

Short Answer Questions

Q. 1. Describe the process of resource planning in India.

Ans. Resource planning is a complex process. It involves the following process:

(i) Identification and inventory of resources across the regions of the country: It involves surveying, mapping, qualitative and quantitative estimation and measurement of the resources.

(ii) Evolving a planning structure: In it, we make appropriate use of technology, skill and institutional set up for implementing resource development plans.

(iii) Matching the resource development plans: It matches the development of resources with overall national development plans.

Q. 2. What is the importance of land?

Ans. We live on land, we perform our economic activities on land and we use it in different ways:

(i) Land is a natural resource and of utmost importance.

(ii) It supports natural vegetation, wildlife, human life, economic activities, and transport and communication systems.

(iii) It is an asset of a finite magnitude. It is important to use the available land for different purposes with careful planning.

Q. 3. For what purposes are land resources used?

Ans. Land resources are used for the following purposes:

(i) Forests

(ii) Land not available for cultivation: Barren and waste land; land used for buildings, roads, etc.

(iii) Other uncultivated land: Permanent pastures and grazing lands.

(iv) Fallow land: Left fallow for regaining the fertility of the soil.

(v) Net sown area: Where actual cultivation takes place.

Q. 4. What is the importance of soil as a resource?

Ans. (i) Soil is the most important renewable natural resource.

(ii) It is the medium of plant growth and supports different types of living organisms on the Earth.

(iii) Soil helps in providing food to this Earth.

Q. 5. Distinguish between Khadar and Bangar.

Ans.

Khadar	Bangar
(i) It is new alluvial soil. (ii) It is more fertile. (iii) It is found near the banks of rivers. (iv) It has fine particles.	(i) It is an old alluvial soil. (ii) It is less fertile. (iii) It is found farther away from the river. (iv) It has kanker nodules in it.

Q. 6. Give some important features of the black soil.

Ans. (i) Black soils are made up of extremely fine; clayey material.

(ii) They are well-known for their capacity to hold moisture.

(iii) They are rich in soil nutrients such as calcium carbonate, magnesium, potash and lime.

(iv) They develop deep cracks during hot weather, which helps in the proper aeration of the soil.

Q. 7. Name the states in which laterite soils are found and give any two characteristics of this soil.

Ans. Laterite soils are found in Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and in the hilly areas of Odisha and Assam.

Chief characteristics:

(i) Humus content of the soil is low because most of the microorganisms, particularly the decomposers like bacteria, get destroyed due to high temperature.

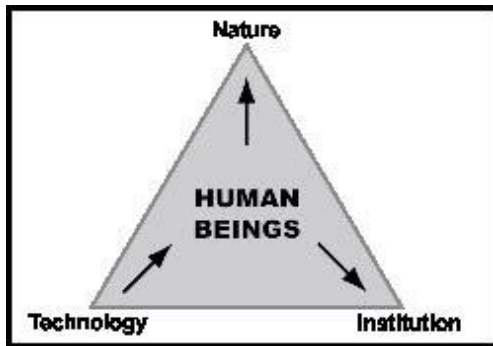
(ii) Laterite soils are suitable for cultivation with adequate doses of manures and fertilisers.

Q. 8. Explain the interdependent relationship between nature, technology and institutions. Also make a diagram to represent the same.

Ans. (i) Human beings interact with nature.

(ii) They use technology to transform material available in the environment into resources.

(iii) They create institutions to accelerate their resource development.



Q. 9. Why was the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit, 1992 held?

Ans. (i) In June 1992, more than 100 heads of states met in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil for the first International Earth Summit.

(ii) It was held for addressing urgent problems of environmental protection and socio-economic development at the global level.

(iii) This convention adopted Agenda 21, for achieving sustainable development in the 21st century.

Q. 10. What were the aims of Agenda 21 to achieve global sustainable development?

Ans. (i) It aimed at achieving global sustainable development.

(ii) The agenda was to combat environmental damage, poverty and diseases.

(iii) It can be achieved through global cooperation on common interests, mutual needs and shared responsibilities.

Q. 11. Why are arid soils found to be non-productive?

Ans. (i) These soils are generally sandy in texture and saline in nature.

(ii) In some areas, the salt content is very high and common salt is obtained by evaporating the water.

(iii) Due to the dry climate, high temperature, evaporation is faster and the soil lacks humus and moisture.

(iv) The lower horizons of the soil are occupied by kanker, which restricts the infiltration of water.

Q. 12. What is soil erosion? State how it can be prevented in deserts.

Ans. Soil erosion is denudation of the soil cover and subsequent washing down.

Planting lines of trees to create shelter prevents soil erosion. Rows of such trees are called shelter belts. These shelter belts have contributed significantly to the stabilisation of sand dunes and in stabilising the desert in western India.

Q. 13. Why do we need to conserve resources?

Ans. Resources are vital for any developmental activity. But irrational consumption and over utilisation of resources may lead to socio-economic and environmental problems. To overcome these problems, resource conservation at various levels is important.

Q. 14. Which factors affect the land use pattern of India?

Ans. (i) The land use pattern is determined by certain physical factors of the country such as topography, climate and soil types. The availability of geographical area determines its uses by the country. In India, we have various forms of land like plains, plateaus, mountains, etc., which are kept in mind before planning the land use pattern.

(ii) There are certain human factors also affecting the land use pattern. They include population density of the country, technological capability and, culture and traditions of the country, etc. The economic development of the country depends on the technological development of the country thus leading to the planning of land use pattern.

Q. 15. How laterite soils are formed? Give any one negative and one positive aspect of the soil.

Ans. The laterite soils develop in areas with high temperature and heavy rainfall. This is the result of intense leaching due to heavy rains.

(i) Positive Aspect: After adopting appropriate soil conservation techniques particularly in the hilly areas of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, this soil is very useful for growing tea and coffee.

(ii) Negative Aspect: Humus content of the soil is low because most of the micro-organisms, particularly the decomposers like bacteria, get destroyed due to high temperature.