Submit a report (**2000-2500 words**) with the aim to discuss the linkages between business operations and the environmental and societal challenges with regards to sustainability. For this task, you can choose industry you currently work in, or an industry you are familiar with as a frame of reference, to answer all questions given below.

1. Demonstrate critical knowledge and understanding of the effects of global warming, resource scarcity, population growth and loss of biodiversity on your chosen industry. **(10 marks)**

(Discuss global warming, resource scarcity, population growth and loss of biodiversity as separate sub-headings. You can start by discussing the impact of each on business in general and then analyse specific impact on you chosen industry. Arguments must be supported by citations from credible academic and non-academic sources. Do not just describe but critically analyse (review the challenges, compare contrast with other industries in brief).)

1. Identify financing challenges for sustainable development and provide suitable recommendations based on independent research and discussions with peers and specialist practitioners from your industry. **(6 marks)**

(You can discuss how financing needs differ across industries, countries and regions. You can discuss with experts in your company or industry, reach out to people on LinkedIn and understand the challenges and the plausible solutions. You can insert their feedback as quotes in your answer. Arguments should also be supported with articles on the topic of financial challenges in sustainable development.)

1. Critically review the influence of sustainability on production & design in the chosen industry. Identify and discuss innovative business strategies that will help in addressing the sustainability challenges in your chosen organisation. **(10 marks)**

(Discuss the role of innovation and technology in sustainable development in general. Review some existing technologies that have transformed or are transforming your industry. What is the scope of further development? You can discuss aspects of circular economy here. Use of clean energy and updated machines, virtual organisations to reduce footprint, waste management using sophisticated technology can be looked at. Read articles on technology and sustainable development in your respective industries. You can discuss aspects such as sustainable design principles and lean management and implementation of these concepts in design and production. For example, in construction industry, lean can be implemented through standardization, modularization, using sophisticated software such as BIM, through efficient design that plans for rain and grey water management, light, air movement etc. Functional obsolescence can also be discussed. Ethical practices in the manufacturing industry such as minimum wages, safe working conditions and equal opportunities can also be included in the discussion.)

1. Critically review the impact of regulations & international codes on sustainability in the chosen industry. How can you influence the management to adopt the regulations and codes in your organisation? **(7 marks)**

(You must discuss the role of codes, label and certifications in general. Review some of the key codes, labels and certifications in your own industry. Are they being rigorously adopted? Will they be useful in embedding sustainability? How transparent would they need to be? Present your arguments well in a critical fashion.

You can influence the management by demonstrating the benefits of being more sustainable – you may discuss aspects of risk management, cost savings, reputation building, employee satisfaction, having a stable supply chain and attracting green investors etc.)

1. Demonstrate a general understanding of the importance of sustainability reporting by critically discussing the sustainability report (*last financial year*) of your chosen organisation or any other organisation in your industry, clearly interpreting and evaluating the data within the report. **(7 marks)**

(Start by discussing the importance of sustainability reporting – why organisations should reveal the impact of their strategies and operations on the environment and the society. Investments in making the business more sustainable should be discussed. The benefits (ROI) of putting sustainable strategies in place can be highlighted. The graphs, table, charts and other relevant data can be included in your assignment clearly explaining and interpreting the implications.)