

Nature has its Own Ways!!!

S Jeevananda Reddy*

Formerly Chief Technical Advisor - WMO/UN and Expert - FAO/UN and Fellow, Telangana Academy of Sciences (Founder Member), Convenor, Forum for a Sustainable Environment, India

***Corresponding Author:** S Jeevananda Reddy, Formerly Chief Technical Advisor - WMO/UN and Expert - FAO/UN and Fellow, Telangana Academy of Sciences (Founder Member), Convenor, Forum for a Sustainable Environment, India.

People around the world are currently facing three “viruses”, namely global warming, Covid-19 and pollution costing trillions of dollars with the lopsided policies of governments and international agencies affecting billions of people around the world.

Global Warming

The word “climate change” is highly misused. For example, though “climate change” was defined by IPCC and UNFCCC, it is used as de-facto global warming. At local and regional levels, however, climate change is affected by climate systems and general circulation patterns. Also, with the population growth and their actions on nature, adding new twists to climate change. This is termed as human induced trend. Trend may be linear or non-linear is a permanent feature. In rainfall, only natural variability is present, which is beyond human control. However, in temperature both trend and natural variability are present. As per the definitions of climate change, the trend has three broad components. One such component is termed as “global warming”, related to greenhouse effect that is related to increasing levels of Carbon Dioxide [CO₂] in the atmosphere. The adjusted global average annual temperature anomaly showed an increase of 0.45°C during 1951 to 2100 under linear trend. However IPCC reports present non-linear trend; and thus it will be far less than 0.45°C for 1951 to 2100. This is insignificant when compared to seasonal and annual variations at a location, region and nation levels; and as well natural variation [60-year cycle varies between -0.3 and +0.3°C].

At COP-21 in Paris, on 12 December 2015, Parties to the UNFCCC reached an agreement to combat climate change [hereafter the term used as de-facto global warming only] and to accelerate and intensify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low carbon future. The Paris Agreement’s central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels [as per IPCC, 1951 is the starting year for global warming] and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5°C. Additionally, the agreement aims to increase the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change, and at making finance flows consistent with a low greenhouse gases emissions and climate-resilient pathway. To reach these ambitious goals, appropriate mobilization and provision of financial resources, a new technology framework and enhanced capacity-building is to be put in place, thus supporting action by developing countries and the most vulnerable countries, in line with their own

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national objectives. The goal was to collect \$100 billion per year up to five years, known as Green-Fund – at COP-25; there was a disagreement on sharing this by nations. This goal was seriously affected with US President Trump’s announcement of withdrawing from this group that have serious impact on fund’s and technology flow to get targeted Green-Fund and emissions control.

To counter this US action, UN groups picked up a shield, a Swedish Teenager Greta (Tintin Eleonore Elnman) Thunberg [Figure 1]. She became main attraction at UN and other global forums meetings related to the issue of global warming [though they are hesitant to use this word and instead using the word climate change] and carbon credits. They helped her to get awards and rewards to boost her image as top leader of the world and even questioning Trump, the US President. This is a greatest hypocrisy of the century!!!

To counter Greta Thunberg, the group fighting against UN Agencies on manipulated global warming, brought in German Teenager Naomi Seibt. She says “I preferred not to be called anti-Greta”. She says don’t panic but think. She argues that “I don’t want to get people to stop believing in man-made climate change, not at all” but she questions”; Are manmade CO₂ emissions having that much impact on the climate? I think it is ridiculous to believe”.

Both have the same quality as seen from the media: “puppets of money spinning groups”. Though, Greta Thunberg’s activism started in 2018 and reached to peak in 2019. The entire world media [print and electronic] covered stories on her and related to climate crisis stories day in and day out uninterruptedly With COVID-19 entry the entire media changed the tune from climate crisis stories to COVID-19 stories.



Figure 1: Naomi Seibt and Greta Thunberg

Covid-19

The media hype given to Greta Thunberg [that helped to get awards and rewards] was washed away with the Covid-19 virus outbreak in the late December 2019. Covid-19 has been declared as a pandemic by World Health Organization of United Nations [WHO/UN] with nearly 2,36,720 cases reported worldwide in 177 countries and about 9,828 deaths on 19th March 2020. This presented severe impact on global and national economies irrespective of the level of virus impact on the people of individual nations. The virus was first identified in the City of Wuhan in Central China in late December 2019 with 3000 deaths and with 89,000 cases confirmed virus infection but later the spread in China was weakened and thus by 19th March 2020 the deaths rose to only 237 over initial 3000. The virus spread initially to Iran [19 deaths and virus infected to 139] and then to Italy [7 deaths and virus infected to 229] but virus has rapidly affected more in Italy by 19th March 2020 [3,405 deaths and virus infected to 41,035] and the same for Iran was 1284 and 18,407. Italy overtakes China's virus toll despite fewer infections. Italy reached the bleak milestone the same day that Wuhan, the Chinese city where the virus first emerged, recorded no new infections. The question is why? Though the virus travelled around the world [in many cases through humans] confined to a latitude belt [Wuhan in Central China to Iran to Italy to Spain]. Through travel the virus spread around the world and thus severely affected the transport sector and in turn the related economies. As side effect, this brought down the air pollution levels around world.

Pollution

At Paris meet though Pope Francis, US President, UN Secretary General, etc. raised the issue of pollution [air, water, soil and food] and adulterated food, these did not find a place in Paris Agreement. International reports show deaths of millions of children and billions of people affected by diverse health hazards that costed major share of their incomes, more particularly the poor and middle class. However, Covid-19 brought down urban air pollution drastically for the time being. That tells us, to control population growth.

Among the three viruses [global warming, Covid-19 and pollution], pollution received least priority in controlling even though it affected and will be affecting billions of people of all ages either rich or poor irrespective of their caste or religion of future generations.

This clearly highlights the fact that nature has its own ways!!!

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