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CLASS: VIII	SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE	TOPIC: Geography	CH-2

Ecosystem and its Resources

Multiple Choice Type Questions

1. Which of the following is not a type of soil? **Tidal**
2. **Plateaus** are elevated tablelands.
3. **Afforestation** prevents soil erosion.
4. Terrace farming and contour ploughing are practiced to **conserve soil.**
5. Killing of which animal is illegal in India? **All of these.**

Fill in the blanks

1. **Mountains** are the highest regions on the surface of earth.
2. **Private** land is owned by the individuals
3. Black soil is found in the northwestern part of the **Deccan** plateau.
4. **Mulching** is the process of covering their ground between plants with a layer of organic matter.
5. **Tropical evergreen** forests are found in areas with heavy rainfall.

Write "T" for true or "F" for false statements.

1. Soil is made-up of small rock particles ,moisture ,air and microscopic organisms. **T**
2. Relief determines the color texture and mineral content of soil.**F**
3. Under flowing is the flowing of the land along the contour in a parallel way.**T**
4. Trees help in the conservation of underground water.**T**
5. Wildlife refers to plant life that grows naturally in an area.**F**

Short Answer Questions

1. **What are the reasons for scarcity of water?**
   The reasons for scarcity of water are :
   - Distribution of rain is not equal throughout the year and across different regions.
   - Most of the rain water flows into seas or oceans.
   - Global warming and climate change are changing the rainfall pattern.

- Modern-day technology has increased the demand of irrigation since the usage of pesticides has increased.

2. **What are the different types of soil found in India?**
   The different types of soil found in India are :
   - Alluvial soil
   - Black soil
   - Red soil
   - Laterite soil
   - Sandy soil
   - Mountain soil

3. **How is natural vegetation useful for us?**
   Natural vegetation is useful for us in many ways as :
   - We get timber, firewood, medicines, lac, paper, resin, herbs, fruits, nuts, gum, oil, etc. from trees.
   - Trees produce oxygen which all living beings need for breathing.
   - Trees give shelter to animals.
   - They act as shelter belts.
   - They also help in maintaining the temperature of the Earth.

4. **Write a short note on forest fires?**
   Destruction or loss of forest by fire is fairly common. Trees are highly exposed to fire. once a fire starts in the forest, it becomes difficult to control. Sometimes natural process i.e, lightning or friction between trees due to speedy winds start forest fire.
   But in most cases it gets started by humans either intentionally or unintentionally.

5. **Write a short note on Alluvial soil.**
   The Alluvial soil is found in the northern plains and eastern coastal plains of India.This is rich in rich & fertile soil formed by the depositional action of rivers. The main rivers of India like Ganga ,Sutlej ,Yamuna, Brahmaputra deposit millions tons of silt every year.

6. **Write about the degradation of land.**
   In recent years land has become polluted due to the solid and liquid waste being dumped on and below. It is quite alarming that around 25% of the total land in the world has been degraded and productivity has declined .The main causes of land degradation are deforestation, overgrazing, mining, agricultural mismanagements and industrialization.

Long Answer Questions:

1. **Explain soil conservation.**
   Soil conservation is an effort put on by people to conserve the fertility of soil and prevent soil erosion. following steps should be taken to conserve soil:
   - **Mulching**
     The layer of organic matter like Straw which covers the bare ground between plants have to retain soil moisture.
   - **Contour barriers**
     Barriers are built along the contour using stones ,grass, soil etc. Trenches are made in front of barriers to collect water.
   - **Rock dam**
     Rocks are piled up to slow down the flow of water. This prevents gullies and further soil loss.
   - **Terrace farming**
     Broad flat steps or terraces are made on the steep slopes of mountain to provide surfaces to grow crops. They reduce surface run-off and soil erosion.

2. **Write a short note on natural vegetation of India.**
   - Natural vegetation is valuable so that is vital for the existence of human beings and organisms On the earth. natural vegetation refers to the plant life that grows naturally in an area without human intervention.
   - The distribution of natural vegetation depends on various factors like temperature, altitude ,sunlight ,type of soil ,moisture, rainfall etc. The two main factors responsible for the growth of vegetation are temperature and moisture. Vegetation is grouped into four major types forest, grassland, scrubs and tundra.

3. **In what ways can we conserve water, Explain.**
   The following measures can help in conserving water :
   - Afforestation helps check runoff water and let the rainwater seep underground.
   - Restoration of ponds ,tanks and lakes so that they can store rain water.
   - Switching to organic farming and dry farming .
   - Promoting sprinkles and drip irrigation as these methods check water loss through seepage and evaporation.
   - Water seepage in canals used for irrigation can be minimized by lining them properly.
   - Recycling water which is used for cooling pipes in power plants .
   - Checking leakage and defective pipes regularly as loss of water occurs mainly because of these two defects.
   - Utilizing kitchen water for watering the plants.
   - Educating people to use bucket instead of those pipes to wash their vehicles.

4. **State the features of CITES.**
    - It is an international agreement between governments.
    - It lists several species of animals and birds whose trade is prohibited.
    - It seeks to ensure that international trade in wild animals and plant species does not threaten their survival.
    - Roughly, 6610 species of animals and 34,310 species of plants are protected under the convention including bear, dolphins, coral, orchids and cacti.