

## CBSE Test Paper 02

### Class 12 - Political Science (B-1 Ch-8 Environment and Natural Resources)

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1. What is Agenda 21?
2. What is the danger of atmospheric temperature rise?
3. What is the ozone hole?
4. What were the recommendations of the Rio Summit Known as?
5. What do you mean by marine and coastal degradation?
6. What do you mean by common property? What are different norms of common property?
7. Who are indigenous people? What institutions do they follow?
8. What was the 'Earth Summit'? How far did the summit prove to be useful? Explain.
9. Explain the importance and role of concept common but differentiated pertaining to environment.
10. "The Indian Government is already participating in global efforts through a number of programmes related to environmental issues". Give any four examples to support the statement.
11. Study the following pictures carefully and answer all the questions given below in these pictures:

#### **Questions :**

- i. In which year and where the Earth Summit was held?
- ii. What is being shown in above pictures? What is importance of forests for us?
- iii. Discuss the environmental concerns in Global politics.



12. **Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions:**

The Indian government is already participating in global efforts through a number of programmes. Por example, India's National Auto-fuel Policy mandates cleaner fuels for vehicles, The Energy Conservation Act, passed in 2001, outlines initiatives to improve energy efficiency. Similarly, the Electricity Act of 2003 encourages the use of renewable energy, Recent trends in importing natural gas and encouraging the adoption of clean coal technologies show that India has been making real efforts. The government is also keen to launch a National Mission on Biodiesel, using about 11 million hectares of land to produce biodiesel by 2011-2012. And India has one of the Largest renewable energy programmes in the world.

**Questions**

- i. How India has participated in global efforts to protect the environment?
  - ii. What is the Energy Conservation Act and Electricity Act?
  - iii. Mention the efforts made by the Indian government for biodiesel.
13. Explain the concept of **common but differentiated responsibilities**. How and where was it emphasised upon?

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**Answer**

1. Agenda 21 is a list of developed practices which combine economic growth with ecological responsibility to promote sustainable development. It was adopted by the world leaders at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992.
2. As atmospheric temperature rise, there is a danger that sea levels will also rise, thereby submerging many coastal areas of the world including huge cities.
3. Ozone hole relates to the decline in the total amount of ozone in the Earth's stratosphere.
4. The Rio Summit produced conventions dealing with climate change, biodiversity, forestry, and recommended a list of development practices called 'Agenda 21'.
5. Marine and coastal degradation is caused by the disposal of wastes, particularly sewage, directly into oceans and around shores.
6. Common property refers to the rights and duties of a group together over a natural resources. Different norms of common property are as follows:
  - The group members have both rights and duties with respect to the nature, levels of use and the maintenance of a given resource.
  - Mutual understanding and centuries of practice in India, many village communities have defined members' rights and responsibilities.
  - 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.
7. 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

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the world and overcame them. The indigenous populations follow the 'World Council of Indigenous People'.

8. **Earth Summit** was a conference on environment and development held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in June 1992. This was named as the Earth Summit. The summit was attended by 170 states, thousands of NGOs and many multinational corporations.

**Benefits Earth of Summit:**

- This Summit produced conventions dealing with climate change, biodiversity, forestry.
- It recommended a list of development practices called 'Agenda 21'.
- Under this list there was a consensus on combining economic growth with ecological responsibility, commonly known as 'sustainable development'.

**Outcome of Rio Summit:**

- Rio summit coined the term 'global commons' and differentiated responsibilities.
- It favours ecological conservation.
- Rio summit started the environmental issue and discussions at global level.

9. 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

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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".

10. Initiatives have been undertaken by the Indian Government in global efforts through a number of programmes to check environmental degradation. The main principles of India's stand on environmental issues are mentioned below :

- i. India's National Auto Fuel Policy mandates cleaner fuels for vehicles. The Energy Conservation Act, passed in 2001, outlines initiatives to reform energy efficiency.
- ii. The Energy Conservation Act was passed in 2001 to outline initiatives to improve energy efficiency and Electricity Act, passed in 2003 to encourage the use of renewable energy by the Indian government as a conservation programme.
- iii. The Indian Government is also sincere to start a 'National Mission on Biodiesel'. Nearly, 11 million hectares of land is being used to produce biodiesel.
- iv. India has also one of the largest renewable energy programmes in the world.

11. 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.

12. i. India has participated in global efforts to protect the environment by launching a number of programmes i.e. Auto Fuel Policy, Energy Conservation Act 2001,

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Electricity Act 2003.

- ii. The Energy Conservation Act was passed in 2001 to outline initiatives to improve energy efficiency and Electricity Act, passed in 2003 to encourage the use of renewable energy by the Indian government as a conservation programme.
  - iii. The government is keen to launch a National Mission on Biodiesel as India has one of the largest renewable energy programmes in the world using about 11 million hectares of land to produce biodiesel by 2011-12.
13. 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:

- i. 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.
- ii. 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.
- iii. 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.