

CBSE Test Paper 04

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

1. Which factors are responsible for common property to dwindle in size, quality, and availability to the poor in much of the world?
2. What are global commons? List any two examples.
3. Give any two reasons as to why issues of environment and natural resources have become a part of world politics.
4. Mention the Human Development Report, 2006 of the United Nations Development Programme?
5. Write India's view regarding the implementation of the agreements at the Earth Summit in Rio.
6. Give some environmental concerns of global politics.
7. What is meant by the global commons? How are they exploited and polluted?
8. What is the significance of Kyoto Protocol? Is India a signatory to this protocol?
9. Explain the meaning of 'Global commons' and give any four examples of 'Global commons'.
10. Explain the concept of 'common property resource' with the help of an example from India.
11. Study the picture given below and answer the questions that follow:

Questions

- i. What does the picture represent?
- ii. Why do you think the fingers are designed like chimneys and the world made into a lighter?
- iii. What message does this picture convey?



12. Study the following passage carefully and answer the following questions:

The parties to the Convention agreed that the largest share of historical current global emissions of greenhouse gases has originated in developed countries. It was also acknowledged that per capita emissions in developing countries are still relatively low. China, India and other developing countries were, therefore, exempted from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol.

- i. What is meant by Kyoto Protocol?
- ii. When and in which country was the Kyoto Protocol agreed to?
- iii. Why were the countries like India and China exempted from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol?

13. What is Agenda 21? Explain the concept of common but differentiated responsibilities. How and where was it emphasised upon?

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Answer

1. Factors are responsible for common property to dwindle in size, quality, and availability to the poor in much of the world are:
 - i. Privatisation.
 - ii. Agricultural intensification.
 - iii. Population growth.
 - iv. Ecosystem degradation.
2. Global commons are those resources which are not owned by anyone but rather shared by community. In the world, some areas are situated beyond a sovereign jurisdiction of any one state, and therefore require common governance by the international community. These are known as global commons. Two examples are Earth's atmosphere and Ocean floor.
3.
 - i. A continuous decline in the total amount of ozone in the earth's stratosphere poses a grave danger to ecosystems and human health.
 - ii. Coastal pollution is increasing all over the world. The coastal waters are becoming increasingly polluted due to land-based activities. No single government can address these issues fully, therefore, they have to become part of 'world politics'.
4. Human Development Report, 2006 of the United Nations Development Programme states that 1.2 billion people in developing countries are not in a position to drink safe water and 2.6 billion have no access to sanitation. Death of 30 lakh children per annum is the outcome.
5. India finds it necessary that developed countries should not delay in providing with LDCs' new and additional financial resources and technology all environment-friendly. It may stand as a barrier for LDCs' to implement the spirit of the Earth Summit. India summons big hand to this issue from G-77 countries in SAARC.
6. Some of the environmental concerns of global politics are given below:
 - i. Ozone layer depletion is an alarm in concern for the ecosystem. The ozone poses a real danger to ecosystems and human health.
 - ii. Loss of fertility of agricultural land due to extreme use of fertilizers and

overgrazed grasslands.

- iii. 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.
- 7. 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.
- 8. The Kyoto Protocol (1997) is an international agreement providing a road map for reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases to check global warming. Yes, India is a signatory to Kyoto Protocol. The significance of Kyoto Protocol is stated in the points below:
 - i. Kyoto Protocol frames an action plan so as to reduce emission of greenhouse gases proportionately for global North and global South countries of the world.
 - ii. Kyoto Protocol had cleared the confusion regarding responsibilities of all countries belonging to global North and global South.
 - iii. Kyoto Protocol decided that global North will provide global South with financial and technological resources so as to meet existing commitments.
 - iv. United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has set out the principles and allocated different targets for preserving global common.
 - v. India, China and other developing countries are exempted from the responsibility regarding reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
- 9. Commons are those resources which are not owned by anyone but rather shared by a community. 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 Global Commons. Hence, those areas which are situated beyond a sovereign jurisdiction of any one state and they need united control by the international community are called as global commons. Coordination over the global commons is difficult. There are some revolutionary agreements such as 1959 Antarctic Treaty, 1987 Montreal Protocol, and the 1991 Antarctic-Environmental Protocol. Examples of global commons in global

context are :

- i. Earth's atmosphere
 - ii. Antarctica
 - iii. Ocean floor
 - iv. Outer space
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. i. The Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement setting targets for industrialised countries to cut their greenhouse gas emissions.
- ii. The Protocol was agreed to in 1997 in Kyoto in Japan.
 - iii. It was also acknowledged that per capita emissions in developing countries are still relatively low.
13. **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 Nations 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.