

Chapter 1 –

Resources & Development

EXERCISES

Multiple choice questions

Q.1(i) Which one of the following is the main cause of land degradation in Punjab?

- A. Intensive cultivation
- B. Deforestation
- C. Over irrigation
- D. Overgrazing

Ans.: Over Irrigation. Over irrigation causes water logging in the fields. Punjab as we all know, is called as the bread basket of India. Due to water logging in the fields, the salinity/alkalinity increases and leads to loss in fertility.

Q.1 (ii) In which one of the following states is terrace cultivation practised?

- A. Punjab
- B. Plains of Uttar Pradesh
- C. Haryana
- D. Uttarakhand

Ans.: Uttaranchal. Uttaranchal is a hilly area. Whenever there is rainfall, the speed of water increases in the slopes. Due to this, it carries the top soil with it and leads to soil erosion. To prevent this, Terrace farming is practiced.

(iii) In which of the following states black soil is predominantly found?

(a) Uttar Pradesh

(c) Rajasthan

(b) Maharashtra

(d) Jharkhand

Ans.: (b) maharashtra

Q.2A Answer the following questions in about 30 words.

Name three states having black soil and the crop which is mainly grown in it.

Ans.: 1) Black soil is found in the Deccan trap region. This comprises of the states of Maharashtra, Chhatisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

2) The soil has a high water retaining capacity which makes it ideal for cotton cultivation.

3) Black soil is also called Regur(from the Telugu word Reguda meaning cotton).

Q.2B Answer the following questions in about 30 words.

What type of soil is found in the river deltas of the eastern coast? Give three main features of this type of soil.

Ans.: The soil found in the river deltas of the eastern coast is alluvial soil. The main characteristics of the soil are as follows: -

1. These soils have an adequate proportion of potash, phosphoric acid and lime. This makes the soil ideal for the growth of sugarcane, paddy, wheat and other cereal and pulse crops.

2. Alluvial soil has high fertility. Due to this characteristic, there is intense cultivation and thus, the areas with these soils are densely populated.

3. Drier areas have more alkaline content in the soil. It can be made productive after proper treatment.

Q.2C Answer the following questions in about 30 words.

What steps can be taken to control soil erosion in the hilly areas?

Ans.: In the hilly areas soil erosion can be controlled by

1. Ploughing across contour lines can slow down the water flow in the slopes. This is known as Contour ploughing.

2. Making use of terrace farming techniques to prevent the water take away the top soil and cause erosion.

3. Using strips of grass to check erosion by wind and water. This divides the wind force and causes less damage.

Q.3A Answer the following questions in about 120 words.

Explain land use pattern in India and why has the land under forest not increased much since 1960-61?

Ans.: India has a total geographical area of 32.87 lakh sq. km. As per the land use data, only 93% is available to us. Of this 93%, 43.4% is sown area, 22.6% is forest cover, 4.4% is culturable waste, 7.3% is current fallow, 4% is pasture cover and 1% is tree cover.

The net sown area pattern varies greatly from one state to another. The forest cover in the country is lower than the ideal 33% as outlined in the National Forest Policy formulated in the year 1952. The percentage of forests is needed to increase in order to maintain the ecological balance.

The forest cover did not increase since 1960-61 due to the following reasons: -

1. Improper use of land has caused degradation and loss of forests.
2. Ever increasing deforestation to meet the needs of the increasing population.
3. Large scale development projects, industrialization and urbanization have reduced the forest cover.

Q.3B Answer the following questions in about 120 words.

How have technical and economic development led to more consumption of resources?

Ans.: Technical and economic development has led to more consumption resources because of the following reasons:

- 1). Technology has led to the development of various types of industries which led to increase in use of resources.
- 2). Goods become outdated very fast and development of advanced goods with the latest technology require more resources.
- 3). Increase in population and improvement in medical facilities has also increased demands for more resources