIT, 05.04.04.

not politics + env

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fallout:

① IPCC report (AG)

② CEEW on extreme events.

③ C-40 report

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Space for Rough Work

