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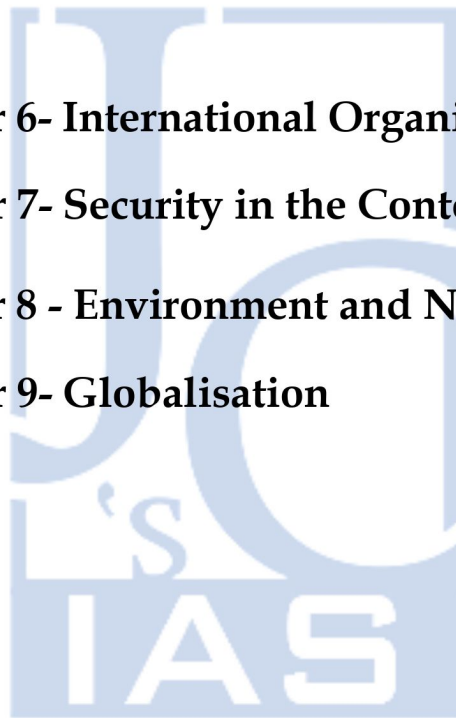
CONTEMPORARY WORLD

Chapter 6- International Organisations

Chapter 7- Security in the Contemporary World

Chapter 8 - Environment and Natural Resources

Chapter 9- Globalisation



Chapter 6- International Organisations

The United Nation [UN]

- The United Nations was established in 1945 immediately after the Second World War. It was a successor to the league of nations which was formed after the First World War.
- The objective of United Nations is to prevent international conflict and to facilitate cooperation among states.
- In the UN Security Council, there are five permanent members (United Kingdom, United State of America, Russia, France and China) and other non-permanent members who are elected after every two years. The most important public figure of the UN is the Secretary General.
- There are different structures and agencies of UN. These include World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC), the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) etc.

Reform of the United Nations after the Cold War

- Reforms and improvement are necessary for any organisation to perform better. The UN is also not an exception.
- There have been demands to bring reforms in the UN. Two demands have been raised i.e. reform of the organisation's structures and processes and, a review of the issues that fall within the jurisdiction of the organisation.
- On the reform of structures and processes, there has been the demand to increase the membership of permanent and non-permanent in UN Security Council.
- On the issues within the jurisdiction of the UN, some countries want the organisation to play a greater role in peace and security missions.
- While some other countries want the role of UN to be confined to development and humanitarian work.

Reform of Structures and Processes of the UN

- A resolution was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1992 over the reforms in the security council. The resolution reflected three main complaints.
- To look into the complaints over the restructuring of the UN, on 1st January, 1997, the UN Secretary General Kofi Arman initiated an inquiry into how the UN should be reformed.



- Criteria for inclusion of a new member was decided. Some of them were that a new member must be a major economic and military power, a substantial contributor to the UN budget etc.
- Different governments saw advantages in some criteria and disadvantages in others depending on their interests and aspirations. A demand to abolish the veto power altogether was also raised. Many perceived the veto to be in conflict with the concept of democracy and sovereign equality in the UN.
- Permanent members have two privileges i.e. veto power and permanency in the security council.
- By veto power means that if a permanent member cast a veto in a negative manner then it may state the decision.
- Without veto power, there is the danger that the great powers would lose interest in the world body and without their support the body would be ineffective.

Jurisdiction of the UN

- A meeting was held in September 2005 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the United Nation and to review the situation. Leaders in this meeting decided some steps that should be taken to make the UN more relevant in the changing content.
- Steps include establishment of a Human Rights Council, creation of a democracy fund, an agreement to wind up the trusteeship council etc.

India and the UN Reforms

- India has always supported the restructuring of the United Nations. It believes that a strengthened and revitalised UN is desirable in a changing world.
- Most important demand of India is regarding the restructuring of the security council. It supports an increase in the number of both permanent and non-permanent members.
- It also argues that an expanded council, with more representative, will enjoy greater support in the world community.
- India itself wishes to be a permanent member in a restructured UN. India is the world's largest democracy and the second most populous country in the world.

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- Country's economic emergence on the world stage is another factor that perhaps justifies India's claim to a permanent seat in the Security Council.
- Despite India's wish to be a permanent veto holding member of the UN, some countries question its inclusion. They are concerned about Indo-Pak relations, India's nuclear capabilities etc.

The UN in a Unipolar World

- It is believed by many countries that the reform and restructuring of the UN could help the UN cope better with a unipolar world in which the US was the most powerful country.
- US stands as the only superpower after the disintegration of USSR hence US power cannot be easily checked.
- Within the UN, the influence of the US is considerable. As the single largest contributor to the UN, the US has unmatched financial power.
- UN is not therefore a great balance to the US. Nevertheless, in a unipolar world in which the US is dominant, the UN can and has served to bring the US and the rest of the world into discussions over various issues.
- The UN is an imperfect body, but without it the world would be worse off.
- It is important for people to use and support the UN and other international organisations in ways that are consistent with their own interests.

Other International Organisations

- International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organisation that looks upon international financial institutions and regulations. It has 188 member countries. The G-8 members (the US, Japan, Germany, France, UK, Italy, Canada, Russia), China and Saudi Arabia have more than 52 per cent votes in IMF.
- World Bank is an important international organisation created during Second World War in 1944. It provides loans and grants to the member countries; especially developing countries.
- World Trade Organisation (WTO) is an international organisation set up in 1995 as the successor to the General



Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT). It sets the rules for global trade. It has 157 member countries.

- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an international organisation established in 1957. It seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to prevent its use for military purpose.
- Amnesty International is an international Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) which campaigns for the protection of human rights all over the world.
- Human Rights Watch is an international NGO which is involved in research and advocacy on human rights.

Facts:

1. International organisations help countries to cooperate to create better living conditions all over the world and provide common platform to discuss contentious issues and find peaceful solutions, by a mechanism, rules and bureaucracy.
2. United Nations was founded as a successor to 'League of Nations' immediately after the Second World Charter by 51 states on 20th October 1945 with the headquarter at New York.
3. UN has 192 member states to prevent international conflicts to facilitate co-operation. The UN's main organs are the General Assembly and Security Council. The UNSC consists of five permanent members i.e. the US, Russia, France, China and the UK, who enjoy Veto Power. The UN's representative head is Secretary General.
4. UN consists of many specialised agencies to deal with social and economic issues like WHO, UNDP, UNHRC, UNHCR, UNICEF, and UNESCO to work in an efficient manner and to bring world together.
5. After the Cold War, some of the changes occurred which affected the functioning of the UN i.e. collapse of Soviet Union, emergence of China and India as rising powers, entry of new members, and confrontations with the challenges like genocide, civil war, ethnic conflict, terrorism, nuclear proliferation etc.
6. They faced two kinds of reforms over the time i.e. organisations structure and processes and a review of the issues that fall within jurisdiction of UN as why veto powers to permanent members only, dominance of powerful countries and to play more effective role in peace and security missions etc.



7. In 1992, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution over the reform of UN complaining no longer representation by contemporary powers, dominance of few countries based on western values etc. Following these in January 1997, Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General initiated on "How the UN should be reformed?"
8. Since 1997 onwards, a new member to be added to the UN should fulfil the parameters of being a major economic and military power, contributor to UN Budget, a populous one, should respect democracy and human rights and to make council more representative.
9. In September 2005, the heads of all member states of the UN took the steps to make the UN more relevant by creating peace building commissions, human rights council, agreement to achieve Millennium Development Goals, condemnation of terrorism, creation of democracy fund and an agreement to wind up Trusteeship Council.
10. India is a big supporter of restructuring of the UN to promote development and cooperation among states, to composition of Security Council and to include more representation in council for its political support.
11. Being a citizen of India, we would firmly support India's candidature for the permanent membership of UN Security Council on the grounds to be second most populous country, largest democracy, initiations in the UN, economic emergence and regular financial contributor to the UN.
12. Some countries question India's inclusion as permanent members in the Security Council on the basis of its troubled relationship with Pakistan, nuclear weapon capabilities, and if India included, some emerging powers (Brazil, Germany, Japan, South Africa) will also be accommodated. France and the USA advocate that Africa and South America must be represented for they do not have any representation in the present structure.
13. UN can not serve as a balance against US dominance because the US is the only Superpower after 1991 and may ignore any international organisation economically and militarily, its veto power also can stop any move damaging its interests as well as enjoys a considerable say in the choice of Secretary General of the UN.
14. Despite the above mentioned strong activities of the US, the UN serves a purpose in bringing the world together in dealing with conflicts and social and economic issues. The



UN provides a space within which arguments against specific US attitude and policies are heard and compromised.

UN's Significant agencies

1. International Monetary Fund (IMF)

- At the international level, overseas financial institutions and regulations.
- It consists of 180 members. Out of them, G-8 members enjoy more powers i.e. the US, Japan, Germany, France, the UK, Italy, Canada and Russia except China and Saudi Arabia.
- The US alone enjoys 16.75% voting rights.

2. World Bank

- It was created in 1944.
- It works for human development, agriculture and rural development, environmental protection, infrastructure and governance and provides loans and grants to developing countries.
- It is criticised for setting the economic agenda of poorer nations, attaching stringent conditions to its loans and forcing free market reforms.

3. WTO-World Trade Organisation

- An international organisation to set the rules for global trade which was set up in 1995 as a successor to General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) and has 157 members, (as on 1 September 2012)
- Major economic powers such as the US, EU and Japan have managed to use the WTO to frame rules of trade to advance their own interests.
- Developing countries often complain of non-transparent procedure and being pushed around by big powers.

4. IAEA-International Atomic Energy Agency

- It was established in 1957 to implement US president Dwight Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" proposal.
- It seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to prevent its use for military purpose.
- IAEA teams regularly inspect nuclear facilities all over the world to ensure that civilian reactors are not being used for military purposes.

5. Amnesty International

- An NGO to campaign for the protection of human rights all over the world.



- It prepares and publishes reports on human rights to research and advocate human rights.
- Governments are not always happy with these reports since a major focus of Amnesty is the misconduct of government authorities.

6. Human Rights Watch

- Another international NGO involved in research and advocacy of human rights.
- Largest international human rights organisation in the US.
- It draws the global media's attention to human rights abuses.
- It helped in building international coalitions like the campaigns to ban landmines, to stop the use of child-soldier and to establish the international criminal court.

Important Terms:

- **UN Charter:** A constitution of the UN to deal with objectives of the UN.
- **Veto:** It is a negative vote to be enjoyed by five permanent members of Security Council to stop a decision.
- **Secretary General:** A representative head of the UN to prepare an annual record of the UN activities.
- **WHO:** World Health Organisation to deal with matters related to health.
- **UNICEF:** United Nation's Children Fund to deal with child welfare.
- **UNESCO:** United Nation's Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation to deal with promotion of education, science and culture.
- **Peace Keeping Operation:** A mechanism for restoring peace and security by sending UN controlled troops in the affected area.

Timeline:

- **August 1941:** Signing of the Atlantic Charter by the US President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British PM Winston S. Churchill.
- **January 1942:** 26 Allied nations fighting against the Axis Powers meet in Washington D.C., to support the Atlantic Charter and sign the 'Declaration by United Nations'.
- **December 1943:** Tehran Conference Declaration of the three powers (US, Britain and Soviet Union)



- **February 1945:** Yalta Conference of the 'Big Three' (Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin) decides to organise a United Nations conference on the proposed world organisation.
- **April-May 1945:** The 2-month long United Nations Conference on International Organisation at San Francisco.
- **June 26, 1945:** Signing of the UN Charter by 50 nations (Poland signed on October 15; so the UN has 51 original founding members)
- **October 24, 1945:** The UN was founded (hence October 24 is celebrated as UN Day).
- **October 30, 1945:** India joins the UN.

UN Secretaries-general

- **Trygve Lie (1946-1952)** Norway: Lawyer and foreign minister, worked for ceasefire between India and Pakistan on Kashmir; criticised for his failure to quickly end the Korean war, Soviet Union opposed second term for him; resigned from the post.
- **Dag Hammarskjöld (1953-1961)** Sweden: Economist and lawyer, worked for resolving the Suez Canal dispute and the decolonisation of Africa; awarded Nobel Peace Prize posthumously in 1961 for his efforts to settle the Congo Crisis, Soviet Union and France criticised his role in Africa.
- **U Thant (1961-1971)** Burma (Myanmar): Teacher and diplomat worked for resolving the Cuban Missile crisis and ending the Congo Crisis; established the UN Peacekeeping force in Cyprus; criticised the US during the Vietnam war.
- **Kurt Waldheim (1972-1981)** Austria: Diplomat and foreign minister; made efforts to resolve the problems of Namibia and Lebanon; oversaw the relief operation in Bangladesh, China blocked his bid for a third term.
- **Javier Perez de Cuellar (1982-1991)** Peru: Lawyer and diplomat, worked for peace in Cyprus, Afghanistan and El Salvador; mediated between Britain and Argentina after the Falklands war; negotiated for the independence of Namibia.
- **Boutros Boutros-Ghali (1992-1996)** Egypt: Diplomat, jurist, foreign minister; issued a report, 'An Agenda for Peace'; conducted a successful UN operation in Mozambique; blamed for the UN failures in Bosnia, Somalia and Rwanda; due to serious disagreements, the US blocked a second term for him.



- **Kofi A. Annan (1997-2006)** Ghana: UN official, created the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; declared the US-led invasion of Iraq as an illegal act; established the Peacebuilding Commission and the Human Rights Council in 2005; awarded the 2001 Nobel Peace Prize.

Chapter 7- Security in the Contemporary World

Traditional Notions of External Security

- Greatest danger to a country is from military threats. The root of this danger is the other country which by threatening military action endangers the core values of sovereignty and independence.
- There are three choices with the government in response to the threat of war. These choices are to surrender, to prevent the other side from attack and to defend itself during the war and four components of traditional security i.e. deterrence, defence, balance of power and alliance building.
- Deterrence means prevention of war; defence means limiting or ending war; balance of power means there should be balance between bigger and smaller countries and alliance building means coalition of states.
- A good part of maintaining a balance of power is to build up one's military power that coordinate their actions to deter or defend against military attack.
- According to the traditional view of security, most threats to a country's security come from outside its borders.
- Within a country, the threat of violence is regulated by an acknowledged central authority i.e. the government.
- But in world politics, each country has to be responsible for its own security.

Traditional Notions of Internal Security

- Traditional security must concern itself with internal security which has not been given so much importance due to various reasons.
- After the Second World War, internal security was more or less assured to the powerful countries on the Earth.



- Most of the European countries faced no serious threats from groups or communities living within those borders. Hence these countries gave importance to external security.
- Main concern for the external security was the era of Cold War. Both the superpowers were afraid of attacks from each other.
- Colonies which became independent were under fear of conversion of Cold War into a Hot War.
- Newly independent African and Asian countries were more worried about the prospect of military conflict with neighbouring countries.
- They were worried about internal threats from separatist movements which wanted to form independent countries.

Traditional Security and Cooperation

- It is universally accepted that war can take place for the right reasons, primarily self-defence or to protect other people from genocide.
- Traditional views of security also give importance to other forms of cooperation like disarmament, arms control and confidence building.
- Disarmament requires all states to give up certain kinds of weapons.
- Arms control regulates the acquisition or development of weapons, e.g. United States and Soviet Union signed a number of other arms control treaties.
- Confidence building means a process in which countries share ideas and information with their rivals.
- Force is both the principle threat to security and the principle means of achieving security in traditional security.

Non-Traditional Notions

- Non-traditional notions of security go beyond military threats to include a wide range of threats and dangers affecting the condition of human existence.
- Non-traditional views of security have been called 'human security' or 'global security'.
- By human security we mean the protection of people more than the protection of states.
- Proponents (supporters) of the 'narrow concept' of human security focus on violent threats to individuals.



- On the other hand, proponents of the 'broad concept' of human security argue that the threat agenda should include hunger, disease and natural disaster.
- Idea of global security emerged in the 1990s in response to the global nature of threats such as global warming, AIDS and so on.

New Sources of Threats

- Some new sources of threats have emerged about which the world is concerned to a large extent. These includes terrorism, human rights, global poverty, migration and health epidemics.
- Terrorism refers to political violence that targets civilians deliberately and indiscriminately.
- There are three types of human rights. The first is political rights, second is economic and social rights and the third type is the rights of colonised people.
- Another type of insecurity is global poverty. Rich states are becoming richer whereas poor states are getting poorer.
- Poverty in the South has also led to large scale migration to seek a better life, especially better economic opportunities, in the North.
- Health epidemics such as HIV-AIDS, bird flu and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) have been increasing across countries through migration.
- It is important to understand that the expansion of the concept of security does not mean to include everything.
- To qualify as a security problem, an issue must share a minimum common criterion.

Cooperative Security

- Dealing with certain issues of security require cooperation rather than military confrontation. Military help can be taken to deal with terrorism but it will be of no use in dealing with issues like poverty, migration and so on.
- It becomes important to devise strategies that involve international cooperation which can be bilateral, regional, continental or global.
- Cooperative security may also involve a variety of other players, both international and national.



- But cooperative security may also involve the use of force as a last resort. The international community may have to sanction the use of force to deal with dictatorship.

India's Security Strategy

Indian's security strategy depends upon four broad components

1. Strengthening the military capabilities is the first component of India's security strategy because India has been involved in conflicts with its neighbours.
2. The second component of India's security strategy has been to strengthen international norms and international institutions to protect its security interests.
3. The third important component of India's security strategy is geared towards meeting security challenges within the country.
4. The fourth component is to develop its economy in a way that the vast mass of citizens are lifted out of poverty and misery.

Facts:

1. 'Security' is freedom from 'threats', security protects core values from threatening by preventing, limiting and ending the war.
2. Notions of security can be grouped into two i.e. Traditional concept and Non-traditional concept. Traditional notion includes both external and internal threats. External threats experience military war, balance of power and alliance building threats whereas internal includes internal peace and order.
3. Means of traditional security limit the violence upto maximum extent through disarmament, arms-control and confidence building. Disarmament bounds states to give up certain kinds of weapons. Arms control regulates acquisition of weapons and confidence building share ideas and information with rival countries.
4. Non-traditional security focuses on human and global security by covering all of human kinds. Human security in a narrow sense protects individuals from internal violence only whereas broadly it protects from hunger, diseases and natural disasters. Global security responds to threats like global warming, international terrorism, health epidemics like AIDS, bird flue and so on.



5. New sources of threats include terrorism, human rights, global poverty, migration, and health epidemics. Terrorism refers to political violence targeting civilians deliberately and indiscriminately. Human rights threats involve political rights, economic and social rights as well as rights of colonised people and indigenous minorities.
6. Global poverty suffers from low per capita income and economic growth and high population migration creates international political friction as states pursue different rules for migrants and refugees. Health epidemics cover HIV-AIDS, bird flu, and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) through migration business, tourism and military operations.
7. Cooperative security is required to alleviate poverty, manage migration, refugee movements and control epidemics. Cooperation may be bilateral, regional, continental or global depending on the nature of threat and willingness and ability of countries to respond either nationally or internationally.
8. India has faced both traditional and non-traditional threats to its security. India's security strategy has four broad components i.e. strengthening military capabilities, to strength international norms and institutions, to meet security challenges inside the border and to develop to lift citizens out of poverty, missing and economic inequalities.

Important Terms:

- **Security:** An essence for existence of human life to protect from threats either external or internal.
- **Arms Control:** It regulates acquisition of weapon.
- **Disarmament:** It bounds states to give up certain kinds of weapons to avoid mass destruction.
- **Confidence building:** A process in which different countries share ideas and information with rival countries by intimating each other about their military plans.
- **Global Poverty:** It refers to a country to be suffered from low incomes and less economic growth to be categorised as least developed or developing countries.
- **Migration:** It is the movement of human resources from one state to another due to some particular reasons.

Abbreviations

BWC: Biological Weapons Convention



CWC: Chemical Weapons Convention

ABM: Anti-Ballistic Missile

START: Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty

NPT: Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

SALT: Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty

SARS: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

CBMS: Confidence Building Measures

NIEO: New International Economic Order

IMF: International Monetary Fund

Chapter 8 - Environment and Natural Resources

Environmental Concerns in Global Politics

- There have been many environmental issues that are concerns of the global politics.
- There is a decline in the availability of cultivable land and a substantial portion of existing agricultural land is losing fertility.
- Around 1.2 billion people in developing countries have no access to safe water and 2.6 billion have no access to sanitation according to the Human Development Report, 2006.
- Loss of biodiversity continues due to destruction of habitat in areas which are rich in species. The act of deforestation takes place for personal gains, removing the natural inhabitants.
- Another danger to ecosystems and human health is a steady decline in the total amount of ozone in the Earth's stratosphere. Even the coastal waters are becoming increasingly polluted due to land-based activities.
- Environmental consequences of economic growth acquired an increasingly political character from the 1960s onwards.
- International agencies like the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), started holding international conferences to deal with environment issues.
- Earth summit or Rio summit was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 1992 which produced conventions dealing with

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climate change, biodiversity, forestry and recommended a list of development practices called 'Agenda 21'.

The Protection of Global 'Commons'

- Commons' are the resources shared by the community as a whole not individually.
- In the world, there are some areas which are located outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state and hence require common governance by the international community. This is known as Global Commons. They include Earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, the ocean floor, and outer space.
- A number of agreements were signed which includes the Antarctic Treaty (1959), the Montreal Protocol (1987) and the Antarctic Environmental Protocol (1991).
- History of outer space as a global commons shows that the management of these areas is thoroughly influenced by North-South inequalities.

Common but Differentiated Responsibilities

- There were differences between the countries of the North and the South over environment issues.
- Northern countries want everyone to be equally responsible for ecological conservation.
- Developing countries of the South believes that the ecological degradation is the product of industrial development undertaken by the developed countries.
- In the Rio summit, 1992, it was accepted that special needs of the developing countries must be taken into account in the development and interpretation of rules of international environmental law.
- 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) also provides that the parties should act on the basis of equity.
- It was accepted that a large amount of greenhouse gas emission has originated in developed countries and per capita emissions in developing countries are relatively low.
- Developing countries like India and China were exempted from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol.
- The Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement setting targets for industrialised countries to cut their greenhouse gas emissions.



Commons Property Resources

- It represents common property for the group but with a rule that members of the group have both rights and duties with respect to the nature, levels of use of a given resource.
- But issues like privatisation, agricultural intensification, population growth and ecosystem degradation have caused common property to dwindle in size.

India's Stand on Environmental Issues

- India has signed and ratified Kyoto Protocol (1997) in August 2002. Developing countries like India and China were exempt from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol.
- At the G-8 meeting in June 2005, India pointed out that the per capita emission rates of the developing countries are a tiny fraction of those in the developed world.
- The Indian Government is already participating in global efforts through a number of programmes like Energy Conservation Act (2011), Electricity Act of 2003 and so on.
- In 1997, a review of the implementation of the agreements at the Earth summit in Rio was undertaken by India.
- India suggested that the developing countries must get financial resources and clean technologies from the developed countries in order to meet UNFCCC commitments.

Environmental Movements

- Some of the most significant responses to the challenge of environmental degradation has come from groups of environmentally conscious volunteers working in different parts of the world.
- Forest movements of the South, in Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Malaysia, Indonesia, Continental Africa and India are faced with enormous pressures regarding forest clearing.
- Another example is of the group which is working against mineral extraction company as it leads to displacement of communities etc.
- Another groups of movements are those involved in struggles against mega-dams. In India, Narmada Bachao Aandolan is one of the best known of these movements.

Resource Geopolitics



- Resource geopolitics means who gets what, when, where and how.
- Throughout the cold war the industrialised countries of the North adopted a number of methods to ensure a steady flow of resources.
- Oil countries to be the most important resource in global strategy. The immense wealth associated with oil generates political struggles to control it.
- West Asia, specifically the Gulf region, accounts for about 30 per cent of global oil production.
- Another important resource relevant to global politics is water. Regional variations and scarcity of freshwater in some parts of the world is a leading source of conflicts in the 21st century.
- A number of studies show that countries that share rivers and many countries do share rivers are involved in military conflicts with each other.

The Indigenous People and their Rights

- As per the United Nations, indigenous population comprises the descendants of peoples who inhabited the present territory of a country at the time
- when persons of a different culture arrived there from other parts of the world.
- Indigenous people voices in world politics to treat them equally with other communities.
- Areas occupied by indigenous people include Central and South America, Africa, India and South-East Asia.
- Indigenous people appeal to governments to come to terms with the continuing existence of indigenous nations as enduring communities with an identity of their own.
- In India, indigenous people applies to the scheduled tribes who constitute nearly 8 per cent of the population of the country.
- Issues related to the rights of the indigenous communities have been neglected in domestic and international politics for very long.

Facts:

1. Environmental concerns in Global politics cover losing fertility of agricultural land, and grazing, depletion of water resources as well as loss of bio-diversity, real danger to eco-



- system and coastal pollution, deteriorating of marine environment,
2. Environmental consequences of economic growth acquired a political shape from 1960s onwards, following a book published in 1972 namely Limits To Growth and Initiatives taken by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to promote co-ordination and effective response on environment at global level.
 3. Earth Summit held in Rio-de-Janerio, Brazil in 1992 revealed different views i.e. global north (the first world countries) and global south (the third world countries). Global North was concerned with the issues of ozone depletion and global warming and global south focused on economic development and environment management by Agenda 21.
 4. Global commons refer to the areas or regions which require common governance by international community on major problems of ecological issues i.e. discovery of ozone hole over Antarctic, earth's atmosphere and ocean floor associated with technology and industrial development.
 5. The Rio Declaration at the Earth Summit in 1992 adopted the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities 'referring special needs of developing countries in the fields as development, application and interpretation of rules of international environmental law to protect environment by both developing nations in a responsible manner.
 6. The 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) also emphasised to protect the climate system on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and capabilities.
 7. Example-Largest and current global emissions of greenhouse gases originated in developed nations, hence low emissioned developing countries like India and China have been exempted from Kyoto Protocol held in Japan in 1997.
 8. Common property resources refer to a group who have both rights and duties with respect to nature, levels of use and the maintenance of a given resource with mutual understanding and practices i.e. management of sacred groves on state owned forest land.
 9. India plays a dominating role on the environmental issues as it signed and ratified 1997 Kyoto Protocol in August 2002 to follow common but differentiated responsibilities and India is a wary of recent discussions with UNFCCC about introducing binding commitments. India participated in



global efforts by introducing National Autofuel Policy, Electricity Act, 2003 and National Mission on Biodiesel. Besides, India supports to adopt a common position by SAARC countries on major environmental issue to have a greater say regionwise.

10. Environmental movements are the movements of groups which are environmentally conscious to challenge environmental degradation at national or international level aiming at raising new ideas and long term vision i.e. in Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Malaysia, Indonesia, India faced enormous pressure.
11. Environmental movements are categorised as forest movements, movements against mining and mineral industry for creating Water Pollution and Anti Dam Movement.
12. 'Resources Geopolitics' is all about who gets what, when, where and how? The practices of neo-colonialism spread on a large scale and throughout a cold war, industrialised countries adopted methods to ensure a steady flow of resources by deployment of military forces near exploitation sites and sea-lanes of communications, the stock piling of strategic resources and efforts to prop up friendly governments.
13. Global economy relied on oil as a portable and essential fuel. The history of petroleum is the history of war and struggle. Water is another important resource relevant to global politics. Regional variations and increasing scaring of fresh water may also lead to conflicts in the world to play politics.
14. Indigenous people bring the issues of environment, resources and politics together. Indigenous people live with their social, economic, cultural customs in particular areas who speak of their struggle, agenda, and rights to have equal status i.e. Island states in ocean region, Central and South America, Africa, India and South East Asia.
15. Issues related to rights of indigenous communities have been neglected in domestic and international politics for long. The World Council of Indigenous People was formed in 1975 which became first of 11 indigenous NGOs to receive consultative status in the UN.

Important Terms:

- **Earth Summit:** A conference held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in June 1992 on Environment and Development to deal with various environmental problems.



- **Agenda 21:** The Earth Summit recommended a list of practices in reference of development to attain sustainability, called Agenda 21.
- **Kyoto Protocol:** An international agreement setting targets for industrialised countries to cut their greenhouse gas emissions was agreed to in 1997 in Kyoto in Japan, based on principles set out in UNFCCC.
- **UNFCCC:** The 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change provided that parties should act to protect the climate system with common but differentiated responsibilities.
- **Indigenous People:** Indigenous people comprise the descendants of peoples who inhabited the present territory of a country at the time when persons of different culture arrived there from different parts of the world.

Chapter 9- Globalisation

Concept of Globalisation

- Globalisation means the flows of ideas, capital, commodities and people across different parts of the world. It is a multidimensional concept. It has political, economic and cultural manifestations and these must be adequately distinguished.
- Globalisation need not always be positive. It can have negative consequences for the people.
- As a concept, globalisation fundamentally deals with flows. These flows can be ideas moving from one part of the world to another, commodities being traded across borders and so on.
- Crucial element is the worldwide inter connectedness which is created and sustained as a consequence of these constant flows.

Causes of Globalisation

- One important aspect of globalisation is that even though it is not caused by any single factor, technology remains a critical element.
- Ability of ideas, capital, commodities and people to move more easily from one part of the world to another has been made possible by technological advances.



- Interconnections is also an important aspect of globalisation. Any event taking place in one part of the world could have an impact on another part of the world.

Consequences of Globalisation Political Consequences

- Globalisation results in an erosion of state capacity i.e. by reducing the ability of government to do what they want to do.
- It gives way to a more minimalist state that performs certain core functions such as the maintenance of law and order, and the security of its citizens.
- In place of the state the market becomes the prime determinant of economic and social priorities.
- Globalisation does not always reduce state capacity. The primacy of the state continues to be unchallenged basis of political community.
- State capacity has received boost as a consequence of globalisation, with enhanced technologies available at the disposal of the state to collect information about its citizens.

Economic Consequences

- In order to understand economic consequences of globalisation it is important to know that in economic globalisation involves many actors other than IMF, WTO.
- It involves greater economic flows among different countries of the world. Some of this is voluntary and some forced by international institutions and powerful countries.
- Globalisation has involved greater trade in commodities across the globe as it has reduced the imposing of restrictions on the imports of one country on another.
- Economic globalisation has created an intense division of opinion all over the world.
- According to some, economic globalisation is likely to benefit only a small section of the population.
- On the other hand advocates of economic globalisation argue that it generates greater economic growth and well-being for larger sections of the population.

Cultural Consequences



- Consequences of globalisation can also be seen on our culture too and thus it is not confined only to the sphere of politics and economy.
- Process cultural globalisation poses a threat because it leads to the rise of a uniform culture or what is called cultural homogenisation.
- Cultural globalisation has both positive as well as negative effect on the world.
- While cultural homogenisation is an aspect of globalisation, the same process also generates precisely the opposite effect.

India and Globalisation

- Flows pertaining to the movement of capital, commodities, ideas and people go back several centuries in Indian History.
- During the British rule, India became an exporter of primary goods and raw materials and a consumer (importer) of finished goods.
- After independence, India decided to be a self-sufficient country rather than being dependent on others.
- In 1991, India embarked on a programme of economic reforms that has sought increasingly to de-regulate various sectors including trade and foreign investment.

Resistance to Globalisation

- Globalisation has invited strong criticism all over the globe. For some globalisation represents a particular phase of global capitalism that makes the rich richer and the poor poorer.
- Culturally, they are worried that traditional culture will be harmed and people will lose their age-old values and ways.
- It is important to note here that anti-globalisation movements too participate in global networks, allying with those who feel like them in other countries.
- World Social Forum (WSF) is a global platform bringing together human rights activists, environmentalists, labour, youth and women activists opposed to neo-liberal globalisation.

India and Resistance to Globalisation

- Resistance to globalisation in India has come from different quarters.



- There have been left wing protests to economic liberalisation voiced through political parties as well as through some forums.
- Resistance to globalisation has also come from the political right. This has taken the form of objecting particularly to various cultural influences.

Facts:

1. Globalisation is the integration of economy of a country in the process of free flow of trade and capital. It may also include 'Brain drain' across borders.
2. Globalisation increases the volume of trade in goods and services, inflows private foreign capital, increases foreign direct investment, creates new jobs, strengthens domestic economies, improves productive efficiency and healthy competition.
3. Globalisation may have negative impacts also as it failed to generate sufficient employment, modern methods of cultivation are not acquainted to less educated persons, it creates income inequality and exploits natural resources and labour force.
4. The globalisation is the result of historical factors, technological innovations, liberalisation of foreign trade and investment policies, and opening of multinational companies.
5. Globalisation consequences may be political, economical and cultural, politically stunts' capacity has received a boost with enhanced technologies to collect information about its citizens.
6. Economic flows in various forums, like commodity, capital, people and ideas prompts rich countries to invest their money in countries other than their own. It also draws attention towards the role of IMF and WTO in determining economic policies across the world.
7. Cultural globalisation emerges and enlarges our choices and modify our culture without overwhelming the traditional norms i.e. burger can not be a substitute for masala dosa. Hence, it broadens our cultural outlook and promotes cultural homogenisation.
8. Globalisation has been criticised on political, economic and cultural grounds i.e. politically it weakens the state by reducing its sovereignty. Economically it has made the rich richer and the poor poorer creating disparities. Culturally



- there has been harmed traditions and lost age old values and ways. The World Social Forum (WSF) has also opposed neo-liberal globalisation.
9. In India, Globalisation has led to setting up of foreign companies as India realised the need for relating the Indian economy with the world by responding to 1991 financial crisis.
 10. Globalisation process includes the thrust to liberalisation or privatisation. Liberalisation proclaims freedom of trade and investment, controls allocation of resources in domestic economy, rapid technological progress whereas privatisation allows private sector and other foreign companies to produce goods and services.
 11. Resistance to globalisation in India has come from different quarters i.e. left wing protests to economic liberalisation, trade unions of industrial workforce organised protest against multinationals, the patents, resistance from political right i.e. objecting to various cultural influences of foreign T.V. channels, celebration of Valentine's Day and Westernisation of dress of girls students in schools and colleges.
 12. Environmental movements are the movements of groups which are environmentally conscious to challenge environmental degradation at national or international level aiming at raising new ideas and long term vision i.e. in Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Malaysia, Indonesia, India faced enormous pressure.
 13. Environmental movements are categorised as forest movements, movements against mining and mineral industry for creating Water Pollution and Anti Dam Movement.
 14. 'Resources Geopolitics' is all about who gets what, when, where and how. The practices of neo-colonialism spread on a large scale and throughout a cold war, industrialised countries adopted methods to ensure a steady flow of resources by deployment of military forces near exploitation sites and sea-lanes of communications, the stock piling of strategic resources and efforts to prop up friendly governments.
 15. Global economy relied on oil as a portable and essential fuel. The history of petroleum is the history of war and struggle. Water is another important resource relevant to global politics. Regional variations and increasing scaring of



freshwater may also lead to conflicts in the world to play politics.

16. Indigenous people bring the issues of environment, resources and politics together. Indigenous people live with their social, economic, cultural customs in particular areas who speak of their struggle, agenda, and rights to have equal status i.e. Island states in Oceanic region, Central and South America, Africa, India and South East Asia.
17. Issues related to rights of indigenous communities have been neglected in domestic and international politics for long. The World Council of Indigenous People was formed in 1975 which became first of 11 indigenous NGOs to receive consultative status in the UN.

Important Terms:

- **Globalisation:** It signifies integration of an economy with the economies of other countries under the process of free flow of trade and capital.
- **World Social Forum:** A global platform to bring together a wide coalition of human rights activists, environmentalists and women activists.
- **Privatisation:** It allows private sector companies to produce goods and services in a country.
- **Liberalisation:** It signifies relaxation of government rules and regulations relating to activities in service and industrial sector.
- **Cultural heterogenisation:** It signifies cultural differences and distinctive nature of cultures to be generated by globalisation.

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