PREFACE

Many of the environmental problems that we face today are unlike the problems the world had faced less than a century ago. Today, the increasing toxicity of the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the earth we walk on are so critical to the lives and well-being of all of us, that environmental negotiations are nothing less than an exercise in negotiating the survival of humankind.

The constitution of India is one of the few in the world having specific provisions for the conservation and protection of environment. There were series of legal enactments by Parliament relating to environment protection. In view of many lacunae in the existing laws related to environmental protection, an Environment (Protection) Bill was passed on 8th May 1986 to overcome some of the problems of coordination, implementation and enforcement.

Most global environmental politics involved multilateral negotiations to reach global agreements aimed at reducing transnational environmental hazard. The conduct of international environmental diplomacy represents an attempt to resolve such trans boundary or transnational environmental problems to the satisfaction of governments concerned. The most fundamental need for achieving successful solutions to the international environmental issue should be an approach to the process of international negotiations.

Developing countries have an important stake at the Summits (the Earth Summit and Kyoto Summit). Their role in the conference and its preparation was critical to its success. They fully share the hazards resulting from global environmental damages, although the problem has
been caused mainly by the activities of industrialized countries, which have also gained the most of the economic benefits. In all the negotiations in the run-up to the Summit, developing countries made it clear that the central issues would be protection of sovereignty of the individual countries economic and social development, and there would be no compromised on these. There has been a wide divergence of views often lead to acrimonious debates between North and South in Prepcom meeting of UNCED.

The developing countries diplomatic strategy became a flash point at the Kyoto Protocol negotiation conference. During the conference the developing countries were united in strongly objecting the United States plea for buying and selling of pollution rights at global level.

An extensive and complex network of inter-governmental, non-governmental and specific organizations addressed a broad range of international environmental problems. Treaties and other international agreements have been negotiated to such an extent that environmental protection is now recognized as a significant aspect of international policy.

This study (thesis) comprises of six chapters including introduction, summary and conclusion. The first chapter provides a brief introduction to the nature of environmental problems now being experienced by man. It then examines India's environmental protection policies and reviewing experiences in India with regard to environmental policies and associated institutions.

The second chapter deals with the background and the provisions of the Earth Summit. The Framework Convention on Climate Change,
Convention on Biological Diversity, Agenda-21, the ‘Rio Declaration’, etc. is also dealt with. Taken together, they set the agenda on global environmental issues for the coming decades.

The third chapter analyses diplomatic strategies of the developing countries including India. This is an attempt to discuss the involvement of developing nations and India’s role on different international environmental issues (on the agenda of Earth Summit).

The fourth chapter contains brief introduction of the Kyoto Protocol and its provisions like, Emissions Reduction Targets, International Emissions Trading, Joint Implementation, Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Developing Countries Responsibilities, Military Emissions, etc.

The fifth chapter concerns diplomatic strategies of the developed and developing countries at the Kyoto Summit. It provides the information regarding the bargaining policies from both (the developed and developing countries) sides.

The sixth chapter (the concluding chapter) seeks to discover perhaps complicated and complex problems identified and described in the preceding chapters. It reviews the environmental protection policies of India and suggests remedy to it. It also analyses from Earth Summit to Kyoto Summit conference on global environmental policy. For the effective implementation and prospects of environmental diplomacy, few suggestions have been made, apart from concluding remarks.

This thesis is an attempt to fill our perceived need for a reasonably comprehensive work, which summarizes the current state of environmental diplomacy of the developing countries. It is essentially an
analysis of worldwide movement for protection of the environment from 1992-97, with emphasis on inter governmental agreements and institutional arrangements in the United Nations from 1992-1997. Focusing the diplomatic strategy of the developing countries.

It can be suggested that the developed and developing countries should come at a compromising point, which would be more suitable for both the sides. Developing countries should get more actively involved with international environmental politics. They should find a way of making their contributions meaningful, propose and direct negotiations, rather than just react and respond. For developing countries to appropriate scientific and economic assessment capacity may be most critical task. Analyzing the immediate economic implications of proposed initiatives, evaluating the long-term influence of policy choices on developmental goals, and translating complex knowledge into comprehensible policy requires considerable expertise and commitment. Developing countries should also muster national and international fund to not only build domestic capacity, but also build institutions that allow southern nations to cooperate in order to deepen and broaden their joint capabilities.

The methodology of this study is based on historical, analytical as well as empirical analysis. The primary sources for this includes materials from relevant United Nations documents, report of UNEP, international documents, treaty documents, government documents and other regional organization records. Books, journal, periodicals, newspaper clippings, and articles on the Internet have also proved very useful.