

# INTERFACE

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## THE POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

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**Simran Dhawan Year11**

I WANT YOU TO  
ACT  
AS IF OUR HOUSE  
WAS ON FIRE!  
BECAUSE IT IS!

KARISHMA  
good year

# WHAT WE SAVE... SAVES US

## Critical Study of Kedarnath Floods

*-Sofiya Ali Year III*

Roti, Kapda, Makaan - man has been dependent upon nature to fulfil its basic amenities since time immemorial. Correspondingly nature, too, always blessed us with its merciful bounty.

However, this arrangement between man and nature began disrupting when we ruthlessly started extracting resources for our ever increasing needs and desires without any iota of concern that we cannot make it too far with this cornucopian assumption, where we see nature simply in terms of a "wish granting factory".

When we try to play with nature, we forget nature too has its own peculiar means to teach us the game as well as its rules! This is evident in various forms of wrath that nature responds with towards our mere instrumental approach to interfere in nature and its natural processes.

### Indian Culture and Environment

Relevance of nature and its conservation is deeply rooted in the Indian culture and belief system. From early Vedic Tradition which always emphasised on preserving what lies between Dyaus (heaven) and Prithvi (earth) i.e atmosphere which they referred to as paryavaran. To Islam where the term Ard (earth) which is seen as ultimate gift of supreme to humans and its conservation, appears no less than 485 times in Quran. Similarly, other religious sects that sprout within the subcontinent like Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism, etc always have that "greener" element embedded in them. This inevitable link between religion and nature also holds its validity when analysed from the perspective of culture and festivals like: Vat Vriksha Puja, Godavari Pushkaram, Makarsakranti, Pongal, Bihu and many more.

### Kedarnath Tragedy

However, the picture is not as hunky dory as it appears to be. Even after such a pro-environmental stand, Devbhoomi in June 2013 faced the worst natural disaster in the form of devastating floods and landslides. From 16 June 2013, Uttarakhand and adjoining areas received heavy rainfall which was 37.5% more than benchmark. This caused the melting of Chrabari glacier and eruption of Mandakani river which further lead to heavy floods near - Godinghat, Kedarnath dome & Rudraprayag.

### Examining Destruction

According to government records, about 6,000 people were killed, found missing or presumed dead, 4,200 villages were affected, 9,200 cattle/livestock were lost. The floods left over 170,000 tourists and local inhabitants stranded in the mountain, who were later rescued in the rescue operations. Destruction of bridges and roads left about 300,000 pilgrims and tourists trapped in the valleys leading to three of the four Hindu Chota Char Dham pilgrimage sites. The Indian Air Force, the Indian Army, and paramilitary troops evacuated more than 110,000 people from the flood ravaged area. According to statistical records of Uttarakhand govt 236 people were injured and 4,021 went missing in the flash floods, which affected five districts of Uttarakhand. A total of 2,119 houses were fully damaged, 3,001 severely damaged and 11,759 partially damaged. More than nine million people were affected due to the flash floods. The most affected districts were Bageshwar, Chamoli, Pithoragarh, Rudraprayag and Uttarkashi. The region has one of the most important pilgrimage circuits in India and the disaster took place during the peak tourist and the pilgrimage season.



## Examining Causes:

**\*El Nino Effect:** After the 2013 floods in Kedarnath, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG) was given the task of assessing the damage and mapping the landscape. Because Kedarnath lies at the extreme north end of the monsoon range, the rainfall in this area is impacted by even minor weather fluctuations across the globe," said Pradeep Shrivastava, Departmental Head (Outlook, Sarah Iqbal) El Nino Southern Oscillations (ENSO) is believed to affect Indian monsoons. But the study reveals that apart from ENSO, the North Atlantic system which contains one of the best-preserved weather repositories in the Northern hemisphere, also impacts the Indian monsoon. Whenever the Northern Atlantic became warmer, the Indian monsoons became intense.

**\*Retreating Glaciers:** It has been observed that Himalayan glaciers are retreating at a rapid rate as compared to the global averages. Also, when the excess melted waters of these glaciers are combined with liquid precipitation it causes flash floods and debris flows:

**\*Increase in GOLF events:** Events such as high-frequency flash floods and Glacial Lake Outburst Floods are interrelated. In the eastern and the central Himalayas, glacial melts are associated with climate change. This has led to the formation of glacial lakes behind terminal moraines. Many high-altitude glacial lakes are dangerous as they can burst anytime in the Himalayan region. Even the moraine dams are weak and just a fissure can cause gallons of water and debris to discharge, resulting glacial lake outburst floods which can cause extreme flood like conditions.

**\*Hydroelectric Dams:** The rapid growth of hydroelectric dams have disrupted the water balance as several rivers are being diverted through the tunnels, causing major disasters in the state. More than 220 power and mining projects are running in 14 river valleys of Uttarakhand. Hydro-power projects that are currently under construction or commissioned in Uttarakhand (across Indian Himalayas) are storage dams with reservoirs. Even the 'run of the river' projects involve reservoirs and big dams. These reservoirs emit methane gas which is 21 times more harmful than carbon dioxide and is also used in boosting the turbines of the dams.

**\*Illegal mining:** Activities such as illegal mining in the eco-sensitive zone such as rivers, divert its natural route. Thereby, cutting the natural boundaries of the rivers. This, in turn, disrupts the natural flow of the river bodies, resulting in death and destruction in the nearby areas.



## Need of the Hour

A problem which is so complex in itself that it is always an inherent dilemma of what to do and how to do cannot be solved overnight. However, some recommendations suggested are:

1. The govt must start thinking of greener policy along with accepting the fact that we cannot go along with our 'business as usual', when such inescapable crises are already bulging at our horizon.
2. Along with governmental efforts there should be a 'bottom to top' approach, where people must become more aware and sensitive towards nature so much so that they can realize that our role is of stewardship instead of ownership.
3. There should be range of initiatives and programs both from government as well as civil societies, that can together cause reconceptualising of our perception on self-image and anthropometric lifestyle.
4. Effective communication between the meteorological department and people residing in both urban as well as rural areas is necessary. For this an early warning system should be introduced to make the people aware whenever any fatal problem arises.
5. Proper town planning should be done in the Himalayan areas as many houses rupture due to man-made and natural calamities that occur in the Himalayan regions, resulting in several deaths.
6. Proper Disaster Management training should be provided to the locals for mitigating the effects of disasters.



# भारत में जलवायु परिवर्तन के भौतिक प्रभाव

-रिया यादव वर्ष ///

किसी स्थान की दिनप्रतिदिन की वायुमंडलीय दशा को मौसम कहते हैं और मौसम के दीर्घकालिक औसत को जलवायु कहते हैं। मौसम व जलवायु दोनों के समान ही तत्व होते हैं- तापमान, आद्रता, वायुदाब आदि। मौसम में परिवर्तन अल्पसमय में ही हो जाता है और जलवायु में परिवर्तन एक लंबे समय के दौरान होता है। किसी स्थान में धीरे धीरे जल व वायु में बदलाव आने को जलवायु परिवर्तन कहते हैं।

जलवायु परिवर्तन किसी अचानक आयी विपदा की भांति प्रभावी न होकर धीरे धीरे पृथ्वी और यहां रहने वाले जीवों के लिए प्रत्यक्ष व अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से अनेक समस्याओं को जन्म देती है। अब इस बात में कोई दो राय नहीं है कि जलवायु में परिवर्तन हो रहा है और मानवीय गतिविधियां इसका एक प्रमुख कारण हैं। इंटरगवर्नमेंटल पैनेल ऑन क्लाइमेट चेंज (IPCC) सहित अनेक वैश्विक संस्थाओं की रिपोर्ट से स्पष्ट हो चुका है कि पृथ्वी का औसत तापमान बढ़ता जा रहा है। सन् 1961 से 1990 के बीच औसत तापमान लगभग 14°C था। 1990 में यह बढ़कर 14.52°C हो गया। जलवायु बदलाव का वैश्विक संकट लगातार बढ़ रहा है।

यह विडंबना ही है कि जब मानव समाज विकसित नहीं था तब पर्यावरण भी इतना प्रदूषित नहीं था और आज हम विकास की ओर कदम बढ़ा रहे हैं तो पर्यावरण भी दिनोंदिन प्रदूषित होता जा रहा है। विकसित देशों की चमक और उनके उपभोक्तावादी दृष्टिकोण को अपनाने की होड़ में प्राकृतिक संसाधनों पर दबाव बढ़ने लगा है जिससे पर्यावरण प्रभावित हो रहा है। वास्तव में विकास बुरा नहीं है लेकिन विकास के तरीके पर्यावरण हितैषी होने चाहिए।

जलवायु परिवर्तन के दो मुख्य कारण प्राकृतिक और मानवीय गतिविधियां हैं। प्राकृतिक गतिविधियां यथा- ज्वालामुखी विस्फोट, भूस्खलन, पृथ्वी का झुकाव आदि से जलवायु परिवर्तन होता है।

मानवीय गतिविधियों में औद्योगिकरण, शहरीकरण, वनोन्मूलन, जनसंख्या वृद्धि, और अधिकाधिक प्राकृतिक संसाधनों का उपभोग शामिल है। वैश्विक तपन भी जलवायु परिवर्तन का प्रमुख कारक है जोकि हरित गृह प्रभाव का परिणाम है।

भारत और जलवायु :- भारत की जलवायु में क्षेत्रीय विविधता है और जलवायु की तत्वों के वितरण पर भारत की कर्क रेखा पर अवस्थिति और यहां के स्थलरूपों का स्पष्ट प्रभाव दृष्टिगोचर होता है। भारतीय पर्यावरण और यहां की मृदा, वनस्पति तथा मानवीय जीवन पर जलवायु का स्पष्ट प्रभाव है।

जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभाव:- जलवायु परिवर्तन के परिणामस्वरूप दुनिया के मानसूनी क्षेत्रों में वर्षा में वृद्धि हुई है जिससे बाढ़, भूस्खलन, मृदा अपरदन जैसी समस्याएं पैदा हो गयी हैं। जल की गुणवत्ता में गिरावट आयी है और कृषि उत्पादकता पर विपरीत प्रभाव पड़ा है। भारत के उड़ीसा, आंध्रप्रदेश, तमिलनाडु, कर्नाटक, केरल, महाराष्ट्र, गोवा आदि राज्यों के तटीय क्षेत्र जलमग्नता का शिकार हो रहे हैं।

समुद्र का जलस्तर बढ़ने से मीठे पानी के स्रोत दूषित होते हैं जिसके परिणामस्वरूप पीने के पानी की समस्या उत्पन्न हो रही है। प्रशांत महासागर में 1997 में अलनीनो के कारण बढ़ने वाली ताप की तीव्रता प्रवालों की मृत्यु का सबसे गम्भीर कारण बनी है। जलवायु परिवर्तन का प्रभाव जैवविविधता पर भी पड़ता है साथ ही मानव स्वास्थ्य पर भी। फाइलेरिया, मलेरिया, जापानी बुखार, चिकनगुनिया जैसी बीमारियां बढ़ रही हैं। भारत में जलवायु परिवर्तन के परिणामस्वरूप गन्ना, मक्का, जौ, बाजरा की उत्पादकता प्रभावित हो रही है। तिलहनी फसलों की पैदावार में गिरावट आ रही है। एक अनुमान के अनुसार अगर वर्तमान वैश्विक ताप वृद्धि जारी रही तो भारत में वर्षा सिंचित क्षेत्रों में 12.5 करोड़ टन खाद्यान्न उत्पादन में कमी आएगी जिससे भुखमरी और कुपोषण के कारण स्वास्थ्य पर दीर्घकालीन प्रभाव पड़ेगा।

जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण समुद्री तूफानों की बारंबारता में वृद्धि होगी परिणामस्वरूप तटीय क्षेत्रों में जानमाल की हानि होगी। जलवायु परिवर्तन हिमनदों को भी प्रभावित कर रहा है।

एक शोध के अनुसार भारत के हिमालयी क्षेत्र में 1962-2000 में हिमनद 16% तक घटे हैं। गंगोत्री हिमनद 23 मिटर प्रतिवर्ष की दर से पिघल रहा है। अगर हिमनद की वर्तमान दर कायम रही तो जल्द ही हिमालय के सारे हिमनद समाप्त हो जाएंगे जिससे, सतलुज, झेलम, गंगा, यमुना नदियों का अस्तित्व समाप्त हो जाएगा। इन नदियों पर स्थित जलविधुत ऊर्जा इकाइयां बन्द हो जाएंगी। परिणामस्वरूप बिजली उत्पादन पर प्रभाव पड़ेगा।

केदारनाथ विपदा :- जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण ही जून 2013 में उत्तर भारत में भारी बारिश के कारण हिमाचल प्रदेश और उत्तराखंड में बाढ़ और भूस्खलन की स्थिति पैदा हुई। बाढ़ के कारण जानमाल का भारी नुकसान हुआ और बहुत से लोग बाढ़ में बह गए और हजारों लोग बेघर हो गए। 24 जून 2013 तक भयानक आपदा में 5000 लोगों के मरने की खबर थी। उत्तराखण्ड में केदारनाथ मंदिर भारी बारिश के कारण मलबे और कीचड़ से क्षतिग्रस्त हुआ। उत्तराखण्ड राज्य में हुए इस विनाश के लिए वैसे तो भारी वर्षा की जिम्मेदार ठहराया गया लेकिन पर्यावरणविदों द्वारा अपार सम्पत्ति और व्यापक जन जीवन के नुकसान के लिए अवैज्ञानिक विकासात्मक गतिविधि, नदियों के नाजुक किनारों पर बने होटल, बेतरतीब शैली में बनी सड़को को जिम्मेदार ठहराया गया है।

भारत के 13 राज्य जुलाई-सितम्बर 2019 में भारी वर्षा के कारण आयी बाढ़ से प्रभावित हुए थे। इसमें कम से कम 200 लोग मारे गए और एक लाख से अधिक विस्थापित हुए। कर्नाटक और महाराष्ट्र सबसे बुरी तरह प्रभावित राज्य थे।

उड़ीसा चक्रवात :- 1999 का उड़ीसा का चक्रवाती तूफान उत्तर - हिन्द महासागर का सबसे शक्तिशाली चक्रवाती तूफान था। 15000 लोगों की मृत्यु के साथ इस तूफान ने सड़को और इमारतों को गम्भीर रूप से क्षति पहुँचाई।

केरल बाढ़ :- जून 2018 में दक्षिणी भारतीय राज्य केरल में बाढ़ ने 410 से अधिक लोगों की जान ले ली जोकि स्थानीय अधिकारियों द्वारा 100 वर्षों में सबसे खराब रेकॉर्ड है। 8 अगस्त 2019 में पुनः केरल मानसून के मौसम में भारी वर्षा के कारण बाढ़ से प्रभावित हुआ और 121 से अधिक लोगों की मृत्यु हुई व लाखों लोग विस्थापित हुए।

जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण प्राकृतिक आपदाओं में बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। इसलिए उपरोक्त तथ्यों के आधार पर कहा जा सकता है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन एक गम्भीर वैश्विक समस्या है जिसके खतरनाक प्रभाव पड़ रहे हैं। अब समय आ गया है कि हम आँखें खोलें और प्रकृति के प्रति अपनी जिम्मेदारी को समझें। क्योटो संधि, पेरिस सम्मेलन आदि से हटकर वर्तमान में लोगों में जागरूकता लाने की जरूरत है। आज बढ़ती मानवीय गतिविधियों की पूर्ति के लिए प्राकृतिक संसाधनों का अंधाधुंध प्रयोग इन समस्याओं की मूल जड़ है। इनका उपयोग समुचित व संतुलित मात्रा में किया जाना आवश्यक है।



# CLIMATE CHANGE SERVED PIPING HOT

*Kuhu Srivastava Year III*

The chef recommends a pinch of sarcasm for garnishing  
Terms & Conditions applied ☺

Instead of going over the repeatedly boring definitions, causes, effects & consequences of global climate change, I assumed we could rather speak about why you do not care about the identical. I mean what's the big deal anyway? We can't deny the much important issues we've got to focus upon, like suggesting the supreme court to limit the amount of female commanders within the force, instead of asking them to intervene and take action against massive deforestation plans for corporates to flourish (it's okay if the environment doesn't, a minimum of something should)! It's okay if we don't seem to be attentive to and consequently trying to curb the emissions of the greenhouse gases, or the melting of the poles; I mean they're no anti-nationals, we can cope with them later. And what's with the sudden urge to speak about the parameters to be kept in mind or the measures to be taken while handling global climate change, it's not as complex as providing citizenship!

Did Humans First Begin To Cause Climate Change?

Experts agree that the Industrial Revolution was the turning point when emissions of atmospheric phenomenon gases entering the atmosphere began to soar. The Revolution was itself borne out of smaller revolutions: agricultural, technological, demographic, transport, finance; creating a brand new model of production and consumption.

From then onwards, growth, exploding resource use, increasing energy demand and, production, mainly from fossil fuels, all saw the world enter into what the scientific community had termed the Anthropogenic period, a brand new geologic time characterized by human impact on Earth.

The main impact was the rise within the global temperature of the world. But to be very honest I don't know if humans should be blamed, the industrial revolution in spite of everything, should be a landmark within the technological evolution of the world! And kudos to us humans for pulling it off! Why won't we consider ourselves superior thereafter? Aristotle would be so happy today!

## ***Consequences Of Global Climate Change***

Global climate change has increased the looks of more violent weather phenomena, drought, fires, the death of animal and plant species, flooding from rivers and lakes, the creation of climate refugees and destruction of the organic phenomenon and economic resources, especially in developing countries. Sounds so bookish right? I'll make it interesting for you and speak about the foremost recent happenings or consequences of global climate change.

***What, no more coffee? 60% of the planet's herbaceous plant species face extinction. What about your morning caffeine kick.***

A triple whammy of disease, climate change, and deforestation has threatened around 60 percent of the planet's coffee plant species. While this hasn't yet imperilled the world's coffee supply, it jeopardizes your favourite coffee's resiliency within the face of profound planetary change. "As farmers are increasingly exposed to new climate conditions and changing pest pressures, the genetic diversity of untamed crop relatives could also be essential to breeding new coffee varieties that may withstand these pressures," Nathan Mueller, a professor of earth system science at the University of California, Irvine who researches global food security.

***Uh-oh! Antarctica's once-sleepy ice sheets are awoken. Guess what can't snooze this one.***

Antarctica — home to the best ice sheets on Earth — is not only melting significantly faster than it had been decades ago. Great masses of ice that scientists once presumed were largely proof against melting are losing ample ice into the ocean.

"People are setting out to recognize that East Antarctica may well be waking," said Josh Willis, an oceanographer at NASA's reaction propulsion Laboratory that visits and measures Earth's melting glaciers.

**Extreme weather, not politicians (for a change) convinced Americans that global climate change is real!**

Americans find today's climate science increasingly convincing, and a harmful mixture of exceptional drought, storms, and record-breaking heat is that the reason why. The results of a brand new survey — conducted in November 2018 by the University of Chicago's Energy Policy Institute and the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research — found that just about half Americans said today's climate science "is more convincing than five years ago, with extreme weather driving their views."

**Amazon the most LIT it could ever be! California follows trail~**

From a world climate perspective, Amazon has been the world's largest Carbon DiOxide sink and estimated to capture up to 25% of world dioxide generation into plants and other biomass. Without this sink, atmospheric dioxide concentrations would increase and contribute towards higher global temperatures, thus making the viability of the Amazon a world concern. Further, when the forest is lost through fire, additional dioxide is released to the atmosphere, and will potentially contribute significantly to the full dioxide content. Thanks to ongoing global climate change, environmental scientists have raised concerns that the Amazon could reach a "tipping point" where it might irreversibly die out.

According to the US Forest Service and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, there have been over 6,190 fires reported in 2019. These fires have consumed an estimated 198,392 acres of land thus far and destroyed countless homes, schools, farms, forests, and businesses in the process.

The common threads between the wildfire situations in Australia and California went beyond the all too familiar smell of smoke: displaced communities struggling to sustain their culture and bring traditional land stewardship back into practice; iconic forests lost to harvesting; a modern culture and economy increasingly linked to the unique beauty of the lands and waters, juxtaposed with the glaring evidence of the vulnerability of nature; and a national government that denies the reality of climate change.

Didn't these headlines spark a bit interest in you, so now whenever people are blabbering about global climate change and you won't have a clue (cause you had more pertinent issues to deal with); this information may come handy! May you humans have a good life (I mean whatever little is left of it) & may you make this world a much better place (hey, no, I wasn't talking about another technological advancement).





विश्वस्तरीय जलवायु परिवर्तन का प्रभाव मानव स्वास्थ्य पर भी पड़ रहा है। डायरिया, हैजा तथा मियादी बुखार जैसी संक्रामक बीमारियों की बारम्बारता में वृद्धि हो रही है। विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण श्वास तथा हृदय सम्बंधी बीमारियों में वृद्धि हो रही है चूँकि तापमान तथा वर्षा की, बीमारी फैलाने वाले वाहकों के गुणन एवं विस्तार में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका होती है, अतः दक्षिण अमेरिका, अफ्रीका तथा दक्षिणी पूर्वी एशिया में मच्छरों से फैलने वाली बीमारियाँ जैसे-मलेरिया, फाइलेरिया, डेंगू ज्वर, चिकनगुनिया पैलोफिवर तथा जापानी मस्तिष्क ज्वर के प्रकोप में वृद्धि के कारण इन बीमारियों से होने वाली मृत्यु दर में बढ़ोत्तरी हो रही है। सच है की मानव शरीर अपने वातावरण के अनुसार अपने आप को ढाल लेता है लेकिन उसकी भी अपनी सीमा है। एक सीमा के बाद वातावरण व जलवायु के परिवर्तन मानव शरीर पर अपने निश्चित प्रभाव डालने लगते हैं। पृथ्वी की बदलती जलवायु ने पिछले कुछ दशकों में हर वर्ग का ध्यान अपनी ओर आकर्षित किया है। गर्म वातावरण अत्यधिक सर्द वातावरण के मुकाबले स्वास्थ्य पर ज्यादा प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डालता है जैसे-जैसे आसपास के वातावरण का तापक्रम बढ़ता है, शरीर अपनी आंतरिक क्रियाओं से शरीर के तापक्रम को सामान्य बनाए रखने का प्रयास करता है। जिसमें पसीना निकलना, हृदय की गति का बढ़ना व रक्त वाहिका का फैलना शामिल हैं।

वृद्धों में एक तो वैसे भी पसीना निकलने की क्षमता कम हो जाती है दूसरे उनके रक्त प्रवाह तंत्र की क्षमता का भी ह्रास हो जाता है जिससे गर्म वातावरण से वृद्धों को सबसे अधिक नुकसान होता है। हीट स्ट्रोक से मरने वाले रोगियों में वृद्धों और बच्चों की तादाद सबसे अधिक होती है।

नम और गर्म जलवायु में मलेरिया, डेंगू, पीत ज्वर (येलो फीवर) इन्सेफेलाइटिस (मस्तिष्क ज्वर), सांस के रोगों की मात्रा आदि तेजी से फैलते हैं। आज इन रोगों से ग्रस्त रोगियों की लगातार बढ़ती तादाद इस बात की गवाह है कि बदलती जलवायु मानव स्वास्थ्य पर अपना असर दिखा रही है।

रोगों से प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में वृद्धि :- वायुमंडल का तापक्रम बढ़ने से कई बीमारियाँ जो पहले कुछ क्षेत्रों में नहीं पाई जाती थी वे भी उन क्षेत्रों में फैल सकती हैं उदाहरण के लिए डेंगू बुखार फैलाने वाले मच्छर आमतौर पर समुद्र तल से 3,300 फुट से अधिक ऊँचाई वाले स्थानों

पर नहीं पाए जाते थे पर अब ग्लोबल वार्मिंग के कारण यह कोलम्बिया से 7,200 फुट उँचाई तक बसे स्थानों में भी पाए जाने लगे हैं।

कीट- पतंगों या मच्छर मक्खियों द्वारा फैलने वाले रोग, चूहों द्वारा फैलने वाले रोग जो पहले यूरोप व अमेरिका महाद्वीप में बहुतायत में नहीं पाए जाते थे उनकी संख्या में अब निरंतर वृद्धि हो रही है।

नए रोगों की उत्पत्ति :- जलवायु में होने वाले परिवर्तन रोगाणु वाहकों में ऐसे परिवर्तन उत्पन्न कर सकते हैं जिससे बिल्कुल नए प्रकार की बीमारियाँ उत्पन्न हो, सकती हैं जिनके बारे में तो हमारे पास जानकारी भी नहीं होगी फिर उनसे निपटने के लिए औषधियों के होने का प्रश्न ही नहीं होता। ये बीमारियाँ जुकाम की तरह साधारण और कम खतरनाक भी हो सकती हैं या फिर एड्स जैसे खतरनाक भी। ये विश्व के किसी एक कोने तक ही सीमित रह सकती हैं या फिर महामारी बनकर पूरे विश्व को अपनी चपेट में ले सकती हैं।

जलवायु परिवर्तन के अप्रत्यक्ष प्रभाव-

ओजोन परत में क्षति से बीमारियों में वोट:- वायुमंडल की उपरी सतह पर ओजोन पृथ्वीवासियों के लिए सूर्य की घातक पराबैंगनी किरणों के खिलाफ रक्षा कवच का काम करती है पर पृथ्वी की सतह के समीप के वायुमंडल में ओजोन एक प्रदूषक है। सांस के साथ फेफड़ों में जाने पर ये श्वास तंत्र की कोशिकाओं को गंभीर नुकसान पहुंचाती है। जिससे फेफड़ों के अंदर गैसों के आदान प्रदान में गंभीर रूकावट पैदा होने लगती है स्वच्छ पेय जल की कमी से बीमारियों में वृद्धि:- स्वच्छ पेयजल की निरंतर उपलब्धता विश्व स्वास्थ्य के लिए एक अति महत्वपूर्ण आवश्यकता है। समुद्र का स्तर बढ़ने से तटीय प्रदेशों में समुद्र का खारा जल, तटीय क्षेत्रों के पानी भरने से पीने के पानी की आपूर्ति को बुरी तरह से प्रभावित करेगा। इसके अतिरिक्त समुद्र में डूबे तटीय क्षेत्रों से विस्थापित लोग आकर जब पहले से बसे स्थानों पर आकर बसेंगे तो उन स्थानों पर पहले से चली आ रही पीने के पानी की समस्या और गंभीर हो जाएगी।

जनसंख्या विस्थापन से मानसिक रोगों में वृद्धि:- दुनिया की आधी से ज्यादा आबादी आज समुद्र तटों से 60 किलोमीटर के दायरे में बसती है। धरती के गर्मने के फलस्वरूप जब समुद्र का जल स्तर बढ़ेगा तो ये क्षेत्र समुद्र जल में या तो पूरी तरह डूब जाएंगे या फिर पानी भर जाने से रहने लायक नहीं रहेंगे।

भारतीय स्थिति :- नए-नए क्षेत्रों में मलेरिया अब महामारी का रूप लेता जा रहा है। पहले ये उडिसा, पश्चिम बंगाल, दक्षिणी असम की प्रमुख स्वास्थ्य समस्या थी पर अब ये महाराष्ट्र, कर्नाटक, केरल जैसे प्रदेशों की एक प्रमुख स्वास्थ्य समस्या बन चुकी है। अब तो इसके रोगियों की तादाद हिमाचल प्रदेश, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, नागालैंड, मणिपुर, मिजोरम जैसे प्रदेशों में भी तेजी से बढ़ रही है

जलवायु परिवर्तन से पूरे विश्व में भिन्न - भिन्न प्रकार की बीमारियों का प्रवाह शुरू हो गया है जो मानव स्वास्थ्य पर गंभीर प्रभाव डालता है जिनमें से श्वास सम्बंधित रोग, बर्ड फ्लू, डेंगू बुखार, चिकनगुनिया बुखार, फाइलेरिया, व सर्दियों में होने वाले रोग शामिल हैं।

कोरोनावायरस :- ठीक इसी प्रकार जलवायु परिवर्तन व कई अन्य कारणों के कारण चीन में एक नए वायरस का आगमन हुआ है जिसे हम नोवल कोरोनावायरस (nCoV) के नाम से जानते हैं। चीन में कोरोना वायरस के प्रकोप के बाद पूरा विश्व आशंकित है। चीन में अब तक 474 के आस-पास व्यक्ति अपनी जान गवा चुके हैं और करीब 5000 लोग इससे ग्रस्त बताए जा रहे हैं। आने वाले समय में दोनों संख्याओं में वृद्धि की आशंका है, क्योंकि कोरोना वायरस से ग्रस्त लोग चीन के बाहर भी मिलने लगे हैं। इससे पुरी दुनिया में भय स्वाभाविक है, लेकिन अभी इस बीमारी के कारणों तक नहीं पहुँचा जा सका है इस वायरस की उत्पत्ति पशु पक्षियों से मानी जा रही है। कोरोना वायरस का स्रोत पशु पक्षियों के एक थोक बाजार को बताया जा रहा है। इसी प्रकार इन सब घटनाओं और जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण होने वाले रोगों से मानव स्वास्थ्य व इस पृथ्वी को बचाना बहुत जरूरी हो गया है। इसी को रोकने के लिए राष्ट्रीय व अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर जोर शोर से काम चल रहा है। इस विषय में बहुत सी योजनाएँ व नीतियाँ एवं सम्मेलन का भी आयोजन किया जा रहा है जिनमें निम्न नाम है : जलवायु परिवर्तन पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र फ्रेमवर्क कन्वेंशन (UNFCCC), वैश्विक पर्यावरण सुविधा (GEF), लीस्ट डेवलप्ड कंट्री फण्ड (LDCF), स्पेशल क्लाइमेट चेंज फण्ड (SCCF) एडेप्टेशन डंड, पेरिस समझौता आदि। इसी प्रकार हमें एक स्वच्छ वातावरण तैयार करना चाहिए जिससे आने वाली पीढ़ी को ये परेशानी न झेलनी पड़े

# PINNING RESPONSIBILITY

## Developed vs Developing countries

***The role of developing countries in climate change is way less than the developed ones.***

***-Anjali Year III***

Nature has been home to many species. Our world revolves around it. Species are completely dependent upon it. Accordingly, there should be a give-and-take relationship between the environment and the species. But this anthropocentric attitude has led humans into thinking that they exist at the top level of the cycle and everything needs to be controlled by them. The 21st century has witnessed only Take and Take relationships by human beings. Climate change begins to be a new challenge and a primary global concern. Human activities have significant social, economic and environmental consequences. These consequences are unevenly distributed across geographical, social and generational boundaries. There are unequal conditions related to its mitigation and adaptation impact between developed and developing countries. Developed countries have sufficient income and infrastructural facilities and are likely to have better adaptation strategies dealing with climate change. In contrast, the developing countries just began their development including adapting to climate change. Developed nations have adequate preparation with climate change impact owing to their technology, whereas developing countries have limited capabilities and they are more likely to become vulnerable to climate change. Climate change has more impact on third world countries rather than developed countries or let's say, the consequences created by the developed countries. The distribution of world funding, military, knowledge and natural resources are controlled by developed nations. It can be argued that developing countries have limits and financial capacity. Most of the European countries and the United States are better in protecting their agricultural production from climate change impact. This indicates the imbalance between developed and developing countries which is not only due to a single sector like agriculture but also from other sectors like natural resource management adapting to climate change. Developing countries seem to be more vulnerable to climate change since their economy relies more heavily on climate-reliant activities, in particular, farming.

Developed countries should give financial subsidies in dealing with climate change impact especially on the community's livelihood, for instance, agriculture. Developed countries can also empower the capacity of human resources in developing countries. Technology for dealing with climate change could be provided by the former to the latter. The emission of carbon dioxide will record high in 2019, according to the report published by the Global Carbon Project. But climate change is a cumulative problem, a function of the total amount of greenhouse gases that have accumulated in the stratosphere. Some Of The heat-trapping gases in the air right now date back to the Industrial Revolution. Carbon grief has put together how different countries have contributed to climate change in since 1750. The United States of America is the all-time biggest greenhouse gas emitter on the planet. The gains in energy efficiency and reduction in emission, now cannot offset more than a century of reckless emissions that have built upon the atmosphere. Much more severe steps are now needed to slow climate change. The US as the top emitter bears a larger imperative for curbing its carbon dioxide output and greater moral responsibility for the impacts of global warming. Paris agreement was negotiated by 196 countries under which they committed to taking steps to limit the increase global average temperature this century. Under the Agreement, each signatory submitted its own plan, setting targets for emission reductions and specifying pathways by which it aims to meet those targets. Despite the 2015 agreement, global carbon emissions increased by 1.7 percent in 2017 and it has been estimated that the rate of increase in 2019 will be among the highest records. Yet the US is now the only country aiming to withdraw from the Paris Agreement. China now emits more than the US, and India's emissions are rapidly rising. But these countries have a much smaller share of cumulative global emissions. The population of these countries is much bigger than the US and other wealthier countries. So the amount that India and China emit per person, is vastly lesser than the United States or the United Kingdom. It is clear that developed countries affect the climate as well as its impact on developing countries altogether. The impact can be seen from the environmental damages due to climate change inflicted by the developed countries. Developed countries consume more global energy and contribute more to global emissions than developing countries. This situation leads to global inequality regarding the urgency to give the same attention in climate change across the world as emphasized in the Kyoto Protocol and Copenhagen. The developed countries must support developing countries in all solutions related to climate change impact by providing funds, technology and assisting educational development. They share greater responsibility in mitigating the effects of climate change than the developing countries.





## ***The role of developing countries in climate change is equal to that of the developed ones.***

***-Mansi Agarwal Year III***



Climate change is one of the biggest threats mankind is facing in the 21st century. Today, it is no longer a problem in the pockets of a few rich developed countries. Rather, its consequences transcend political boundaries and affect the whole global population, making both the developed and the developing world stakeholders to the solutions too.

In recent years, the term climate change has gradually replaced global warming, thereby expanding the boundaries of environmental issues at the national and international levels. While the latter is primarily driven by human activities, the former is the result of both natural and anthropogenic changes to the climate (Such as cyclical ocean patterns, burning of fossil fuels, etc.).

It has generally been argued that with the dawn of industrial age in Europe and America, since the mid 18th century, there has been a significant rise in the earth's temperatures. However, to entirely hold North responsible for such actions would mean to punish a child for accidentally putting the house on fire, completely unknown of its consequences at the time it was carried out.

It must be noted that the current warming trend is most likely the result of human activity since the mid 20th century. With the beginning of decolonization in the 1950s-60s, there is a fast change in the relative contribution to global warming in view of the rapid rate at which emerging economies are industrializing. It is the developing world, which has largely accounted for an immense rise in global temperatures and greenhouse gases since 1978.

In 2005, developing countries became the largest emitter of greenhouse gases than developed countries. Today, the Asia-Pacific region is responsible for nearly 50% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. According to a recent analysis, six of the top 10 emitters of greenhouse gases are currently developing countries. This bloc accounts for 60% of global annual emissions and this percentage will only rise as developing countries will grow. China has emerged as the leading producer of CO<sub>2</sub> (producing 9.8 billion metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2017). It has even surpassed the combined contribution of both the United States and European Union (EU). If these trends continued, then China would emerge as the emitter of most atmospheric carbon dioxide in less than 20 years.

According to a World Bank Report, "poor and middle-income countries already account for just over half of total carbon emissions". The developing countries are acting as free riders, with no legally binding obligations to the world community. The Kyoto Protocol, which was negotiated in 1997, mandated only the industrialized nations to cut their greenhouse gas emissions, while more than 100 developing countries, including China and India were exempted to comply. Therefore, climate action by the developed world cannot mitigate the harm undergoing currently by the developing world.

In view of the current trajectory of increasing emissions by the developing countries, it would be misleading to negate their contribution. Being a global phenomenon, climate change requires global attention as well. Countries of Global North and Global South should take equal responsibility to combat climate change. If the developing countries, particularly India and China, continued with "Business as Usual", it will only exacerbate the problem. Without equal participation of developing economies, emission cuts by the industrialized countries will not do much to avert climate change.

For hitherto all existing societies and people's collectives around the world have been based on the most fundamental issues that have been troubling their everyday lives. The need to have control over resources and the need to control structures of power have forced people to collectivize themselves over certain life-altering challenges. Climate change has been the crisis of the century and hence carries with it political baggage like no other. Hence, 2019 was a year of a global upsurge on movements, pressure groups, and political parties majorly across Europe scrambling to respond to the climate crisis. The public anxiety of the possible disastrous repercussions of climate change has brought in a wave of political significance to the issue. It is no more a problem of science but of human existence in itself.

A green party is based on ideas of green politics, that is to say, that they aim to foster an ecologically sustainable society. Supporters of green politics share many ideas with the ecology, conservation, environmentalism, feminist and peace movements. Green party platforms are largely considered left in the political spectrum. The green ideology has connections with various other ecocentric political ideologies, including ecofeminism, eco-socialism, and green anarchism, but to what extent these can be seen as forms of green politics is a matter of debate. Green politics draws its ethical stance from a variety of sources, from the values of indigenous peoples to the ethics of Mahatma Gandhi, Baruch Spinoza, and Jakob von Uexküll. These people influenced green thought in their advocacy of long-term seventh generation foresight, and on the personal responsibility of every individual to make moral choices

The EU and other European governments like to be viewed as champions of climate change. The politics of climate change in Europe is evolving, it has brought in radical right-wingers who once thought climate change was a cosmopolitan delusion. During European Parliament elections in June, 48 percent of voters identified climate change as their top worry. Opinion polls in Germany for some weeks of 2019 put the Greens ahead of Chancellor Angela Merkel's storied Christian Democratic Party, which, along with its junior partner in the country's governing coalition, has been racing to sharpen climate policies.

The traditional party system has been eroding in western Europe since the 1980s. It was not only the far-reaching changes in the societies of the industrial nations that led to the crisis of the traditional party system and its ideologies, but there was also the emergence of new questions and problems that did not easily fit into the traditional political patterns.

The ecological crisis is a crisis that affects not one class but the whole of humankind. In fact, in the 1970s, both conservative and socialist parties did their best to uphold the ideology of unlimited economic growth solving all problems against the growing environmental movements - trade unions often being at the forefront of the opposition to ecological policies. The first, most visible and spectacular event symbolizing the decay of established political structures was the election of the West German Green Party "Die Grünen" to the Bundestag in 1983.



Today the Green Party can claim to have changed West German politics as no small opposition party that new was ruling on federal level did before. Environmental issues are addressed by every other political party. Though the German Greens were the first ones to make headlines in the international press, they are neither the first Green Party nor the first one to get seats in a national parliament. New Zealand is on record as having the first green party - the "Values Party" formed in 1972.

"Green Party" is not always exactly the same in various countries. As the political culture of the countries concerned is different, so are the histories and policies of green and alternative parties

Outside Europe, green parties have proved to be predominantly a feature of the industrialized nations. Indians have not been able to broadly think about forming an organization at the national level with explicit Green political goals. majority of Indians are so entrenched in run-of-the-mill kind of politics due to neo-liberal economic pressures that they have no time to think differently i.e. from an ecological viewpoint. And those who think about Green politics are not considered as 'politicians' in the real sense; they are considered just as 'activists' who may have the guts to fight against the government's anti-people policies but no 'capability' to get people's mandate to rule. It was only in the legislative elections of 2020 in Delhi that the Aam Aadmi Party brought forth the ideas of green politics and environmental needs such as air pollution. Prior to this, Aditya Thackrey during the Maharashtra elections was one to rally on the ideas of green politics. The future of Indian politics is bright green.

Societies around the world today have shown to have an increasing need for green/alternative policies. It is not only electoral successes of green and alternative parties demonstrating this but also the objective crisis of nature and humankind and the attempt of the established, traditional parties to get a "green" image. Green politics can only be as successful as an international force. The superficial "greening" of the traditional parties leaves no need for unpolitical, "green-green" middle-of-the-road environmentalism. With everybody trying to co-opt the green issues, politics has also become increasingly complex and difficult for the green parties. The demand for Green protest votes has considerably declined, and people increasingly expect the Greens to be able to implement their ideas themselves by participating in the executive.



# ECOFEMINISM

## An alternative lens for understanding climate change

*Nishtha Gupta Year II*

The discussion on environment and climate change cannot be complete without looking at ecofeminism. Ecofeminism is both a form of activism and academic discourse. Like several other theories, ecofeminism emerged in the West. The term was coined by the French feminist.... The credit for conceptualisation, however, goes to Ynestra King who famously said "(it sees) the devastation of the earth and her beings by the corporate warriors, and the threat of nuclear annihilation by the military warriors as feminist concerns". It is hailed as a part of the Third Wave of Feminism because in the 1990s there was a shift away from formalistic and legalistic view towards exploring the intersection of caste, race, religion, ethnicity, and sexuality in the feminist discourse.

Popular movements all over the world like the Chipko movement in India, Anti-Militarist movement in Europe and the US, movement against dumping of hazardous wastes in the US, and Green Belt movement in Kenya which gave rise to "resistance politics" were often termed as Ecofeminist Movements because they were led by women and exhibited how the exploitation of nature at the hands of capitalists disadvantaged women more as they are the ones mostly responsible for maintaining the household and arranging for firewood, food and fodder. These movements also established issues of violence against women such as domestic violence in a complementary light with the environmental issues (Rao 2012).

Ecofeminism is basically ecology of the feminist kind. It has different strands and layers but broadly it engages in three major things:

Critiques the mechanistic view of human and non-human components of nature propagated by capitalist developmental patterns.

Establishes a connection between the exploitative and dominating patterns of men over women and the "non-human other" in a patriarchal society explores epistemological closeness of women to the nature.

How their experiences as women make them dependent on nature in a special way.

Ancient mythology such as Greek and Indian attached goddess like attributes to nature. Not saying, it's ideal, but it highlights the morals and ethics associated with exploiting nature for economic activities. Industrialisation and the onslaught of global capitalism created a dead and inert perception of environment in order to justify the recklessness with which big industries and other profit mongers treat nature. There is vulgar detachment from values and ethics on the part of the human. Ecofeminists actively question the developmental patterns. Governments which are short on funds for education and healthcare are bailing out corporates who put synthetic chemicals in the environment and toxins in the waterbodies. People are dying due to hunger due to lack of food security and congenital malnourishment is rampant. All this does not seem to attract the fancy of world leaders because they are busy indulging in nuclear arms race ready to blow up civilisations in the name of national security.

The aforementioned crises are feminist issues as they impact women more severely. The denial of special dependence that exists between women and nature is what the cultural ecofeminists fight against. A major criticism here is that cultural ecofeminism creates stereotypes based on gender and that it considers men incapable of inculcating attitudes like care and nourishment. However, there have been studies which have established epistemological connect of women with nature.

For example, Sierra Leone study by feminist foresters revealed that, on the average, local men could name only eight different uses of local species of trees, while local women could name thirty-two uses of the same species of trees. The epistemological claim is that women of Sierra Leone have "indigenous technical knowledge" (ITK) about forest uses and production that is based on their daily, lived, gendered experiences in connection with forest use and management (Sally Fairfax and Fortmann 1990: 267).

Vandana Shiva, a prominent socialist ecofeminist considers indigenous women of Himalayan regions as one of the finest ecologists and biologists of our country. Although illiterate and far away from modern science and education systems, Vandana argues, the knowledge local women possess about their natural surroundings is unmatched and as women they have been subjected to work and live in close proximity. Thus, an attack on these natural resources is an attack on the normal living of indigenous women. The reason for the divide can be the marginalisation of Dalit and Adivasi narratives from mainstream feminism. The women's movement in India has to a large extent been preoccupied with issues of urban-based women.

Capitalist patriarchal societies are extremely hierarchical. Therefore, it tends to put one in a disadvantaged position against another on the assumption of inferiority. This is the logic of dominance. Therefore, today, we have ended up with humans dominating the environment and men dominating women. Ecofeminists argue that in order to liberate women from the cycle of dominance we must simultaneously work towards liberating nature from the domination of humans. This domination is mostly at the hands of power-seeking politicians and heads of multinational corporations who are again mostly men. Women are still in the process of occupying top offices. They completely lack any concern for environment or any marginalised social or cultural group. Scientific modernity (which is again extremely parochial) and development is merely tool used to alienate humans from nature.

Ecofeminism not only an alternative understanding of the current climate crisis but a gendered lens makes us realise that that the relationship which humans share with each other and with the non-human components of the ecosystem such as wildlife, waterbodies and vegetation must be reconsidered if we are to work out a plan to make significant changes. Ecofeminist terminology is heteronormative and the theory is still an elitist phenomenon. However, it shows us how various forms of class and gender exploitation are linked to the environmental degradation.

Today we have to realize that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor'. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which in section 2(a) defines: Environment includes water, air and land and the interrelationship which exists among and between water, air and land and human beings, other living creatures, plants, microorganism and property. The right to a clean environment is fundamental. It is both dependent upon and a precondition to a number of other human rights, including civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights. For instance, preservation, conservation, and the restoration of the environment are necessary for full enjoyment of the rights to food, health, and dignified life. Right to a clean environment is not purely an individual right. But, collectively belongs equally to such groups for future generations and indigenous peoples whose cultures depend on the environment for their sustenance and perpetuation. Ecological justice celebrates the interconnection and interdependence of all beings and recognizes our human responsibility to coexist in harmony for the well-being of the Earth. Ecological justice promotes human dignity, the self-determination of all persons, and the development of sustainable economies with justice for all within a finite world. Every human has a right to live in a clean and healthy environment. This is a general right which is inalienable. Many Constitutions all over the world have guaranteed a healthy environment and they also take appropriate measures to prevent any kind of environmental harm so as to maintain a healthy environment. They not only prevent any kind of environmental destruction but also aim to preserve nature and its natural resources. All the Constitution adopted since 1992 also recognizes the right to clean environment as open right. About 200 treaties are registered under the UN environmental program register.

There are two basic conceptions of environmental human rights in the current human rights system. They are: (i) the right to a healthy or adequate environment is itself a human right; (ii) the idea that environmental human rights can be derived from other human rights, usually- the right to life, the right to health, the right to private family life and the right to property. Ecological justice has different perspectives. The Christian perspective of ecological justice is based on the belief that the Earth is sacred, and that the dignity of the human person requires particular attention to the needs of the marginalized and the poor- a preferential option for the poor. According to the historical perspective, ecological justice is based on the fact that the Earth's dominant economic, social and political systems have favored-and continue to primarily benefit-people in the Global North. This has led to the depletion of Earth's ecological diversity, ecosystem destruction, pollution of soil, sea and sky, species extinction and climate change. This damage has been felt most deeply by populations in the Global South who are least responsible for that. The scientific perspective states that ecological justice is based on the knowledge that the Earth and its resources are finite, that ecosystems are complex and fragile, and that the natural world, of which humans are a part, exists as an interconnected and interdependent system. In this web of existence, human ingenuity and activity must be founded on prudence and care.

### **Environmental Rights in India:**

More than 100 Constitutions around the world have been adopted and included 'Right to Environment'. And India is one of the countries which also gives importance as the Constitution-makers were aware that to promote the welfare of people and their health, maintenance of a clean environment. Though environmental rights in India do not really exist in written form, they are guaranteed under Part III and Part IV of the Constitution. But they are not directly enforceable on individuals or groups. David Suzuki argues that "There can be no greater need for any of us than a clean environment- clean air, clean water, clean soil and food".

Following a long course of active interpretation of Constitutional and legislative clauses by the judiciary and vigorous efforts of some green citizens, the Indian environmental scenario has undergone a positive change. Today, the environmental consciousness imported by the courts, mingled with subsequent legislative efforts in the later years, introduced the right to the environment as a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. The courts in India have played a distinguishing role in gradually enlarging the scope of a qualitative living by engaging themselves into and resolving various issues of environmental protection. Consequently, activities posing a major threat to the environment were curtailed so as to protect the individual's inherent right to the wholesome environment as guaranteed under various instruments for the protection of legal and human rights.

The attainment of the common purpose, therefore, depends upon the proper performance by every individual of his function and duties. Every citizen has social obligations to himself, to his family, to his neighbours, and to the society of which he is a unit. The right to life is, therefore, the most fundamental of all rights, as it is the very core of humanity. It means a claim to live that the existence of one does not jeopardise the existence of others. It is not the polity of an individual alone but State is a bigger partner in preserving the environment and in the realisation of the right to life with human dignity. It is essential to create a shared international vision of long term goals and to build the international frameworks that will help each country to play its part in meeting these common goals. There should be compatibility between the environment and economic development. Living standards beyond the basic minimum are sustainable only if consumption standards everywhere have regard for long term sustainability.

*As yet, the wind is untamed and unharnessed forces and quite possibly one of the greatest discoveries hereafter to be made will be the taming and harnessing of it.*

**Abraham Lincoln**

The international process of climate change negotiations has witnessed a series of agreements, accords and conventions to curb the most serious challenges to mankind in the present environment. The adoption of the Paris Agreement is the most recent addition to this series and is a milestone in the international climate change political negotiations. Initially, the agreement was a monumental success as acknowledged by different countries of the world but in the long run, it proved to be a disappointment in certain areas and wasn't able to produce steps for concrete action. On 12th December, 2015, 196 parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) adopted the Paris Agreement which was a new framework for an internationally coordinated effort to tackle climate change. Its central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping global temperature below 2°C and it also aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impact of climate change. This agreement is of more importance because it is after the big disappointing failure of the Copenhagen Climate Conference in 2009.

Unlike the Kyoto protocol, the Paris Agreement did not impose any legally binding targets on member countries rather they call the parties to contribute to the goal on the "principle of common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances". This underlying principle of agreement is to prove to be controversial and problematic for developed countries like the United States who argue that such a point will further divide the international community in binaries of North and South and promote discriminatory nature in an international environment. This becomes the prime reason for the US withdrawal from the agreement in June 2017 and President Donald Trump persuaded that global warming is a hoax concocted by China to weaken the competitive industrial power of the US. This decision of US will have a deep impact on international cooperation in the field of climate change, especially in the long run as the US is the second-largest carbon dioxide emitter in the world with approximately 5.3 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions as per the data of 2017.

India's role in international climate change negotiations has become more important and substantial over the years as India becomes the 3rd largest carbon dioxide emitter in the world after China and the US. India has adopted the agreement in 2015 and rectified it in 2016. Despite India's low level of per capita emissions, it has made significant commitments in its intended Nationally Determined contribution submitted to UNFCCC and the climate change tracker has made India the only major economy to highly rated in its climate efforts to contribute limiting global temperature to 2°C by the end of the century. India also pledged to reduce the emission intensity of its GDP which is greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP, by 33-35 per cent by 2030. Recently in August 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to France issued the joint statement with French President Emmanuel Macron to commit itself to finalise its long term plan strategies for development that result in lower levels of greenhouse gases emissions by 2020. This is the first time after the adoption of agreement in 2015 that India has restated in an official statement to step up its nationally determined contribution.

In conclusion, the Paris Agreement has been highlighted as the much needed international global treaty after the series of repeated failures. The withdrawal of influential and largest carbon emitter countries like the US made it less impactful in the long run. Although the Paris Agreement has made the consensus in the international climate change diplomacy without legally binding targets and it's highly dynamic nature made it ineffective in producing desired results. Thus, despite being the diplomatic victory as adopted by almost all the countries, the Paris agreement lacks in certain important areas which prevent international political negotiations on climate change to produce concrete actions for achieving its environmental goals.

# P A R I S A G R E E M E N T



# FOREST FIRES: AN OVERVIEW

*Khushi Agarwal Year I*

"The summer sun is harsh. It beats down mercilessly, drinking up any moisture that may be in the air or on the ground. The earth is parched. It is a tinderbox. A spark...a fire...and total destruction". - Nimi Kurian THE HINDU

Forest fires are defined, 'as a large, destructive fire that spreads over a forest or area of woodland'. It is an uncontrolled fire occurring in nature either naturally or through the anthropogenic activities of 'mankind', which may or may not be controlled by artificial measures of control. Sometimes, the forest fire is so massive that it takes a long time for the firefighting crews to bring the situation under control, which often leads to massive destruction. A number of forest fires vary from year to year and thus quite a time may elapse between forest fires. From the last two years, forest fire has been more damaging and brutal than ever. From Siberia to India, Indonesia to California, the forests have been transformed into furnaces. Changing climatic conditions are the greatest factors that influence the extent of forest fire.

Wildfires – both natural and man-made contributes to the loss in forest cover. They not only pose a serious threat to the forest wealth but also to the entire regime of flora and fauna, seriously affecting the natural biodiversity, ecology, and environment of the region. They lead to a general degradation in water catchment areas, depletion of carbon sinks, reduction in water table level, ozone layer depletion and a subsequent loss of agricultural production.

Forest fires may be a result of natural causes. Many forest fires start from natural causes like lightning which sets trees on fire mainly due to high atmospheric temperature and dryness (low humidity), conditions attributable to climate change. However, rainfall extinguishes such fires without causing much damage. Besides natural causes, forest fires may be due to anthropogenic activities such as shifting cultivation practices, controlled burning, deforestation, firewood burning, etc. The problem has accentuated due to the ever-growing human and cattle population.

Forest fire in India area is usually experienced during summer months extending from April to June. The extent and type of forest fire varies and depends upon climatic conditions like the prolonged spell of dry conditions and delay in the arrival of monsoons, etc. During the summers, when there is no rainfall for months, the forests get littered with dry senescent leaves and twigs, which possess the capability to easily burst into flames ignited by the slightest spark. The Himalayan forests, in particular, the Garhwal Himalayas has been burning down regularly during the last few summers leading to a colossal loss of vegetative cover of that region. The rural population enters the forest very often to graze cattle, collect fuel wood, timber, etc. According to an estimate, it has been reported that 90% of the forest fires in India are man-made.



Environmentalists claim that in the year 2019, almost 12 million hectares of forest burned globally causing significant carbon dioxide emissions and reducing the future capacity of the forest to absorb CO<sub>2</sub>. There is an additional problem that of soot falling on ice or snow melts and darkening it, thereby reducing the effectiveness of the surface and trapping more heat causing it to melt. The frequency of U.S wildfires has increased by as high as 400% since 1970 with places like California, Mexico, Colorado, experiencing the worst damage. 2018 Californian bushfires, 2019 Amazon rainforest wildfires, 2019-20 Australian bushfires, etc are some of the recent cases that highlight the disastrous effects of these wildfires on the environment and living creatures, demanding immediate attention and intervention. Every year wildfires destroy 6 to 14 million hectares of fire sensitive forest worldwide leading to the significant loss of biodiversity and wildlife, thereby affecting the economy of the concerned nation.

Forest fires have a wide range of adverse ecological, economic and social impacts on living creatures and the environment. It not only disturbs the biodiversity, ecology, natural fauna, and flora of the region but also leads to the extinction of plants and animal species. It also leads to a change in the microclimatic conditions of the region with unhealthy living problems leading to various diseases. The smoke and soot emitted increases the pollution level in the surrounding areas, affecting the young and the elderly. It leads to a loss of livelihood of the tribal population as approximately 300 million people are directly dependent on these forest cover for their livelihood.



The incidence of wildfires has increased, and more area is burned every year. The major cause of this failure is the piecemeal approach to the matter. Taking into consideration, the seriousness of the matter, it is necessary for the government and concerned bodies to make some serious improvements in the forest fire management strategies of the country. Man-made fires can be prevented by imparting proper education and environmental modification.

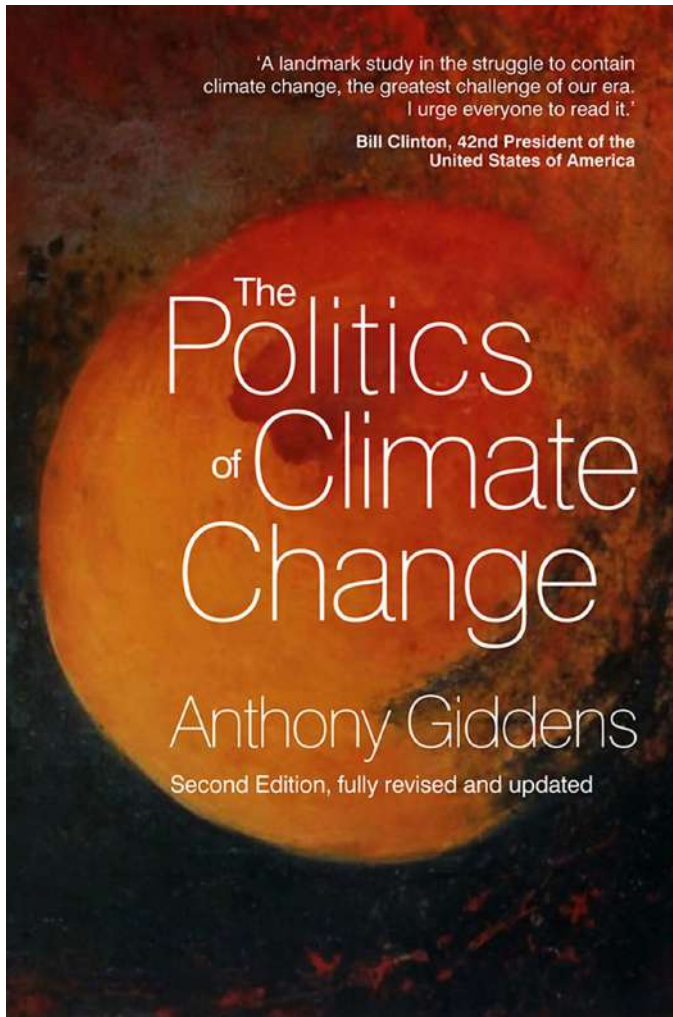
Forest fire caused due to climate change or other anthropogenic activities is a matter of serious concern which needs immediate solution because its impact on living creatures, biodiversity, ecology and environment is disastrous.



# BOOK REVIEW

## “THE POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE”

*Sofiya Ali & Shakshi Year III*



**Book Review: Giddens, Anthony (2009),  
“The Politics of Climate Change”, Polity Press, Cambridge, UK.**

One of the first conditions of happiness is that the link between man and nature shall not be broken, as its from nature man is born and its nature on which man depends. Anthony Giddens in Politics of Climate Change provides a detailed study of climate change in general and global warming in particular, to show how we all are heading towards our near end!

Giddens tried to explain the complexity of the threat by tracing its history as well as increase in the occurrence and intensity of natural disasters which are directly or indirectly related to climate change. At the same time he tried to throw some light on various dimensions of climate change from the perspective of developed and developing countries.

This entire idea was very nicely placed by Giddens in “Common but Differentiated Responsibility” which he further tried to evolve by linking it with the simple expression ‘what might be development for you, might be destruction for me’.

Through out his book, Giddens sole emphasis relied on three major resources – oil, gas, coal; which are all fossil fuels and produce highest amount of green house gases. In this regard he further tried to retrace how the green consciousness was raised by later half of 20th Century which is self-evident in today’s world in terms of ‘Green Parties’ and their role in effecting mainstream public opinions.

Creating the green and sensitive fabricate towards nature, Giddens further move towards analysing ways in which this threat can be tackled. However, he’s well aware of the fact that the solutions are as tricky and complex as the problem is per se. So Giddens go for the more realistic approach and emphasis on working with already existing state and its various institutions. Hence he is more in favour of ‘top down’ approach and definitely the spirit of technology positivism is something which is unhidden in his work. Similarly he also placed heavy responsibility on international organisations and negotiations for the collective initiatives . At the same time Giddens, choose mitigation and is seen critical towards resistance and adaption.

One of the most unique concept of Giddens which is truly fascinating is ‘Giddens Paradox’. It suggests the reason why, for many citizens, climate change is a back-of-the-mind issue rather than a front-of-the-mind one. Attitude surveys show that most of the public accept that global warming is a major threat; yet only a few are willing to alter their lives in any significant way as a result. Among elites, climate change lends itself to gestural politics – grandiose - sounding plans largely empty of content.

Contrary to doom and gloom perspective which sees climate change through negative lenses of pessimism, Giddens work is much more optimistic though it could have touched other dimensions and aspects related to climate change which could have tried to analyse the problem from more individual oriented perspective.



# MOVIE REVIEW

*Shreya Pawar Year II*

## *The Day After Tomorrow*



What if suddenly the weather patterns change drastically? More than ever? What if the entire population was to be wiped out in less than two weeks? What would you do if there is nothing to do any more than to wait when the Earth consumes you or tosses you into the sky before letting you finally die? I know it seems just like a plot of yet another sci-fi movie. And it exactly is so in this case. *The Day After Tomorrow* (2004) is a science-fiction on the then newly stirring topic, Global Warming.

The movie starts with three huge tornadoes that go on to depict Polar Ice-cover melt, violent hailstorms and destruction. Tidal waves are bigger than ever and destructions. Extremely dropping temperatures, like never recorded. And destruction.

The movie revolves around how Jack Hall, an American paleoclimatologist, who has foreseen the destruction that global warming can bring, tries to warn the world but is taken seriously by barely anyone. He is proved correct way sooner and at a larger extent than he had expected. People start experiencing disastrous weather conditions in various parts of the Northern Hemisphere and the world seems to be ending. The power play and politics around the environmental issue is depicted elaborately. The movie ends with most people in Northern States such as Canada and Northern Europe dying of harsh weather which transforms the Western Northern Hemisphere (and not the entire Northern Hemisphere; did you notice the West-centrism?) to a pollution-free ice-capped landmass.

*The Day After Tomorrow* is a caution to the world that it might not be just a movie after all and that something similar may happen sooner than we think. The proximity of such a disaster is clearly indicated, which we must take as a warning, in the title itself- it is not centuries later, not even decades. It is our very population (whichever generation you belong to) that will face the catastrophe.

Climate change is real. Global warming is extremely actual and is happening at an alarming rate even when you read this. It will come for us, in five years, or perhaps the day after tomorrow.



I won't be lying if I said I watched the documentary because of Leo's charisma, and not just because I was asked to review a movie. Okay, I am guessing I have your attention now, let me give you a walk-through. The film is directed by Fishen Stevers, which follows the template of a celebrity-with-a-message genre. The Oscar winning actor, Leonardo DiCaprio was designated as a UN Messenger of Peace in 2014. This is one of his many contributions towards spreading the message of environmental change. As he travels the world, and converses with different scientists, officials, and locals who are experiencing global warming first-hand, information unravels itself to him.

The documentary underlines that overpopulation, debauchery in excess, material pleasures are all deadly sins contributing to climate change. The past few years have been the warmest around the globe. Whenever someone raises the topic of climate change, we just tune out, let alone discuss about it. Half the politicians in this world either dilute the problem or believe that it's made up and doesn't exist. Little do they know, we've no time to be in denial right now. The movie provides with already well-known infamous facts, but in greater details and aesthetic graphics. The world economy is based on fossil fuels, and there is no such thing as clean fossil fuels. Almost everything we do releases CO<sub>2</sub> and is the most important reason underlying global warming. Everything that's happening currently is real (the rising of sea-levels, melting of polar ice, dangerous weather patterns, floods, drought, wildfire, etc.), and no less than a nightmare fiction film. Yet it's being constantly overlooked. Back then when he had just stumbled upon the problem of global warming, we thought relying on small individual action, such as changing a light bulb would help us save the environment. It shatters my heart to say we're way beyond that now.

The emphasis is very much on the impacts and the story is peppered by shocking statistics. We hear that Arctic sea ice could be completely gone by 2040, that 50% of the world's coral has been lost in the last 30 years, and that the costs of climate change will have amounted to an estimated \$44 trillion (£35 trillion) by 2060. To me, the shots in the movie were far more impactful than any statistic for reminding us the sheer scale of destruction of which us humans are capable of. Much of what he finds is devastating including 'sunny day flooding' in Miami, and forests in Indonesia being leveled to extract palm oil for processed foods. Doritos, Burger King, Nissan Cup Noodles, McDonald's and several big chains use palm oil as it is the cheapest vegetable oil. America's mass consumption of energy compared to others is extensively high. The U.S President Trump in one of his speeches dismissed the idea of global warming, saying, "We need some global warming, it's still so cold out here. Where is global warming? And you are the dumbest if you believe that global warming is real." Members of the U.S senate cannot get a climate change bill passed because it's funded by fossil fuel climate change deniers who are blocking any bills that would attempt to change this problem.

It is mind boggling to DiCaprio how the politicians are discrediting the scientists and facts. There are 131 climate change deniers in Congress and 38 deniers in the Senate. The mayor of Miami in an interview with DiCaprio says that, "The ocean is not Republican, neither is it Democrat, all it knows how to do is rise". And we couldn't agree more. China has surpassed the U.S as the top climate polluter. However, China is making progress and is transitioning to renewable energy rapidly. The third largest emitter is India, and the country is still grappling with poverty. 300 million people in India live without electricity, almost equivalent to the U.S population. 700 million households rely on bio-mass and coal, as it's cheaper than solar and wind power, which in turn produces a high amount of CO<sub>2</sub>.

When in India, DiCaprio interacts with Dr. Sunita Narain who works as an environmentalist in Centre for Science and Environment. She strongly voices her opinion against U.S being the largest emitter of greenhouse gases in history. We are told that nearly all methane in the atmosphere is due to livestock. Therefore, the film wants to spur individual changes in behavior, like changing your diet and switching over to chicken from beef since it could reduce emissions by 80%. Leo's time on camera is made more interesting with the appearances of former U.S President Barrack Obama and Pope Francis, where Pope calls for immediate action against climate change. Imposition of carbon tax (tax on any kind of activity that emits carbon into atmosphere) can be fairly helpful, but for that to happen politicians and the public must have a cordial relation. We are at a 1 degree Celsius increase now. At 3-4 degrees, heat waves can cause many regions to not be livable anymore. Europe will become colder, and shortage of food and water will lead to conflicts between man vs man.

DiCaprio finds that while problem persists, there are also many solutions that have begun to be implemented, such as Denmark, Sweden, Spain, and Germany are trying their level best to make their energy resources renewable. Sweden will become the world's first fossil fuel free nation. The Paris Conference was a step in the right direction, but not enough. There are certain things that one can learn:

- a) consume consciously – what you eat, what you buy, how you get your power
- b) vote for leaders who will fight climate change

These things might help incrementally. This film's carbon footprint was offset by paying a voluntary carbon tax. After seeing this film, I still feel just as pessimistic about the state of our environment and my ability to change it. Needless to say, the movie in totality was one of the most universal and helpful of the recent climate change documentaries.

I'll finish it off with a quote that really moved me: "Planet Earth is a small boat in this vast universe. If this boat sinks, we all sink together".

*Before The Flood*

# पृथ्वी की गुहार

आकांक्षा- द्वितीय वर्ष

# Seeking Mother

Sapna Maurya year II

पृथ्वी की बस यही है गुहार,

क्यों कर रहे हो मुझपर अत्याचार,

क्या यही गलती थी मेरी?

कि मैंने दिया सबको जीवन का सार!

क्यों ढा रहे हो मुझपर ग्रीन हाउस गैसों का भार,

कहीं सूखा है तो कहीं है बाढ़!

मत छिनो मुझसे मेरी हरियाली,

क्योंकि यही है मेरी जीवन की शैली,

इस धूप में मेरी क्यों ले रहे हो बलि,

मैं भी हूँ सौर मंडल की कली,

मेरी अद्भुतता जो है मेरे भीतर ही फूली - फली,

क्योंकि मैं ही हूँ पेड़ पोथो, मानव व प्रकृति की थाली!

इतने भी स्वार्थी मत बनो,

कहीं खो ना दो अपना अस्तित्व, समझो उन जीव जंतु की पीड़ा,  
तुम्हारी भांति, वो भी है मेरे हृदय की क्रीड़ा,

मुझे है आवश्यकता ग्रेटा थनबर्ग जैसे युवकों की,

तुम भी दे दो बहार मुझे जीवन की।।

Go go human

Get away the pollution

We are breathless

Seduced endless

We lived a week losing ourselves

Deep inside the wildlife sanctuary

Living in the habitat of animals and birds

Insects, butterflies, creatures and what not

Sharing their space, living in their home!

Paralysing the forest

Laying death beds

Ending lives

World intrude too much

In the lives of innocents

Sensitive are they

Not to encroach

Too much of their space

Strolling in and around

Living green with ground

We climbed up and down

Exploring virgin territories

Witnessing nudes burnt

Starting exploiting it

In the exploited

Raped and gradually dying ice

Sinking their size

Agonising nature

Clouds cried aloud

Thunder banged

Wind soared in fury

And it rained endlessly!

Aren't we

In an overdrive

In a crazy chase

Greed never ends

But environment ends

The man running

Sunrise to sunset

Owning land, till exhausted

Dying with no land!



# पर्यावरण और हम

भूमिका द्वितीय वर्ष

बदलना तो हर किसी की प्रवृति का हिस्सा है,  
चाहे इंसान हो या फिर पर्यावरण,  
और यूँही कुछ बदल गया है -  
पर्यावरण, औद्योगीकरण और शहरीकरण,  
की ओट लेकर।

इस बदलते हुए ओट से ,  
आ रहा है काल देखो,  
समूचे मानव जगत पर ,  
अगर न रोका गया प्रकृति का विनाश ,  
तो देखता रह जाएगा इंसान,  
पृथ्वी का सर्वनाश।।

प्रकृति जो है हर जगह विद्यमान ,  
क्यों कर रहा है मानव उसी का नुकसान,  
जिसने भरे सबमे प्राण,  
धीरे धीरे हम हो रहे हैं उसी से अंजान,  
अब भी समय है, बचा लो पृथ्वी को,  
कहीं ऐसा न हो कि हमारे भी न रहे प्राण।।

बदलता मौसम बदल रहा है  
हमारे जीने का अंदाज़,  
चूँकि बदला नहीं हमने अपना मिजाज  
इसलिए हमारे मिजाज ने बदल दिया पृथ्वी का अंदाज़  
अगर न किया हमने प्रयास ,  
इस मिजाज को बदलने का ,

तो बनाकर रख देगी प्रकृति हमें ही इतिहास।।

# It's Time

Aditi Kushwaha year I

*Before 'the sunken city of Atlantis' becomes  
our destiny*

*Before water turns us into each other's  
enemy*

*Before it gets difficult to rise above the ashes  
of burnt trees*

*Before everyone vanishes off of some disease*

*It's time to keep aside our greed*

*with culture, race, class and creed*

*In order to work as one to succeed*

*It's time to halt the nature's destruction*

*To no longer be led by selfish politicians*

*We still have time to concede our ignorance*

*Before we have to fight for our own existence*

*We did pollute our air, water and other  
needs*

*We need to come up and take up the  
responsibility of our deeds*

*Fast changing climate will blow*

*away our place of planning as it is slow*

*We need an urgent backup, because nature's  
given time is up.*

# अब पर्यावरण की बारी है

रूपाली तृतीय वर्ष

तकनीकी विज्ञान में पैठ बनाने वाले हम  
जलवायु परिवर्तन में भी पूर्णता भागीदार है हम  
जल, वायु और श्वास भी आज प्रदूषणकारी है  
और फिर भी मानव सिर्फ कहता जाए अब पर्यावरण की बारी है

स्वास्थ्य के द्वारा फैल रही अब विभिन्न विकृत बीमारी है  
कोरोनावायरस नामक बीमारी जनसंख्या पर भारी है  
मृदा अपरदन खारा पानी बर्फ पिघलने को आई है  
और मानव तो यह कहता जाए की पर्यावरण की बारी है  
अब पर्यावरण की बारी है

पशु-पक्षी और कीट-पतंगे खतरे वाली प्रजाति है  
समस्या की तह तक जाए तो इसके पीछे भी मानव जाति है  
रक्षा की तो बात अलग हम संवादों में अटकते जाते है  
और फिर भी हम यह कहते हैं की हम पर्यावरण बचाते हैं  
हम पर्यावरण बचाते हैं

वह बड़े-बड़े मीनार और वह इमारतें  
जिनकी जड़ में भस्म हुई है हजारों पेड़ की किस्में  
पानी जोकि जीवन कहलाता, यूं ही कहीं भी बहता जाता  
खुले समुद्र में तेल रिसाव समुद्री प्रजाति पर करता है प्रहार  
मानव सिर्फ यह कहता कि नहीं मानेंगे हार  
मानव जाति स्व केंद्रित चार पैड़ लगाते है

आठ काटते चलते है  
घरों के नीचे उन्हें दफनाते हैं  
फिर भी सामाजिक विकास के धारक यह मानव कहलाते हैं  
ऊपर से प्रवसन भी जारी है  
और मानव अभी कहता चलता कि अब पर्यावरण की बारी है

कभी वसंत कभी शीत यह ऋतुएँ भी अस्थाई है  
बाढ़ भूकंप जलजले के खतरों की संसार में आवाजाही है  
पिघलती बर्फ से हिमालय पर हो रही तबाही है  
इन सबके बावजूद मानव कहता वैश्विक मंचों में हमारी भागीदारी है

यह पृथ्वी भी हमारी है  
अब पर्यावरण की बारी है  
अब पर्यावरण की बारी है

अंत में यही प्रश्न है मेरा  
यदि मानव तेरी भागीदारी है  
क्यों तूफान है, क्यों जलजले है  
क्यों जलवायु परिवर्तन जारी है?  
क्यों जलवायु परिवर्तन जारी है ?

# Letter From a Single-Use Plastic

Rupam Mishra Year II

Dear Human,

Hope the letter finds you in good health. I am a Single-Use Plastic, the love of your life. The one who has been given a prime position in your heart.

The time has come to break this relationship. I want to see you happy.

You always feel that life is not easy without me but what about your mother (earth). We aren't compatible

with each other. It will take you some time to understand my decision, but I know you

will understand with time.

I am 'immortal' and 'corruptive'. My presence may ease your life but will degrade your health and your family's (the planet).

We can't continue this alliance, because I do not want to see your destruction. Boycott me, be a

rational and matured human being. Get out of your comfort zone, other alternatives are waiting for

you. They will be great companions in the long run. Initially, you may feel a bit uncomfortable

with them but at least you are out of this abusive relationship.

Think about your mother (Earth), your grandchildren,

your own life.

Find a new partner

For you

Also, for the earth

# दर्द - ऐ - धरा

ज्योति तृतीय वर्ष

इक रोज धरती ने किया अपना दुःख बयां

और कहा ,

सुना है...तरक्की की चाह में,  
तकनीकी मानव इतना खो गया है ,  
कि शहर धुंआ धुंआ सा हो गया है ।

सुना है...

तेरी विलासिता के लक्ष्यों की मांग बढ़ रही है,  
अरे रूह तो मेरी भी जलती है  
खुश्क आँखों से आग बरसती है  
हरित गैसों का सांद्रण बढ़ रहा है , फिर भी  
तू रेफ्रीजिरेटर और एसी को तरजीह दे रहा है।

सुना है...

नदियाँ विकलांग हो गयी  
ग्लेशियर हो गए खण्ड खण्ड,  
ऋतु परिवर्तन में असन्तुलन और  
तटीय क्षेत्रों का जलमग्न,  
हो रहा है जलवायु परिवर्तन।

सुना है....

उधर फैक्ट्री काला धुंआ उगल रही है  
कोहरे की चादर बिछ रही है और  
यहाँ कार्बन सिक की राजनीति चल रही है,  
कबतक मेरी बर्बादी का तमाशा देखोगे,  
खत्म होगा खेल मेरा , तब तुम भी तो हारोगे।

आशा है...

चहूँ और फिर से होगा शोर,  
पर इस बार कोपेनहेगन और पेरिस जैसे सम्मेलनों का नहीं,  
"द ग्रेट ग्रेटा" जैसे जोश का होगा जोर ,  
समय की मांग पर इक नया होगा आगाज,  
हरहरता अंकुर फिर से फूटेगा  
करवट बदलेगा मेरा गर्म मिजाज।।

# जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रहार

अनुष्का मिश्रा द्वितीय वर्ष

निर्मल झील जोकि कभी थी यहाँ,

उसका पानी सूख गया कहां,

पूछे मुझसे सारा ये जहाँ,

कर सकूँ तो करुँ अपने शब्दों से बयां।

क्यों तू काटे शीतल छाया,

कहाँ है वो पेड़ों का साया,

जिसके नीचे था मैंने बचपन बिताया,

कल्लेआम करके उसका तुमने क्या पाया।

धुंआ चारों ओर फैला ,

शुद्ध हवा का स्तर घटाया,

बाढ़, तूफान, भूकम्प को बढ़ाया ,

जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रकोपी दानव को ,

हे मानव तूने ही बनाया।

तापमान नहीं बढ़ा है धरती का,

बढ़ा है तो रोष उसका थोडा सा,

अपने मतलब के लिए जो तूने है छीना,

सूत समेत भुगतान होगा उसका करना।

अब भी वक्त है जाग जा ऐ इंसान,

कहीं मिट न जाए हमारा नामोनिशान,

उठा हाथ और पेड़ लगा,

कर संपूर्ण मानव जाति का कल्याण,

लौटा दे प्रकृति को उसका खोया हुआ सम्मान।



# GALLERY





# Annual Report

## Feb 2019 - Feb 2020

# INTERFACE

On 15th February 2019 the Department organized its annual Department Day, 'POLITIK' 2019 on the theme 'Refugees and Dispossession'. Prof. Nasreen Chowdhury from the Department of Political Science, University of Delhi spoke on 'The idea of Protection: Norms and Practice of Refugee Management in India'. The other speaker for the day was Dr. Éva Rozália Hölzle from Bielefeld University, Germany who spoke on 'Intricate layers of experiencing landless in the North East Bangladesh'. A documentary titled 4.1 miles was also shown to the students. There was a stage play 'Ujada ashiyaana' prepared by our students. There was also a picture gallery on the theme of 'Refugees' that was organized in the foyer. There were a series of informal events like the Debate Competition, Poster Making Competition, Poetry Writing and Recitation Competition.

On 24th July 2019 the orientation for the students of the first year was held

On 21st August 2019 there was a talk by the representatives from Amnesty International, India on 'Decoders: A Session on Troll Patrol India'. Mr. Sanam Wazir, Senior Researcher and Campaigner, Amnesty International, India, spoke on the issue.

On 20th September 2019 the Department organized a book discussion on the books, 'The Line of Fire' and 'Line on Fire' authored by Prof. Happymon Jacob. The panel for discussion had Prof. Jayati Srivastava from CIPOD, JNU, Ms. Maya Mirchandani from Ashoka University/ORF and the author of the books himself, Prof. Happymon Jacob from SIS, JNU.

On 28th January 2020, 'Sanshodhan', a film directed by Govind Nihalani was screened for fourth semester, section A students. The movie is based on the various issues pertaining to the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act.

On 5th February 2020, 'Hamid', a film directed by Aijaz Khan was screened for the students of Political Science. The movie touches upon various issues like the state of affairs in Kashmir, futility of war and the consequences of militancy.

On 17th February 2020, the Department organized a book discussion on 'Election Commission Of India'. The book was introduced by the authors themselves - Prof Ujjwal Kumar Singh and Prof Anupama Roy. This was followed by a lecture on 'India's Changing Electoral Democracy' by Prof Sunil Kumar Choudhary was also organised.

On 21st February 2020, Indo-UK Youth Forum in collaboration with Global Youth, KNC Chapter and Political Science Department, KNC had an interactive session, Chat with a Diplomat, in which Ms Sophie (Deputy Head Political and Bilateral Affairs, British High Commission) and Ms Sara Corscadden (Second Secretary, Political Department, British High Commission, New Delhi) spoke on the topic 'Gender and Diplomacy', and later interacted with the students.