

**EPISODE -- 22**  
**Global Warming Refuges**

**Research and Script by---- Dr. R. S .Yadav**

*Artists/Participants:-*

- 1. Dr. Krishana (50 years)..... Principal**
- 2. Mrs. Prabha (45 years)..... Social Science Teacher.**
- 3. Prof. Jitender (55 years)..... Scientist of Environmental Science.**
- 4. Ramesh (18 years)..... School Student**
- 5. Mahesh (21 years).....College student**
- 6. Sonali (17 years)..... Student**

##### Opening part of the title song #####

**Scene -1: Ambience of an Indian home, TV is running and news are telecast, Effects of kitchen/presser cooker/utensils etc.**

**Ramesh: -** Oh My God! Too much homes works! And ....and projects work is an additional pressure. The annual school debate is also approaching. This time I have to win it at all cost.

**Prabha: -** Ramesh...O...Ramesh! Where are you? Your breakfast is ready. I have put it on the dining table. I had told you last week. Do you remember that? I am talking about, “Annual Debates”. The dates for it have been declared. Hope you have seen it on your school notice board.

**Ramesh: -** Mummy, I am looking and searching some papers that had been provided by my friends.

**Prabha: -** Which papers? At least you can enquire me? I had placed all those papers in your study room.

**Ramesh: -** Oh mummy! Why you disturbed my papers? I have requested so many time. Please leave my papers, where they are lying.

**Prabha: -** Ramesh, you have learnt in your Social Science that discipline and proper upkeep of your books and notes is very important in life. It is first requirement to be among the winners. This will ease out your problems in life.

- Ramesh:** - Oh mummy, please no more lesson. I am already under pressure.
- Prabha:** - Ramesh, take it easy and be comfortable. You are doing well in your school.
- Ramesh:** - O.K. Mummy! I got your point. Thank you very much for keeping my books and papers so systematically in my Almira.
- Prabha:** - Can you tell me the topic that will be the central theme of this year Annual School Debate? Definitely it will be based on some current burning topic.
- Ramesh:** - Yes mummy! It is new for me but it may not be new for you or the School's Principal. Let me see my note book. Oh! It is here.....
- ##### (Sound effects of papers/pages turning)#####**
- Prabha:-** Come on the dining table and have your breakfast.
- Ramesh:** - Yes mummy! I shall have it. The topic of this year Annual Debate is, “**Global Warming and Refugees**”. Our class teacher was saying that the topic is new and related to current scenario of the world. It has three components, the overall global situation, problem of Global Warming and the refugee's problem.
- Prabha:** - (smiling) Interesting. It is raising eye's brows of our politicians and scientists.
- Ramesh:** - Mummy! Why only leaders and scientists. The problem of environment is common. It affects us all.
- Prabha:** - Ramesh you are right. Common people are more affected than the leaders. But my point is that leaders framed the policies and implement them based on the guidelines suggested by the scientists based on their research findings.
- ##### Sound Effects of bus/horn etc. #####**
- Ramesh:** - Mummy it seems that my school bus has arrived. I have to leave immediately. The bus in-charge may be annoyed.
- Prabha:** - Your lunch box is ready. Take it. Don't forget to carry it. I am not going straight to the school and will arrive after attending some meeting in the Education Directorate.
- Ramesh:** - O.K. Mummy! Have a nice time. Bye....Bye

**Prabha:** - Bye ....and ....take care.....

**####Sound Effects ...Bus start/ gate closed & students are chatting####**

**Scene- II: - Morning time, school assembly and Prayer. Assembly music. The School Principal addressing the students and telling about the coming events etc.**

**##### A part of some song on environment #####**

**Principal (Dr.Krishana):-** Dear students before I come to the main topic, it would be better to have an insight on the Delhi NCR pollution problem. Last week, a report was published in the leading National Newspapers. You will be surprised to know that NCR is on top in pollution. An assessment of pollution level in world leading cities showed that three world most polluted cities are from NCR Region. Our National Capital Delhi fall in the first ten most polluted cities of the world. This is an alarming situation and we all can play an important role to cope it.

Governments are taking necessary steps to reduce the pollution level. But the solution is far away. If Beijing the capital city of China, Bangkok of Thailand and London of UK can control their pollution level then why not we? The only thing that we needs is good poly and citizen's partnership.

Now I come on my second point. I am talking about the Annual Debate competition. This time many teams are also participating from other schools. You will be happy to know that Mr. Naresh has clear all the preliminaries events and will represent our school in the final. He is here and I would like to invite him to have some more light on it.

**##### Sound Effects of clapping #####**

**Ramesh:** - Thank you Sir..... Good morning everybody. I thank our Principle Sir and all teachers associated with the event. You might have gone through the notice on the School Notice Board. The theme and subject of the event is, 'Global Warming Refuges'. It is new but very topical. Our world is likely to face this problem in near future. The problem has already started in some regions of the world. Not only are human beings suffering from global warming but other living organisms also, including plants and animals. The Earth's climate is changing at a rate that has exceeded most scientific forecasts. Some families and communities have already started to suffer from disasters and the consequences of climate change, forced to leave their homes in search of a new beginning.

As per United Nation's report the consequences of climate change are enormous. Scarce natural resources, food and drinking water are likely to become even more limited. Food security, already a concern, will become even more challenging.

It is proud moment for me that I am going to represent our school at the final level. I and my friends are eagerly waiting for the final day and hope we will do our best to be the winner. Thank you all for your support and guide.

**##### Clapping#####**

**Principal: -** Good confidence Mr. Ramesh and it is a good symbol for a winner. Since 2009, an estimated one person every second has been displaced by disasters, with an average of 22.5 million people displaced by climate- or weather-related events since 2008. Disasters and droughts in Somalia during 2011 and 2012, floods in Pakistan between 2010 and 2012, and the earthquake in Nepal in 2015, can leave huge numbers of people traumatized without shelter, clean water and basic supplies.

Dear students! You have noticed Ramesh? Confidence comes when you have thorough knowledge of the subject. A global warming refuge is in its infant stage. If the world leaders and rulers come together to face the problem, then it will not be problem anymore. Just we need solution and strong determination to face it.

**##### Change over Music #####**

**Scene-III .... Morning time, school campus/ Auditorium, students are coming and going here and there, children noise, birds chirping and singing on adjoining trees etc.**

**Prabha:-** Hello.....Hello.....( Mike hollowness)

Hello friends! Good morning. Are you getting me? This is for mike testing. Please have silence so that I can listen & check that all technical set up are in proper order. Students of last rows, are you getting me? Does my voice reaching to you?

**(In one voice.....Yes Madam..... we are getting it.....)**

Participants of should come and take their seats in the front row. I can guess, all the teams are here. Our today event's guest, Prof. Jitender has also arrived and is with the Principal Sir in his room. Shortly they will be here.....yes ...yes, I can see them....they are coming. Students, let's have a warm welcome....

**##### Sound Effects of footsteps, clapping #####**

**Prabha :-** (In mild voice) It is time to begin our programme. Very good morning. Before we move, I request our Principal Sir to please present welcome flowers to our Chief Guest Prof. Jitender.

**##### (Sound Effects of clapping) #####**

Dear students! You know, why we gather here? Our Annual Debate Competition is an important event that our school organised. The event is divided and designed for different age groups that are for Primary, Secondary and Senior Secondary. Today event is for senior students. Now I request our Principal Sir, please come on the podium and have some words of encouragement.

**Principal: -** Very good morning! I welcome you all. Such events give opportunities to our students to know about the burning problems and the roles they can play in their solution. Here it seems topical to put excerpts of a report. On 14th March, 2019 I had gone through a UN report published in a leading daily English News paper. The heading said, “Millions to die prematurely by 2050 due to pollution”. This is not a mere report. It has prepared by more than 250 scientists from 70 countries.

Urgent action is required as any delay in climate action will only increase the cost of achieving the goals of Paris Agreement. I hope in today debate all these and many more issues on Global Warming and Refuges may come to our notice. I congratulate you all to be part of this debate and welcome all the participants and convey my thanks to the Society of Public Awareness, which is responsible for organising and taking initiative to sensitised students on these burning issues.

**##### Sound Effect of Clapping #####**

**Prabha:-** Thank you Sir for your encouraging speech. I welcome all the participants and request them to come forward and take their seats.

**##### Sound Effect #####**

**Prabha:-** Professor Jitender Ji of Environmental Sciences is with us. He will be playing the role of an Expert cum Jurist as well as that of a Moderator. Professor Jitender Ji, please come on the stage.

**##### Clapping #####**

**Prabha:-** (Laughing) Yes! The clapping shows the strength cum interest of our students. You all deserve praise and hope your encouragement will continue in our whole show. Before we start, I request Prof. Jitender to have his opening remarks.

**Prof. Jitender:** - Hello, everybody. Good morning and hope all participants will have their best output. The today debate will be different from your earlier presentations in preliminaries rounds. You will have three rounds. In first round participants have to present their views in straight. The second round will be a rapid fire round based on short quizzing and finally remarks on the subject. Mrs. Prabha will keep record of all scores, as per designed guidelines. Are you ready! Mrs Prabha can we start now, or you have to say something.

**Prabha:-** It is fine sir. Only thing that the participants have to keep in mind is that the decision of Prof. Jitender will be final.

**Prof. Jitender:-** O.K.... Thank you, Prabha Ji. Now I open the debate and invite first participant, Mr. Ramesh. Your time starts now....

**##### Sound effect of footsteps#####**

**Ramesh:-** I start with a quote of Mr. Barack Obama, former President of United States, ‘There is one issue that will define the contours of this century more dramatically than any other, and that is the urgent threat of a changing climate’ unquote. The severity of this problem can be imagined when scientific community from more than 190 countries had warned in the Paris Accord that if greenhouse gas emissions keep increasing, the planet will reach a point of no return. It will become catastrophic and irreversible. People try to adapt to this situation, but for many this will mean a conscious move to another place to survive. Such moves may spark conflict with other communities. The increasing number of people competes for a decreasing amount of resources; particularly food and water, which further enhance the crises of human migration.

One of the best examples we can take and I would like to cite is the immigration issues along the US southern border. Author and journalist Todd Miller, who has written a new book called, "Storming the Wall" says climate change is a key factor forcing families to flee from Central America and Mexico towards USA. The deadly droughts, hurricanes, floods and mudslides are projected to intensify it further in the Central American Region with the rising of global warming.

The climate scientist called Central America “ground zero” for climate change. It is an isthmus that means, it has large bodies of water on two sides. It will be more vulnerable to sea level rise, powerful storms, hurricanes and large swings between too much and too little rain. Scientific studies showed the potential for an equally unstable future. The report predicted that by the year 2050, 1 in 10 Mexicans would be displaced due to climate-related hazards like sea level rise, hurricanes and drought. In India, many researchers

have carried out on the changing pattern in the Himalayan Regions. But to arrive on some solid conclusion, we need more data and scientific conclusion, but it is sure that demographic changes are taking place in the Eastern parts at an alarming rate. Global warming is not a prediction, it is happening. Thank you.

**Prof. Jitender:** - Perfect finish within time schedule. Thank Mr. Ramesh and our next participant is Mr. Mahesh. Welcome Mahesh.

**Mahesh:** - Good morning! The problem of Global Warming is beautifully highlighted and raised in a film that I had seen on last Sunday. 'Climate Refugees' is the first feature film to explore in-depth the global human impact of climate change and its serious destabilizing effect on international politics. The film turns the distant concept of global warming into a concrete human problem with enormous worldwide consequences. Experts predict that by mid-century hundreds of millions of people will be uprooted as a result of sea level rise and an increase in extreme weather events, droughts and desertification. But question arise what has been done to plan for the potential mass migration of millions of refugees who will be forced to cross national borders. According to the United Nations, there are already more environmental refugees in the world than political or religious refugees. Countries now consider climate change a great national security risk. A phrase "climate wars" is coined.

Leading scientists, relief workers, security consultants, and major political figures have made a strong case that, the changing climate is already creating humanitarian disasters and will inevitably lead to social instability across the world. The film was filmed in Bangladesh, Tuvalu, China, Fiji, Chad, Sudan, Kenya, Maldives, Europe and the US. Likely very soon there will be millions of new refugees around the globe. But.....But....Are we ready to face the problem?

We only have one planet and we have to handover it to our next generations as we have inherited it from our forefathers. Thanks you.

**Prof. Jitender:** - I was of the view that Mr. Mahesh may be going to exceed his allotted time. But what a great finish. Thank you. Now it is turn of Miss Sonali. Please have the mike and your time start now.

**Sonali:** - Hello.... Everyone! I would like to continue the point that Mr. Mahesh has raised. Now we should have a single mission, to protect and handover the planet to the next generation, in the same form that we had inherited. Global projections for the number of people that may be displaced due to global warming by 2050 range from about 15 crore to 100 crore. The precise numbers are still a matter of debate among scientists but whatever it is, it is going to be staggering and it will be going without precedent in human history.

We are overloading our atmosphere with carbon dioxide, which traps heat and steadily drives up the planet's temperature. Where does all this carbon come from? The fossil fuels we burn for energy. It is coal, natural gas, and oil, plus the loss of forests due to deforestation. The scientific evidence is clear. Within the scientific community, there is no debate. An overwhelming majority of climate scientists agree that global warming is happening and that human activity is the primary cause.

In our country we are raising our voices against the Bangladesh's Refugees. Have you ever tried to go behind the case? Maldives and Bangladesh are among the greatest victims of climate change and are repeatedly being struck by disasters associated with climatic events. It is predicted that Bangladesh will lose 17 per cent of its land by 2050 due to flooding caused by climate change, and this will alone trigger around 2 crores climate refugees.

Displacement due to climate change is also common in other species including mammals, birds and amphibians. It was found that about 3,000 species were forced to move for survival in response to climate change. Uprooted mammals, birds, fish and amphibians due to climate change are free to relocate or move anywhere, but humans are not. The biggest injustice of climate change is that the hardest hits are the least responsible for contributing to the problem.

**##### Sound Effect of Buzzer #####**

**Prof. Jitender:** - Your time is over! Thank you Sonali. All participants have done excellent. Now it is time for next round. To be more transparent, fare and to judge the depth knowledge of the participants, we have designed the rapid fire round as a part of the debate. The question will be asked by Mrs. Prabha and the buzzer will be in my hand.

**Mrs. Prabha:** - Be ready. The first question is, "Which year was designated as International Year of refugee?"

**Sonali:-** In many ways, 2018 was the year of the refugee. At United States borders, Mediterranean shores and Asian cities, millions are fleeing war, hunger, and persecution in search of safety and shelter.

**Prof. Jitender :-** Right, well done.

**Mrs. Prabha:-** The office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees estimates that rising seas, intensifying droughts, and other extreme weather events will uproot 250 million people by 2050. Like most other refugees, climate refugees are expected to come largely from which regions?

**##### Sound Effect of Buzzer #####**

**Ramesh:** - Climate refugees are mostly coming from developing nations in Africa, Asia, and South America. But unlike those escaping war and persecution, climate refugees have few legal protections.

**Prof. Jitender:** - Well done. Time doesn't permit us to explain it in details. Our next question is?

**Mrs. Prabha:**- Most people use the term "climate refugee." But people who are displaced by environmental events can't claim asylum or protection as refugees right now. Why is that?

**##### Sound Effect of Buzzer #####**

**Sonali:-** The 1951 Refugee Convention's definition of "refugee" does not include people who are fleeing environmental stress. But there haven't been any cases, where people have been granted asylum only on the grounds that they were fleeing due to climate change. There was one case in New Zealand where a person from the islands of Kiribati tried to claim asylum on this ground. But due to lack of documents of climate change the court turned down to qualify for asylum.

**Mrs. Prabha:** - This is last question of this round. What role does the Paris Agreement play in dealing with this issue?

**##### Sound Effect of Buzzer #####**

**Mahesh:** - The Conference of Parties to the U.N. climate convention first took some decision on it. The Paris accord set up a task force in late 2015 to look at measures to avert, minimize, and address climate displacement. Countries need to start looking at those recommendations and adopting them in their national plan of action, and poor countries that need financial assistance to implement those measures should get financial assistance.

**Prof. Jitender:** - Thanks Mrs. Prabha for your help. Now it is time for the participants to summarise their views in one or two sentences. Ramesh it is your turn.

**Mr. Ramesh:-** In my view, fighting against global warming and refuges is a collective endeavour, it is collective accountability and it may not be too late. Time is passing, train is running and we have to catch it before it is too late.

**Mahesh:** - Future generations will judge us badly if we fail to uphold our moral and genuine responsibilities. We have to wake up to the fierce urgency of the global warming and refugees.

**Sonali:** - We only get one planet. Humankind must become accountable on a massive scale. We should have a single mission. Protect and hand over the planet to our next generation in safe condition. It is duty, all of us to protect our Mother Earth otherwise, we and all living things, we cherish will be buried in history.

**Prof. Jitender:** - That is end of our today debate. Let Prabha Madam have her final score, I request Principal Sir, to come and say something.

**Principal:** - Thank you very much Prof. Jitender. It was an excellent debate. All participants have done their best. Some politicians say it is a hoax, it is bad science and it is biggest scam in history. But it is not so. Global warming is not a prediction and it is happening. Global warming and the problem of refugees associated with it, is a scientific fact just like the Earth orbit's round the Sun. Thank you Professor Jitender for your support. I thank all the participants, their sponsoring institutions and guides teacher. The result is finally in my hands...and the winner...is.....is.....Miss Sonali. Have warm clapping and congratulation to Sonali. Well done.....

**##### Sound Effect of Clapping#####**

**Mrs. Prabha:** - All are requested to join us for High Tea outside the auditorium. Well done dear students. Congratulations.

**##### Sound Effect of Clapping/ Music #####**

**##### Closing part of title song #####**