INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, ID Number and Test Code).
2. The Candidate should fill the index table, especially for him/her.
3. In the left margin, she/he should write only question number and in the right margin, nothing should be written.
4. The page number should be coded by the candidate himself and the range of page number related to the answers of the question should be used to complete the index table.
5. All Parts of the questions should be written at one place.
6. No Supplementary sheet shall be provided by the management. So the candidate is advised to accommodate required information within the space provided.
7. The candidate need not write anything in his/her answer that derogates the dignity of an individual or an organization.
8. The candidate should respect the instructions, given by the invigilator.
9. The Examinee has to submit the answer sheet to the invigilator after completion of examination. However, he/she is allowed the late away the question paper.

Name of Candidate: Ranjith Rane
Subject: Essay
Test Code: 1
Registration No.

EVALUATION INDICATORS
1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure – Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

INDEX TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.No.</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
<th>Maximum Marks</th>
<th>Marks Obtained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Marks Obtained: 
Remarks: 
Signature of Examiner
Globalisation and Changing perception towards Sustainable Development

In the magazine, *Down to Earth*, the following conversation appeared in a comic strip:

Wife: Why are you still sleeping? It's already past noon!
Husband: I'm not sleeping. I am having a CARBON NEUTRAL DAY
Wife: What is that?
Husband: If I stay in bed I don't use up the Earth's precious resources, I don't drive so no CO2 release of greenhouse Gases. No consumer consumption frenzy. I even use less oxygen!
Wife: And how do you plan to make a living?
Husband: I have set up a website where people can buy my CARBON CREDITS — They can continue to pollute the earth and pay me too stay in bed!

The strip was quite aptly named 'Sustainable Development in 'Layman Terms'. The question it undoubtedly asked was — Is it so easy?
Sustainable Development, which is often defined as the development which meets the needs of the present without compromising on the ability of the future generations to meet its own needs. [As given in the report 'Our Common Future' by the Brundtland Commission] has been open to debate and discussion since the 1980's. We will try to take a stock of changes that have taken place in this concept along three broad themes.

A. Historical Timeline

B. Parameters defining Sustainable Development

C. Approaches adopted to attain the objective

So why do we start post 1960? The reason is the way in which the world had shaped since the Industrial Revolution in Britain. What is now called as the Opulence Approach was actually stripping the Earth bare of its resources.
Furthermore, it centered on the physical betterment of society through market calculations i.e. counting happiness in terms of money only. It never gave a thought to distribution of gains and equality of access to resources. Environmental assets although intangible were valued in monetary terms too. Thus since what was been unaccounted for was been ruthlessly destroyed by 'Industrious' nations. Quite Surprisingly this was justified by intellectuals of that era by coining terms like 'Free-Market Economy', Liberalism, Positivist Growth.

This was however set to change. In 1962, Rachel Carson published a book titled 'Silent Springs' and suggested as to how the indiscriminate use of commercial and agricultural pesticides was building up to catastrophic levels, linking it with animal species extinction.
This was closely followed by the book 'The Population Bomb' by Paul Ehrlich in 1968. The theme focused on how the increasing human population was leading to exploitation of resources. Some voluntary organisations like Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace came up with the agenda of creating awareness against environmental degradation.

The parameter defining sustainable development in this phase was primarily 'Carrying Capacity' - or the number of individuals that can be supported in a given area within the limits of natural resources and without degrading the social, cultural and economic environment for future generations. These activists were criticized for trying to create a 'Dooms Day' scenario. Even the 'Limits to Growth', published by the elite scientists from Club of Rome was ridiculed as 'Junk.'
This phase was marked by certain limited success by adoption of the 'Polluter Pays' principle by OECD and the UN Conference on Human Development at Stockholm [1972] Convention on Long Range Transboundary Pollution, Trade in Endangered Flora and Fauna, Ramsar Convention for conservation of wetlands etc. This was roughly the same time when the world saw the Three Mile Island and Chernobyl accidents as also the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. It was through these shocks that the world was asked a rhetorical question - what do you want to leave behind for your children?

The Brundtland Commission was primarily tasked to find an answer to this question. We now enter the second phase that had Inter/Intra Generational Equality and as the defining parameter while the concepts of Human Development by increasing choices was taking firm roots.
while the Inter-Generational equality puts equality as the foundation of sustainability. It does not mean that we neglect our current needs but we try to achieve a reasonable balance between satisfying our needs now and setting aside enough to provide for needs of future. It calls for policies that reorganise the pattern of Immediate → Intermediate → Future Needs. It also brings to light the aspect of Intra-Generational equality, primarily highlighting the enormous mismatch among the various nations of the world. The fact that the developed countries with 20% of Global pollution account for use of 80% of Global resources was disturbing realisation for the developing and under developed countries. Concepts like ‘Green Imperialism’ referring to the exploitation of resources and North-South Polarisation.
were a part of economic and policy-making literature. While there was a talk of the rise of a New International Economic Order (NIEO) the world was faced with a dilemma that since the Environmental Degradation and Poverty in the 'Third world' countries was interlinked with excess consumption in Northern Hemispheres, where was one supposed to look for answers?

For a brief moment the Human Development Approach seemed as the answer. It focused on the fact that growth does not come through wealth accumulation but by increasing the range of human choices. It argued that while the expansion of private income is instrumental in enhancing basic capabilities, the effectiveness and sustainability of that impact depends on the distribution of newly generated income. The introduction of a statistical measure...
in form of the Human Development Index in 1990 made countries believe in this approach. However, the poorest of the poor nations just came to know that they are so and not how they can avoid been so. The approach seemed a forced compromise by the North on the South. The paradigms of developments yet again stood at cross-roads of human history.

In the year 1992 the then leaders of the world came together under the banner of the UN Earth Summit at Rio de Janerio. While Indian PM Indira Gandhi declared that "Poverty is the biggest polluter", other leaders negotiated paths breaking conventions on Biodiversity and Climate Change. Basic principles of using and conserving forests were outlined and an Agenda for the 21st Century was drawn keeping multiple stockholders in at the centre of decisions.
The world suddenly seemed a better place to live. Global funds to supplement the implementation of ambitious projects across the world were setup. Economics of the developing countries began opening up to allow unprecedented growth in almost all corners of the world. While the issue of growth was being tackled, environment continued to degrade. So much so that the countries who were once underdeveloped now justified environmental exploitation for progress. The presence of MNC's all across the globe made it even more easier to manipulate resources anywhere in the globe. Every country wanted to be a part of the 'Growth Bandwagon' - The Rio Summit was as good as it hadn't happened! The engines of growth fuel by Carbon, Hydro, Carbon and Nuclear power continued to drain the earth till 2001 - The tragedy struck!
The attacks on the World Trade Centre bought the world to a grinding halt. Once again the hollowness of inorganic growth was exposed - Economic slow downs and recessions have since then been the damper at Global scale. This prompted a new look at Sustainable development and the Multi-Dimensional Approach came up. The realisation that inorganic development not only has local ecological impacts but can adversely affect regions beyond geographical and political boundaries was put forth. The new approach death with heterogeneous development and environmental issues and aimed at calculating the intangibles in nature without the common denominator of money. This new approach bought in it’s wake a level Transfer mechanism to check impacts on the smalled possible level. It is the present model been followed for Sustainable Development. It has features
of Precautionary Principles (Carbon Credits, Clean Technology, REDD+ programme), Corporate Environmental Responsibility (ISO 14000 Eco Standards, Voluntary Regulation) Eco Designs (Buildings, machines, vehicles, fuels), Eco-Feminism (Women Centric Policies, Gender Budgets), Producer Responsibility (EIA, SIA, Accountability).

These initiatives can be implemented from Local to Global level with varying degree of implementation systems. This approach rego
recognition of the parameters of Gender, Diversity and Knowledge for mapping sustainable development. The
recognition of Tribal lands, the digitization of Traditional Knowledge, the recognition given to using energy efficient technologies even in traditional occupations of Agriculture and animal husbandry are all indicators of the success of this approach. The current policies been implemented by the Government
of India in reserving Coal Blocks for future use. The National Action Plan on Climate Change, The financial support provided by World Bank to clean Ganga and Yamuna as also the strict control over the setting up of Nuclear Reactors are in line with this approach.

With every global economic crisis that world is coming closer to accepting the fact that countries cannot isolate themselves from world scenario. The entire future of mankind is at stake due to issues of Global Warming and resultant climate change situations. We can no longer proclaim immunity from any crisis whether natural or man-made. It is time that we as Humans understand that the Earth is our planet but it is not our planet only. What has taken millions of years to evolve into its present state is now fragile due to human interference. We can leave a mark in this ‘Anthroocene’ Era not by scarifying the earth but by nurturing it!